

ARCADIA

FALL 2019

MAGAZINE





26 The Power of Graphic Narrative

Arcadia's resident cartoonist talks about connecting with people through his art.



Have feedback for us?

Send comments, questions, or suggestions to Daniel DiPrinzio at diprinziod@arcadia.edu.

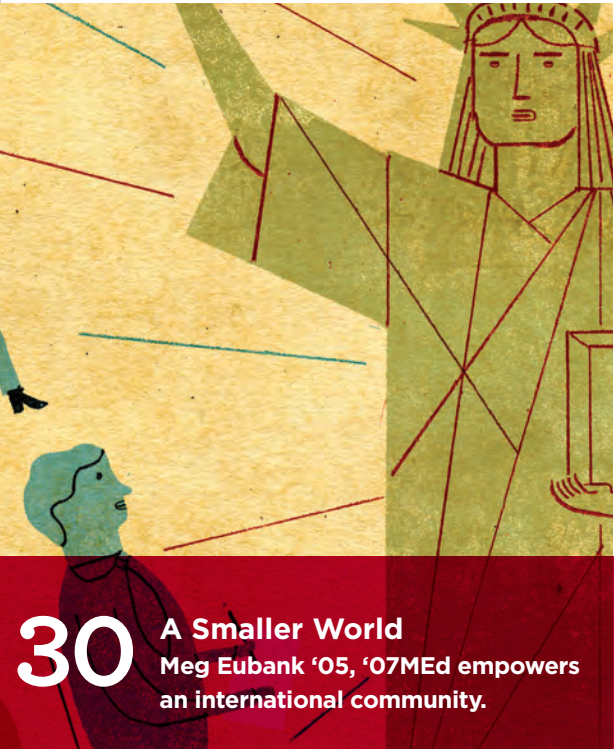
ON THE COVER

"After Rockwell," original artwork in ink by Jamar Nicholas (pg. 26)



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Meg Eubank '05, '07Med empowers an international community.



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President Nair at Alumni Weekend in May with Tom Hasani '15M; Christa Lane-Hooper '12M, MPH; and Steve Tyson '13M.

TO THE ARCADIA UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Since their inception, colleges have stood as incubators of innovation. Arcadia University is no different.

Arcadia students, alumni, faculty, and staff around the world have incorporated innovation into their scholarship, professional lives, and community initiatives. While we always have an eye to the future and to progress, we know that our advancement will forever reflect the bold spirit of the first two graduates of our institution, the Class of 1856’s **Sylvania Jones** and **Juliet A. Poundstone**.

These two women left their homes in Lafayette County as teenagers to pursue an education at the newly formed Beaver Female Seminary (pg. 52). Their legacy lives on through alumni such as **Meg Eubank ’05, ’07MEd**, **Dene Mitchell ’05, ’13MPH**, **Anita Feinberg ’74**, and others featured in this issue who have incorporated a bold vision, responsibility, justice, and integrity into their professional pursuits.

The innovative spirit that winds its way through our community is seen daily through faculty scholarship and guidance; through the actions of our students; in the generosity of our donors; in the time and energy given by alumni who mentor Arcadia students; and in the community initiatives that improve our lives. I am proud to continue the legacy that all of our alumni have set forth, and I am grateful to do so alongside you.

Sincerely,

Ajay Nair, Ph.D.
President

ARCADIA
MAGAZINE

- Editor**
Daniel DiPrinzio
- Art Director**
Dan Brumbach
- Associate Editor**
Jennifer Retter '16
- Campus News Editor**
Caitlin Burns
- University Photographer**
Natavan Werbock
- Contributors**
Caitlin Joyce '20
James Martin
Erin McLaughlin
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Jamar Nicholas
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Jeffrey Spence
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- @arcadia.university

Arcadia University
450 S. Easton Road
Glenside, PA 19038
215-572-2160
arcadia.edu/Magazine

A Day of Service

At Arcadia, first-year students volunteer with a variety of organizations during the Center for Community and Civic Engagement’s Day of Service. **Brittany Almeida** ’22, **Jayson Cortes** ’22, and **Evvie Thompson** ’20 took over Arcadia’s Instagram stories (@arcadiauniversity) during the event on Aug. 26.



DAY OF SERVICE
BY the NUMBERS

24
LOCATIONS IN GREATER PHILADELPHIA

323
STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

1392
HOURS SPENT AT NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Arcadia asked.
ALUMNI ANSWERED.

We want to hear from you!

Our Arcadia Survey will open Dec. 1. Your feedback will help us understand what you value most about Arcadia University. Each completed survey will be entered to win a \$25 Amazon gift card.



The Arcadia survey opens
DECEMBER 1

arcadia.edu/AlumniSurvey

NEWS+NOTES

CAMPUS | ALUMNI | COMMUNITY | GLOBAL | ATHLETICS | WORTHY OF NOTE | DONOR | Q&A



Graduate students prepare to receive their degrees on May 16.

Class of 2019 Ready to Inspire

A swimmer who suffered a blood clot in her brain, then placed in relays just six months later. A Criminal Justice major whose passion for inclusion in higher education paved the way for a career in Philadelphia's Office of Black Male Development. A single mother who fought the stigma of an early age learning disability diagnosis, earned her undergraduate degree as an honor society student, and crossed the stage for her 11-year-old daughter.

This is the Class of 2019. **Taylor Byers '19**, **Edwin Waters Jr. '19**, and **Denise Crimmins '19** were among the 892 graduates celebrated during Arcadia's 163rd Commencement ceremonies on **May 16 and 17**. In total, the University awarded 118 doctorate, 325 master's, and 449 bachelor's degrees.

"If people ever think you're unworthy, remember you're a Knight," said President **Ajay Nair**. "At Arcadia, we strive to be a reflection of the world we want to live in."

Dr. Valerie Arkoosh '19H, chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners and physician anesthesiologist, and **Dr. Michael S. Brown '19H**, regental professor of Molecular Genetics at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and Nobel Prize laureate, received honorary degrees for their dedication to improving the health and well-being of their communities. Dr. Brown traveled to campus with his wife, Beaver College graduate **Alice Lapin Brown '64**, during Commencement week to present "How to Win a Nobel Prize."

At the graduate ceremony, Physician Assistant alumna **Kaitlin Sterbenz '19M** received the A. Richard Polis Graduate Scholarship Award for her achievements in the field and at Arcadia. Professor of Historical and Political Studies **Dr. Warren Haffar** was honored with the Lloyd M. Abernethy Faculty Outstanding Service Award for his exceptional commitment to the University.

At the undergraduate celebration, Psychology graduate **Camille Menns '19** received the Senior Golden Disc Award for her leadership and dedication to the Arcadia community. In recognition of their academic accomplishments, Chemistry alumna **Gabrielle Elise DiEmma '19** and Performance Production and Design graduate **Evgeniia Elliott '19** were awarded the Ira R. Kraybill Awards for Full- and Part-Time Study, respectively. **Dr. Kalenda Eaton**, associate professor of English, earned Arcadia's Professor of the Year Award for her significant impact on her students' lives and careers.

Undergraduate class officers **Jordan Hardy '19** and **Michelle Mendia '19** announced that, as part of the Class of 2019 gift, the international flags around campus will be updated and refreshed. Flags representing other identities—including the LGBTQ and Pan African communities—will also be added.

"I hope you learned from your peers, who all have different stories that led them here," said Mendia. "And I hope we continue to inspire one another, even from afar." ❖

“

I hope we continue to inspire one another.

—Michelle Mendia '19

”



View additional photos at arcadia.edu/Multimedia

FIVE APPOINTED TO PRESIDENT'S CABINET

This year, the University appointed five individuals to leadership positions at Arcadia, solidifying the chief academic, development and alumni engagement, information technology, and finance roles, as well as a new position for strategic initiatives.

Dr. Jeff Rutenbeck, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs

Dr. Rutenbeck, who began his tenure at Arcadia on Aug. 15, previously served as dean of the School of Communication at American University, where he oversaw more than 110 full-time faculty and staff, 450 graduate students, and nearly 1,000 undergraduates in four academic divisions. Dr. Rutenbeck

was a full professor at American, founding dean and full professor in the Division of Communication and

Creative Media at Champlain College, and an associate professor of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Denver. An expert in digital media studies, he has published a book and dozens of refereed articles on topics including digitization, hyper-complexity, and media history.

Brigette A. Bryant, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations

A fundraising executive with more than three decades of experience, Bryant began her tenure at Arcadia on June 3. She previously served as the founding vice chancellor for University Advancement at the City University of New York, where she led fundraising efforts for the 25-campus system, supported an enterprise-wide advancement team, and managed a central office team. She secured several

major gifts at CUNY, including a \$1 million transfer scholarship for vulnerable students and a \$20 million gift to name the Newmark Graduate School of Journalism. Bryant also integrated a faculty and staff giving program with a more successful Giving Tuesday effort, resulting in nearly \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2019.

Rashmi Radhakrishnan, vice president and chief information officer

Radhakrishnan, who began her tenure at Arcadia on Aug. 15, leads and manages Arcadia's information technology (IT) efforts, assesses and plans for the University's long-term technology needs, and oversees cybersecurity initiatives for Arcadia's campuses around

the world. Radhakrishnan previously served as vice president of Digital Strategy and Infrastructure and CIO at Albright College, where she managed all aspects of campus technology, including enterprise applications and data, information security, infrastructure, and communications. In 2013, Radhakrishnan was named a Top IT Pro by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* for her use of performance analytics and dashboards across Thomas Jefferson University, where she served as associate vice president of Information Resources.

Joseph Sun, director of Strategic Initiatives

Sun, who joined the Arcadia community on June 3, is an adviser to President **Ajay Nair** and his leadership team, facilitating the University's strategic planning process, strengthening Arcadia's partnerships, and managing external evaluations. Most recently, Sun served as vice rector (provost) of Forman Christian College University in

Lahore, Pakistan. Prior to that, he spent 31

years at the University of Pennsylvania, serving as Penn Engineering's vice dean for Academic Affairs and Wharton School's director of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, among other roles. Fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese, Sun has taught courses in technology, leadership, research conduct, race and ethnic studies, Asian American studies, and Chinese rural development.

Joan Singleton, chief financial officer and treasurer

Starting Dec. 1, Singleton will manage the University's financial resources, leading nearly 100 employees in the offices of Human Resources, Institutional Planning and Budget, Facilities Management, Public Safety, and Auxiliary Services. In her previous position as chief financial officer at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif., Singleton oversaw resource allocation and

budgeting, financial analysis and strategy, debt

management, and cash flow optimization. Prior to that, Singleton served as vice president of Workforce and Organizational Effectiveness and Human Resources at the Milton Hershey School, where she facilitated a school-wide strategic planning process to increase enrollment, support student success, and engage parent and family sponsors. ❖

Office of Social Impact and Innovation Launched

As community stakeholders conceptualized Arcadia's vision and values, a common question emerged: How can we support and enhance the University's social impact initiatives?

Housed within the Office of the President, the Office of Social Impact and Innovation (SI²) was launched to support change agents who seek positive transformation locally and around the world. The office will work with faculty leadership to develop a framework for service-learning pedagogy and build essential partnerships with Arcadia's Development, Sponsored Research, and Community and Civic Engagement offices to secure funding and explore new opportunities.

Dr. Alison LaLond Wyant (left), who co-chaired the UKnighted Aspirational Committee and Social Innovation Task Force with Visual and Performing Arts Chair **Carole Loeffler**, assumed her role as founding director on Aug. 19. Dr. LaLond Wyant joined The College of Global Studies at Arcadia in 2012 as assistant dean for Experiential Education, a position she held until 2017 when she was appointed associate dean for Teaching and Learning. Prior to that, she held multiple positions at the University of Pennsylvania.

"During our visioning process, social impact emerged as a major theme and part of the fabric of our community," said President **Ajay Nair**. "Alison's background in social innovation and deep understanding of our community made her the ideal candidate."

Under Dr. LaLond Wyant's leadership, the Office of SI² will establish standards and guiding principles for social and civic engagement, global service-learning programs, and Arcadia's community partnerships. Dr. LaLond Wyant will also form an internal Advisory Board and lead a Community Advisory Committee to gather perspectives from and share the University's vision with external collaborators. ❖



For more information,
arcadia.edu/SI2

DR. OATIS NAMED PROFESSOR EMERITA

In recognition of more than 37 years of distinguished teaching, research, and leadership, **Dr. Carol Oatis** (right), professor of Physical Therapy, has been named professor emerita.

Before joining the Beaver College community in 1982, Dr. Oatis focused her research on knee osteoarthritis and functional performance. Since 2017, she has served as a co-principal investigator for a National Institutes of Health-funded project examining the intervention practices and patient characteristics that contribute to positive functional outcomes following total knee replacement.

In the field, Dr. Oatis' roles have spanned from acting director of the Human Motion Analysis Laboratory at Penn to co-founder and director of the Philadelphia Institute for Physical Therapy. Her expertise in biomechanics and kinesiology prompted her to publish the highly regarded textbook *Kinesiology: The Mechanics and Pathomechanics of Human Movement*.

A longtime member of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals (ARHP), Dr. Oatis has served on national committees to enhance physical therapy curriculum and research. She was president of ARHP in 2005, received the

organization's Master Educator Award in 2012, and was named a Master of ARHP in 2018.

At Arcadia, Dr. Oatis received the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1994 and the Lloyd M. Abernathy Faculty Outstanding Service Award in 2011. ❖



STUDENTS RESEARCH SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACT OF CRAFT BEER

Combine 165 pounds of American Pilsner malted grain, citra and lemon drop hops, American ale yeast, and 214 degree Fahrenheit water, and you've got the base of 1853 Pale Ale.

But any student in **Dr. Favian Guertin-Martin's** University Seminar course "Untapped: Exploring the Socio-Cultural and Scientific World of Beer" will tell you it's more than the ingredients; it takes dedication and time to create a delicious craft brew that they're proud to share Arcadia's legacy with.

In April, students put their recipe and patience to the test at Crooked Eye Brewery in Hatboro, Pa., where they started brewing 1853 Pale Ale under the direction of Crooked Eye's co-owner and beer expert Jeff Mulherin and brewer Steve Capobianco.

"People talk about how craft beer is better than the big corporation beers," said Healthcare Administration alumnus **Raoul Dhulehar '19**,

one of 20 Arcadia brewers. "This course has gotten me into the art of craft beer. There's so much more to it."

Students, all 21 and over, were involved every step of the way—from developing the flavor profile to cleaning out the pot still. "There was a big debate between the students on the citrus and tropical notes, so we combined them in this pale ale," noted Mulherin.

This is the second time that Dr. Guertin-Martin, assistant professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, has taught the course, which developed from research he conducted on the environmental sustainability of craft breweries and how they contribute to gentrification.

"I thought it would be interesting and fun to put together a University seminar on beer," said Dr. Guertin-Martin. "It's a booming industry, with over 6,000 craft breweries already in existence and several thousand more expected to open in the next few years. Pennsylvania is in the top five states for beer production."

1853 Pale Ale is named for the year Arcadia was founded as Beaver Female Seminary in Beaver, Pa. Last

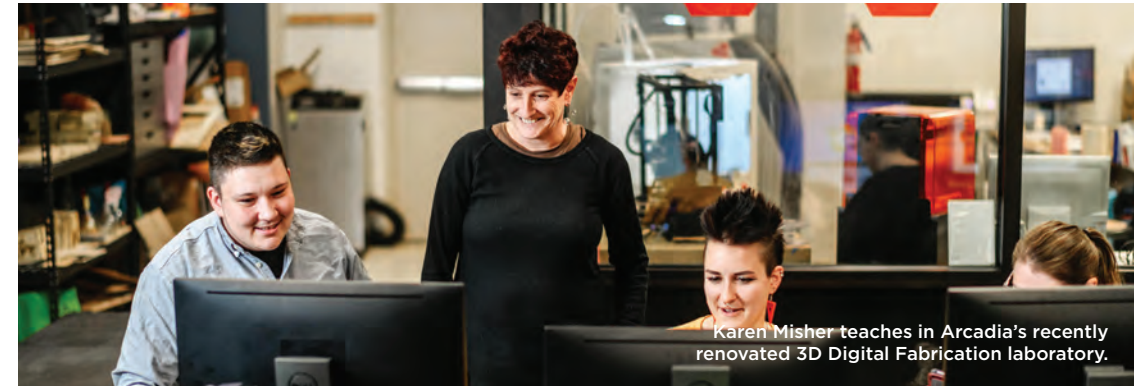
year, students brewed A Midsummer Knight's Ale, a red ale that paid tribute to the University's mascot and scarlet color.

The day of brewing yielded nearly five and a half kegs of 1853 Pale Ale, which was made available to the public at a release party on April 25, during which students discussed the impact breweries have on local communities and the region.

"I didn't know about the cultural aspects and the work that goes into opening a brewery," said Psychology alumna **Alex Strouse '19**, who is now helping her stepfather open a brewery in Allentown, Pa. "I don't really like beer, but it's been a good experience to understand the industry." ❖



Students learn brewing techniques at Crooked Eye Brewery.



Karen Misher teaches in Arcadia's recently renovated 3D Digital Fabrication laboratory.

Academic Affairs Supports Innovative Programming

Last November, an Innovative Programming Group was established by Academic Affairs to strengthen programs, identify areas for growth, and support pioneering opportunities. Its work led to Arcadia's first Innovative Programming grants, designed to help faculty and staff demonstrate feasibility, develop proposals, and generate resources for dynamic projects.

"Arcadia's ability to continue creating innovative academic programming will play an important role in fostering a University that is as vital, forward-looking, and successful as it can be," said Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Faculty Affairs **Dr. Rebecca Kohn**, who chaired the group in her interim role as Special Assistant to the President.

This year, the Innovative Programming grants will provide resources to explore:

AGRIBUSINESS MINOR

Associate Professor and Chair of Biology **Dr. Naomi Phillips** and the School of Global Business' Assistant Professor and Chair **Dr. Annette Halpin** and Associate Professor **Dr. Raghu Kurthakoti** will collaborate on a minor for students interested in both agricultural science and business.

APPLIED BIOLOGY TRACKS

Dr. Phillips will also work with Associate Professors of Biology **Dr. Chris Binckley** and **Dr. Lauren Howard** to expand career options for students through Conservation Ecology, Molecular Biology, and Biochemistry concentrations.

DATA ANALYTICS MAJOR/MINOR

Psychology's Associate Professor and Chair **Dr. Christina Brown**, Assistant Professor **Dr. Katherine Moore**, and

Professor **Dr. Steve Robbins** will work with Computer Science and Mathematics' Associate Professor and Chair **Dr. Carlos Ortiz** and Associate Professor **Dr. Yanxia Jia** to engage students interested in analyzing large data sets.

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM

Dr. Michael Morrow, associate professor and director of the Counseling program, and **Dr. Allison Harris**, assistant professor of Physical Therapy, will develop mental health care approaches for physical therapy patients.

