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Dear Class of COVID-19: A Tribute to Graduates
The Time Is Now: Radical Change at Arcadia
In this second edition of Arcadia’s 40 Under 40, we introduce you to the new class of change agents and leaders who charted distinctive paths to success.

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WorkingNation President and Beaver College alumna Oates offers advice for a 21st-century workforce.

The Last Word
Taylor Raymond ’16 explores how seismic political shifts—and hope—have guided women to historic triumphs.

From the President

#ArcadiaStrong

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Remembering Walter E. Blankley

A Look Back
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Arcadia Community,

This past spring semester was one of the most challenging semesters we had ever experienced. Few of us had ever encountered a crisis that altered our lives like COVID-19. After we had navigated through that semester, as the pandemic still hovered over our lives, we were once again brought face-to-face with the brutal reality of the systemic racism and violence that continues to plague our nation.

Eventually, perhaps sooner than we think, a vaccine will be developed, produced, and distributed to inoculate us against the coronavirus. But there is no quick injection-to-inoculate ourselves against systemic racism. There are only our efforts to effect change.

As President, I must and will do everything in my power to lay the groundwork for systemic change in all realms of the institution, and the work will happen immediately.

We will reimagine the University in six domains—academics; training, learning, and development; campus, climate, and culture; justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion; local, national, and global impact; and policies and procedures—to meet the needs of our community and create systemic change at Arcadia.

Time is not on our side. Every moment we wait means another life may be lost. The pressing questions for Arcadia are: How will we mobilize around these issues even more profoundly than we already are? On a local, national, and global scale? How will we live up to our mission and vision as an institution that strives to be socially just? What does it mean to reimagine our University and inspire radical change?

The multifaceted COVID-19 was not and will not be shared equally among our stakeholders; identities including, but not limited to, socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, sexual violence survivors, and citizenship status could make a significant difference in the ramifications of the virus. In terms of the virus of racism, it’s clear upon whom the burden of that falls—and will continue to fall, unless each of us acts.

I want to stress to our students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members that I am with you. We have far to go as a community of practice, but in time, we will become a reflection of the world that we want to live in. It is my expectation that our leadership, with the support of the community, will have made significant progress by the end of the fall semester. I promise to provide frequent updates on all of these initiatives, including more definitive timelines, with a community-wide “Knights’ check us” meeting in October.

More than 25 years ago, when I was an undergraduate student, I fought for the same issues many of our students, alumni, and community members are advocating for today. I continue to share these frustrations and fight for these issues, though now I am in a position to do even more. With your support, I plan to show up for our community to the best of my ability.

We are...forever, Arcadia Knights and #ArcadiaStrong.

Sincerely,

Ajay Nair, Ph.D.
President

#ARCADIASTRONG

ARCADIA AND THE KORMAN FAMILY DEDICATE THE LAURA MINERVA KORMAN MIRROR ROOM

Gray Towers Castle has long stood as a symbol of Arcadia University, its students, and its alumni. Now, the Mirror Room, one of the Castle’s dining-rooms of elegance, will bear the name of one of the University’s most dedicated alumnae.

On Jan. 16, more than 125 members of the Arcadia community gathered in Gray Towers Castle to hear the special announcement in memory of former Trustee Laura M. Korman ’89, ’95M (1967-2017).

Alongside Laura’s husband, James, Arcadia President Ajay Nair announced the naming of the Laura Minerva Korman Mirror Room. Members of Laura’s family, personal friends, and the Korman’s sons, Henry and William, and daughter, Josephine, were also present for the loving tribute to their mother, joined by Arcadia students, alumni, and friends.

The Laura Minerva Korman Mirror Room holds poignant memories for the Korman family. Laura and James were married in Gray Towers Castle in 1994—just one day shy of the dedication that occurred 26 years later. They had their first dance to Steve Wonder’s “Ribbon in the Sky.” As a celebratory tribute, Professor of Music Sam Heifetz performed a moving rendition of the iconic song during the room’s dedication ceremony.

Laura Korman inspired the University community with her compassionate leadership and meaningful generosity. She served on the Alumni Board of Directors, co-chaired the Class President’s Committee, engaged with prospective students as an alum admissions representative, and organized Alumni Reunion events as co-president of her graduating class. She expanded scholarship opportunities, enhanced campus facilities, and strengthened the Preview program for Arcadia students. Laura Korman received both the Golden Duc for Meritorious Service (2005) and the Mary Louise Armstrong Wolf Award (2007) for her efforts.

#ArcadiaStrong

In March, the #ArcadiaStrong social media campaign was launched to unite the University community amid the coronavirus pandemic. Highlights included a collaborative Spotify playlist, virtual Scarlet and Grey Day, and packed Zoom meetings.

HIGHLIGHTS BY THE NUMBERS

80 STUDENTS REMAINED IN ON-CAMPUS HOUSING DURING SPRING SEMESTER

1K+ MASKS MADE BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

ERICA ARMSTRONG WOLF AWARD (2007) FOR HER EFFORTS.

SAM HEIFETZ

Presidents’ Annual Lecture 2018—2019

President Nair and James Korman unveil the dedication of the Laura Minerva Korman Mirror Room.

The Korman family and Arcadia students, faculty, and staff prepare to unveil the dedication of the Laura Minerva Korman Mirror Room.
Radical Change Is Necessary

In a series of messages to the University community and videos uploaded across social media platforms, President Ajay Nair (left) addressed the importance of taking a stand against white supremacy, police brutality, systemic racism and violence, and the many other injustices facing the Black community and different marginalized identities.

“I am outraged, disappointed, and disgusted by the recent deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmad Arbery,” wrote President Nair. “In addition to describing some tangible action steps in this letter, this is an important opportunity for me to speak directly to our Black community members: We hear you, we care for you, and we will do right by you. We are in solidarity with you against the oppressive systems that continue to plague our local, national, and global communities. We will not tolerate injustice here or anywhere.”

Unified and Collective Energy

“The Board of Trustees recognizes how the Arcadia community came together in the face of an unprecedented health crisis this past spring semester. Now, we must join together once more to enact positive change in the face of inequality, discrimination, and prejudice, just as President Nair’s message calls for us to do.

“We have shown our strength and evolved as an institution, and will continue to do so as a University unified by our values, ambitions, and collective energy to remain #ArcadiaStrong.”

Black Alumni Association (BAAAU)

“In times like this, we recognize the responsibility for groups and organizations to speak out against racial injustices in continued hope for a paradigm shift. We stand in solidarity with the George Floyd protestors, who are making their continued hope for a paradigm shift. We stand in solidarity with the George Floyd protestors, who are making their

Protest and Passion

"Like so many in our community, this week has made me feel weary, agitated, fearful, angry and invigorated—all at the same time. One emotion I have not felt is hopeless. As many of our callers have said this week, this is a time when Black-owned media matters. Having a place dedicated specifically and exclusively to giving voice to our pain, struggle and pride and support for the activism in the streets, and anger over the destruction in our neighborhoods. This matters. Being able to hold the power that he accountable to our community matters.”

