


# CCT

Columbia  
College  
Today 

Winter 2019–20

## CRADLE OF (CONTEMPORARY) CIVILIZATION

THE CORE CURRICULUM'S  
ORIGIN STORY

## GREENER CLEANERS

AN AMBITIOUS NEW VENTURE  
FROM ECO-ENTREPRENEUR  
JOHN A. MASCARI '08

## SHE SAID

HOW JODI KANTOR '96 EXPOSED  
THE WEINSTEIN SCANDAL



Ann Kim '95 is  
bringing fire power  
to the Twin Cities

# TOPCHEF

*Do you know?*

# What is the longest-running book(s) on the Lit Hum syllabus?

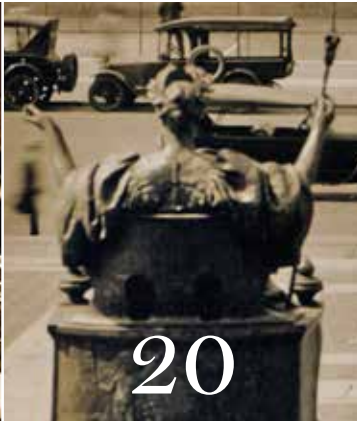
Take the **Core Quiz** at [core100.columbia.edu](https://core100.columbia.edu)  
and share your results with **#corecelebration**.  
Then, check out the events, stories and more to celebrate the  
**Core Centennial year!**



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### PRINT EXTRAS

- Homecoming 2019 Facebook album
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Our Core Centennial cartoon caption contest continues with an illustration by R.J. Matson '85.



EDWARD KOREN '57

*"Enough warm-ups, already! When are we going to roll boulders with Sisyphus?"*

The winner of our first Core Centennial cartoon caption contest is William A. Teichner '86! Thank you for all your submissions. This issue's cartoon is on page 80.



## Message from the Dean

# The Foundation of the College Experience

Columbia College students live and learn in a uniquely rich environment, with the opportunities that our college, the many other schools of our university and the City of New York offer. Approaching that experience with Beginner's Mind, they expand their knowledge and understanding of themselves and their world as they encounter new concepts, discover perspectives unfamiliar to them, and engage with their professors and peers in and out of the classroom.

The Core Curriculum is the foundation of this experience, expressing a conscious and deliberate institutional commitment to a curriculum taken by every student, specially constructed to prepare each of them to be analytical and imaginative, empathetic and active, and collaborative and visionary, as well as leaders in advancing their communities, society and the world. It achieves that through small classes in which instructors guide genuine discussions about how societies have been conceptualized and developed; how new knowledge has reshaped the concepts and reformed the development; how individual rights and responsibilities have been balanced; and how the joys and challenges of that human existence have been expressed in literature, music and art.

In the Core's centennial year, we celebrate not only its value, but also its spirit, and we celebrate it by examining it critically and analytically. We are revisiting its creation; examining its evolution and adaptation to a continually changing world; assessing its present success, challenges and limitations; and charting a future in which it will continue to achieve its ambitious goals. That examination, assessment and planning will be most successful if opinions, perspectives and ideas are contributed by the thousands of faculty and students who have participated in the Core during its long history.

In particular, we seek recollections from you, our alumni, about how it felt to be in Core classroom discussions, to struggle to understand Kant or Plato, to analyze the complex dynamic of composer and librettist in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, to explain the many-dimensional aesthetic of the works of Bernini. We want to hear how the Core has informed, guided and enlightened your life journey, so, we invite you to share your personal history of the Core through our Core Stories project ([core100.columbia.edu/core-stories](http://core100.columbia.edu/core-stories)), which will run through the end of the centennial year (June 2020).

In 2018, we made a conscious and deliberate decision to focus student attention on that life journey, through a vehicle we call My Columbia College Journey



MICHAEL EDMONSON '20

([college.columbia.edu/journey](http://college.columbia.edu/journey)), a strategic planning guide that directs each student to maintain a unique, individual, personal attention to developing the attitudes, abilities, skills, perspectives and understanding that will empower success in their personal and professional lives, no matter what their path. We express that through 13 Core Competencies, which provide the structure for Journey. This guide encourages each student to approach with Beginner's Mind all parts of their individual College experience, and to recognize all of those seemingly discrete parts as connected in a self-guided and self-aware approach to building the Core Competencies.

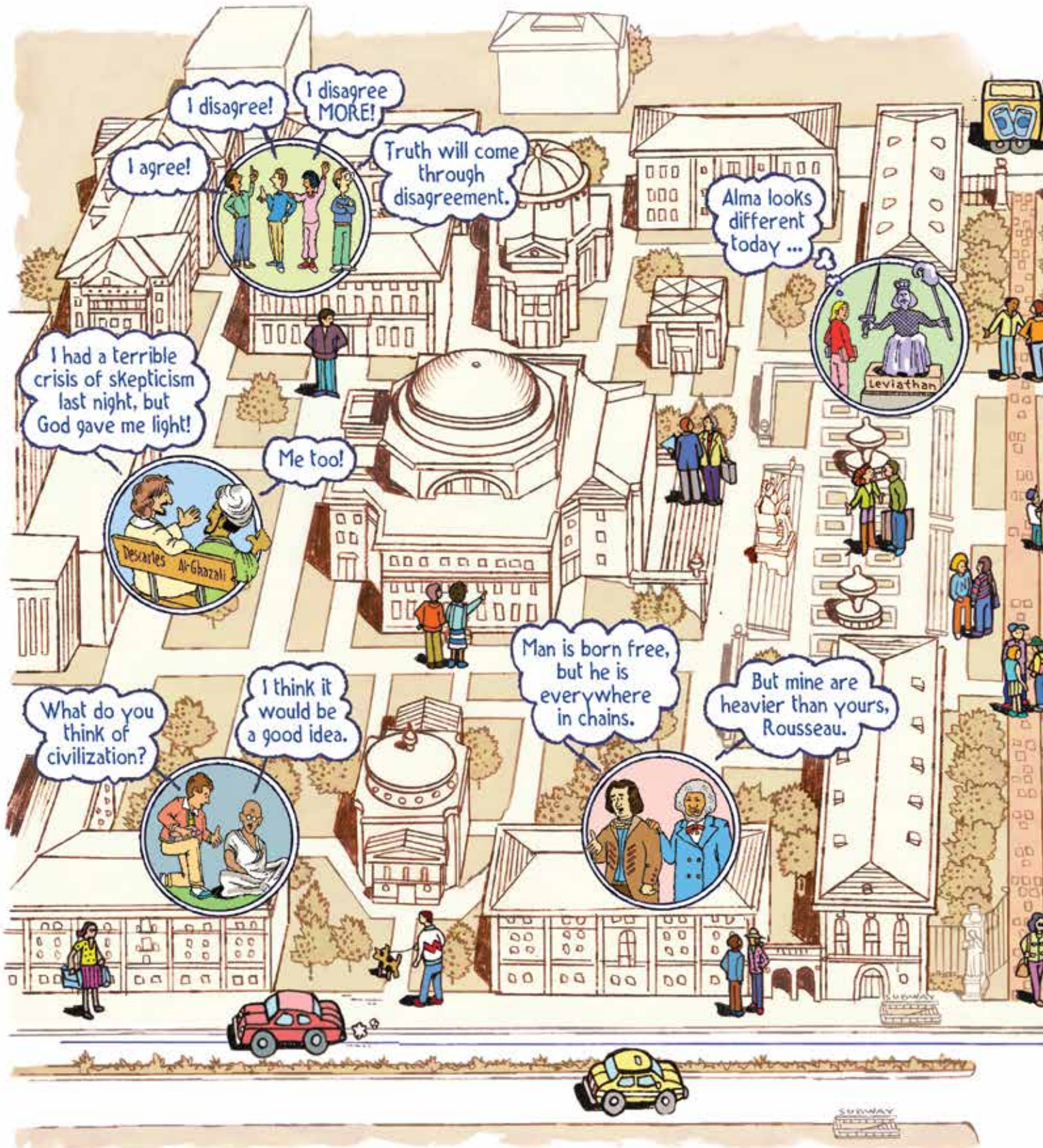
As we continue our centennial celebration and reflect on its past, present and future, and as the College continues to expand the importance of Journey, I hope that you will join me in taking a moment to reflect on your own past, present and future — wherever your journey has taken you.

James J. Valentini  
Dean

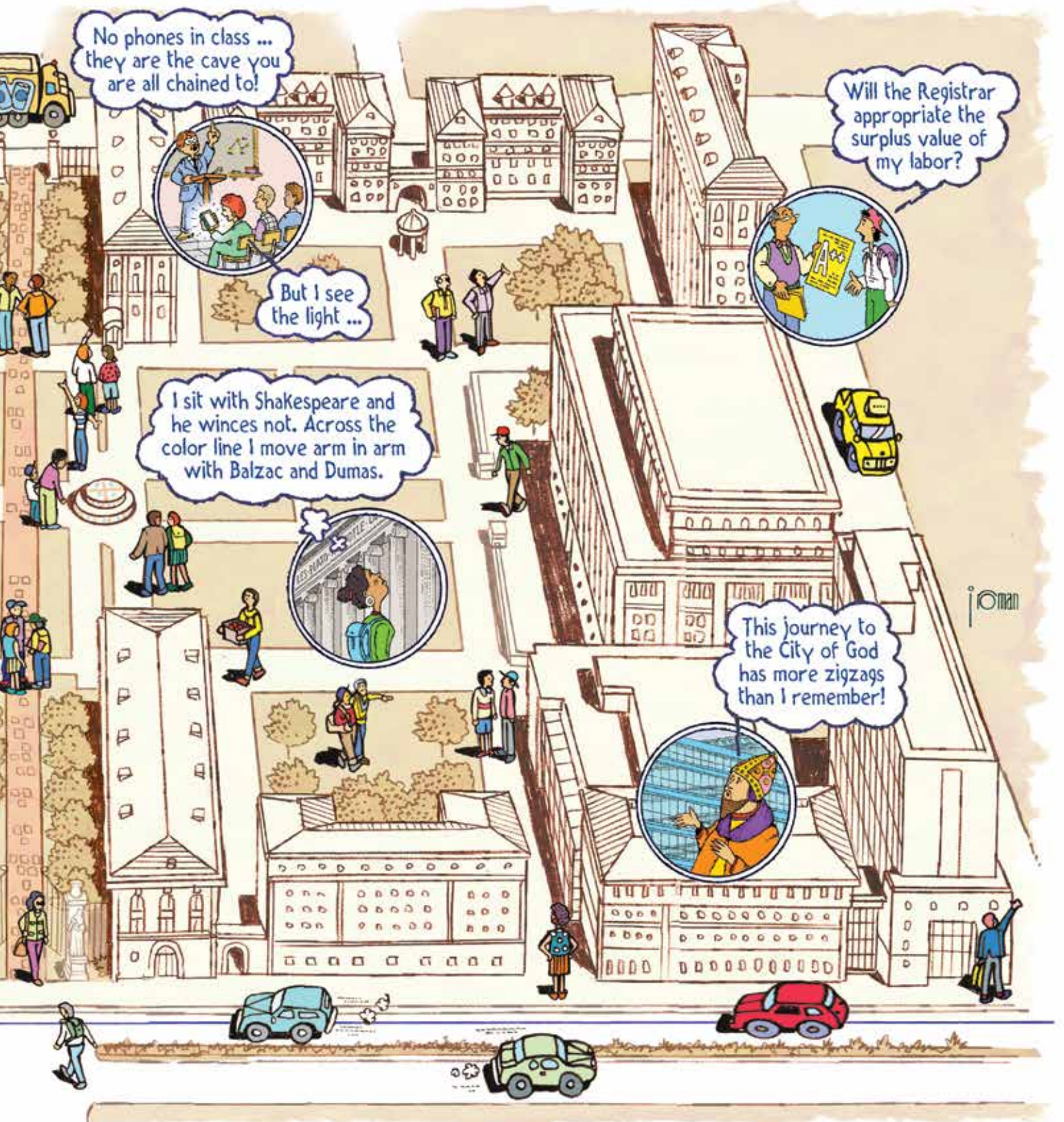


# SCHOOL OF THOUGHT

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**A BANNER BEARING THE NAMES OF EIGHT FEMALE-IDENTIFYING AUTHORS AND VISIONARIES** — Maya Angelou; Gloria E. Anzaldúa; Diana Chang BC'49; Zora Neale Hurston BC 1928, GSAS 1935; Toni Morrison; A. Revathi; Ntozake Shange; and Leslie Marmon Silko — is now hanging above the names of the male writers on the facade of Butler Library. The banner will be on display through December 16. Learn how the names were selected, about the first female-focused banner (hung in 1989) and more at [butlerbanner.com](http://butlerbanner.com).

## Hartman Named MacArthur Fellow

Professor of English and Comparative Literature Saidiya Hartman is one of

26 recipients of the 2019 MacArthur fellowship, given out annually by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Hartman

earned a \$625,000 “genius grant” to be distributed over the next five years. “I am delighted to receive the MacArthur. It means the world to me,” she said. “It gives me the time I need to write and think.”

Hartman is a scholar of African-American literature and cultural history. Her works, which include *Scenes of Subjection: Terror, Slavery, and Self-Making in Nineteenth-Century America*; *Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route*; and most recently, *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments: Intimate Histories of Social Upheaval*, explore the afterlife of slavery in modern American society.



COURTESY MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

## Sherwin Service Award

The Gerald E. Sherwin Young Alumni Service Award, which honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional service to the College's young alumni community, was presented to Matthew Lemle Amsterdam '10, LAW'13 at the Columbia College Alumni Association's Board of Directors meeting on October 19. Amsterdam was on the Senior Fund Executive Committee, was a member of his fifth Reunion Committee and is co-chairing his 10th. He is a member of the Columbia Law School Association's Board of Directors and a chair of the Loyal Blue Society, which recognizes continued donor support toward the University.

The award is named in honor of CCAA president emeritus Gerald Sherwin '55.

## CCT Wins!

*Columbia College Today* won the Eddie Award for best full issue (Spring 2019) in the association/nonprofit, alumni/university category at the 2019 Folio: Eddie & Ozzie Awards on October 30. The winning issue included features on Whitney Biennial co-curator Rujeko

Hockley '05, *Captain Marvel* director Anna Boden '02, and documentary filmmakers Ric Burns '78 and James Sanders '76, GSAPP'82.



The annual Eddie & Ozzie Awards honor excellence in editorial and design across all sectors of the magazine industry, and have been

presented by *Folio*: for more than two decades. This year, 400 winners were chosen from a field of more than 2,500 entries.

# \$3.64 Million

The eighth annual Columbia Giving Day, held on October 23, was a smashing success! Through 2,242 gifts, the College received the largest sum among all Columbia schools or institutes. All told, Columbians hit a new high, raising \$22,009,151 from 18,622 gifts. Learn more at [givingday.columbia.edu](http://givingday.columbia.edu).

# The Zoologist Who Was the World's Biggest Bat Fan

By Thomas Vinciguerra '85, JRN'86, GSAS'90

For some people, bats are creepy creatures of the night that foul the world with squeaks and guano. For others, they are the alter ego of Bela Lugosi and his bloodsucking cohort.

For Karl F. Koopman '43, GSAS'50, they were his lifework and love.

Over a long, distinguished (and largely obscure) career, Koopman was one of the world's leading chiropterologists. In caves, rainforests, wildlife preserves and anywhere else he might find his quarry, he obsessively collected, studied and classified the only mammals that flap hither and yon. Koopman pored over these "flying foxes" in laboratories, published widely and held forth endlessly about them in public.

"There's been a tremendous amount of misunderstanding about bats," he said in a 1979 interview for United Press International. "I'd say they're as friendly as gerbils."



Born in Honolulu, Koopman moved with his family to California as a child and glommed onto nature with frequent visits to the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. He earned a Ph.D. at Columbia with a dissertation on fruit flies; later, he turned briefly to birds and, then finally, to bats. At various times he was a biology instructor at Queens College, and was on the staffs at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia and Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History; he joined New York City's American Museum of Natural History in 1961, where he stayed for 24 years.

But Koopman didn't restrict himself to his office. Though he wasn't exactly built for fieldwork — stout and dwarfish, perhaps 5 ft. tall, with sensitive skin — he circled the globe twice in pursuit of his game. He had a penchant for the Caribbean and Latin America, gathering and scrutinizing bats in Jamaica, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, the Lesser Antilles, Belize, Bolivia and Mexico.

Slowly and steadily, he acquired an international reputation. In books and some 100 scholarly articles, Koopman made major contributions to bat classification and evolution. His specialty was bat biogeography — describing how bats were distributed throughout the world and explaining how they got there.

Koopman's fascination, suggested fellow chiropterologist Thomas A. Griffiths, came from wanting to fill a scientific void: "He did something no one had ever done before — examining the regions of the earth and seeing how bats related to them. And that inspired other scientists to do the same thing." When Koopman began his research, his friend and colleague Merlin Tuttle estimated, there were approximately 850 bat species. By the time his career was over, there were around 1,300.

Colleagues who tried to trip him up on bat trivia usually failed. "But if you had him stumped," said Tuttle, "he would come back at you pretty quickly with names and terminology that would slow things down and have us pondering for a bit. We couldn't figure out if he was buffaloing us." At professional bat gatherings, Koopman would sit in the front row and invariably pose the first question, prefacing it with a high-pitched, "Weeell, it seems to me that ..."

"Send him an exotic bone," wrote author and naturalist Diane Ackerman, "and he could swiftly identify it down to the subspecies." In 1944, a little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) was found in Iceland, to which no bats are native. Years later, Reykjavik's Museum of Natural History sent Koopman the preserved specimen, hoping for an explanation. Identifying it as a North American (as opposed to European) variety, he figured that this particular gatecrasher had swooped aboard a ship at St. John's, Newfoundland, and inadvertently stowed away. After all, Koopman pointed out, there was plenty of heavy shipping between St. John's and Reykjavik during WWII.

He dealt with laymen, too. A *New York Times* reader once asked in a Q&A, "How can a bat hang upside down for long periods without damaging its brain?" Koopman replied, "This is like saying, 'How are you able to stand up and not have blood collect in your feet?'" When someone reported a 130-lb. Philippine bat with a 12-ft. wingspan, he brushed it off as a "zoological tall tale." He dismissed popular myths that bats are inordinately rabid and will fly into your hair. "I don't know how that particular superstition got started," he said.

Koopman was a dedicated scholar. In 1977, Queen Elizabeth II visited the North American Symposium on Bat



Research in Ottawa. Koopman's colleagues were atwitter. But he cared only about the proceedings. "My ancestors fought a war," he said, "so that I wouldn't *have* to be excited about that monarchy!"

And he had a puckish sense of bat humor. In trying to define "microbats," he proposed two types: *yangochiroptera* and *yinochiroptera*. Koopman drew the names from the Confucian doctrine of

the passive "yang" and the active "yin" — because the *yinochiroptera* had a uniquely mobile bone in its upper jaw. Once, tongue planted firmly in cheek, he said he welcomed global warming: "It extends the ranges of all those tropical bats! They'll be up in North America where I can study them more easily!"

Koopman died on the Upper West Side on September 22, 1997. Many of the

delicate techniques he used to dissect his prizes died with him. But his name lives on in the Latin classifications of various mammals, including two varieties of mice, a rat and a porcupine.

And, of course, he has a couple of bats to his nomenclatural credit: the yellow-shouldered *Sturnira koopmanhilli* and the brown fruit-eater *Koopmania concolor*. The "mania" in the latter was entirely apropos.

## Student Spotlight

### BRANCHING OUT

"I'm taking a class right now that I definitely wouldn't have thought about taking when I was a freshman: 'Reincarnation and Technology,' with Professor David Kittay [GSAS'11]. The first class on the syllabus was titled 'Disorientation,' and I've been utterly disoriented since — in a good way."

### THE PRIME VIEW

"I'm a big fan of the Milstein Center and those green comfy chairs that look out over Broadway — I've finished multiple papers there."

### ALUMNI ENCOUNTERS

"I don't think you can go to school anywhere else and walk down the street and someone who ran track in 2006 can see your backpack and go, 'Oh my God, are you on the track team?' That's not going to happen at any other school."

### A GOOD SPORT

"As an athlete, I think I'm obliged to like Dodge but also obliged to not like Dodge!"

**"Outside of class, I'm an athlete — I'm a triple jumper on the track team — and I'm the co-chair for the Arab/Middle Eastern family tree in the Columbia Mentoring Initiative. I also really, really love photography — I've been doing it since I was in high school."**



*"While I grew up in New Jersey, my family is originally Egyptian. This is a huge part of my identity."*

Meet women's track and field team captain **MARYAM HASSAN '20**, a Middle Eastern studies major (with a concentration in anthropology) from Cresskill, N.J.

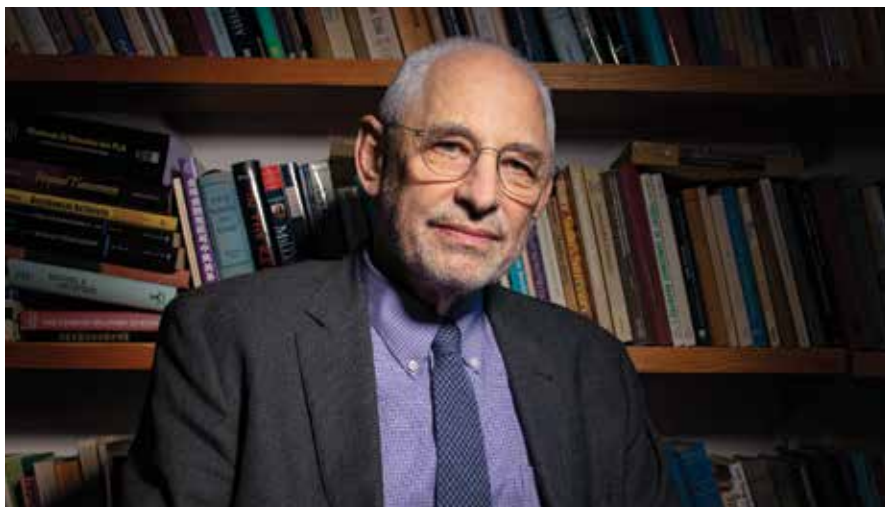
### A SPEECH IN PRAISE OF LOVE

"My favorite Core reading, collectively, is *Symposium* — and not just because it's short and sweet.

You read a lot of serious texts in Lit Hum; I think being able to laugh through *Symposium* was a nice break."

### SIDE HUSTLE

"When I got here I started shooting photos for fun and then I got a job working for Athletics. I've been covering home games since my sophomore year!"



JORG MEYER

# Andrew J. Nathan

By Jill C. Shomer

Andrew J. Nathan has been teaching at Columbia for nearly 50 years; as he points out, he was even born in Columbia-Presbyterian hospital. The Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Nathan is an expert in Chinese politics and foreign policy; he teaches students from the College, Barnard, GS, SIPA and GSAS about China, political participation, political culture and human rights.

Nathan became interested in China somewhat by accident. His father was “a spiritually questing” person who read about Zen Buddhism. As a first-year Harvard sophomore (“I was allowed to skip my freshman year — a bad idea”), Nathan needed a social science class; remembering his father’s fascination with the Orient, he signed up for “History of East Asia.”

“In 1960, that seemed very exotic,” he says. It turned out to be his favorite course.

Nathan declared a major in history with a focus on modern China, and began studying intensive Chinese — one of only a few undergraduates to invest in a seemingly useless language at a time when the United States and China had no friendly contact. Upon graduation, Nathan was awarded a fellowship to study in Hong Kong; when he returned to Harvard for a master’s in East Asian studies, his advisor suggested he

get a Ph.D. in political science. “I did definitely enjoy the study of China,” Nathan says. “But it took years of teaching for me to get into the poli sci part.”

He taught at the University of Michigan as a post-doc before being hired at Columbia in 1971. Early on in his College career, Nathan was asked to teach Contemporary Civilization. “It was a struggle at first because I hadn’t had a broad liberal arts education,” he says. But he grew to love it, and has taught it since.

Nathan has helped generations of young people to better understand China and the world they live in; he won the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching in 2008. “My students have gone into teaching, into the media, into think tanks, the State Department, the CIA,” he says. (He didn’t teach Barack Obama ’83, “but I participated in a briefing for him when he was President.”) “You don’t change the world as a college professor,” he says. “But I feel like I’ve had the opportunity to say what I want to say and be listened to, and that’s been a privilege.

“Those semesters in CC when students are reading Rousseau or Nietzsche and you see them get hooked, when the conversation gets going and you can just duck under the table and let the conversation rip, that’s very cool,” Nathan adds. “The connectivity of it is extraordinarily gratifying.”

Nathan has chaired, directed and served in various leadership roles across Columbia. He is currently part of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, which facilitates teaching and research on East, Southeast and Inner Asia; and is on the board of advisors for the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, which provides interdisciplinary human rights education. ISHR’s Advocates Program brings activists from all over the world to campus in the fall semester, and Nathan welcomes them as guest speakers in his “Introduction to Human Rights” course. “Students get to see the actual people who do the work they’re studying,” he says.

Despite his deep connection to China, Nathan has been banned from entering the country since 2001, after the publication of *The Tiananmen Papers*, the book he co-edited with Perry Link. A whistleblower approached Nathan with documents exposing the political process around the 1989 Tiananmen crisis; Nathan spent several years authenticating the material and supervising the translation with his friend Link, then a professor of East Asian studies at Princeton. When the story broke it got a lot of attention — *The New York Times* ran a front-page article and Nathan appeared on *60 Minutes* — which resulted in both Nathan and Link being barred.

“Some Chinese officials have said they want to give me a visa — maybe they think it’s been long enough, or they like what I did — but they don’t dare unless someone above them takes responsibility, and that hasn’t happened,” Nathan says. “I never push it. I’m waiting for an invitation. It would be good to go and get a more tangible sense of the mood, but I can continue my work without being there in person.”

Nathan has authored more than a dozen less controversial books (most recently, 2012’s *China’s Search for Security*) and regularly publishes in academic journals. He’s the Asia/Pacific book reviewer for *Foreign Affairs*, and contributes articles to its website to help readers understand China’s point of view on subjects such as the recent protests in Hong Kong.

Outside the classroom, Nathan stays busy with his four children (son Oliver is a College senior; daughter Alexa is a Barnard grad) and one grandchild. He loves museums, and hopes to take art history courses when he retires — whenever that is. “I’m 76, but teaching is too much fun to stop now!”





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Regular decision interviewing begins January 2, 2020.





# ROAR, LION, ROAR

## Lions Pounce on Penn

*Columbia's 75th Homecoming was a sunny, rollicking game, as the Lions dominated Penn in a 44-6 win — their largest margin of victory ever in a Homecoming matchup. "We picked a good time to play our best football of the year," said Al Bagnoli, the Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football. As part of the festivities, the Columbia College Alumni Association held its annual gathering of food and fun, with lawn games, archery and more.*

Photos by Jenna Bascom and Columbia Athletics







 **ROAR!**

For more photos, go to  
[facebook.com/alumnicc/photos](https://facebook.com/alumnicc/photos).







LOLA

# FIREPOWER

BY ALEXIS BONCY SOA'11

JAMES BEARD AWARD  
WINNER **ANN KIM '95**  
IS BRINGING THE HEAT  
TO THE TWIN CITIES







**A**nn Kim '95 has made an art of playing with fire. Over the past decade, the elemental hiss and crackle has fueled the Minneapolis chef's rise to national prominence and, earlier this year, a James Beard Award as best chef in the Midwest. It's the essential ingredient at two of her three Twin Cities restaurants: At her hand, it will make you rethink a dish as simple as roasted cauliflower and go downright swoony over a charred yet somehow still chewy pizza crust. A wood-fired oven stands literally at the center of Kim's first shop, Pizzeria Lola; its gleaming copper back appears to arriving diners more like a Richard Serra sculpture. Only after rounding a bend to sit at the bar does the open mouth reveal the flame.

"Cooking by fire, to me, is a craft," Kim told me back in July; we were sitting in a booth at Lola, just feet from the shiny hull. "It's something that you can't teach via textbook. It's a physical, visceral *something* that you feel in your body.

"We burned a lot of pizzas," Kim added. "We made a lot of *shitty* pizza before we made good pizza in this oven. We learned. And we evolved."

Part of the evolution was remaking the dough recipe she'd exactly developed in her home kitchen. "How that recipe would react and cook in a home oven that got up to 500 degrees max is very different than what happens when you get up to 900 degrees-plus. It was back to the drawing board, testing, until I found the crust that I really wanted to make."

That was in 2010, and after opening a slice shop, Hello Pizza, as her sophomore venture, Kim returned to the fiery theme in November 2016, with Young Joni. The inventive

pizzas-and-more menu leaned into her Korean heritage and relied on the alchemy created by cooking in that same style of wood-fired oven (two, in fact) and over a wood-burning grill. Young Joni was named the *Star Tribune* 2017 Restaurant of the Year, one of *GQ*'s Best New Restaurants in America and one of *Travel & Leisure*'s leading reasons for food lovers to visit the Twin Cities. (Plus it's Vikings receiver Stefon Diggs's favorite restaurant — no small endorsement in the city of the Minneapolis Miracle.) Young Joni's success also cemented Kim's role in what's been widely touted as a regional dining revolution.

"It's really about understanding fire and how to manipulate it," Kim said. "It's not autopilot — we're not going to turn up the convection oven and just go. You have to focus, pay attention, be patient. And you have to practice. Sometimes the fire is going to have its own mind and you have to work around that. But that to me is exciting."

My lunch with Kim had been in the works for months — nearly moved so she could attend an invitation-only, wood-fire cooking event in Ireland, then back on again. Arriving early, I took time to drive the neighborhood, technically the outskirts of Minneapolis, where the city meets the friendly suburb of Edina. But "neighborhood" was the word for it. The side streets were primarily residential, and even the main road that Pizzeria Lola fronts was house-lined and sleepy; another 10 minutes passed before I reached a typical small-town cluster of retail, coffee shops and eateries.

THE RESTAURANT PROJECT







THE RESTAURANT PROJECT

Kim later told me that her and her husband Conrad Leifur's first home was less than a mile away. "We were walking our dog and we saw a for-lease sign. It used to be a local convenience store; we said, 'This is it.'"

Location, as I came to learn, was an essential part of Kim's vision. When dreaming about what she wanted in a place of her own, she thought back to her College days: "One thing I really missed in Minneapolis was pizza — and the other was a restaurant that felt like home. Because being in New York, you could go to any corner and there was always a small little neighborhood joint. Here, it was lots of chains. I wanted a place where I'd love my surroundings, love the people that I worked with and could get to know my guests as family."

Walking in the door at Lola (named, incidentally, for Kim's sweet-faced Weimaraner), I certainly felt the warmth of a small-town spot. The decor was simple and cheerful, lots of wood and recycled light fixtures. A back-lit, black-lettered specials sign had the look of something pulled from a roadside ice cream stand. Strips of smiling and goofy faces, taken in the restaurant's photo booth, lined a side wall.

Kim arrived a few minutes after me — voice bright, with a hint of Minnesota accent — and ordered up a heap of food: the aforementioned cauliflower, a matchstick zucchini special and meatballs that on another day could have been the main event. There were also two dizzyingly good pizzas: the Xerxes (a Greek-y pizza with feta, sautéed spinach and Marcona almonds) and the Korean BBQ (beef short ribs, scallions, soy-chili vinaigrette). The latter is their bestseller, a one-week special that was brought back for good after bummed-out customers kept calling to complain.

As we talked, I found Kim to be exuberant, sincere, uncensored. I was reminded that this is the woman who several years ago went viral with a tweet declaring, "Fuck fear, lesson learned" — a reference to how she'd nearly launched her career with the "safe choice" of franchising a Jimmy John's sandwich shop. This is also the woman who opened her James Beard acceptance speech by tearfully admitting that she'd just come back from the restroom, where she'd taken off her Spanx.

In fact, Kim seems so comfortable with who she is that it's hard to imagine that her younger self struggled with expectations that she'd pursue a different path — one that ended in a job with letters after it, "you know, Ph.D., M.D., J.D." She characterizes hers as "a stereotypical immigrant story — the family moves here, they want their children to have a better life." But the particulars of her experience are quick to emerge: Her family came to Apple Valley, Minn., from Korea when Kim was 4. They didn't have a lot of money; her father had been an accountant before the move, but here worked in a bottle factory and, later, for the post office; her mother (the "Young" of Young Joni) was a housekeeper in a nursing home.

By her own account, Kim was always a creative person, but felt repressed growing up; she was drawn to Columbia by the Core Curriculum and because it was the kind of good school her parents wanted her to attend. But New York also spoke to her secret ambition to be an actress. After graduation, she briefly dabbled in law firm jobs before returning to Minnesota, where she could manage the cost of living while wading into the theater scene. As soon as she was cast in a full-time acting gig, she quit her job with

**"AS A CHEF, I'VE FOUND MY CALLING AND THIS IS MY EXPRESSION. THIS IS MY BEST SELF."**

the general counsel of a small company. Her parents found out only after calling there one day to speak with her.

"They were really disappointed; they sort of disowned me for a period of time. They really thought that I was destroying my life, that there was no future in it." She again kept it to herself when she set her sights on becoming a chef.

Today, Kim says, that's all far in the past. Her parents now do drive-bys to see if her restaurants are busy. "I was always fighting who I really was," Kim muses, "what my soul really felt, versus what I felt like I had to do and had to be. And now, as a chef, I've found my calling and this is my expression. This is my best self."

Growing up in Minnesota in the 1970s, Kim recalls, there wasn't a lot of diversity in the food at the grocery store. What couldn't be bought had to be made by her mother and maternal grandmother. At a young age, Kim was helping to make kimchi (they brined cabbage in the family kiddie pool to make batches large enough to last the winter). In the summer, she tended a garden planted with Korean vegetable seeds that her mother had smuggled in. While Kim never dreamed of becoming a chef per se, she always loved to entertain and have people over. "I'm such an active go-go-go person, but when we cook together and gather people and slow down, it always gave me a lot of peace and satisfaction."

Cut to 2009. It was the recession, and Leifur had recently lost his job in finance; she was unhappy and looking for more agency in her work than acting allowed. "We said, let's do something that feeds us emotionally, where we wake up and

we're grateful," Kim recalled. "Conrad's the one who said, 'You're an amazing cook. Why don't we open a restaurant?'"

Then came the near-contract to open a Jimmy John's, and their decision to take the leap to open the pizza place of their dreams. Kim spent countless hours in her home kitchen developing her ideal crust — for her, the key to a great pie. She did a deep dive into artisan bread-making books, visited crust-obsessed corners of the internet and kept records of every trial, noting the relative humidity and outside temperature, and how it reacted with her dough. (Kim is by her own admission a recovering perfectionist.)

When Kim realized she'd need professional help, she enrolled in an intensive course at Tony Gemignani's International School of Pizza, in San Francisco. ("I didn't know it at

ones who are trying to achieve greatness." Ultimately, Kim designed what she calls "a neo-Neapolitan pie," with a crust that combined attributes of her holy trinity: Neapolitan (soft and bubbly), classic New York (foldable yet crispy) and New Haven-style (charred and coal-fired).

When Pizzeria Lola opened in late 2010, Kim was kneading all of the dough herself; she devised a menu that was simple, seasonal and pizza-focused. In a last-minute twist, she experimented with Korean flavors — thus was born the kimchi-topped Lady ZaZa. It was a natural combination for Kim, who'd added the fermented favorite to pizza (and every other meal) as a kid. For customers, it was a radical departure. "A lot of people said, 'We don't know what kimchi is,' and I always replied, 'If you don't like it you don't have to pay for it, but give it a go if you're curious.' I kind of chuckle to think that a lot of customers' first exposure to kimchi is on our pizza, but if that expands their horizons and makes them want to explore Korean cuisine, or other cuisines they're unfamiliar with, then hey, that's awesome."

Early success for Lola came from word of mouth. Then, in 2012, *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* came calling. "The first question I asked was, 'Do we have to close?'" Kim says with a laugh. "All I could think was, we need butts in seats, we need to pay this restaurant off." Knowing when the episode would air, they timed a change in their schedule and offered lunch for the first time the next day. "Thirty minutes before we opened, we had a line out the door," Kim recalls. "It was nonstop, just packed, until we closed. It was bonkers."

Looking back, Kim says they turned inexperience into an asset: "We were open to any sort of possibility because we didn't know that you 'shouldn't' do that." But since then she has also learned: "If your intention is there and you listen to your gut, it usually turns out right."

## **KIM DESIGNED WHAT SHE CALLS "A NEO-NEAPOLITAN PIE," WITH A CRUST THAT COMBINED ATTRIBUTES OF HER HOLY TRINITY: NEAPOLITAN (SOFT AND BUBBLY), CLASSIC NEW YORK (FOLDABLE YET CRISPY) AND NEW HAVEN-STYLE (CHARRED AND COAL-FIRED).**

the time, but if you want to learn about every style of pizza, he is kind of the man," Kim says.) That's where she fell in love with fire, and returned for several apprenticeships. "There was a lot of R&D," says Gemignani. "Ann was very particular; she would drill me. She knew what she wanted, and when we'd try something she'd say — 'nah, it's too soft, it's too wet, that's not it.' It wasn't easy. But sometimes the best students are the



PIZZERIA LOLA

Back at Lola, shortly before our pizzas arrived, a couple stopped by the table to introduce themselves — "We saw you and couldn't help ourselves," the woman said. She asked about the "epic dinner" Kim had posted on Instagram the night before, and Kim easily fell into a few minutes of chat (as it happened, the dinner was a home-grilled affair by friend and fellow James Beard winner Alex Roberts, to celebrate Kim's award). "We're such fans," the woman said by way of goodbye. "We love everything you do."

"Everything," at this stage, includes three restaurants; a fourth is on the way. Kim leads the culinary side of the house while Leifur is CFO (they founded parent company Vestalia Hospitality in 2015). "I love the act of inspiration, creating things and coming up with ideas and places where people can gather," Kim said. "If there's something missing — if I say, 'I wish this existed here' — then something starts to bubble up. 'Is anyone doing this? Why isn't anyone doing this? We should have this.'"

She walked me through some of her a-ha moments: an old hardware store struck her as the place for a classic New York slice joint — what became the playful Hello, Pizza in 2013. (The vibe was evident even under construction, thanks to the giant Lionel Richie banner in the window.) Young Joni came



from a visit to Northeast Minneapolis, an up-and-coming, artist-driven part of the city. Kim envisioned a neighborhood restaurant like Lola, “but one that was a little different, a little more sophisticated, a little sexier.” The result was a handsome, wood-beamed space that conjures what master food writer Adam Sachs termed a “Korean-Midwestern hygge”; Kim has said that she wants diners to feel like they’re getting wrapped in a bear hug.

Kim gets atmosphere, according to *Star Tribune* restaurant critic Rick Nelson. “I think that comes from being in the theater,” he says. “Her places aren’t showy, but they feel special. She also gets hospitality in a way that I think a lot of people here don’t.”

He noted that at Young Joni, a lot of the seats are around counters or large communal tables that encourage sharing and conversation. “Minnesotans are a very stand-offish kind of people,” Nelson, a lifelong resident, says with a laugh. “We’re polite, but we’re very particular about personal space. At Young Joni alone, Ann has taught people, it’s really *fun* to go out and sit next to a stranger and get to know them and talk about food and drink and the city and world.”

In the bigger picture, Kim is in fact contributing to an evolution in Twin Cities dining culture. It goes beyond cultivating a more social experience; it’s also an expansion of tastes. What many think of as traditional Minnesota fare — hotdish and tater tots, or Scandinavian fare like lutefisk or lefse — is no longer the dominant mode. Kim credits the change in part to a diversifying population: “People are looking for food that not only challenges them but is also just *good*. It’s no longer about saying this is ‘ethnic cuisine.’ It’s just, this is the food that represents who we are as a community, now, in this present time.”

The meat-and-potatoes DNA still exists here, says Nelson, who has a long view after more than 25 years in the business. “But the dining public is way more adventurous than it used to be, and people are willing to spend money in ways they didn’t before.” Kim was among the chefs he cited in a recent, sweeping overview that declared the Twin Cities’ ascension to a three-star — “highly recommended” — town. “In the last seven or eight years there has been enormous growth in the number of exceptional and interesting and diverse restaurants here,” he says. “I think it’s become one of the most exciting places to dine in the United States.”

Kim told me life has changed since the James Beard award. “I wish I had 24 more hours in a day. Right now it’s about deciding which offers and invitations are real opportunities, in line with our vision and values and goals.”



THE RESTAURANT PROJECT

She is adamant about not wanting to be pigeon-holed, and indeed, an obsession with handmade Oaxacan tortillas is at the heart of her upcoming not-quite-Mexican enterprise. “My food is an amalgam of what feels authentic to me — my palate, my soul, my story, my history. And once you try it you can decide what it means to you.”

She recalled her mother at the hearth, “throwing a Japanese sweet potato on the coals on a winter day and us peeling it and eating it like candy. Those are the flavor memories I have. We grew up with very little money, but her food was always there for us, always comforting.”

“I know it sounds fluffy,” she added, “but I really do think that’s why we’re successful. It comes not from a place of pedigree or experience, but from the heart. And I think we as a community and as a nation need to do more of this. Share. Come to the table.” Kim gestured at Lola’s photo wall: “We have a family that has rows and rows of pictures from when they were pregnant to birth, and now that child is older. To me those are connections of celebration and memories, and if you can bring a little comfort on a bad day — there aren’t a lot of places where you can do that anymore. If I can provide that for people, that would be my biggest accomplishment.”



THE RESTAURANT PROJECT

#### HOT STUFF!

We’ve got the recipe for Pizzeria Lola’s Roasted Cauliflower. Find it now at [college.columbia.edu/cct/latest/feature-extras/lola](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/latest/feature-extras/lola).

HOW CONTEMPORARY CIVILIZATION LAID THE  
FOUNDATION FOR THE CORE CURRICULUM

# FirstClass

BY THE EDITORS OF CCT







The view from  
Alma Mater in 1919.