INTERDISCIPLINARY DESIGN SPACE

Associate Professor of Art and Design **Karen Misher** (*above*) will work with constituents across campus to support 3D printing and cutting-edge design projects.

PUBLIC ART LAB AND ARTIST RESIDENCY

Building on the success of Arcadia's mural projects, Associate Professor of Art and Design **Abbey Ryan '03** and Adjunct Professor **David Guinn** will brainstorm ways to increase engagement with the Glenside community and develop an artist-in-residence program.

BIOTECH TRAINING PROGRAM

Associate Professor **Dr. Sheryl Smith** and Assistant Professor **Dr. Christina Swanson** of the Biology Department will develop a summer research program for students who are underrepresented in biotechnology internships and careers.

URBAN TEACHER PIPELINE

Dr. Marc Brasof, the 2019-2022 Rosemary and Walter Blankley Endowed Chair in Education, and Director of Field Experiences and Outreach **Dr. Priscilla Jeter-Iles '09EdD** will implement a pipeline to prepare culturally diverse students to teach in urban schools. ❖

Online Education Program Launched

The role of early childhood educators is changing, and Associate Professor and Director of Early Childhood Education **Dr. Foram Bhukhanwala** (*below*) is putting Arcadia at the forefront of the field.

The University received \$143,934—from a grant provided by the William Penn Foundation to the Public Health Management Corporation—to implement an online program that enables full-time educators to transition from associate to bachelor's degrees without leaving their careers. Dr. Bhukhanwala and **Dr. Kathy Trainor '93MED**, adjunct professor of Education, collaborated with the Community College of Philadelphia to facilitate the pathway. "[The faculty] recognize that we're already doing the work," said **Corrine Bale '21**, who chose Arcadia's program for its flexible two-year track. "We need programs like this for people in the field who just need a little support to go for their degrees." ❖





Special Athletes Go for Gold

Smiles and laughter abounded on April 7 as special needs athletes from around the region filled the Kuch Center for Sportsfest, an annual one-day athletic clinic that allows athletes to expand their skills in swimming, basketball, martial arts, soccer, dance, and volleyball.

At the event—co-hosted by Arcadia Special Athletes Association (ASAA) and Rotary Special Athletes, a branch of the Glenside Rotary that works in conjunction with Special Olympics Pennsylvania—coaches and attendees cheered on athletes as they scored goals, shot baskets, and practiced their serves.

“I’ve always called the Arcadia Special Athletes Association one of the University’s best-kept secrets,” said **Dave Paone ’04, ’09MEd**, a certified coach with Special Olympics. “The organization is gold; anything it touches is just wonderful.”

Many Thursday evenings throughout the year, you can hear similar cheers emanating from Bryn Athyn Church School, as coaches work with athletes as part of the Special Olympics volleyball program. In 2001, the Sportsfest tradition was launched as an annual wrap-up event to celebrate the athletes’ progress.

“The reason for the group is to realize that the athletes are just like you,” said the organization’s 2018-19 President and Computing Technology major **Nick**

McMullen ’19, who tagged along with a classmate to an ASAA meeting during his first year at Arcadia. “I became close with one of the athletes, Dean, and kept going back to see him and make new friends.”

McMullen’s experience is shared by many of the coaches, whether they joined the ASAA staff 30 years ago or have only a few years under their belts. With nearly 80 athletes at volleyball practice every Thursday, the eight to 10 rotating volunteers play a vital role in maintaining a fun, inclusive environment.

But for Sportsfest to run smoothly, more volunteers are needed—and Arcadia students, alumni, and Athletics representatives have answered the call.

The collaboration between Rotary Special Athletes and ASAA started in 1988 when **Dr. Raymond Rose**, retired professor of Biology and a Glenside Rotarian, saw an opportunity for Beaver College students to make a difference in the community.

In the days before email, Dr. Rose relied on word of mouth to get students involved. **Kerry Costello Leraris ’92, ’94MEd**, president of the Arcadia University Alumni Association, remembers Dr. Rose offering volunteer work as extra credit in his introductory Biology course.

“I grew up with one of the athletes,” said Costello Leraris, who couldn’t pass up the extra credit opportunity. “We were both 17 when we started, and we’re still close friends—closer than many of the people I grew up with in New York.”

Moved by her experience, Costello Leraris—originally a Pre-Med student—changed her major to Psychology with a Special Education certification. Instead of going home to Newburgh, N.Y., after graduation, she became a special education teacher in Glenside and stayed active with Rotary Special Athletes.

“My class schedule revolved around being available for practices,” recalled Costello Leraris. “I even made a deal with a math professor that, as long as I passed the midterm and final with an A and tutored another student, I could skip Thursday night classes.”

Similar to Costello Leraris, Paone—who was introduced to the program by Dr. Rose when he needed to complete community service hours after being caught at a party—made ASAA practices a priority.

“Dr. Rose’s passion was for Special Olympics and its connection to Beaver College,” said Paone, who continues to lead practices 19 years later. “One of the biggest highlights for me is how much Sportsfest has grown. When it first started, there were only 12 to 15 athletes playing volleyball; now, we have 50 to 80 athletes participating in a variety of sports.”

Arcadia volunteers played an instrumental role in this growth. Currently, nine of the weekly volunteers for Rotary Special Athletes are Arcadia alumni who began volunteering as part of the student association.

The collaboration is also strengthened by Arcadia’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. During a men’s lacrosse game last spring, Rotary athletes hosted a kickball game at halftime. Additionally, ASAA and Rotary Special Athletes collaborate on year-round social events, including a holiday party and Valentine’s Day dance.

“The athletes are so full of joy and appreciate everything,” said Dr. Rose, who retired from Arcadia in 2007 after teaching for 37 years. “They celebrate every success.”

After having open-heart surgery as a sophomore, McMullen dedicated himself to ASAA. Now in his last semester at Arcadia, the New Durham, N.H., native plans to become a certified coach and transition to Rotary Special Athletes after graduation.

“I find such fulfillment from it,” said McMullen, who recently earned his nursing assistant license. “We want the athletes to realize that they are included in our community, have a home here, and are always welcome at Arcadia.”

Special Olympics Montgomery County gold medalist swimmer Brian Quinn—who’s participated in the program for more than 26 years—is one of the many athletes finding fulfillment, too.

“I love Sportsfest,” said Quinn, who has Down syndrome. “All of my friends are here.”

The camaraderie between the athletes and coaches is palpable, often bringing Arcadia alumni back for Sportsfest.

“I had to come back to see the athletes—I loved working with them,” said **Maria Magor ’18**, president of ASAA from 2016 to 2018. Magor, who now works with children on the autism spectrum, couldn’t miss what she calls the “biggest event of the year” for Rotary athletes.

For longtime volunteers like Costello Leraris and Paone, the athletes are part of their families. Everyone pitches in to provide care. Many share in the joy of major events, like weddings. Costello Leraris even opened her home when the mother of one of the athletes broke her hip.

“For me, it’s not a ‘coaching’ thing,” said Costello Leraris. “You feel the love. You could be gone for a week or a month, and the athletes always remember.”

As for the future of ASAA? Psychology major and volleyball student-athlete **Mackenzie Hale ’20**, who was drawn to the organization at last year’s activities fair, will now serve as co-president.

“I was involved with an organization like this at home, and I wanted to make sure I had something like it here,” said the St. Louis, Mo., native. “Seeing the smiles on their faces when they do something they didn’t know they could do is amazing.” ❖

“

The athletes are so full of joy and appreciate everything.

They celebrate every success.

—Dr. Raymond Rose

”

Rotary athletes participate in Sportsfest at Kuch Alumni Gymnasium.



“I’ve always called the Arcadia Special Athletes Association one of the University’s best-kept secrets.”

—Dave Paone ’04, ’09MEd

”



“
It’s really cool
to be entering
unknown territory.”

—Deanna Bigio ’20

SOME OF HEMP’S
MANY USES



CANNABIDIOL



TEXTILES



HEMP MILK



PAPER

Hemp Research Buds on Campus

In April, Arcadia launched a collaborative program with Agri-Kind Hemp, an organization committed to advancing the medical cannabis industry. One of eight colleges and universities in Pennsylvania involved in such a program, Arcadia will lead studies on the life-cycle of industrial hemp crops—a burgeoning research area that could expand academic opportunities for students and faculty.

“It’s really cool to be entering unknown territory,” said **Deanna Bigio ’20** (above), one of three Biology majors hired to work in the greenhouse this summer. “Since this type of research only became legal recently, it gives students a chance to create an industry from the ground up.”

Bigio and members of Arcadia’s Biology Department conducted growth and harvest research throughout the summer, comparing seed varieties, cultivation processes, and a robust range of strains. Now, as harvest season approaches, students and faculty will address research questions related to propagation, review the best strains for production in Glenside, perfect their tissue culture work, and conduct genetic modification experiments.

With low tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) levels, hemp—a source for food, oils, and textiles—opens research outlets for a range of academic programs, from Global Business to Psychology. Forensic Science, for example, plans to explore cannabidiol (CBD), a chemical with the potential to alleviate pain, anxiety, and depression.

“As this relationship grows, we anticipate opportunities for faculty in many departments at Arcadia to support student research in these areas and develop research programs around this collaboration,” said **Dr. Naomi Phillips**, chair of Biology and faculty leader for the project.

To support such growth, Agri-Kind Hemp will ensure compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies set forth by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, and Arcadia, which received an Industrial Hemp Research Program permit from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. ❖



For more information,
agri-kind.com

AMILL ’18 ACTS FOR SHARED HUMANITY

For Theater Arts and Gateway/ACT 101 alumnus **Wilfredo “Freddy” Amill ’18** (below), community, justice, and performance are inextricable.

This year, Amill toured with Delaware Shakespeare, a professional theater company focused on educational programming for diverse audiences that can explore their shared humanity through works of the famed playwright. Amill—the youngest of nine actors featured in *The Merchant of Venice*—traveled to homeless shelters, correctional facilities, community centers, libraries, schools, and veterans organizations, performing in makeshift spaces and hosting discussions about anti-Semitism.

“Following our first performance at a prison, we learned about the synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh,” said Amill, who will star as Romeo in

the company’s production of *Romeo and Juliet* this fall. “It was hard to hear after the work we’d been doing, but [that] made it that much more important.”

Since graduating, Amill has performed in Flying Quilt Productions’ *Day of Absence*, a satire on race and prejudice; Philadelphia Young Playwrights’ monologue festival, through which he helped elevate student voices; and Simpatico Theatre’s *RED BIKE*, a reflection on youth change agents that inspired a middle school workshop series.

This fall, Amill will also join the cast of Power Street Theatre’s *Minority Land*, a production examining gentrification in his hometown of North Philadelphia. An activities coordinator for Hunter Elementary School and a member of Norris Square Community Alliance, Amill facilitated a collaboration with After School Activities Partnerships (ASAP) to ensure theater is accessible for youth in his neighborhood.

“My kids won medals at ASAP Drama’s end-of-year festival,” Amill said. “Watching them step out of their comfort zones was unbelievable. I hope they continue to find the joy I saw when they performed for the rest of their lives.” ❖

Mendoza ’18 Supports STD Prevention in Guam

As a public health associate for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Healthcare Administration alumna **Dulce Mendoza ’18** is implementing HIV, STD, and viral hepatitis prevention services to reduce high-risk behaviors and decrease incident rates in Mangilao, Guam.

“Pacific Islanders are disproportionately affected by sexually transmitted diseases,” said Mendoza, who provided rapid-testing and counseling to more than 100 patients this year. “Clinic hours, cost, transportation, confidentiality, and stigma create barriers and lead to missed opportunities for finding and preventing infections.”

Mendoza, who completed Global Public

Health and Biology minors at Arcadia, also coordinates outreach events to reach vulnerable populations, including adolescents and LGBT community members. She manages the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services’ “*Prutebi Hao!*” social media campaign, designed to inform community members about STD resources.

“At Arcadia, I wasn’t limited to focusing on the scientific aspects of health education,” said Mendoza. “I applied what I learned in the classroom to real-life settings. The liberal arts environment helped pave my path.” ❖



Poster courtesy of
Delaware Shakespeare

Mendoza (center)
at Tiyan High School’s
health fair in
Barrigada, Guam.



“
I applied what
I learned in
the classroom
to real-life
settings.”

—Dulce Mendoza ’18

About the Goldwater Scholarship

Each year, the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation recognizes sophomore and junior students pursuing mathematics, engineering, or natural science careers. The scholarship program, created to foster and encourage outstanding students, honors Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman.

Kalya Sansevere is one of 496 students, from a pool of more than 5,000 applicants, to receive this prestigious award. ❖



Sansevere in Arcadia's Attention, Memory, and Cognition Lab.

Goldwater Scholar Researches Distracted Driving

Ever take your eyes off the road when your cell phone buzzes?

Kalya Sansevere '20 wants to know why—and her research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) might help psychologists better understand distracted driving, ranked the leading cause of death for adolescents by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Through fMRIs and driving simulations, Sansevere examined the physical and cognitive responses associated with distracted driving in teens. Her preliminary results revealed that young drivers were more likely to glance away from the road in response to cell phone notifications, compared to those whose eye behaviors were examined without such distractions.

At CHOP's annual Center for Injury Research and Prevention Student Research Day, Sansevere focused her presentation on the oculomotor factors that contribute to risky behaviors in young drivers. She was awarded a travel grant for presenting one of the top

five-minute talks, allowing her to share research updates at an upcoming academic conference.

It was a big year for the Psychology major: Sansevere is also the first Arcadia student to receive the prestigious Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation award for exceptional students pursuing mathematics, engineering, or natural science careers.

"It was so affirming to see that the foundation thinks I have what it takes to succeed in my career and research," said Sansevere, who will put the \$7,500 scholarship toward tuition, textbooks, and academic fees. "I think sometimes students feel like they can't compete for these prestigious awards because we're a small school, but I'm proof that you can."

At Arcadia, Sansevere works in the Attention, Memory, and Cognition Lab with Assistant Professor of Psychology **Dr. Katherine Moore** and alumna **Katie Jobson '18**, exploring the effects of perceived light changes on visual search. In addition to continuing at CHOP as a research assistant, Sansevere plans to study how cognitive development influences eye behavior in response to cell phone notifications for her senior thesis. ❖



For more information,
goldwater.scholarsapply.org

PARK '21 FIGHTS POVERTY THROUGH INTERNSHIP

Passionate about foreign policy, International Studies major **Rachel Park '21** (*right*) landed an internship with the Borgen Project, a nonprofit dedicated to eradicating hunger and poverty around the world. As an international affairs intern, Park supported national campaigns to make global poverty a focus of U.S. foreign affairs.

In addition to networking with leaders at the Human Rights Education Institute, Park met with the offices of Pennsylvania Representative Brendan Boyle and Idaho's Senators Jim Risch and Mike Crapo to discuss the Food for Peace Modernization Act, which would help the United States Agency for International Development reallocate overhead costs to feed nine million more people.

Park also spearheaded a "One Mile Campaign," spreading the Borgen Project's message on-foot in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The experience prompted Park to select classes at Arcadia geared toward community advocacy, including Associate Professor of Historical and Political Studies **Dr. Hilary Parsons Dick's** "Migration Politics" course.

"[My classes] have shown me the value of community-based research and grassroots campaigning, specifically with marginalized peoples I hope to work with," said Park, who has since been appointed Dr. Parsons Dick's

research assistant for a project supported by The Frank and Evelyn Steinbrucker Endowed Chair. In her new role, Park will help Dr. Parsons Dick examine President Donald Trump's immigration discourse and conduct an ethnographic study of the U.S. Immigration Policy's effect on Latin American migrants in Philadelphia.

The Steinbrucker Chair is held for two years by a faculty member who has a distinguished record of teaching, professional achievements, and service to the University. Projects must fulfill one or more elements of Arcadia's mission by enhancing curriculum, pedagogy, and/or student-faculty engagement. ❖



For more information,
arcadia.edu/SteinbruckerChair

Nominations Being Accepted for the 2020 Dr. Finbarr O'Connor Prize for Shifting the PARADIGM

The O'Connor Prize is a \$10,000 award presented annually at Arcadia University's Honors Convocation to members of the Arcadia community—students, alumni, faculty, staff, and parents—who challenge conventional thinking, solve problems in their field, or address issues in their local and global communities through discovery, critical analysis, logic, and creativity. It recognizes change agents who have used innovation to create fundamental change, shifting the paradigm they faced.

The O'Connor Prize is established through the philanthropic support of **Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D. '79, '18H** and his wife, **Laurie Pitchford**, and is named in honor of **Dr. Finbarr "Barry" O'Connor**, professor emeritus and former chair of Religion and Philosophy.

Nominations are now being accepted for the inaugural O'Connor Prize. Nominees must submit a one-page entry answering each of the questions at right by Feb. 15, 2020. All entries must include the nominee's name, phone number, email address, and relationship to the University. Nominees may be individuals or groups.

1. What is the paradigm?
2. How did the nominee shift the paradigm?
3. What is the objective evidence that a paradigm shift has occurred?
4. What is the objective evidence that the paradigm shift has improved well-being in the community?
5. How is the nominee planning to shift the paradigm further?

Nominations may be submitted
at arcadia.edu/OConnorPrize.

DABOH '11M GUIDES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SIERRA LEONE

As director general of the Sierra Leone Local Content Agency, International Peace and Conflict Resolution alumnus **Fodeba Daboh '11M** (*right*) ensures that indigenous citizens are given unique employment opportunities and included in the country's economic development plans.

"There have been reports that Sierra Leone's economy is growing, but it's not translating to employment and business opportunities for in-country residents," said Daboh, who oversees the linkage and compliance of foreign direct investment for the agency, established in 2016 to support the country's expanding economy.

As a graduate student at Arcadia, Daboh—a native of Sierra Leone who fled civil war in the 1990s—interned with Heifer International, an organization dedicated to ending global poverty. Since then, he has served as an adjunct professor of Historical and Political Studies at Arcadia, co-leading Global Field Study courses for students to learn about poverty in Sierra Leone.

"For me, poverty means people are unsure about whether they'll get a meal," said Daboh, who hopes



that his role will foster stronger ties between Arcadia and Sierra Leone. "It's people dying because they can't get clean water, or children dying from easily preventable diseases. I'm privileged and honored to promote the concept of local content by ensuring that Sierra Leoneans take ownership of the economy." ❖

Malamut '10, McGee-Crane '10 Broaden Global Perspectives

Study abroad launched the careers of **Amanda Malamut '10** and **Caitlin McGee-Crane '10**—and an international movement to make quality education accessible in Equatorial Guinea, West Africa.

While volunteering in Malabo in 2008, the International Studies alumnae learned that

students in Equatorial Guinea completed, on average, 4.2 years of elementary education, with nearly 40 percent dropping out of primary school. The cost of uniforms, supplies, and classroom resources inhibited many from continuing their studies.