Ending Police Brutality

In June, several prominent media outlets sought out Dr. John Noakes (above), interim director of the School of Education and an internationally known scholar on the policing of political protests, for comment. Dr. Noakes, who also is chair of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, spoke of the failures of “rough guy” policing from the use of riot gear to a militarized response.

“Best practices in policing these days is to de-escalate, not escalate,” Dr. Noakes told ABC News. “On the success of community-policing cities like Camden, N.J., where police knelt with protesters or carried Black Lives Matter signs, Dr. Noakes observed, “that only works if you build a relationship with the community over the years.”

"It's really about creating spaces where we can grapple with the frustration matters. Having a space dedicated specifically and exclusively to giving voice to our pain, struggle and pride and support for the activism in the streets, and anger over the destruction in our neighborhoods. This matters. Being able to hold the power that he accountable to our community matters.”

Dr. Noakes also spoke to The Toronto Star on the use of riot police to enforce fences around the White House. The shift from using a physical barrier to a human one led Dr. Noakes to note how organized groups will focus on whatever kind of barrier is placed between protesters and the symbolic subject of protest. He explained how human fallibility, when added to escalating tensions, further increases the potential for violence.

Desmond Daniels ’21, ’22M (below), a student in the School of Education, penned “The Black Male Experience” while expressing his support for the growing social justice movement for equality.

A staff member and extended day teacher for Abington Friends School, Daniels uses his position to educate children on race, equality, and justice, as demonstrated in his recent essay. “A Letter to White Families From A Black Male Teacher: The First Time I Encountered Discussing Race With A White Kid.”

Daniels is driven to see the next generation understand the privileges that some are born with and the hardships that others face. As a Black man, he’s motivated to be an educator so children can learn from him to develop into learners who “value justice, diversity, and inclusion,” while increasing accessibility to learning and achieving for all students. By leading by example, he hopes to create a generation of “empathists and changemakers.”

“Will TODAY be the LAST day of my earthly experience? Will TODAY be the LAST day I will feel the warmth and love of all the communities I am a part of! Will TODAY be the LAST day I say ‘I love you mom’ when I walk out the door?”

— excerpt from “The Black Male Experience”
Dear Class of COVID-19

I

tsacks. It totally, totally sucks. There's no way around that. No one was expecting this. I know how many tears you have shed and will shed. I know how you feel because I feel it too.

I am rather astonished by the array and unpredictability of emotions I wake up with and move through each day. When I wake up each morning (I have slept much at all) even before I open my eyes, I do a sort of scan for what the morning's emotional flavor will be. Fear. Joy. Sadness. Love. Anxiety. Excitement. Worry. Levy. Overwhelmed. Warmth. Imitation. Elation. Anger. Grief. And more grief. We are living through a collective grieving process.

Many of you feel the same way about your school. Even if you don't love your school, and even before COVID-19 upended our lives, this was going to be a hard transition. Transitions are hard. You are at the threshold between phases of your life. This is profound. This is true whether you are transitioning from elementary school to middle, from middle to high school, from high school to university, or from school of any sort to whatever lies beyond. This is the transition to the Big Wild World. Once you leave a phase of your life, you can't go back. You are already become, and on all that you will be.

This moment is calling all of us to figure out how to use the power that we have in ways that we have never known before. We have the skills and knowledge and caring to remake the world.

Graduations matter because they give us a doorway, a nest of nurture and support and love. It feels safe. It is a way of preparing to make a new entry and become very solemn with each other.

Graduations matter because they help materialize the threshold between these phases. They are a ritual that marks leaving one phase and entering another. They are a way of preparing to:

- Make a new entry and become very solemn with each other.
- Mark leaving one phase and entering another.
- Create a new world where we are human. Rituals matter because they make the transition across that terrifying, exhilarating threshold predictable, and therefore palatable. They make it fun. (But the ritual itself is actually kind of boring to be honest.) They turn all that is unknown and unknowable into an experience of predictability, on one hand, and collective joy and celebration, on the other.

Writing and preparing a thesis is another ritual. We talk about this capstone as preparing you for the world of work or further education. You build important skills. You gain important knowledge. Then you display and demonstrate it, and turn it into skills and knowledge for a broader audience. This marks another threshold crossed.

As classes and thesis presentations and graduations across the country and around the world are canceled, postponed, or moved to a far less satisfying electronic format, you are losing this important ritual. But you are not losing the threshold. This is hard because the rituals help us deal with uncertainty. It makes us feel prepared for the new role we need to take on.

I keep hearing back to my favorite quote from The Lord of the Rings: "If it is not to be, it will not happen in my time," said Frodo. "So be it," said Gandalf, "and so do we all who live to see such times. But that is not for us to decide. All we have to decide is what we do with the time that is given us." I wish this need not have happened in our time either.

We might wish for predictable music or art or in the hot sun on the beach. And then there is a ritualized exit and celebration, cheering, parties, loss of hugs. Sometimes students toss a beach ball around.

And somehow this makes us ready for what comes next.

You have been ready for a long time. You are already living in the Big Wild World. Some of you have already been responsible for your families and your friends for a while now. Some of you have been working your way through school. Some of you are already dealing with some very challenging real life things. But all of you are ready for this.

You, Class of COVID-19, are more ready than any class has ever been. You are more ready because you are resilient and capable and full of imagination. You are more ready because you have always known that predictability was something of an illusion. You are more ready because you have always known that your generation probably would be the ones to remake the world. You are more ready because you have always known that your generation would probably be the ones who lead to the remaking of the world. You are more ready because you are creative and good humored and irreverent and funny. You are more ready because you understand the virtual world better than anyone. You are more ready because, in some way, you have prepared for this moment your whole life.

So some thoughts for you if you are hurt and angry and scared and wondering if any of this matters:

- It does matter. You matter. Your thesis or capstone or culminating work matters. All the work you did in all your years of school matters.
- It matters because your world has become bigger. You have learned the stories of people and places and histories that you would not otherwise know.
- It matters because your world has become smaller: You have come to care for people who live lives different from your own in times and places that are not where you are from.
- It matters because of knowledge gained: With this knowledge, you are armed with facts that you can use powerfully.
- It matters because of skills gained: You have the skill of critical thinking and the challenge of unlearning unthinking thinking; you have the skill of knowing the difference between fact and fantasy (a big one these days); you have the skill of writing, speaking, communicating to different audiences.
- It matters because all of it gave you power. You have power. You have a story to tell. You have skills and knowledge and caring.

This moment is calling all of us to figure out how to use the power that we have in ways that we have not thought of before. We cannot use it if we are passive.

Your thesis matters. You have invested so much time and energy and passion in this project. It matters because you care about the story you are telling in your thesis.

Part of me wants to say that I don't even care if you finish it because it has already done its work. (Oh, I do care because it is brilliant and I desperately want to see how the story ends—your story as a student and the story you are telling with your thesis.) But more than anything, I want you to know that what you have learned matters to the world. How can you take advantage of this moment to tell the story that your thesis tells to the world? Some final advice to get through this moment: Cry, but do not wallow. Embrace your anger, but do not let it consume you. Feel the fear, but walk through it. Feel your feelings as often and as long as you need to, but hold them tightly. Do not cling to them. Brush them away like dust. Be patient with them. The dust will keep gathering. Keep brushing it away, as often and as long as you need to.