IMAGES COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

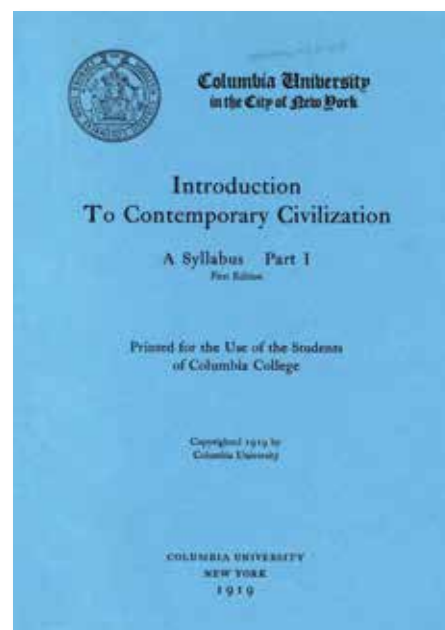
P lato versus Aristotle on the *polis*. Augustine versus Aquinas on God and the soul. Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau thrashing out the leaders and the led. Darwin finding our place among the beasts.

This is the stuff of “Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West,” aka Contemporary Civilization, aka CC. For the last 100 years, every Columbia College student has alternately sweated through, fretted over, grappled with and (often enough) reveled in this unique required backbone of a College education. It is also, significantly, the first pillar in what became the Core Curriculum. Its success laid the foundation upon which first Literature Humanities, in 1937, and later Art Humanities and Music Humanities would be built. It both offered a model for how those classes might be conducted and inspired an educational purpose apart from pre-professional training: to equip students with intellectual awareness and habits of mind that would be valuable throughout their lives.

And yet, CC’s founders never imagined their work would accomplish anything so sweeping as that. So what exactly were their ambitions? How and why was Contemporary Civilization created, and what was it like when it began?

It turns out that for all the continuity and commonality CC has provided through the years, the course has traveled far from its original design. Students have read primary texts in full only since 1968, spending bleary-eyed nights with works like Machiavelli’s *The Prince* and Descartes’s *Discourse on the Method*. For roughly 20 years before that, CC’s raw material was found in two Columbia-published casebooks (“The Red Books”) that summarized, wove together and offered excerpts from seminal thinkers. Both of these iterations of the class would be nearly unrecognizable to its earliest enrollees.

That’s because when CC was unveiled in 1919, immediately following the First World War, it had a highly specific purpose and what was then a radically different approach to undergraduate education. It was meant to instill in the College’s first post-bellum classes a fundamental awareness of their essential



place in the modern human race — the better to help them forestall another global conflagration and to prepare them in case one did explode.

And yet, however foreign it may be to today's eyes, the embryonic CC of a century ago foreshadowed the CC of 2019. From the beginning, the course has sought to introduce young minds to some of humankind's most essential, intractable questions and dilemmas.

## TURNING BOYS INTO MEN

CC was the byproduct of the unprecedented carnage and social upheaval of the Great War. Millions were killed. Empires fell. A generation was strangled. Some 200 uniformed alumni from across the University died. When the smoke literally cleared on November 11, 1918, “the war to end all wars” was not just a catchphrase.

The University had done its part. In 1917, Columbia had introduced the Student Army Training Corps (S.A.T.C.), a government-sponsored experiment in educating citizen-soldiers that essentially consisted of uniformed students taking regular courses. Part of the instruction was a class called “War Aims” that was designed, by one account, to promote “understanding the worth of the cause for which one is fighting.”

But when the guns stopped firing, an urgent question arose among some faculty members: What do we do now? Among the principals who took part in the discussion was the new dean of the College, Herbert Hawkes, whose 25-year tenure went on to be defined by his commitment to a general liberal arts education. Hawkes believed that issues of peace were vastly more complicated than those of war, and could also be more important as a field of instruction; he saw an opportunity — even a responsibility — to offer a course that equipped students with the tools to “participate in national affairs with clear judgment and intelligence.”

And so the College faculty determined that “War Aims” should yield to an undefined yet mandated course that would consider the modern world.

This metamorphosis, constituting the first step toward Contemporary Civilization, took place during crucial junctures in both College and University history. At the time, many elite colleges still doubled as finishing schools that would somehow “turn boys into men.” Scholarship often came second to the hazy notion of building character.

But character couldn't always be built. And Columbia's imperious president, Nicholas Murray Butler CC 1882 — whose tenure lasted from 1902 to 1945 — cared little for budding maturity. Rather, he was concerned with molding his growing university into a grown-up, graduate-focused, research-oriented colossus. Indeed, “Nicholas Miraculous” once accused undergraduates of “intellectual dawdling.” Under his (unrealized) “Columbia Plan” of 1905, College students could enter the University's professional or graduate programs after their sophomore year. As late



Dean Herbert Hawkes was instrumental in the founding of CC.

**DEAN HERBERT HAWKES BELIEVED THAT ISSUES OF PEACE WERE VASTLY MORE COMPLICATED THAN THOSE OF WAR, AND COULD ALSO BE MORE IMPORTANT AS A FIELD OF INSTRUCTION.**

as 1917, Butler was still proposing a separate two-year junior college for precisely this purpose.

Columbia College, meanwhile, was suffering from benign neglect. It was not until 1907, a full decade after the move from West 49th Street to Morning-side Heights, that the College got its own building in the form of Hamilton Hall. Its first dean, John Howard Van Amringe CC 1860, was very much of the “boys into men” school of thought. Still, he sometimes despaired of scholarly standards. “The present undergraduate course of study [is] not consistent with the true purpose of an academic curriculum,” he complained in his 1904 annual report.

It was against this knotty institutional background that Contemporary Civilization was hatched. Just two months after the Armistice, on January 20, 1919, the

The end of WWI raised questions about peacetime education at the College.



College faculty resolved that a course called Contemporary Civilization would now be a freshman requirement. (The name itself was punted around a bit; other candidates were “Contemporary History,” “The World We Live In” and, naturally, “Peace Issues.”) CC even won the endorsement of Butler, who shook off his lack of interest in undergraduates enough to approve of their taking a wider view of the world around them; a *Jester* cartoon depicted him deploying the new course as a weapon against Bolshevism.

As September and the new academic year drew nearer, the program rounded into shape. Fifteen instructors, drawn from the departments of history, economics, philosophy and government, would do the teaching. Professor of Philosophy John J. Coss — the first and only director of CC until his death in 1941 — boldly predicted that the cross-disciplinary nature of the course would even benefit its preceptors, thanks to the need to teach outside their specialty. “The staff will be educating itself as well as instructing the students,” Coss wrote in the July 1919 *Columbia University Quarterly* — in the process broadening their own minds, or as he put it, “break[ing] down those ‘idea-tight’ compartments in which learning too often isolates itself.”

With an average of 15 students, each section was small enough to be conducted as a discussion. Sections would meet five times a week, 9–10 a.m., complete with daily quizzes. The 1919–20 “College Announcement” made clear the ultimate goal: “To inform the student of the more outstanding and influential factors of his physical and social environment. By thus giving the student objective material on which to base his own judgment, it is thought he will be aided in an intelligent participation in the civilization of his own day.”



Professor of Philosophy  
John J. Coss was the  
first director of CC.

### NOT THE SAME OLD THING

The first-year students drew upon a primer of some 450 pages that was prepared especially for their new class. It was *Human Traits and Their Social Significance*, written during summer 1919 by campus philosopher Irwin Edman CC 1916, GSAS 1920. Not yet 23, he wouldn’t earn his Ph.D. for another year, yet he was charged with writing a seminal book. “To my surprise,” he recalled, “I found myself under forced draft ... [writing] a book for the section of the course for which, apparently, no viable text existed.”

Edman’s tome offered such heady chapters as “The Demand for Privacy and Individuality,” “The Development of the ‘Self,’” “Art and the Aesthetic Experience” and “Morals and Moral Valuation.” It was an audacious, broad-ranging and, in many respects, idiosyncratic effort. The first two weeks of the very first incarnation of Contemporary Civilization were devoted to discussing the physical features of planet Earth and the natural resources of its major countries.

Other volumes written by College faculty and graduates — many of them written specifically for CC — soon supplemented Edman’s. Among these were *Man and Civilization* by anthropologist John Storck CC 1922, GSAS 1929, which influenced the class’s growing tendency to look further into the past in order to understand the present; and *The Making of the Modern Mind* by Professor of Philosophy John Herman Randall Jr. CC 1918, GSAS 1922.



"These texts were not easy reading," wrote J.W. ("Wim") Smit, who famously taught all four of the basic Core Curriculum courses. "The first CC students worked hard. The sheer mass of problems thrown at them was daunting, involving much more than a passing acquaintance with European and American history, social psychology, world geography, philosophy, economics and politics."

Despite the burden, the College's charges seemed to respond. Just six weeks into the fall semester of the foundational year of 1919, Coss offered a glowing assessment in the *Columbia University Quarterly*: "It is not too early to state that even the most sanguine advocates of this innovation in freshman education are surprised by the success." He credited the major part of the success to the fact that the students liked the material, adding: "As one rather clever freshman put it, 'I like this course because it is new and my professor is still interested in it; he is not just going over the same old thing again.'"

## A TECTONIC SHIFT

Coss praised the "unusually competent group of men" who were teaching this strange new construct. But his most personal thoughts were reserved for the hundreds of teenagers who were actually taking it. Among

these were such CC 1923 legends as composer Richard Rodgers, Oscar-winning screenwriter Sidney Buchman, humorist Corey Ford and philosopher Mortimer Adler, who developed his own concepts of canonical texts that were eventually introduced to St. John's College in Annapolis.

"[A] reason for the success of the course which must not be overlooked," wrote Coss, "is to be sought in the very nature of the freshman class, which is unusually intelligent and mature. The maturity doubtless comes in part from the four years that have just passed. The war and its issues have made even boys thoughtful, and the social unrest which has come with peace has intensified reflections."

Contemporary Civilization was on its way. Through word of mouth, speeches at academic conferences, attention in scholarly journals and general press coverage, the news about CC spread. Shortly before Christmas 1919, Hawkes estimated that more than 100 colleges and schools across the nation had requested detailed information about it. By 1921, *Spectator* was calling CC "famous" and noted that Hawkes was getting about 10 letters of inquiry per week. "Rutgers College has adopted the Columbia syllabus," *Spec* wrote, "and Yale, Dartmouth, Princeton, Chicago, and Johns Hopkins have worked out courses quite similar to Columbia's."

The University published a summary of the CC experiment in 1920 as *Introduction to Contemporary Civilization: A Syllabus*. "At 121 pages, followed by 32 pages of statistics," wrote Thomas Paul Bonfiglio in *Why Is English Literature?* (2013), "this may be a candidate for the longest course syllabus in the country." The whole notion of CC itself, Bonfiglio wrote, con-

**THE WHOLE NOTION OF CC ITSELF, THOMAS PAUL BONFIGLIO WROTE, CONSTITUTED "A TECTONIC SHIFT IN THE FOUNDATIONS OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATION."**

stituted "a tectonic shift in the foundations of university education." That shift, however, was not a matter of drilling the thoughts of the many names that adorn the facades of Butler Library into undergraduate heads. Instead, this was a matter of abandoning classi-



CCT ARCHIVES

Irwin Edman CC 1916, GSAS 1920 wrote the book — literally — on CC; his was the first text used for the course.



HUMANITIES A		First Semester, 1937-38	
SECTIONS III & IV		QUIZZES	
M.W.Th. F.			
Th. Sept. 23			
Fri. Sept. 24			
Mon. Sept. 27			
Wed. Sept. 29			
Th. " 30			
Fri. Oct. 1			
Mon. Oct. 4			
Wed. " 6			
Th. " 7			
Fri. Oct. 8			
Mon. Oct. 11			
Wed. Oct. 13			
Th. " 14			
Fri. " 15			
Mon. Oct. 18			
Wed. " 20			
Th. " 21			
Fri. " 22			
Mon. Oct. 25			
Wed. " 27			
Th. " 28			
Fri. Oct. 29			
Mon. Nov. 1			
Wed. " 3			
Th. " 4			
Fri. Nov. 5			

Schedules for all sections		HUMANITIES A-B		Second Semester, 1938.	
SECTION I		SECTION II		SECTIONS III & IV	
M. W. F. S.		M. Tu. W. F.		M. W. Th. F.	
Wed. Feb. 2		Wed. Feb. 2		Wed. Feb. 2	
Fri. Feb. 4		Fri. Feb. 4		Th. " 3	
Sat. " 5				Fri. Feb. 4	
Mon. Feb. 7		Mon. Feb. 7		Mon. Feb. 7	
Wed. Feb. 9		Tu. " 8		Wed. Feb. 9	
Fri. " 11		Wed. Feb. 9		Th. " 10	
Sat. " 12		Fri. " 11		Fri. " 11	
Mon. Feb. 14		Mon. Feb. 14		Mon. Feb. 14	
Wed. Feb. 16		Tu. " 15		Wed. Feb. 16	
Fri. " 18		Wed. Feb. 16		Th. " 17	
Sat. " 19		Fri. " 18		Fri. " 18	
Mon. Feb. 21		Mon. Feb. 21		Mon. Feb. 21	
Wed. " 23		---(Holiday)---		Wed. " 23	
Fri. Feb. 25		Wed. " 23		Th. " 24	
Sat. " 26		Fri. Feb. 25		Fri. Feb. 25	
Mon. Feb. 28		Mon. Feb. 28		Mon. Feb. 28	
Wed. Mar. 2		Tu. Mar. 1		Wed. Mar. 2	
Fri. Mar. 4		Wed. Mar. 2		Th. " 3	
Sat. " 5		Fri. Mar. 4		Fri. Mar. 4	
Mon. Mar. 7		Mon. Mar. 7		Mon. Mar. 7	
Wed. Mar. 9		Tu. " 8		Wed. Mar. 9	
Fri. Mar. 11		Wed. Mar. 9		Th. " 10	
Sat. " 12		Fri. Mar. 11		Fri. Mar. 11	
Mon. Mar. 14		Mon. Mar. 14		Mon. Mar. 14	
Wed. Mar. 16		Tu. Mar. 15		Wed. Mar. 16	
Fri. Mar. 18		Wed. Mar. 16		Th. " 17	
Sat. " 19		Fri. Mar. 18		Fri. Mar. 18	

cal learning, including the reading of "dead" languages like Greek and Latin, and yanking undergraduates into an urgent, present-day life.

Not everyone on campus was enamored. Some faculty said the course was unteachable, or worried that it would serve as an alternative rather than an enticement to deeper scholarly studies. But the balance in favor of CC — which by the mid-1920s was ranked by graduating seniors as the most valuable class at Columbia — far outweighed any skepticism. Contemporary Civilization would gradually, and inevitably, make its mark. As founding figure Edman himself put it, "The incoming freshmen had the sense of participating in a new and exciting educational adventure ... Within a year or two Columbia College seemed always to have had a course in CC."

What's more, although no one planned it that way, Contemporary Civilization — and the wider Core Curriculum that followed — gave Columbia College something it had never quite had before: a unique intellectual and even institutional identity. Change was in the air, and on the heels of CC began the shift in how humanities were taught, starting with an honors course that emphasized reading classics in translation, without secondary sources — the predecessor to Literature Humanities. By 1947, the four main pillars of the Core had been established.

Indeed, as philosophy professor Justus Buchler GSAS'39 wrote in 1954, reflecting on CC for an essay composed for the University's bicentennial, "The year 1919 can be justly regarded as marking the actual birth of the new Columbia College."

CC provided a model for the course that became Literature Humanities, introduced in 1937.



MASCARI AT  
BLUELAND'S  
WAREHOUSE IN  
NEWARK, N.J.





# THE ECO ENTREPRENEUR

**JOHN A. MASCARI '08 AIMS TO  
MAKE YOUR CLEANERS GREENER**

**BY YELENA SHUSTER '09**

**J**ohn A. Mascari '08 was 7 years old when he stopped eating his buffalo wing mid-bite. He noticed what looked like a vein and thought about the lion posters and bison wallpaper he saw every night before bed, and about the summer camp he attended that was on the same property as a cow farm. That night, to the consternation of his meat-eating Italian household, Mascari became the first in his suburban Buffalo community to stop eating all meat and seafood. (This was the '90s.) It was social suicide. (This was Buffalo.)

Like many of us, Mascari lost some of his idealistic resolve as he grew up. But a few years ago, with Earth burning, glaciers melting and oceans choking on plastic, Mascari found his thoughts returning to his childhood commitment. Already an entrepreneur, he didn't just start composting or bringing a tote bag to the grocery store — he went all in. From his home in Boulder, surrounded by majestic mountains, Mascari made a new pact: his next business would be devoted to helping the environment. You could even say he's making up for lost time. Because nearly three decades after his first pact, he has resolved to rid the world of plastic — starting with your cleaning supplies.

Eight months ago, Mascari and co-founder Sarah Paiji Yoo debuted their eco-venture Blueland to much fanfare. The online company launched with \$3 million in venture capital (Justin Timberlake is an investor), won the Harvard Business School Global Alumni New Venture Competition and was featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *Fast Company* and *Vogue*. In September, Blueland appeared on

**PHOTOGRAPHS BY JÖRG MEYER**

ABC's *Shark Tank* and landed a deal with investor Kevin O'Leary, leading to a valuation of \$9 million.

The winning pitch? Instead of buying a new bottle of Windex every time you run out, you have one "Forever" bottle you refill with just-add-water cleaning tablets that clock in at a mere \$2 each.

The ambitious goal is to eliminate single-use plastic while reducing carbon emissions, as the tablets are 300 times lighter to ship than conventional equivalents. And that's just to start. Mascari wants to transform the entire \$60 billion cleaning supply industry so it's non-toxic, waste-free and still profitable.

"The world is in crisis mode," Mascari says, his baritone (with a hint of upstate New York) filling the room. "I want Blueland to be a definitive case study about how to build a business that thinks first about the environment, and is still more successful than any business that's come before it."

If Mascari sounds confident, it might be because he already hit the startup jackpot once before. His first business was inspired by his then-pregnant sister's difficulty finding a balance of nutrients in her diet. Fresh out of Harvard Business School, at only 27 years old, Mascari created Bundle Organics, the first line of non-GMO, vitamin-fortified, pasteurized juices designed for pregnant women.

Bundle was Mascari's first experience with building a supply chain: the manufacturing, packaging and delivery process that transforms an idea into a viable product. It took him a relentless pavement-pounding year to convince his preferred supplier (whose other clients

were giants like Pepsi and Coke) to take a chance on an unproven startup.

Lifestyle influencer Whitney Port — a Bundle consumer and fan whom Mascari recruited as the company's chief brand director — witnessed this tenacity firsthand. "John has the ability to redirect when people say no," Port says. "He will somehow creatively turn it into a yes. He's always trying to figure out ways around roadblocks."

His persistence paid off. Bundle made it to national retail shelves, including Target and buybuyBaby. Four years after launching, Mascari sold Bundle to natural product powerhouse 1908 Brands. Mascari can't reveal the dollar amount, but more important than the money was finding the right mission-based partner. "When I sold Bundle, I was deliberate in finding it a very eco-focused home," he says. "There were other potential investors, but I loved knowing that the business would be joining a company with environmentalism at its core."

**T**he inspiration for Blueland started with a close look at a bottle of Windex. Turns out the ingredients are 97 percent water and only 3 percent active cleaning agent. This "seemed bananas" to someone with Mascari's beverage background. Why ship a product that's mostly water around the world when you can just use the tap and reduce your carbon footprint and operating costs?

After realizing the water ratio applied to most cleaning supplies, Mascari and Paiji Yoo — who met at Harvard — recruited chemist Syed Naqvi from non-toxic cleaning giant Method to join the founding team as their head of development. Blueland launched one year later, just in time for Earth Day 2019.

As CEO, Paiji Yoo is the face of the brand, handling marketing, public relations and big-picture strategy. As COO, Mascari is its legs, keeping the day-to-day operations running. During the *Shark Tank* taping, Paiji Yoo and Naqvi pitched the concept while Mascari sat in a conference room with all of his spreadsheets in case they needed to call him with a question.

"Startups are all about operating effectively in a resource-constrained environment. There is no one better to have in the trenches than John," Paiji Yoo says. "He is really running all things: manufacturing, sourcing, warehouse and fulfillment. And our partners are all across the country — he will fly there and fix any problems himself."

In fact, Blueland's press-friendly launch date wouldn't have happened if it weren't for Mascari's sleeves-up ethos. The weekend before, Mascari learned the branded tablet wrappers wouldn't arrive in time to make their deadline. That night, he booked the last flight out to the manufacturer in Florida, where he hand-stickered 3,000 tablets.

Similarly, when there's an unexpected spike in sales, Mascari hops on a red-eye to Newark, N.J., and spends the day at the warehouse, packing boxes to ensure orders don't fall behind. "What am I going to do? Sit at my computer and say, 'Where are these boxes? *Where are these boxes?*' It's important for me to go there and do it," he says.







**M**aking a product that didn't exist begins with cobbling a supply chain together from scratch.

The first problem? The tablets. "I joke that if I ever get a tattoo, it will probably be the tablet itself, or that tablet wrapper," says Mascari, flashing his one-dimpled smile, "because they were so impossible to put together."

Cleaning companies don't employ tablet-making machines, as their products are liquid-based. To produce Bluebird's 94 percent bio-based tablets (made entirely of ingredients on the EPA's safer chemical ingredients list), Mascari visited 50 manufacturers ranging from medication makers to candy factories, searching for the right type of machinery.

Then there was the plastic problem — to avoid using it, Mascari's tattoo-worthy wrapper had to be developed without impacting the quality, smell or look of the tablet over time.

"There was no way we were going to package our product in something that wasn't compostable, recyclable and safe for children," Mascari says. "Believe me, it would have been so easy to say, 'We'll just do *less* plastic,' because those machines are in abundance."

Bluebird was rewarded with the highest rating by leading environmental agency Cradle to Cradle. Even the artwork on the "Forever" bottles was put to the test, as many label paints contain known carcinogens. "Our suppliers think it's insane that we're sourcing inks and dyes from different places, but we wanted to know what was in them down to the molecular level, so we knew exactly what we were putting into a consumer's home," Mascari says.

Although there are plenty of eco-friendly cleaning products out there, Mascari isn't worried about compet-

ing with these bigger players. He considers Bluebird — which has 18 patents pending — to be an entirely different category. "Asking a traditional liquid cleaning company to reinvent itself as a dry tablet company is basically saying, 'Clear the deck and start over,'" he says.


Bringing this vision to life has been exhausting. A former investment banker, Mascari is no stranger to late nights in the office — a work ethic, he says, that was cultivated as publisher of *Spectator*. He works from sunrise to well past sunset, with breaks for food and exercise. This doesn't include Sunday nights, when he stays up till 2:30 a.m. to work with his partners in Hong Kong, where it's Monday morning.

There is no guarantee that Bluebird will have the same success as Bundle, and yet Mascari can't imagine spending 15-hour days doing anything else. "To go through the process of trying to build a business again, which is a grind, it has to be tied to something that is going to pull you out of bed every day," Mascari says. "This is brand new and yet already feels like my life's work."

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**Yelena Shuster '09** has written for The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, InStyle and more. Her CCT Fall 2018 cover story, "Star Power," won a Folio: Eddie Honorable Mention and a CASE Silver Award. She founded and runs *TheAdmissionsGuru.com*, where she edits admissions essays for college and graduate school applications.

**"I JOKE THAT IF I EVER GET A TATTOO, IT WILL PROBABLY BE THE TABLET ITSELF."**



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# The Scoop on a Scandal

How Jodi Kantor '96 and Megan Twohey blasted open the Weinstein story

In 2012, when **Jodi Kantor '96** was last featured in *CCT*, her bestselling book *The Obamas* had recently been published. Kantor — who had been named the *New York Times* Arts and Leisure editor at just 27 — was the paper's Washington, D.C., correspondent. Her subtle yet revealing portrait of the President and First Lady's uneasy transition to White House life was acclaimed in *The New York Review of Books* as “among the very best books on this White House.” Kantor's unusual prowess as both a

writer and editor had gained her, early on, the kind of recognition that many reporters strive for over the course of decades.

Now, with fellow *Times* writer Megan Twohey, Kantor has written another blockbuster. Their newsroom memoir, *She Said: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement* (Penguin Press, \$28), has been hailed as the feminist equivalent of *The Washington Post*'s famous Watergate exposé. (The *Los Angeles Times* playfully headlined its review “She Said’ is more important than ‘All the President’s Men.’ There, I said it.”) A well-matched pair of reporters, Kantor and Twohey seem poised to become the journalistic icons for their generation: Woodward and Bernstein, with a difference.

*She Said* is the inside story of the *New York Times* investigation into complaints of sexual misconduct by Miramax Films co-founder Harvey Weinstein; the story, a 3,300-word piece about alleged abuses by Weinstein, was published by the *Times* on October 5, 2017, and won Kantor and Twohey (along with *The New Yorker*'s Ronan Farrow) the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. After scores of interviews, Kantor and Twohey had managed to substantiate the sinister rumors that had swirled around Weinstein for decades.

The writers tirelessly sought out victims both well known (actresses Ashley Judd and Gwyneth Paltrow contributed to the investigation) and lower profile. They traveled extensively in search of leads and breakthroughs

Jodi Kantor '96 (left)  
and Megan Twohey



MARTIN SCHOELLER

— almost everyone they spoke to was hamstrung by a non-disclosure agreement, by a lucrative settlement or by pure fear of retribution from Weinstein. (Though Kantor claims not to have been afraid, the book describes how Weinstein hired an intelligence agency staffed by ex-Mossad agents to find a way to derail the *Times*'s reporting efforts.)

After months of hard work, Kantor and Twohey still had not located a female source with a firsthand account of abuse who was entirely sure that she wanted to speak on the record — but then, slowly, the tide turned. They began to find current and former employees who were willing to share inside knowledge and paperwork that would help substantiate the lurid stories Kantor and Twohey had uncovered. Chapter upon chapter of *She Said* details their meticulous work. The moment when *Times* executive editor Dean Baquet — “jumping out of his skin” — decides the story is finally ready to print feels seismic.

The results were immediate. A day after the story's publication, a third of Weinstein's board had resigned; days later, Weinstein himself was out. His corporation declared bankruptcy within a year. More importantly, the article's revelations led to a national outpouring of sexual-harassment confessions, helping to reignite the “Me Too” movement activist Tarana Burke had started in 2006. “So many women phoned ... to report allegations of sexual harassment and assaults against Weinstein that the paper had to assign additional reporters to handle the calls,” a *Times* contributor noted. Kantor and Twohey refer to their piece as “a solvent for secrecy, pushing women all over the world to speak up.”

Two years later, reading the book is a euphoric experience. The two reporters are at the top of their game, seamlessly and effectively cooperating and tag-teaming. As feminist author Susan Faludi points out in the *Times* review, it's the journalistic equivalent of world-level sports: “Watching Kantor and Twohey pursue their goal while guarding each other's back is as exhilarating as watching Megan Rapinoe and Crystal Dunn on the pitch.” In the end, what impresses most is Kantor and Twohey's fearlessness in the face of established power — and the fierce adrenaline that animates them. As Kantor recently admitted to *Vox*, she and Twohey “kind of relish” having had the chance to confront Weinstein's wrongdoings. “We're investigative journalists,” she says firmly. “We're trained to do this.”

— Rose Kernochan BC'82



## The First Phone Call

In 2013, Jodi had started investigating women's experiences at corporations and other institutions. The gender debate in the United States already seemed saturated with feeling: opinion columns, memoirs, expressions of outrage or sisterhood on social media. It needed more exposure of hidden facts. Especially about the workplace. Workers, from the most elite to the lowliest, were often afraid to question their employers. Reporters were not. In doing those stories, Jodi had found that gender was not just a topic, but a kind of investigative entry point. Because women were still outsiders at many organizations, documenting what they experienced meant seeing how power functioned.

She wrote to actress Rose McGowan, calling on those experiences:

*Here's my own track record on these issues: Amazon, Starbucks and Harvard Business School have all changed their policies in response to gender-related problems I exposed. When I wrote about the class gap in breastfeeding — white collar women can pump on the job, lower paid women cannot — readers responded by creating the first-ever mobile lactation suites, now available in 200+ locations across the country.*

*If you'd rather not speak, I understand and best of luck with your book publication.*

*Thank you, Jodi*

McGowan wrote back within a few hours. She could talk any time before Wednesday.

The call seemed like it could be tricky: McGowan appeared tough, with a buzz cut and that call-to-arms Twitter feed. But the voice on the phone belonged to someone impassioned and game, who had a story and was searching for the right way to tell it. Her tweets about being raped had just been hints, with few details.



Generally, the rule in interviews was that they were on the record — meaning the material could be published — unless otherwise discussed. But any woman with an assault complaint against Weinstein would probably be reluctant to have even an initial conversation. So Jodi agreed that the call would be kept private until they decided otherwise, and McGowan started in.

In 1997, she had been young and newly triumphant, on a heady trip to the Sundance Film Festival, where she alternated between premieres and parties and a TV camera crew followed her around. She had only been in four or five films, like the teen-horror flick *Scream*, but she was becoming one of the ingenues of the moment, with multiple new movies at the festival alone. “I was the belle of Sundance,” she said. Independent films were at the center of the culture, the festival was the place to be, and Harvey Weinstein was sovereign: That was where the producer-distributor had bought small films like *Clerks* and *Reservoir Dogs*, which he had turned into cultural touchstones. In her telling, McGowan didn’t remember which year this was; many actresses chronicled the past not according to date but instead to which movie of theirs was filming or being released at the time. McGowan recalled the screening where she had sat right near Weinstein:

The movie was called *Going All the Way*, she said with an incredulous laugh.

Afterward, he had asked for a meeting with her, which made sense: The top producer wanted to get together with the rising star. She went to see him at the Stein Eriksen Lodge Deer Valley, in Park City, where they met in his room. Nothing happened except the usual talk about films and roles, she said.

But on the way out, Weinstein pulled her into a room with a hot tub, stripped her on the edge, and forced his face between her legs, according to McGowan. She said she remembered feeling like she was leaving her body, floating up to the ceiling and observing the scene from above. “I was just feeling massive shock, I was going into survival mode,” she said. To get away, McGowan said, she faked an orgasm and mentally gave herself step-by-step instructions: “Turn the door handle.” “Walk out of this meeting.”

Within a few days, she said, Weinstein had left a message on her home phone in Los Angeles with a creepy offer: Other big female stars were his special friends, and she could join his club as well. Shocked and distraught, McGowan had complained to her managers, hired a lawyer, and ended up with a \$100,000 settlement from Weinstein — essentially, a payment to make the matter go away, without any admission of wrongdoing on his part — which she said she had donated to a rape crisis center.

Did she have her records from the settlement? “They never gave me a copy,” she said.

The problem was worse than Weinstein, she said. Hollywood was an organized system for abusing women. It lured them with promises of fame, turned them into highly profitable products, treated their



Kantor and Twohey's blockbuster story helped reignite the “Me Too” movement started in 2006, leading to women all over the world speaking out against sexual harassment.

bodies as property, required them to look perfect, and then discarded them. On the call, her indictments came fast, one after another:

“Weinstein — it’s not just him, it’s an entire machine, supply chain.”

“No oversight, no fear.”

“Each studio does the victim shaming and payouts.”

“Almost everyone has an NDA.”

“If white men could have a playground, this would be it.”

“The women here are just as guilty.”

“Don’t step out of line; you can be replaced.”

McGowan’s words were arresting. It wasn’t new to say that Hollywood took advantage of women, forced them into conformity, and dumped them when they aged or rebelled. But hearing a direct account of exploitation from a familiar face, in full disturbing detail, and with one of the most renowned producers in Hollywood as the perpetrator, was entirely different: sharper, more specific, sickening.

From the book *SHE SAID: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement* by Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey. Reprinted by arrangement with Penguin Press, a member of Penguin Group (USA) LLC, A Penguin Random House Company. Copyright © Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey, 2019.



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*Alma Mater* (Latin for “nourishing mother”) watches over campus through the dark days of winter. The sculpture, designed by Daniel Chester French and cast in bronze by John Williams, was unveiled on September 23, 1903, in front of Low Memorial Library following the opening exercises to kick off the University’s 150th academic year.

KILLIAN YOUNG / COLUMBIA COLLEGE

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## Our Vibrant Volunteers

By Michael Behringer '89

One of the great pleasures of being president of the Columbia College Alumni Association is the opportunity to connect with so many generations of College alumni. Passions for Columbia run deep, as do alumni's continued involvement with alma mater. Here, a few updates from my recent encounters with our diverse alumni volunteer community.

On September 27, alumni across the decades were well represented at the Core Centennial opening celebration, with almost 500 alumni, students and faculty in attendance. University Trustee Co-Chairs **Jonathan Lavine '88** and **Lisa Carnoy '89** opened and closed the event with their reflections on the Core Curriculum experience and its ongoing significance to Columbia.

At the breakfast reception, I connected with former CCAA presidents **Gerald Sherwin '55**, **Marty Kaplan '61**, **Brian Krisberg '81** and **Doug Wolf '88**. I'm inspired by how engaged with the College each of these alums remains, continually finding new ways to contribute and inspire the next generation of alumni volunteers — myself included!

I was especially excited to spend time with **Noam Elcott '00**, Art Humanities chair and an associate professor of modern and contemporary art. Noam is on the frontier of revolutionizing how art history is taught, having spearheaded the use of virtual reality technology in the Art Hum classroom. He demoed the VR system, which will be available at different events throughout the year, to **Stephen Buchman '59** and me — and it was impressive! We were transported into Notre Dame Cathedral and the Parthenon in an immersive experience that will forever change the way we experience art. Noam also participated in a panel where he previewed the work underway to update the Art Humanities curriculum — the first significant change since its inception in 1947.

I thank **Bernice Tsai '96**, **Katie Day Benvenuto '03** and **Stefanie Katz-Rothman '88** for their roles in helping with this incredible kick-off event and for their ongoing planning of other Centennial programs still to come. Bernice and Katie, both Alumni Office staff members, work closely with Stefanie (chair of the Core Centennial Committee) to help develop and promote Centennial-related programming. The day was a huge success, in part due to their collective efforts.

Many alums returned for a great Homecoming weekend on October 18–19, topped by a 44–6 victory over Penn. This year's activities extended beyond Kraft Field to include a new Friday night on-campus pep rally (including dinner with Roar-ee), the annual Saturday alumni-student lunch under the tent and a new Saturday night After Party for young alumni at the fabulous Hudson Terrace. I thank former CCAA president **Kyra Barry '87** and current CCAA secretary **Chris Della Pietra '89** for their work as co-chairs of the Homecoming and Reunions Committee in supporting such great programming.

At the game, I caught up with **Tom Cornacchia '85**, chair of the Board of Visitors, who is spearheading several key BOV initiatives



JENNA BASCOM

focused on enhancing the undergraduate experience. BOV member **Leslie Gittess Brodsky '88**, who was awarded a 2019 Columbia Alumni Medal in recognition of her many years of service, was also at several of the Homecoming activities.

Also on hand was **Mila Tuttle '96**, who is very involved with fundraising for Columbia, having co-chaired the CCAA's Alumnae Legacy Circle and frequently hosted events for alumni leaders.

I was also happy to spend time with some more recent alumni, including **Brian Chung '16** and **Jocelyn Bohn '15**, co-presidents of Columbia College Young Alumni, and **Carl Yin '17**. Brian and Jocelyn are feeling energized by their roles and looking for young alumni volunteers to help them engage with their peers. Carl was excited to be back on campus, as he recently moved to San Francisco and started a position at Google with its Business Operations and Strategy group. Carl remains active on the CCAA and CCYA boards, and is a *CCT* class correspondent.

I am in touch with one of CC's newest alums, **Emily Gruber '19**, who now clerks for Hon. Arthur Engoron at the New York State Supreme Court, and plans to apply to law school. Emily was an engaged student, and I'm delighted to see that continue as an alumna. She co-chairs the Class of 2019's First Reunion Fundraising Committee, was very supportive of the new Homecoming programming and is a co-class correspondent for *CCT*.

The College is fortunate to have such a vibrant alumni volunteer community. It's inspiring to see such commitment to giving back to Columbia and wonderful that there are so many ways to remain involved with alma mater.

**ROAR!**

*Michael Behringer*

The CCAA Board of Directors met on October 19, before the Homecoming festivities.



MARK WILEY

## Portraying Nature in Paint

By Rebecca Beyer

In his first year at the College, in a studio course with artist Peppino Mangravite, **Jack Stuppin '55** put the skills he learned in childhood art classes to work in a charcoal study of a live model. The professor was not impressed.

"He put a big X on my drawing," Stuppin recalls, laughing. "He said, 'You're a human being. You have a mind, a soul, a heart. Why do you want to do what an inanimate object like a camera does better?'"

The criticism might have stung, but for Stuppin, it was also freeing. "It liberated me," he says. "I got looser. I let my emotions get involved."

Today, Stuppin's style as a landscape artist has evolved far from photorealistic renderings. His California and Hudson River landscapes — known for their bright, super-enriched colors — fuse a certain folk-art primitiveness with deeply personal feeling. His work is in the permanent collections of several museums, and he has had solo or group shows in galleries across the United States, including the well-known ACA Galleries in New York City and the Berggruen Gallery in San Francisco. Now in his ninth decade, Stuppin shows no signs of stopping.

Before he became a full-time artist, Stuppin, a Yonkers native, served in the Marine Corps. While awaiting orders for his peace-

time deployment to Japan, he spent a month in San Francisco and fell in love with the city. When he left the military in 1958, he made it his home, working as an insurance salesman, a stockbroker and an investment banker. Stuppin helped start several successful technology companies, including American Microsystems, Applied Micro Circuits Corp. and Autodesk. Meanwhile, he painted on nights and weekends and took classes at the San Francisco Art Institute (one of his teachers was Jay DeFeo, a well-known member of the Beatnik community, who watched her students work while drinking beer and sitting on a folding chair atop a table; she called Stuppin "Smiley").

By the early 1980s, Stuppin had earned enough from his investments to walk away from the business world. He also moved to "the country," settling in Sebastopol, Calif., where he still lives.

Stuppin's success is a testament to his talent and creative approach. One technique he employs is to print large versions of his smaller paintings and apply multiple layers of paint until he has produced an entirely different-looking piece. Famed art critic Donald Kuspit '55 wrote in a 2015 catalog that the paint in Stuppin's

### CCT Print Extras

See more of Stuppin's work at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



Hudson River landscapes is “like some kind of embalming material, immortalizing nature in wishful fantasy, magically eternalizing it as a touchstone for a future in which it will no longer exist.”

Still, Stuppin says luck also has played a role in his journey. “Everything in my life has been lucky,” he says.

His introduction to Bill Wheeler, the late activist, artist and hippie commune founder, was happenstance, for instance: Stuppin wanted to build a table and Wheeler had a portable saw mill. Wheeler then asked Stuppin to join him *en plein air* painting, or painting outdoors.

“I said, ‘I haven’t painted the landscape since I was a teenager,’” recalls Stuppin, who at the time was doing more abstract work. “I told him, ‘I’ll go out once, but don’t ask me again.’ But then I thoroughly enjoyed the process.”

Wheeler and Stuppin became half of a group known as the Sonoma Four (the other members were Tony King and William

Morehouse). Their vastly different renditions of the same landscapes became a currency that brought them exposure and recognition, Stuppin says.

“It was very interesting to people to see four takes on the same scene in such different styles,” he says.

In 1995, Stuppin, Wheeler and King each spent a week working in the Bay Area’s Farallon Islands, producing a series of works in support of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, which manages the National Wildlife Refuge. The resulting paintings were later exhibited at the California Academy of Sciences.

Stuppin, who continues to show his work around the country, says painting is “almost like a narcotic” for him. “It’s just this complete concentration of the brush and the paint on the canvas,” he says. “It’s part of my personality. I have to paint.”

**Rebecca Beyer** is a freelance writer and editor in Boston.

## Researching Nuclear Risk

By **Nathalie Alonso '08**

“**S**ocial science meets Dungeons & Dragons” is how **Jacquelyn Schneider '05** describes the innovative war game she designed to assess if and how a cyberattack could lead to nuclear war.

A fellow at Stanford’s Hoover Institution, Schneider’s work is at the intersection of technology, political psychology and national security. For her current study, she has recruited military and foreign policy officials, cybersecurity experts and business leaders worldwide to participate in a tabletop game in which four to six players simulating a national security cabinet are asked to respond to a hypothetical crisis.

Unlike traditional war games used by the military, Schneider’s experimental game is academic. She’s testing for variables; specifically, whether a state’s access to cyber weapons or known vulnerabilities in its nuclear control program would stop or motivate it to use nuclear weapons. “I am always interested in how the human being interacts with the technology,” Schneider says.

Schneider’s game is more ambitious than most in its scope: It has been research deployed in several countries, including Norway,

Argentina and Thailand. Professors at Cornell and the University of Wisconsin have also run the game with undergraduates, allowing Schneider to compare the results to those produced by players considered experts in crisis decision making. The early returns are heartening: “We’re finding that people tend to downplay their own vulnerabilities, which decreases incentives to use nuclear weapons,” says Schneider.

Schneider was first exposed to war games as an intelligence officer in the Air Force (she enrolled in ROTC to fund her studies at the College), a job that sent her to Japan and South Korea for six years following graduation. “I immediately used the knowledge from all the great courses I took in political science and economics,” she notes.

After leaving active duty in 2011, Schneider earned a master’s from Arizona State University and a Ph.D. from The George Washington University, both in political science. She’s still an Air Force reservist assigned to U.S. Cyber Command; prior to being named a Hoover Fellow last summer, Schneider taught at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Last summer, Schneider was also appointed to the Cyberspace Solarium Commission as a senior policy advisor. Created in 2019, the bipartisan commission looks to develop a comprehensive U.S. cyber policy. Schneider’s first book, *The Rise of Unmanned Technologies: Explaining the American Desire for Drones*, co-authored with Julia McDonald of the University of Denver, is slated for publication in 2020.

“I want to do work that makes the U.S. safer and more prosperous,” says Schneider. “The puzzles that I’m drawn to — about cybersecurity, about unmanned technologies, about strategic stability — are things that we desperately need answers on.”

**Nathalie Alonso '08**, from Queens, is a freelance writer and an editorial producer for *LasMayores.com*, *Major League Baseball’s* official Spanish-language website.