As juniors, Malamut and McGee-Crane established Simply Equal Education (SEE), a nonprofit that ships supplies to six primary schools in Equatorial Guinea, improving retention rates and reducing costs for underserved students. Dedicated to broadening global perspectives, the duo also organizes interactive

workshops, presentations, and service projects to help adolescents in the United States and Canada understand their roles as change agents.

"It's not just a piece of paper or a pencil," said McGee-Crane. "It's about a student learning to write their name for the first time, or a kid being able to draw a picture to take home for their parents. Simply, an equal education for all."

Since its inception 10 years ago, the organization has expanded to offer SEE Me Read, a nationwide read-a-thon that promotes global literacy; Change Your World, a challenge for students to pitch socially innovative ideas; and the Dear Friend program, which connects pen pals from North America and Equatorial Guinea to foster cultural appreciation.

"We were inspired to help children worldwide learn what it would be like to grow up in a developing country," said Malamut. "We see a world where every individual, no matter their age or status, understands that they are capable of making a difference." ❖



For more information,
simplyequaleducation.org



McGee-Crane (*center, left*) and Malamut (*center, right*) at a SEE site in Equatorial Guinea.

A Women's Garden Grows in Guatemala

Dedicated to reducing food insecurity and increasing nutrition quality in Guatemala, Master of Public Health candidate **Tayyaba Javed Bhatti '20MPH** (*right*) helped establish a community garden—supported by the Marie-Louise and Eugene Jackson International Fund for Student and Faculty Development—at Masroor Academy in Alotenango.

El Jardin de las Mujeres ("The Women's Garden") was launched in collaboration with Humanity First Guatemala, an organization that supports in-country health and human development projects. The garden provides fresh, organic produce and educational resources, reflecting Bhatti's commitment to social responsibility, community engagement, and improving health outcomes in Guatemala.

"My international internship helped me gain leadership experience in the public health field and successfully initiate a project that serves a vulnerable population," said Bhatti, who met with municipality workers, Masroor faculty, and local families to address the most pressing threats to their health. With the help of local staff, she created a gardening book for students to learn more about agriculture, nutrition, and cooking.

Since its inception, El Jardin de las Mujeres has also helped reduce stress, risk of chronic diseases, and the community's environmental footprint. Within the next year, Bhatti hopes the project will expand to include health and sustainability camps.

The Jackson Fund, established by **Marie-Louise Vermeiren Jackson '09H** and her family's Fourjay Foundation, helps students and faculty in STEM and health science fields participate in international experiences and enact change abroad. ❖



For more information,
healthgardenhf.wordpress.com

THROUGH LONDON CENTER, DOMBROSKI '20 INVESTIGATES U.K. MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Through her research writing course at Arcadia, **Amanda Dombroski '20** (*right*) developed an interest in mental health policy—one she couldn't shake when she secured a position at a criminal law firm through The College of Global Studies' London Internship program.

While compiling evidence and attending legal proceedings, Dombroski—a History and Politics, Government, and Law double major—noted how mental health factored into court rulings. She broached the topic with her adviser and colleagues, who helped her build the foundation for a socio-political analysis of policies in England and Wales.

Supported by faculty at Arcadia's London Center, Dombroski unraveled a history of unethical treatment and stigmatizing rhetoric born from attitudes suggesting that mental illness was a social issue, rather than medical. Her research considers how the evolution of post-traumatic stress disorder treatment in the wake of World War II led to the deinstitutionalization movement.

Though access to mental health care and efforts to support marginalized communities have expanded, Dombroski stressed the need for services that consider the range of populations affected by mental illness. Her research recommendations call for stricter regulations to ensure that those seeking treatment receive adequate care to manage their conditions.

"My study barely scratched the surface," said Dombroski, who plans to conduct similar research for her thesis and hopes to earn her law degree in London after graduation. "Having the ability to research a topic of interest to me, work at my own pace, and have a wonderful support network has given me much-needed confidence in my academic abilities." ❖





Braas '21 Tops Nation in Hitting Percentage

Volleyball's **Austin Braas '21** (below) was recognized as the NCAA Division III statistical champion for hitting percentage. The Knights' first men's volleyball player to be named All-American, Braas led Arcadia to a 26-11 record and the program's first NCAA tournament appearance.

With a .474 hitting percentage last season, Braas was one of only 12 players nationwide to hit .400 or better. Braas is the sixth Knight to earn an NCAA statistical title, and the first since softball's **Laura Fencik '07** led the nation in home runs in 2005. ❖



Volleyball, Softball Clinch MAC Championships

In just their third season of competition, men's volleyball outlasted Stevenson University to win the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Championship and qualify for the NCAA Tournament.

Volleyball's **Quinn Bailly '21** was named MVP after a 15-kill, 9-dig performance in the finals.

Jason Manley '20 added a season-high 20 kills, and **Austin Braas '21** chipped in 14 kills and six blocks while hitting .550. The Knights ultimately fell to Rivier University in the first round of the tournament.

In May, softball dominated Widener University to advance to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in



program history. **Kylee Schwind '20** pitched her third shutout in as many games, allowing just one hit and striking out eight players. Schwind was named MVP after posting a 3-0 record.

Their historic season ended in the Ewing Regional, when inclement weather and unplayable field conditions prompted the NCAA to advance Randolph-Macon College due to its 2-0 record.

Softball and men's volleyball joined women's soccer and men's basketball as Arcadia's 2018-19 MAC champions. ❖

BILOTTI '19 NAMED A WOMAN OF THE YEAR

MAC announced softball shortstop **Jackie Bilotti '19** (right) as one of the 2019 NCAA Woman of the Year honorees. Bilotti is the first Arcadia student-athlete to earn the league's nomination, which recognizes academic achievement, athletic excellence, community service, and leadership.

Regarded as one of the most prestigious players in Arcadia Athletics' history, Bilotti is a four-time National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) All-Region selection; a three-time MAC Commonwealth Player of the Year; a three-time College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District pick; and an NFCA Second Team All-American honoree.

In 2019 alone, Bilotti was named MAC Senior Scholar Athlete of the Year in softball, Arcadia's Female Senior Athlete of the Year, and a Google Cloud/CoSIDA Academic All-America selection—the fourth Knight in any sport to earn Academic All-America honors. ❖



Esports, Track and Field, and Ice Hockey Added

Game on

Arcadia joined a handful of colleges and universities in Pennsylvania as a co-educational, varsity esports competitor this fall. Student-athletes will compete in popular games such as *League of Legends*, *Hearthstone*, *Overwatch*, and *Rocket League*. For the central competition arena, Arcadia renovated a 1,500-square-foot space on campus equipped with high-end gaming PCs, console-based systems, and a projector for film study and game review. The arena will also be available to recreational groups on campus, such as the Gaming Club. Arcadia is one of eight colleges and universities in the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) to offer a varsity esports program.

On the right track

This fall, student-athletes are lacing up their running shoes to compete in the MAC as part of Arcadia's men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field programs. Arcadia entered into a license agreement with Cheltenham School District

to use the track and field facilities at Cheltenham High School and Cedarbrook Middle School in coordination with the District's athletics programs and practices. The University's usage will not impact the District's use of its facilities.

Dropping the puck

In fall 2021, Arcadia will become the fourth Division III college or university in Pennsylvania to offer ice hockey as a men's and women's varsity sport and the seventh college or university in Pennsylvania to do so. Colmar-based Hatfield Ice will serve as the home site for both programs. Arcadia and Hatfield are co-sharing costs for 3,200 square feet of facility renovations within Gray Rink, which includes locker rooms, bathrooms, showers, a laundry room, coaching offices, players' lounges, storage, and an athletic training space. Construction is set to be completed by June 2021. The Knights will compete against MAC schools in both sports, bringing the Conference's sponsorship up to six teams for women and five for men, at present. ❖



Heralded Coaches Hired

Shortly after establishing the women's ice hockey program, the team scored its first goal with the hire of **Kelsey Koelzer** (above) as head coach. Koelzer was the first overall pick of the Metropolitan (then New York) Riveters in the 2016 National Women's Hockey League draft. At Princeton University, Koelzer was named Eastern College Athletic Conference's Best Defender of the Year and participated in the USA Hockey Women's Festival as a member of the U-22 team. She also serves on the NHL-NHLPA Female Hockey Advisory Committee, a group that looks to increase women's participation in the sport.

Koelzer's hire captured the attention of both the NHL and *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, both of which profiled her appointment as head coach.

On Oct. 1, **Vincent Pietrangelo** joined Arcadia as head men's ice hockey coach. Pietrangelo spent the last three seasons as assistant men's ice hockey coach at the State University of New York at Canton. During the 2018-19 season, Pietrangelo helped lead the Kangaroos to a 14-9-2 record for the program's most wins since the 2011-12 season. Pietrangelo played at Finlandia University, where he was one of two freshmen to dress every game during the 2010-11 season. He was drafted second overall in the 2009 Central States Hockey League's draft by the Metro Jets. ❖

SELECTED MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS, SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Lynne Dorfman '73, associate professor of Education, published "Writing Workshop: Engaging Today's Students With a Model That Works," which provides strategic advice and resources to help K-8 educators create interactive writing experiences for students. The book includes QR codes for readers to scan for supplementary instructional videos and glimpses of Dr. Dorfman's writing workshops in action.

The South Asian Literary Association (SALA) elected **Dr. Pradyumna S. Chauhan**, professor of English, as its national adviser at the 19th annual SALA conference. Dr. Chauhan has served as president of SALA and as an editor for the *South Asian Review*, an international scholarly forum to discuss South Asian languages, literature, culture, and art.

Dr. Jill Pederson, associate professor of Visual and Performing Arts, contributed a chapter to *Leonardo in Dialogue*, a textbook published by the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz that examines Leonardo da Vinci's relationships with his friends and contemporaries.

Dr. Pederson also presented at "Leonardo da Vinci: 500 años después," an interdisciplinary conference hosted by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México in Mexico City.

Chris Macchi '12 was featured in an NBCSN's "Premier League Mornings Live" segment for his Instagram series "On the Ground." Macchi, who lives in London and works with Whistle Sports broadcasting network, uses the series to promote the English league to American audiences.

June Yong Lee, associate professor of Art and Design, presented "Torso Series"—a photography exhibition that challenges beauty standards and encourages viewers to

reflect on their body perceptions—at the 12th annual Jeonju International Photo Festival in South Korea. Submissions from 10 Arcadia students were also showcased in the festival's student photography exhibition.

In recognition of 42 years of distinguished teaching at Arcadia, **Dr. Ned Wolff**, professor of Computer Science and Mathematics, received the Award for Teaching Excellence from the Philadelphia branch of the American Statistical Association. Students wrote letters of support lauding Wolff's dedication to Arcadia, innovative teaching strategies, and classroom encouragement.

Christina Cantrill '14MEd, associate director of National Programs at the National Writing Project in Berkeley, Calif., and her teammates on the Marginal Syllabus project—a collaborative web service that promotes literacy, equity, and socially engaged education—received the 2019 John Lovas Award for outstanding online initiatives devoted to academic pursuits.

Actuarial Science major **Carlie Banchi '20** was awarded the Casualty Actuaries of the Mid-Atlantic Region scholarship for outstanding performance in an Actuarial Science program. The Casualty Actuarial Society's scholarship committee noted Banchi's "academic excellence, professional determination, and overall scholastic and personal achievements."

For their exceptional leadership and teaching acumen, Education graduates **Denise Piotrowski Eiler '06MEd**, **Michelle Grey '09MEd**, **Megan McNamara '13MEd**, **Kathleen Paul '99M**, **Rachael Pringle '06MEd**, and **Bernard John Stuetz '19M** received 2019 Lindback Foundation Distinguished Teaching Awards from the School District of Philadelphia.

Scott Rawlins, professor of Visual and Performing Arts, presented on the incarnation of the scholar/explorer archetype during the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators' annual meeting in Brisbane, Australia. His presentation, "The Real Indiana Jones," explored scientific illustration as it relates to archeology and discovery. The Counseling



program presented its inaugural Gillem-Bartoli Alum Awards for Contributions to Social Justice to collegiate staff psychologists **Dr. Radhika Sehgal '99M** (Dickinson College) and **Dr. Kristen Bertsch '07M** (Drexel University). The award, which recognizes alumni who advance social justice through their work and practice, honors the work of Professor **Dr. Eleonora Bartoli** and Professor Emerita **Dr. Angela Gillem**.

Print Communication major **Kaitlin Jock '20** published "The United States has a hostile architecture problem. Is public space becoming private?" with International Network of Street Papers and *Spare Change News*. Her article critiques the movement to design public spaces that deter homeless individuals.



Arcadia's School of Education received a subcontract from a \$24.2 million award from the United States Agency for International Development to serve as one of the key developers of a cutting-edge preparation program for educators

and principals of advanced Egyptian STEM high schools. On April 30, deans from four universities in Egypt visited campus to learn more about Arcadia's teaching practices and innovative students. Assistant Professor **Dr. Maria Theodoraki**, Biology majors **Theodore E. Habarth Morales '19** and **Aspen La-Riene Settle '19**, and their research collaborators published a paper evaluating the activity of novel anti-cancer agents derived from a Southeast Asian tree of the genus *Garcinia*. The team identified two compounds, MAD28 and MAD67, that effectively kill 3D breast cancer spheroids in vitro.

Dr. Thomas Brinker, professor of Accounting and executive director of the MBA program, published two articles—explaining how children with special needs are affected by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and providing insight on tax benefits for their families—in *The Tax Adviser*.

International Business and Culture major **RaeAnn Topa '21** was awarded a study abroad grant from Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Topa is one of only 75 students from across the country to receive the award.

Computer Science major **Jules Turner '20** received AnitaB's Grace Hopper Scholarship to attend the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women, the world's largest conference for women technologists. Scholarships are awarded to students who are active in computing or STEM clubs on college campuses.

Computer Science and Mathematics majors **Jules Turner '20**, **Nicole Mueller '19**, and **Alexandr Chebatorev '22** attended a 24-hour Hackathon event at West Chester University, during which they created a web application that chooses eateries for indecisive foodies.



Forensic Science alumna **Amanda L.A. Mohr '12M** received the 2019 American Academy of Forensic Sciences' Irving Sunshine Award from the Toxicology Section, which focuses on poison and drug detection for medical and legal investigations. The award is presented to a young investigator who has conducted outstanding forensic toxicology research.

Professor and Chair of Chemistry and Physics **Dr. Manny Curotto**, **Gabrielle DiEmma '19**, and **Shane Kalette '19** published "Classical and quantum simulations of a lithium ion solvated by a mixed Stockmayer cluster" in *Chemical Physics Letters* and *OA Mirrors*. The research has potential applications for energy storage.

Gregg Moore, associate professor of Art and Design, showcased "Soil, Stone, Bone"—a ceramics exhibition featuring china made from animal bone ash and farmland earth—at The Clay Studio in Philadelphia. Moore's collection is inspired by the cycle of life, imagining how pottery can turn plants and bone into immortal pieces of art. ❖



Q



A

David Hogg

David Hogg, a survivor of the 2018 Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Fla., helped spark one of the largest youth-led movements as co-founder of March for Our Lives, an organization dedicated to preventing gun violence in the United States. On Oct. 14, Hogg—who contributed to Arcadia’s 2019 Common Read selection *Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement*—visited campus to discuss the importance of civic engagement.

Q: *How has March for Our Lives grown?*

A: We’ve done a lot at the state level, enacting background checks and protection orders that disarm people who are a danger to themselves or others. We’re supporting legislation that regulates supply as much as possible and trying to reduce the demand through public awareness campaigns—much like what was done with tobacco. There are several methods we have in mind; buyback programs, for instance, would be effective, as there’s no standardized system for getting rid of guns. But politics won’t change until the culture changes.

Q: *What are your next steps?*

A: The March for Our Lives Peace Plan, which we recently unveiled, is designed to reduce gun deaths by 50 percent in the next 10 years. That’s 200,000 lives. Universal background checks are not going to be enough until there’s no parent who knows the pain of losing a child to gun violence, until we support communities that have been ravaged by economic or political injustice, until students don’t have to worry if the seat they’re in is going to be the place they die. That’s not freedom.

Q: *What do you like to see in young activists?*

A: I like to see people do things because they’re right and just, not for credit. People who work out of love for their communities and their country, not for themselves or their résumés. In order to make change, you have to believe in something greater than yourself. You have to listen with humility.

Q: *As a young activist, is it tough to admit when there’s something you don’t know?*

A: Those are my favorite moments. You should always educate yourself. It’s important to have candid conversations with people who don’t agree with you. It helps you realize that the real enemy is not other Americans. It’s not Republicans or Democrats, nor is it NRA members or gun owners, like my father. The real enemies in this fight are the lack of laws, the corruption, and the violence that infects people’s minds, enabling them to pull triggers.

Q: *Gun violence is often portrayed as just a mental health issue. Why?*

A: Americans are not comfortable talking about the country’s history of white supremacy. Many said the shooter in Parkland was mentally ill. I would argue the fact that a 19-year-old was able to get his hands on an AR-15—even though police were called on him multiple times—played a significantly higher role. There was white nationalist and anti-Semitic propaganda on his phone, and Stoneman Douglas High School had a large Jewish population. We also need to recognize that people who are mentally ill are more likely to be victims of gun violence, rather than perpetrators. In many communities in America, it’s easier to pick up a gun to end the pain than it is to pick up a phone and call a quality, affordable therapist.

Q: *What keeps you going?*

A: When I wake up every day, I think, “Who’s the next inventor? The next to cure a disease? The next lawyer, doctor, mom, or dad who will be here because of our efforts?” My goal is a 71 percent youth voter turnout for 2020. If we can do that, it doesn’t matter if it’s a Democrat or Republican president who’s elected. Young people, as the largest voting block in America, will have to be the priority of any politician.

Q: *How can Arcadia students be involved in March for Our Lives?*

A: Students who create March for Our Lives chapters can hold town halls with local representatives, help register voters in their communities, and work on art projects that humanize the issue. They’re out there knocking on doors. They educate young people across the nation, who in turn help make gun violence a priority for political candidates.

Q: *What message do you have for communities affected by gun violence?*

A: As hard as it may be, try to maintain and hold peace in your heart. Maintain that peace for the safety of the community as a whole. Don’t let violence create more violence.

“

As hard as it may be, try to maintain and hold peace in your heart.

”



For more information,
arcadia.edu/CommonRead

Honoring a Dear Friend

by Jen A. Miller

This year, **Anita Sobel Feinberg '74** reached an important dream: She has endowed the Ellen Jane Hover Memorial Grant for Piano Study in honor of her friend **Ellen Jane Hover '74**, a Beaver College graduate and aspiring conductor who died at age 23. The fund will award a grant for piano study every year.

“

Beaver is where Ellen made her mark with music. She was always someone to aspire to be.