And in the brighter moments, embrace, with curiosity and even excitement, the newness that is this moment. And remember to do the work that is all of our life's work—the work of figuring out how to make it all mean something, how to make it all matter. I know you will keep doing this work because you already have, and you always will.

Congratulations on your graduation, on the dazzling brilliance of your capstone project, on your passion for your life's work, on all that you have already become, and on all that you will be.
The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak continues to affect countries around the world as it has been characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Arcadia University and The College of Global Studies (TCGS) have responded to the COVID-19 health crisis through its well-networked Crisis Management Team in managing significant health and safety issues on campus and at the University’s centers abroad.

Arcadia University Responds to COVID-19

Health and safety of students abroad

Beginning in January, TCGS began educating the Arcadia community about the novel coronavirus identified in China and the need for travelers to take precautions. As it became clear that COVID-19 would impact students beyond China, TCGS’s Crisis Response Team maintained constant collaboration with staff and university partners overseas.

As the pandemic spread, TCGS had to suspend on-site operations in Spain, Greece, Ireland, and the UK, followed soon after by Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. The unprecedented step—necessary to help students stay healthy and return home safely—marked the first time in the Preview programs’ 27-year history that its travel portion has been suspended.

Academic continuity for study abroad

TCGS also turned its attention to academic continuity for the students whose programs were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff in Glenside and overseas worked diligently to support students at Arcadia centers and with international partner universities, including online delivery of courses and virtual internships. Faculty and staff prepared to finish their spring semester classes remotely with tools such as Canvas, Google Slides, and Zoom.

During the spring semester, TCGS put its continuity plan into action by shifting classes to online formats. The Department of Athletics followed the Middle Atlantic Conference mandate to suspend all athletic competition for the health and safety of student-athletes.

Food security

As the University community quickly adapted to the changing educational landscape during coronavirus, departments and offices did not forget their dedication to students in need.

Throughout the academic year, Knight's for Nutrition food pantry serves undergraduate and graduate students who experience food insecurity. Through coordinated efforts by the Knights for Nutrition Committee—made up of Community and Civic Engagement Center (CCEC), Metz, and Student Affairs—the small number of students who remain in Oak Summit can continue to receive fresh and perishable foods as well as hygiene and cleaning products.

Mets' Culinary Management donated hundreds of pounds of perishable foods, which would have been used by dining services if students had continued classes on campus. The pandemic also donated $10,000 each year to the pantry. In addition to the support, the pantry has received donations through other generous members of the Arcadia community. CCEC has assisted in coordinating the organization of foods and products when the pantry moved from Knight Hall to Oak Summit computer lab.

Arcadia community craft masks for those in need

Members of the Arcadia community continue to donate to the students in need. TCGS’s Crisis Response Team monitored the situation closely, in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of State, and International SOS, it identified in China the need for travelers to take precautions. As it became clear that COVID-19 would impact students beyond China, TCGS’s Crisis Response Team maintained constant collaboration with staff and university partners overseas.

In mid-March, the University put its continuity plan into action by shifting classes to online formats. The Department of Athletics followed the Middle Atlantic Conference mandate to suspend all athletic competition for the health and safety of student-athletes.

Arcadia University and The College of Global Studies (TCGS) have responded to the COVID-19 health crisis through its well-networked Crisis Management Team in managing significant health and safety issues on campus and at the University’s centers abroad.
Nedbal ‘17m Member of Inaugural Peace Corps Cohort

International Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) alumnus Michael Nedbal ‘17M was one of 12 volunteers who departed to the Balkan nation of Montenegro on the inaugural Peace Corps cohort on Jan. 17. After graduating from the IPCR program, Nedbal spent two years working as an English teacher at the Plas Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Rajabhat University in Thailand. Last spring, Nedbal returned to his hometown of Glenade but found that he wanted to continue his international teaching experience, so he applied to the Peace Corps program.

“This is an incredible opportunity, and I’m both excited and humbled,” said Nedbal. “We’re setting the groundwork for future Peace Corps activities in Montenegro.” In March, Nedbal and his colleagues were evacuated from Montenegro due to COVID-19. The volunteers were just finishing their training program when they were forced to return home. Nedbal hopes to return to Montenegro post-pandemic to start his two years of service in underserved communities, where he’ll be working alongside Montenegrin English teachers in primary schools.

Julia Linton ‘21 can’t remember an age where she didn’t love animals, which has guided her into the Biology Department’s pre-veterinary track—one of six pre-professional programs in the sciences offered by Arcadia. Additionally, she’s working as a veterinary assistant at Forgotten Can in Willow Grove, where she prepares cats for surgery and cares for them post-operation, which is a work study position through the Community and Civic Engagement Center.

Forgotten Can is the leading trap, neuter, vaccinate, return (TNVR) nonprofit in the region, which has clinics in Pennsylvania and Delaware that specialize in low-cost spay and neuter services for feral cats. However, the organization also offers adoption services for cats that are strays or abandoned.

“Last fall, Associate Professor of Education and Director of Secondary Social Studies and English Education Dr. Marc Brasof was named the Rosemary ‘57 and Walter Blankley Endowed Chair in Education for Early Childhood Education. The fellowship will provide significant academic and financial support, including full and partial scholarships, preparatory programs, and leadership training.”

Emmanuel Harris ‘21, a student in the School of Education’s PreK-4 Program for Working Professionals, is more concerned about his preschool students being kind to each other than he is about recognition for the work he does as an educator at the Parent Infant Center. However, his classroom was selected by Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf as the location in November for the launch of the Innovative Apprenticeship Project, which will fund five apprenticeship programs through the District 1199C Training and Upgrading Fund to help build careers in early childhood development and addiction counseling, and as advanced medical assistants.

“Emancipation program creates a first-of-its-kind training approach in the Philadelphia area to provide a pathway for workers to get their first technical credential up to a bachelor’s degree and teacher certification. “I appreciate that he sees the importance of early childhood education in the state,” said Harris, noting that it’s the foundation of education. “There aren’t many Black males in my profession, so to be recognized for my work and have the governor come in was a big deal.”

Harris has come a long way from the odds-and-ends employment working with children from birth to 5 years ago when he felt he wasn’t “fulfilling his purpose.” After moving in with his cousin in February 2015, he found his way to R.W. Brown Community Center as a camp counselor in 2016. Realizing that he loved working with children set him on a path to secure his associate’s degree in Early Childhood Education from the Community College of Philadelphia and enroll at Arcadia. Arcadia’s undergraduate PreK-4 Program for Early Childhood Education Working Professionals is an online program that is designed to support students who are working full-time in early childhood centers. The first program cohort of eight students began in Spring 2019. Students take course work throughout the year, including summer semesters, to complete the program in less than three years. The program prepares students to work with young and elementary-aged children. In addition to coursework, students complete fieldwork in kindergartens to fourth grade settings, as well as at their place of employment working with children from birth to 5 years.