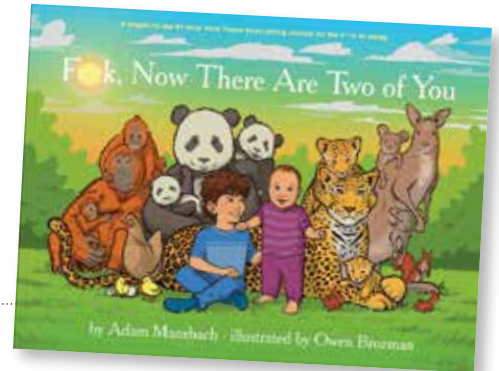


SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

# bookshelf

## Putting the “F” in Family

By Jill C. Shomer



**C**an you name a number 1 *New York Times* bestseller that has the F-word in the title? Your ability to answer may depend on whether you have small children — we’re referring to 2011’s *Go the F\*\*k to Sleep* by **Adam Mansbach** ’98, SOA’00. The real-talk bedtime book (expertly profane actor Samuel L. Jackson narrates the audio version) was a smash with parents worldwide, allowing them to acknowledge and laugh at the frustration of having youngsters who refuse to sail peacefully to dreamland.

After a sequel, 2014’s *You Have to F\*\*king Eat*, Mansbach is back with another children’s book. *F\*\*k, Now There Are Two of You* (Akashic Books, \$15.95) reflects the author’s reality, and then some: Mansbach now has three daughters (“TWO OF THEM ARE UNDER TWO YEARS OLD,” his bio exclaims). “We had the first girl and from that point on I was like, ‘please let the rest be girls,’” he told *CCT*. “Girls have their shit together much more.”

Still, he says, “two is a million more kids than one.” In *Two of You*, Mansbach locates the humor in stressful group outings, loss of adult time, anxiety over future college tuition, and yes, bedtime. The audio

book is narrated by famously acerbic comedian Larry David.

Though the *F\*\*k* books are his most widely known (he also penned G-rated versions for parents to read aloud without changing the words), Mansbach’s bibliography is unusually multi-genre. In addition to writing for older kids (*Benjamin Franklin: Huge Pain in My ...*), Mansbach writes poetry (*Genius B-Boy Cynics Getting Weeded in the Garden of Delights*), and his novels have ranged from satire (*Angry Black White Boy*), to saga (*The End of the Jews*), to supernatural (*The Devil’s Bag Man*).

His years at the College were similarly unorthodox: Mansbach, who grew up in Boston, was a rapper and a DJ from a young age, and “within 72 hours of arriving at Columbia I found everyone who rapped,” he says. “There weren’t that many of us.” As a sopho-

more he founded a hip-hop journal, *Elementary*, and straddled the experience of being a student while running a magazine full-time. “There were deep, vibrant conversations going on in and around the culture that weren’t being reflected in print, so I thought I could do something about that,” he says. “*Elementary* became a great community of writers and artists and rappers and DJs.”

He was also a fan of jazz, and in his junior year, Mansbach became a roadie for the drummer Elvin Jones. “He was John Coltrane’s drummer in the ’60s, pretty much the greatest drummer who ever lived,” he says. “I traveled the world with him.” Jones inspired Mansbach’s first novel, *Shackling Water*, published in 2002.

Mansbach says the leap from novels to *Go the F\*\*k to Sleep* happened accidentally. “When your mind works in a satirical way and you think you’re funny, you just say stuff,” he says. “I was with friends and made a joke about writing a kids’ book called ‘Go the F\*\*k to Sleep!’ and as soon as I said it, I sort of knew what that book would be, how it would play with the tropes of the bedtime book.”

He was surprised by the instant response (“I was mostly tickled that it was even going to be published!”). But at the same time he became a bestselling author, personal tragedy struck: Mansbach’s younger brother took his life. “It’s taken me a long time to talk about it,” he says. “I was publicly doing all of this shit, navigating the sudden fame of the book, and privately going through the worst experience I’ve ever had.” Mansbach’s next book, to be published in September 2020, is a poetic memoir called *I Had a Brother Once*.

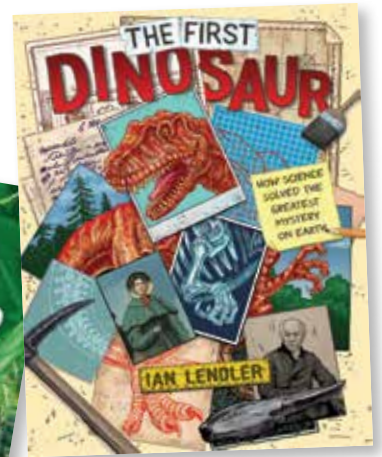
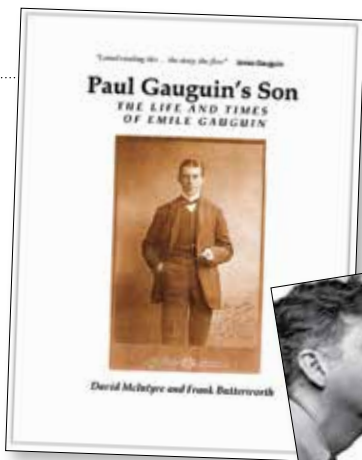
Mansbach was thinking of the College when he wrote the screenplay for *Barry*, the 2016 film directed by Vikram Gandhi ’00 that imagines Barack Obama ’83 as a young man. “What drew me to focusing on that part of his life is that it’s so opaque, it lends itself to wholesale invention,” Mansbach says. “I had his memoir and a smattering of articles for sourcing, but it was mostly retrofitting who he was then based on who he is now. I was largely drawing on Vikram’s and my experiences at Columbia.” Mansbach’s screenplay was nominated for an NAACP Image Award and a Film Independent Spirit Award, both in 2017.

Today, reflecting on the latest in his cuss-filled collection, Mansbach says, “*Go the F\*\*k to Sleep* became fodder for think pieces about the state of parenting, but these books are an affirmation that we’re not going through this alone — it’s an opportunity for a sort of shared catharsis. I’ll probably leave a few copies of *Two of You* at the doctor’s office when I go for my vasectomy.”



MATTHEW L. KAPLAN





**Paul Gauguin's Son: The Life and Times of Emile Gauguin** by Francis Butterworth '57 and David McIntyre. Butterworth, formerly a professor of genetics and molecular biology, provides a comprehensive account of a son living in the shadow of his famous artist father (Saugus Books, \$39.50).

**Four Men Shaking: Searching for Sanity with Samuel Beckett, Norman Mailer, and My Perfect Zen Teacher** by Lawrence Shainberg '58. In this memoir, the author considers how two literary friendships and a teacher-student relationship shaped his experiences of writing and Zen practice (Shambhala, \$16.95).

**The Road Traveled and Other Essays** by Steven Cahn '63. Philosopher and educator Cahn offers his latest reflections on the nature of well-being, the rationality of religious belief and the aims of higher education (Resource Publications, \$17).

**The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution** by Eric Foner '63. The Pulitzer Prize-winning scholar outlines the history of three constitutional amendments that built equality into America's foundation, and how those guarantees have been shaken over time (W.W. Norton & Co., \$26.95).

**One Hundred Autobiographies: A Memoir** by David Lehman '70. While undergoing painful chemotherapy and surgery for cancer, Lehman aims to make sense of his mortality by composing a life story from 100 short reflections (Cornell University Press, \$22.95).

**Resurrecting Leather-Stocking: Pathfinding in Jacksonian America** by Bill Christophersen '71. The author argues that James Fenimore Cooper's Leather-Stocking frontier tales, though fictional, highlighted real problems plaguing 19th-century America and also suggested a path forward (University of South Carolina Press, \$59.99).

**Graphic Music Analysis: An Introduction to Schenkerian Theory and Practice** by Eric Wen '74. Wen guides students of musicology, theory and composition through the process of creating graphic representations of music, giving more than 650 musical examples (RL Publishing, \$85).

**John O'Hara: Four Novels of the 1930s** edited by Steven Goldleaf '76. In one volume, four novels about the pursuit of pleasure and status in Jazz Age America, from the author who has been called "the real Fitzgerald" (Library of America, \$40).

**Exile Home** by Mark Statman '80. Poet Pablo Medina says of Statman's newest book: "The father poem, 'Green Side Up,' is a triumph of courage and poetry and love. From it the manuscript opens like a flower of multiple petals" (Lavender Ink, \$17.95).

**Dockworker Power: Race and Activism in Durban and the San Francisco Bay Area** by Peter Cole '91. Workers in the world's ports are often missed in commentary on today's globalizing economy. Cole brings their experiences to light in a comparative study of Durban, South Africa, and San Francisco, Calif. (University of Illinois Press, \$35).

**Victor in the Jungle** by Alex Finley '94. The pseudonymous author, a former CIA officer, continues the satiric adventures of case officer Victor Caro, now on assignment with his family in South America (Smiling Hippo Press, \$14.99).

**The Rise of the Working Class Shareholder: Labor's Last Best Weapon** by David Webber '95. Webber, a law professor at Boston University, describes how worker organizations can wield the power of pension

funds against corporate exploitation (Harvard University Press, \$35).

**The First Dinosaur: How Science Solved the Greatest Mystery on Earth** by Ian Lendler '96. The idea that giant creatures roamed Earth millions of years before humans was once unfathomable; Lendler's book for young readers recounts the fossil discoveries and advances in science that led to the knowledge that dinosaurs existed (Margaret K. McDermery Books, \$24.99).

**The Passion Projects: Modernist Women, Intimate Archives, Unfinished Lives** by Melanie Micir '03. A look at how modernist women writers such as Virginia Woolf used biographical writing to resist their exclusion from literary history (Princeton University Press, \$29.95).

**Beyond the Boulevards: A Short Biography of Pondicherry** by Aditi Sriram '07. Sriram, a writing professor at Ashoka University, traces the historical, cultural and spiritual evolution of the South Indian coastal city of Pondicherry (Aleph Book Company, \$16.99).

**How to Fight Anti-Semitism** by Bari Weiss '07. The *New York Times* writer delivers an urgent wake-up call to all Americans, exposing the alarming rise of anti-Semitism in this country and explaining what we can do to defeat it (Crown, \$20).

— Jill C. Shomer

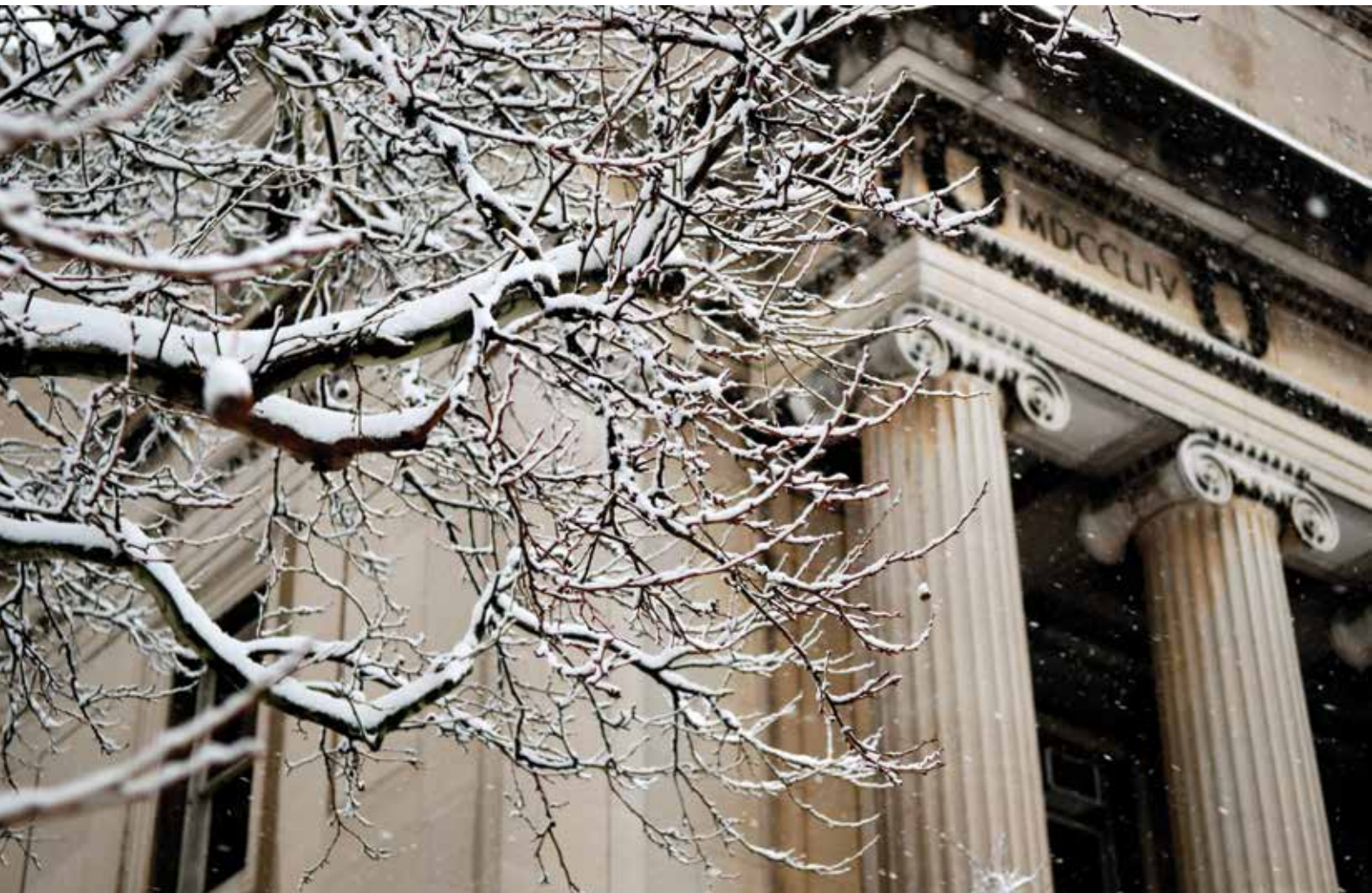
## SUBMIT YOUR BOOK TO CCT

Alums! Have you written a book in the last year? Tell us about it!

[college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_bookshelf](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_bookshelf)



# classnotes



COLIN SULLIVAN '11

A light snow  
dusts campus  
as winter arrives  
on Morningside  
Heights.

## 1940–49

**Columbia College Today**  
**Columbia Alumni Center**  
**622 W. 113th St., MC 4530**  
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[Editor's note: Graduates from Classes 1940–49 can now all write to *Columbia College Today* to share their news. Please take a moment to send a note to either the postal or the email address at the top of this column to connect with us and with classmates.]

From Dr. **Melvin Hershkowitz '42**: "I recently wondered who among our Great Class of 1942 could be considered nationally and/

or internationally famous (not just well-known in our own Columbia community). I thought that a good criterion would be a prominent obituary notice, with photo, in one of our major daily newspapers (*The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*). Three late classmates fit in to that category: **Gerald Green '42**, **Don Mankiewicz '42** and **Donald Keene '42**, GSAS'49.

"Gerald was a prolific novelist, TV writer and producer at NBC. One of his first novels, *The Last Angry Man*, was made into a film with Paul Muni. His television script for *Holocaust* drew worldwide attention and acclaim. Gerald died in 2006 after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease.

"Don won the Harper Novel Prize in 1955 for *Trial* and originated the popular television show *Ironside*. His father, Herman Mankiewicz CC 1917, wrote the film script for *Citizen Kane*, one of the most famous movies ever made. His uncle, Joseph Mankiewicz CC 1928, was a prominent Academy Award-winning Hollywood writer and director who wrote the film scripts for *A Letter to Three Wives* and *Julius Caesar*.

"Donald was a world-famous published scholar of Japanese history and literature. He had a long and extraordinary career with the Columbia faculty before his death in 2019. I knew him only casually, since our paths rarely crossed during his cultural and my pre-medical curriculum studies.



"Gerald and Don Mankiewicz were two of my closest friends at Columbia, a diverse group that included **Donald Dickinson '42**, **Arthur Wellington '42**, **Dr. Herbert Mark '42**, **Robert Kaufman '42**, **Charles Hoelzer '42**, **Jack Arbolino '42**, **Stewart McIlvennan '42** and **Dr. Gerald Klingon '42**, whose 99th birthday was on September 22.

"Looking through the old books section in my bookcase, I recently found *How To Watch Football* by Lou Little, a 315-page book published in 1935. It has a good picture of Coach Little, and multiple illustrations of his comments on offense, defense, scouting, kicking, passing and football officials. It was published one year after Columbia's famous 7-0 upset of Stanford in the 1934 Rose Bowl, and is available through Amazon. Meanwhile, our current football team has 61 returning starters from 2018, and what Coach Al Bagnoli calls 'great potential.' We will soon see if they can win an Ivy League Championship. Kind regards and good wishes to the few surviving members of our Great Class of 1942."

From **Bernie Weisberger '43**: "Greetings, classmates. I note that we are still the second class reporting in to *CCT*, and I am not at all jealous. I want all of us 90-somethings still kicking to enjoy a life of high quality to the last drop. As I write this in September, I am looking out my window at a scene of wind-whipped trees, reminding me that autumn is officially only

a week or so away, and winter not far behind. But there is not much to report on my calendar except a string of appointments to keep the old machine in shape — doctor, dentist, audiologist, podiatrist and ophthalmologist, all of whom give good reports considering the mileage that has accumulated.

"I reported in the Fall 2019 issue the achievements of my six grandchildren either in gaining degrees or putting them in practice in worthwhile jobs — asylum lawyer, history professor (ahem!), social worker and a couple of miscellaneous occupations. That's the pleasant part of the present. The current state of the Union under You Know Who is not pleasant and auguries aren't encouraging, so that tends to push me into the past, and I am thinking right now that 80 winters ago, 1939-40, against the background of the early stages of the war when there was little major action, I was enjoying making the acquaintance of the Core Curriculum's classics and the wonderful professors who taught them — Gilbert Highet and Dwight Miner CC 1926 in particular. I remember them both as charged with energy and enthusiasm; Highet bounding into the classroom with a cry of 'Good morning, gentlemen, today we're going to talk about the greatest play ever written' and Miner doing a hilarious imitation of a 'robber baron' on the Rhine holding up a juicy fish, which he confiscated

## COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

<b>BC</b>	Barnard College
<b>BUS</b>	Columbia Business School
<b>CP</b>	Pharmaceutical Sciences
<b>DM</b>	College of Dental Medicine
<b>GS</b>	School of General Studies
<b>GSAPP</b>	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
<b>GSAS</b>	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
<b>HN</b>	Institute of Human Nutrition
<b>JRN</b>	Graduate School of Journalism
<b>JTS</b>	Jewish Theological Seminary
<b>LAW</b>	Columbia Law School
<b>LS</b>	Library Service
<b>NRS</b>	School of Nursing
<b>PH</b>	Mailman School of Public Health
<b>PS</b>	College of Physicians and Surgeons
<b>SEAS</b>	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
<b>SIPA</b>	School of International and Public Affairs
<b>SOA</b>	School of the Arts
<b>SPS</b>	School of Professional Studies
<b>SW</b>	School of Social Work
<b>TC</b>	Teachers College
<b>UTS</b>	Union Theological Seminary

as the price of letting a barge go through his stretch of the river, and Douglas Moore playing Mozart and Bach on the piano in my second year of Humanities. What a time! What teachers (and I had yet to encounter Jacques Barzun CC 1927, GSAS 1932 in my third year) and what a mind-opening set of ideas to carry with us into our lives and professions. I make no apologies for ranting and raving a little, exactly because the memories are so sweet.

"So come on, CC'43 classmates in our shrinking numbers, how about sharing some anecdotes of your first experiences here? Don't wait till Father Time tells us 'our revels now are ended.' And happy 2020 to us all."

**Harold Edmund Brandmaier '44**, SEAS'47, SEAS'48 writes: "After two years in Columbia College I transferred to Columbia Engineering. I received a B.S. in 1947, an M.S. in 1948 and a [doctorate] in 1962.

"While at Columbia, I met Ginny, then a Barnard student, over a lunch of peanut butter soup in the Lions Den. It turned out to be a lifetime partnership. We married and had two boys and two girls in five years. All have graduated from colleges with multiple degrees and have families of their own.

"After five years at Worthington Corp., I enlisted in the Navy, graduated from Officer Candidate School and spent the following two years at sea aboard the heavy cruiser *U.S.S. Newport News*.

"I worked in industry for many years, helping to solve technical problems involving high-temperature gas properties, advanced composite materials and applications, and magneto fluid dynamics.

"After retirement, I changed my technical interests completely and became an expert in sundial design. I helped to design and install a number of sundials. I also authored articles in *The Compendium*, the journal of the North American Sundial Society, and authored two books on sundials."

**Bernie Sunshine '46** reports on his classmates' activities: "**Albert**



Mildred Howitt, widow of Bill Howitt '41, with all four of her children, left to right: Larry Howitt '85, Ken Howitt '76, Jeff Howitt '72 and Arn Howitt '69.

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University. By submitting to Class Notes, you acknowledge that the text is eligible to appear in print as well as on *CCT* Online and in archives.



MICHAEL DIVITO

Members of the Class of 1949 and their guests met on campus at their 70th reunion on June 2.

**Starr '46**, PS'49 recalls that during WWII, most of his peers were in the military, but he was just 16 when he started at CC and then went to medical school at 18, thereby deferring his service until the Korean War, in which he served as a battalion surgeon in the 1st Cavalry Division. Working in a mobile army surgical hospital (aka MASH), he 'did more than 1,000 major abdominal operations in one year.' He returned to P&S, where he completed his training in surgery. His 'fondest memories involved the courses in Contemporary Civilization, which laid the groundwork for a happy and successful life,' he writes. 'The rest is history.'

'History, indeed. Albert's work on the first durable artificial mitral valve and first artificial heart valve

has perhaps saved many hundreds of thousands of lives.

'And what is life without being able to laugh at its insults? Some of the Class of '46 might find **Larry Ross '46's** definition of 'nonagenarian' apt: 'reaching the age when you can enjoy almost *none* of the things you loved to do.'

'An exception, we think, can be made for keeping in touch with old (I do mean old) friends.

'Happy to hear from **Mel Holson '46** that he is 'still functioning despite two new hips and one new knee.' He looks forward to another class get-together. Well, reader, what do you say?

'Dr. **Paul Marks '46**, PS'49, president emeritus of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, but now fully retired and living in New York City and Connecticut with Joan, his wife of 66 years, was recently interviewed about his time on the committee to review the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor accident. His growing family now includes two great-grandchildren.

'After his Army discharge in 1946, **Norman Hansen '46**, SEAS'50 resumed his studies at Columbia, earning a B.A. from the College and then a B.S. from Columbia Engineering, thanks to the GI Bill. He was an engineer for Mobil Oil for more than 30 years, first in Paulsboro, N.J., and then on projects around the world. Today, he resides in Bothell, Wash., and is a great-grandfather eight times over.

'It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Arthur**

**Lazarus Jr. '46** on July 27, 2019, at 92. According to an obituary in *The Washington Post*, Arthur was 'a Washington lawyer who represented Native American tribes for more than four decades, notably securing a landmark \$106 million award for the Sioux Nation as part of its long fight for the Black Hills of South Dakota.' It was 'the largest Indian land compensation award in U.S. history,' and Arthur is regarded as one of the 'preeminent practitioners' of Indian law. At Columbia, Arthur was a roommate of **Allen Ginsberg '48** and editor-in-chief of the *Columbia Daily Spectator*."

**Edwin "Ed" Paul '48** writes: "It's saddening to see less and less about classmates' activities, as well as the classes bracketing ours. Sometimes there is nothing at all. So I am going to make sure that in this issue, at least, there is something for the Class of 1948.

"After graduating from Harvard's Graduate School of Design in 1956 and working in architectural offices for a few years, we were able to purchase a plot, with savings, loans and a lot of dickering, in back-country Greenwich, Conn., which the developer hadn't been able to sell. It was nearly unbuildable for a conventional builder's house. It was a long shelf on a narrow, rocky ledge with a dramatic view overlooking acres of forest below. I started dreaming of a house that would fit there and designed a mostly glass house with an innovative closet system hung off the outside of the structure to take advantage of the view. It attracted a lot of attention, and about a year after the house was finished and we moved in I got an offer to do another house. I gave notice at the New York office where I worked and opened an office in my house. It immediately eliminated the tedious and often unreliable three-hour daily commute to Midtown, and I was able to spend more time with Judy and the children. We had a small make-believe farm with goats, chickens, coops, sheds and gardens. We eventually moved a historic barn to the property.

"Later, with all the kids grown and an empty nest looming, we decided to change pace. I retired from full-time practice and bought a building on the harbor in Newport, R.I. Judy opened a wonderful Victorian antique shop, St. Albert's, in

our building on Thames Street, and I kept a Nonsuch catboat at our dock.

"I loved Newport and enjoyed visiting and researching all its architectural history and its wonderful buildings. I did a lot of sailing, too, around Newport and the islands, and Judy and I went on shopping trips and to auctions all over New England to replenish the fast-moving inventory in the shop.

"It was a wonderfully different and relaxed life. We became deeply involved in other things, as well, and I was slowly forgetting about all the deadlines and tensions of my architectural life and almost all the houses that I had done more than 40 years ago.

"It came as a pleasant surprise, then, when I was informed last year that the Greenwich Historical Society, at its annual meeting, recognized my first house (ours) as an outstanding example of mid-century modern architecture. The society mounted a distinctive bronze plaque on the house and also recorded the history of the house in stories and a lot of pictures in a little book. Subsequently, some of the owners of those early houses got together and published another little book, of four of my other houses, just in time for my 95th birthday this past August."

**Dick Hyman '48** shares: "On October 16, my clarinet-playing partner, Ken Peplowski, and I appeared at Dizzy's Club at Jazz at Lincoln Center playing selections from our new duet album, *Counterpoint Lerner & Loewe*. On October 17 and 18, I appeared at a number of events having to do with my receiving the Satchmo Award from the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation. This honored some of my earlier activities involving Armstrong's music; at that time I wrote and recorded special arrangements of his repertoire and toured the United States, Europe and the Soviet Union in performance. I've continued to be involved with Armstrong's music, although more recently I have composed a clarinet concerto for Ken as well as various chamber music."

"Hard to believe that it has been more than 70 years since graduation, when the subway cost a nickel," writes **Dr. Alvin Eden '48**. "I am still practicing pediatrics and starting to write my memoirs. I would like to hear from any 1948 classmate. Please email me at babydoceden@gmail.com."

**Stay in Touch**

Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name: [college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect).



Graduates from the 1940s, please share your news by writing to one of the addresses at the top of the column; your classmates want to hear from you! Be well going into the new year and the new decade!

## 1950

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4–6

Events and Programs Contact  
ccaa-events@columbia.edu

Development Contact  
ccfund@columbia.edu

**Columbia College Today**  
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**cct@columbia.edu**

CCT wishes the members of the Class of 1950 a happy holiday season and a wonderful start to 2020. Please send a note to either of the addresses at the top of the column, as your classmates would love to hear from you. And mark your calendars now for Reunion Weekend 2020, Thursday, June 4–Saturday, June 6.

## 1951

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Clare Henry shared news about her husband, **Phillip A. Bruno**: “Phillip and his British wife have relocated

to Scotland, where her children and grandkids live. He has taken this opportunity to present a selection of his art collection to the famous Hunterian Art Gallery and Hunterian Museum, Glasgow, founded 1807 and the oldest public museum in Scotland. There will be an exhibition there, *A Gift to Glasgow from New York: The Phillip A. Bruno Collection*, until January 12 (it began on October 18) to celebrate this New York-Glasgow gift, coinciding with Phillip’s 90th birthday on January 3.

“Phillip got off to a flying start with visits to Paris to see Matisse, Brâncuși and Giacometti. A stay in Holland with the Van Gogh family soon followed. Phillip’s French father relocated to New York when Phillip was young, but maintained his European connections, so his son’s horizons were always adventurous.

“The single most influential event in Phillip’s career led directly from his passion for Van Gogh. In 1949, at 19, he was overwhelmed by the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s historic exhibition dedicated to the artist. Phillip took the initiative to visit Van Gogh’s nephew at his New York hotel, and invited him to give a talk at Columbia. Not long afterward, Phillip’s invitation to Columbia was reciprocated, and he traveled to stay with the family at Laren, in North Holland, driving there from Amsterdam with the artist’s nephew, Vincent Willem van Gogh, who was the major lender to the show and went on to found the Van Gogh Museum in 1973. Phillip’s bedroom had four paintings by Van Gogh and a window looking onto a garden with sunflowers. With Vincent W.,

Phillip handled some of Van Gogh’s letters written in English. Friendship with artists and privileged access to works of art went on to be the theme of his life.

“As the director of New York art galleries for 58 years (including the Staempfli Gallery, and later Marlborough Gallery, both important venues for contemporary art), Phillip befriended and advised collectors and museum directors. He always passionately collected but was generous in gifting hundreds of works to U.S. museums. ‘I never had enough wall space,’ he says with a laugh.

“The gift includes 75 works of art by many American artists, and some European. During almost 60 years at the forefront of the art world in Manhattan working with key artists, galleries, dealers and collectors, Phillip’s career gave him an exciting, remarkable, close-up view of international art events.

“Phillip was born in Paris and studied art history and architecture at Columbia before embarking on a distinguished career working with artists like Avery, Brâncuși, Bertoia, Chihuly, Christo, Delvaux, Katz, Grooms, Desiderio, Jacklin, Kitaj and Rickey. Manhattan is a truly international art center, and while many of the artists Phillip dealt with were New Yorkers, he also had a special interest in European, primitive and oceanic art, as well as in artists from the U.S.’s West Coast. *A Gift to Glasgow* features works by American artists such as William Dole, Lee Gatch, David Levine, Leroy Lamis, Robert Andrew Parker and Tom Otterness, as well as international figures such as Mexican painter José Luis Cuevas and Japanese sculptor Masayuki Nagare.

“Phillip’s stepson Damian Henry is also an artist, so Phillip is happy to keep his hand in, while enjoying a new life among the British art world.”

**Ted Bihuniak** writes: “My wife, Marilyn, died on August 20, 2019. She succumbed to acute myeloid leukemia after battling it for three-plus years. We had 62-plus years of a happy marriage.”

**Immanuel Wallerstein** GSAS’59 died on August 31, 2019. *The New York Times* featured his obituary online on September 10 with the headline “Immanuel Wallerstein, Sociologist With Global View, Dies at 88.” You can also read about

Immanuel in this issue of CCT in the “Obituaries” section.

Share your news, life story or favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either of the addresses at the top of this column. Your classmates would enjoy hearing about you. Happy 2020!

## 1952

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**cct@columbia.edu**

Share your news, life story or favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either of the addresses at the top of this column. Happy holidays!

## 1953

**Lew Robins**  
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Your classmates would love to hear from you, so please take a moment to share your stories, news or a favorite Columbia College memory in these pages. Wishing you a pleasant start to the new year.

## 1954

**Bernd Brecher**  
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**brecherservices@aol.com**

Gentlemen of ’54, as you read this column you are aware that we all are edging toward the opening of a new decade — 2020 — that will signify for many an opportunity to make one more lasting mark on our world and on the lives of younger generations, who might even remember and bless us for our efforts and accomplishments. In the spirit of *Tikkun Olam* (“help heal the world”), will we use our next decade to help correct, make or build a virtual if not actually ethical structure that will help define the future of our universe?

That, fellows of ’54, is the theme that I felt was pervasive among those of us who attended our 65th



Bernd Brecher ’54, Jennifer Anglade Dahlberg ’93 and Helen Brecher enjoyed lunch together in Stockholm in September.

anniversary reunion at the beginning of this past June. Highfalutin perhaps, but reread our Class Notes in the Fall 2019 *CCT* before you react.

In mid-September, my wife, Helen, and I made come to pass a long-ago personal promise to visit Stockholm. We had a spectacular learning experience, finding ourselves in a multi-ethnic, cultural, geographic, racial, bilingual — the list is long — melting pot of several million Swedes (and some tourists) who put our own NYC, Chicago or Los Angeles in the dark ages of multi-just-about-everything. Everything worked, even the buses and subways. History and museums were everywhere. Food was of the world. The opera and ballet were not to be missed. People smiled, responded, and appeared glad. Glitches? Of course: On our first night, finding the hotel less than desirable, the American Embassy helped us find a spectacular hotel and room at 2 a.m. Ah, travel! (Yes, Sweden's open arms to refugees and asylum-seekers has begun to generate a right-wing backlash. Ah, world!)

Highlight: We met with and were advised by Jennifer Anglade Dahlberg '93, who graduated from the College with a degree in political science. She was an executive search consultant for four years, then moved to Stockholm in 1997. Her first novel, *Uptown and Down*, was published in 2005. Her second novel, *Lagging Indicators*, was published in 2018. Jennifer still resides in Stockholm and is an active Columbia ambassador as an Alumni Representative Committee member,

conducting applicant interviews, and as a leader of the Columbia Alumni Association in Sweden.

When not working on her third novel, Jennifer enjoys spending time with her husband, Christian, and son, James. She is also the proud parent of Yasmine '23, and looks forward to visiting the Columbia campus more often, having recently, with Christian and James, helped Yasmine move into her dorm. Jennifer was our new friend and guide, and a delightful representative of alma mater. "Feel free to contact me," Jennifer wants all Lions to know, "if your travels take you to Stockholm: jadahlberg@gmail.com!"

**Herb Zydney** SEAS'55, SEAS'59 represented our class on campus on August 25 as part of the Alumni Procession at Convocation, welcoming the Class of 2023. An estimated 10 alumni from the '50s participated. Herb writes that it was "wonderful to see the 1,400 freshmen ready to learn and grow on campus. Greetings from President Lee C. Bollinger and Dean James J. Valentini carried insightful welcoming messages, including thoughts on the campus challenges of supporting speaking the truth and making comments that could be considered offensive, under the guise of free speech. Two of my co-attendees were grandfathers of freshmen."

**Stanley Fine** PS'57 wants to share some future joy, reporting, "In February my wife and I are planning to fly to New Zealand and cruise to Samoa, Bora Bora, Tahiti, etc. We are obviously very excited."

As we all are for you both, Stan. We have visited family in New Zealand, and just want to alert you — there are 5 million people and 50 million sheep.

"Finally hit the age — 87 — where when somebody asks me, 'How do you feel?' I can honestly say, 'Fine!'" writes **Saul Turteltaub** LAW'57. "I can honestly say it if they ask me when I'm sitting or lying down. But standing or walking with my cane or my walker, I can't fool anyone. However, doctors assure me in four months I'll be FINE! So, I can't wait for the next Class Notes to see how I am. Hope you all are well."

Indeed, Saul, we all are weller whenever we hear from you — keep writing!

"In May, my wife, Ann Louise, and I made a road trip from Washington, D.C., to Knoxville, Tenn. (where we saw her Mount Holyoke College '54 classmate)," writes **Edward Cowan**, "then to Cincinnati, where we had lunch with **Brian Tansey**; his daughter, Eira Tansey; and Eira's husband, Justin Levy. We lunched in the restaurant of the retirement community where Brian has been living since he had a stroke last autumn. Brian's mobility is diminished (he uses a walker) but, the stroke notwithstanding, his thinking and speech remain clear and well-focused. He and I took a trip up memory lane back to 1958, when I visited him in south central Kentucky, where he was pastor at a couple of Presbyterian churches. In time, Brian and the churches came to a parting of the ways and he became an administrator of retirement homes. Brian has been married twice and has four daughters. He was unable to attend our 65th class reunion and sent good wishes to all."

Thanks, Edward and Brian, for connecting, and be well.

En route from Cincinnati to Washington, the Cowans visited the Flight 93 National Memorial near Shanksville, Pa., which honors the courageous passengers who were on United Flight 93 on 9-11. The passengers' heroism prevented the hijackers from crashing the plane, probably into the United States Capitol. Says Edward, "The memorial evokes memories of 9-11, and is deeply affecting."

To return, in conclusion, to the theme at the top of this column, before our week in Stockholm,

Helen and I spent several days in Halberstadt, Germany (in the former East Zone), where I have been speaking and lecturing for about five years to audiences of high school students and adults. I use the Washington, D.C., United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's challenge of "Never Stop Asking Why," and am gratified particularly when 16- and 17-year-olds thank me afterward for my message and tell me that they have accepted and taken it to heart. Basically, I tell them it is no longer "our" world but theirs to fix what has been broken. They are especially appreciative that I do not avoid any issues; neither WWII veterans nor Holocaust survivors will still be able to bear witness for long.

That's it, Class of Destiny, for this issue and this decade. We WILL celebrate our 70th reunion, and our Reunion Committee is in formation. At this juncture, we need you to sign up, share your ideas, and become part of the story NOW. Be well, do well, do good, never stop asking why. Write, email, call — and see you in the Spring 2020 Class Notes.

Excelsior!

## 1955

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4–6

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It's the 100-year anniversary of the Core Curriculum. The kickoff event on September 27 featured speeches from President Lee C. Bollinger and Dean James J. Valentini and was held in Low Library in front of a turn-away crowd. Other notables who attended were **Anthony Viscusi** and **Elliot Gross**.

Many different events will take place this coming year, especially our 65th reunion. We hope that a lot of classmates will attend. **Jim Berick** from Cleveland; **Stan Lubman** from California; **Lee Rodgers** from Los Angeles; **Jerry Plasse** from Montana; **Bob Dillingham**, **Mel Holden**,



Several 1950s alumni represented their class decade on August 25 at Convocation, to welcome the Class of 2023, by marching with their decade banner in the Alumni Procession.



**Daniel De Palma, David Gordon** and **Berish Strauch** from Westchester; **Herb Cooper** and **Barry Pariser** from Newburgh, N.Y.; Rochester, N.Y.'s own **Beryl Nusbaum**; **Dan Hovey**; **Ross Grumet** from Atlanta; and **Milt Finegold** from Houston, who is looking for **Herb Rubinowitz**. We also heard from **Jack Stupp**, who had a showing in Northern California. [Editor's note: See "Lions," this issue.]

The latest *U.S. News & World Report* ranking showed Columbia as number 3, just below Princeton and Harvard.

**Chuck Solomon** has been doing yeoman work for the Dental School.

We hope to hear from **Ted Ditchek** from Phoenix, **Ron Dubner** from Bethesda, Md., and **Evan Gerakas** from Boca Raton, Fla.

The Homecoming 2019 football game took place in front of a big crowd, as we played our archrival, Penn. We can't forget the basketball program, as it opened against Wake Forest and number 1-ranked UVA.

Keep your sunny side up. The whole world smiles with you. Continue with your good habits; you'll be a better person for it.

Love to all! Everywhere!

## 1956

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Not a lot of news from this past summer. My wife, Margo, and I took a river cruise from Amsterdam to Vienna.

Word arrived that **Alvin Pouissant** has retired as professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. He is known for his scholarly papers and his position as medical advisor to *The Cosby Show*. And we have received word of the death of **David Nitzberg**.

At the time of writing, Margo and I had just returned from her 60th reunion at Syracuse University, and were deeply impressed by the amount of planning that goes into such an event. I realize that by the time anyone reads this, it will be 18 months until our 65th. So, if there is any possibility that you will join us for the first weekend in June 2021, send me a note at rrs76@columbia.edu. It's not a commitment, but will

help in planning. And, even better, let me know if you would like to help in such planning.

Send me some news, so I don't have to use filler. Stay busy. Stay healthy.

## 1957

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From **Gary Angleberger**: "As fall approached, I was reminded of that time of the year in my first couple of years at Columbia (1953–55). Because I was on a National Scholarship, I thought I needed to use any opportunity I could find to earn a little bit of money in my freshman and sophomore years. When I heard about the possibility of earning some money by selling refreshments at the fall football games at Baker Field, I applied for the job and was immediately accepted. So my whole freshman year, while I was at all of the home games, I never really saw all of the game. While touchdowns were being scored (and, at that time, there were not too many being scored by the Light Blue), I was wandering through the stands selling soft drinks. I became much more interested in Columbia football when my good friend **Claude Benham** of Portsmouth, Va., became the varsity quarterback and passed the Lions to a few victories.

"Claude and I became friends through our partnership on the Columbia varsity baseball team for three years. We were the double-play combination of the team. While I don't remember our win/loss records during those years, we had a good time playing and making trips to all the other Ivy League baseball stadiums. In those days, Yale was the team to beat and I think we may have accomplished that once or twice. Some years after graduation I had the good fortune of visiting Claude in his home in Virginia. He is one of those steady persons who change little with the passage of years. The years do sweeten our memories."

From **Ed Weinstein**: "**Carlos Muñoz** and I (and our wives) attended Convocation on August 25. We joined in representing CC'57 in the Alumni Procession and then settled into our seats to listen to remarks provided by the deans and

others to the Class of 2023 (which includes two of my wife Sandra's and my granddaughters). President Lee C. Bollinger delivered a well-organized and intelligent presentation on the purpose of the University.

"He also noted that Columbia does not offer its space to uninvited speakers with a message, but offers a podium to speakers, whether part of the CU community or invited guests. CU does not censor presentations of ideas that are unpopular and that may be unsettling to many. He noted, however, that those delivering controversial messages would have to defend them in intellectual exchange. In discussion later, all in our party, including our son and daughter, their spouses and our 16-year-old grandson, agreed that it was worth the time to listen to the presentation. Three generations agreed that the message was both appropriate and well developed."

I received word from his widow, Susan, that **Dan Davidson LAW'59** died on September 13, 2019, at his home in Washington D.C.

Yours truly attended the annual meeting of the American Bar Association (ABA) in San Francisco, August 8–10. I remained in the Bay Area through August 16 for visits with my sister and with friends. My sister and I, among other things, visited the Haas-Lilienthal House, San Francisco's "only intact residential Victorian house museum open to the public" (according to its handout); the Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture, with its Readers Bookstore and SFMOMA Artists Gallery; and the restful Japanese Tea Garden. I revisited one of my favorites, the Asian Art Museum, with its vast collection of art from various countries of Asia and its excellent gift shop. In the background is the magnificent Beaux Arts domed City Hall. My friends, a couple I have known from law school, and I, among other things, visited the extensive Stanford University campus, especially the Rodin sculpture garden.