”

—Anita Feinberg '74

Feinberg and Hover met early in the first semester of their freshman year. Hover's musical prowess immediately stood out to Feinberg.

“She was just a beautiful pianist,” Feinberg said. “I still have memories of her from the early '70s playing classical music and, believe it or not, Scott Joplin”—music that enjoyed a public revival with the 1973 Best Picture-winning movie *The Sting*.

While Hover may have come from a luminous, privileged background—her father, Herman Hover, owned the famed Hollywood nightclub Ciro's, and Ellen counted Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. as her godfathers—Feinberg said you'd never know it.

“She always said ‘please’ and ‘thank you,’ and she never arrived at my mom's house without a gift,” said Feinberg, who still has one of them: salt and pepper shakers. “She was just so pleasant and kind and sweet. Ellen demonstrated every ideal that someone would want to be in the 1970s, and even today.”

The two remained friends after Feinberg transferred to Brooklyn College to be closer to her future husband, Sandy, who had a low military draft number. When Feinberg got married, Hover was there. When she had her first child, Hover was there.

After Feinberg had her second child in the summer of 1977, Hover planned to stay with her and help her settle in with two children under the age of two. That's when she disappeared.

“I'll never forget it,” said Feinberg. “I was sitting at the kitchen table with my mother and father. Ellen's mother called and asked, ‘Have you seen Ellen? Have you heard from her?’ No one could find her.”



Hover '74

“

I'm so glad that I could give Ellen new life through every student who receives the grant that bears her name.

”

—Anita Feinberg '74

Hover's body was found 11 months later. She had been murdered by Rodney Alcala, a serial killer sentenced to death for five murders committed in California between 1977 and 1979. In 2012, he pled guilty to the murders of Hover and Cornelia Crilly, a Trans World Airlines flight attendant, in New York. Feinberg—who, along with Sandy, had split their time between Long Island and West Palm Beach before moving to the latter full time—had been in touch with the district attorneys working on both cases, and she flew to New York in 2013 to see Alcala's sentencing.

Feinberg had been donating to Arcadia for years; her first gift, in 1976, was for \$1. Still, she wanted to do more for Arcadia, and she didn't want Hover's name to be forgotten.

With classmate **Teresa Williams Defilippis '74** and Hover's former boyfriend Bruce Ditmes, Feinberg established the Ellen Jane Hover Memorial Fund at Arcadia in 2010. As a current-use fund, it was awarded to students minoring in Music.

Aashika Suseendran '15, who received the 2014-15 award and recently graduated with a doctorate in Physical Therapy from Columbia University, sees music as an integral part of her life.

“Being part of the arts is more than just entertainment or performance,” said Suseendran, who performed Mozart's “Rondo alla Turca” piano composition as part of her award. “It's truly a way of mindfully engaging with the spirit of all human beings.”

“Ellen lives on through this fund,” Suseendran continued. “She touches community members in a way that's very unique because people don't just see the fund and hear about the recipient. They get to experience the fund through the performance of an Arcadia student.”

This year, the fund is evolving into the Ellen Jane Hover Memorial Grant for Piano Study. Like its predecessor, the endowed fund will be awarded to Arcadia Music minors. But endowed funds “are extraordinarily important for any institution,” said **Brigette A. Bryant**, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations at Arcadia.

Not only does it reflect a donor's confidence in the future of the University, but it also means that the fund—and Hover's name—will live on in perpetuity at Arcadia.

“Many years from now, this endowed fund will still be providing awards for students, just as the donors intended,” said Bryant. “And Ellen's essence, spirit, and energy, which were so vibrant in her lifetime, will live on as well through the donor's philanthropy.”

This longevity is important to Feinberg, who has felt the loss of her friend for more than four decades.

“Ellen was missed at every life cycle event,” Feinberg said.

“She should have lit candles on my daughters' Bat Mitzvah cakes, celebrated graduations, danced at their weddings, and attended their sons' bris ceremonies. The most joyous times in my life had a little hole in them, left by Ellen's absence.”

Feinberg sees this endowed fund as a step to help future generations of Arcadia students, but also one that can help in her own grieving process.

“It's taken me many, many years to do something positive to encourage my own healing,” Feinberg said. After Alcala's sentencing, she and some college friends went to Hover's burial site and, in the Jewish tradition, put stones on her grave.

“Putting the stones on her grave was something I had to do to heal,” said Feinberg. “And now, more than 40 years later, I'm so glad that I could give Ellen new life through every student who receives the grant that bears her name.” ❖

Jen A. Miller is a freelance writer whose work has appeared in the New York Times, Runner's World, SELF, and BuzzFeed, among other outlets.

For more information on how you can honor the memory of a loved one by establishing an endowed fund, please contact Brigette A. Bryant, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations, at 215-572-2781.



Feinberg '74

“

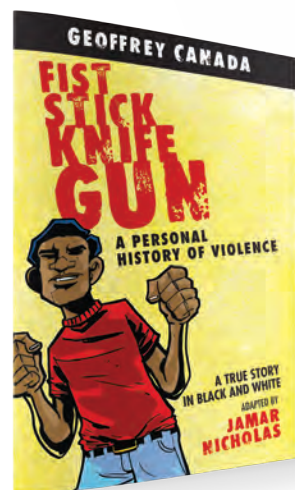
Ellen lives on through this fund. She touches community members in a way that's very unique.

—Aashika Suseendran '15

”

THE POWER OF GRAPHIC NARRATIVE

By **Jamar Nicholas**,
award-winning
cartoonist whose work
has been featured in
Metro newspapers and
the *Philadelphia Tribune*,
and by MTV.com

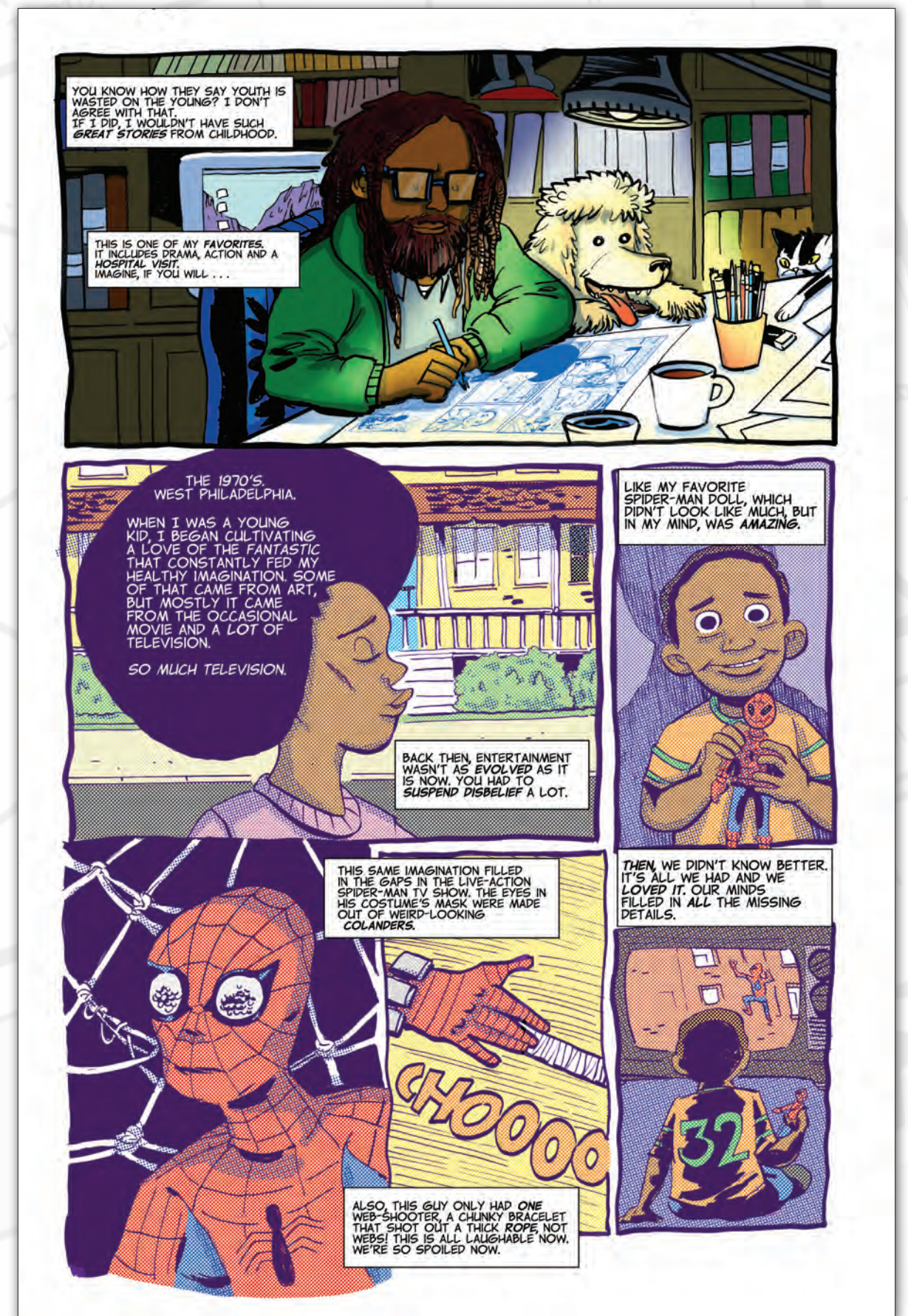
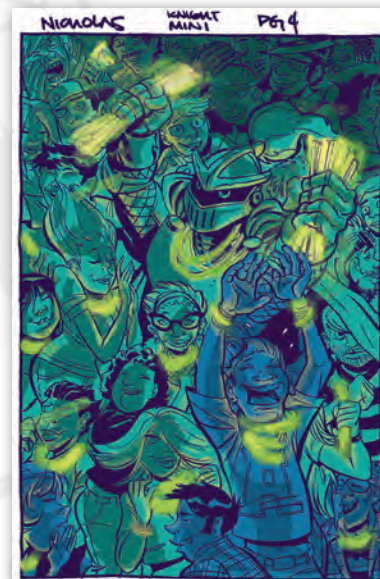


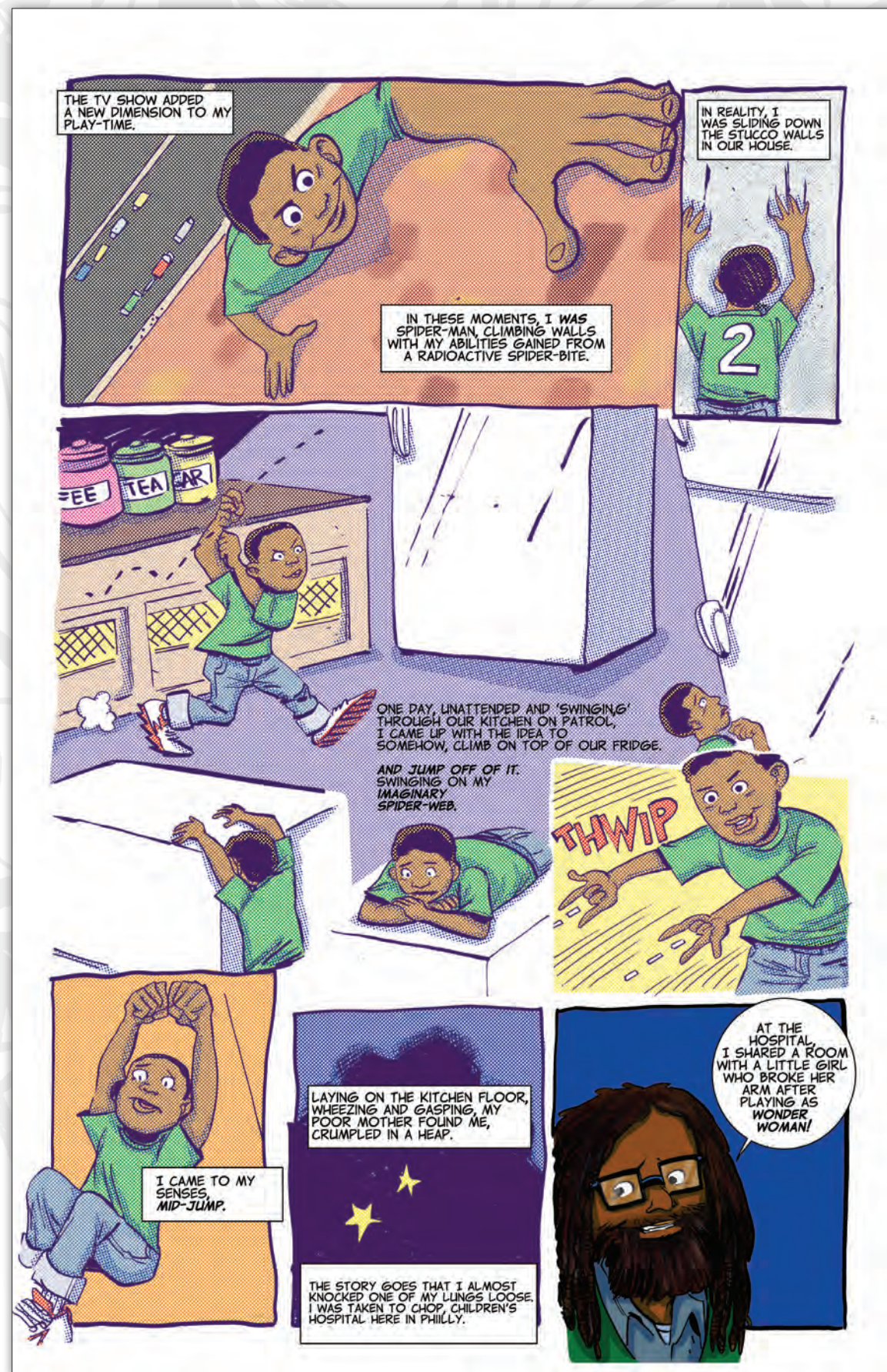
As a child, I fell in love with comic strips, their storytelling devices, and the unique qualities that separated them from one another: the odd but unmistakable inked “wings” on the sides of the head of Blondie’s husband, Dagwood; the unexplained mystery as to why Andy Capp’s eyes were hidden under his cap; the shaky but masterful line that created Peanuts’ Charlie Brown.

On this newspaper section, which my family called “the funnies,” lay universes where each comic creator ruled their own planet—each with a distinct signature style that helped them tell stories. All were different, but shared the same boundary. The four-panel prison created a problem that needed to be solved every day: What story could you tell inside four boxes? Every day? Without repeating or stopping?

I developed a laser focus on one “grown-up” goal for myself that came to light on the floor of my family’s West Philadelphia home: To draw newspaper cartoons and, later, comic books. I wanted to become a cartoonist.

Cartooning is a mode of storytelling that uses a marriage of words, pictures, timing, and symbols unlike other types of visual communication. To go a step further, cartooning is problem-solving, similar to how a billboard over a stretch of road must convey





a concise message to a viewer in scant seconds. My job is to inform, sell, educate, or entertain the reader inside a limited space. That space could be the aforementioned four panels on a newspaper comic page, in a 24-page comic book, or through 120 pages in a graphic novel.

Before my time at Arcadia, I established a career for myself as a published author and cartoonist. I have spent more than 20 years in the public eye honing my craft, from an early start drawing weekly serial comic stories in newspapers; to a stint as editorial cartoonist at the *Philadelphia Tribune*, the nation's oldest African American newspaper; to webcomics; to drawing a daily, full-color comic strip in *Metro U.S.* newspapers (concurrently running in Philadelphia, New York City, and Boston), which garnered four million readers each month.

I've also had the pleasure of working on projects that vary in tone, but have touched people in distinct emotional ways: In 2010, I adapted and illustrated *Fist Stick Knife Gun: A Personal History of Violence* (Beacon Press/Penguin Random House), a memoir of African American educator and activist Geoffrey Canada's life growing up in 1950's South Bronx,

N.Y. This book has been covered as coursework in several college courses, including at Arcadia.

My newest creator-owned graphic novel, *Leon: Protector of the Playground* (2017, Kids Love Comics), tells the story of a sixth-grade African-American superhero defending kids in his school with only his common sense and quick wits to help him. I've been honored with several awards and mentions for these projects, most recently receiving the prestigious Dwayne McDuffie Award for Diversity in Comics.

The aforementioned examples, to me, show how, over the past 30 years, cartoonists and artists have elevated the graphic narrative to a medium that can tackle difficult, human subject matter. We've come a long way from the stereotypical POW! BAM! ZAP! disregard for comics. The medium is finally being shown as a mature storytelling tool.

Over the years, I've been tapped by Arcadia to use my cartooning as a campaign for the Knight, the University's mascot. I've made a mini-comic for first-year student orientation (*above*), and created unique ink-and-brush character portraits for honorary degree recipients—quite an honor.

"OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS, CARTOONISTS AND ARTISTS HAVE ELEVATED THE GRAPHIC NARRATIVE TO A MEDIUM THAT CAN TACKLE DIFFICULT, HUMAN SUBJECT MATTER."

—JAMAR NICHOLAS

That boyhood dream of wanting to connect with people through my art has been my best adult realization. I dedicate every one of my projects to those young people out there who have a strong urge to communicate to the world using their creativity.

See you in the funny pages. ❖

Jamar Nicholas serves as an administrative assistant for the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and Arcadia Exhibitions.

A SMALLER WORLD

With the help of Arcadia students, alumni, and faculty, Meg Eubank '05, '07MEd is building and empowering an international community in Greater Philadelphia.

By Jennifer Retter '16 Illustration by David Plunkert

Ni hao. Privyet. Hola.

On a quiet, residential street in Langhorne, Pa., greetings are exchanged in a blend of languages. But when **Meg Eubank '05, '07MEd** and English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor Debbie Hoffman take their seats at the head of the semicircle, the group, in unison, calls out: "Good morning."

Today, the topic is birthdays. Favorite memories range from bar mitzvahs, to *quinceañeras*, to spontaneous Australian getaways (an aside that prompts Eubank to grab her globe for a quick geography lesson). A newcomer from the Dominican Republic reminisces about dancing the *bachata*, while Mandy—who moved to the United States from China four years ago—laughs, adding "my friends aren't good at dancing, but we like our beer!"

This is Welcoming the Stranger (WTS), one of five nonprofits to receive a 2019 Renewal Award, the flagship of Allstate and *The Atlantic's* collaborative efforts to celebrate social innovation. The recognition, which includes a two-year, \$40,000 grant, spotlights grassroots solutions to challenges faced by communities across the U.S. WTS was selected from more than 9,300 nominations and beat out 333 entrants from Pennsylvania alone.

Classes change week to week, serving immigrants and refugees throughout the Delaware Valley. The constant, though, is the supportive community WTS students have formed—a second home, no matter how far home may be.

PLUNKERT

A WTS class at the organization's home base in Langhorne, Pa.