For more information, Arcadia.edu/PreKProfessionals

Harris ‘21 speaks with Gov. Wolf at the Innovative Apprenticeship Project launch.
ARCADIA ATHLETICS TEAMS UP WITH AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

When the coronavirus pandemic forced the postponement of the American Lung Association’s 2020 Fight For Air Climb in Philadelphia in March, Arcadia University’s Athletics Department stepped up to keep the climb going, virtually.

One of the American Lung Association’s signature fundraising events, Fight For Air Climb, is a stair climb in prominent skyscrapers around the country. The event has raised more than $35 million to support the ALA mission.

The 2020 event in Philadelphia was scheduled to take place on March 28 at Three Logan Square, with a total 1,088 stairs. Instead of an in-person climb, Arcadia’s virtual event was organized by the University’s Athletics Department.

For More Information: Arcadia.edu/Giving

SPECHT ’20 AWARDED FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

COVID-19 isn’t stopping International Studies and Spanish double major Heidi Specht ’20 from fulfilling her goal of working in Brazil after graduation.

In April, Specht was announced as an English Teaching Assistant (ETA) recipient with the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

In January 2021, Specht will head to Brazil for the 9-month grant program to teach English at the University level. She will be one of two Fulbright recipients assigned to a city, although the assigned location within Brazil has not been determined yet.

“I knew I wanted to teach English abroad after graduation,” said Specht, who is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese. “It’s all toward an end goal of teaching English and working with minority groups in Philadelphia.”

Specht spent a year in Brazil living with a host family before enrolling at Arcadia University. This experience inspired her Arcadia journey, as she’s since studied abroad in London, England on the First-Year Study Abroad Experience, and Valparaíso, Chile, and Granada, Spain, each as traditional programs.

While in Chile, Specht was also selected as a recipient of the 2020 Critical Language Scholarship in Brazil. However, this program was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SCHOLARS & DONORS CELEBRATE ENDEDOW SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT AT ARCADIA

Aliyah Pulley ’23 (left) an aspiring teacher, captivated the crowd on March 5 with her story of adversity, perseverance, triumph, and gratitude with scholarship supporters, fellow students, and University leadership during Arcadia’s Celebration of Scholarship event, held in the Laura Minerva Korman Mirror Room in Grey Towers Castle.

Pulley explained how the road to Arcadia seemed impossible at times due to the additional financial challenges posed by higher education costs. But with scholarship support from generous donors and encouragement from the Arcadia community, she’s overcoming adversity to take on every opportunity that comes her way.

“I would like to say thank you, donors, for everything you have done to make students like me have dreams of doing something for someone’s future story,” like Pulley. Annabelle Rogers ’21 also receives support from an endowed award. As the 2019-20 recipient of the Ellen Jane Hover ’74 Endowed Memorial Award for Piano Study, Rogers performed at the event.

This award was established by Anita Sobel Feinberg ’74 and her husband, Sandy Feinberg, to celebrate the life and legacy of Beaver College alumna and talented pianist, Ellen Jane Hover ’74.

Beginning in the fall, one group of visionary supporters has helped to usher in a new era of scholarship at Arcadia, which has inspired others to do the same. Board of Trustees Chair Alison Aaron Madsen ’85, Susan C. Sauve ’71 (who attended the event), Joan Nadler Brantz ’63, Holly Ludwig Philipe ’56, Margaret Tillman Huikmin ’68, Christy Ann Pierce ’71, Kevin Schollenberger ’88, and Kimberly Sterner-Stein ’88 are the first eight philanthropists to take advantage of the Arcadia Financial Aid Initiative (AFAI). Launched in October 2019, AFAI is a program through which the University provides a 1:1 match for donors who establish a new endowed scholarship or supplement an existing scholarship with a commitment of $50,000 or more.

For more information: Arcadia.edu/Dining

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE STUDENT FINALISTS IN CASE STUDY CHALLENGE

Actuarial science major Hao Huang ’21, Shihan Gong ’20, Minhao Zhang ’20, and Haoran Zhu ’21 finished as finalists in the Society of Actuaries (SOA) Student Research Case Study Challenge, an international competition that asked students to apply the actuarial skills they have learned to a real-life problem.

The students, advised by Dr. Weihong Ni, assistant professor of Computer Science and Mathematics, designed a market credit program with the goal of reducing credit default losses. The group finshed in 6th place out of 48 teams worldwide.
Virtual Europe

TCGS Looks to the Future with Virtual Europe

The College of Global Studies is pleased to launch an innovative, new online program for Summer 2020 — Virtual Europe. Students can join online courses in Barcelona, Dublin, Edinburgh, Granada, London, or Rome that are taught by Arcadia Abroad faculty. They can also pursue a virtual internship, working for an employer in Athens, London, or Rome. Students can earn up to nine credits in eight weeks through mixing employer in Athens, London, or Rome that are taught by Arcadia Abroad faculty. They can also pursue a virtual internship, working for an employer in Athens, London, or Rome. Students can earn up to nine credits in eight weeks through mixing online learning into the virtual space.

The courses will all employ, to the degree possible, the Arcadia Abroad’s educational mission, vision, and values. “Managing costs while maintaining proximity to key partner institutions and diverse community-based opportunities continues to drive us forward and give us the flexibility to work efficiently and creatively for our students,” said Dr. Andrew Law, academic dean for TCGS. “Virtual Europe has created multiple online learning opportunities that embody the pedagogy material alive for students,” said Dr. Andrew Law, academic dean for TCGS. “Virtual Europe has created multiple online learning opportunities that embody the pedagogy that matches their career goals. • Intercultural placements range from Business, Media and Communications to the arts, public health, sports administration and legal/government sectors. • Starting Summer 2020, semester and summer programs available. • Networking opportunities with other interns and industry professionals. • Learning outside the classroom by exploring city neighborhoods and cultures.

For more information visit: archide.edu/virtualeurope

Arcadia Acquires Dublin Location

The College of Global Studies has completed its purchase of premises in Temple Bar, Dublin, currently used as the Arcadia Dublin Center. “We are delighted to own our Center premises in Dublin. This enables us to continue our commitment to a presence in Central Dublin for the long term,” said Lorna Stern, vice president and executive director of The College of Global Studies. “Managing costs while maintaining proximity to key partner institutions and diverse community-based opportunities continues to drive us forward and give us the flexibility to work efficiently and creatively for our students.”

Arcadia has been delivering study abroad programs in Ireland since the 1970s, building strong relationships and institutional knowledge through years of experience. Its Dublin Center manages 14 programs across Ireland, including academic support, student and health services, and robust opportunities for student engagement with local communities outside the classroom.

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For more information visit: archide.edu/DublinCenter

Dr. Jansen Retires from South Africa Center, Dr. Smit Takes Lead

Dr. Alan Jansen (at left) retired as resident director of Arcadia’s South Africa Center in Cape Town at the end of the Fall 2019 semester, after nearly 10 years with the University. In January, Dr. Brittani Smit (at right) assumed the role.

Dr. Jansen started at the center in January 2010 after leading his own consultancy firm, which worked with businesses and nonprofits in South Africa to improve diversity among employees.