I then proceeded to Seattle for visits with an ABA colleague and a friend. My colleague and I had dinner at a restaurant specializing in salmon. My friend and I took a long walk through Pike Place Market, with its almost innumerable shops and restaurants. As one enters, there appears the colorful fish market, where the salespersons toss whole

fish. Not far away are shops selling exotic canned goods. There also are shops selling leather goods, jewelry and various costumes. You name it; most likely you will find what you want, and then some. I also went through the market on my own.

On my last day in Seattle, I visited the Seattle Art Museum, with its outstanding collection of paintings and other art objects. There was a particularly outstanding collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings from the art museum in Birmingham, England, which I had visited in January 2018. To crown my visit, I took the elevator to the top of the Space Needle for a panoramic view and photos of the Seattle area.

## 1958

**Peter Cohn**  
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**Larry Margolies** and his wife, Sylvia, visited NYC in July in connection with the Off-Broadway opening of the play *Mejada* at the Public Theater. My wife, Joan, and I were pleased to join the couple and their Chicago friends and colleagues that evening. We learned quite a bit about the origins of the play from Sylvia (who is on the board of the Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago). She explained that the play is an adaption of the Greek tragedy *Medea*, but now the central characters are Mexican immigrants illegally in the United States. All in all, a delightful evening at the theater to see a well-received play.

Larry notes: "Both Sylvia and I have been theater enthusiasts for many years. Chicago has more than 250 theaters, from huge theaters hosting road shows to small storefronts with 40 or so seats. This selection leads to many opportunities to attend performances, whether they be traditional or experimental opera, drama from the ancient Greeks or new works. We have been most connected with the 40-year-old nonprofit theater Victory Gardens. That is where most of our support of the arts goes. The theater won a regional Tony Award for excellence a few years ago, and we think it is

stronger and more relevant than ever before. *Mojada* is typical, since it speaks about illegal immigrants and their problems. Recent plays have considered gentrification, urban corruption, racism in Chicago and South Africa, call centers in India, adoption, relations between neighbors, murder over the theft of sneakers, reintroduction to society after imprisonment, human sexuality and the Cambodian genocide.”

Now a word about Columbia athletics: This column is being written as the football season begins. I am looking forward to joining classmates on beautiful fall afternoons at the Baker Athletics Complex to watch a very competitive team in its quest for that elusive Ivy League Championship. Then, in November, basketball will begin, with our best team in the last few years. But more about that in the next issue!

Reminder: The class lunch is usually held on the second Tuesday of every month in the Grill of the Princeton Club, 15 W. 43rd St. (\$31 per person). Email **Tom Ettinger** if you plan to attend, even up to the day before: tpe3@columbia.edu.

## 1959

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Our reunion is over, and it will be a while before our next, so Class

Notes are one way we connect to each other. Please share your activities with your classmates.

I heard from Ellen Offner in early July that her husband, **Arnie Offner**, “had an aortic dissection about 10 weeks ago followed by two major surgeries. He is now recuperating at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Charlestown, Mass., one of the top such places in the United States. He is expected to recover fully over the coming weeks.”

**Allan Franklin** writes, “My most recent book, *Is It the Same Result? Replication in Physics*, was published in October 2018.”

From **Ira Lieberman** GSAS’69: “I’m very sorry to have missed the reunion dinner but was regrettably out of town. I haven’t written to you before because I wanted to finish my project since retiring from the first violin section of the Metropolitan Opera. I do treasure my years at Columbia, earning a B.A. in ’59, master’s in ’61 and a Ph.D. (in musicology) in ’69.

“I taught music at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas (1965–69), and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond (1972–75), conducting orchestras at both. I was also chief music critic for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* during my three years there. Then I accepted the position of principal second violin with the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels.

“After returning to New York I began 35 years of playing with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, with many of the world’s greatest conductors (as well as some not-so-great

ones). In the summers I played with the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, the Casals Festival and with a summer program for young singers based in Lucca, Italy. I am an original member of The New York Pops and still play with them at Carnegie Hall.

“My varied experiences led to intense consideration of the process of music making, resulting in my book *Leaders of the Band: A Violinist Discusses Conductors and Conducting at the Metropolitan Opera*. It is designed primarily to aid aspiring conductors with frank suggestions regarding both positive and negative approaches to conducting opera. It also informs musicians and the public about the nature of the collaborative experience in the pit. After an enthusiastic response from colleagues in orchestras around the globe, I have started the second volume. I recently received my copyright and can now begin to approach publishers.”

From **Murray Epstein** PS’63: “Although I was unable to attend our 60th reunion because of overlapping family commitments, I heard how successful it was from **Joel Rein** and **Herb Dean**, who attended. My interactions with Joel, Herb and **Bob Burd** encouraged me to write a brief update of my life.

“Following graduation from the College, I attended P&S, and received my medical degree in 1963. I retired from academic medicine in 2009, after 39 years, where I was a professor of medicine in the nephrology division of the University of Miami. It was an exciting run, and very productive and rewarding.

“Following my Air Force stint at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine in San Antonio, where I conducted research on the effects of simulated space flight on kidney function, including hypobaria, weightlessness and Gz forces, I joined the faculty at the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine. There I was able to continue my studies and to pioneer a new field of research: ‘kidney function during manned space flight.’ My studies were supported primarily by research grants from NASA, and resulted in more than 30 peer-reviewed publications in medical and physiological journals.

“I was also invited to serve as a renal expert at a major global summit of experts convened by the National Academy of Sciences’s

Space Science Board. Our meeting resulted in a white paper that established the template for future directions of research in the physiology of manned space flight. The recent worldwide celebrations of *Apollo 11* and the 50th anniversary of the first successful lunar landing served as a lovely reminder of my participation in this program.

“My other research efforts were successful in establishing/enhancing two major spheres of clinical medicine:

“1. Leading efforts to advance our knowledge and development of a newly discovered class of drugs labeled calcium antagonists (or calcium channel blockers) as formidable drugs to treat not only ischemic heart disease and hypertension, but also unique applications such as a role in protection of kidney function. Based on my studies, I also edited three editions of the premier medical textbook in the field, *Calcium Antagonists in Clinical Medicine*.

“2. More recently I focused my research efforts on extending the utility of aldosterone blockers (now labeled MRAs, or mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists) in ameliorating both congestive heart failure and chronic kidney disease. My contributions helped in part initiate a major global study investigating whether these drugs can confer clinical benefit.

“In my present quasi-retirement, I co-chair a global clinical effort — the FIDELIO-DKD and FIGARO-DKD clinical studies. Now in their fourth year, these clinical studies have enrolled more than 30,400 patients with diabetes mellitus at more than 2,100 clinical sites in more than 70 countries. My involvement in these studies entails chairing the data safety monitoring committee, which is responsible for continual surveillance of the enrolled patients to ensure that adverse events are detected early and preemptively, and it is our charge to jointly decide when the studies should be stopped for either good outcomes (benefit) or for bad outcomes (adverse events). My participation entails my spending more than 25 percent of my time in overseeing the conduct of these ongoing studies. Lots of work, but quite fulfilling and I hope to achieve a good outcome with clinical benefit for diabetic patients with heart and/or kidney disease.

## Holler at Us in Haiku!

Core, one hundred years!  
What’s a fun way to note it?  
Poetry from you.

We’re celebrating the Core Centennial this year and would love to hear your memories of the Core Curriculum! But there’s a catch — **you need to tell us in haiku**. Send your 5-7-5 recollections to [cct\\_centennial@columbia.edu](mailto:cct_centennial@columbia.edu), and we’ll run our favorites in the next two issues’ Class Notes.





"My free time is spent with my family and friends. My wife, Nina, and I reside in Miami but our children are geographically dispersed — our eldest son, David '01, and daughter, Susanna '03, live in New York City, and our youngest son, Jonathan '07, is in Norman, Okla. We Epsteins can claim to constitute a quintuple Columbia legacy. I hope Nina and I will be able to attend our next class reunion."

**Bob Ratner** writes about a revered teacher, William Cornell Casey: "In my junior year at Columbia I was unsure of my academic direction and, more broadly, of my purpose in life. I had excelled in the Core's Humanities program and sampled the sciences with mixed interest and regret, but no area of study loomed as a preferred major. A friend, aware of my confusion, suggested that I attend a class taught by one of his professors in the sociology department. I agreed to do so without knowledge of the professor or of sociology, relying solely on his earnest recommendation.

"I came to the class early to ensure a seat and waited expectantly for the professor to arrive. When Professor Casey entered the room, I was struck by his stately appearance — tall, erect, but of gentle bearing, his intense blue eyes lit with anticipation of the hour ahead. All at once, I felt a surge of joy and sense of relief that I had found someone who might fulfill my meandering quest for intellectual and moral guidance. I was no less taken by his lecture, which seemed to pry open my imagination at every turn, and by the end of the hour I had the unfamiliar but welcome sensation that I knew my destiny.

"Over the next two years I went full bore into sociology, taking whatever was on offer, including all of Professor Casey's courses, which were always an exquisite adventure. His classes ranged from examination of everyday case studies, to the strengths and foibles of Athenian democracy, to the workings of the British Royal Commission, to the lofty elocutions of contemporary theorists grappling with the contradictions of modernity. Almost magically tying it all together in his incisive chalk board method of presentation, unaided by notes or written lectures, was the theme of how language can symbolically mislead

and miscast reality, diverting us from real solutions to social problems. Those who wanted more of Professor Casey's astounding erudition and lucidity could find him endlessly accessible in his book-lined office on the second floor of Fayerweather Hall, standing comfortable amidst antique desk chairs and piles of literary and political magazines such as *The Listener*, which he encouraged us to read. Before long, we came to understand why those who preceded us had dubbed his courses 'Caseyology,' in acknowledgment of their unique quality, and why his courses had been voted the best at Columbia by nearly three decades of graduates.

"Our last class with Professor Casey — his last class prior to retirement — was particularly memorable. After finishing his lecture he took questions, as always, and one student asked what singular thought students, now about to graduate, should take out to the world; whereupon, Professor Casey, without a hint of theatricality, answered, 'Oh, you don't have to ask me that. Just do as the Good Lord said, "Walk humbly and do justly."' There was a hush, and then the class, in unison, rose to applaud. The professor nodded his thanks and gracefully exited. The applause continued, and as I looked around for confirmation of my own feelings, I could see tears streaming down the faces of some students, everyone visibly moved but already saddened by the realization that we may have heard the last of someone who was not only a superb teacher, but also a rare, irreplaceable human being.

"After graduating with my B.A., I continued to see Professor Casey occasionally, visiting him at his apartment in Butler Hall on Morningside Heights, often with one or two other students, where we talked through the night and early morning, fortified by sherry and orange juice, and the lethal addiction to cigarettes, a habit for which the professor later paid dearly. Our conversations drew on current events, historical anecdotes and the literary passages that Professor Casey would have us read, especially those he selected from *The Knights of the Round Table*, as our little troupe was intuitively likened to a facsimile of that hallowed circle. How privileged we felt to spend long hours in unbounded dialogue with our cherished professor.

"On January 18, 1960, I received the first of my letters from Professor Casey, wherein he informed me that he had sent a recommendation on my behalf to Yale University which, indeed, helped me to obtain a fellowship and pursue my métier in sociology. In his inimitably gracious words: 'Always remember that I consider it a privilege to write, no less than think, in your behalf. How could I do less for one like yourself who so often, perceptively, struck a light when the path through the imponderables of my own classwork last year bogged and dimmed. I shall be eternally grateful to you for that.'

"In the summer of my second year at Yale, a fellow Caseyite and I decided to visit the famed Oneida Community in upstate New York, a utopian commune established in 1848 that Professor Casey lectured about, which had once advocated free love and communal child-rearing, and was highly respected for its industrial entrepreneurship culminating in the worldwide Oneida flatware company. On the way, we impulsively detoured to the country estate of our beloved professor in Mexico Point off the eastern shore of Lake Ontario, where he had spent most of his summers since 1931. We parked on a dusty road, traipsed across some adjacent yards, espied his cottage and finally beheld Professor Casey tending to a rosebush in his trim English garden. We called out to him and he rose to his full height, a little startled, exclaiming, 'Well, I'll be!' With that salutation cheerily received, we spent the afternoon chatting about the progress of our studies and touring the English manor that he and a close friend had built from the remains of an old carriage-house once belonging to the Mexico Point Hotel that burned down in 1951, and which was now on a life-lease to Professor Casey. The walls and beams of the house were carved with 11th-century figures and old English writings drawn from King Arthur legends, which combined with the stained-glass windows, rustic fireplace and chapel dedicated to his mother on the second floor, seemed perfectly suited to his medieval tastes, oddly contrasting with his innovative, progressive ideas. My friend and I reflected quietly on our remarkable surprise visit as we motored toward Oneida later that day." (To be continued.)

I will be including other reminiscences in future Class Notes, including presentations made at reunion.

## 1960

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4–6

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Calendar rapidly advancing toward another Class Notes deadline. Mailbox wide with vacant space. An urgent hope for some news. **Lee Rosner** responds. It is not the kind of news that ever I would hope to receive. Lee's note is a sad reminder of our mortality and contained a link to an obituary: **Bill Engler** GSAS'65 died on August 17, 2019.

Obituaries always contain a chronicle of the items on one's résumé: educational background; employment history; professional achievements. But rarely do they expose the human element — the essence of one's persona. This obituary, however, captured many of the distinctive attributes that defined Bill.

I'll get to those, but first, the résumé. Bill attended Friends Seminary in Manhattan. He entered the College, majored in English and earned his varsity "C" running track and cross country. After earning a master's in English at GSAS, he began teaching English and communications at Mercer County Community College, in New Jersey, where he remained until his retirement in 2004. While teaching full time, Bill completed an Ed.D. at Rutgers University in 1973, receiving the award for the best doctoral thesis that year from the Graduate School of Education. He then went on to teach part-time at the graduate school for several years. During his career at Mercer County Community College Bill chaired the Academic Skills Department and received the Distinguished Teaching Award.

There was more to Bill than that. The obituary noted, "Bill was a dedicated teacher who loved the art of teaching and his students knew that.

With humor and wit, he taught all students, from those enrolled in basic English courses to those in advanced literature, to think and write clearly and to love reading in the process. He served as a role model for his colleagues, whom he regaled at the lunch table with vibrant and hilarious conversation. Lunch with Bill was the absolute high point of everyone's day. During his lifetime, Bill faced many health challenges, foremost of which was multiple sclerosis, which was diagnosed in his mid-20s. With the same characteristic determination he displayed in his life, he devoted himself to 'beating' the disease by exercising vigorously and leading a healthy lifestyle. He rode his bicycle thousands of miles and rowed on his rowing machine for almost as many. He served as an inspiration to all who knew him."

Contemplating Bill's death elicited countless memories; I'll share one, which will surely resonate with many of the New Yorkers in our class. Bill and I prearrange to meet at Jerome Avenue and East 164th Street in the Bronx on December 21, 1958. We enter a drugstore to purchase a box of cigarillos, then cross the street and head for the Yankee Stadium ticket office. Skies are clear; the weather intense — a biting cold. The Eastern Conference Championship of the NFL resulted in a tie between the Cleveland Browns and the New York Giants. A one-game playoff will decide the championship this afternoon. We will sit in the bleachers. A bleacher seat costs 50 cents. The ticket clerk suggests that we consider two

seats in the end zone. The seats are much closer to the field; a roof overhang affords protection from the elements; the price is heavily discounted — not much more than bleacher seats — as the roof and a pillar label them "partially obstructed views" which, the clerk advises, is true for baseball where one might lose sight of the arc of a fly ball, but the sightlines for football are unimpaired. We take the end-zone seats. The ticket clerk's description is accurate. We settle down to watch what will become a football classic. It's a masterpiece of defensive play. In the first quarter, Charlie Conerly takes a snap and tosses the ball to Frank Gifford, who draws the Browns defense, then swerves to lateral the ball back to Conerly, who takes it in for a touchdown. That's the only touchdown scored that day. The extra point is good. In the second quarter, Pat Summerall kicks a field goal — the last points scored in the game. Giants 10, Browns 0.

Both defenses are fierce and produce some remarkable statistics: A record eight turnovers. The Giants fumble six times, but turn the ball over only twice. A rookie fielded by the Giants as their punt returner — a super-fast, skinny kid from Texas — can't hold onto the pigskin. On each of his fumbles Billy and I join an earsplitting chorus of groans and imprecations that shake the walls of the old stadium. At the end of the season the Giants release the kid. He is picked up by the AFL's Titans of New York, which joins the NFL as the New York Jets, and, there,

the kid — Don Maynard — breaks records in a long, brilliant career that culminates with his induction in the Pro Football of Fame.

At halftime, word spreads that fans in the bleachers set fires in the trash receptacles to keep warm. Billy and I are more discreet in dealing with the cold. Smoking is permitted in the stadium: Neither Bill nor I smoke. Throughout the game, as conditions warrant, we light a succession of cigarillos over which we warm our hands.

The second half is all defense. The Giants' defensive coordinator, Vince Lombardi, has his middle linebacker key on the Browns fullback on every play. Sam Huff holds the legendary Jimmy Brown to a total of 8 yards on a dozen carries. This game and the ensuing league championship in which the Giants beat the Baltimore Colts are still regarded as two of the finest games ever played in the NFL.

On December 21, 1958, this Bronx lad witnessed a thrilling event, and experiencing it with a boon companion made it a lifelong memory. It was like that with Bill. In our circle of commuters who met every day on campus for lunch, Bill was a sparkplug, with a gift of boundless energy that radiated wit, warmth and intelligence. Time spent with Bill was always uplifting. It was a complete surprise to me that he had MS or any other health issue. I regarded Bill as the very picture of health: trim, athletic, a fitness buff, full of life and always upbeat. I remember our foot race — a sprint in Riverside Park. I'll leave it at that except to say that his acceleration absolutely amazed me. I suppose it was fitting that he ran track and I sat pulling an oar on a sliding seat in an eight-oared shell on crew.

Lee Rosner echoed my sentiments: "Billy (I never got used to 'Bill') was sweet and funny and kind and smart. He was dedicated to giving kids a great junior college experience and apparently excelled at it. I will really miss him."

Andy Feuerstein has this remembrance: "Bill was smart, witty, humorous, literate and sensitive, and had a flair for storytelling. I will remember his tales of the 'Rat Pack' and other Las Vegas characters after he had worked a summer at the iconic Sands Hotel and Casino, where his uncle was involved in operations. Bill was a terrific athlete

and we enjoyed many games of half-court, three-man basketball in the Columbia gym after classes, before we headed back on the subway to our respective commuter homes. We reconnected at the 50th reunion, where I learned that Bill had battled MS since his 20s. His resilience and heroism were apparent; he did not seem to miss a beat. We stayed in touch intermittently since then. When we spoke earlier this year, he told me of his joy leading an active book group of retirees where the reading list included some of the 'Great Books' we read in Humanities. It was also clear how much he appreciated the closeness he shared with his dear wife, Fran. I understand from Fran that the reading group members are devastated by Bill's passing. I will miss Bill and feel a loss for not having been in closer contact these past many years."

I write this with a heart, heavy that one of my dearest college friends is gone, buoyant that it was my extraordinary good fortune to have had him as a friend, comforted that he lived his life doing what he loved best and, in the process, touched so many lives, enriching them intellectually and personally, leaving wonderful, endearing memories with so many.

Our deepest condolences to Fran, Bill's wife of 55 years, his two daughters and two grandsons, and to all who were his students and colleagues.

## 1961

Michael Hausig  
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Bob Salman LAW'64, while serving as a member of New Jersey's Council on Local Mandates, is participating in a case involving New Jersey's mail ballot law. He has also been appointed to serve on a panel of NYC's Contract Dispute Resolution Board in a case involving the City Island Bridge Replacement project, chairs two FINRA arbitration cases and is a member of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.

Avrum Bluming's book *Estrogen Matters: Why Taking Hormones in Menopause Can Improve Women's Well-Being and Lengthen Their Lives — Without Raising the Risk of Breast*

## Holler at Us in Haiku!

Core, one hundred years!  
What's a fun way to note it?  
Poetry from you.

We're celebrating the Core Centennial this year and would love to hear your memories of the Core Curriculum! But there's a catch — **you need to tell us in haiku**. Send your 5-7-5 recollections to [cct\\_centennial@columbia.edu](mailto:cct_centennial@columbia.edu), and we'll run our favorites in the next two issues' Class Notes.







Arnie Intrater '61 (left) and Jim Mathews '61 met in Maine in August to celebrate their 80th birthdays, which are two weeks apart.

*Cancer*, written with social psychologist Carol Tavris and published last year, has had a second printing in the United States. It has also been published in the United Kingdom as *Oestrogen Matters* and in Germany as *Östrogen*.

**Mickey Greenblatt's** son Mark was confirmed by the United States Senate as inspector general of the Department of the Interior on August 1.

**Arnie Intrater and Jim Mathews** met in Maine in August to celebrate their 80th birthdays, which are two weeks apart. Arnie traveled from Washington, D.C., where he lives several months a year when not residing in Boynton Beach, Fla. He retired from many interesting high-level governmental positions practicing law in Washington, D.C. Jim drove from Silver City, N.M., where he now resides after retiring 10 years ago from teaching psychology at the University of Hartford for 43 years.

**Joel Pitt** and his wife, Marie, rented out their home in Princeton September 1–May 31 and plan to spend nine months exploring the Southern Hemisphere. At this writing, they had not firmed up plans for the full trip and will likely not make plans in detail for more than a month or two in advance. They started with a five-day visit to their son James Womack's ecotourist resort Equilibrio Surf Art Yoga in Las Salinas de Nahualapa, Nicaragua. From there, they went

to Panama City and environs for a week before moving on to Bocas del Toro, Panama, to take four weeks of Spanish lessons and loll on the beach. The remainder of the trip was still in the planning process at the time of this note.

**Louis "Bernie" Muench** SEAS'62, BUS'65 writes that after the College, he spent two years in the Engineering School, worked for a period and then earned a degree in finance from the Business School, ending with a B.A., B.S.E.E. and M.B.A.

After graduate school, Bernie worked in finance for Cummins Engine Co. for three years. Then, the Business School's dean of placement, Fred Way, helped him to identify an opportunity at Ford. Bernie moved to Ford Car Product Planning, working on the Mustang. Several years later he moved from car planning to truck planning. Lee Iacocca and Hal Sperlich, creators of the Ford Mustang and Chrysler minivan, were among his bosses and mentors. Subsequently, Bernie became responsible for all Ford light truck product planning.

For 1976, the federal government mandated unleaded gasoline for cars and light trucks under 6,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight, because lead contaminated the catalysts that the automotive industry needed to use to meet evolving emission standards. The government also mandated a 50,000-mile emission-certification test for each vehicle-engine-transmission combination offered for sale.

This was a major issue. It required every filling station in the nation to install new unleaded-fuel tanks and fuel pumps. The Ford challenge was to test and certify more than 100 vehicle-engine-transmission combinations, each test costing more than \$1 million. Ford had the money and provided it to the responsible test manager. But, there was a problem. The responsible test manager did not have the drivers, garage or test facilities to do the testing. He was caught making up test results, fired and replaced with another engineer.

After several unsuccessful efforts to meet the new product standard, Ford approached Bernie for a recommended solution. His proposal to meet the new fuel standard, compete with Chevrolet and remain in compliance with the new law's unique model was accepted and implemented successfully. That truck

was the F-150. The F-150 ultimately became the best-selling pickup in North America.

At 80, Bernie has been thinking and writing, mostly for his grandchildren, about his life choices and luck. Some bad decisions did not result in consequences as bad as possible, and some good decisions had consequences better than expected, so his run has been good. He hopes all of us can say the same as we enter our ninth decade.

On a sad note, **Luke Urban** passed away in his sleep on August 3.

In more sad news, **Bob Ladau** received a clipping from a Guatemalan publication that disclosed that **Alan Pihl** died and was buried in Guatemala in September 2017.

Alan was a member of Alpha Delta Phi and was part of the fencing team for four years. After graduation, Alan returned to Guatemala, where he ultimately took over the reins of the family business that produced automobile tires and shoes in Central America.

In the 1970s, political upheavals in Guatemala forced Alan and his family to move to Key Biscayne, Fla. Alan required hospitalization for some injuries incurred as a result of the upheavals.

## 1962

**John Freidin**  
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Traveler **John Garman** writes, "Last spring, my wife, Nancy, and I had a wonderful four-day trip with a 13-member Road Scholar group to visit historical sites in Philadelphia. On the top of my list was the Barnes Foundation. This museum holds the largest collection of Impressionist art outside of Paris.

"While there we dined at The Victor Cafe. Its Italian food was outstanding. And all the waitstaff — both male and female — were opera soloists. So, our dinner was punctuated by arias in Italian and German.

"I'm thinking about making a donation to the College. Nothing big. Fifty years ago, I tried to give a little amount to what was then known as the Dean's Fund. It was a discretionary fund the dean could use to help students who ran out of

\$\$\$.

I know, because I had that need a number of times.

"When I asked to have my little contribution put in the Dean's Fund, I was told all such contributions had to be put into the College's big, general operating fund!

"But then, guess what? When I called the Dean's Office last month, I was referred to a special administrative office, which told me, 'Sure, we can put that kind of contribution into a special fund that the dean can use for students who have emergencies like you described.'

"Thought this might interest some of our classmates.

"That's all for now. Off to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; then Nice, Loire Valley and Paris; and finally Chautauqua, N.Y., for my annual Road Scholar foreign affairs conference. Hope I come through in one piece!"

**Bernie Patten** PS'66's latest book-like object, *Neurology Rounds with the Maverick: Adventures with Patients from the Golden Age of Medicine*, was published in September. Bernie culled from his decades of practice the most interesting and unusual patient stories. He says, "Some are funny, some not so funny, some happy, some sad, some terrible — but all real." Bernie's publisher created the title, and Bernie eventually figured out who the Maverick was. But he didn't reveal that to *CCT*. He says classmates might enjoy the book. It's available as a download for \$1.99!

**Dave Nathan** was a good high school golfer. At Columbia he was a backbencher on the golf team. But in the 1970s he lost his way and took up tennis. Now he has morphed into a "Cal (Iron Man) Ripken" in the 20-team, suburban Washington, D.C., senior tennis league where he plays. His partners and opponents are often former college stalwarts and occasionally former U.S. Open doubles players. But Dave holds the league endurance record: More than 300 matches during the last 20 years! And he claims to look forward to many more years of injury-free tennis. His success stems partly from attending adult tennis camp in Vermont.

**Larry Wittner** GSAS'67, professor of history emeritus at SUNY's University of Albany, is enjoying his retirement from teaching. This past spring, he completed a three-year term as co-chair of the national

board of Peace Action, America's largest peace organization, which grew out of the merger between the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy and the Nuclear Freeze Campaign. Larry continues to pursue his dedication to building a world without war, and recently accepted positions as a board member of both the Peace Action Fund of New York State and the Citizens for Global Solutions Education Fund. In March, Larry traveled with a small group of concerned New Yorkers to Vieques, P.R., to learn about the history of and current conditions on that small Puerto Rican island, which was for decades a bombing range for the Navy until irate residents secured a shutdown of military operations there.

As a union delegate of United University Professions Joint Labor Management Committees, Larry was for six years executive secretary of the AFL-CIO New York City Central Labor Council before stepping down to become a member of its executive committee. One of its key campaigns in the past year was an effort to secure county legislation to guarantee workers paid sick days. "Unfortunately," Larry wrote, "powerful business interests managed to block adoption of the legislation. But the campaign will continue."

Although he no longer writes scholarly books, Larry frequently pens op-eds. Focused primarily on issues of war, peace and economic equality, they usually first appear on the website of the History News Network and are subsequently picked up by other publications.

Larry maintains contact with **Mike Weinberg** (now active in local Democratic Party politics in Oregon) and **Charlie Nadler** (retired from legal practice in Colorado and posting lots of pointed political messages on Facebook). Mike and Charlie, as well as lots of other Columbia students, appear in Larry's autobiography, *Working for Peace and Justice: Memoirs of an Activist Intellectual*, in the chapter devoted to his years at Columbia.

**John Joyce** writes, "Maybe because my classmates and I are approaching (or have reached) 80, the following may be of interest. At the funeral of my youngest brother this past February, I spoke with a former sister-in-law, whom I had not seen for more than 40 years. I asked her if she recalled that when Baker Field was being demolished in 1982, I had asked her former husband (my other brother, who worked in NYC) if he would go to Baker Field to ask the workers whether he could take parts of any bleacher seats on which was painted the number '62.' I thought it would be an interesting piece of memorabilia. My brother brought several sections of the seats to his home in New Jersey. I was living in Maryland then. After my brother and his wife divorced, I never thought about the bleacher seats until I saw her at my youngest brother's funeral. She said she was still living in the house where she and my brother had lived. Then, to my surprise, she told me that the bleacher seats were still lying on the rafters of her garage, where my brother put them in 1982. I asked her to take pictures of the bleacher seats and then discard them.

"Many memories of our senior year sitting in Baker Field — when Columbia won the Ivy League football championship — were brought back by the pictures."

**Stephen Larsen**, with his wife, Robin Larsen, was on the founding Board of Advisors of the Joseph Campbell Foundation and also founded The Center for Symbolic Studies to carry on Campbell's work. Stephen is best known for his work in mythology and for being a pioneer in the field of neurofeedback.

Stephen earned a Ph.D. at Union Institute & University. He is now a professor emeritus of psychology at SUNY Ulster (Ulster County Community College). He has trained

with Jungian training analyst Edward Whitmont and Stanislaw Grof, as well as with Campbell in the understanding of myth and symbol.

For the last 10 years, Stephen has been working closely with Len Ochs, innovator/originator of the LENS neurofeedback technique, and researching its potential. In 2003, they jointly presented "Fundamentals of the LENS Method: Using EEG Driven Stimulation to Work with the Clinical Spectrum of Problems: Special Emphasis on the Neurologically Sensitive Patient" at the International Neurofeedback Organization Conference in Houston. Their work is documented in Stephen's new book on LENS, which is also featured on Ochs's website. For more on Stephen's intriguing work, take a look at [stonemountaincenter.com](http://stonemountaincenter.com).

## 1963

**Paul Neshamkin**  
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Another academic year is underway at the College. If we were still students, it would be our 60th. I missed Convocation in August for the first time in a while, but **Doron Gopstein** was there to welcome the first-years. He reports: "I had the pleasure of speaking briefly to three or four groups of the new freshmen, who were spread out as usual in groups of about 15 all over South Field with their classmates and their enthusiastic senior student guides. Wished them well for four wonderful years and tried [to give] one or two pieces of advice. They seemed to listen in awe (or shock?) when I told them that we were doing exactly this with our new classmates (with beanies then) exactly 60 years ago, and, to give a sense of time, that John F. Kennedy would be elected President the following year, the Vietnam War had not started yet, Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I have a dream speech' would be five years later, Watergate 13 years later and 9-11 not for another 42 years (but they wouldn't remember that because they were born that year). Anyway, they were all very nice and cordial and it was nice to spend a minute or two with them."

We recently celebrated our 150th monthly "Second Thursday Class

Lunch." It's been a wonderful time to enjoy good food and conversation together. A shoutout to the eight classmates who joined me for a September lunch: **Steve Barcan, Henry Black, Ed Collier, Mike Erdos, Doron Gopstein, Bob Heller, Lee Lowenfish** and **Harvey Schneier**. Please plan on joining us next time you are in NYC.

**Bill Burley** writes, "Driving through Kansas at the moment, having left home in Boulder, Colo., this morning. On our way to Pittsburgh to begin cycling from my wife Suzanne's childhood hometown to Washington, D.C., beginning on September 9. We were married August 2, 1969, and thought this an appropriate way to celebrate 50 years of marriage."

If you friend the Burleys on Facebook, you can follow their adventure in text and pictures.

**Alexis Levitin** sent greetings and reports that he is "uneasily retired after 51 years of teaching. The body is starting to go, but I still love traveling. Spent six weeks in spring visiting the spectacular, awe-inspiring Andes of Peru, including, of course, Machu Picchu. The other high point was a visit to floating reed islands in Lake Titicaca. My translation life continues: *Cattle of the Lord* by Portugal's Rosa Alice Branco, *Palávora* by Brazil's Salgado Maranhão and *Outrage* by Ecuador's Carmen Váscones in the last three years.

"My only grandchild, Hannah, is 3 and a half, but 100 percent a miracle. I remain in touch with **Peter Belfiore**, who never stops writing; **Paul Reale**, who never stops composing; and **Kit Wertz**, who still perfects the language he invented almost 60 years ago."

**Paul Kimmel** writes, "I've been retired from public school teaching since 2012, after 42 years at East Brunswick H.S., but I'm still teaching at Rutgers. I am one of the lecturers in general chemistry and also the administrator of the course, which means writing the exams, doing the grades and answering student email. So with about 1,400 students in the course, that keeps me pretty busy. I'm still an active bicyclist, putting in around 2,000 miles a year on the tandem with my wife, Jane. I'm also still playing the piano, and have performed in local recitals."

**Mike Erdos** writes, "My wife, Caryl, and I have relocated to



## Contact CCT

Update your address, email or phone; submit a Class Note, new book, photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



NYC, and I've been enjoying the monthly luncheons with classmates (one request: can we open them to spouses/significant others?). I look forward to seeing everyone again, attending Columbia football games and taking advantage of other activities on campus now that we are so close! As of this writing, the next month, however, will be spent preparing for our daughter's wedding on October 5 in Williamstown, Mass.! We're very excited about this, and are looking forward to it!"

**Elliott Greher** has been married 56 years and has four children, 15 grandchildren (three married) and three great-grandchildren. Of his two sets of twin grandchildren, one set had a twin as an ambulance first responder at the same time his twin was a sharpshooter in the Israel Defense Force (IDF), so both saving lives. Currently, four grandchildren and one spouse are studying in yeshivas. Another five are in college, one is a medical intern and one (a girl) is in the IDF. Elliott moved from New York 51 years ago to Silver Spring, Md. He hopes to move back to New York within the next two years. So much for gardening and suburban, endless driving. Elliott still has a post-retirement (from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission) business selling books and consulting to the adult disabled and aged population. New York will extend his active museum, concert and theater experiences and yet provide more time for reading — and attending Columbia functions.

**Phil Averbuch** writes, "Greetings from Florida. My wife, Judy, and I celebrated our 55th wedding anniversary with a Mediterranean cruise with our entire family. Judy and I attended the May graduation of my grandson Matthew Kronengold SEAS'19 from Columbia Engineering, magna cum laude. He now works at Goldman Sachs. A very proud and exciting moment."

**Rich Gochman** writes, "Last summer, **Paul Reale** and his wife, Claire, visited with my wife, Alice, and me in Chatham, N.Y., for a week. We all had a real ball: Carrying on pretty much in the same way as in college and the 50-plus years afterward. We even had water fights in my indoor pool. For the last two days of the visit Paul went to a nearby performance venue, which turns into a recording studio. The Troy Savings

Bank Music Hall, despite its bizarre name, has renowned acoustics with a worldwide reputation and is only a half-hour away.

"For decades, Paul had racked up excellent achievements in the classical music realm with leading performers premiering his work and putting it on their CDs, but it was the performers who had the real clout. In the last few years he has become an A-list rock star in the neoclassic realm. Now Paul selects his pieces and decides who will perform them. He is on a roll — in the last few months he has made three CDs, all of which have received rave reviews from *Gramophone* and *Fanfare*, the leading music periodicals. His three most recently recorded CDs are *Children's Palace MSR Classics MS 1715*, released in April; *Caldera with Ice Cave: Music for Strings MS 1703*, released in May; and *Stroke of Midnight Naxos 8.559879*, released in October. Despite a recent illness, Paul is composing at a frantic rate and has plans and agreements for numerous premieres and CDs in the near future, which he hopes includes another visit with us at Lazy Bear Farm, our home.

"Alice and I continue to enjoy good health and good fortune. We love living on our farm in a house designed for us to support all of our interests and hobbies. A real farmer, who lives only a couple of miles away and is also my best friend in Chatham, does all the actual farming. I make the big decisions like 'grow green stuff, no corn.' I am very interested in the economics and science of agriculture, but I have no interest in actually doing it. To be successful, a farmer has to be smart, work very hard, hope that government doesn't upset their life with trade wars and regulations, and also be lucky. I never tire of looking out the windows. We have full views of the Berkshire and Catskill mountains. We share the place with about 30 deer, bobcats, wild turkeys, foxes, rabbits, birds from eagles to cardinals, and the occasional bear that gives our place its name. Giant trees date from the Civil War. Occasionally we have a modest tree harvest. The tax laws are pretty good, as they should be, since we are capturing CO<sub>2</sub> and producing oxygen. It would be fairer if we were exempt from taxes completely.

"We are active in the Old Chatham Hunt Club. The word 'hunt'

should really be replaced by 'chase.' We do not hunt anything! On foot we follow Beagles that chase rabbits safely into their burrows while foxhunters on horseback follow foxhounds, chasing foxes that always win the race. The club's kennels have more than 100 hounds (if you call them 'dogs' you are severely punished). It is all an excuse to leave the road behind, and get some exercise over hill and dale. And the best part is that when the chase is over, we have a big party. We love to have the club hunt our land — we get a beautiful view without doing anything. I have also co-founded NanoPharmaceuticals, a cancer drug discovery company. On mice and monkeys, results have been very exciting, but there is a long way to go."

**Jack McMullen** writes, "I spent six weeks in Porto, Portugal, in May and June trying to revive the Portuguese I learned on the streets of Brazil many years ago while on a traveling fellowship there. I made good progress, especially after I abandoned the idea of learning both European and Brazilian Portuguese at the same time in different daily classes. I settled on Brazilian Portuguese, and things went much more smoothly. The difference between those two forms of the same language is much greater than the difference between British English and American English. The reason: Brazil has a population of 212 million while Portugal has only 10.5 million, even though it was the parent country. So, lots of TV shows and other media flow from Brazil to Portugal and virtually nothing goes the other way. Therefore, the Portuguese are familiar with Brazilian Portuguese, while Brazilians take around two months to get comfortable with European Portuguese when they go to Portugal to work (there are many Brazilians doing that these days). Of course, in the United States we get *Masterpiece Theatre*, music and the BBC, while the British get lots of American films, TV shows and music — so our two populations are familiar with each other's way of speaking our common language. Still, it's no walk in the park to relearn a language at our stage of life. What I learned in Brazil faded through non-use, so I was quickly disabused of my original thought that I would pick up Portuguese again quickly. Language

is not like riding a bike. Don't use it and you lose it, while we can pick up bike riding again easily even after years of not doing it."

If you're back in NYC, you can reconnect with your classmates at our regular second Thursday class lunches at the Columbia Club (for now, we are still gathering at the Princeton Club). The next are on December 12, January 9 and February 13.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

## 1964

**Norman Olch**  
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I am writing in September, but by the time this appears in *CCT* we will be approaching the start of the new decade. I wish each of you and your loved ones a happy New Year, and a year of good health, peace and prosperity.

I have asked the class two questions: What do you wish you had known when you were 18, and what advice do you have for the members of the College's next graduating class as they face becoming "adults"? Responses have been trickling in.

**Lee Witting** writes from Penobscot, Maine: "First of all, thanks for your dedication in producing this column year after year. I was sorry not to make the reunion, but after we lost my freshman-year roommate, **Nick Rudd**, my best reason for attending disappeared.

"To turn your first question around, I wish (for my father's sake, at least) I had known less when I was 18 than I did. When I drowned at 7, I went through a near-death experience (NDE) that compromised my focus on this life, and left me with a foot here and in the hereafter. My father was a high achiever, and very successful in his career. My focus was just not there in the same way, and I'm sure I was a disappointment to him, career-wise. Instead of focusing on economics, I spent my quality time on Eastern studies, primarily Buddhism. After graduating from the College, I followed my dad's wishes and started in the Business School's M.B.A. program, only to drop out in disgust. I went to work for NYC's

Department of Human Services, where my caseload was in West Harlem, above 125th Street, and where I learned that people with less than nothing materially had more character and love in their hearts than I ever would have imagined.

"Over time we saved some money and my wife, 3-year-old son and I traveled to Germany on a coal freighter and lived in a VW camper for nearly a year, exploring the cathedrals and holy places throughout Europe and the Middle East. When we got back, we found an old farmhouse in Maine, cleared the fields for a garden and grazing, and raised goats, chickens, pigs and a horse for the kids to ride. I worked a variety of jobs to supplement, but eventually went to seminary, where I earned a doctorate in NDE. I recently retired from 15 years as chaplain at Bangor's Eastern Maine Medical Center, where I heard many accounts of NDEs from patients who had died and been resuscitated. If that subject is of interest to any classmates, I do a podcast on NDE at [www.nderadio.org](http://www.nderadio.org). There are more than 300 shows archived for the listening.

"Oh, and my answer to question number 2, advising those graduating, is simple: Follow your heart."

**Gene Meyer** writes: "I don't have any great pearls of wisdom in response to your query about what I wish I'd known then that I know now. So I'll just give our classmates a personal update.

"My third book, *Five for Freedom: The African American Soldiers in John Brown's Army*, was published last year (and dedicated to the late James P. Shenton '49, GSAS'54). It won the 2019 award for Outstanding Biography/History book from the American Society of Journalists and Authors. ASJA also gave me the top prize, the ASJA Outstanding Blog Post recognition, for a blog I posted on my website: 'Pittsburgh: Never Again? Just Words.' In addition, the National Association of Real Estate Editors gave me a Silver Award this past spring for a magazine article about the Marriott Corp.'s decision to move its headquarters. Finally, I was honored and humbled to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the online Washington Independent Review of Books, on whose board I have served for several years.

"Here in the Washington, D.C., area, I see some classmates, including

**Steve Case** LAW'68 and **Barry Shapiro**. I recently heard from Richard Tuerk '63, my junior-year roommate, who has had an outstanding academic career in Texas.

"My three sons are doing well and thriving in Brooklyn, Chicago and Richmond. My wife, Sandy Pearlman, who makes my life possible, works in HR for a federal agency not far from our home in suburban Silver Spring, Md. I continue to freelance for several publications. Life is full of challenges, but also rewards; I am resigned to the former and grateful for the latter."