LEARNING BROUGHT TO LIFE

When it comes to shared values, Arcadia and WTS are an obvious match (*see “Arcadia Welcomes Refugees”*). Since its inception 20 years ago, the organization has served more than 4,000 participants from 104 countries. In addition to English, technology, and citizen preparation courses, WTS offers an outlet for adult learners to celebrate their cultures while acclimating to their new environment. The primary goal is to renew their confidence through language acquisition, ensuring each WTS student participates fully in American life: from simple acts like ordering at restaurants, to major undertakings like applying for jobs, communicating with doctors and landlords, and navigating the immigration court system.

“We are working with adults with a lifetime of experience behind them,” said Eubank. “They come from rich backgrounds, with autonomy and dignity in their home countries—then they move here without a support system. They’re trapped inside themselves.”

Eubank, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education in 2005, taught in private schools before returning to Arcadia for a Master of Education in Language Arts. After graduating in 2007, Eubank taught ESL at Bucks County Community College, where a colleague told her about WTS. She volunteered to teach in 2011, came back to Arcadia for her ESL Program Specialist certification in 2014, and stepped in as executive director in 2015.

Since, Eubank—the organization’s only full-time staff member—has recruited Arcadia interns to compile resources, organize events, and pursue projects that align with their personal and professional interests. **Amara O’Connell ’19**, for instance, spearheaded a mentor program that connects English-speaking volunteers with WTS students throughout the summer.

“Many don’t have people they can simply go to the movies with,” said O’Connell, an International Studies and French graduate from Buffalo, N.Y. “We had [WTS members] doing things like bowling and mini-golfing for the first time.”

O’Connell also helped produce an international cookbook after a unit on recipe writing. **Hope Louizes ’19**, an International Studies alumna from Huntingtown, Md., designed the cookbook and several promotional pieces, while **Emma Sinclair ’21MEd**—who chose to pursue her master’s at Arcadia after volunteering with Eubank—expanded the organization’s social media presence.

Eubank believes Arcadia students are uniquely prepared for internships at WTS, lauding the School of Education’s commitment to teaching educators how to work and adapt in a global world. At Arcadia, she was encouraged to jump into a range of academic settings, work with diverse student populations, and explore cross-cultural education through study abroad.

“Each student who works with Meg applies the principles they learn in our classes,” said Eubank’s mentor **Dr. Peggy Hickman**, associate professor of Education at Arcadia. “They also witness the profound respect and passion Meg and her colleagues show in their commitment to their students.”

That passion is contagious. Since completing their



Eubank ’05, ’07MEd

internships, O’Connell decided to pursue a career in immigration law; Louizes set out to work with international students; and Sinclair realized her interests lie in ESL instruction, with an emphasis on developing language resources for youth in local school districts.

“Adapting to a new culture, health care system, driving laws, and so many things that we take for granted every day is an immense undertaking,” said Louizes. “It wasn’t until I began working with WTS that I experienced the obstacles immigrants face. Everything I learned at Arcadia came to life.”

BREAKING BARRIERS

The common denominator among this year’s Renewal Award winners is their dedication to strengthening opportunities for economically vulnerable and socially isolated communities—particularly those that are targets of racial prejudice and political debate. Another similarity, however, is that each organization has grown exponentially despite these tensions, expanding and reimagining services in response to their community’s needs.

When Eubank started as an instructor, WTS served 150 students total. Funding cuts forced similar organizations in the region to close their doors, sending hundreds to WTS classrooms. By 2017, their classes increased to more than 300 students per semester—but their budget also shrank, preventing the organization from replacing outdated technology and recruiting necessary manpower.

Moreover, heightened polarization over immigration instilled fear within the WTS community. In response, the organization conducted a listening campaign to learn what worried students most. The predominant answer, discrimination, prompted “know-your-rights” workshops to teach students nonviolent safety techniques. WTS also connected with immigrant rights groups and pro bono lawyers to augment its services and offered ally training to its growing roster of volunteers.

One positive has been the outpouring of support from innovative educators who believe in WTS’ mission. The Renewal Award will support such growth, generating a pool of operating funds that Eubank assures they’ll “make the most of.”

But Eubank hopes the grant will help extend their message to those who don’t witness, on a daily basis, the power personal connection has in dismantling cultural silos.

“My world has become smaller, in a good way,” said Eubank. “Underneath, we’re people who care about the same things: family, education, and making the most out of life.”

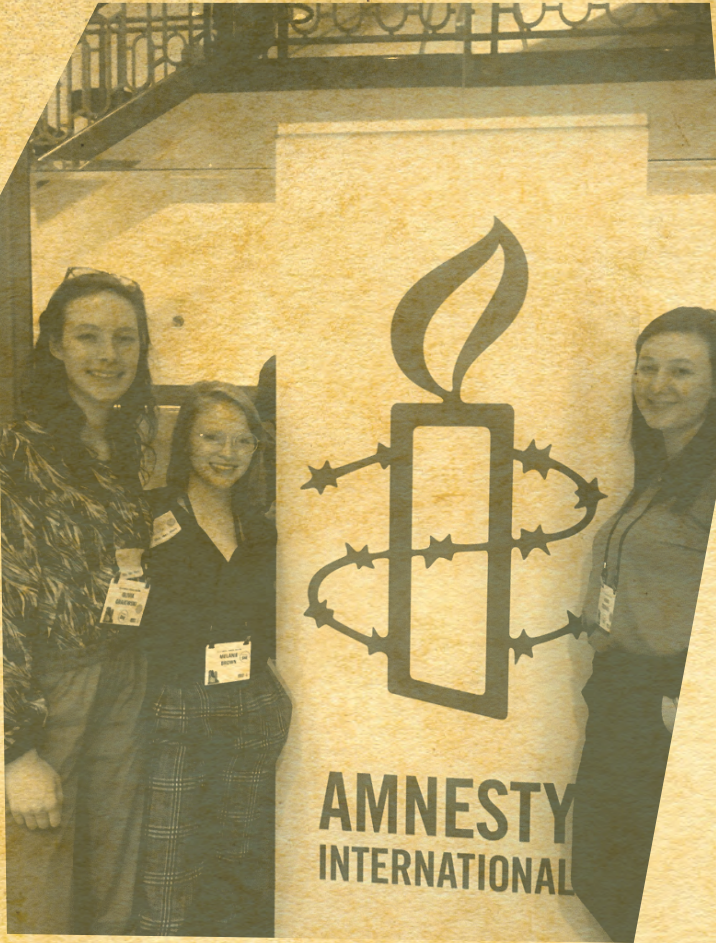
NEW BEGINNINGS

The birthday lesson winds into a reflection on what it means to be happy. The topic brings forth emotions that are difficult to express, but WTS students are reminded that they are safe to make mistakes here. They repeat a simple affirmation—“I am learning English”—when they stumble on a word.

“I’m learning a lot today. Improving my ear to listen,” says Gracie, a student from the Dominican Republic. It’s her first class at WTS. After five years of living in Philadelphia, she’s ready to develop her conversational English.

Her summary of Day One? “No stress.” ❖

Left to right: Grajewski, International Studies alumna Melanie Brown ’20, and O’Connell.



ARCADIA WELCOMES REFUGEES

While attending Amnesty International’s 2018 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, International Studies major **Olivia Grajewski ’20** learned of a detention center less than 15 minutes from her home in Reading, Pa. As secretary of Arcadia’s Amnesty International club, Grajewski led efforts to establish an “I Welcome” resolution, declaring campus a safe place for refugees.

“Arcadia prides itself on being an international and diverse community,” said O’Connell, who served as club president. “What better way is there to ensure that than by saying that we are also an inclusive community for refugees and immigrants?”

The resolution reiterates Arcadia’s support for “the resettlement of refugees no matter their religion, race, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity, or country of origin,” and calls for stronger national efforts to protect vulnerable populations. Club members worked with WTS and Eubank to learn more about creating inclusive, welcoming spaces for international students.

“The resolution is the start of something new for me, for Arcadia, and for the Greater Philadelphia region,” said Grajewski. “It has laid the foundation to make a meaningful impact on so many.” ❖

- CONTACT YOUR CLASS EDITOR

1946

Ruth Swartley Maxson
ruthsmaxson@comcast.net

1948

Carol Roland Ranger
lonerangers@cox.net

M. Elizabeth Green Jennings
200 Veterans Lane
Doylestown, PA 18901-3475

1951

Natalie Gumport Holtzman
cholt41258@aol.com

1952

Marion Stiles Hemphill
cmoib@atmc.net

1955

Suzi Ketz Foster
suzifos@comcast.net

1957

Freda Friz Schopfer
schopfer3@juno.com

1958

Dwaine Fry Sutherland
dwaine8946@aol.com

1960

Sarah Michelson Bloom
sbblazer@hotmail.com

1962

Lynn Kronenberg Berman
lynnberman@msn.com

1964

Linda Mann
l.mann@comcast.net

1965

Rebecca Just Wagner
justwagner@msn.com

1966

Judy Simon King
bigj1051@verizon.net

Mary Beth Middleton
4003 Penn Avenue,
Apartment 711
Pittsburgh, PA 15224-1353
(412) 586-7232 or
(412) 315-5677

1967

Gail Agerton
greythorne1@gmail.com

1968

Leah Nicholls Duckworth
Induckworth@cox.net

Ann Pilert
piglert@aol.com

1971

Judith Odonovich
jodonovich@comcast.net

1951
Natalie Gumport Holtzman writes, “I visited the ‘new’ Glenside campus with my sons in the fall and was amazed by the changes. We had a delightful walk around and spoke with several students.”

1958
Thank you all for your contributions. The earliest response came from **Marcia May Hummers** with what might be a first for us! She reports the birth of Logan Richard Hummers on June 4, 2019, who may be the first great-great-grandchild for our class! At least he’s the first reported! Congratulations and best wishes to all!

Becky Nell Winn King is footloose again: “After spending February and March at the beach, I toured the coast of Norway for two weeks on the *Hurtiguten MS Trollfjord*. Next trip will be to Lakeside Chautauqua, Ohio with my sister the last week of July.” No one else in our group travels to more interesting places than Becky!

Ina Block keeps on swingin’! She tells us, “I’m recovering from right knee surgery and will do the left later this year. I stood on a chair to rehang a clock. The chair tipped over and so did I. I fractured my clavicle, humerus, and a couple of ribs. (Ouch!) People our age should not stand on chairs unsupervised. I had lunch with **Judie Grenen** at the end of May when she visited Pittsburgh. It’s amazing how many ailments we had in common. I’m still doing theater: *Electra* this summer, and I am playing my dream part, Madame Arcati in *Blythe Spirit*, this fall. Hopefully, I’ll be able to remember the hundreds of lines I have to learn.” (We have faith in you, Ina!)

Still in the medical venue, **Joan Ottaway Gurniak** has some news. At the end of the summer she will join many classmates who have preceded her with cataract

surgery. She says, “Everyone tells me it’s pretty easy (I agree!) and the results are almost immediate.” Sometime in the fall she and Ted plan to move to Roanoke, Va. to a continuing care community called Brandon Oaks. “Last fall I went back to work! I had been serving as an interim choir director. Now we have a permanent rector and I plan to retire again, which I thought I did when I moved here! I have been playing and directing continuously since 2001. Maybe this time I can fully retire!”

Gertie Ramsay Malloy writes, “I am living on Amelia Island, the first barrier island after Georgia, north of Jacksonville, two-and-a-half hours north of Orlando and all its attractions. I’ve been here for over 17 years, so it really is home. I lived in Ridgewood, N.J. for 25 years but very few of my friends are still around. Usually, I stay with my oldest son when I visit for the holidays. My youngest is in Mendham near Morristown and my middle son lives in Connecticut, so I always see the whole group in one trip north. The older I get, the more I miss them!” She’s planning her next trip north in the summer.

Great to hear from **Barbara Heylmun Longstreth**: “Here’s an update on my grandkids. The oldest, Dallen, will be a sophomore at Franklin and Marshall. He’s a very good soccer player (Class Editor note: wonder where that came from?) and made the starting team in his freshman year. Two have graduated from high school and will start college in the fall: Jalen at Wesleyan and Nayah at Duquesne. Quincy will be in 11th grade and the youngest, Jaise, will be in 9th. They have grown up so quickly, and I have been fortunate to be part of their lives all these years!”

More grandkids praise comes from **Grace Warrington Lowe**. “My grandchildren live four blocks away, and it’s been a great 22 years sharing in all of their activities. Daniel graduated from the University of Virginia and is

off to Wisconsin to work for a large biomedical firm. Hannah is doing her second internship for William and Mary, this time in Cincinnati, doing research in the museum. I’ve never been so far away from them, but they’re good at texting.

My gentleman pilot, Jim, and I have enjoyed each other’s company for many years. He is a partner in the Pilot’s Association with my Bill, as are our sons. His late wife and my late husband graduated Lewes High School together. Again this summer, as I’ve done for 30 years, I’m camping alone. My camper is nearby at Steamboat Landing on the Broadkill River. I go up almost every day and read, walk, and enjoy the river. Happy to be well again and hope to remain so. I still have the fondest memories of Beaver and Montgomery Hall and keep up with friends from those days. Still think we have the prettiest campus on the east coast.”

Next comes **Patricia Fletcher Lyford**, who is always a force and a story in herself. She writes, “Life at the ‘Lyford Care Center’ is now a little calmer after our son, Stephen, moved in March after a serious ankle break. He slipped on his lawn and did a number on his left ankle. He moved in after surgery with ten screws, and he was not able to do stairs. So I ended up with two wheelchairs (Larry), knee scooter (Stephen), two walkers, two shower chairs, and two non-walkers. Thus, the ‘Lyford Care Center.’ Finally, after months with a space-age boot and lots of physical therapy, Stephen is home, driving, and on the mend, and our home is back in order. When not taking care of someone, I am gardening, playing Mahjong, doing occasional lunches, attending the theater, and still trying to speak Italian with a couple of friends who join me in this struggle. Together, Larry and I join friends for ‘date night,’ continue to support our local Symphony in C, and attend Rotary meetings and events.

In July, our granddaughter is flying from Anchorage to Philadelphia by herself for a two-week visit with Grandma, Grandpa, and Uncle Stephen. I am so excited! For a change she’ll get to swim in the ocean instead of glacial water!”

Alma Alabilikian dropped a brief, but very welcome note! **Georgia Karagias Stamos** and family toured the campus this spring and met up with former roommate, Alma, for a mini reunion luncheon. All agreed that it was fun to be together after all these years!

Here’s something different from **Marcia Merdinger Fox**: “My oldest grandchild, who is 19, is serving in the Israeli army. She is training young people with disabilities to work on computers. She is finding the work very satisfying, and the kids are loving being part of the army.”

(Class Editor note: Marcia, you must be SO proud.)

As for me, **Dwaine Fry Sutherland**, my thanks to all of you! Stay well (and don’t stand on chairs, ladders, etc.) And keep smiling; it makes them wonder what you’re up to!

1959
Congratulations to our class for winning the **Ethlyn Selner Mack Bowl**. This award is given annually during Alumni Weekend to the reunion class with the highest percentage of donor participation among its members. **Mary Lou Bratt Mees**, our class fund agent, accepted the award on behalf of our class at the Alumni Awards Ceremony.

Jane Lewis Grove led three programs about antique cars at her residence, Willow Valley Communities, in Lancaster, Pa. She showed movies and clothing worn at the time, told personal experiences, and gave a wealth of information. During the programs, **Debbie Gable**, who also resides there, was in a chorus and sang humorous songs about cars of this period.

1960
Betty Holton Weiss says, “Good news for all of us: **Sara Michelson Bloom** has agreed to take over for me as Class Editor! Sara is a published author and newspaper journalist. We’ll be so fortunate to have her. Her email is sbblazer@hotmail.com. From now on, please send news to her. After 55 years as your editor, I am taking **Marianna Harder Peckmann**’s place as interim Class President. With Marianna’s passing in 2014 and our Fund Agent, **Nory Berman Block**’s passing in 2016, we’ve been ‘out of the loop’ leadership-wise. With our 60th reunion approaching next May, we need help from our classmates. If you can help in any way, please email me at weissguys1@verizon.net or call me at 215-659-1893.

More good news; **Mary Jane Fretz Stevens** has agreed to be Reunion Chair again. We hope those who live nearby and those able to drive a couple of hours will plan to attend. When considering your 60th reunion donation to our alma mater, please consider these facts: for our 50th we gave almost \$100,000, which enabled the bridge between Commons and the Castle to be built. Our class gift of \$22,000 at our 55th reunion enabled us to contribute a laser engraver to the Department of Art and Design and to contribute three storage sheds to the field hockey, lacrosse, and soccer teams. This year, we ask all graduates of 1960 to make an annual gift to support *The Fund for Arcadia* and to make a gift to help us endow *The Class of 1960 Scholarship*, which will provide critical student support and create a lasting legacy for our class. I look forward to seeing you for our reunion in May.

1962
We hear from **Wilma Maxwell Gray**: “The last issue of *Arcadia* magazine had a record amount of news from the Class of 1962. I am always glad to hear what is going on with our classmates, and my sympathy goes out to those who have lost loved ones and to those dealing with the other challenges that come with this stage of our lives. We, too, have been saddened

by the deaths of many family members and dear friends. Along with the challenges comes the joy of children and grandchildren for many and the satisfaction of a life full of experiences for all. We just returned from another long road trip to attend a graduation and a memorial service along with some good visits with family and friends along the way. This year, Ed and I decided we’d better get busy taking some of the trips on our never-ending list while we still can. We enjoyed the Rose Parade and some time in San Diego, also a wonderful trip to Israel and Egypt. We look forward to a train trip across Canada in August. For now, we are at home in northwest Arkansas and looking forward to our family visiting us this summer. I enjoy hearing from **Gerry Murray Dunbar** and **Pat Peatman O’Sullivan**.”

Gail Williams Tattersfield sends, “Lately I am taking baby steps towards cleaning out and paring down in order to move from my much too big house. I plan to stay in my general Midwest community as, after over 20 years, it is certainly home. I hear from **Sue Davison Lundborg** and **Judy Boetticher Leve** most regularly and also chat occasionally with **Susan Mandelbaum Axelrod**. I would love hearing from old friends.”

Carol Purdy Fugate tells us, “Bill and I are enjoying life in the country, north of the border. We live in the country on Prince Edward Island. We are lucky to have eldest son, Bill, his wife, Emma, and our grandson, Zachary, living in Charlottetown. So, I’m the designated cook for Sunday dinner, which I thoroughly enjoy. They are all vegetarians, so it is also a challenge to cook new things each week. Fortunately, we have many sources for fresh veggies, fruit, etc. I also specialize in flowers for the joy of growing them. We also have bald eagles nesting nearby. We visit our old home on Cape Cod twice a year, usually in early spring and late summer where our youngest son, Kevin, lives. It’s always nice to visit friends there. I empathize with **Gail Tattersfield** on sorting things out to move, having done it so many times over the years.”