Dr. Smit comes to Arcadia with many years of experience supporting students through her work with the University of Cape Town’s Humanities Faculty Mentorship program. She has also worked in the field of study abroad both as a student life manager and as an academic coordinator. She holds a master’s degree and doctorate in English Literature from the University of Cape Town, and a bachelor’s degree in English Literature from Trinity College in Connecticut.

For more information visit: archide.edu/InternPhilly

GLOBAL NEWS

Intern Philly

Exciting Internships in the heart of the city

For the first time, The College of Global Studies has created one of its signature programs right here in Philadelphia: Intern Philly.

• Students can earn credit through courses taught by Arcadia faculty and gain professional experience in a role that matches their career goals.
• Interning placements range from Business, Media and Communications to the arts, public health, sports administration and legal/government sectors.
• Starting Summer 2020, semester and summer programs available.
• Networking opportunities with other interns and industry professionals.
• Learning outside the classroom by exploring city neighborhoods and cultures.

Check it out! archide.edu/InternPhilly

GLOBAL NEWS

For more information visit: archide.edu/InternPhilly
ATHLETICS NEWS

KUCH CENTER COMPLETES EXPANSION

Earlier this spring, Arcadia completed its 2,590 square-foot expansion of the Kuch Center, a project that began back last August. Expansions, renovations, and newly designed branding took place in the Kuch Center lobby, and both the fitness and sports training centers. The expansion project, funded through a combination of university-capital dollars and previously-raised funds through a donor gift, comes as an avenue to parallel the continued growth of the Arcadia Athletic Department, which has expanded from 14 varsity sports in 2012 to what will be 26 by the 2021-22 academic year.

“We couldn’t be happier with the results of this project,” Executive Director of Athletics and Recreation Brian Granata said. “We made significant enhancements to both workout facilities, and these improvements will have a positive impact on the entire campus community, not just our student-athletes. As the largest indoor space on campus, the Kuch Center is home to many major campus events, including Commencements. We are proud to welcome individuals into our new home.”

The exterior of the Kuch Center underwent major changes during the renovation process, as the main entrance is now black with chrome signage, including an LED-lighted Arcadia Knights sign. The Kuch Center was repainted, and the exterior now features new up-down lighting across the entirety of the building. Also, new University-branded benches were added to the spaces in front of the lobby entrance.

The sports training center, on the lower floor of the Kuch Center adjacent to the lobby, was expanded to provide additional training space, including a 5x20-yard section of turf flooring to allow for speed and agility work. Additional weight-training equipment was added, including safety squat bars, iron grip Olympic bars, Arcadia-branded dumbbells, and Rogers Pendulum Strength equipment.

The second floor fitness center, which now extends into the lobby area, also features new equipment, including two Precor Squat Racks, two Arcadia Air Bikes and Air Runners, a full line of Paramount selectorized machines, and a new set of dumbbells in addition to the existing cardio machines, allowing for a wider variety of exercise options. Both workout facilities are available to varsity student-athletes, faculty, staff, and students.

Additional, the first floor of Kuch received new flooring, personal storage lockers, branding, and a reception desk that features a new swipe system to enter the facility.

CROWLEY & WILLIAMS NAMED ALL-AMERICANS FOR WOMEN’S SOCCER TOUERNAMENT TEAM

Women’s Soccer Reaches NCAA Tourney for Fourth Straight Season, Two Named All-Americans for First Time in School History

Following the Arcadia Knights’ women’s soccer team performance in the 2019 NCAA Division III Women’s Soccer Championship in November, the program had its first United Soccer Coaches All-America Second-team selections in its history with goalkeeper Brianna Williams ’22 and defender Brianna Crowley ’23. Crowley was the first defender in program history, and Williams the second goalkeeper, to earn the distinction. Both were among the 48 Division III recipients to receive their certificates at the United Soccer Coaches All-America Ceremony & Reception on Jan. 18 at the Baltimore Convention Center. Crowley and Williams led the team to the No. 15 seed in the NCAA Tournament, the fourth straight year the team has made the tournament. Both also helped the team post one of the top defenses in the nation, ranking 19th overall with a .253 goals-against-average. In their first-round matchup, the team was neck-and-neck with Swarthmore College but fell on an overtime penalty kick, ending the season with a 15-4-3 record.

REISTLE Becomes Second-Ever All-Conference Performer for Arcadia Cross Country

Chris Reistle ’23 became the second Arcadia men’s cross country runner in program history to earn All-MAC honors. At the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Cross Country Championships at Hood College in Frederick, Md., on Nov. 2, the junior took third-team honors with a 29th-place finish, posting a season-best time of 26:37.2 in the 8K event and setting a program record.

The Knights finished 15th overall in the event, the program’s best finish at the MAC Championships.

DAVIS Becomes Top Pick for Coaches

After a record-breaking season as guard for the men’s basketball team, Da’Kquan Davis ’21 was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Middle Atlantic All-District Second Team and to D3hoops.com 2020 Division III All-Middle Atlantic Region Team. Davis led the MAC Commonwealth and finished the season fifth in NCAA Division III in scoring with 27.9 points per game, including a career-high 44 vs. Albvernia on Feb. 5. He became the Knights’ all-time leading scorer in three seasons, eclipsing 1,000 career points faster than anyone in program history.

ATHLETICS NEWS

SAAC rePurposes Sports Gear for Camden Students

In January, the Arcadia University Student-Athletes Advisory Committee (SAAC) completed a four-month-long community service project, “rePURPOSE Your Gear,” during which student athletes gathered and donated sports equipment to the VIP Cooper Narrows Academy in Camden, N.J.

“rePURPOSE Your Gear was unlike any fundraiser SAAC has run,” SAAC President and women’s basketball player Courtney Hoffman ’23 said. “However, everyone involved, including both faculty and middle school’s athletic director Matt George, who shared stories about KIPP’s athletes, including a young boy on the basketball team who was forced to play in boots due to a lack of access to equipment.

“I’m glad to know that even one donated item can impact a young student athlete’s confidence and ability to participate,” Hoffman said.

“I would like to thank SAAC for giving us the chance to make a difference in others’ lives,” George said.

Student-athletes gathered sports equipment for KIPP and for Camden County, which had been donated to the SAAC. The SAAC purchased two named All-Americans for the first time in school history. The Knights reached their fourth straight NCAA Division III Women’s Soccer Championship and Brianna Crowley earned All-America honors.

SAAC members of the SAAC rePurposed sports equipment to KIPP Elementary and Cooper Narrows Academy in Camden.

We made significant enhancements to both workout facilities.

—Brian Granata

We would like to thank SAAC for giving us the chance to make a difference in others’ lives.

—Matt George

The sports training center on the lower floor and the second-floor fitness center of the Kuch Center.

The Knights finished 15th overall in the event, the program’s best finish at the MAC Championships.
Jane Oates ’83Med - President, WorkingNation

Arcadia University’s Honors Program and Office of Career Education welcomed Jane Oates ’83Med on March 2 as part of the Pioneer Series. Oates is president of WorkingNation, a nonprofit media organization telling stories about solutions to the jobs skills gap and community workforce issues while helping to identify where the jobs of the future will be.

Before WorkingNation, Oates served as assistant secretary for Employment and Training at the U.S. Department of Labor under President Obama and was a senior advisor for Senator Edward M. Kennedy on the U.S. Senate’s Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Commission.