**Paul Neuthaler** GSAS'72, SW'96 writes: "While my fingers still work and my tired eyes still focus, I wanted to check in and greet classmates who, I hope, are feeling as grateful and fulfilled as I.

"Looking back at my two careers — 30 years in publishing, culminating in having been named chairman and CEO of the Bantam, Doubleday Dell Publishing Group in the early '90s; then 25 years practicing psychotherapy in Westchester, N.Y., until I fully retired last year. Four children, and seven grandchildren to date — all four, thank God, healthy, loving and happily and expensively educated. I had kids in the '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s! How patient and caring my wife, Abbi, has been.

"Columbia, my intellectual home, awarded four degrees to me over the years, including a Ph.D. in English Renaissance literature. My greatest Columbia debt was to my teacher and mentor, Edward Taylor, who died in April 2018. We were friends for 58 years — my tribute to him appears in the Spring 2019 *CCT*. I miss him every day. Whatever the future holds for me, I will try to approach it with the same naive expectations as ever. My life has been blessed."

**Steve Solomon**, happily retired in Florida, stopped by the class lunch in September. He is busy taking classes three days a week, traveling, visiting the grandchildren and so forth. "I don't know how I ever had time to work," he says.

Congratulations to Sophia Bock '19 on receiving the Allen J. Willen Memorial Prize for her paper on the impact of voter ID laws, *Voter Identification Laws and Their Effects on Voter Turnout and Republican Vote Share: An Analysis of State-Border Pairs 2000-2016*. **Allen Willen** was the news editor of *Spectator*.

Sophia writes to the class: "Thank you for establishing the Allen J. Willen Memorial Prize. Writing my thesis was one of the most formative experiences of my college career. I was able to explore my passion for voting rights, and develop a deep knowledge of statistical analysis. Working with Professor Donald Green made me a more thoughtful researcher. Even as an academic endeavor, it helped me prepare for my career as much as any internship I've done.

"I was inspired to write my thesis because of my work on campaigns, and my whole experience at Columbia. I had spent the past three years jumping from job to job, studying a wide breadth of topics through the Core, and I saw this as an opportunity to dedicate myself to one subject and develop a deep understanding of one of my most passionate policy areas, as well as statistics and managing a large-scale project on my own. It was more of a challenge than I ever thought it would be, and I gained more from the experience than I thought possible.

"Winning this prize helped me to go to Italy after graduation with the friends I made on my freshman floor during my first week at Columbia. I am now trying my luck in Washington for a while, before I inevitably return to New York to work on voting rights advocacy. Thank you very much for your meaningful contribution to the College."

The two questions I asked await your response. Also, join us in New York for our informal class lunch the second Thursday of each month.

## 1965

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4-6

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**Joel Berger** responded to the mention in the Fall 2019 "Obituaries" section about **Bill Goring** dying on July 28, 2019: "I was saddened to read of Bill's passing. He and I were roommates in our sophomore

and junior years in (what was then) Livingston Hall. We didn't know each other well as freshmen, but we became close friends and he was a delightful roommate. Bill grew up in Northampton, Mass., where his father was a maintenance worker at Smith College. That background gave Bill a refreshing outlook into issues of relations between the academic community and the working-class population in a small college town. He also had a fascination with neo-Nazis and other weird political groups and collected their literature, not because of any sympathy with them but rather out of curiosity as to what could produce such oddities in 1960s America. (He did get occasional feedback from the neo-Nazis complimenting him on the similarity between his last name and that of Field Marshal Hermann Goring!) He and his wife later founded a very popular and highly respected antique bookshop in Torrington, Conn. I believe that at least one and possibly more of his children attended the College. He was a truly unique and wonderful human being, and he will be missed by all who knew him."

I reached out to **Dan Carlinsky**, who had sent news about Bill that appeared in a previous column. I asked Dan if he ever got to visit Bill's bookshop, Nutmeg Books. Dan wrote, "I did visit Bill's shop — at his home in Torrington — once. I also used to run into him at library book sales, where he was always a major presence. For decades, if you were a dealer or collector of old books in Connecticut, you knew Bill Goring; he was really one of the deans of the antiquarian book world in the state and beyond. For several years, my wife, Nancy, and I ran a yearly book sale to raise money for our town library, a half-hour's drive from Torrington. We could always count on Bill's showing up to stand in line at opening so he'd have a shot at our best stuff. He dealt in an eclectic stock, which obviously represented his own mind well. Check his website; I think it fits the personality: [nutmegbooks.com/about-us](http://nutmegbooks.com/about-us)."

**Gad Heuman** responded to one of my pleas for news: "Classmates might be interested in my book *The Caribbean: A Brief History*. The third edition of was published earlier this year and includes an update of recent developments in the Carib-



bean and new publications. I am also one of the organizers of a Caribbean seminar at University College London and continue to work on slavery and the aftermath of slavery. In addition, I am the editor of an academic journal in this field, *Slavery & Abolition: A Journal of Slave and Post-Slave Studies*. However, two little grandchildren are doing their best to focus my attention elsewhere. I am now professor emeritus, having retired from university teaching in the United Kingdom, and continue to live in London with my wife, the former Ruth Weinstock BC'66."

**Leon Rosenstein** appears to have had a great summer: "I've just returned from a six-week tour to Sicily and Greece, voyaging with a friend for whom I more or less served as Cicerone, as my wife, Sara, is not currently well enough for travel. While I had seen most of this before, it was usually as a tour group leader for the Classical Alliance of the Western States, so it was nice

tion of our antiques business (note to antiques collectors: except at the highest end of the market, e.g., Sotheby's auction sales, antiques are dead), and the trip pretty much served its purpose, at least psychologically.

"My intellectual adventures this year were of two sorts. The first: I published a collection of what I consider to be my 10 best scholarly articles previously published in academic philosophy journals, a book called *Art and Existence*, currently available only in hardcover format from me (anyone interested need only contact me by email: rosenst1@sdsu.edu). In the meantime, Cornell University Press has informed me that subsidiary rights to a Chinese translation of my 2009 book, *Antiques: The History of an Idea*, have now been granted and that the Chinese version of my book should be available in a year or so. (Fortunately, I will not be required to proofread it.) My second intellectual adventure: I had the pleasure (and it

university (like so many universities these days) is committed to operating on the factory model (high-speed, efficient, cut-rate production of workers) and serving up massive, intellectually undemanding doses of the currently most fashionable drivel as worthy of academic study.

"As with my traveling adventures, so with these intellectual pursuits: I did them in part because I have always loved doing them for themselves and partly to demonstrate to myself that I was still capable of doing them. Well, so much from San Diego, where the temperature so far this year (as of August 1) — at least at the coast where I live — has yet to pass the 80-degree mark."

**Barry Kamins** was featured in *The New York Times* on September 13 in the article "Officers Said They Smelled Pot. The Judge Called Them Liars." A great photograph of Barry, seated at his desk and wearing his customary bow tie, is captioned "Barry Kamins, a former New York City judge and an authority on search and seizure law in New York, said Judge [April] Newbauer was 'the first judge to really express an opinion about this type of scenario.'"

**Michael Schlanger** was cleaning out his house in preparation for a move and came across an August 1983 article in *Legal Times: The National Law Journal* about "workaholic lawyers." It featured 10 workaholic lawyers. Two of them are Mike himself and **Michael Cook**. I know they both continue to practice law, but I hope they have eased up a bit!

**Bob Yunich** followed up on his report in the Fall 2019 issue: "I've become more active in volunteer work, as I've been significantly scaling back my financial advisory practice.

"In July I was elected a trustee of the New York Youth Symphony because it is an extraordinary organization and I am passionate about its mission. Founded in 1963, its award-winning program is dedicated to educating and inspiring gifted and talented young musicians, ages 12–22, through exceptional training and performance opportunities. Approximately 260 students from all backgrounds participate, regardless of their ability to pay, made possible by the availability of more than \$1 million in scholarships. Its programs have grown significantly to include chamber music, conducting, jazz, composition, musical theater com-

position and commissioning, with performances at world-class venues including Carnegie Hall and Jazz at Lincoln Center. More than 20 free and ticketed performances that reach more than 8,500 people in the New York metropolitan area are offered each year. A concert during the Youth Symphony's inaugural year featured a 17-year-old Israeli violinist, Itzhak Perlman. In the intervening years, many of the Youth Symphony's alumni have assumed prominent roles in the music world.

"I'm continuing my work, started more than five years ago, in the credit crisis counseling program with the Community Service Society of New York and, more recently, the Trout in the Classroom Program with Trout Unlimited. As a result, I have been appointed to the NYS Council of Trout Unlimited, the governing body for all of TU's chapters and activities in the state.

"Our travel plans are fluid; we're planning a trip to London in February, Montreal in May and maybe somewhere in Europe (where we haven't visited) in the early fall."

Our class reunion (Thursday, June 4–Saturday, June 6) is a mere six months away. Reunion planning is getting underway, so you can submit suggestions for activities. The Reunion Committee hopes many, many classmates will participate.

## 1966

**Columbia College Today**  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
cct@columbia.edu

Sasha Berkman '05 wrote in to share her remembrances of her father, **Stuart M Berkman** BUS'68:

"Despite knowing that death is an inherent part of life and hearing regularly of its occurrence, the finite impact turns real only when experienced firsthand with the passing of a loved one. It has taken me a few months to fully come to terms with the sudden loss of my father (February 13, 1944–January 25, 2019).

"A native of Cleveland, he spoke so often with infectious enthusiasm of his undergraduate years at Columbia that there was hardly any other possible outcome than for my yearning for a Columbia experience of my own.

### Core Haiku



Baptized as freshman  
by the Core Curriculum  
washing over me

— Jim Siegel '65, BUS'68

not to be obligated by the usual impediments and responsibilities of that role and I could include in our private itinerary archeological sites far from the usual tourist locales and the madding crowd — the Temple of Apollo Epikourios, for example, supposedly designed by Iktinos, and unique for being aligned north/south, provided with a side door and with the first known instance of a Corinthian capital. A Greek friend (formerly a graduate student of mine) regaled us with fulsome accounts of the current Greek socio-political situation and made comparisons with the United States, e.g., the economic 'use' (I employ this term in its several senses) of Albanians there as Californians 'use' Mexican laborers here.

"The trip was planned as a relief experience — relief from the various health issues of both my wife and me this year and from the frustrations attendant upon the final liquida-

tion of our antiques business (note to antiques collectors: except at the highest end of the market, e.g., Sotheby's auction sales, antiques are dead), and the trip pretty much served its purpose, at least psychologically.

"My intellectual adventures this year were of two sorts. The first: I published a collection of what I consider to be my 10 best scholarly articles previously published in academic philosophy journals, a book called *Art and Existence*, currently available only in hardcover format from me (anyone interested need only contact me by email: rosenst1@sdsu.edu). In the meantime, Cornell University Press has informed me that subsidiary rights to a Chinese translation of my 2009 book, *Antiques: The History of an Idea*, have now been granted and that the Chinese version of my book should be available in a year or so. (Fortunately, I will not be required to proofread it.) My second intellectual adventure: I had the pleasure (and it

was a pleasure) of being invited by a group of San Diego State University philosophy graduate students to participate in their self-instituted seminar to study Nietzsche's *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. It was a pleasure not only because it prompted me to reread a notoriously poetic/esoteric work (the actual text of which I had not read in perhaps 40 years), but especially because these students chose this study topic on their own without requiring academic credit for it and without the support of philosophy faculty, which was not available to them in any case, as no one remains in the department from which I formally retired 10 years ago who is competent to teach this in this area. Indeed, since I left the department, many traditional and fundamental courses have been abandoned by the university administration and several of my own specialized subjects and courses have been left unstaffed, since the

"For many decades after his graduation he was the CC'66 class correspondent for *Columbia College Today*, in addition to conducting interviews of college hopefuls — first in my hometown of Atlanta, and later in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where my parents moved upon my completion of Columbia in 2005.

"One of my favorite Columbia stories is how his 28-year career at Coca-Cola came to be: He was apparently doing poorly in one of his classes at the Business School and built a rapport with the professor, possibly to improve his standing in the class. He was about to graduate, the Vietnam draft was looming and he had no plans. One day, my dad's professor asked what his graduation plans were, and said he had two friends, one in Atlanta at Coca-Cola and one at another company elsewhere. It sounds like my father jumped at the Coca-Cola opportunity, and thus began his international career in marketing and licensing at Coca-Cola.

"Throughout the years, either for business or for our yearly holiday travel with my mother and me, my father would not come to New York without a mandatory visit to the Columbia campus, which he admired every time. The visit also included a mandatory stop at Mondel Chocولات to purchase chocolate-covered

Russian. My father and I, despite us both being Americans residing in the United States, spoke in Portuguese to each other — Brazilian Portuguese because of his nearly 43-year marriage to my Brazilian mother, Gilda Esberard Berkman, whom he met during his years spent working at Coca-Cola Brazil in the 1970s.

"I miss my father greatly."

## 1967

**Albert Zonana**  
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We heard from four classmates this issue!

**Cliff Dobrin** writes, "I received a juris doctorate from Rutgers Law School. A six-month trip to Hawaii led me to San Diego. I signed up for a three-year stint with the San Diego District Attorney's Office. I loved the job so much, I stayed for 37 years, retiring in 2007. When not looking after my granddaughter, my wife, Mary, and I have been traveling the world. Every couple of years, however, we return to New York City so I can stroll down College Walk and breathe in the most wonderful of memories. I picture my sponsor, Professor Jim Shenton '49, GSAS'54,

sweet-natured little Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. Having allowed memberships in various organizations to lapse, I did join the local literary club. For that group I have written some fiction, including a murder mystery, which was pretty good, if I do say so myself. There are several classmates still living I wish I had been able to see again. My best wishes to all of you."

**Don Shapiro** writes, "Over the years I've thought of writing to Class Notes but just never got around to doing it. Hard to believe that it's been 56 years since we lived together on (I think it was) the 12th floor of 'New Hall'! I'll make this short and sweet, and leave out the many details. My wife, Karlyn, and I raised our family in the Philadelphia area, where I practiced medicine. We now divide our time between Juno Beach, Fla., in the spring and fall, and Aspen, Colo., in the summer and winter. Also, I'm proud to say that my son, Adam '03, is a fellow Columbia College graduate. Lately, I've been rereading some of our Lit Hum books with the Columbia College Alumni Association's Core Conversations book club ([college.columbia.edu/alumni/learn/coreconversations](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/learn/coreconversations)). I hope a lot of you are also taking advantage of this great opportunity. Life is good!"

**Jenik Radon** writes, "My vagabond ways now find me also returning to my California 'roots' — I did law at Stanford and grad school at UC Berkeley. I have rejoined Santa Barbara-based Direct Relief, the premier United States provider of critical emergency medical supplies around the world, as a member of its Board of Advisors. This gives me the chance to catch up with **Al Zonana**, who is not embarrassed to admit that he loves living in paradise.

"Other than the Bear Republic, I combined business with lots of pleasure by visiting Estonia, the land that invented Skype, this past summer and joining in its famed Estonian Song Festival, which in 1989 sparked Estonia's independence movement from the USSR. This year was the festival's 150th anniversary; there were more than 30,000 singers and more than 130,000 participants, all singing songs of freedom. It was an emotional high. It also gave me the opportunity to check up on my interns. They were working in the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs helping to craft a platform for the 105 small

states (countries with populations of 10 million or fewer) that Estonia plans to promote as a member of the United Nations Security Council, to which it was just elected and for which I supervised my SIPA students in crafting a report.

"And I made headlines in another paradise, Mauritius, by calling for it to create a public registry of the beneficial owners of all of its thousands of registered companies — I cannot say that my interview made me popular.

"A high point of the summer was my proving that I still had what it takes by dancing the twist at a wedding in Hannover, Germany, where even the 30-year-olds could not go so 'low' and get back up."

Be well all of you, and do write ....

## 1968

**Arthur Spector**  
4401 Collins Ave., 2-1417  
Miami Beach, FL 33140  
arthurspector@gmail.com

Hello to the Class of '68! We all met about 55 years ago, can you believe that? I am enjoying my home in Miami Beach, but the hurricane approaching did make me think twice ....

Visit me! **Buzz Zucker**, our resident expert on plays, is coming soon. We saw each other in Saratoga this past summer — he won at the race track, I was wiped out. **Seth Weinstein** is also coming, as is Bob Costa '67 and his wife, Joan. I went to their daughter Carolyn Costa '12's wedding in July, the best wedding I have ever been to. Carolyn is wonderful.

**Nigel Paneth**, Bernie Weinstein '65, Jenik Radon '67, **Robert Brandt** and **Seth Weinstein** and I go back and forth on public policy issues; it is quite amazing how Seth, Robert and I tend to be flawless in our observations. Nigel is again doing important public health teaching. Seth is biking and is down to college weight — told me he did 18 miles in one day recently.

I also heard from **Larry Susskind**, who has a new book out. He teaches at MIT.

Heard from **Jim Shorter**, who was planning to come to Homecoming Weekend 2019.

Also heard from **Tom Sanford**, who gave us a good lecture at our

## Core Haiku



In Plato's dream cave  
we see only shadows of  
whom we're yet to be

— Rabbi James B. Rosenberg '66

ginger, a bite at V&T and a pastry at The Hungarian Pastry Shop. One might say he had memories tied to all those local spots.

"I am fortunate to have been loved and raised by a man who was the grandson of Hungarian and Russian immigrants, worked part time at his parents' convenience store from the young age of 4 and paid his own tuition at Columbia, ultimately growing his passion for foreign languages and becoming a self-taught linguist speaking English, Portuguese, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Dutch, Turkish and

and some of my friends and always appreciate what an extraordinary experience it was. Life is good."

**Bob Burdette** writes, "I was unable to attend our class reunion in 2017 due to mobility problems occasioned by spinal stenosis. My two closest friends from the class, **George 'Jud' Marking** and **Michael 'Mickey' Lane**, and their wives, came to my home in Cincinnati that spring and we celebrated on our own. The fairly large number of our classmates who had already died surprised me. These days I lead a solitary life in the company of a



40th about staying fit. Tom writes, "Rowed up the Thames River from the Hammersmith Bridge to Henley over the course of three days in early July with a group of English old boys. My second year of this fun. I'm looking forward to Homecoming and planning to go to the Yale Bowl, too."

A role model for us all, for sure! **Ira McCown**, a former rower, was planning to come to my place to watch a Columbia football away game; I was to produce lunch.

I heard from **Hollis Petersen**, who is in hot water with me until the next reunion — talk about football, I bet he was at a game at age 3 or so, like **Paul de Bary**.

Hollis wrote that he and his wife, Ann, continue to be enthusiastic residents of Islamorada, which is in the middle of the fabulous Florida Keys (where the sun shines except for an occasional hurricane). While sorry to miss the recent excitement of the Lions's successes, Hollis still claims to miss Buff and Archie and sends enthusiastic greetings to all from the Conch Republic (aka the Keys).

Hollis, I hope to get out to see you there or hope I can persuade you to travel to Miami.

The latest news from **Steve Gottlieb's** late-blossoming tennis life: "I was selected for the United States four-member team to compete in the 70-and-over world team competition in Croatia. Pleased to report that we captured the bronze medal."

**George Bernstein** recently returned from a wonderful time with some English friends whom he met 26 years ago in Scotland. They met in London for a celebration. George sounds like fun; I recommend that any member of the Class of '68 who's spending time in New Orleans ring George, who probably knows the best restaurants and chefs in the city (which has some of the best food on the planet).

George, we missed you at the 2018 reunion, but we have many more on the horizon.

**Sandy Zabell** writes, "Recently published a 75-page paper on German mathematicians who worked on cryptography during WWII (the German counterparts to Alan Turing). There were quite a few (not surprising, given their preeminence in mathematics then). Other than that, the usual teaching."

Sandy is a professor at Northwestern; his 75-page sounds like the basis

of a movie with intrigue. I wonder what happened to all the Germans. Did they end up in America?

I wish I had a list of all the professors in our class, as I bet we have some kind of record of talent at universities. Although, we have a lot of lawyers and doctors, many turned out to be professors in some cases!

Have a happy New Year, and please take a moment to write!

## 1969

**Columbia College Today**  
**Columbia Alumni Center**  
**622 W. 113th St., MC 4530**  
**New York, NY 10025**  
**cct@columbia.edu**

CCT was saddened to learn that longtime class correspondent **Michael S. Oberman** passed away on October 16, 2019. He was a very active alumnus, serving as class correspondent for 41-plus years, serving on the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors 2008–19 and volunteering for multiple Reunion Committees through the years. He will be missed.

## 1970

**REUNION 2020**  
**JUNE 4–6**

Events and Programs Contact  
[ccaa-events@columbia.edu](mailto:ccaa-events@columbia.edu)

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My dear friend **Jacob Worenklein** sent a lovely note: "I continue to focus on electric power in major United States cities as we transition to a low-carbon future. I chair the company that owns the Ravenswood Generating Station in Long Island City (New York's largest power plant), and am CEO of US Grid Co., which is in the process of acquiring power plants in major U.S. cities. I worry, as so many of us do, about the threats to the basic values of our nation and chair the Interfaith Alliance, which is committed to the protection of the

constitutional rights of Americans of all faiths and backgrounds.

"My wife, Cindy, and I continue to live on the West Side of Manhattan with our daughter Sasha, a sophomore at the Fashion Institute of Technology, and not far from my children David '93 and Laura '01, and close in spirit to my son Dani, who lives in Jerusalem and finds opportunities for me to do good deeds."

My friend Professor **David Lehman** reports, "David Lehman's new book, *One Hundred Autobiographies: A Memoir*, tells the story of his (provisionally) triumphant three-year battle with cancer, with the

valuable treasure trove of videos that reach far and wide, demonstrating the power of listening, creating and improvising in what is usually viewed as an arcane and painful task. His published work, including his highly influential textbooks on both modal and tonal counterpoint, have created an extraordinary impact on the field. Finally, he has changed the way musicians think, bringing joy through musical insights, allowing students to do something that they only dreamed of in terms of their musical studies and analytical discoveries."

**Richard Hobbie** reports: "After 23 years as president and CEO of

### Core Haiku



Honors, passing, fail —  
For all the lasting mem'ry:  
Core, the Core, the Core

— Robert Nordberg '68

book's structure allowing for digressions, memories, fantasies, dreams and reflections on life and death. Lehman's poetry books include *Playlist; When a Woman Loves a Man*; and *The Daily Mirror*."

Professor Lehman is also mentioned with great respect in **James Periconi's** letter to our class at the end of these notes.

Great news about Professor **Peter N. Schubert** of McGill University's Schulich School of Music. Peter "has been awarded the Gail Boyd de Stowinski Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Music Theory Teaching and Scholarship. This honor is awarded every five years and bestowed upon an individual who has helped to shape music theory pedagogy throughout the world, whether it be through teaching at his or her home institution or through lectures, formal conference presentations and publications beyond the campus. Criteria for the award also require that honorees have taught for a minimum of 25 years, have maintained significant scholarship and continued presence in the field of music theory pedagogy, and have demonstrated impact on future generations of music theory instructors (mentorship, successful alumni, legacy in teaching approaches)."

Beyond his excellence in classroom teaching, Peter "has created a

the Water Quality Insurance Syndicate in New York, I have retired and am living in Dorado, Puerto Rico."

Professor **Lewis H. Siegelbaum**, the Jack & Margaret Sweet Professor Emeritus of History at Michigan State University, sent a note about the publication of his memoir, *Stuck on Communism: Memoir of a Russian Historian* (with a chapter on his years at Columbia College). His publisher describes the book as a "memoir by one of the foremost scholars of the Soviet period from the 1950s when Lewis Siegelbaum's father was a victim of McCarthyism through the implosion of the Soviet Union and beyond" and refers to Lewis's self-discovery "through the tumult of the student rebellion at Columbia during the Vietnam War and Moscow at the height of détente."

It sounds like a fascinating read!

**Goeff Zucker** reports: "As one of the 'counterculture' generation of students of the Class of '70, I never thought I'd say that I retired last year after 40 years as a gastroenterologist in Western Massachusetts. This year my wife, Donna, retired as a professor of nursing at University of Massachusetts. We're trying to figure this out, and some travel (a recent trip to Egypt, Jordan and Israel) and summers on Cape Cod have been wonderful. In order to

give me a reason to get out of gym clothes, I'm president of the medical staff at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, a Mass General Hospital affiliate, and am on the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Medical Society. Having a voice in the governance and policies of the organizations that I belong to has been my best solution to avoid 'burnout,' a serious problem for physicians these days. Our first grandchild, Evan, was born a year ago, and gives us a strong reason to drive into Long Island on a regular basis. I'm looking forward to next year's reunion, and to connecting with my old friend, **Tom Keenan**."

Well, **Tom Keenan** also sent a nice report: "My wife, Keri, and I are looking forward to catching up with you guys again at our 50th! And since you asked ... In his 2004 book *Techno-creep: The Surrender of Privacy and the Capitalization of Intimacy*, University of Calgary Professor Tom Keenan made some feisty predictions about how the world would change by the 50th anniversary of Woodstock (music curated through AI, personalized medical tests, direct stimulation of the brain with electricity rather than chemicals). Woodstock 2019 didn't happen, but most of the things Tom predicted did. One thing he didn't see coming was the ability for anyone to fake images/documents/videos with commonly available software. He's now designed a blockchain-based system that can help detect image manipulation — a useful tool in the age of Fake News. He presented it at the RSA conference in Singapore this summer. A short video version is online at [bit.ly/2mDrDhh](http://bit.ly/2mDrDhh)."



## Send in Your News

Share what's happening in your life with classmates. Click "Contact Us" at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct), or send news to the address at the top of your column.

**Bill Schur** writes: "I'm back in Fort Worth, Texas, where I have taken up bowling and golf 50 years after I quit both. Pursuing a new citizen naturalist hobby, photographing plants and animals and uploading them to the iNaturalist website/app/database, where I go by the handle *cwd912nb*. Doing my civic duty by serving on a stormwater advisory group for the City of Fort Worth and working on various neighborhood association projects."

**Larry Rosenwald** writes: "I'm excessively proud to have a verse translation of mine, of Itzik Manger's *The Ballad of Old Harlequin*, published on the website of the Yiddish Book Center, [yiddishbookcenter.org/language-literature-culture/yiddish-translation/ballad-old-harlequin](http://yiddishbookcenter.org/language-literature-culture/yiddish-translation/ballad-old-harlequin), with a beautiful, heart-wrenching graphic presentation."

Finally, news from **James Periconi** (who is on our Reunion Committee): "I very much look forward to our 50th reunion in June. I'm happy to report that in my small — but not unimportant — way, I'm beginning to pick up where I left off as a graduate student midway to getting a Ph.D., Columbia's only Danforth Graduate Fellow in the Class of '70. I admire classmates who successfully finished their Ph.D.s in English literature, too many to name. One in particular I'm lucky enough to see a lot of, who has taught and written some of the best poetry around (not to speak of his prose works) and started in 1988 an iconic American cultural institution, *The Best American Poetry* series: my good friend **David Lehman**. It just wasn't for me then."

"I continued to pursue a pretty good career as an environmental lawyer. This began while I was studying in Paris, attending Michel Foucault's and Claude Lévi-Strauss's classes at the Collège de France, living with an American science writer for UNESCO, who wrote about the gradual destruction of the environment, convincing me that the world needed environmental lawyers to save the planet more than it needed another Ph.D. in English literature. But starting about 20 years ago at a conference I helped organize, with Edward Said as the keynote speaker (thanks, Jim McMenamin), I prepared my first bibliography, a modest effort at a comprehensive list of the literary output of Italians in

America. Part-time work as a book dealer led to research, which led to collecting, and back to a deeper research, and soon I was publishing an article every two to three years — practicing law not leaving more time for this activity."

"In recent years, I've taken several intensive courses in bibliography, including 'Principles of Descriptive Bibliography,' at the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia, enhancing my research and my collecting, which culminated in 2012 in an exhibition at the Grolier Club New York City of my collection, prompting the now-deceased William Reese, one of the eminent, scholarly dealers in American books, to buy two copies of my catalogue for his staff, declaring I had filled an important gap in American book publishing history. Whew!"

"A year ago, the New York Public Library gave me one of its coveted positions as a Wertheim Research Scholar for a year, and recently extended it to May of next year. To some a poor step-sibling of the Cullman Fellows Program (with its stipends) perhaps, but a key to a private reading room on the second floor of the magnificent 42nd Street library and, even better, a couple of shelves on which to keep books ordered from the stacks brought right there, to keep pretty much as long as we need them. Lately I've been scouring the Italian newspapers in New York in the second half of the 19th century for ads for imported books from Italy — a thriving business, it seems — and then for the exciting emergence of home-grown materials, in other words, Italian fiction, poetry, memoirs and histories, in U.S. imprints (not imported). It's almost entirely virgin territory for a scholar in this sub-field (I know most of them), so it actually sets my pulse to racing when I make a discovery and jump out of my seat, or have my assumptions utterly (and thrillingly) defeated by the inexorable power of real evidence of historical events and material culture."

"As if I weren't already terribly fortunate because of this, my companion of the last five-plus years is a senior Columbia history professor at the crest of a great career, and about to publish at Harvard another one of her award-winning histories of modern Europe. Every other year

she teaches second semester CC, enjoying rereading these magnificent texts — a somewhat different selection than ours of a half-century ago, but not as different as you'd think — and discussing them with really smart and (mostly) hard-working College undergrads. Just remembering as much as I occasionally do about texts from that life-altering course — thank you, Pete Pardue from the religion department! — and from its offshoots, especially sociology-CC, discussing them with her, reminds me how much I got out of Columbia despite the awful political times."

"I've run on too long, but there's much to say that's positive, and I haven't even mentioned children and grandchildren, in which I'm very blessed; no bemoaning the pains of old age or miscalculations in my life!"

## 1971

**Lewis Preschel**  
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[l.a.preschel@gmail.com](mailto:l.a.preschel@gmail.com)

**Howie Selinger** writes, "I have lived in Denver for 44 years. After finishing a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, I have been in private practice performing consultations and giving expert witness testimony. I specialize in cognitive behavior therapy, including mindfulness-based stress reduction and acceptance and commitment therapy. I love my work too much to retire. It fulfills my personal goals of decreasing human suffering."

Howie notes the Core Curriculum created a firm basis for his practice. His wife, Marilyn, has a doctorate in neuroscience; their two grown children returned to Denver to live. They practice law and psychology. Howie has three grandchildren, who first heard "Roar, Lion, Roar" minutes after their birth. He is eager to hear from classmates: [hvs3@columbia.edu](mailto:hvs3@columbia.edu).

After 40 years of public service, **Gary Marton** retired last May. He notes his path after Columbia took a slight detour: "For two years after graduation, I shared an apartment on Claremont Avenue while I drove a cab, played tournament bridge, helped to run a food co-op and took



piano lessons. I lived the hippie lifestyle. However, while in college, 1969–71, I performed draft counseling with good success. The process was rewarding, so I decided to enroll in law school: Boston University. In 1976, I obtained a position with a solo practitioner, but found no enjoyment there, so in 1978, I took a position with the Office of the New York City Comptroller. For more than six years I worked on construction contracts, administrative law, labor law and public procurement issues. In 1985, I joined the New York City Law Department and ran the litigation unit. We defended thousands of tax foreclosure proceedings, occasional bankruptcy, eminent domain, environmental, public procurement and tax certiorari cases. We also drafted legislative proposals. In 1999, I gained approval and was appointed, as a judge, to the New York State Court System, the housing part of the Civil Court of the City of New York. I served for almost 20 years in various boroughs throughout the city.

“My wife, Monique, and I have lived in Brooklyn since 1990. We have two grown daughters. We enjoy our lives every day. I am in contact with **Roger Liwer SEAS’71** and **Roy Rosenstein**, both of whom live in Paris, and within walking distance of each other. During my time as a judge, I would occasionally cross paths with **Arthur Engoron**. From time to time, I run into **Larry Weiss**, who is the headmaster of Brooklyn Friends School.”

**Ron Rosenberg** teaches at the Law School of William and Mary, but will retire at the end of this year. Although he and his wife reside in Williamsburg, Va., presently, on retirement they will relocate to Charlottesville. He remembers that the events of our freshman year shocked him personally and intellectually. In retrospect, he concludes that our class was a firsthand observer of social and political history that changed the essence of our country forever.

As your class correspondent, I claim minimal training in psychology and statistics, but our class seems to have a larger than expected proportion of people involved in the legal system of the city, state and federal government. Add in the number of lawyers, judges, physicians, and include those in related

medical fields, and it seems the events and times of our college education directed so many of us toward our appropriate future — serving others to better our world.

**Paul Armstrong** follows Columbia baseball, and the team is obviously much better than when he played, though I can attest that Paul could play quite well. Paul married Peggy after graduation and did corporate work for 40 years while living in Colorado, California and Pennsylvania, and finally returning to New York. He traveled the world as well, including but not limited to, trips to South America, Japan, South Korea and Europe. In retirement, Paul devotes his time to his family: two sons and a daughter, plus five grandchildren. The oldest, a grandson, is 16; he lives in California and is ready to look at colleges. Paul is making a road trip with him to UCLA, USC and Caltech.

As a retiree, Paul has stopped solving engineering problems, equations and such, as he did throughout college and his career. He says, “I’m a liberal arts guy at heart, but took the technical route in college out of practicality [and the need to find a job].” While taking engineering courses and practicing baseball during the day, and then studying for engineering at night during college, he had no time to read great literature; so in his leisure, he now makes up for lost time. Otherwise, he spends his spare hours abusing his knee and hip replacements by playing tennis.

**George Quintero** lives in Maracaibo, Venezuela, but notes he was destined to go to Columbia, as his dad, Jorge Quintero ’45, PS’48 was pre-med and his mother was BC’44 and also PS’48. George proposes that **Greg Wyatt** make a desktop replica of his *Scholar’s Lion* for our reunion. He looks forward to the big 5-0, which is coming up soon.

**Paul Scham** is the co-editor of *Israel Studies Review*. He is the executive director of the The Joseph and Alma Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Len Renery**, the captain of our class’s freshman soccer team, checked in: “In 1954, the NCAA in its wisdom mandated freshman athletics teams, so that incoming students could play sports. It was required of all colleges and universities until 1973. I was privileged

to play on Columbia’s freshman soccer team in 1967, along with outstanding teammates like **Rocco Commisso SEAS’71** and **Omar Chamma**.” Another excellent player, **Mike Vorkas**, has passed away. Len continues, “The 1967 freshman soccer team was undefeated, beating previously undefeated Penn 4–3 in the final match of the season. (We won the hypothetical freshman Ivy League Title.) Naturally those of us on the team are proud of this accomplishment and remember it vividly. Now, arguably, the most important position on a soccer team is the goalkeeper, and I’ll have you know that the goalkeeper on the undefeated 1967 freshman soccer team at Columbia was none other than **Lew Preschel**. Thanks for a great season, Lew!”

Len remembers back to our dads standing on the sidelines cheering us on. Another great moment for both of us.

In an effort to present a balanced picture and give credit where credit is due, on the soccer pitch in front of me, I had an incredibly talented defense, including Rocco; **Rinaldo Veseliza SEAS’71**, GSAPP’74; **Joe Koch**; big Jorge Gleser ’72; **Rich Milich**; and also my friend, fullback **Bobby Brintz**, who succumbed to ALS several years ago. That season beat the hell out of studying for organic chemistry. We should also note that Len was an All-Ivy selection in 1969 and 1970, and went on to a career in professional soccer before becoming a high school and college coach.

Fortuitously, **Rich Milich**, one of the starting fullbacks on our undefeated freshman soccer team, dropped us a line: “For the past 30 plus years, I have taught psychology at the University of Kentucky; however, I recently retired. I chaired more than 35 doctoral dissertations and performed research concerning ADHD for 40 years. The topic still holds my interest because new questions arise, begging to be answered. Having worked and lived in Lexington has made it my home, so I am retiring here as well.”

On a class business note: I am hopeful that in the spring we can have an informal class luncheon someplace in Manhattan. It would be great to see everyone — those I remember and those I never knew. If you like this idea and have sugges-

tions as to where we should meet, please contact me at [l.a.preschel@gmail.com](mailto:l.a.preschel@gmail.com). I hope to set this up far enough in advance that some of our out-of-towners can make it.

Life presents twisty paths — we have all gone our own way, but we are not near our finish line. We can still Roar, Lion, Roar. We’re the brotherhood of ’71ers; let’s stay in touch.

## 1972

**Paul S. Appelbaum**  
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New York, NY 10027  
[pappel1@aol.com](mailto:pappel1@aol.com)

**Gene Ross** reports, “All is well. My three sons are succeeding in their careers. I am still busy in my Westchester County ear, nose and throat practice, though, after 43 years of operating, and a clean record, I have adopted an office-only practice. My wife and I are taking more time off, and have wandered the world this year — Peru, Madeira, the Grand Canyon, Bulgaria, Greece, Puerto Rico and eight trips (so far) to our beach home in Fort Lauderdale. I learned to play Mozart’s *Piano Concerto No. 19* a couple of years ago, have been working on Chopin’s *Études* and plan to resume playing jazz on saxophone. I get to the gym a lot and, at 69, am 5-foot-10 and 148 lbs.”

He concludes with a welcome bit of Columbia patriotism: “Roar, Lion, Roar. Still so honored to call Columbia alma mater. I’ve always endeavored to earn her faith in me.”

**Bruce I. Jacobs SEAS’73** wrote that his latest book, *Too Smart for Our Own Good: Ingenious Investment Strategies, Illusions of Safety, and Market Crashes*, which explains the underlying causes that connect financial crises from 1987 to the present, was published last year. His firm, Jacobs Levy Equity Management, entered its 34th year this fall. In September, the Jacobs Levy Equity Management Center for Quantitative Financial Research at the Wharton School hosted its seventh annual conference, including the presentation of the fourth biennial Wharton-Jacobs Levy Prize for Quantitative Financial Innovation. On the personal front, Bruce and his wife of 44 years, Ilene, are proud of their four children, who are pursuing careers in social work, finance and

a food business startup. And, of course, they are enjoying time with their four grandchildren.

**Bill Hudgins** shared some reminiscences of moving in during Freshman Week: "I grew up in a small rural town in Virginia and spent my last two years of high school at an all-boys school in yet another rural part of Virginia. The Spring 1968 shutdowns worried my folks greatly, but for me, they signaled I was indeed going to the right place. My dad and I drove to NYC — I'd been to New York before, but he never had. We arrived and got our first look at the campus. Hippie-looking people everywhere. Scores of beautiful girls (did I mention I'd just finished two years at an all-boys school?). People with bullhorns broadcasting whatever position they embraced. And hundreds of other confused, confounded and anxious parents wondering, as my dad surely was, what circle of hell they were delivering their babies to, and if they'd ever see them again. If there was a parents' orientation then, we didn't know about it. So we moved my stuff in, and my dad very reluctantly bade me goodbye. I went off to find out what new world I'd landed in. It was years later when I realized how he must have felt after leaving me in that Boschian scene."

My wife, Dede, and I were able to do a few days of guided birding in Gibraltar and southern Spain this year at the start of the fall migration. Though we're not fanatic birders, we've had the privilege of seeing these magnificent creatures in some of the world's major flyways, including Israel and Costa Rica. It's a lovely way to spend a couple of days. I am also pleased to note the publication of the first book by my son, Binyamin (the only member of the family without a Columbia degree), a member of *The New York Times* editorial board. I'm certainly biased in suggesting that *The Economists' Hour: False Prophets, Free Markets, and the Fracture of Society* is the most readable account of post-war economic history that I've ever seen, but there you have it.

If you are receiving *CCT* but never see an email from me about contributing to Class Notes, it means the Alumni Office doesn't have your current email address. With our 50th reunion looming, it's all the more important that they,

and I, know how to contact you. So please send me your email address and I'll pass it along, or submit it directly to *CCT*: college.columbia.edu/cct/update\_contact\_info.

## 1973

**Barry Etra**  
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Atlanta, GA 30306  
betra1@bellsouth.net

My entreaties for Class Notes go unheeded. Thus is a class correspondent's lot, at times ....

**Nick Lubar** muses about *CCT*: "When we entered Columbia, the oldest classes listed in *CCT* were from the turn of the century; now, we're somewhat in the middle ourselves. A way to measure the passage of time."

Nick was on campus in the spring for the annual fundraiser for the sailing team, which now has a coach and a fleet on City Island — a marked change from yesteryear. As well, he met with two students who were the recipients of a prize that he created for students to study the way Latin American governments are improving life for their citizens, and was "impressed with their enthusiasm."

Methinks it's those little gestures that matter the most.

**Barry Etra** did not write in, but is running two forums in Atlanta that match up investors and early-stage companies in unique ways that enable the companies to remain local, thus building up the local ecosystem. The RAISE Forum was his invention; he also runs the Atlanta chapter of the Keiretsu Forum, the largest and most active angel group in the world.

And there you have it. Until the next issue!

## 1974

**Fred Bremer**  
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Walking around Morningside Heights on a beautiful fall day, I was struck by the amusing chalkboard signs outside some of the newer establishments. In front of Oren's Coffee (just north of Tom's Restaurant on 112th Street and Broadway),

was a sign that read "EEFFOC — that's coffee spelled backwards ... and I don't give EEFFOC before my first cup of coffee in the morning!" Another, in front of Mel's Burger Bar (a great place where The Gold Rail was in our day), took a little artistic license. It had an arrow pointing up Broadway and a note saying, "Columbia: \$71,199" and an arrow pointing to Mel's that said, "Happy Hour drinks: \$4." I bet it is a tough choice for the undergraduates!

You've got to love the disparate rankings of best colleges, each using different criteria and weightings of the factors. A listing in *The Wall Street Journal* had Columbia at a discouraging 15th place. But CNBC's ratings of the "top 10 U.S. colleges in big cities" put Columbia at number 2. The granddaddy of lists, by *U.S. News & World Report*, has Columbia tied with Yale at number 3. Take your choice, but we all know "Who Owns New York?"!