Carol Fleming Halsey says, “Time really does march on. I have moved into an ‘old ladies home’ (actually a lovely retirement complex) and absolutely love it! There is so much to do—lectures and seminars galore; just like taking college courses, but there are no exams! There are also different organizations and activities. The list goes on and on. I heartily recommend it.

The hardest part is downsizing. Nobody told me I couldn’t take everything in my basement even though I haven’t looked at half the stuff for years! I didn’t know what to take or what not to take as I wasn’t sure how we would be living. I have found cooking is at a minimum since they serve dinner every night. So, I didn’t need every pot and pan I had accumulated. My granddaughter helped me move. She said, ‘Mom Mom, you have seven pairs of black shoes. Pick three!’ That’s the kind of help you need. In the end it was all worth it. I am hoping my health holds up. Many body parts are giving out—hip replacement, pacemaker, cataract surgery, etc.—but I’m hanging on and loving life. I am blessed with two wonderful sons and families!”

Pat Allen shares: “Since moving full-time to South Jersey six years ago to an active adult community, I’ve been as busy as I was when I was working. I joined our Community Education Committee and have been able to continue my career as a graphic designer for our projects. I became chair of the committee last fall and since the first of the year, we have presented 20 programs. This is almost a full-time job, but I thoroughly enjoy it. I also do designing for a local church, for fundraising and other projects. I’m also a member of a South Jersey photo club and have run the fall ‘shootout’ contest for three years. That group is varied in age but not in talent. It’s been fun and educational at the same time. I live only two-and-a-half miles from the Edwin B. Forsythe Wildlife Reserve, formerly known as ‘The Brig.’ It’s a major stop-over on the Atlantic Fly-Way and there’s always something to see and photograph out there. Somewhere along the way, I remembered that I was a

CONTACT YOUR CLASS EDITOR

- 1973

Christine Schmechel Kokas
ckokas@crsd.org
- 1975

Patricia Roberts Lucas
orchard63cc@yahoo.com
- Linda Strickland
lynstrickland@yahoo.com
- 1977

Mary Hauser Hadley
battleofhastings@juno.com
- 1979

Caryn Best-Randall
bestyet057@gmail.com
- Deborah Dancy Ingram
dingram057@gmail.com
- 1983

Barbara Reppert Million
bjmillion@comcast.net
- 1984

David Eatough
deatough@reverek12.org
- 1985

Beatriz Rincon Young
beatriz_young@yahoo.com
- 1988

Stacey Downey
staceybethdowney@gmail.com
- Elizabeth “Scottie”
Scott Hall
esh203@aol.com
- 1990

Linda Vandegrift
lindamvan@aol.com
- 1993

Elisa Hoffman
elisahoffman@verizon.net
- 1996

Stacey Lombardi Soricelli
stacy.soricelli@gmail.com
- 1997

Maya Johnson
mbasu252@hotmail.com
- Tracey Reed
traceyreed53@hotmail.com
- 1998

TaraJean Tweddle
Trzaskawka
sharksgirl72801@yahoo.com
- 2000

Tricia Kershner Luddecke
tricialuddecke@gmail.com

Painting major and have gone back to painting part time. I’ve no need to buy and or stretch new canvases as I’m painting over most of what I did at Beaver. The wonderful memories are still there, just under the surface now. I keep in touch with **Virginia Dunstan Bruno** and **Katherine Kurtz**, both of whom could have been painting majors. They’re doing wonderful work today. I’m still close to my ‘little sister’ **Janice Comstock Murray ’64**. That was a great match.”

Mary Jane Murray Poole writes, “Tommy and I have just celebrated our 57th anniversary—a rather surprising amount of time when I reflect back on how quickly the time went by. Those 57 years produced four children, ten grandchildren, and another ‘grandchild’ who married my granddaughter. I was an at-home mother and when I think of that job and my success, it makes me proud. I raised four successful, thoughtful, and caring adults who, in turn, raised ten like-minded children. Three of the boys went to the United States Naval Academy, and my youngest daughter married a doctor in the Navy—they continue to serve the country. We now have two graduates who are working hard and have good jobs, and we have two more in college. I love what I see in them. Tommy and I are fortunate to be able to travel internationally a great deal, sometimes with some of the children, sometimes not. A few of the children have traveled abroad during their junior years, so we are a family with wanderlust. I am always reminded that Beaver was the pioneer in junior year international travel. Was it **Dr. Swaim**? I stay in touch with **Ronnie Kaye Herman** and, for those of you who remember my freshman year roommate, **Peggy Boone Baldwin**. Peggy has lived in Dallas for 40-50 years. Her husband was one of the first doctors in the U.S. who actually did heart transplantations. I think Beaver prepared me pretty well for the life I led. Being all girls, we didn’t need to compete with guys for offices or honors. I believe it gave us a strong sense of who we were and what we could accomplish, instead of playing the shrinking violet.”

From **Sherry Kugler Weidner** we hear: “I have joined the group titled ‘widow’ and remind myself, almost daily, that I was blessed to have 56 years with Chuck in marriage and 72 years of knowing him since we were children. Following the advice to not move out of one’s home initially, I am content to stay in this house where we lived for 49 years. It is a one-floor house with many handy railings and grab bars at this point. I have good neighbors, some here even as long as me, and good friends plus a thoughtful family.

I have realized that I am not a person who likes to make changes. Despite that characteristic, I have made a big change. Upon moving to Wilmington 49 years ago, I joined a Methodist church because it was very friendly, and I developed many friendships over that time. However, the recent proclamations by the United Methodist Church regarding limitations to LGBTQ members did not reflect my beliefs. After much discussion with Chuck while he was with me and my children, I appreciated that they easily supported me in my decision to leave this church. I am now going back to my roots and attending a Presbyterian Church, which is more in tune with my beliefs. Although some of my former Methodist-based friends did not agree with my views, I have been grateful that they are respectful and kind regarding my choice. I remain heterosexual with appreciation and love for those I know who are homosexual. I hope this is not too much sharing. Have you noticed that the older we get the more plain-speaking we become?

Thank you for the *Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship* report. As a scholarship student myself, I am happy to give back and will continue to do so. **Barbara Starks Favazza**, **Keiko Tani Fujimoto** and I stay in frequent touch by email. It is our hope we could manage another in-person visit.”

Heather McAlpin Richardson provides: “I have been telling Bible stories to children in the Godly Play tradition for years (15 at the Korean United Presbyterian Church, as director of the Sunday school after graduating from

the Pittsburgh Seminary). After Easter this year, a sweet child cried when he realized Jesus died! Now, to this four-year-old, Jesus’ life after death has no meaning for him. He even cries when he sees me! We are so sad together now! What a great pastor he will be! Thanks to him, I’m going gladly into another retirement. Thanks to God and Beaver for all my wonderful years with children. My eldest grandchild is walking in Luther’s steps on his way to teach the Bible and English in a European orphanage. The second one’s favorite study was physics this year and watches how to do neurosurgery on YouTube. The next one is earning big bucks as an umpire in little league baseball games and plays golf with me. The last, but not least, recently went camping with a friend and his military dad. Each one keeps Charley and me glad to be alive!”

Susan Herridge Stahl states: “I have lived in Rochester since I graduated. Sad to say I have lost track of most of my Beaver classmates. We used to have a big group in Rochester because **Dr. Kistler**, former president of Beaver, was from Rochester, but most have passed away. I love reading about all of you.”

Kathy Kurtz tells us: “Wendy and I are well and happy in Narberth. I am now fully retired and am loving the sense of expansiveness that it has given me, although I am well aware there is less and less time to expand into. So I paint a lot and read a lot and plan to see as much Shakespeare as possible. I saw Glenda Jackson in *King Lear* in New York this spring. She was amazing. The plays hold up no matter what producers do to them. It makes me grateful for those required two semesters with **Dr. Fenton**. My daughter lives and works for the city of Denver in their department of housing, trying to keep the city accessible for all. I’m proud of her and so glad when she comes home for visits and our yearly family vacation at Barnegat Light. Best regards to everyone. And keep resisting the current madness.”

Pat Cosgrove Poor reminisces, “I thought of **Pat Allen** this week

during the news coverage of the 50th anniversary of the Normandy invasion and remembered the day we visited Omaha Beach on April 9. My recollection of how pure and cool and crisp the air felt is still very keen, along with an incredulous sense of the carnage resulting from the action there. Although our visit was in the 20th anniversary year, that fact was not in my memory bank at all until I did the math on June 6, 2019. We visited the stark and lovely cemetery of Saint Laurent, the resting place of the Americans who perished on the beach, and I copied down these words from the monument: “This embattled shore, portal of freedom, is forever hallowed by the ideals, the valor, and the sacrifices of our fellow countrymen.”

Ginny Bruno sends, “I am just back from an opera trip to Tallinn, Estonia, which was great. Now I am putting the other Baltic States on my bucket list. Before that, I had a good ten days in the Andalusian Mountains in Spain with a group of friends. We go every year to this retreat for rest, relaxation, massages, walks, and very good food and drink. In May 2018, five of us went on a cruise along the Volga from Moscow to St. Petersburg and next year it will be the Danube through Vienna to Budapest. I enjoy gardening, theatre, opera, and art class. My friends keep me busy and happy and I continue to have good health!”

Joyce Sobelman shares, “I just returned from my annual trip to Australia to visit my daughter there. At the age of 91, I’m happy to be able to continue making that long trip.”



From left to right, **Cynthia Mindel Auerbach**, **Gail Wiener Biben ’64**, **Janet Copeland Zinman**, **Carol Plessner Miller**, and **Barbara Blumenthal Stern**.

Janet Copeland Zinman writes, “We just shared a wonderful lunch catching up with good old Beaver friends. Everyone is great and very busy with our grandkids’ graduations from middle school through high school. We are thrilled for **Gail Wiener Biben ’64**, who is engaged. Since some couldn’t make it, we’ve scheduled another get together for September in New York City.”

Lynn Auerbach Kaplan keeps in touch with **Linda May Sklar**. Lynn and husband, Steve, moved to a retirement community a few miles from their home of 39 years. One of their daughters lives in Elkins Park—so there are times when she remembers Jenkintown/Beaver driving on Old York Road! They have six grandchildren and three grown children. Good health to all.

Joan Dretler Rubinstein informs us, “**Cynthia Mindel Auerbach**, **Gail Weiner Biben ’64**, and I met at Hudson Yards for a very long lunch. Two weeks later, Cynthia and I had dinner with our husbands in the Berkshires. We shared a wonderful story about how we tried to fix my son up with her daughter many years ago when they were both living in California and seemed to have so much in common. It sounded like a great idea until Cynthia said her children always spend Thanksgiving with her family, and I would be welcome to join them! I made the same offer to her! But as she was the mother of the girl, I knew I could never win! Needless to say, they are both happily married—not to each other—so Cynthia and I never had to deal with a stalemate. We had a good laugh over that one!”

Gilda Battaglia Rorro-Baldassari says, “I am still recovering from a brain tumor, but I keep very busy. I was a guest speaker at the annual Conference of Presidents in June, held in the Columbus Citizens Foundation, in New York. Topics of discussion included the universality of Italian heritage curriculum, such as, the lynching of Italians in New Orleans, and the current controversy regarding the continuation of

Columbus Day. I also distributed my memoir, *Gilda, Promise Me*, to the 40 presidents of major Italian American organizations in attendance. Matilda Cuomo, wife of Governor Mario Cuomo, requested seven copies of *Gilda, Promise Me*, for her son, Governor Andrew Cuomo, and other family members. The consul general of Italy in New York was also present. He had read the memoir prior to the meeting and was most enthusiastic. It was a great experience!”

As your Class Editor, I, **Lynn Kronenberg Berman**, have been disappointed with the response to my requests for news. We only received the reports in this article after a second request! There are so many good reasons to keep up our relationship with Beaver/Arcadia. First, we have good friends and memories from our school days. Second is we should pay it forward to the students of today. The world is very different from the 1950s when we “privileged” daughters were groomed to be good wives and mothers and do charity work. We also became teachers, doctors, and professionals! We can take credit for being the catalyst for the achievements of the women and students of today. Although Arcadia is not the school we remember, the vestiges are there and we can be proud of the school of today. Hang in—hang on—keep our class vital and responding to the needs of the 21st century. Continue to send in reports of what is happening in your lives. Keep in touch with each other and tell us how you are. We don’t have a class Fund Agent, but please continue to contribute to our *Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship Fund* so that we can give more funds to the less privileged students among the student body of Arcadia today.

1964

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Linda Reppa Gordon** who died last December. Condolences as well to **Janet Spence Kerr** whose husband, Thomas Kerr, died last year and to **Charis La**

Pier Jenkins on the death of her husband, Arthur (Art).

Our 55th reunion was in May. Attendance was low, mainly due to medical problems of classmates or their spouses, or other commitments. A toast to those who did attend: **Margaret Lees**, **Bonnie McDowell Lasky**, **Sandra Krebs Hirsh**, **Phyllis St. John Skok**, **Marcia Krysa Hamilton**, **Barbara Ruthberg Leiland**, **Mary Ann Marshall Speakman**, **Carol Van Sciver**, and **Janet Smith Corson**. Thank you to all who contributed to our reunion class gift, totaling more than \$112,620 to benefit Arcadia University.

Phyllis Skok continues her extensive travels: Cuba with the Foreign Policy Association (before travel restrictions were imposed), Paris and the Loire Valley in France, western Ireland and Dublin with Road Scholar, and Florida. While traveling to Egypt for three weeks with a friend, they also toured the city of Addis Ababa during a 13-hour layover. “We spent time in Cairo and Alexandria and one week on a river cruise down the Nile. Seeing the pyramids, temples, and tombs in the Valley of the Kings was something I never expected to do.”

Barbara Ruthberg Leiland and her husband, Jonathan Mallamud, went to Iceland last July. “We loved that journey. We flew to Reykjavik, spent time there by ourselves, then boarded a cruise ship of just 290 passengers for an extended journey of the area. Jon and I disembarked in London. We were able to see the Alan Bennett play, *Allelujah!*, at the new Bridge Theatre.” The week following reunion they went to Short Hills, N.J. for the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Madeline. She’s the daughter of Barbara’s son, Brett Popolow, and Shari Brandt. Barbara and Jon’s blended family includes four sons and their wives and seven grandchildren, six boys, and a girl, Madeline.

A few days after our reunion, **Bonnie McDowell Lasky** and her husband, Elliott, went on a cruise of the Scandinavian

CONTACT YOUR CLASS EDITOR

- 2003

Eileen Butkovic Cook
eileen.cook@yahoo.com
- Kerry Ann Braunstein DePetro
kerryanndepetro@gmail.com
- 2005

Bethany O'Brien
bethie.obrien@gmail.com
- Sarah Holmstrom
sarahholmstrom@gmail.com
- 2006

Megan Corcoran Patten
megan.c.patten@gmail.com
- 2007

Dennis Greene
drbalyeat@gmail.com
- 2008

Caitlin Rooney Meeker
caterooney@gmail.com
- 2009

Barry Hendler
barry.hendler@gmail.com
- 2010

Grace Wainwright Taylor
gracewainwright@gmail.com
- 2011

Carrie Fillebrown
cjfillebrown1@juno.com

Kimberly Lane
kimlane428@gmail.com

Derek Tracey
dtracey714@gmail.com
- 2013

Ashling Suppan
acsuppan@gmail.com
- 2014

Sarah Wolf
wolfsarahe@gmail.com
- 2015

Chelsea Reedman
chelsea.reedman@gmail.com

capitals. She says, “We toured Helsinki with the exchange teacher we hosted in 1982 and have been corresponding since then. We had planned this trip last year in May with my daughter, Charis, and my two sisters as a 50th birthday celebration for Charis. In mid-April, a tendon in my right foot ruptured, and Elliott and I were not able to go on the cruise. The three of them went and we used their experiences and recommendations to plan our trip this year.” After a four-month ordeal of surgery, a boot, crutches, a wheelchair, and more, Bonnie was able to walk with a cane for balance and support and was back to doing water aerobics four or five times a week. She also attends a local university’s Center for Learning in Retirement.

Sandy Hirsh joined the bionic generation last year with a left hip replacement. Her daughter, Katherine, came home from Germany to help with her home recovery as did Drew, Elizabeth, and Chad, who live nearby.

Lynda Spielman tells us she is busy with her third or fourth career as a teacher of watercolor and as an artist. She and husband, John, are still adjusting to country life in upstate New York, even after moving out of the city five years ago. She sent a note card featuring one of her watercolors, *Saturday Morning in Delmar*, a delightful depiction of craft show tents in a clearing beyond the woods.

Sandra Segal Polin could not attend the reunion due to a business conflict, but she continues to support the University. She also recently met with **Jeff Spence**, Arcadia’s assistant vice president for Alumni Engagement and Communications, for coffee in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Sue Mason Bothwell writes that her life is predictable: “I am still going to Bible study, teaching children’s Sunday school, and attending classes at a fitness center. Yes, I continue to enjoy garage sales, but their popularity is in decline. My

hunt for an object for the Antiques Roadshow has become even more of a challenge!”

Larry and **Linda Johnston Austin** attended the Worship Symposium at Calvin College in January 2018 and enjoyed six months of camping, two weeks at a time, at Waldenwoods for the seventh year. She is still active at Calvin Church as clerk of session and worship committee chair. Larry preaches on Sundays for various churches and does funeral services. Janine and Jeff’s and Scott and Kelly’s families keep them busy and delighted with school and sporting events and sleepovers at Waldenwoods.

In February 2018, **Karen Holmes MacIntyre** met her sister Diana in San Antonio, Texas, for a few days of sightseeing before driving to Diana’s home in Nacogdoches, where she toured the town, learned about East Texas, and enjoyed visits with her sister’s son and his wife and son. Karen returned to San Antonio to join a Road Scholar trip to Big Bend National Park. “I saw rolling farmland, pecan orchards, and cattle ranches. I saw the desert and then mountain country. At the border was Mexico with very rugged, wild desert, 3,000 sandstone cliffs, and the Rio Grande River—all spectacular! We spent a few days exploring and sightseeing highlights of the park.” She is still learning the finer points of duplicate bridge and playing regularly so she has earned a few master points. Upkeep of a house never ends; and so does accumulation. Karen is working with a professional organizer to help her declutter.

Diana Peck Watters, Wendy Glass Severance ’65 and I, **Linda Mann**, have vowed we are going to get together this summer/fall, as have **Mimi Hirsch Brauch** and I. **Janet Spence Kerr** stopped by for lunch with me on her way to Kennebunk, Maine,

where she is having a house built, hopefully for occupancy by Labor Day. Once it’s furnished, I’m invited for a stay.