Q: You’ve had what seems to be an interesting and fulfilling career. Why the move from the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education to WorkingNation?
A: I had an interesting and fulfilling career. Every position that I held was my favorite until I moved to the next opportunity. Teaching in Boston, moving back to Philadelphia, teaching at Stetson for 15 years, and then moving to the Center for Research in Human Development and Education at Temple—I loved every minute of those positions and was not looking to make a move. Leaving New Jersey was the same. I had a great boss in Jon Corzine, amazing colleagues at the Commission and State House and colleges who were student-centered. The opportunity to join the Obama Administration as Assistant Secretary of Labor during the worst recession of my lifetime was a challenge I couldn’t resist. WorkingNation was a chance to use storytelling done by the best in the industry to educate and convince every worker that they can succeed in the 21st-century workforce.

Q: What stands out about your Beaver College experience?
A: I came to Beaver to really get more skills in helping my students succeed in reading. I am a special education teacher by training, and I knew that I needed more in assessment and strategies when it came to making up the deficits my students were dealing with. Beaver was cutting edge. Professors like Alda Gomberg were looking internationally—in the early 80s, no less—at best teaching processes far beyond the high-interest, low-level materials movement in the United States. I feel that the global viewpoint—along with the real assessment learning in clinical—made me a much more effective teacher.

Q: In your position at WorkingNation, you discuss advancing achievable solutions to bridge the skills gap. What would an achievable solution be?
A: Achievable solutions in the workplace are solutions that get people good jobs and get employers the talent they need. They may vary by individual and company in terms of time and educational partners, but the common elements are transparency and relevance.

Q: What changes in the job market have you observed since 2009 when you were appointed by President Obama as assistant secretary of the Department for Labor for Employment and Training?
A: The biggest change in the job market is urgency. Today, employers see clearly that they are in a battle to attract talent. That’s making them look a lifetime of those positions, which is good. Recruiting more broadly at a wide variety of colleges, investing in registered apprenticeships in blue and white collar jobs, growing their own incumbent workers’ talents, and creating more inclusive talent pools that don’t restrict participation by sex, race, sexual orientation, age or previous adjudication are all positive outcomes of that talent shortage.

Q: What role do you think professional associations play in today’s job market? Do you think this will change in the years to come?
A: Professional associations are more important than ever. They provide the information and professional development that will always be a critical part of both career success and self-fulfillment.

Q: In your position at WorkingNation, you discuss advancing achievable solutions to bridge the skills gap. What would an achievable solution be?
A: Achievable solutions in the workplace are solutions that get people good jobs and get employers the talent they need. They may vary by individual and company, and could serve others as well.

Q: How has your background as an educator helped you promote employment throughout your career?
A: I am and always will be a learner and teacher. My preparation and experience taught me to observe and listen, analyze complex tasks down to the component steps, and teach to those steps. Every problem has a solution, and you can solve problems faster and better if you do it in partnership. Team teaching led me to a lifetime of building partnerships—and those partnerships were not only effective and often impactful, but they were always fun. I leaned on those partnerships to influence legislation and to help local areas rebuild their economies with some federal dollars at Labor. At WorkingNation, we get to tell the stories of those partnerships—and what inspiring stories they are!
Small School, Deep Roots
Arcadia provided the perfect environment for me to thrive. I knew I wanted to attend a college that was smaller and offered an art history program. While I had access to many top art museums and art schools growing up in New York City, I wanted a more traditional college experience. I continued attending galleries and museums in Philadelphia, expanding my palate for different types of art and cultural institutions. At Arcadia, I was an apartment assistant, president of the Black Awareness Society, and took on many leadership roles in work-study positions, which gave me the necessary skills to succeed in all my professional experiences.

Since graduation, I’ve continued in the fields of art and art history. I received my master’s degree, completed internships, and earned job roles that led to my current career in an academic art museum. Arcadia helped me realize that I flourish in environments that are smaller and more receptive to me carving out a lane.

Kajette Bloomfield Solomon
2006
Age: 35
Providence, R.I.
Bachelor of Arts in Art History
Education Program Coordinator at RISD Museum, focused on tailoring programs to be relevant to diverse populations

For the Young People
Pay attention to issues that make you angry and generate more questions than answers. Strive to be the answer to the problems in whatever field you choose. Be the person you wish you had in your life growing up. Also, don’t hoard all the knowledge you’ve attained. Share it with those coming behind you.

A Vibrant Community
I want to continue growing in my current role as education program coordinator at the RISD Museum. I want to develop more programs and opportunities for people of color in the art history and museum fields. I’d like to build more community partnerships to make the museum a vibrant, active space in people’s lives. I also hope to author more articles around issues in the field of museum work in general and, more specifically, museum education.

Dr. Rachel E. Palis
2010
Age: 32
Bachelor of Arts in Biology
Veterinarian with a strong interest in surgery, animal behavior, and exotic animal care

The Travel Bug
Arcadia taught me not to be afraid to take a different path and open up my life to the world. I was lucky to be able to participate in the First-Year Study Abroad Experience in Scotland, and in my junior year, I completed an internship at a zoo in Australia. Both study abroad experiences changed my life and how I viewed the world and most definitely gave me the travel bug.

After Arcadia, when I was applying to veterinary school, I opened my search to outside the United States and attended Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in St. Kitts, West Indies. While at Ross, I took advantage of additional travel opportunities, presenting research in Jamaica and studying wildlife veterinary care in South Africa. I completed my final clinical year of vet school at Louisiana State University. During that year, I traveled to Utah and Nevada for internships in shelter medicine and had the opportunity to travel back to South Africa.

A Wild Ride Ahead
I’m back in Philadelphia and am a licensed vet in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Currently, I am an associate veterinarian at The Animals’ Hospital of Levittown, but I do relief work at multiple nearby hospitals in New Jersey and hope to continue to expand to other hospitals in other states. Arcadia was the pathway that led me to the world. This is just the beginning of my exploration.

My hope is to become a well-established traveling relief veterinarian. I’d like to have a home base clinic while also taking longer relief gigs in different states across the United States to not only get the chance to travel but to also get to work with different people and animals.

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Earning the Tools for Success

The friends and mentors that I made during my time at Arcadia have had the most influence on me, and I continue to seek their advice. Additionally, the research methods and hands-on experience in science that I acquired at Arcadia gave me the tools I needed to be successful in my graduate program and beyond.

Make It Happen
My biggest piece of advice is that if you want a shift in your life or a career move, you must go out and do it yourself. As a student at Arcadia, I learned that no one is going to hand you your future—you need to make it happen.

Changing the System
My greatest achievement is traveling to Washington, D.C. to testify in front of members of Congress about autism spectrum disorder and the justice system. I hope that I can continue to instruct at academic institutions and help influence policies that improve the care we provide to people with disabilities.

Life Lessons
My Arcadia experience was defined by interacting with people from different backgrounds. With this, I realized that the only differences between us are language, religion, and skin color. We are all human with similar values and beliefs.