Don't wince when your kids tell you they plan to major in history and urban studies. You might think these majors could make it hard to get a "good" job. But it all worked out for **Ken Krug** (perhaps helped by getting an M.B.A. at Stanford). Ken first was an executive at the RAND Corp. (the public policy think tank in Los Angeles). In 2007 he became the CFO of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles. Since 2011, Ken has been the CFO of The Asia Foundation in San Francisco and says he plans to stay "for a while" in part because the position gets him to Asia frequently. One big change is that he has moved from Berkeley to Los Angeles and will now make a weekly commute from L.A. to San Francisco.

Another classmate is a CFO in San Francisco: **Tom Ferguson**. He works for the Episcopal Church but has a much shorter commute (from the nearby suburb of Piedmont). Tom passes on that his daughter, Elizabeth, completed a master's at NYU last summer. He promises details on what he's up to when work lets up.

**Timothy Greenfield-Sanders** has a new film. *Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am* is about the Nobel- and Pulitzer-winning novelist. The *Los Angeles Times* calls his movie "moving and profound" and also said, "Look for this one to be front and center in its category come Oscar time." While

Timothy has produced a number of works that have shown up on TV, this is his first major piece for the big screen.

Distant memories put **Jim Rouen** in the anti-money laundering group at Citigroup in New York. He updates us that he is still at Citi but he now heads its securities services legal team. He also teaches a course at the USC Gould School of Law (done over one weekend) and teaches a course online; he adds, "struggling a bit with the tech." Jim says he is "still married to my college (but not Barnard) sweetheart, Marilyn Belloch." They have two grown children. One is in film in L.A. and the other is in the restaurant business in NYC. Earlier this year Jim and his wife moved from the Upper West Side to Connecticut. He says he took several alumni courses (French literature, and the history of Broadway theater), and says both "have been absolutely great."

"I'm a migrant worker these days!" writes **Steve Simon**. After serving on the National Security Council (as director of Middle East and North Africa) in Washington, D.C., he accepted a three-year post as a visiting professor at Amherst College (in Massachusetts). He is now doing a five-year stint at Colby College (in Waterville, Maine). Steve adds, "It is kind of a big moment for us in that it looks like we are going to sell our farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains. This implicitly means we are never returning to land below the Mason-Dixon. Weird feeling."

Also leaving D.C. is **Steve Seidel**: "After working on ozone protection and climate change for more than 30 years at the EPA and other environmental organizations, I retired two years ago. Sad to say there is way more work left to be done by the next generation of activists." (Officially, Steve was the director of the Stratospheric Protection Project at the EPA.) But he is now off on a new adventure: "My wife and I are heading to Thailand to teach English."

**Warren Stern** writes from Greenwich, Conn., "I am liberated from my long legal career at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. I remain of counsel. Owning your time is a great privilege."

How is he filling his days? "I'm a devoted angler and boater, and like to travel, spend time with my



wife and two grown children (no grandchildren at this point) and read as much as I can," he says.


Having retired five years ago from his career on Wall Street, **George Bartos** (who lives in NYC) says he is "living a life of leisure." He tells us he enjoys "playing the grandfather role" for the two sons of his daugh-

ter (who works for NBCUniversal). He also tries to keep in contact with his Columbia fencing team friends.

There you have it. Some classmates continue in their chosen professions, while others are altering their careers. There seems to be an increase in classmates who have decided to take time to smell the roses. Whatever you are doing these days, take a moment to drop me an email!

five years back. It seemed like such a good idea that I've tried to keep it up during the non-Lenten months, those being most of them. If that's boring, alas, so be it."

His thoughts on my obituary, which he has been planning for years, are NSFW, so probably not safe here, either!



**Core too much to read**

**Monarch Notes help you indeed**

**With Thucydides**

— Robert Sclafani '75, GSAS'81

ter (who works for NBCUniversal). He also tries to keep in contact with his Columbia fencing team friends.

There you have it. Some classmates continue in their chosen professions, while others are altering their careers. There seems to be an increase in classmates who have decided to take time to smell the roses. Whatever you are doing these days, take a moment to drop me an email!

Athens, the Acropolis, Milos, Santorini, Mykonos and more. Not quite how I (**Randy Nichols**) spent my summer vacation, but almost. Since my Social Security checks have started rolling in, I'm going to spend those dollars on vacations! This past summer, a trip on the *Star Clipper* — a four-masted barquentine — was a real treat.

**Joel Stern** does it again! He announced the publication of his newest origami kit, *My First Origami Fairy Tales Kit*, which includes a full cast of characters — a princess, an ogre and a witch — and has detailed step-by-step instructions. Colorful paper collage backdrops and brilliant folding papers make it easy even for first-timers. I've ordered mine; you can get yours at [amazon.com/gp/product/0804851468](https://amazon.com/gp/product/0804851468).

## 1975

**REUNION 2020**  
**JUNE 4-6**

Events and Programs Contact  
[caca-events@columbia.edu](mailto:caca-events@columbia.edu)

Development Contact  
[ccfund@columbia.edu](mailto:ccfund@columbia.edu)

**Randy Nichols**  
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Getting a note from **David Gawarecki** is always fun. Here's the latest: "1. I gave up alcohol as a way of life, not as an option in life. 2. I gave up womanizing because not doing so might shorten my remaining years (it's called mariticide, beginning with the same three letters as Martha). 3. I gave up work because it seemed too plebian (blame Columbia for giving me unrealistic expectations). 4. I didn't give up fast cars — driving a six-cylinder, standard transmission Camaro these days, miraculously without any speeding tickets (so far). 5. I gave up humility for Lent about

## 1976

**Ken Howitt**  
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Some classical music on the turntable — Gershwin orchestral works. I need a lot of time, since I got a lot of updates. Thanks to all of you!

To start, this coming March will mark the third annual Dr. Saul and Dorothy Kit Film Noir Festival, a 10-year series initiated by **Gordon Kit** in honor of his parents. The festival will run Wednesday, March 25–Sunday, March 29, at the Lenfest Center for the Arts on the Manhattanville campus. The festival

organizers (including Gordon) wrote: "Kit Noir 2020 will feature a range of Jewish artists and themes. The festival will include films by Jewish filmmakers (Edgar G. Ulmer's *Detour*, Billy Wilder's *Ace in the Hole*), films that address anti-Semitism (*Crossfire*) and WWII (*The Spiral Staircase*, *The Stranger*) and films on the blacklist and the media (*Scandal Sheet*, *Sweet Smell of Success*). Once again, a majority of the films will screen on 35mm film."

I attended the first two and have seen other '76ers in the audience. Last year, I enjoyed a post-festival meal with **Joel Silverstein** and his family at Pisticci. I hope to see many more classmates this year; tickets will go on sale at the festival's website: [arts.columbia.edu/noir](https://arts.columbia.edu/noir). Let me know if you are planning to attend. At a minimum, we can grab some coffee.

**Mark Giosa** retired last year after a career in corporate real estate: "I have been enjoying golf, traveling and reading books — one of these days I will get around to rereading some of the classics that I failed to fully appreciate during my College days. I was in NYC in May, reuniting with my buddies from SEAS'76. My wife had never seen campus, so we jumped on the Broadway local for a visit and happened to visit on graduation day. The campus was beautiful and brought back many memories.

"My biggest claim to fame is that my son Alex is performing on Broadway as the substitute drummer on *Hamilton*. We hope to make a return trip to the city soon to catch the show."

I went to Syracuse (I need some destination suggestions for future trips!) to see Mika and her tenants, Linda and **Dennis Goodrich**, and to surprise **Bob Czekanski** and his wife, Pam, who came by during their visit to their son at Hobart. Bob writes: "I live in a small town in Central Massachusetts, work part-time and tend to my apple trees. My oldest son is two years out of college and my younger sons are in their senior year of college. All is going well and I look forward to following the Lions' football season."

**Bob Giusti** PH'77, a pediatric pulmonologist and clinical professor of pediatrics at the NYU School of Medicine and director of the Pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Center at NYU's Hassenfeld Children's Hospital, says NYU has been approved as the

only Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia diagnostic and treatment center in NYC approved by the Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Foundation.

PCD is a genetic disease with chronic wet coughing and lung infections resulting from the inability of cilia that line the airway to perform their role of clearing secretions from the lung.

Bob is also proud to have established, with the assistance of his daughter, Elizabeth Kipp-Giusti '12, the Norman Hildes-Heim Fund at the College. This scholarship, in memory of Norman Hildes-Heim '60, who was the freshman lightweight crew coach at Columbia, provides annual support for an undergraduate in the music department.

Bob lives in Greenwich Village with his wife, Leslie Kipp, and tries to stay fit as he approaches his 65th birthday by daily walking a mile to and from his pediatric pulmonology practice at NYU.

**John Connell's** daughter Erin Connell '13 married Christian Adams on September 7 in Mount Desert, Maine. There were a lot of College alumni in attendance, including Erin's sister, Brigid '16, and brother, Will '19. (See "Just Married!") John added this caption: "Special surprise guest appearance: Dorian ... as in hurricane!"

**Toomas Hendrik Ilves** writes: "After finishing my second term as president of Estonia and after my youngest son was born, Stanford invited me out for a few years. I am a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at its Hoover Institution. In 2017 I received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement from the College."

Since retiring from Wall Street in 2009, **Yuji Sugimoto** has been traveling and sailing the seven seas on his sailboat: "One of the best experiences I have had recently was on land, the walking of the Camino de Santiago in the northeast corner of Spain. It is an UNESCO World Heritage Site-recognized activity that started about 1,250 years ago as a Christian pilgrimage but is now done by anyone, regardless of religious background. You hike 10–15 miles every day in the beautiful pastoral settings just with your backpack, going from village to village, staying at hostels and inns. It is a great way to see this beautiful region up close, taste real local food and wine, and

above all else give yourself some time to think, reflect and reminisce about many things — away from the internet. And it is a great, refreshing, stressless way to get in shape; great for '76ers' age bracket. There are several routes to Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain, but I hiked the Portuguese Coastal Route with my wife, Yumi BC'74, BUS'76, from Porto, Portugal, to Santiago, which took about 20 days. I am thinking of doing the purists' route, The French Way (aka the 'real deal' that takes about 45 days, starting from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port near Bordeaux in southwest France and cutting across the Pyrenees range through the Basque region to Santiago). If you have interest in the Camino, watch the 2011 movie *The Way* with Martin Sheen or videos on YouTube."

A little over a year ago, **Laurence Lubka** and his partner, Miriam, purchased a large house in Pasadena. "We are now just a few feet from the Rose Parade route," he writes. "Most people are downsizing, but we upsized (and still lack room for the combined households). I spend a lot of time traveling to my son's family in the Bay Area and to my daughter's family (including my granddaughter) in Seattle. I recently hung out with a group of Columbia friends (including some from the CC'77 and CC'78) in Crested Butte, Colo. We have gathered as a group pretty much every other year for more than 40 years. A proud Columbia tradition."

"My construction law practice is quite busy, as construction in Los Angeles is quite busy. I've heard about this term 'retired,' although I'm told I don't entirely grasp the concept. I'm starting slowly and will soon take Fridays off. In the meantime, I'm still having fun."

From **Gary Lehman** BUS'80, SIPA'80: "Greetings to all with best wishes for a safe and wonderful family/friends time and spiritual renewal over the holidays. I am always proudly kvelling over my two granddaughters and grandson — with two more grandsons on the way — not to forget six granddogs, who go nuts when I bring them treats of dried codfish skins. After retiring from a big blue IT company where I was for 36 years, I now work for the Department of Homeland Security, which I thoroughly enjoy; it is an increasingly important mission."

"This summer I led my team up 7,000 ft. to the summit of Pikes Peak at 14,000-plus ft. on a cancer treatment/research fundraiser (Swim Across America: Making Waves to Fight Cancer; my photo of a smiling swimmer and her niece was used nationwide on Clear Channel, which I admit was pretty neat). In December, my wife, Linda, and I will tour Ethiopia. And then I will dive in Djibouti, observing/documenting whale shark behavior and collecting plankton, tissue and poo samples in the Gulf of Tadjoura to capture data for the Shark Research

Institute's whale shark database regarding their migration, mating, and life and times to try to 1) understand and 2) save them — before they are gone forever."

**Mario Fernandez** writes: "I retired in 2011 from the United States Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income division, as 'Statistician, Economics,' after 30 years with the U.S. government. I was born in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic. I was part of the 1967, 1968 and 1969 groups of the Upward Bound program at the College. I don't think I was one of the original members because, as I recall, it started in 1966. I was one of the students from Jamaica H.S. I was also part of the Student Forum when I was a student and I remember the other members like Richard Collins, Paul Nyden '66, Linda Nyden, Michael Merryl, Jonathan Draper '74 and some others. For a while I was a professional student, but I ended up getting my degree in 1976. I would have to think some more to remember those years, which is the reason others might not want to respond. God bless Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74."

**Kevin Berry** writes: "Lots going on here in Philadelphia. Our sports teams are, for the most part, superior to those in New York, so that is always a comfort. Still working, out of either masochism or love of the game. I am a commercial trial lawyer, and a busy one at that. Also enjoying time with my three children, three stepchildren and five grandchildren — most are around here, but one is in Florida and one is in Los Angeles. I was in Scotland for a week in June, brandishing my abysmal golf game (I told you I was a busy lawyer, didn't I?). I headed to Aspen for a week in September, then took a two-week trip to Eastern Europe in October. We will spend the holidays in Palm Beach, Fla., where we have our second home. Running across Columbia grads in Philadelphia is like trying to find a Phillies fan in the Bronx, but I see some from time to time."

**Tom Motley** wrote about a reception that he attended in Washington, D.C., that was hosted by **Reynold Verret**, president of Xavier University of Louisiana, in New Orleans, at the Qatar-America Institute on September 11 in honor

of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 49th Annual Legislative Conference. Tom commented, "This event provided an opportunity for classmates to reminisce about the Columbia experience and the impact of Literature Humanities readings of Freud, Machiavelli and others."

So, Gershwin's *Second Rhapsody* (very underrated in my opinion) is concluding and I have once again written too many words for my editor. Keep those updates comin' and keep smilin'!

## 1977

**David Gorman**  
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Greetings for winter, Class of 1977! Hope you're all having a wonderful time. Please take a moment to send a note — travel, work, family, favorite Columbia memories and/or anything you want to share. Your classmates want to hear from you!

## 1978

**Matthew Nemerson**  
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Here we go again. I don't mind getting older. I'm calmer and happier, exercise more and generally have a much better outlook on everything. Still, I don't like September. Oh, the weather is great, there is football and baseball at the same time and everyone seems very serious about business and working on Friday afternoons. But when the holidays come and we aren't going away on the weekends I have a real sense of another year being etched off the tablet. There is something both so cliché but also so accurate about the fall of life and the very certain smell of running out of the endless time we all sensed in college as the leaves begin to turn again this time.

**Gary Pickholz** SIPA'81, who has been updating some of us on the nuances of the last Israeli elections writes, "English is such a marvelous lingua franca — *recrudescence*: Go ahead, find a comparably concise term in any other major tongue."



A September reception in Washington, D.C., brought together Columbia alumni (left to right) Thomas J. Motley '76, Reynold Verret '76, Gustavo Paredes '77 and Steven L. Richardson.



Rav Aryeh (Lionel Trilling CC 1925, GSAS'38) and Reb Zisheh (Sidney Morgenbesser) would approve with a definitive 'yeah, right.' Reb Zisheh might have added his infamous 'What is it that you maximize in Jewish decision theory? Regret.'

Looking back at how we are different from our children, he notes, "We were vastly more optimistic about our futures professionally, personally and as paterfamilias than our sons today. And both generations are correct in their respective analyses."

Looking ahead, Gary unveiled a program that he created at some of his stomping grounds: "Shira and I have been blessed with the opportunity to endow a small set of Pickholz Scholars as a 'post-Rhodes Scholar Rhodes Scholarship,' permitting some of my Oxford students to go for moonshots that may truly alter the world for good, but require far longer than two years effort and VC seed funding. I have partnered to create a comparable program for Israeli scholars studying at Columbia, Harvard and Stanford. Nothing is more vital to future Israeli-Diaspora relations than to see a significant number of next-generation Israeli leadership secure their advanced degrees in the United States, and live among us."

From Mintz Levin in New York, **Jeffrey Moerdler** notes, "We recently had our fifth grandchild, and two of our kids and their families have moved from apartments on the West Side — one to New Milford, N.J. (near Teaneck), and the other to New Rochelle, N.Y. The third is still on the West Side. We are lucky that they are all within a 20-minute drive from Riverdale, albeit in different directions."

The always reliable **Thomas Reuter** SEAS'79, with General Electric, is back with a new message for us: "My oldest son, Matthew '07, contributed a piece on Columbia men's lacrosse for 'The Last Word' column in *CCT*'s Spring 2019 issue, and the staff selected one of my color photos from the 2006 Columbia-Princeton game to accompany it. Look on your coffee table and you will no doubt find it. My next challenge is to be paid for my work like my youngest son, Tim '11. Google 'Timothy Reuter and Syrian Civil War' for a sample of his work."

We asked about favorite trips and Tom noted, "I have visited all the

Grand Slam tennis sites: London, Paris and Melbourne. [Also] the Mauna Kea Observatories on the island of Hawaii; I thought there were a lot of stars at 6,000 ft. — by the time you reach 9,000 ft. there were at least a billion more. Carl Sagan was right!"

**Philip Vecchio** has been married to Catherine since 1985. He writes, "I am far more appreciative of our Founding Fathers and what they have done to create the greatest civilization in the history of mankind. I am also appreciative that Columbia was devoted to teaching Western civilization and requiring students to read the classics; more so now than in 1978. But when I look at the campus today, I unfortunately perceive the inmates now run the asylum. We need to emphasize respecting the wisdom that comes from experience."

Phil's goal "is to transition into 'retirement,' where I am working pro-bono for a Christian charity or mission domestically or internationally. My wife and I have traveled to Florence, Italy, and Cork, Ireland; both were stunningly beautiful for different reasons. We now hope to travel to Alaska and to many of the National Parks that we have not had the opportunity to visit while busy raising children and paying bills."

**Al Feliu** LAW'81 tells us, "I have had a rewarding career as an employment lawyer and arbitrator and mediator. Most of my work now is as a neutral (arbitrator, mediator, investigator), although I have a small law practice and counsel clients. I live in New Rochelle with my wife of 33 years, Susan Hobart LAW'83, an attorney with Shearman & Sterling, whom I met at the Law School. We have three grown children all living in the New York area. The classmates I interact most with are **Joe Greenaway** and **John Flores**."

"My perspective when I was at the College was more hopeful than kids' today, what with remnants of the '60s 'we are going to change the world for the better.' This generation seems more inward looking and pessimistic about their futures, with good cause. However, the College is much more attuned to the needs of the student body, it appears, than was the case in the 1970s — a very good development. I plan to continue to enjoy time with my wonderful family and my legal practice."

**Chuck Callan** says he is looking ahead and looking forward to "reading and rereading the Great Books and to be transported into the world of the mind. Russian literature, French romance, Greek tragedy and comedy."

And finally, **William Hartung**, with the Center for International Policy, is "continuing my work at a progressive foreign policy think tank. I have done a lot of writing aimed at ending U.S. arms sales and military support for the Saudi regime due to its brutal war in Yemen, in which it has killed thousands of civilians in indiscriminate air strikes and driven the country to the brink of famine. Congress has begun to take notice of this issue, passing a number of amendments to block U.S. arms and military support to the Saudi regime. So far, these efforts have been vetoed by the Trump administration, but the political calculus is shifting as I write this. I have also spearheaded an effort to promote substantial cuts in Pentagon spending, under the umbrella of the Sustainable Defense Task Force, a group of experts that includes former military personnel, White House and Congressional budget analysts, and representatives of non-governmental organizations."

Thinking of campus life today he says, "I believe that life is more stressful for kids coming up today, from college debt to a lack of well-paying jobs with job security to larger issues like the impact of climate change on their futures." He plans to "build my organization into a bigger player in the foreign policy debate while making time for family and fun, including my hobby as a standup comic."

William's favorite recent trips include China and South Africa; he also "has enjoyed regular trips to Mexico, Paris and London, and a recent trip to Prague."

I have to brag a bit as my wife, Marian Chertow BC'77, was recently put in the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame for her work as an environmental leader in her role as a professor at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and sitting on many boards and committees around the world. If you remember, her thing is reducing waste and thinking about things like garbage, recycling and how businesses can co-locate to be more efficient and waste fewer resources.

She also won the International Society for Industrial Ecology's Society Prize, awarded every two years, at this year's conference in Beijing. And did I mention that my daughter Joy is working for a food-tech startup in Shanghai and writing a blog about bugs called "Get Buggie"? You could look it up.

## 1979

**Robert Klapper**  
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Los Angeles, CA 90048  
robertklappermd@aol.com

News from **Joe Ferullo**: "I retired from CBS in March. I was the executive VP of programming for the company's syndicated television division, overseeing such shows as *Judge Judy*, *Dr. Phil*, *Rachael Ray Show* and *Entertainment Tonight*, among others. A wonderful gig, a great place — but after 13 years there (and 12 years before that at NBC News), it was time to move on and exhale."

"I had no Plan B, still don't. But I did get a call in late March from the owner of the Washington, D.C., newspaper/website *The Hill* — we'd met years ago over business negotiations. He asked me to write a regular opinion column from Los Angeles for *The Hill* on media and politics."

"It's been a bit of a college-dream-come-true. I was editor-in-chief of *Spectator* back in the day, and initially pursued a career in print journalism — where almost everyone's dream is to be a columnist. So, this is a fun return to the beginning. We'll see what happens from here, but it has been an anticipated gift."

"Family matters: My wife, Sylvia Lopez, spent more than 25 years as a local news anchor here in Los Angeles, left three years ago to pursue a master's in public health and now does research for UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. My oldest daughter, Daniella, an NYU grad, is developing an executive career in Hollywood — she is an assistant to the president of the combined Disney/Fox television studios. Our younger daughter, Isabella, is a junior at The George Washington University in D.C., majoring in psychology, which will be helpful to the entire family. All the best!"

**Howard Z. Goldschmidt** PS'83 was recently appointed president of the American Committee for Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem. Shaare Zedek is the busiest hospital in Jerusalem and is well known for its innovative treatment of heart disease, stroke and trauma. Howie continues to teach cardiology and practice interventional echocardiography at Shaare Zedek every February. The rest of the year, he is director of echocardiography at The Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, N.J. His wife of 34 years, Debbie, is a lawyer specializing in immigration law; he has three children, and four grandsons who live in Israel.

Howie writes, "I have only fond memories of my years on Morningside Heights. The liberal arts education was incomparable. Exposure to Art Humanities and modern literature was the perfect antidote to the pre-med grind. 'Eliot Joyce, Pound,' taught by Wallace Gray, and 'Italian Cinema,' taught by Pellegrino D'Acerno, shaped my cultural tastes. In my senior year, I was lucky to take Willard Gaylin's Freud course and Arthur Hertzberg's 'History of Zionism,' both of which gave me strong foundations for continued study."

**Robert C. Klapper:** Today's Columbia memory comes from a small, skinny-legged, 36-inch-high table that I recently uncovered in my garage. I made this table with my father, Abraham the carpenter, before starting my senior year living in Fumald. The reason for the dimensions of tall, skinny legs and being 10 inch x 24 inch is because this table fits perfectly over the radiator (pronounced raa-diator, like radical, not ray-diator, like radiate — and I still say pocketbooks, not purses, because I still bleed Columbia blue).

As you might recall, it was forbidden to cook in our dorm rooms. But during my junior year, in a visit to a friend's Shangri-La in Fumald (remember this was a coveted building, only for seniors), I saw the light — a custom-made table fitted perfectly over the steam heated coils! My parents could not afford to give me any financial assistance, so tuition and room and board came solely from my work in the Catskill Mountains and the bowling alley job at Ferris Booth. Money was tight, and I realized I could no longer afford the meal plan. So when I saw

a box of Corn Flakes and ramen noodles on this custom-made table over the radiator, it was as though the holy grail of surviving my senior year came into view.

I immediately took the A train home to Far Rockaway and told my father we needed to make a custom table like one I had just seen. This turned out to be one of the great moments in my life with my father. To him, it was a perfect way to provide some support for my journey to a better life. We immediately jumped in his truck and went to his wood shop. I remember him saying, "Robby, we're going to do this together, because I want to teach you how to make this table." He said the skinny legs would be made from a long piece of 2 inch x 2 inch wood. He asked me how high it had to be to sit just above the radiator; I said 36 inches. He said, "OK, take my tape measure and the pencil from behind your ear and measure 36 inches and make a mark." We then used a table saw to cut along the line making the first leg of the table.

He then said, "OK, now let's make this second leg from this 2x2 piece of wood." He then explained, "Robby, you no longer need the ruler, because we will use this first leg as the template for the second leg." I laid the first leg along the long piece of wood, took the pencil from behind my ear and made the mark. I then cut the second leg. I was about to use the second leg as a template for the third leg, when my father said, "No Robby, don't do that. The second leg cannot be the template for the third leg because if you made even the slightest error, this error will magnify with each subsequent leg you make. Go back and use the first leg you made as the template for legs two, three and four."

He then said something that I will always remember and cherish: "Robby, you must always go back to the original." This metaphor for my life has been my mantra in the many facets of my journey as a surgeon, inventor, author, sculptor and ESPN radio host. That table saved me money from the meal plan. The Corn Flakes and ramen noodles it allowed me to stack sustained me my whole senior year. But it was in building that table that I learned the greatest life lesson and enjoyed one of the greatest moments I ever had with my dad.

What relics are in your garage? Let me know. Roar, Lion, Roar!

## 1980

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4-6

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Development Contact  
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**Michael C. Brown**  
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It's official. Our 40th-year reunion will be held Thursday, June 4-Saturday, June 6, in New York City. Your Reunion Committee has been working diligently on the agenda, with a cocktail party, all-class bash at the New York Public Library and our class dinner on Saturday planned so far. You can expect an event-filled weekend with plenty of opportunities to reconnect with classmates. Please reach out to all your College friends to remind them to come back to campus!

**Jim Schachter** will take over as CEO of New Hampshire Public Radio, succeeding former chief executive Betsy Gardella. Jim previously held the top news executive position at WNYC, the country's largest

public media station. In his role there, he oversaw programs including *On the Media*, *The Brian Lehrer Show* and *Radio Rookies*. Before joining WNYC, Jim spent nearly 17 years at *The New York Times*, where he was associate managing editor.

**Greg Peterson** was recently named to the "Best Lawyers in America" 2020 list. He is a partner at Casner & Edwards in Boston, where his practice specializes in real estate development and environmental law.

**Matt Kennedy** has been working with fellow lacrosse alumni to promote the sport at Columbia, with the ultimate goal of making men's lacrosse a varsity sport. Anyone interested in learning more about the initiative can check out [makeit8.com](http://makeit8.com). Also, for those who missed it, check out CCT's Spring 2019 issue, page 88, "The Last Word," or college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/spring19.

Congratulations to Dr. **George Yancopoulos** GSAS'86, PS'87 on receiving the 2019 Alexander Hamilton Medal. George is the president and chief scientific officer at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals. He holds many patents, is active in STEM educational commitments and is a supporter of the College.

Looking forward to seeing you all at reunion in June! Drop me a line at [mcbcu80@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbcu80@yahoo.com).



DARRELL LEE

Lance Warrick '79 ran into Ben Drachman '17 on July 30 in Washington State. Warrick was hiking north on a 75-mile section of the Pacific Crest Trail when he crossed paths with Drachman, who was hiking south on his attempt to hike the entire length of the 2,653-mile trail from Canada to Mexico.



## 1981

**Kevin Fay**  
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kfay0516@gmail.com

Greetings for winter, Class of 1981! I heard from **James Klatsky** about the addition of two grandchildren: Madeline, born in April to his son, Michael, and his wife, Lauren (they also have a son, Sammy); and Mia, born in July to his daughter, Elisheva, and her husband, Marc. I'm not sure if James is located physically close to his grandchildren, but if so, he now has his weekends blocked out with grandparent duties!

Congratulations, and best wishes for your grandchildren.

On a personal note, I have moved from Northern Virginia to Charlottesville (again), this time for good. We are empty-nesters save for our three dogs — all good. Hope to hear from more classmates in the near future!

## 1982

**Andrew Weisman**  
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No news this time, gents! Please make it a New Year's resolution to send in some news. Your classmates want to hear from you!

## 1983

**Roy Pomerantz**  
Babyking/Petking  
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Jamaica, NY 11412  
bkroy@msn.com

My boys and I attended several Columbia Lions baseball games this past season at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium. The games are free and the adjoining football field is open to the public. The Lions are very competitive and lost to Harvard this year in the championship Ivy League playoffs. Phil Satow '65 told a memorable story at the 2014 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, the year he was the honoree. Phil was a middling second baseman when he played for Columbia and lamented that the

coach could never remember his name. "Thankfully, that's no longer a problem," he said with a chuckle during his acceptance speech.

My wife, Dr. Deborah Gahr, and I again hosted a NYC Summer Send-off for entering Columbia students. Several classmates attended, including **Ken Chin, Peter Ripin, Bruce Abramson, Eric Wertzer** and **Jon Ross**. Matthew Patashnick, associate dean for student and family support at Columbia, welcomed the students.

**Bruce Abramson** is a senior fellow at the London Center for Policy Research and director of policy at the Iron Dome Alliance. He is also a technology lawyer and expert witness in private practice. He is the author of *Digital Phoenix: Why the Information Economy Collapsed and How It Will Rise Again* (2005), *The Secret Circuit: The Little-Known Court Where the Rules of the Information Age Unfold* (2007) and numerous articles on the interplay among technology, business, law and public policy. Bruce's multidisciplinary practice draws upon his experience as a computer scientist, an economist and an attorney. He has helped clients navigate litigation, negotiation, growth, technology assessment, merger and regulatory settings.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Bruce developed deep experience teaching and researching artificial intelligence, big data, Bayesian modeling, statistics and forecasting. He then deployed those skills in a variety of economic settings, shifting his focus into economic modeling. His practical expertise includes valuing intellectual property and other asset classes; assessing damages and royalties; evaluating and deploying patents, products, digital copyrights and technologies; devising growth strategies; drafting licenses, contracts and patents; determining and predicting competitive effects and market responses; modeling and analyzing complex data; assembling and managing cross-functional teams; facilitating communication among engineering, management and legal teams; marketing and cultivating client relationships; teaching, research and public speaking; and publishing books and articles on technology, business and law.

**Peter Ripin** is a litigation partner with Davidoff Hutcher & Citron and has assisted numerous institutions and individuals in resolving breach of contract, real estate and



Roy Pomerantz '83 hosted a NYC Summer Sendoff for entering Columbia students; several alumni friends came to the event to welcome the new students. Left to right: Pomerantz, Ken Chin '83, Peter Ripin '83, Bruce Abramson '83, Eric Wertzer '83 and Jon Ross '83.

partnership disputes; defending franchise owners; and protecting trade secrets and confidential information. He has also written extensively, lectured and been interviewed on numerous legal issues affecting the hotel and hospitality industries.

From **Eddy Friedfeld**: "On August 25, **Neal Smolar** and Betsy Chutter Smolar BC'85's daughter Abigail was married to Daniel Stern at a beautiful event in a converted

Betsy had just celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. I introduced them during senior year at Columbia and despite that fact I have been a welcome and grateful guest at their High Holiday dinner table for 29 out of the last 30 years."

From **Drew Velting**: "For the last several years, I've been writing and performing Americana and roots-oriented music with acoustic guitar (6- and 12-string), banjo and

### Core Haiku



Here in my 50s  
As I first read the Core texts;  
I blame the CliffsNotes

— Lou Orfanella '82

warehouse in Paterson, N.J. Present were five of the six inaugural residents of Suite 505 East Campus: **Steve Arenson, Adam Bayroff, Eddy Friedfeld, Len Rosen** and **Neal** (the sixth is **Teddy Weinberger**) — we all maintain that the holes in the walls were there when we moved in. Also in attendance were **Larry Herman**, Aron Kressel '81, Mark Segall '84, Ray Edelman '82, Leslie Pressner Edelman BC'85, Miriam Kushner BC'83 and Monica Marks Aboodi BC'85. Everyone looked great, and it was fun catching up. As of this writing, Neal and

harmonica. Last year, I recorded and released my first single, 'The Mournful Death of Heather Heyer,' to coincide with the one-year anniversary of the Unite the Right rally and counter-protests in Charlottesville. The song is available for digital download, and proceeds are being donated to the Heather Heyer Foundation. Heather's mother, Susan Bro, and I were interviewed in a CBS19 News (the Charlottesville, Va., affiliate) feature story and *Newsday* also featured an article about the song. The video is available on my YouTube channel.

# Alumni Sons and Daughters

Seventy members of the Columbia College Class of 2023 and five members of the Columbia Engineering Class of 2023 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent(s)' last name.

STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT
Alexander Aibel <i>Santa Monica, Calif.</i>	Sarah Aibel '92	Sylvie Epstein <i>Brooklyn, N.Y.</i>	Daniel Futterman '89	Christian Law <i>Mount Sinai, N.Y.</i>	Edward Law '86
Caroline Alleyne <i>La Jolla, Calif.</i>	Neville Alleyne '79	Marcus Fong <i>Hong Kong Island</i>	William Fong '87	Jackson Law <i>Mount Sinai, N.Y.</i>	Edward Law '86
Charlotte Atkins <i>Naples, Fla.</i>	Charles Atkins '86	Alexander Glasberg <i>New York City</i>	Scot Glasberg '86	Olivia Lease * <i>Inverness, Calif.</i>	Elizabeth Lease '02
Nader Babar <i>Houston</i>	Nadeem Babar '87	Mary Grealy <i>McLean, Va.</i>	Francis Grealy Jr. '75	Hannah Lederman <i>San Francisco</i>	Ilene Lederman '87
Andre Balian <i>Skillman, N.J.</i>	John Balian '85	Andrew Haberman <i>New York City</i>	Sinclair Haberman '78	Samuel Levine <i>Great Neck, N.Y.</i>	Gregory Levine '83
Sareen Balian <i>Chevy Chase, Md.</i>	Nairi Balian '88	Leah Hale * <i>Weston, Fla.</i>	Martin Hale '74	Lucy Blumenfeld <i>Culver City, Calif.</i>	Jaclyn S. Lieber '88
Pierce Woodall <i>Coppell, Texas</i>	Tracy Bender '92	Rebecca Hale <i>Weston, Fla.</i>	Martin Hale '74	Emma Lill <i>Loganville, Ga.</i>	Jason Lill '96
Jonathan Berkowitz <i>Potomac, Md.</i>	Philip Berkowitz '88	James Harrison <i>Bronx, N.Y.</i>	David Harrison '83	Emily Lim <i>Asheville, N.C.</i>	Chang Lim '87
Edward Brodsky <i>New York City</i>	Leslie G. Brodsky '88	Liam Hayes * <i>Greenwich, Conn.</i>	Andrew Hayes '85	Alexander Mendelson <i>Miami, Fla.</i>	Victor Mendelson '89
Samantha Camacho <i>Nyack, N.Y.</i>	Michael Camacho '91 and Patricia Labrada '91	Samuel Hosmer <i>Belmont, Calif.</i>	Basil Hosmer '85	Ruby Mendelsund <i>New York City</i>	Peter Mendelsund '91
Kevin Chaikelson <i>New York City</i>	Steven Chaikelson '89 and Amanda Rosen Chaikelson '91	Samuel Hyman <i>Newburgh, N.Y.</i>	Barry Hyman '77	Zoe Meshel <i>Roslyn, N.Y.</i>	Adam Meshel '92 and Samara Meshel '92
Claire Choi <i>Washington, D.C.</i>	John Choi '91	Zoe Hyman <i>Englewood, N.J.</i>	Joshua Hyman '85	Zoe Metalios <i>Riverside, Conn.</i>	Steve Metalios '89 and Joy Metalios (née Kim) SEAS'90
Olivia Choi <i>Washington, D.C.</i>	John Choi '91	Sameer Joshi <i>Cranbury, N.J.</i>	Jitendra Joshi '90	Anthony Ozerov <i>Moscow</i>	Serge Ozerov '85
Yasmine Dahlberg <i>Stockholm</i>	Jennifer Anglade Dahlberg '93	Elyse Kanner * <i>Armonk, N.Y.</i>	Michael Kanner '90	Maximilian Ozerov <i>Moscow</i>	Serge Ozerov '85
Sonali Dasari <i>Brentwood, Tenn.</i>	Sriram Dasari '92	Ethan Kim <i>South Orange, N.J.</i>	Arthur Kim '95	Andrew Riordan <i>Greenville, S.C.</i>	Michael Riordan '80
Elizabeth DeSouza <i>Darien, Conn.</i>	Patrick DeSouza '80	Alexandra Kirk <i>Rye, N.Y.</i>	Edward Kirk '92	Jackson Roberts <i>New York City</i>	Lauren Roberts '90
Javier Dobles <i>Holden, Mass.</i>	Ricardo Dobles '89	Margot Kleinman <i>New York City</i>	Howard Kleinman '84	Hattie Rogovin <i>Los Angeles</i>	John Rogovin '83
Luke Dobrovic <i>Oakton, Va.</i>	Nino Dobrovic '86	Hani Kodmani <i>London, U.K.</i>	Omar Kodmani '89	Juliette Rooney <i>London, U.K.</i>	Robert Rooney '89
Brenna Dugel <i>Paradise Valley, Ariz.</i>	Pravin Dugel '84	Lindsay Kornguth <i>Orinda, Calif.</i>	David Kornguth '87 and Linda Kornguth (née Wang) '87	Miriam Alvarez-Rosenbloom <i>Cambridge, Mass.</i>	Rachel E. Rosenbloom '90
Stephen Eisner <i>New York City</i>	Linda Mischel Eisner '87	Bertina Kudrin <i>Fort Lee, N.J.</i>	Sergey Kudrin '81	Darius Rubin <i>London, U.K.</i>	James Rubin '82



## STUDENT PARENT

<b>Miles Schachner</b> <i>Miami, Fla.</i>	<b>Seth Schachner '85</b>
<b>Isabel Schmidt</b> <i>Seattle</i>	<b>Benjamin Schmidt '86</b>
<b>James Schwann</b> <i>Ottawa Hills, Ohio</i>	<b>Thomas Schwann '82</b>
<b>Isabelle Seckler</b> <i>Boca Raton, Fla.</i>	<b>Jonathan Seckler '87</b>
<b>Doran Sekaran</b> <i>Weston, Conn.</i>	<b>Rajan Sekaran '82</b>
<b>Boaz Shaham</b> <i>New York City</i>	<b>Shai Shaham '89</b>
<b>Yena Shin *</b> <i>Palisades, N.Y.</i>	<b>Duke Shin '89</b>
<b>Raphael Simonson</b> <i>Teaneck, N.J.</i>	<b>Alexander Simonson '84</b>
<b>Eleanor Streit</b> <i>Tarrytown, N.Y.</i>	<b>James Streit '88</b>
<b>Natalie Tak</b> <i>Weston, Mass.</i>	<b>Thomas Tak '91</b>
<b>Leora Schloss</b> <i>Bronx, N.Y.</i>	<b>Aviva Taubenfeld '92</b>
<b>Miriam Weinstein</b> <i>Hoboken, N.J.</i>	<b>James Weinstein '84</b>
<b>Mizia Wessel</b> <i>Washington, D.C.</i>	<b>Carlton Wessel '84</b>
<b>Eva Westphal</b> <i>Chestnut Hill, Mass.</i>	<b>Christoph Westphal '90</b>
<b>Leif Wood</b> <i>East Hampton, N.Y.</i>	<b>Timothy Wood '96 and Mira Dougherty-Johnson '96</b>

### Six Columbia College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.

<b>Kemal Aziz '22</b> <i>Staten Island, N.Y.</i>	<b>Irfan Aziz '90 and Radhi Majmudar '90</b>
<b>Nina Halberstadter '22</b> <i>Scotch Plains, N.J.</i>	<b>Milton H. Beller '63</b>
<b>Adam Burns '22</b> <i>New York City</i>	<b>Ric Burns '78</b>
<b>Ariel David '22</b> <i>New Rochelle, N.Y.</i>	<b>Michael David '89</b>
<b>Jonathan Otto-Bernstein '22</b> <i>New York City</i>	<b>Katharina Otto-Bernstein '86</b>
<b>Thalia von Moltke-Simms '22</b> <i>Princeton, N.J.</i>	<b>Clifford Simms '86</b>

\* member of the Columbia Engineering Class of 2023

"I'm planning the release of another single and title track of my first EP, *Where Do the Homeless Dwell?* I'm really enjoying the opportunity to perform live, write and record music and share it with others. My website is [drewveltingmusic.com](http://drewveltingmusic.com).

"On a more personal note, my wife, Olivia; children, Addie and Otto; and I recently spent a weekend in Manhattan that included a walk around the Columbia campus. Wonderful to step inside John Jay for the first time in almost 40 years. Brought back many great memories. Stopped by The Hungarian Pastry Shop for dessert to top things off. Also started rereading the Lit Hum syllabus earlier this year. My first introduction to Sappho! Writing poetry again after a long hiatus and submitting for publication. Hoped to get to a football game this fall and was looking forward to catching up with classmates."

From **Steve Arenson LAW'86**: "We live in Riverdale and have three boys (13, 11 and 8) and a girl. Thank G-d, everyone is doing well. I practice law in the field of employment litigation with my own firm, Arenson, Dittmar & Karban, in Manhattan. We recently concluded a seven-year battle for 106 immigrant car wash workers who were exploited, working 12 hours a day, six to seven days a week, for \$40-\$50 a day in cash. We obtained the largest recovery ever in the low-pay car wash industry. Here's a link to the article in *The New York Times* about the case: [nyti.ms/2oE5oyJ](https://nyti.ms/2oE5oyJ).

From **Gerrard Bushell GSAS'84**: "It has been a while since I wrote. I have spent the last four and half years working in Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration as president and CEO of DASNY, one of the nation's most prolific issuers of municipal debt and largest public builders. I am proud to work with Columbia on a number of important financings critical to the development of the Manhattanville campus. DASNY is proud to partner with Columbia on such a magnificent project. I have had the great pleasure to tour the Jerome L. Greene Science Center and the Lenfest Center for the Arts. It's a magnificent campus and I get to look at it every Tuesday or Wednesday night on my drive back from Albany, when I cut across Broadway.