1966 Bettie Howard Yerkes’ daughter and her husband moved seven houses away from her. She is the “bridge” for her granddaughter, between the end of the school day and when either B.A.’s daughter, Sarah, or son-in-law, Jon, get home from work. Betty says this is the best job ever! B.A.’s son, Jeremy, is a fireman in Hilton Head. He has two sons, Liam, 12, and Ronan, 9.

Joan Reifsnnyder Sears had a wonderful 2018 of travel. She and Al went to Costa Rica, Ireland, Michigan, Wisconsin, and France. Now they have unpacked and are enjoying watching their grandchildren (Drew, Ella, Gabriel, Rick, Cameron, Katie, and Sofia) participate in volleyball, baseball, gymnastics, basketball, piano, soccer, and school plays!



Elisabeth Mackerell Ruch ’67, Sheila Murphy, Diane Duffy Hoch, and Miki Waldman De Baise ’66 (*above*) went to Aruba together in January. Rumor has it that a great time was had by all.

Holly Pfeiffer Ludwig has been packing and unpacking too. She went to Tahoe for skiing twice: once with her regular

buddies and then again with her son, Chris, and granddaughter, Saige. Introducing Saige to “big mountains” and the true joy of skiing out west was a thrill. After the cold weather and skiing, Holly was off to Florida for Saige’s gymnastics competition in Orlando. And then, she enjoyed a wonderful trip to New Zealand—the people, the history, the sheep, and the cows!

I, **Judy Simon King**, spent time in February with **Margaret Wolpert Rutkowski**. Our visit is a yearly event and we have the same agenda each year: eating, laughing, talking, shopping, sunbathing, repeat. What fun!

Miki Waldman DeBaise was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, Bucks County Chapter in April 2019. She was honored at a lovely dinner attended by 17 other inductees and their guests. Miki had two tables of well-wishers attending, including **Diane Duffy Hoch**; Miki’s daughter, Brooke; her son-in-law, Glen; and I, **Judy Simon King**. We were privileged to be invited and so proud to see Miki honored in such a wonderful way. Miki has certainly made Beaver/Arcadia proud.

1969 The Class of 1969 celebrated its golden 50-year reunion during Alumni Weekend on May 3 and 4, 2019. Graduates traveled from near and far to reunite on campus and commemorate the many special milestones they achieved since graduation.

Barbara Kelly Breeden volunteers at her church as an archivist and the head of the church’s history and archives project. She also participates in several groups at the United States Naval Academy, including serving as historian for the Naval Academy Garden Club and former president and advisor for the Naval Academy Spouses’ and Civilians’ Club. She serves on the program committee of the Anne Arundel Genealogical Society. She is also a member of the Maryland Genealogical Society and the National Genealogical Society.

Patricia Broh Bort shares, “I am still teaching Math Olympiads, which I began in 1997. My husband and I travel when we can and have visited China, Europe, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Belize, and India. I also love traveling the United States, especially the National Parks in Utah, Wyoming, and Arizona. We also spend time visiting our sons in Seattle and New York and travel to Cabo San Lucas every summer.”

Barbara Woodruff Chase says, “I retired at 60, and about eight years ago I decided to take some painting classes. It only took a short time to know that I could capably paint and feel proud of what I was doing. I now do quite a few outdoor art shows in the summer and have exhibits all over Maine. And I am loving every minute of the painting, marketing, and sharing.”

Christina Hill Connell writes, “We have two sons: David and Philip. David and his wife, Julie, have three children: Romi, 8, Shelby, 5, and Addison, 2. David has a master’s in Agricultural Engineering from McGill University and is a contractor. Philip lives in Toronto and is a film director. Ross and I have been married for 47 years and have lived in Oakville, Ontario, since 1982.”

Emily Solomon Farrell shares, “Besides being a docent at the Brandywine River Museum of Art, each week I do Zumba Gold and Chair Yoga and walk my hostile rescue pup, Bianca. For my brain, I take Bible on Wednesdays and Lifelong Learning on Thursdays. I have also discovered mosaics, so I take classes each week and have mosaicked everything in my house that doesn’t move.”

Susan Rodgers Fleming says, “Traveling, reading, and staying connected to friends and family keep me happy. Rob and I bounce around from Philadelphia, New York City, and Des Moines, where we now oversee the farm where Rob grew up. The farm has been

a real adventure and is something I never would have predicted we would be doing at this point. It’s been great having a new project and is very satisfying. We especially appreciate renewing old friendships and making new friends there.”

Hilda Glazer continues to work in her private practice and teaches part time. She volunteers at Barefoot Beach in Florida in the education center and also for Corkscrew Regional Environmental Watershed (CREW). She also volunteers with the Columbus Jewish Foundation, as the chair of the grants committee, and with her congregation.

Helen Rolfe Ham says, “I am beginning to think of myself as an artist. I have been painting for the last five years and think I have gotten good enough to try to show some pieces and perhaps sell enough to pay for my art supplies! I also volunteer at my church on social justice issues.”

Ruth Fireoved Marino tells us, “I worked as a school psychologist for a total of 37 years, most of them in New Jersey public elementary schools. I decided to wait until I retired to pursue clinical licensure to practice psychology in Pennsylvania. Securing supervision proved to be an enormous obstacle, but I managed to fulfill the requirements and was issued a license in August 2018. Presently, I am employed part time for a charter high school in Philadelphia.”

Susan Smyth Shenker shares, “My goals for retirement are to be healthy and have fun. So far, I am achieving both. With four children and four grandchildren, family time is my number one priority. I’m on a few advisory boards and am trying to decide whether to sell my suburban home and move back to Manhattan. My dream would be to live near Lincoln Center and have a view of the sunset.”

1973 Pamela Martin had emergency open-heart surgery three years

ago. She perseveres and continues to take groups to Cuba! She writes, “During trip number 88, I contracted fish poisoning (ciguatera). I just returned from trip number 91! I would love to introduce Arcadia alumni—let’s plan a trip!”

1988 Michelle Prudon, who was born in Holland and attended an American high school in Brazil, provided an update on her life and career since attending Beaver College and receiving a B.F.A. in Interior Design. She was offered her first job as an interior designer for an architecture firm in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. and, in 1992, moved to Charlotte, N.C., where she worked for a firm specializing in store design. Although she enjoyed designing, it was not fulfilling her expectations and finally, in 1995, she returned to the Netherlands to get her M.B.A. in Finance at Webster University. This was her first time living in Holland since she left as an infant, and she fell in love with Europe. Since 1997 she has been working for ING Bank NV as a network manager, where she manages the “network” of ING’s relationships with banks in 75 countries. The job requires her to travel quite a bit and have strong social skills. But there is also plenty of time for fun! Having been a part of the equestrian team at Beaver, Michelle’s passion for horses continues. She now owns two horses and participates in dressage competitions in her free time. She is a single mother with two teenage children and loves traveling with them. Next stop, back to visit her roots in Brazil in July 2019!

Stacey James Mohr writes, “I have been teaching for the last 20 years. My husband Phil and I are celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary in September. Our son, Simon, graduated from Arcadia in 2016, received his master’s degree from Arcadia in May 2019, and is the coordinator of the R.E.AL. Certificate program at Arcadia.”



Susan Adelizzi-Schmidt says, "I recently had the pleasure of reconnecting with some of you and meeting Arcadia's dynamic new president, **Dr. Ajay Nair**, in Bethany Beach, Del. Since graduation, I have earned an M.B.A. at Stockton University, where I also serve as an adjunct professor. I was recently accepted into Stockton's Ed.D. Organizational Leadership program and I look forward to beginning my journey toward earning my doctorate in the fall.

Since 2007, I have owned Suasion Communications Group (*above*), an award-winning marketing and public relations agency, with offices in Somers Point and Haddonfield, N.J. *The Philadelphia Business Journal* named Suasion to its top Full-Service Agency List for the past two years, and we have been very fortunate to be recognized for our work, with numerous state, national, and industry-based awards.

Being the mom to two incredible people, my daughter, Lauren, and my son, Conrad, brings me so much joy. Lauren will finish her associate's degree at Atlantic Cape Community College in the fall and will then complete her bachelor's degree at Stockton University. Conrad has just finished his junior year at Ocean City High School and has been accepted to Northeastern University's Pre-College Summer Program.

In 2013, I ran for a New Jersey State Senate seat and was honored to be

the first woman from either party to win a nomination and run in the history of the state's First Legislative District. I am based at the Jersey Shore and travel extensively throughout the Delaware Valley visiting clients and networking. I would love to hear from you! If you would like to reconnect, please send an email to sschmidt@suasionmarketing.com or connect on social media."

1990

Marlyn Alkins writes, "After retirement, I missed teaching, so I began teaching Shakespeare's *Macbeth* at Delaware Valley College's Continuing Learning for Retirees (CLR) program. I have done this for a few semesters, and will continue to do it in the future. The students are 65 and older, well-educated, and very interested in the material. I love it."

2001

Sarah Friedman was named vice president of Customer Experience and Strategic Projects at Bollman Hat Company in Adamstown, Pa.

2005

Angela Linder writes, "After graduating from Arcadia, I worked with a homeless organization in South Philly, helping 30 men who had drug, alcohol, and mental health issues in addition to being homeless. In 2015, I started working for a mental health program. I currently work in a house with eight women with intellectual disabilities. Their needs are on varying degrees. This keeps things interesting.

On a personal note, I have been divorced and taking care of my mother who has two very serious medical conditions."

Meg Eubank married Roland Kaelin on May 24, 2019, in a private ceremony with family, followed by a ten-day honeymoon in Ireland. Meg and Roland live together in Hilltown, Pa., where Meg is the executive director of a nonprofit, Welcoming the Stranger (*see p. 32*), and Roland is an audio engineer.

2006

Mishy Rashid was awarded the Ms. Florida Coast 2019 title by the Ms. America® Pageant on June 8, 2019. Mishy has held several business practices as an entrepreneur in several countries across the globe including Dubai, South Africa, and the United States. She is an activist for My Hope Chest. In 2019, she launched her own makeup line for people with Persian Indian skin tones called Shazi Glam. Currently, she manages and owns a home care company for seniors called Angelic Home Care of Sarasota in Sarasota, Fla., covering twelve counties within the state.

2007

Lisa Labb received an honorable mention in the Portrait Category, for the 13th Julia Margaret Cameron Award. She will be exhibiting in Barcelona, Spain from Oct. 7–26, 2019.

2009

Congratulations to **Anthony Champi** and his wife, Eileen, on the birth of their son, Tucker Anthony Champi (*below*), on March 7, 2019. All are doing well.

Hilda Rivera recently bought a house in Allentown, Pa. and was promoted to Government Affairs Analyst at Lehigh Valley Health Network.

Dana Bartelt says, "I've recently adopted a one-eyed cat named Harley Quinn."

Kevin Janus is now the Regional Vice President with Ameritas.

Helen M. Dwyer says, "This past year I presented at the National Science Teacher Association conference in National Harbor, Md. and earned my Master of Education in STEM Leadership from the American College of Education.



I finished my seventh year teaching in Southern Maryland."

Jennifer Thomas (*above*) says, "I just finished my tenth year teaching at T.M. Peirce Elementary School in North Philadelphia. Me and my wife, Megan, and our son, Alexander ("Xander"), just purchased and moved into our first house!"

Barry Hendler recently accepted a new job as an associate director of Residence Life at West Chester University.

Christine Klepper and **Alessandro Russo** got married on July 20, 2019 on Long Island, N.Y.

2010

Grace Wainwright Taylor says, "I am currently an associate director of Financial Aid at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. I have just started leading my daughter's Girl Scout Daisy troop! My husband **Andrew Taylor '11** and I had our second daughter, Natalie Michelle, on March 4, 2019. Andrew is currently in the M.F.A. in Visual Narrative program at SVA NYC.

Dawn Boothby is working for the United States Treasury Department as an I.T. project manager. Dawn is a foster parent in the state of Ohio and has had a



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total of eight children (ages three-months-old to 15-years-old) in her home within the last year. She shares, “I currently have a foster baby, who I hope to adopt one day. Fostering is hard, but it means the world to the kids I support.”

Jessica Davis is an associate at a private practice in Mechanicsburg, Pa. and has been practicing psychological therapy since finishing graduate school five years ago.

Justin DeRosa completed medical school at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2016 and is currently finishing his medical residency training and will be starting a gastroenterology fellowship at Jefferson Health System in July 2019.



Jennifer Gray writes, “Last fall I returned to Arcadia in order to obtain a master’s degree in Education, something I’ve been toying with doing for years. My estimated graduation is in 2021. I am also celebrating nine years of working for Historic Philadelphia, Inc., a nonprofit in Old City where I am able to make history come to life through storytelling and portraying Betsy Ross! I’m loving living in downtown Philadelphia with my black cat, Doug.”

2012

Samantha Luciano married Kenneth Mariano on May 18, 2019. Three decades of Arcadia alumni—all coaches with Special Olympics, who started their volunteering through Arcadia’s Special Athlete Association (*pg. 10*)—attended the wedding. **Brittany Dutch** was the maid of honor and was joined by her fiancé, **Cristopher Sefranksy ’07**. Other alumni in attendance included, **Dave Owens ’04** and his fiancée, **Denise Meola ’02**; **Dave Paone ’04, ’09MEd** and his fiancée, Kathryn, who unexpectedly passed away on Sept. 11, 2019; **Stephanie Doyle ’06, ’07M**; **Michele Morgan ’14**; **Curts Charles ’12MBA**; **Heidi Reynolds Russell ’92**; and **Kerry Costello Leraris ’92, ’94MEd** (*above*).

2013

Gabrielle Bruno (*left*) recently graduated from South University as a physician assistant and got engaged to fellow Class of 2013 classmate, **Christopher Baines!**

Melissa Bowers Palmer (*top right*) is currently running for Sheriff of Montgomery County (on the ballot as Melissa Bowers Palmer). On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, she won her primary and will be up for election this coming November. Melissa



says, “My bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from Arcadia University has truly played an important role in my decision to run for public office. One professor I took several classes under, **Al Stewart**, is a member of the Montgomery County Bomb Squad, which is under the Sheriff’s Department. His classes not only prepared me for my career, but helped motivate me to be where I am today.”

Benjamin Smith has joined Law Offices of Anthony J. Leonard, LLC as an associate. In this new position, Ben will focus his practice on serious injury cases of all kinds, including slip and falls, automobile and trucking accidents, product liability, and medical malpractice. The firm has offices in Mount Holly, N.J. and Philadelphia.



2014

On May 17, 2019, **Haylie Lobeck** (*above*) successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis titled “Transformation of Uranyl Phases into Nanoscale Cage Clusters and Hydrothermal Behavior of Uranyl Peroxide Nanoclusters” at the University of Notre

Dame. Her advisor was Dr. Peter C. Burns. Their research was funded by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Actinide Center of Excellence grant DE-NA0003763. Her work studied uranium chemistry and geochemistry, with projects focusing on dissolving uranium minerals in different environments and how this relates to the nuclear fuel cycle. She has accepted a one-year NNSA Postdoctoral Fellowship (NNSA NGFP) and will be working with the Office of Tritium and Materials Management in Albuquerque, N.M.

A year ago, **Lauren English** launched her own business and app for book clubs, Bindings. Groups can manage their reading schedules, rate and review books, and host discussions regarding their readings. What’s more, by completing a short personality questionnaire, the app will match you with book clubs worldwide that meet your personality and needs. The app is currently live, but very far from finished. The last year has focused on expanding users and reaching out to the public to help test. The app is available in the App Store as Bindings App. For more information check out facebook.com/bindingsapp.

Brandon Strauss recently received his master’s degree in Natural Resource Sciences in the discipline of Applied

Ecology with a specialty of Forensic Entomology from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

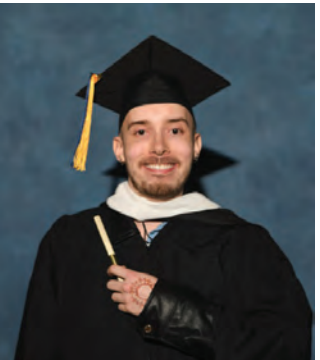
Amber Timlin is currently a teen librarian for Marple Public Library and has a beautiful 2-year-old daughter.

Katlyn Davies is engaged to marry to Stephen Whitehead on Dec. 14, 2019.



In March, **Emyliane Christodoulou** (*above*) launched her own tea business, Dearly Blends. It’s an all organic, sustainable business started in New Hope, Pa. For more information, check out dearlingblends.com.

Joseph Beissel is graduating from Palmer College of Chiropractic as a Doctor of Chiropractic in September.



In May, **Chris Issac** (*above*) graduated with his master’s degree in Strategic Communications from La Salle University. While studying for this degree he was also working two jobs.

Since graduating from Arcadia, **Allison Gaines** received her master’s degree in Biomedical Science, obtained certification with the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators, and accepted a job as a forensic death investigator at the Cobb County Medical Examiner’s Office in Marietta, Ga.


Joseph Thomas just finished his M.F.A. in prose at the University of Notre Dame, and will be doing a Fulbright to Oaxaca this year. He will then pursue his Ph.D. in English at the University of Pennsylvania the year after. He had a memoir excerpt, “The Den of Earl” published

in *The Offing* in 2017, and has a short story forthcoming in the *Kenyon Review*.

Stephanie McDougal is the clinical director of the Physical Therapy and Wellness Institute Souderton location. She is also board certified in orthopedics effective July 2017.

2018

Samantha Trainor writes, “A year after graduation, I have found myself in a new graduate program at Drexel University. I am currently a Master of Public Health candidate in Health Management and Policy, graduating in March of 2020. Along with full-time grad school, I am also working for Virtua Health in South Jersey in Patient Access—utilizing my degree received in Healthcare Administration. In June, I began a position at Wills Eye Hospital in Center City, Philadelphia in their Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Department working alongside the heads of surgery, patient safety, and infectious disease. Since starting this degree in September, I have been working with one of my professors to research and present at the APHA Conference in Philadelphia this coming fall! Arcadia has given me these opportunities to grow and I would not change it for the world!”



Effective Jan. 1, 2020, alumni will retain access to their Arcadia email accounts for two years following their graduation date. In order to protect personal information and sensitive data, accounts will be retired after that period. To continue receiving news and announcements from the Alumni Association, update your alumni record at **alumni.arcadia.edu** or by emailing **alumni@arcadia.edu**.