Best Advice
Always have a vision, think big, believe in yourself, work hard, and contribute to the common good. Do not give up, and always persevere to reach your goal despite the situations. Remember, in this world there are people who trust us. We are not alone.

Destined to Make an Impact
Finding solutions to the problems faced by poor communities in my country is the path I must continue to follow. My past experiences and my future plans are aimed at contributing to the formulation of Mexico's development strategy. I also want to consolidate our social economy organization and expand our project to other communities around my town. I want to teach girls to work together as a team, share ideas to develop projects, and make a difference.

Roadmap to Success
A roadmap and hard work are always the keys to success. There is no shortcut in life for hard work. You also need to make sure that your work is always focused on a goal.

Thanks, Coach
Dr. Bette Goldstone was my advisor, and I'll never forget how nervous I was when I finally decided to tell her that, despite being an Elementary Education major, I wasn't interested in teaching. She went out of her way to support my decision and help me pursue other areas that I felt were more fitting. I've taken that approach with each employee that I hire. On their first day, I explain that I'm here to fully support them in whatever it is that they want to accomplish, and if this job is just a stop along their career path, that's okay. We learn how both of us can gain from each other.

A Moment of Courage, a Lifetime of Happiness
My greatest accomplishment is having had the courage to ask my wife out on a date. That decision has led to a loving family who has supported me through everything we've faced in the last 11 years. Professionally, I have found a career that I still love ten years later. Knowing that I'll have the opportunity to influence someone else's day for the better makes each day unique and worthwhile.

Storytime
Success is watching a child's eyes light up when they love a book that I'm reading to them, seeing them run up to me with a book in their hands ready to discuss the story, or helping them discover a new favorite book. When my kids are eager to share a book with me, or when a book is returned to the library that has been read to the point of being broken, those are the little everyday moments that make me so proud.

The Future of Readers in Philadelphia
Children should be able to choose the books they want and not worry that they aren't on their level or that the graphic novel they cherish isn't a "real" book. I hope to create a genuine reading culture within our school where every child and adult is engaged, avid reader. I'd love to find a way to help schools across Philadelphia build or rebuild school libraries and staff them with qualified librarians. We know what impact libraries have on children and society, and we need to remind people how necessary they are. After all the time and money you invest, earning that first dollar of revenue is such an incredible feeling.

Brick by Brick
Building a business from the ground up has been an incredible journey. It's such a challenge to acquire your first client and then build a team capable of serving clients. After all the time and money you invest, earning that first dollar of revenue is such an incredible feeling.

From Menteer to Mentor
I believe in the power of the mentor relationship. When I was graduate student at Arcadia, I was a mentee and my research mentors have supported me throughout my career. My greatest achievement was that of being a mentor to my colleagues and students. Thanks, Coach.

A Moment of Courage, a Lifetime of Happiness
My greatest accomplishment is having had the courage to ask my wife out on a
Jennifer Ng
2011
Age: 30
New York City, N.Y.
Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, concentration in Marketing
Vice President of Morgan Stanley Institutional Equities and PRIDE leader in the workplace

A Big, Beautiful World
Going into my freshman year at Arcadia, I knew that I wanted to travel and study abroad. After going on Preview, the trip heightened my excitement to study abroad. After going on Preview, the trip heightened my excitement to study abroad, and I decided to spend a semester in Australia. I learned more about myself, shaped my perspective of the world and, what may be the best part, I met someone who I knew would be my partner for life. The experience was life-changing.

Unforgettable Moments
Late-night Chat burgers followed by stargazing on “Beaver Beach” with my roommates and teammates.

Focused on the Future
In five years, I want to continue to be challenged and happy to come to work. I don’t focus on the titles or the salary. Instead, I focus on the skills I need to learn in order to put me in the best position possible for when that next opportunity comes knocking. If you focus on material or ego, your happiness will be sacrificed. It may make you happy in the short term, but if you focus on your skills, the gains will always far outweigh and take you further.

Arcadia helped me find the path that worked best for me.
— Chelsea Badeau ’03

Chelsea Badeau
2003
Bachelor of Arts in Communications, concentration in Video
Senior Editorial Director and Content Strategist at Comcast
Founder of the Susan and Hector Badeau Endowed Scholarship

From Interest to Expertise
The four years I spent at Arcadia presented the opportunity for me to explore my interests and passions, develop my skills, and hone in on my strengths. I started as a Physical Therapy major, but I graduated with a degree in Video Communications and a double minor in Fine Arts and Theater. Arcadia helped me find the path that worked best for me. This led to opportunities at local TV stations and media companies, ultimately landing me at Comcast, where I have been for the past 15 years. I currently manage editorial production across Xfinity platforms (Xfinity X1 On Demand, Xfinity Stream, Xfinity Flex, and MyXfinity.com). In addition, Arcadia introduced me to some of my very best friends who continue to be an important part of my life.

A Professor’s Impact
Dr. Shekhar Deshpande was the chair of the Media and Communication Department during my time at Arcadia. He gave me a D on a test early on, and I was initially devastated. After reviewing my answers to the questions, I realized why I received that grade. My answers were shallow, barely touching the surface of the topics. Dr. Deshpande taught me to be a critical thinker, to challenge the status quo, to dig deeper, to look at things from multiple perspectives, and to uncover the real reasons underlying complex issues. He taught me that the medium is often just as important, if not more so than the message. (“We studied Marshall McLuhan who notably said, “the medium is the message.”) Dr. Deshpande challenged me and pushed me to be my best. I have carried that critical thinking mindset with me into every aspect of my life since graduation.

John Arnao
2017 MBA
Master of Business Administration
Vice President of Development for the American Heart Association

Giving From the Heart
My greatest achievement has been raising millions of dollars for causes that are very important to me while also helping the donors and volunteers I’ve met along the way find passion and purpose in their giving, whether it be of their time, talent, or treasure. Their stories of survival inspire and motivate me to keep growing. I am always fulfilled when I can help a donor identify their passion for giving and connect it back to the organization’s mission in a meaningful way. Sometimes people don’t even realize what that is at first, so it’s my job to help uncover it.

Leadership Lessons
Lead with integrity, have goals, build a path for success, and learn from others who have found success before you. Also, enlist help from others to get to where you want to be, but don’t ever compromise yourself and your guiding values in the process.

London Calling
My most cherished memory at Arcadia was when my MBA cohort took a trip abroad to London. It was my first time in Europe, and I enjoyed every aspect of the experience. Traveling to new places, experiencing other cultures, and learning new things helped me to grow as a person and be opened up to life experiences that are different than my own.

Lead with integrity, have goals, build a path for success, and learn from others who have found success before you.
— John Arnao ’17 MBA

Chelsea Badeau

Jennifer Ng
Keisha M. Robinson

**2018 MEd**

**Age:** 36

*Philadelphia, Pa.*

Master of Education in Applied Behavior Analysis

*Founding school counselor and mental health expert serving West Philadelphia and surrounding counties*

**Breaking Through the Barriers**

Arcadia gave me the confidence and drive to become a change agent and leader in the field of education. As I prepare for my fourth year as a founding school counselor, I am organizing ways to better prepare my students for life beyond elementary, middle, and high school. My experience at Arcadia wasn’t an easy road, especially as I battled a rare form of Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, but it has strengthened my confidence that all things are possible even with the toughest obstacles.