"DASNY is the financier for social infrastructure across New York State, and we have done incredible work with colleges and universities across New York. Our work in life sciences with CUNY Advanced Science Research Center, Columbia's Jerome L. Greene Science Center and NYU's Tandon School of Engineering has supported an important research corridor across Manhattan. DASNY helps New York State remain a major player in the efforts to attract talent, and support inclusion.

"I have also followed my dream. For years, I had wanted to teach at Columbia and, over the last two years, have had the pleasure to teach an undergraduate seminar on cities and development, and one on states, finance and economic development. It tickled me to stand in room 711 of the International Affairs Building every Wednesday night, where I was once an undergraduate and graduate student studying with Professor Alan Westin, Professor Charles V. Hamilton SW'82 and Professor Robert Y. Shapiro (who still teaches political science).

"My daughter, Claire, is a senior at Dalton and I have asked her, a New York City kid, to look at Columbia. She grew up swimming in the pool and hanging out [on campus] with me when I was working on my Ph.D. She is a much better student than I ever was, and she is excited by senior year. I do hope to keep in better touch over the next few years. Oh, I also work with Ricardo Salaman '81, who looked familiar to me."

From **Geoffrey Mintz**: "I moved to Lake Worth Beach, Fla. — near Palm Beach — about four years ago. Perhaps I will move back to NYC eventually. I am still doing the hat business, mostly making hats in Madagascar now. I have a little girl, my first child, who is 2. Sometimes she helps with endurance testing and modeling of the hats."

**Kevin G. Chapman** is thrilled that the first book in his crime-thriller series, *Righteous Assassin*, was named one of the top 20 mystery/thriller novels of 2019 by the Kindle Book Review. The second book in Kevin's Mike Stoneman Thriller Series, *Deadly Enterprise*, is scheduled for release on December 2. It is available on Amazon.

Hope to see you at some football and basketball games.

## 1984

**Dennis Klainberg**  
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**dennis@berklay.com**

**Mark Katsoff**, senior counsel at Seyfarth Shaw by day, channeled four years of experience singing in the piano bars of New York to debut his one-man cabaret show, *Two-City Man: A Musical Trifle*, at the Kraine Theater in New York in July. The show was based around Mark's experience shuttling between Boston and New York, although he continually claims he's not moving from Beantown.

**Daniel G. Berick** has been named Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law Lawyer of the Year for 2020 by *U.S. News & World Report* on its list "The Best Lawyers in America," a longstanding and well-respected legal peer-review publication. In each major legal market, only a single lawyer in each discipline is honored as Lawyer of the Year. Dan was honored in 2016 as the Cleveland Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year, and was named Cleveland Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law Lawyer of the Year in 2020, 2017, 2015 and 2013, as well as Cleveland Securities/Capital Markets Law Lawyer of the Year in 2014 and 2011.

This fall, **Mark Binder** released his 20th book, *The Misadventures of Rabbi Kibitz and Mrs. Chaipul*. It's a light romance between two wise seniors in Chelm, the village of fools. Mark's planning a world book tour, so if you'd like to check out the book, or invite him to your community, go to [markbinder.com](http://markbinder.com).

**Danny Armstrong**, founder of Find A Tree, checks in. "Since the Find A Tree program's inception, it has changed lives and has created many success stories. More recently, I've been fortunate to have worked with major companies such as Nike, Microsoft and many others," he writes.

## 1985

**REUNION 2020**  
**JUNE 4-6**

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**jw@whitecoffee.com**

Many of our classmates continue to mark milestones and/or receive recognition for their professional activities. **Lucas Collazo** celebrated 20 years at Inova Health System. He is co-director of the Pediatric Heart Program and medical staff president

at the Inova Fairfax Medical Campus in Falls Church, Va.

**James Lima** was recently in the news: As part of a strategic regional business initiative, the Long Island Regional Planning Council recently approved consulting services with James Lima Planning + Development to advance development of a workforce training center, The Long Island Innovation Park at Hauppauge (formerly known as the Hauppauge Industrial Park). Jim's company has advised major Silicon Valley firms on building out their campuses and ecosystems, and will undertake economic and demographic research, setting the stage for the launch of a high-impact regional workforce center.

**Patrick Ward** left NYC in 1995, moving first to the San Francisco Bay Area and eventually settling in Denver, "where we have lived for the past 17 years, raising two daughters, one of whom is hoping to be CC'24. I have fond memories (as ironic as it may sound) of Columbia football games, which I still enjoy from afar with my father, James Ward '50, LAW'53, brother Liam Ward '82 and cousin Sam Ward '82. I also have fond memories of my time playing club lacrosse and support the club team as we work to convert lacrosse to a varsity sport at Columbia (#makeit8, [makeit8.com](http://makeit8.com)). I have owned my own PR/strategic communications business in Denver, 104 West Partners, since 2003."

Kudos to **Tom Vinciguerra** for his great article in the Fall 2019 *CCT* about the woman who earned the distinction of being the College's first alumna, in 1975. [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads" in that issue.]

The 2019-20 academic year is highlighted by the centenary of the Core Curriculum (look for articles in this *CCT* and in the next two issues) and, of course, our 35th reunion, Thursday, June 4-Saturday, June 6. Our Reunion Committee, co-chaired by Glee Club alums **John Phelan** (programming), **Leslie Smartt** (communications) and yours truly (fundraising), is up and running. In my next column, I will give you the complete list of committee members (currently in formation). Thanks in advance to so many of you for joining. Committee membership is not capped, so please feel free to let any of us know if you'd like to join our efforts, if

you're coming to reunion or if there's anything specific you'd like to see during that weekend. We've already begun conference calls to make sure we have fun and interesting class-specific program options, have regular communications leading up to next June and can meet our class fundraising goals.

And, of course, it is the perfect opportunity to provide me with any updates for this column!

## 1986

**Everett Weinberger**  
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**everett6@gmail.com**

**Michael Goldfischer** reported on a great event that took place on September 13: "Twelve Lions descended on Washington, D.C., to celebrate **Scott Smith's** 32 years in the Air Force, which culminated in his rise to the rank of major general. The official ceremony at Bolling AFB highlighted Scott's many assignments and achievements, as a pilot and staff officer, that spanned the globe in both peace and war. Scott was joined by his wife, Amber, and daughters, twins Mazie and Marisha (14) and Melody (9), who were also honored for their sacrifices and service. Melody started the ceremony with a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem. Maj. Gen. Smith was thanked for his service, given a Distinguished Service Medal and a presidential proclamation, and gifted an American flag during the moving ceremony.

"In Maj. Gen. Smith's comments, while thanking Amber and their daughters, parents, mentors and colleagues in the armed services, he took time to highlight the tremendous support and friendship that his fellow Columbians (and Fiji brothers) have extended to him throughout these decades. In attendance were **Jack Merrick**, **John Murphy**, **Patrick McGarrigle**, Gary Ireland GS'86, Andrew Upton '85, Joseph Titlebaum '85, Dominick DeCicco SEAS'84, Arthur Ajzenman '83, Matthew Barr '87, Stan Sagner '88 and James Hirshfield SEAS'87. We were all honored to attend and to thank him for his friendship, service to our country and sacrifice.

"As Scott and his family enter the next chapter of their lives, we join the



Columbia alumni met in Washington, D.C., for the September 13 retirement ceremony of Maj. Gen. Scott Smith '86, who served 32 years in the Air Force. Left to right: Jack Merrick '86, Smith, Stan Sagner '88, Patrick McGarrigle '86, John Murphy '86, Joseph Titlebaum '85, Gary Ireland GS'86, Arthur Ajzenman '83, Andrew Upton '85, Dominick DeCicco SEAS'84, Smith's Air Force colleague B.J. Shwedo, his high school friend Ramsey Masri and Michael Goldfischer '86.





On September 7, Columbia friends held their 33rd annual fantasy football draft in Montreal. Left to right: Dave Moson '89, Mike English SEAS'89, Marc McCann '88, Ravi Singh '88 (foreground) and Rob Daniel '88.

Headquarters Air Staff and heartily wish Maj. Gen. Smith and his family good luck, Godspeed and L'Chaim. An island-themed party followed the ceremony, where tall tales were told and laughter filled the air."

We're proud of you, Scott, and what you have achieved during your fantastic career in the Air Force. We wish you continued success and joy!

## 1987

**Sarah A. Kass**  
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SarahAnn29uk@gmail.com

Lots of great news from **Garth Stein** SOA'90, who writes: "Big events! In May, my eldest, Caleb (23), graduated from the Berklee College of Music. In August, the movie of my book *The Art of Racing in the Rain* was released, and I took my family to Los Angeles for the premiere. We hung out with Milo Ventimiglia and Amanda Seyfried. And Kevin Costner. I also turned in my new novel, *A Couple of Old Birds*, with the publication date to be determined. I'm also prepping my graphic novel, *The Cloven*, for publication in July 2020. We will launch at San Diego Comic-Con!"

**Suzanne Waltman** writes that this year marks the 33rd consecutive year of a book group founded by several members of CC'87. "**Ginger**

**Segel, Rob Wolf, Bob Pipik** and I were in the original group, which we began in December 1986," Suzanne says. "As I remember, Ginger had graduated early and wanted to keep reading in a formal setting. She left New York shortly after, but Rob and I have continued all these years. Originally many of us lived in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and that was the book group's focal point. **Karin Higa, Lydia Tzagoloff, Jon Klavens, Rebecca Turner and Julia Fitzgerald** all participated in the early years. More recent members include Lisa Fieteholtz '88 and Kevin Kelly '85. It has been a big part of Rob's and my life for so many years, and it definitely has its roots in Columbia and Lit Hum."

I heard from my Carman 5 floormate **Divya Singh**, who always has a fascinating story. Divya recently started working part-time in Shiprock, N.M., at the Northern Navajo Indian reservation, making her a federal employee, as the Indian Health Service is part of the Department of Health and Human Services. Although still based in Seattle, Divya lives on the reservation when she is working but has had time to explore the Four Corners region on weekends. She writes, "Last time, I met up with **Jeanne Costello** (also Carman 5!) in her hometown of Durango. She has my dream job — she's a book buyer at the independent bookstore Maria's Bookshop. I hadn't seen her in more than 30 years. She is as fabulous as ever."

As always, keep your wonderful updates coming!

## 1988

**Eric Fusfield**  
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**Dave Fondiller** SIPA'92 is putting the skills he honed at *Spectator* and the *Columbian* (yearbook) to good use. After more than 11 years at the Boston Consulting Group, most recently as head of North America PR and communications, he recently joined Altran, a digital product engineering company, as VP of communications for its North America division. In this role, Dave oversees PR, executive communications,

internal communications and digital and social media. In addition, he is chief communications officer of frog (lowercase is correct!), one of the world's leading design and innovation firms and an Altran company. With a workforce of 47,000 and sales of \$3.3 billion, Altran partners with both blue-chip corporations and startups to help them design, develop and support complex technology products and services.

"The company is literally at the forefront of today's hottest tech trends — 5G, edge computing, virtualization, AI, the Internet of Things — and I'm loving it," Dave writes. He and his wife, Jennifer BC'88, who is VP for enrollment at Barnard, live in Edgemont, Westchester County. They have two

expected that after the 25th, the passion and intensity of the 30th would in some way pale in comparison. That's what seems to happen in other classes. Not ours. Our 30th reunion was as much fun — possibly an even better time — than the last."

The summer went by too quickly for most of us. At the time of writing this column, many of us are planning to get to Homecoming Weekend in October, so we'll have an update next time about that.

I touched base with **Christina Ying**, who loved our 30th reunion: Highlights for her included connecting with **Ana Toledo, Diane Daltner, Susan Shin and John Kim**, among many others. Christina got a law degree at Georgetown and is a partner at Herrick Feinstein in New

## Core Haiku



Spring term, Wallace Gray  
*The Odyssey* blooms again,  
Yes yes yes yes YES!

— Paige Sinkler '88

daughters. The older, Anna BC'19, is pursuing a career in entertainment talent management. The younger, Julia, is a junior at Smith.

**Marc McCann** wrote from Montreal that some classmates joined him there for their 33rd annual fantasy football draft. "Our first draft was in 1987 in Hartley Hall with all Class of '88 guys," Marc says. "We've mixed things up a bit over the years, but original members still involved are **Mike Zegers SEAS'88, Rob Daniel, Doug Wolf and Ravi Singh**."

Keep sending me updates! I look forward to hearing from all of our classmates.

## 1989

**Emily Miles Terry**  
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To begin this issue's column, **Roger Rubin** shares, "Our class continues to astound me with the way its members are drawn to one another and cannot wait to be reunited. I

York, focusing on real estate sales, acquisitions, developments and joint ventures involving office and retail properties. Christina also volunteers with the Columbia College Fund and spends her free time traveling to cheer on her daughter at fencing tournaments around the world.

It was nice for my husband, Dave Terry '90, and I to visit with **Eugene Ryang** at our reunion barbecue. Eugene says reunion "absolutely exceeded my expectations." Eugene got a master's in landscape architecture and cultural anthropology from UVA and works at Water Street Studio, an environmental design firm with offices in Charlottesville and Richmond.

Our class has created a leadership project to help us better communicate post-reunion about events and get together around the country. **Matt Engels** has volunteered to be our class president, and I hope we'll all hear from him with updates and class announcements. Matt lives in the Chicago area with his family, where he is president of SBCGlobal and enjoys watching the Engels's family sports legacy through his son, Tommy, who plays football, and his

daughter, Ellie, who plays volleyball. To reach Matt about any class activities, or to volunteer to be part of the CC'89 leadership project, email him at [mxengels@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mxengels@sbcglobal.net).

Also, **Jared Goldstein** asked that I remind everyone to check out our CC'89 Facebook group, which he runs: "Columbia University Class of 1989 Undergraduates."

## 1990

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4-6

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**Rachel Cowan Jacobs**  
[youngache@hotmail.com](mailto:youngache@hotmail.com)

Since you last read this column, I have only a small amount of news. **Noreen Whysel** reports, "With a freshman at Sarah Lawrence College and a sophomore at Loyola University New Orleans, my husband, Brett, and I are officially empty-nesters — at least until they come home, too briefly, for the summer. I teach the UX Design Intensive at General Assembly (a global code and design school for adult learners; [generalassemb.ly](http://generalassemb.ly)) and web design at New York City College of Technology (aka City Tech). Coincidentally, while attempting to convert my résumé to an academic

CV, mulling over the awards section, I got a call that I'm going to receive a 'Contribution to the Profession' award from the New York State GIS Association. NYSGIS.net is a professional organization for geospatial information system (GIS) users working in New York State. GISMO is the local chapter where I've been a board member for many years."

Congratulations, Noreen!

**Alicia Shems** (née Katz) read our last column and identified herself as someone who skirts the college counseling world: "I tutor students in writing and English, as well as tutor and advise them with their college essays. Some of my students say they feel like they come to therapy as we discuss all the topics they could choose to write about. I have to say, I love working with teenagers — their angst, enthusiasm, drama and perception are wonderful and refreshing — and when they come up with an original idea and find their writing voice, it's really rewarding for me to see."

"Not content to have just one job, I also am a freelance editor, senior writer for an edtech startup and a mixed media artist. It's a little crazy, but I've never been very good at eliminating options and making choices. Nevertheless, my husband, Nessay, and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary and are now empty-nesters! It's a lot quieter here without our children, Matthew (23) and Leah (19), though since Matthew

is graduating this year, we might get him home for a couple months before he starts his job in computer science. Leah is studying fashion design, so she will probably end up in New York, which means I will get to visit Columbia more in the near future.

"I can't believe we are coming up on our 30-year reunion — I spent the first half in Chicago and now the second half in the Boston area. As for keeping in touch with CC friends, I recently visited **Teri Rice** in Miami, Fla., but cannot do that again easily since she recently moved to Dubai with her husband and sons; I also keep in touch with **Stephanie Aaronson** and **Elizabeth Phythian**."

Meanwhile, in September **Melissa Steinman** found herself

## 1992

**Olivier Knox**  
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I heard from not one but two Carman 7 alums this cycle — keep 'em coming, erstwhile floormates!

**Tom Linton SEAS'92** and **Lauri Pendray Linton BC'93** moved to London in July. Tom is the managing director of Frontera Consulting (UK). A statement from the company heralds, "Tom has been instrumental in growing Frontera's Oracle Cloud capabilities in both the UK and North America." (That's right, everyone, we've reached the age at which companies put out statements about us.) Their son, Dylan (14), is in ninth

### Core Haiku



Hamilton, Morris,  
Jay and the luminaries  
bring us together

— Heather Brownlie '91

in Moscow, where she spoke at the Global Advertising Lawyers Alliance and connected with **Greg Krasovsky '91**, who attended the seminar.

It'd be great to report news from more people in the future. Please, friends, won't you send me your updates? And mark your calendars for our 30th reunion: Thursday, June 4-Saturday, June 6. Looking for something to do until then? Contact the Alumni Office and get on the Reunion Committee (contact info is at the top of the column). The more, the merrier.

## 1991

**Columbia College Today**  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)

*CCT* thanks **Margie Kim** for her 11 excellent years of service as class correspondent! She has decided to step down, so while we search for a new class correspondent, you can send your news directly to *CCT* for inclusion in a future issue. And if you would like to learn more about volunteering for the class correspondent role, please shoot an email to [cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)!

grade at The American School in London. "How's the culture shock?" I asked Tom. "Not too bad!" he said.

I also heard from **Jason Hagberg**, who is heading back to NYC soon to work for Google "after 16 years on the West Coast (Los Angeles/San Francisco) and a few years in Hong Kong and Beijing." Jason writes that he has "been working mainly in tech working on building contract management systems and data privacy policy at Google, Facebook and others." He started his own consultancy, [globalreachconsulting.us](http://globalreachconsulting.us), and is working with Corestream, professional home to Adam Brothers '94, and is "looking to get off the hamster wheel. More seriously, I am starting a foundation (Upstream Color) to help get kids who have the ability to go to Columbia" but face costs not covered by financial aid — "laptops, meals when cafeterias are closed on holidays, etc.," Jason says. "I am not ready for prime time and still waiting for my nonprofit paperwork to come through, but a decent number of classmates know about it and are willing to help," Jason writes.

Enjoy your winter, classmates, and please take a moment to send in a Class Note!



Friends from CC'91 and BC'91 gathered for 50th birthday celebrations in Truro, Mass. Left to right, standing: Tanya Weisman '91, Angela Eaton '91, Tom Nishioka '91, Noah Elkin '91, Sara Ivry BC'91, Catherine Geanuracos '91, Rachel Porter '91 and Justin Lundgren '91; and left to right, kneeling and seated: Kif Scheuer '91, Katie Sellers Rosenblum '91, Alice Vosmek '91, Marc Rosenblum '91, David Tepper '91 and Karl Meyer '91.



## 1993

**Betsy Gomperz**  
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Greetings, classmates. I wanted to share the great news that **Seth Pinsky** has been appointed chief executive of the 92nd Street Y and will begin his position in January. 92Y plans to embark on an extensive update to its buildings to make more space for its expansive slate of programming; it is known for hosting concerts and lectures with high-profile public figures, language and music classes, and its nursery school.

While Seth has been in the private sector the last several years, he previously served in Mayor Michael Bloomberg's administration as the president of the New York City Economic Development Corp., a role he took on just before the 2008 financial crisis hit.

Congratulations, Seth!

Please submit updates — the more I hear from you, the longer the columns will be!

## 1994

**Leyla Kokmen**  
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**Jennifer Khouri** writes that two years ago she and her family moved back to New York from California. While a family graduation in California prevented her from attending our reunion this past summer, she did have a reunion of sorts in the ladies' room at JFK: "As I was washing my hands, **Mary Killackey** called my name! She was just about to board a flight home and I had just landed from LAX. I met her lovely daughter, Charlotte, and introduced them to my little girl, Sofia (4). Mary's flight was getting ready to leave, so the encounter probably lasted all of three minutes, but I was grateful for even that tiny taste of Reunion 2019!

Jennifer continues, "As for me and my family, we are back in Garden City, N.Y., and my husband, Andy, and I work for Lockheed Martin in Uniondale and are grateful for our five-minute commute. Our son Aidan (10) attends the same school Andy attended as a child, and both kids are looking forward to winter — snow is still a

novelty. My stepson, Tucker, decided to move here to attend college, so we've got a fairly full house. I hope I'll be free for the next reunion!"

In other news, **Rachel**

**DeWoskin's** latest book, *Banshee*, came out this past summer, and she's been busy doing readings and interviews about what *Publishers Weekly* calls her "slow-burning, satisfying fifth novel," about the psychological effects of a life-changing diagnosis.

**Imara Jones** has been named a 2019 Soros Equality Fellow. The program supports innovators — from artists to advocates, lawyers to organizers — whose work tackles systemic racial disparities and discrimination and advances racial justice and equality across the country. Imara will continue to develop TransLash, her cross-platform storytelling effort centering on the humanity and perspectives of trans people of color.

That's it for this time! Please keep sending updates — we'd love to know what you're up to!

## 1995

**REUNION 2020**  
JUNE 4–6

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Thanks to everyone who shared updates as we close in on our 25th reunion. If you are interested in helping with the reunion or have questions or suggestions, please reach out to me as soon as possible.

**Michael Fein** writes that after working for more than 15 years in the classroom as a history professor and writing about the politics of American highways, he's spent the past several years in higher education administration at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I. This summer, he took on the position of dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at JWU, where he supports 85 faculty members and more than 1,300 students enrolled in more than 20 undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs.

"Recently, we've launched many undergraduate programs and opened up cutting-edge science labs, a

criminalistics lab and a center for media production on the Providence campus," he writes. "While it is strange to think that I've been getting ready for the start of the school year for more than 40 years, I'm always happy to reflect on my time as an undergraduate as I welcome first-year students and think about the transformative years that are ahead of them."

**Mike** lives in Westwood, Mass., with his wife, Marjorie Feld, who is a professor of history at Babson College, and their sons, Izzy Feinfeld (14) and Nate Feinfeld (12).

**Thaddeus Tracy** and his wife, Michele Haberland BC'94, have twin boys who are 13. They live near campus and regularly attend Columbia basketball games. Thaddeus recently launched an investment startup focused on specialty crop and sustainable agriculture, capitalizing scalable and difficult-to-replicate operations that can be integrated into food company supply chains.

**Jed Weiner** is a partner in a boutique NYC law firm. He helps companies and entrepreneurs raise money and provides advice on company sales and purchases. Jed lives in Potomac, Md., with his wife and two daughters and works in his NYC office two weeks a month. His oldest daughter is in kindergarten and his youngest daughter is in preschool. Jed is no longer active in the Navy, where he served as an intelligence officer. He says he would enjoy meeting up with Columbia alumni in NYC or D.C.

Congratulations to **David Webber** on the success of his 2018 book, *The Rise of the Working-Class Shareholder: Labor's Last Best Weapon*. Ideas in it are expected to be introduced in congressional legislation. David recently became associate dean for intellectual life at Boston University School of Law, where he teaches.

## 1996

**Ana S. Salper**  
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Greetings, classmates! **Ian Lendler** has published a new book, *The First Dinosaur: How Science Solved the Greatest Mystery on Earth*. This is his ninth book, but it is an entirely new genre. It is a nonfiction history of how humans discovered dinosaurs and is

for grades 6 and up. Kirkus Reviews describes it as, "An outstanding case study in how science is actually done: funny, nuanced, and perceptive."

New York Times reporters **Jodi**

**Kantor** and **Megan Twohey** also recently published a book, *She Said: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement*, which describes how they broke the Harvey Weinstein story and details the investigative work that earned them the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service and helped ignite the #MeToo national movement. [Editor's note: See "Columbia Forum."]

In other Pulitzer news, as reported in the Summer 2019 issue of *CCT*, **Harriet Ryan**, who wrote for *Spectator* while at Columbia, received the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for "reporting on a University of Southern California gynecologist accused of violating hundreds of young women for more than a quarter-century." According to the *Los Angeles Times*, "The reporters worked three months to track down people who had information about [Dr. George] Tyndall, uncovering troubling allegations of abuse of young patients. The series roiled the prestigious private university ... and led to dramatic changes, including the resignation of the university President C.L. Max Nikias."

Congratulations, Harriet!

I had a nice chance encounter with **Nick Kukrika** at a farmers market in the Hamptons this past summer, and he provided me with a good amount of news. Nick and his wife, Andrea Lally, have two kids (Theo, 2, and Maria, 6) and live in London. They try to spend much of their summers out on Long Island, near Andrea's parents. Nick works with Generation Investment Management, where he is a partner investing in tech companies. He is an avid supporter of the Democratic Party and has been working to expand the community of Democrats in the United Kingdom.

On a recent trip to NYC, Nick spent time with **Mark Levine** and **Darren Seirer**. He writes, "As a sign that bipartisanship remains the remotest of possibilities, we three have remained close friends. Mark works at BlackRock; I would argue that he is attempting to create another financial crisis, but he would say he is trading mortgage-backed securities. Darren is with Select

Equity Group, which he joined as an intern while at Columbia! [Some might] appreciate that he found it in the internship 'book' at the Center for Career Education. I suspect only Darren was patient enough to get to the letter 'S' in the book and that's why he got the gig."

Nick shared that **Stephane Gruffat** is also in London, working at Credit Suisse. He has two sons, Alexandre and Jack.

**Moha Desai** lives with her sons, Devraj (11) and Vikram (6), in her hometown, 15 minutes outside of Boston. Moha writes that she is gratified to be managing her own healthcare consulting practice, which she began in 2015 after 16 years of working in big firms. She says she enjoys the flexibility of

## 1997

**Kerensa Harrell**  
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Dear classmates, I hope you enjoyed a lovely fall season. It is my pleasure to present the following updates from our class.

**Orli Shaham** writes: "I'm a concert pianist and a recent member of the faculty at The Juilliard School. I recently released my 11th CD: piano concertos by Mozart with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. One of my favorite parts of the recording process was a conversation about the pieces with my husband, conductor David Robertson, and my CC music professor Elaine Sisman! During

**Allison Jaffin** writes: "My husband, **Seth Unger**, and I are the presidents of the 'Tony Roach Fan Club,' and during the last year we have toured the country to see **Tony Roach** in his various starring roles. Our most recent run started last fall, when we saw him as Henry Higgins in Lincoln Center's production of *My Fair Lady* and culminated this past summer when he starred in the Aspen Theater Festival productions of *Little Shop of Horrors* (as the dentist) and *Guys and Dolls* (as Sky Masterson).

"During the day, Seth is the producer of the Food Film Festival, an event where you literally taste what you see on the screen. The festival was in NYC this fall and will be in Tokyo this spring, among other places. We have twin daughters who are 12 and are next in line to chair the Tony Roach Fan Club."

**Edward "Ted" Wladis** writes: "I was recently named professor and chair of the Lions Eye Institute, ophthalmology department, at Albany Medical College. In addition to being chair, I oversee the fellowship in oculofacial and orbital plastic surgery, I perform basic science research and I am the CEO of Praxis Biotechnology. I was honored to recently have been inducted into the American Ophthalmological Society. My wife, Lianne Pinchuk LAW'00, and I have two daughters, ages 8 and 11."

**Endre Tvinnereim** writes: "In April I started a job as associate professor of political science at the University of Bergen, Norway."

**Rebekah Gee** writes, "Our twins started first grade this year and they love to dress up, just like their mother."

As for me, **Kerensa Harrell**, as I sit here wrapping up this column in mid-September, I am thinking about how glad I am to be doing yoga again after not having done it for so many years. It certainly isn't easy getting back into it, but I am starting to slowly feel my body reconnecting. Aside from practicing yoga, I have been doing some gardening on my balcony. My daughter, Amara (3), is enjoying doing yoga and gardening alongside me! We have a lovely corner balcony that overlooks a pond with a big water fountain that is always flowing. Our balcony doesn't get any direct sun until the afternoon (which in Florida is perfect, as it is quite hot here), so we find it pleas-

ant to garden in the mornings. My grandmother Marie's lovely caladium plants, which I inherited from her garden after she passed away several years ago, are thriving. And I have a bunch of morning glory vines, with their big blue flowers that bloom each morning, climbing up the balcony rails.

As I sign off now, let me leave you with my daughter's current favorite song, "Let It Go." She likes to sing it at the top of her lungs as she dances around improvisationally, while I follow her around attempting to shield her from crashing into the furniture. It's a favorite among little girls, and is sung by Queen Elsa in the movie *Frozen*:

"Let it go  
The cold never bothered me anyway  
Let it go, let it go  
And I'll rise like the break of dawn  
Let it go, let it go  
That perfect girl is gone  
Here I stand in the light of day  
Let the storm rage on!"

Blessings to all, and please do send me your updates. Keep in mind that your updates needn't be just about the usual topics like career/marriage/birth announcements — they could also be on your exotic travels, your exciting adventures, your fascinating hobbies, your philanthropic endeavors, your charming children, your daring projects, your poetic musings, your flowery reminiscences .... Or simply tell us about some delightful local event that you just attended or a family vacation that you went on. If nothing else, you can always write us merely to

### Core Haiku



**Music Hum teacher**  
arrives late, glasses broken  
"I was mugged!" Class starts

— Elizabeth Yuan '96, JRN'98

her own practice while staying on the forefront of topics that mean the most to her. Moha invites any CC'96ers to look her up if you find yourselves in the Boston area.

**Maurice "Mo" Toueg** is president and CEO of GOBU Associates, an executive recruiting firm that he founded after having spent 20 years at one place. His firm focuses on recruiting for corporate strategy, corporate development, finance (CFOs and heads), investment banking and treasury for Fortune 500 companies, startups, portfolio companies of private equity firms and venture capital firms. Mo writes, "Still living on East 79th, a block away from where I grew up — still can't drive, but spend winters in Florida, where Uber makes a fortune off of me."

I would like to hear from more of you; please send in more news! I leave you with this:

"I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. And then I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if our house is on fire."

— *Greta Thunberg, 16-year-old Swedish environmental activist*

the past two years, I've commemorated the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein, playing his *Symphony No. 2: The Age of Anxiety* with orchestras around the world. This fall, for the second year in a row, I am a guest host of the classical music program *From the Top*, which airs on more than 200 public radio stations across the country. I live in Manhattan with my husband; 12-year-old twins, Nathan and Alex; and Dachshund, Milo, and ran into **Julie Foont** around the corner!"

**Swati Khurana** writes: "In addition to having 21 years of teaching history at Advantage Testing, I am chugging away on my first novel (a New York Foundation for the Arts award in fiction was recent encouragement!). I have also been on a path that started with coming out as a post-Hindu witch in *Teen Vogue* and doing Tarot card readings with custom affirmations for boutique hotels, private equity client groups, literary festivals, mom groups and nonprofit retreats. The highlight of my life has been watching my 8-year-old daughter do aerial dance and gymnastics, observing how a child can actually do the things of a superhero."



Tony Roach '97 (left) autographed Seth Unger '97's chest at the Lincoln Center's production of *My Fair Lady*.





In late June, members of CC'01 and SEAS'01 met in Vail for a weekend of fun. Left to right: Becca Bradley (née Siegel) '01, Jaime Pannone '01, Emily Stanton (née Georgitis) SEAS'01, Jessica O'Sullivan (née Tubridy) '01, Anne-Marie Ebner '01, Ali Kidd '01 and Jennifer O'Connell (née Tubridy) '01.

say hello! It would be splendid to hear from as many of our classmates as possible. I look forward to hearing from you all. *In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen.*

he and his wife are happily raising their children, ages 15, 13 and 11.

Have a wonderful winter, and please take a moment to send in a Class Note!

## 1998

Sandie Angulo Chen  
sandie.chen@gmail.com

Greetings, Class of 1998! A few short updates for you this issue:

Congratulations are in order for **Lori Meeks** and her husband, Jason Webb, who welcomed a second child, Penelope Ann Webb, in August 2018. Brother Jupiter is 4. Lori and her family live in Los Angeles, where she's an associate professor of religion and East Asian languages and cultures at USC.

Speaking of East Asian languages, **Taylor Ortiz** shares that his and his wife **Veronica Lei**'s two sons started kindergarten and third grade at their Mandarin immersion school in Indianapolis this past fall. "Future East Asian studies majors," he says.

**Dennis Machado** writes with some good news about **Elliot Han**, who won a combined half marathon/5K in San Francisco in September. Elliot placed first with a time of 1:53:12 at The Giant Race 2019 in San Francisco. As for Dennis,

## 1999

Adrienne Carter and  
Jenna Johnson  
adeliz@gmail.com  
jennajohnson@gmail.com

No news this time, so please take a moment to send us a note! You can share your news by sending it to either of the email addresses at the top of this column. Your classmates would love to hear from you!

## 2000

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4–6

Events and Programs Contact  
ccaa-events@columbia.edu  
Development Contact  
ccfund@columbia.edu

Prisca Bae  
pb134@columbia.edu

It's almost a new year, so why not make a resolution to send in a Class Note? Let us know about new jobs,

family life, cool trips and/or interesting hobbies — this is your space to stay connected with classmates! And don't forget, our 20th reunion will be here before we know it, so mark your calendars now for Thursday, June 4–Saturday, June 6.

## 2001

Jonathan Gordin  
jrg53@columbia.edu

In late June, **Becca Bradley** (née Siegel), **Ali Kidd**, **Emily Stanton** SEAS'01 (née Georgitis), **Jaime Pannone**, **Jessica O'Sullivan** (née Tubridy), **Jennifer O'Connell** (née Tubridy) and **Anne-Marie Ebner** gathered in Vail for a relaxing weekend of good food, beautiful vistas and celebrating a certain milestone birthday and 20-plus years of friendship. Ali and Jaime arrived from California, Emily from Colorado and Becca from Nashville, and the rest of the crew arrived from the NYC area.

Becca writes, "It was truly a gift to spend time with these amazing ladies and reconnect, especially since we now reside all over the country.

and enjoyed spending time with Annie and Dina in New York.

**Dina Epstein** and her family had an epic trip to Israel to celebrate her 40th birthday and 10th wedding anniversary — the photos were incredible. Our family had gone a week or two before and we managed to compare notes, seemingly in real time, about must-sees with our kids. What a summer!

When I returned from Israel, I had my own mini-Columbia reunion in my neighborhood. My former roommate **Adam Sokol** moved into a house down the block with his wife, Bingyi, and kids, Arro (6) and Leo (3). **Jasper Cooper** was in town visiting with his wife, Josie, and kids, Vali (6), Zed (3) and Ozzie (1). We met up for pancakes with our kids at the neighborhood diner. Adam is an accomplished architect with his own practice in downtown Los Angeles. He was recently selected by *Architectural Digest* as one of its "100 Most Influential Architects and Interior Designers in China 2019." Jasper is an insurance industry analyst at Moody's and also runs a real estate empire (my words, not his!)

## Core Haiku



Woolf, Hurston — without  
them how would I have found rush  
of human feeling?

— Jonas LaMattery-Brownell '98

We enjoyed gondola rides, strolled through an art fair and craft beer festival, and kept our eyes peeled for moose (though we didn't see a moose, we did spot a marmot on the way up the mountain). We hope to make these gatherings annual or semi-annual events. We even had matching hats."

Speaking of reunions, seven members of our class reunited 20 years after sharing a Ruggles suite sophomore year. **Annie Lainer Marquit**, **Dina Epstein**, **Nancy Perla**, **Joe Rezek**, **Billy Kingsland**, **Eri Kaneko** and **Susan Pereira Wilsey** met up in Manhattan in May for dinner and drinks and reminisced while looking through photos of their Columbia life. My wife, Jamie Rubin BC'01, was a peripheral guest

throughout Brooklyn and Queens.

**Ethan Perlstein** announced the birth of his son, Lucian Dana Perlstein (aka Luca) on August 29, weighing in at 6 lbs., 7 oz. Congratulations to Ethan and his wife!

So many of our classmates are celebrating milestone birthdays (and births!) this year, and I was thrilled to attend one such celebration in September. **Annie Lainer Marquit** invited several friends to an elegant evening of dinner and games to ring in her 40th year. It was a gorgeous evening, with every detail attended to.

Please let me know how you celebrated your 40th birthday or share information about *your* "reunion" with CC alumni friends.

Be in touch! It's always great to hear from all of you.

## 2002

**Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani**  
soniah57@gmail.com

Hope everyone had a great fall! Many exciting updates to share; please keep them coming to soniah57@gmail.com.

Cut+Run's **Robert Ryang** has been awarded the Sports Emmy in the Outstanding Editing category for the short film *Zion*.

**Agnia Grigas** (née Baranauskaitė) is moving back to Santa Monica/Los Angeles with her husband, Paulius, and their two kids. She looks forward to reconnecting with Columbia alumni.

**Sara Goldfarb-Langmead** SEAS'02 reports that a group of classmates got together over Memorial Day weekend to catch up and meet each other's families. Gathered at the Westchester, N.Y., home of **Jaime Snider** LAW'08 were Sara; Ben Langmead '03; **Rachel Forster Held**; Steve Steer SEAS'00, SEAS'02; **Carina Schoenberger**; John Morris '03; **Michael Kalnicki** SEAS'02; Sheera Hopkins BC'06, BUS'14; and members of the Classes of 2032–41.

Jill Santopolo '03 married Andrew Claster on June 30 at Guastavino's in New York City. In attendance were Namrata Tripathi '01, **Greg Shill**, Rebecca Bloom '03, Eleanor Coufos '03 and Kimberly Grant '03.



Classmates gathered in Westchester, N.Y., during Memorial Day weekend to catch up and meet each other's families. Pictured are Rachel Forster Held '02, Sara Goldfarb-Langmead SEAS'02, Ben Langmead '03, Jaime Snider '02, Steve Steer SEAS'00, Carina Schoenberger '02, John Morris '03, Michael Kalnicki SEAS'02, Sheera Hopkins BC'06 and members of Classes 2032–41.

## 2003

**Michael Novielli**  
mjin29@columbia.edu

I was recently back on campus for the Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) Alumni Leaders Weekend, so I had a chance to enjoy a bit of fall weather in New York City. I moved to Singapore five years ago and have become accustomed to four seasons of summer. On the topic of Singapore, I'm fortunate to have been elected president of CAA Singapore earlier this year, and I enjoy catching up with many of you as you travel through Singapore. Just this evening we had a CAA Singapore board games night; **Shaun Ting**, Frederick Cheng SEAS'04 and Chris Cheng SEAS'06 were there. Now, on to some updates from other parts of the world!

**Raquel Gardner** writes, "In February 2019, Jonathan and I welcomed twin boys, Betzalel and Zev, into our now rather large family! Big siblings Azaria, Reva and Margalit are quite smitten and already planning escapades together including a sibling basketball team and piano quintet. I am now proud to say that Nancy Pelosi and I have three things in common as working (number 1) San Francisco (number 2) moms of five (number 3)."

**Jonathan Goldstein** writes, "I'm back in New York City after a long stint in Tel Aviv operating tours in

Israel, Central Europe and right here in NYC under the label Cicerone Travel. When I'm not traveling for work, I spend my time in Brooklyn with my partner and baby."

**Thomas E. Anderson II** shares, "I am taking a class on global leadership and recommend the book *Cultural Agility: Building a Pipeline of Successful Global Professionals*, by Paula Caligiuri."

**Emily Hazlett** (née Doyle) writes, "I have been working the academic circuit for a long time now. I teach online classes in human development for Penn State (World Campus) and I teach in the psychology departments at Carleton College and St. Olaf College, both conveniently located in Northfield, Minn., where I live with my husband and two kids. I've learned to love the Minnesota winters and even play on a curling team called Sweeping Beauties."

**Sheila Dvorak** writes, "On August 17, I released my debut album: *Sheila Dee Has To Be Real*, which is now available everywhere, including iTunes, Amazon Music and Spotify. If you're old-fashioned like me, you can buy the CD at sheiladeemusic.com. I love writing music and fronting the band, and often bring my two children to my concerts in the Hudson Valley. A feature documentary film I produced and co-edited, *Gone Postal*, premiered at the East NorthEast International Film Festival in Newburgh, N.Y., in October."

*The Atlantic* shared: "**Yoni Appelbaum** will oversee a dramatic expansion of the Ideas desk. Nearly a year ago, *The Atlantic* introduced Ideas, which has gone toe-to-toe with the country's top opinion pages by offering sharp perspectives, essays, and arguments that drive the national conversation. Under Appelbaum's leadership, Ideas has quickly become a home for some of the top writing talent in the world — led by Atlantic staff writers, with contributions from elected officials and leaders shaping every industry — and a must-read for millions of readers. The section has delivered such tone-setting arguments as Adam Serwer's 'The Cruelty Is the Point,' Caitlin Flanagan's 'They Had It Coming,' Rep. John Dingell's 'I Served in Congress Longer Than Anyone. Here's How to Fix It,' Sen. Marco Rubio's 'America Needs to Restore Dignity of Work' and Deborah Copaken's 'My Rapist Apologized.'"

**Susan Nwankpa Gillespie** writes, "My husband and I had a beautiful baby girl on June 15: Adanna Rosemary Gillespie. We're doing well and having a great time, despite very little sleep! I'm in the third year of my business, Nwankpa Design, a Los Angeles-based architecture and interior design firm. We are doing great and have a roster of fantastic projects and clients."

## 2004

**Jaydip Mahida**  
jmahida@gmail.com

Congratulations to **Elizabeth A. Sullivan**, who was recognized on the *Forbes* "Next-Gen Best-in-State Wealth Advisors 2019" list.

That's all for this issue! Please send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you may be taking, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across. You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or the CCT Class Notes webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2005

**REUNION 2020**  
JUNE 4–6

Events and Programs Contact  
[ccaa-events@columbia.edu](mailto:ccaa-events@columbia.edu)

Development Contact  
[ccfund@columbia.edu](mailto:ccfund@columbia.edu)

**Columbia College Today**  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)

Happy end of the year, CC'05! Don't forget that reunion is coming (Thursday, June 4–Saturday, June 6), so make plans to come back to campus!

From **Jeffrey Schwartz**: "I recently opened an addiction treatment center, The Addiction Recovery Evolution. I specialize in providing state-funded services for gambling addiction and treatment for drug/alcohol-use disorders. I also recently celebrated my one-year wedding anniversary."