Picture Your Next Event Here

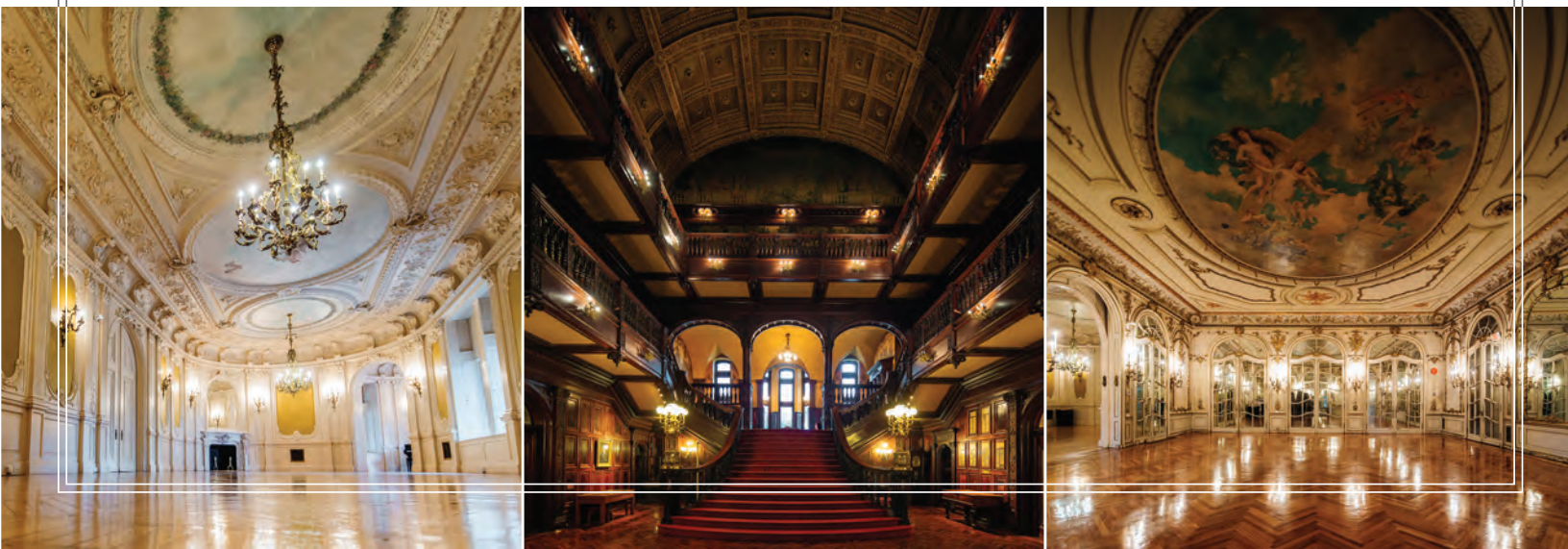


Photo courtesy of Black White & Raw Photography.

ALUMNI RECEIVE DISCOUNTS ON SPACE RENTALS

From historic Grey Towers Castle to state-of-the-art academic facilities, Arcadia's scenic campus is an ideal destination for conferences, meetings, weddings, and special events.

To reserve a space, contact 215-572-2998 or conferenceservices@arcadia.edu.



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2019

The alluring spring landscape of Arcadia's campus set the scene for Alumni Weekend as hundreds of graduates returned to their alma mater on May 3 and 4. Alumni of all generations traveled from near and far to reunite with friends, revel in the nostalgia of their campus experience, and learn more about exciting developments at Arcadia.



For more photos,
arcadia.edu/AW

The Class of 1959 return to campus in honor of their 60-year reunion.



All graduates were invited to mix and mingle with classmates and friends during the All Classes Reunion Reception.



The Class of 1969 gather with graduates of earlier classes to commemorate their 50-year reunion during the Golden Reunion Dinner. While delighting in a three-course dinner in Grey Towers Castle, classmates—including **Marlo McLaughlin Finlayson '69**, **Penelope Ray '69**, **Susan Francis Dodson '69**, **Barbara Howland '69**, and **Judith Allen Smith '69**—celebrate enduring memories, extraordinary achievements, and lifelong friendships.

Saturday's celebrations begin with a toast as guests savor a champagne brunch before joining the Alumni Association Leadership Council for their annual meeting. **Frances Chiodo-Gross '85Med, Monique Miller '73, Pam Martin '73, '03M, and Mary Jane Hagan '79** share laughs and memories throughout the morning.

Jeanette Fong Ching '59, Ruth Weber High '54, President Emerita Dr. Bette Landman '04H, Marilyn Sunners Cranin '54, '96H, and Carol Wrigley Young '54 celebrate at the Golden Reunion Dinner.



**SAVE
the DATES
MAY 1-2, 2020**



The festivities begin with "Music to My Ears: Memory, Cognition, and Musical Training," a panel discussion led by **Dr. Katherine Sledge Moore**, assistant professor of Psychology; **Dr. Barbara Nodine**, professor emerita of Psychology; and alumnus **Pinar Oguz '18**. After, alumni spend the afternoon in Philadelphia, exploring the Museum of the American Revolution's immersive galleries and artifacts.



Physical Therapy alumni, faculty, and professors emeriti attend "Past, Present, & Future: Celebrating 35 Years of Physical Therapy at Arcadia University."



Attendees participate in class meetings, enjoy a performance by the Philadelphia Flute Quartet during the Dr. F. William and Martha-Lee Taggart Sunderman Chamber Music Concert, immerse themselves in an interactive virtual reality lab experience, and pose with the Arcadia Knight.



Ashley Crum '15MBA and Danielle Martin '17MBA capture their excitement and laughter at the Knight at the Races photo booth. In the final celebratory moments, friends bid farewell and exchange promises to return to campus for Alumni Weekend 2020.

- 1936

Edna Bethel Graham
- 1937

E. Charlotte Pfizenmayer
- 1938

Mary Cole Shaw
- 1941

Shirley Isacowitz Leviton
'73H (Former Trustee)
- 1943

Marilyn Engel Berlin
Eleanor Stein Zitin
- 1944

Frances Potter Breitner
Joan Carpenter McElhinney
- 1945

Joyce Levine Jacobson
- 1948

Margaret Swart Neal
- 1949

Marilyn Nicholson
Ahrenhold
- 1950

Jane Robinson Carpenter
F. Rosalie VanDyke Morri
- 1951

Shirley Musson Brower
Joan Berthiaume Killion
- 1952

Margaret Weber Campbell
Jean Starr Cowdery
Carol Eynon
Alicia Lamberton Garnett
Norma Rubin Levin
Joan Phillips Stanley
- 1953

Emilie Grootendorst Barry
- 1954

Morita Field Greist
- 1955

Mary Walker Pine
- 1957

Mary Tippet Peters
- 1959

Abigail Foster Grant
- 1960

Patricia Quigg Derrico
- 1961

Peggy Clark Walker
Helen Janulis Xenakis
- 1963

Nancy Smith Fichthorn
- 1964

Audrey Zielke Moloney
- 1965

Barbara Bates Seiler
- 1967

Christine Ledesma King
- 1968

Judith Graham Lotridge
- 1970

Michal Morrison Kusick
- 1972

Barbara Moldt Gorson
- 1973

Ellen Maitin
- 1979

Mary Ann Baracka '79MED
- 1994

Sandra Bichefsky '94MED
- 1995

Thomas Armbruster
- 2002

Angela Stellwag
- 2007

Douglas Faulkner '07M
- 2008

William DeLauder '08H
- Staff

Roberta "Bobbie" Thomas

Jane Friedman Korman

Jane Friedman Korman, a member of the Class of 1977, died on Oct. 5. Korman graduated from Cheltenham High School and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Beaver College.



Courtesy of
Jefferson Health

Jane attended Beaver from 1956-57, returning as a Continuing Education student to graduate in 1977. In 1957, she married Leonard I. Korman (*at right, in photo*), who became chairman and CEO of Korman Commercial Properties. The Kormans quickly became known for their philanthropic endeavors

in the Philadelphia area, including supporting Jefferson Health, Einstein Medical Center Montgomery, Morris Arboretum, and Arcadia University. In 2007, Jane was diagnosed with lung cancer. Five years later, the couple launched a center for lung diseases through Jefferson. In 2017, they established the Jane and Leonard Korman Respiratory Institute, a leading hospital and research center in New York that aimed to expand treatment for pulmonary conditions through innovative research and clinical programs. Jane served on several boards throughout the Philadelphia area for the arts, including the Fabric Workshop and Museum and the American Craft Council. She served on the Philadelphia Museum of Art’s women’s committee and was an honorary trustee of the Barnes Foundation. Besides her husband, Jane is survived by daughters Catherine Altman, Susan Schurr, and Alison Korman Feldman, and seven grandchildren. Her niece, **Laura Fisher Korman '89, '95MED**, Trustee Emerita and 2005 Golden Disc Award for Meritorious Service recipient, died in 2017. ♡

Mitchell '05, '13MPH



Taking the Reins

A cautiously raised hand and a sharp intake of breath—veneration (with a touch of trepidation) is often transparent as first-timers approach the equines at Sebastian Riding Associates (SRA). This particular horse, Moe, offers a cursory sniff of the guest’s palm before returning his attention to the undisturbed patch of grass he’d led his trainer to.

But his indifference is easily forgiven. Moe is off-duty, as he is no ordinary horse—and SRA is no ordinary equestrian facility. Settled on a 19th-century farm in Collegeville, Pa., SRA is home to 18 therapy equines, ranging from a miniature dwarf who makes regular contributions to a local literacy program, to newcomer Moe, whose poise and patient temperament seem befitting of Riding Free, the brainchild of alumna **Dene Mitchell '05, '13MPH**. In 2010, as Mitchell weighed topics for her graduate thesis, the Developmental Victimization Survey revealed a staggering 71 percent of children in the United States experience trauma. Responding to the lack of therapies suited for this population, Mitchell—who earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psycho-Biology and a Master of Public Health at Arcadia—launched Riding Free to help children and adolescents with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) build trust, self-confidence, and autonomy. While SRA offers a variety of programs for individuals with physical limitations and cognitive disorders, Riding Free is the first to provide trauma-informed care. Participants start with a range of symptoms: low self-esteem, poor decision-making skills, mistrust in authority. Many, Mitchell laments, feel unworthy of happiness. Then, they’re introduced to a towering, 900-pound equine like Moe. And the student who “didn’t need help” shows reliance by allowing an instructor to hold his hand; the rider who jumped off a horse to catch a bug reveals that she befriended insects while locked

in a cage as a toddler; and the boy who begs to ride Oreo admits it’s because the mare looks like him and his mother—black and white. “Pieces of empathy come out; it’s an experience of happiness and safety they can always look back on, no matter where life takes them,” said Chris Hanebury, executive director of SRA. After her daughter with Down syndrome passed away, Hanebury was exploring equine bereavement programs. Fate led Mitchell to SRA. Riding Free’s structure is simple: Month one, students learn communication and partnership. Month two, riding. By the third month, they’re overcoming obstacles on the course and off. The outcomes, however, are anything but simple. You see it in the participants’ posture, as they flood the stables with shoulders up; in their focus, as they take on leadership tasks; and in their mood, as they rekindle their enthusiasm for new experiences. Guardians have reported improved grades, health, and emotional regulation. Some participants reduce their medication; all reduce their chances of substance abuse, addiction, and depression. Mitchell’s seven-year study—investigated alongside Professor Emerita of Public Health **Dr. Andrea Crivelli-Kovach**, with Arcadia University serving as the Institutional Review Board—concludes this fall, when the team will determine if Riding Free met its goals. Here, Mitchell discusses the program’s inception, progress, and impact thus far.



Jean Katherine Baird, dean of Women

Last year marked the 100th anniversary of the death of author and suffragist **Jean Katherine Baird**, dean of Women at Beaver College in the early 20th century. Baird authored 11 fiction books, short stories, and articles published in several contemporary magazines, including *Ladies' Home Journal* and *Youth's Companion*. Baird was found dead in her room at Beaver College by President **H.D. Haskell** and **Dr. J.C. McCauley** after not answering repeated knocks on her door. When the two entered, they found an empty bottle of cyanide nearby. Found in her room was a dark note that Baird had penned that spoke of an unrequited love that led to anguish and, according to the coroner, “mental depression.” Baird alluded to a failed relationship that led her to take her own life. ♡



What prompted you to focus on PTSD?

I was working full time, earning my master's at Arcadia, and got involved with SRA because I needed to do something good. I was so inspired by how their students overcame limitations. I originally planned to study chronic illness, but once I started volunteering, I knew I wanted to focus my research on animal-assisted therapy. In 2010, there wasn't much out there as far as complementary therapies that could draw kids with PTSD out of their shells. That was the spark that lit the fire.

Where did you start?

I fell in love with program planning at Arcadia, and had to have a rigorous background in evaluation, epidemiology, and research to launch Riding Free. It takes about a year to develop a solid program; then, you have to have the right support to put it in motion.

Everything came together at once. I was getting weekly reinforcement of how equine therapy worked as an SRA volunteer, and Dr. Crivelli-Kovach was all for me developing Riding Free for my internship and thesis. I conducted a year's worth of research and focus groups, trying to align our plans with evidence-based practice. We started by running one student through a 12-week lesson plan, but it took less than four sessions for us to realize it was going to work. Now, we're working with more than 30 participants in the study alone.

Why horses?

For a child with internal fears and anxieties, approaching a horse is so empowering. They learn to be a teammate and partner. A lot of children with PTSD have low self-worth; that changes when they prove to themselves that they can do amazing things. The bond they develop is just incredible, especially when you see how withdrawn they are outside of the stables, how poor they may be doing academically, or how they struggle in their relationships.

When do you start to see these changes?

Students work with horses through an obstacle course, overcoming challenges. They're in control, which is something they're not used to having. Our hope is that they realize their choices and behaviors are in their hands.

“
If you've ever worked with children with PTSD, you know that a lot of these kids don't have the spark of joy that most people have in their childhood. The horses are bringing that back.
”

Through their relationships with their instructors, they also begin to trust adults again. By the fourth week, they're verbalizing and showing improved social skills. For anyone with PTSD, learning how to be part of a community—to matter to someone, even if it's a horse—is so important.

What challenges do families face?

Children come to us from different walks of life, but are often from low socioeconomic or single-income families. These families often don't have programs or funding available to them. One of my missions has been to make sure we always have scholarships for participants—even after they complete their 12 weeks.

We were also finding that many caregivers of children with PTSD felt alone until they came to SRA. I had two Arcadia interns help develop the framework for a support group. Our interns from Arcadia have been amazing—**Cody Brenneman '19DPT, MPH** also helped us develop a vocational program for people with disabilities to develop

life skills and employment characteristics.

Do you have a favorite success story?

A boy came to us with extreme anger issues and bouts of violence. By the end of the program, he had come off eight of his medications. His mother told us that this was the only place that he felt at peace.

We've heard from caregivers that their kids are showing interest for the first time since their trauma. If you've ever worked with children with PTSD, you know that a lot of these kids don't have the spark of joy that most people have in their childhood. The horses are bringing that back.

What are your next steps?

Our hope is to publish, then look at conferences. Chris, Dr. Crivelli-Kovach, and I presented a mid-point analysis at the American Public Health Association's international conference in 2015, and we'd like to do that again.

Riding Free has grown so much from that pilot student in 2012. The program has almost doubled the clients at Sebastian's, to the point where we needed to construct a second arena. We just finished a two-year capital fundraiser. That spark I mentioned earlier? It's really fueled this group. It couldn't be better. ❖

Mitchell serves as director of Grants and Sustainability at SRA, teaches program planning as an adjunct professor of Public Health at Arcadia, and has conducted research for major oncology and pharmaceutical organizations.



REMEMBERING THE CLASS OF 1856

Adaptability. Fearlessness. Integrity. Intellectual freedom.

These values, shared by generations of Beaver College and Arcadia University graduates, took shape from the aspirations of two courageous young women from humble beginnings.

Sylvania Jones and **Juliet A. Poundstone** dreamed of a liberal arts education at a time when few institutions provided women with opportunities for higher learning. Before their life-changing studies at Beaver Female Seminary, Jones and Poundstone lived more than 600 miles apart. Determination and ambition brought them together.

Jones, born in 1838 in Indiana, was one of nine children raised by Reece and Pheby. Her older brother Edwin followed in Reece’s footsteps, choosing a career as a steamboat engineer. The eldest Jones brother, Alfred, worked as a painter. A tenacious middle child, Jones attended school with her older sisters Edith, Mariah, Elmina, and Caretta, while toddlers Rosabella and Cora reached developmental milestones at home.

Born in 1836, Poundstone grew up on her family’s farm in Brownsville, Pa., with her parents, Richard and Mary, and her older siblings, Margaret and Alexander. During childhood, Poundstone gained agrarian skills while cultivating soil, harvesting crops, and caring for livestock. She developed a lifelong appreciation for agriculture and, like Jones, recognized a chance to participate in the inclusive academics offered by pioneering models in women’s education, which emerged throughout the Philadelphia region and westward toward Pittsburgh.

When Jones and Poundstone embarked on their journeys to Beaver Female Seminary, they seized every learning opportunity available to them. In three years, they became the institution’s first graduates in 1856. Jones and Poundstone demonstrated remarkable persistence, forging a path for all Arcadia students.

After graduation, Jones married U.J. Stevens, a traveling salesman from Ohio, and established the Stevens family home in Santa Clara, Calif. They raised two children, Nettie and Willie. Later, the couple expanded their residence to accommodate W.S. Stevens, U.J.’s brother and supervisor of a canning factory; Ella Stevens, their sister-in-law; and Pheby Jones, Sylvania’s mother.

Poundstone married Samuel S. Avery, a farmer from New York, and raised two daughters, Anna and Katie, and a son, John. Poundstone returned to her agricultural roots and applied the knowledge and proficiency she had acquired to manage their farm in New Lexington, Ohio. ❖



JONES POUNDSTONE
SOCIETY

The Class of 1856—Sylvania Jones and Juliet A. Poundstone—is an indelible part of Arcadia’s rich history. The first two graduates defied convention, led with courage, and possessed the tenacity to overcome challenges and discover greater possibilities.

Today, the Jones Poundstone Society recognizes donors whose generosity enables the University to uphold its longstanding tradition of academic excellence and innovation. Society members support scholarships, study abroad experiences, academic programs, co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities, library and scientific resources, technology upgrades, and more through *The Fund for Arcadia*. ❖



1853
CIRCLE

\$1,000 - \$2,499
*commemorates the
University’s founding*



BEECHWOOD
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*acknowledges the University’s
Jenkintown roots*



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CIRCLE

\$5,000 - \$9,999
*celebrates the University’s
Beaver College legacy*



ARCADIA
CIRCLE

\$10,000 - \$24,999
*moves boldly in the present to ensure
a brighter future for the University*



PRESIDENTS
CIRCLE

\$25,000 and higher
*honors University leaders
past and present*

Each of the first four circles represents unrestricted support for The Fund for Arcadia. The Presidents Circle entitles the donor to a named, current-use scholarship.

arcadia.edu/JP Society

1,853
MINUTES



1,000+
KNIGHTS

Starting at the stroke of midnight on Tuesday, Dec. 3 and continuing for 1,853 minutes, Knights everywhere will come together to show their pride and support for Arcadia and its students. Join the excitement and be part of the movement at alumni events online and around the world.

Learn more at uknightedtuesday.arcadia.edu.



@ArcadiaAlumni

#UKnightedTuesday