**Jacob Shell** is an associate professor of geography and urban studies at



Temple University, where he received tenure in 2018. In June 2019 he published his second book, *Giants of the Monsoon Forest: Living and Working with Elephants*, an ethnographic study of Burmese elephants as sustainable means of transportation.

**Rebecca Weber** and her husband, Ben Carver, welcomed daughter Eden Noa on August 30. She joins big brother Ezra. Rebecca and her family have lived in Denver since 2014, where Rebecca serves as a federal prosecutor.

From **Steven Melzer**: “Tracy Massel BC’06 and I are overjoyed to announce the birth of our daughter in August. I’m at The New School, leading strategic initiatives, and Tracy runs network operations at Oscar Health. And we’ve stuck around the Upper West Side, so our daughter will be visiting Low Steps (and 1020) very soon.”

## 2006

**Michelle Oh Sing**  
mo2057@columbia.edu

Happy holidays, classmates! Share your stories, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by emailing me at mo2057@columbia.edu — we want to hear from you!

## 2007

**David D. Chait**  
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

Thank you, everyone, for sharing your exciting updates. Here is the news from classmates!

**Alison Mariella Désir** shares, “Kouri Henri Figueroa was born on July 23 at 7:09 p.m., weighing 6 lbs., 3 oz.! He will be Class of 2037!”

**Dan Wulin** and **Gaby Wulin** (née Avila-Bront) welcomed their third child in May. Her two big brothers are smitten and are ecstatic in their new roles!

**Keith Hernandez** held a ceremony for his marriage to Dunyu Gu in Monemvasia, Greece, on October 5. Despite a small gathering, with a little more than 30 attendees, Columbia was well represented by **Nick DeRosa**, **Max Talbot-Minkin** and **Jerone Hsu**. It was an international affair, with guests representing 10 countries, reflecting the places

where Keith and Dunyu have lived and worked. The ceremony was held overlooking the Rock of Monemvasia in the eastern Peloponnese on an Ancient Byzantine estate.

**Luke McGowan** has had a busy few years — moving to Vermont, welcoming a son (Augustus Blake) and launching a social impact venture fund. He now leads Burlington’s Community and Economic Development Office, where he works on everything from reducing lead hazards, to building affordable housing, to developing the social and physical infrastructure of Vermont’s Queen City. Luke shares, “If you’re ever in the Green Mountain State, say hello!”

## 2008

**Columbia College Today**  
cct@columbia.edu

Hello, Class of 2008! Wishing you an excellent start to 2020!

**Betsy Purves** (née Remes) lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband and their 2-year-old son. She recently started a job as director of development at the DC Youth Orchestra Program and is delighted to be back in the music world.

Also, check out the “Just Married!” section for a photo of Carman 8 floormates at **Ben Teitelbaum’s** California wedding.

Please take a moment to send your news to the email address at the top of the column. Your classmates would love to hear from you!

## 2009

**Chantee Dempsey**  
chantee.dempsey@gmail.com

**Stephanie Chou** recently premiered her song cycle/jazz-opera, *Comfort Girl*, about the young women kidnapped and forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese army during WWII. It premiered at Joe’s Pub at the Public in NYC to a sold-out audience, which included a group from Columbia College Women and several Columbia professors. *Comfort Girl* was commissioned by the American Composers Forum and a recorded version is forthcoming. Stephanie says that she enjoyed performing at the CC’09 10-year reunion with Michael Hardin ’11.

**Annie Ma-Weaver** and **Jacob Ma-Weaver** welcomed their first child, Minerva, in April. She is named for the Etruscan goddess and is getting along nicely with her brother—who-is-a-dog, Aristotle.

Have a great end of the year and a happy start to 2020, and please take a moment to send in a note!

## 2010

**REUNION 2020**  
JUNE 4–6

Events and Programs Contact  
ccaa-events@columbia.edu

Development Contact  
ccfund@columbia.edu

**Julia Feldberg Klein**  
juliafeldberg@gmail.com

**Asher Grodman** writes, “After grad school in San Francisco and three years of working in Los Angeles, I moved back to NYC, where I’ve been appearing mostly in television (*Chicago Med*, *Law & Order*, *House of Cards*, *Succession*). I have a feature film at film festivals right now, *Inez & Doug & Kira*, and I’m teaching acting at Hunter College and to inmates at Rikers Island.

“I’ve started a weekly pick-up football game in Hell’s Kitchen. If you want to relive memories of playing on the greens — without the hassle of getting kicked off by Facilities — message me on social media @ashergrodman. Would be great to see familiar faces.”

**Sarah Suria** and **Ahmed Suria** BUS’15 welcomed Harlan “Hardy” Braidy Suria into their family on June 7.

**Gabriella M. Ripoll** shares, “A lot has happened in the last couple of months! I’ve had a job transition, from being associate counsel at Delos Living to now being one of a small team of legal licensing counsel at the licensing agency Earthbound Brands. It’s an exciting move that puts me in the middle of Flatiron, so other alums nearby — let’s get lunch! In even more exciting news, my longtime boyfriend, Filipe Fernandes, proposed over Memorial Day weekend, and our nuptials are planned for Leap Day 2020. Miriam Manber BC’10 is, of course, one of my bridesmaids. Exciting times.”

**Derek Squires** says, “I’m enjoying my honeymoon after getting

married in August. We’ve visited Geneva and Zermatt, Switzerland, so far. Venice and Rome are next. Traveling to Europe always inspires me to dust off some of my Lit Hum and CC books!”

**David Zheng-Li Xu** PS’15 will complete his residency in June 2020 and matched to an interventional radiology fellowship for 2020–21. He is getting married in October 2020.

**Derek Jancisin** has an article to share; read it online: bit.ly/2nZcIEK.

**Chris Yim** writes, “In fall 2018, my wife, Grace, and I split up. It was both devastating and informative. My life was out of whack, and I had been living out of alignment in many ways — my principles and actions didn’t match. As a result, I went to great lengths to destruct the seemingly stable things in my life.

“I did a lot of self-reflection about how I lost my best friend, hurt her and found myself in a place where I had no idea what to do next. I had never lost someone like this before, and I spent a lot of time angry with myself. Themes of the next few months involved self-compassion, acceptance and healing. While the breakup shined light on all this brokenness within, it also paved a way for me to heal. I’m still on that path. Some days I’m flowing and it’s light. Other days, I have no idea what I’m doing, and I wonder how I got myself here. I’m realizing that that is part of the journey — you find yourself stuck at sea, throw your hands up, look at the sky and say, ‘I guess I’ll just keep on sailing.’

“I learned many lessons this year. It was really humbling to have thought I knew stuff about life, then to be pushed off a mountain and find myself in a valley realizing my ego had driven me astray. I had to learn some of these lessons the hard way, and it’s been painful.

“These days, I’m spending my time thinking about community. After the breakup, I felt like I needed to surround myself with people who were thinking about personal growth and wanted to have intention about how they showed up in the world. So, I started a housing community with people who were drawn to this vision of living to support one another. It’s teaching me a lot about how to hold space for others. I think about what it means to support and invite others to

# Just Married!

CCT welcomes wedding photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note\\_photo](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo). Congratulations!



1



2



3

INDIGO PHOTOGRAPHY



4

LAUREN O'BRIEN (SILVERFOX STUDIOS)



6



5

JONATHAN WILSON



7



1. John Connell '76 stands next to his daughter Erin Connell '13 at her wedding on September 7 in Mount Desert, Maine. Other alumni in the photo include Erin's siblings, Brigid Connell '16 and Will Connell '19.

2. Meredith Kirk '12 and Matthew Star '12 were married in Marfa, Texas, on September 14. Left to right: Brandon Thompson '12, William Leonard '12, Vanessa Nieto SEAS'12, Jeremy Bleeke '13, Jill Goodwin BC'12, John Goodwin '12, the bride, the groom, Khalil Romain '12, Karla Casariego '12, Cody Haefner '12, Brian LaPerche '12, Emily Drinker BC'12, Tom Kapusta '12, Donia Abdelaziz '12 and Alexa Goldson '12.

3. Kimberly Flores Gaynor '16 married Eric Gaynor GS'16 on August 24 in Walworth, Wis. Left to right: Damien Chang SEAS'16, Elizabeth Combs '15, the bride, the groom, Karissa Austin '16, Kristin Austin '16 and Eugene Kim '96.

4. Derek Squires '10 married Renee Squires at the Quogue Wildlife Refuge in New York on August 17.

5. On June 15, Holli Chopra '14 married Josh Faber GS'12 and the two attended Trenton, N.J.'s Art All Night.

6. On August 25, Neal Smolar '83 and Betsy Chutter Smolar BC'85's daughter was married in Paterson, N.J., with several CC'83 and BC'83 friends in attendance. Top row, left to right: Smolar, Len Rosen '83 and Adam Bayroff '83; and bottom row, left to right: Miriam Kushner BC'83, Steve Arenson '83, Eddy Friedfeld '83 and Larry Herman '83.

7. A big CC'08 (and Carman 8!) contingent traveled to Simi Valley, Calif., in September for Ben Teitelbaum '08's wedding.

8. Chuck Roberts '12 and Tyler Badgley were married at the Congressional Club in Washington, D.C., on September 14. Back row, left to right: Nettra Pan '12, Alyson Cohen '10, Matt Chou '14, Heather Hwalek '10, Dennis Martin '10, Alexander Harstrick '12, Sudeep Moniz SEAS'10, James Rathmell '12 and Nurriel Moghavem '11; and front row, left to right: Julio Enrique Herrera Estrada SEAS'12, Badgley, Roberts, Aki Terasaki '12 and Allie Wakefield '12.



CASSIDY DUHON

collaborate on a vision. It's far from perfect, but the relationships are really incredible.

"I've also been thinking about stories and the capacity for stories to heal. I have this belief that we're all healers, capable of healing ourselves, relationships, communities and the world. So much of how we see ourselves and the things around us is based on stories. I'm focusing on telling healing stories and hope to do this through the medium of film. Writing this, so much of my life feels uncertain at the moment; I have no idea about what the future holds for my community, my work, friends (many have left the Bay Area), love ... but it's never felt more interesting. And I'm curious.

"A friend sent me a quotation that I'll treasure for a while: 'Gratitude is not a virtue but a survival skill, and our capacity for it grows with our suffering. This is why it is the least privileged, not the most, who excel in appreciating the smallest of offerings.'"

## 2011

**Nurriel Moghavem and Sean Udell**  
[nurielm@gmail.com](mailto:nurielm@gmail.com)  
[sean.udell@gmail.com](mailto:sean.udell@gmail.com)

Howdy, 2011. We hope the winter brings you an opportunity to slow down, enjoy the holidays with your family, catch up on Netflix shows and relive the memories of cold walks back from 1020.

On to some updates! **Ben Philippe** is full-time faculty at Barnard, teaching film and TV writing within the TV department. He sold his first nonfiction collection of comedic essays, tentatively titled *Sure, I'll Be Your Black Friend*. He is teaching three courses: American drama, digital media and screenwriting.

**Amin Guevarra-Fernandez** graduated as a Dean's Scholar from New York Law School in May and sat for the New York bar exam in July. He recently celebrated his one-year wedding anniversary with Jenieve Guevarra-Fernandez '12. Amin began working with The Bronx Defenders as an immigration attorney in September.

Elsewhere in people on the right side of immigration law, **Nicole Catá** wrapped up her clerkship at the Staff Attorney's Office of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second

Circuit in August. In September, she joined the Immigration Intervention Project at Sanctuary for Families.

As a staff attorney, she helps people who have experienced gender-based violence secure and maintain lawful immigration status and obtain U.S. citizenship. In July, she caught up with **Paul Lerner**, a fellow CUMB alum, during her first trip to Montreal.

**Alex Ivey** joined Global Strategy Group in June as a senior director in its Washington, D.C., office. He's been relishing the return to Democratic electoral politics ahead of 2020 — this time as a pollster and strategist. Don't hesitate to reach out to him with any and all hot takes (just be sure to vote, as well).

**Ola Jacunski** was recently promoted to project leader at Boston Consulting Group, where she works with clients in financial services and pharma. When she's not building models or writing slides, Ola spends her time either reading stories or writing them. Her first short story was published earlier this year in the JordanCon Anthology under the pen name Alexandra Hill, alongside science fiction and fantasy greats like Brandon Sanderson and Seanan McGuire. Ola's always looking for her next great read — please reach out to share books you've loved!

Conductor, composer and loose character study **Teddy Poll** spent the summer with the inimitable and doubly named **Max Rifkind-Barron**. They worked furiously on putative queer'd history, manifesting in a new musical set in an underground drag cabaret in Paris in 1953, tentatively titled *Murder at le Coq sur le vol...* He has enjoyed Los Angeles, and remarks of the weather, "delicious!" and of the traffic, "oy!" We congratulate Teddy on submitting to us a Class Note that we can use unedited.

**Megan McCusker** bought her first house in Philadelphia and continues to run a successful coffee shop, Function Coffee Labs, with her husband, Ross Nickerson. They recently celebrated two years of marriage and three years in business! On nights and weekends, you can find Megan at weddings and corporate events working the new branch of her coffee biz — mobile coffee catering. As if running her own business weren't enough, Megan also holds a full-time day job as an accounting associate at her mother's CPA firm in Fort Washington, Pa. She is taking

accounting classes to gather enough credits to get her CPA license.

**Warren McGee** had quite the eventful summer. He (finally!) finished his Ph.D. in neuroscience at Northwestern and has returned to medical school, expecting to finish his M.D. at Northwestern in 2021. He also recently got engaged to his longtime girlfriend, Kathryn Brill BC'13! They are eagerly looking forward to their wedding, as are we!

**Simone Foxman** and **Benjamin Clark** recently traded the Big Apple for the Middle East, moving half-way around the world for Simone to become Bloomberg's correspondent in Doha, Qatar. She's covering Middle East news on Bloomberg TV and will also continue to write for Bloomberg's online and print media. They were able to catch up with a few fellow alums — including Jessica McKenzie BC'11, **Brendan Hannon**, **Jeremy Sklaroff**, **Linette Lopez '08**, **Kamal Yechoor SEAS'11**, **Alyssa Lamontagne** and **Taylor Owens** — ahead of the move. Simone and Benjamin are inviting any and all to hang out with them in Doha for the World Cup in a few years. Presumably they will have air conditioning.

We also have a CC'11 baby update: On May 22 (which was, appropriately, Commencement), **Brian Keith Grimes III** was born to **Zila Acosta-Grimes** and **Brian Grimes**. We saw the baby's picture and can confirm that he has an incurable case of pediatric cuteness.

**Ben Cotton** was on his honeymoon in Tanzania, blissfully ignoring Class Notes emails.

## 2012

**Sarah Chai**  
sarahbchai@gmail.com

Hey friends, a few folks promised to submit photos for this issue, so check out "Just Married!"

Speaking of weddings, congratulations are in order for **Brian Barwick**, who married Meaghan Robson on July 13 in his hometown of Laguna Beach, Calif. **Michael Loya**, **Stephanie Foster**, **Francisco Vega SEAS'12**, **Marisa Vega** and **Allyson Warner** were in attendance.

**Gillian Rhodes** shared an update: "I've been settled in Lahore, Pakistan, for a year and a half. Among various

dance and choreography projects, I've performed as a dancer and actor in multiple music videos (see my favorite at [bit.ly/2kIFHkL](http://bit.ly/2kIFHkL)), and this fall I had the opportunity to do choreography for a feature film that will be released next year!"

Hope to hear from many more of you in 2020!

## 2013

**Tala Akhavan**  
talaakhavan@gmail.com

Happy end of the year, CC'13 — best wishes for an awesome start to 2020!

**Dean Kowalski** is one of 20 castaways on *Survivor: Island Of the Idols* (season 39), which premiered on September 25.

Good luck, Dean!

Please send in a note. Your classmates want to hear from you!

## 2014

**Rebecca Fattell**  
rsf2121@columbia.edu

No news this time, but we wish you a happy start to 2020! Please make it a New Year's resolution to send in some news — cool trips, new jobs, fun hobbies, big life changes ... anything you want! Let's stay connected!

## 2015

**REUNION 2020**  
JUNE 4–6

Events and Programs Contact  
ccaa-events@columbia.edu

Development Contact  
ccfund@columbia.edu

**Kareem Carryl**  
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Hello, Class of 2015! We are getting closer to our five-year reunion (Thursday, June 4–Saturday, June 6)! The Reunion Committee is hard at work to ensure it's a great experience for everyone. I cannot wait to see you all there and to learn more about what you all have been up to! In the interim, please feel free to send me any life happenings — graduations, engagements, new jobs, cool adventures — anything! Feel free to send photos, as well!

I am happy to share that I am in my first year at Harvard Law School! It has been great thus far and I'm looking forward to what the next few years will bring.

Your classmates want to hear from you. Please submit updates by writing to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2016

**Lily Liu-Krason**  
lliukrason@gmail.com

Hey 2016, I've started following up on the nominations you're sending and am always so impressed and inspired by us as a group. Please keep them coming! By the time you see this, Homecoming will have passed, so feel free to also send me photos from that. Looking at the last few issues, these moments are to be treasured. Without further ado, updates from your classmates:

From **Richard Lee**: "I started really getting into blockchain and cryptocurrency in early 2017. A couple months later I quit my job and started Global Blockchain Innovative Capital (GBIC), a crypto fund with fellow Columbia alumni. We invest in cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum, as well as early-stage blockchain projects. We also started a consulting and advisory company underneath GBIC to diversify our exposure in the industry. It's been and will continue to be a wild ride through the ups and downs, as Bitcoin has gone as high as \$20K and as low as \$3K."

From **Jackie Dubrovich**: "Since graduation, I worked full-time at a media measurement and analytics company for three years while simultaneously training and competing on the national and international fencing circuit. I made the USA National Team this season and competed at both World Fencing Championships (our team won the bronze medal!) and the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru (our team won the gold!). I finished the season ranked number 2 in the country and am training full time for the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. Columbia has had a rich history of fencers competing at the Summer Olympics, and I hope to continue this tradition!"

From **Jared Greene '17**, **SEAS'17**: "The past few years have honestly been pretty all over the place. Finished the 3-2 program in 2017 (so am I really CC'16?), then built robots in Brooklyn for a bit before going to Guatemala City for a year to study the internet. After that I basically did the most cliché thing I could think of and worked at a cryptocurrency startup in San Francisco for a hot minute until moving for the fourth time in two years, this time to Seattle. Now I work on Starlink at SpaceX to make the internet globally accessible, and am waiting for any excuse to get a dog."

## 2017

**Carl Yin**  
carl.yin@columbia.edu

**Simon Schwartz's** startup, **Locasaur**, launched a platform to message with your favorite local businesses, with the goal of providing regulars with a direct channel to friendly faces at their spots and mom-and-pops with an unapologetically pro-local ally in tech. Locasaur is available in your app store and online, where you can search the user-generated database of local spots that stretches from Morningside to Japan.

**Shreyas Vissapragada** is in graduate school at Caltech studying planetary science. He's been working on a way to observe the atmospheric evolution of planets outside the solar system.

**Tolu Obikunle** launched a non-alcoholic wine company, **La Mère Beverage**. Products will be on sale broadly through e-commerce in January.

**Bianca Guerrero** shares, "I am still working on policy for Mayor Bill de Blasio, focusing on worker protections and climate issues. Our primary goal is working with the City Council to pass a paid personal time bill, which would guarantee two weeks of paid time off (separate from sick leave) for private sector workers. I also am meeting people (including Columbia alumni) and learning organizing skills as the lead volunteer for Elizabeth Warren in uptown Manhattan. I also help out on Jamaal Bowman's campaign to represent my old congressional district, NY-16. I was not into electoral politics at Columbia but I believe in both candidates, so I am doing what I can to help them win."





Christopher George '17 and Jonathan Koptev '17 were each awarded a Ferdinand C. Valentine Medical Student Research Grant in Urology; they are pictured here with the award and other winners.

"This past summer, I spent two weeks on the West Coast with two friends from the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation network. We visited the Bay Area, Yosemite National Park, Seattle, North Cascades National Park and Vancouver — it was incredible. I also visited Toronto and decided that Canada is an underrated tourist destination. I snagged last-minute tickets to CNN's climate town hall and, last but certainly not least, I got to see my favorite band — the recently reunited Jonas Brothers — live for the first time. I'm excited for whatever the next season brings!"

**Chris von Pohlot** and **Justin Bleuel** co-founded a company to make renting easier.

**Ethan Wu** shares, "As time passes, it seems to move more rapidly, day by week by month by quarter. I started architecture school this past fall, gratified to be starting with a beginner's mind again, but I find as I age my life's circumstances become closer to ones I once abhorred — aging coming not from the passing of days but from the heaping of responsibility and experience."

**Elena McGahey** had a fun weekend with **Ian Covert**, Mayank Mahajan SEAS'16, **Harsha Vemuri**, **Sahir Jaggi** SEAS'17, **Eunice Emeffa Kokor** SEAS'17, **Kanika Verma**, **Jake Kwok** and **Josh Keough**. She also started grad school this fall at UCSF and welcomes all Lions in the program to say hi!

**Christopher George** and **Jonathan Koptev** were awarded a Ferdinand C. Valentine Medical Student Research Grant in Urology for their summer research projects between their first and second year of medical school. Jonathan's project was titled "Assessing the Risk of Kidney Stone Formation Induced by Weight-Loss Diets" and Chris's project was titled "Quantifying the Association Between Nocturia and Cardiovascular Disease: Results from the Krimpen Study." Jonathan conducted his research at medical school (Rutgers) and Christopher conducted his at Erasmus University in Rotterdam, Netherlands. They both presented their respective research findings at the New York Academy of Medicine's Medical and Dental Student Forum on September 9.

## 2018

**Alexander Birkel** and  
**Maleeha Chida**  
ab4065@columbia.edu  
mnc2122@columbia.edu

**Cristina Frias** hopes everyone is excited for the season! She could never have imagined what a year and a half in the real world could bring. Cristina has a full year of work experience in software development under her belt, which means realizing how little she actually knows, she says. She's continued to swim by joining the Asphalt Green Masters program. And she hopes she'll be volunteering at the ASPCA soon to help out with some of the dogs and cats!

This past fall, **Tiffany Troy** and her father worked together with the help of many in the community on the first case in which a man got released by ICE on an employment anti-retaliation theory. Their quest for liberty did not come easy, but they had faith and never turned their backs on the dream they carry. On top of that experience, which turned into a poem, Tiffany celebrated her birthday in style with a coinciding publication, which she wrote in Dodge Hall last spring.

Since graduating, **Shawnee Traylor** dove over more Panamanian coral reefs (thankfully, no crocodiles this time), spent a season collecting water samples (and dodging leopard seals) in Antarctica, backpacked the glacier-studded mountains of Patagonia and sailed up into Greenlandic fjords — mostly in the name of science. She is a Ph.D. student in a joint program between MIT and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where she studies how important elements cycle between the ocean and atmosphere in the context of a changing climate.

**Sharel Liu** published an article in the architectural journal *Log* in August, "Community on Tap: The Commodification of Identity," which can be found for purchase on [anycorp.com/store/log46](http://anycorp.com/store/log46).

**Briley Lewis** is excited to be in her second year of graduate school at UCLA, even if that means she needs to start studying for her comprehensive exam. Other than research, she's been doing a lot of teaching and writing lately. Check out [astrobit.es.org/author/blewis](http://astrobit.es.org/author/blewis).

**Siena Bergt** has a feature film that was received into the Santa Fe Independent Film Festival.

## 2019

### REUNION 2020 JUNE 4–6

Events and Programs Contact  
[ccaa-events@columbia.edu](mailto:ccaa-events@columbia.edu)

Development Contact  
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**Emily Gruber**  
**Tj Aspen Givens**  
tag2149@columbia.edu  
eag2169@columbia.edu

An aspiring surgeon, **Hanya Qureshi** is a member of the Class of 2023 at the Yale School of Medicine. She is enjoying exploring New Haven while continuing to collaborate with the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative through her role as the founder and co-developer of the UN Ivy STEM Connect Program. Thus far, the program has impacted nearly 200 students. Hanya hopes to use her background to encourage girls globally to pursue STEM careers.

**Tre Gabriel** is preparing to go to grad school (a doctorate program in psych), while being a content specialist for a mental health company, The Flawless Foundation, and using his fifth year of eligibility to play football at his hometown school.

**Gowan Moïse** (now going by Will/William) moved to Santa Monica to start working at a boutique law firm specializing in intellectual property and complex commercial litigation. He spends his days reading case law, building damages models and chasing his roommate's French bulldog. He's still yet to go to the beach.

**Danny Hong** is pursuing an M.Sc. in innovation, entrepreneurship and management at Imperial College Business School. His master's program cohort at Imperial sees candidates representing 70 nationalities; he is one of two Americans in the program. In pursuing a master's, Danny says he looks forward to applying his Columbia background to cultivate innovative ideas with which to seek employment or to create his own company, as these are the requirements to officially achieve the master's from Imperial.

## Holler at Us in Haiku!

Core, one hundred years!  
What's a fun way to note it?  
Poetry from you.



We're celebrating the Core Centennial this year and would love to hear your memories of the Core Curriculum! But there's a catch — **you need to tell us in haiku**. Send your 5-7-5 recollections to [cct\\_centennial@columbia.edu](mailto:cct_centennial@columbia.edu), and we'll run our favorites in the next two issues' Class Notes.

# obituaries

## 1942

**Nicholas W. Cicchetti**, Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., a retired educator who earned a master's from TC; August 21, 2019.

**Abram Loft**, Amherst, Mass., a distinguished professor emeritus of chamber music; earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. from GSAS, in 1944 and 1950, respectively; February 1, 2019.

## 1946

**Evarts Cecil Erickson**, Wellfleet, Mass., a retired writer; September 28, 2019.

## 1953

**Morton Freilicher**, New York City, a retired lawyer who earned a degree from the Law School in 1956; August 7, 2019.

**Benjamin P. Roosa, Jr.**, Hopewell Junction, N.Y., an attorney; August 28, 2019. Memorial contributions may be made to Cardinal Hayes Home for Children, P.O. Box CH, 60 St. Joseph Dr., Millbrook, NY 12545 ([cardinalhayeshome.org](http://cardinalhayeshome.org)).

**Howard R. Williams**, Bloomfield, N.J., a humanitarian aid executive and adjunct professor at SIPA; September 25, 2019.

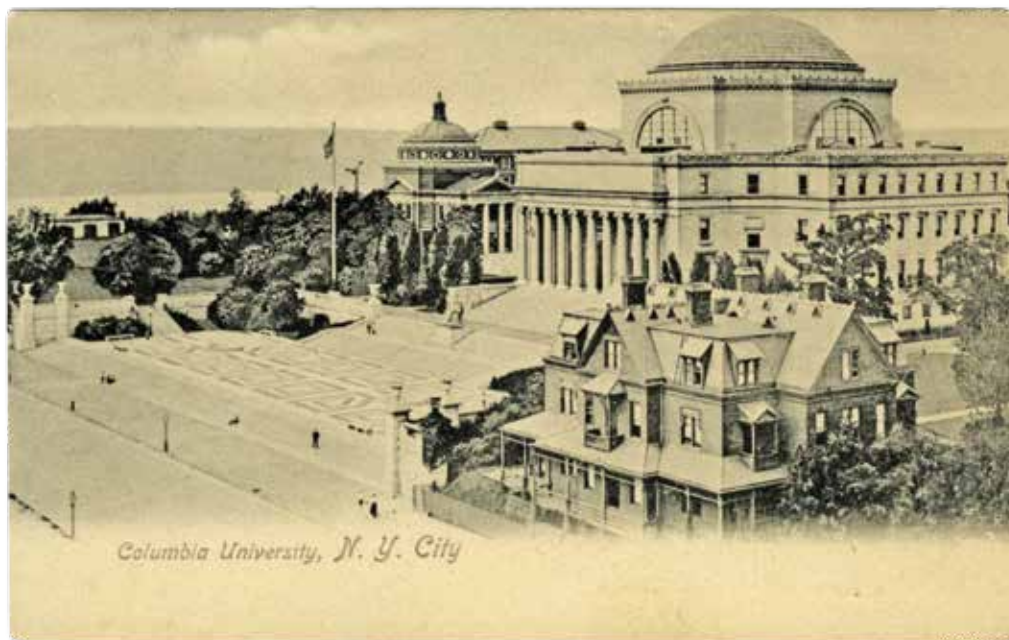
## 1956

**Charles W. Bostic Jr.**, Morrisville, N.Y., a retired vocational rehabilitation counselor; September 28, 2019.

**David M. Nitzberg**, Lake Forest, Ill.; February 26, 2019.

## 1957

**Richard J. Cohen**, San Francisco, a retired physician; December 25, 2018. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Beth Shalom, 301 14th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118 ([bethsholomsf.org](http://bethsholomsf.org)).



**Daniel I. Davidson**, Washington, D.C., earned a degree from the Law School in 1959; September 13, 2019.

## 1958

**Alfred R. Stein**, New York City; October 15, 2019.

**Jesus A. Suarez**, Stuart, Fla., a retired engineer; earned a B.S., M.S. and C.E., all from Columbia Engineering in 1960, 1962 and 1966, respectively; August 13, 2019.

## 1960

**William H. Engler**, Princeton Junction, N.J., a retired professor of English; earned an M.A. in 1965 from GSAS; August 17, 2019. Memorial

contributions may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society ([nationalmssociety.org](http://nationalmssociety.org)).

## 1961

**Arnold Chase**, Township of Washington, N.J., a retired attorney who earned a degree from the Law School in 1964; October 1, 2019. Memorial contributions may be made to any multiple myeloma or diabetes organization.

## 1966

**Stuart M Berkman**, Rio de Janeiro, a retired licensing and marketing executive who earned a degree from the Business School in 1968; January 25, 2019.

## 1969

**Michael S. Oberman**, New York City, an attorney; October 15, 2019. Memorial contributions may be made to Hope & Heroes ([hhccf.convio.net/goto/michaeloberman](http://hhccf.convio.net/goto/michaeloberman)).

## 1982

**John S.W. Dawson**, New York City, a director of marketing; October 13, 2019.

## 1991

**Patrick H. Flynn**, Wilmette, Ill., a co-portfolio manager of a high-yield strategies fund; April 23, 2019. Memorial contributions may be made to SitStayRead ([sitstayread.org](http://sitstayread.org)).

### OBITUARY SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

*Columbia College Today* welcomes obituary information for Columbia College alumni. Links or mailing addresses for memorial contributions may be included. Please fill out the "Submit Obituary Information" form at [college.columbia.edu/cct/content/contact-us](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/content/contact-us), or mail information to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl., New York, NY 10025.



## Immanuel M. Wallerstein '51, GSAS'59, Sociologist and Prolific Author

**Immanuel M. Wallerstein '51, GSAS'59**, a sociologist who transformed the field with his ideas about Western domination of the modern world and the very nature of sociological inquiry, died on August 31, 2019, at his home in Branford, Conn. He was 88.

Wallerstein was born to German parents on September 28, 1930, in Manhattan and grew up in the Bronx. He served in the Army 1951–53, and earned a master's in 1954 from GSAS. In 1955, the Ford Foundation awarded him a fellowship that allowed him to study in Africa; he continued to travel the continent after earning a Ph.D. in 1959, also from GSAS, and joining the Columbia faculty. Wallerstein wrote two books on Africa in the 1960s: *Africa: The Politics of Independence* and *Africa: The Politics of Unity*.

During Columbia's Spring 1968 uprising, he was part of a faculty committee that sought to mediate the situation. Based on those experiences, as well as other events in that tumultuous year, Wallerstein

wrote *University in Turmoil: The Politics of Change*, published in 1969. In 1971 he moved to Montreal to teach at McGill University, and then in 1976 became distinguished professor of sociology at SUNY Binghamton. He had been a senior research fellow at Yale University since 2000.

Wallerstein's doctrine of the world-system became an influential theory in the field. In 1974 he published *The Modern World-System I: Capitalist Agriculture and the Origins of the European World-Economy in the*



*Sixteenth Century*, the first of four volumes that took a broader sociological approach than was common at the time, favoring a global view that encompassed history and economic evolution.

World-systems analysis, as Wallerstein called his approach, occupied only a modest part of his scholarship. A 2011 book of essays on the impact of Wallerstein's work, *Immanuel Wallerstein and the Problem of the World*, considered Africa's influence on his thinking. "I had the gut feeling in the 1950s," he wrote in *The Essential Wallerstein* (2000), "that the most important thing that was happening in the 20th-century world was the struggle to overcome the control by the Western world of the rest of the world."

Wallerstein produced numerous other books, and also wrote on current events; in 2014 he delivered a lecture to more than 1,000 students in Iran, where his writings have been widely read.

A theme of activism ran through Wallerstein's career and his writings. "I have argued that world-systems analysis is not a theory but a protest against neglected issues and deceptive epistemologies," he wrote. He argued that no world-system lasts forever and that the current one is slowly disintegrating. For years he elaborated on these and other ideas on his website ([iwallerstein.com](http://iwallerstein.com)). On July 1, 2019, he announced that day's post was the 500th and last. He concluded by pondering the future, and whether the global change he predicted would come to pass: "I think there is a 50–50 chance that we'll make it to transformatory change, but only 50–50."

Wallerstein married Beatrice Friedman in 1964. In addition to her and his daughter, Katharine, he is survived by two children from his wife's previous marriage, Susan Morgenstern and Robert Morgenstern, and five grandchildren.

## John Giorno '58, Poet and Poetry Advocate, and Artists' Muse

**John Giorno '58**, who employed art and mass media to embed poetry more deeply in the fabric of everyday life, died on October 11, 2019, at his home in Lower Manhattan. He was 82.

"Possessed of Greco-Roman good looks and a gregarious, benevolent spirit," according to his *New York Times* obituary, Giorno played an important role early in his life as a muse to and lover of other artists, among them Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol.

Born on December 4, 1936, Giorno grew up in Brooklyn and Roslyn Heights, N.Y. He graduated from James Madison H.S. and to the end of his life spoke of the importance of the English teachers he encountered there. After the College, during a brief stint as a stockbroker, Giorno began to befriend artists and poets like Warhol and Ted Berrigan and filmmaker Jonas Mekas.

Giorno and Warhol were living together off and on when Warhol came up with the idea of filming Giorno asleep, naked. Warhol created his seminal 1963 film *Sleep* by focusing a mostly static camera on Giorno for more than five hours. Though the couple split in 1964, the movie — among the first footage Warhol shot and now considered an underground classic — linked them indelibly in postwar art history. But Giorno's lasting contribution to art came through his restless experimentations with the political potential of poetry, which he felt had been unjustly overshadowed by other genres of expression.

In 1965, Giorno founded the nonprofit Giorno Poetry Systems to promote his work and that of his peers. Four years later, inspired by a call with William S. Burroughs, he started Dial-A-Poem, a rudimentary mass-communication system for cutting-edge poets and political oratory. Reachable around the clock for anyone with a few minutes and a desire to be read to, millions of people called in. At a time when the art world and culture at large were still largely conservative, Dial-A-Poem was often unabashedly homoerotic.

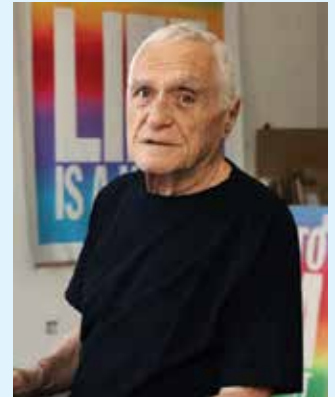
Giorno's own artwork drew heavily from the ideas of the found imagery that fueled the Pop revolution and also from the tradition of the ready-made — plain, found objects presented as art. Giorno mined news items and presented them virtually untouched as verse, as in his privately circulated 1964 collection *The American Book of the Dead*.

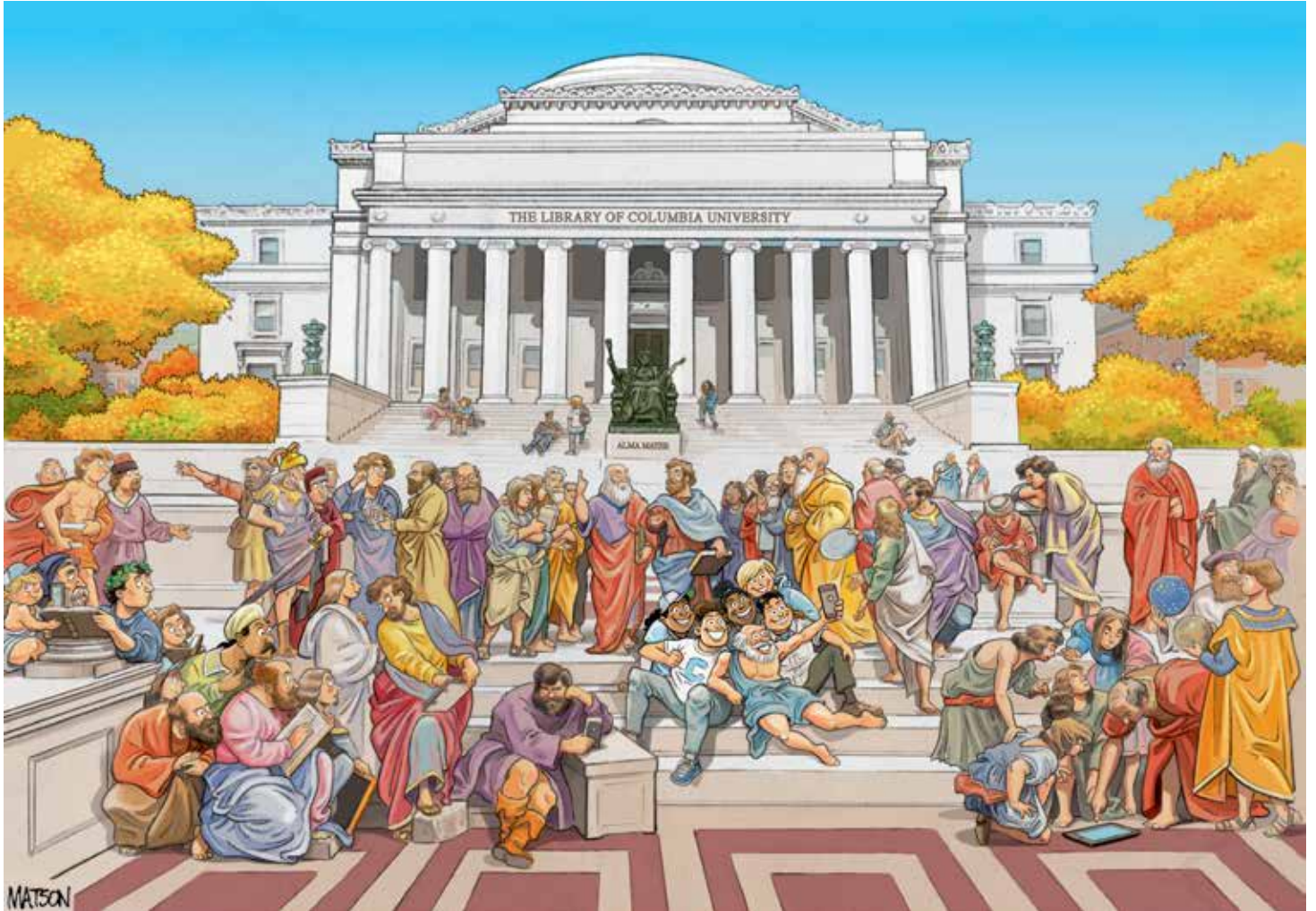
By 1962 Giorno had moved into a hulking Queen Anne-style building on the Bowery that had been built as the first YMCA and that then had a second life as a warren of studios for artists. He eventually occupied three spaces there, one of which was nicknamed "the Bunker" by Burroughs. For more than three decades, Giorno, a longtime practicing Buddhist, hosted annual gatherings in the building for hundreds of Tibetan Buddhist adherents.

Over several decades, Giorno Poetry Systems produced dozens of albums, videos and events of the work of Giorno and other writers, musicians and artists. In 1984 the foundation started the AIDS Treatment Project, which disbursed hundreds of thousands of dollars.

At the time of his death Giorno had been finishing a memoir, *Great Demon Kings: A Memoir of Poetry, Sex, Art, Death, and Enlightenment*, scheduled to be published next June.

Giorno is survived by his husband, Swiss artist Ugo Rondinone, who in summer 2017 produced the NYC exhibition *Ugo Rondinone: I ♥ John Giorno*, a sprawling, multi-part exhibition that presented, at 13 venues, Giorno's life and work, as well as work that he inspired.





## CORE CARTOON CAPTION CONTEST

In honor of the Centennial, we asked four artistic alums to take inspiration from the Core and provide a cartoon in need of a caption — one for each of our four issues this academic year.

This installment is by editorial cartoonist R.J. Matson '85.

The winning caption will be published in the Spring 2020 issue, and the winner will get a signed print of Matson's cartoon. Any College student or College alum may enter; no more than three entries per person. Submit your idea, along with your full name, CC class year and daytime phone, to [cct\\_centennial@columbia.edu](mailto:cct_centennial@columbia.edu) by Monday, February 10. And be sure to check out the Fall issue's winning caption on our Contents page.



“Thanks to generous alumni support, Columbia College provided me with funding to take an internship with a nonprofit media company that gives voice to at-risk children. This enabled me to explore my passions and expand my outlook for the future.”

— Deanna Cuadra CC’21, Shine Global



Core to Commencement is proud of the [Work Exemption Program](#), part of Columbia University’s enhanced financial aid program for students. Generous funding from alumni and parents provides qualified financial aid recipients expanded support to pursue meaningful unpaid or low-paid internships, research projects and community outreach work that helps them experience greater possibilities.

Support the Campaign:  
[college.columbia.edu/campaign](https://college.columbia.edu/campaign)



CORE TO  
COMMENCEMENT  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE



# REUNION2020

## LET'S ROAR IN THE '20S AT NEXT YEAR'S COLUMBIA REUNION



**JUNE 4–6, 2020**

All alumni are invited, with special events for milestone years  
that end in 0 or 5, and the Class of 2019

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