Since graduating, I’ve been accepted into Arcadia’s doctoral program in Educational Leadership. I plan on starting the program as a cancer warrior, and I am hopeful that I will accept my doctoral degree healthier, stronger, and wiser.

**Leading by Example**

My greatest achievement is becoming a mother. I’ve been blessed with two beautiful, loving, intelligent, kind, and empathetic children. They give me every reason in the world to work hard, accomplish goals, and be the best version of myself. I work so hard in school to show perseverance during the most difficult times in life. My children have witnessed me studying and working while tired, exhausted, happy, and accomplished. I’m setting the foundation for what they can achieve in life, no matter the barriers.

Kim Jacoby Morris

**2010**

**Age:** 37

Bethesda, Md.

Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry, concentration in Chemistry Professions

Post-doctoral fellow and chemist at the National Institute of Health

Education Specialist in the Education and Community Involvement Branch at the National Human Genome Research Institute of the National Institutes of Health

**Experiencing the World**

Arcadia gave me the opportunity to explore change-making and global citizenship. Studying abroad was my first experience traveling outside of the United States and meeting people from diverse backgrounds. Listening and learning about other perspectives gave me insight and direction for navigating the world. Now, my career focuses on community engagement and education programs. I am actively involved in outreach, recruitment, and retention in science education programming. My personal goal is to increase access to education so that folks can make informed decisions about the way science intersects with their daily lives. My goals stem from the positive, enriching education I received from Arcadia. In short, without Arcadia, I would not be where I am today.

Kim Jacoby Morris

Meg Eubank

**2005, 2007 MEd**

**Age:** 38

Bucks County, Pa.

Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

Master of Education in Language Arts

Executive Director at Welcoming the Stranger

**Nostalgic Memories**

I will always cherish moving into my first apartment in Oak Summit Apartments. My roommate, who I met during the First-Year Study Abroad Experience, and I thrifted furniture and flexed our creativity to make the space our own. Moving there felt like the first step towards independence and thinking of it is nostalgic. We still keep in contact with friends we made in the building.

Kim Jacoby Morris

**Mentors for Life**

Education professors like Dr. Bette Goldstone, Dr. Peggy Hickman, Dr. Leif Gustavson, and Dr. Peter Appelbaum still inform my career today. They encourage my continued scholarship and involvement in the latest practices and professional development opportunities. My photography professor, Judith Taylor, also became my art mentor. My professors were always able to address my needs, encourage my interests, help me find ways to reach my goals, and recognize my strengths to help me develop those aptitudes. Office doors were always open, instructors stayed late after class, and professors would even open their homes to students who were interested in continuing the conversations from class over dinner. In this way, Arcadia lives up to its reputation as a community of scholars who pursue knowledge and higher thinking.

Meg Eubank

**Supporting Success**

When I stepped into my role as executive director at Welcoming the Stranger in 2015, I was presented with numerous challenges of a small, struggling nonprofit. Funding was hard to come by, and we experienced a 147 percent increase in enrollment without an increase in funding, and the immigrants we serve had changing needs. Despite these challenges, we are now in a much more stable place to carry out our work. The students’ successes are my greatest achievements: a young victim of human trafficking learned English, got a job, earned her GED, and got a driver’s license; a refugee family found permanent housing; a formerly illiterate grandmother read her grandson a picture book; a formerly illiterate grandmother read her grandson a picture book; a formerly illiterate grandmother read her grandson a picture book; a formerly illiterate grandmother read her grandson a picture book; a formerly illiterate grandmother read her grandson a picture book; a formerly illiterate grandmother read her grandson a picture book.
**Ernie Gonzalez**  
**2006**  
Age: 35  
West Palm Beach, Fla.  
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology  
Center Operations Director of Compass, one of the largest LGBTQ community centers in the state of Florida

**Paying It Forward**  
During my time at Arcadia, Dr. Ana Maria Garcia, associate professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, and Dr. Doreen Loury, associate professor and director of Pan African Studies, invested their time, energy, and emotional support to help me thrive at Arcadia and beyond. They provided me with opportunities to experience how people of color and the LGBTQ community can help encourage change. Because of them, I now see the impact I can make to help future leaders and activists.

**The Suite Life**  
My most cherished memory at Arcadia is when I lived with a great group of friends in a suite in Knight Hall. I was one of the first students who were able to live in co-ed housing on campus. That year was full of laughter, adventures, love, and growth. When I think back on my life, it was truly one of the most fun experiences.

**A Dream Achieved**  
My greatest achievement has been fulfilling my parents’ wish for me to learn, grow, and achieve more than they were able to in Puerto Rico. By staying true to the values they instilled in me of hard work, perseverance, and faith, I am a living testament to the immigrant dream for their children.

“I’ve gained a new appreciation for my former professors—organizing class is a lot of work.” — Danielle McKenna ’14M

**Danielle McKenna**  
**2014M**  
Age: 30  
Master of Science in Genetic Counseling  
Cancer genetic counselor specializing in hereditary breast cancer syndromes and transgender populations

**In Five Years**  
I hope to participate in genetic-counselor-driven research with the goal of publication and presentations at national meetings.

**Most Cherished Arcadia Memory**  
My favorite memory is studying for Medical Genetics with my friends. We would come up with the craziest ways to remember things, and we had so many laughs.

**Life Comes Full Circle**  
My greatest and proudest accomplishment is teaching the introduction to Cancer Genetics course for Arcadia’s Genetic Counseling program. It was my favorite class during graduate school, and it is incredibly rewarding to be on the other side of the podium. I enjoy giving lectures and have been very impressed with the students’ insightful comments and questions. I’ve also gained a new appreciation for all my former teachers and professors—organizing a class is a lot of work.

**Chantel Mattiola**  
**2015M**  
Age: 29  
Washington, D.C.  
Master of Arts in International Peace and Conflict Resolution  
Fundraiser for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and Co-chair of HRC’s Bisexual, Pansexual, Queer Fluid Employee Resource Group

**A Legacy to Remember**  
On graduation day, I was awarded the A. Richard Polis Scholarship Award for academic success and community service. What I cherish most about that day was being up on stage and seeing my late nana, Kathleen Kidd Meyer, beaming with pride as she watched me receive this recognition. She was a student on this campus when it was Beaver College in the 1950s; however, she never graduated. If it were not for her dedication to her family, it is hard to say whether or not I’d be on the stage that day as the first in my family to earn my master’s degree. Almost 60 years after my nana left this campus, here I was receiving an award alongside her. It felt symbolic. I knew I was accepting the honor, not just for myself but for my nana and her resilience. I’ll never forget that day.

**Chantel’s Advice to Recent Graduates**  
Plan your work; work your plan.
Believe in the power of your ideas and to stay true to yourself. I’ll carry that lesson with me through my life.

— Rachel DeLadesmo ’14

Rachel DeLadesmo
2014
Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Arts in Corporate Communications
Anti-violence advocate and Social Media Manager at RAINN, the largest anti-sexual violence organization in the United States

Giving Back
Given my educational background and the activities I gravitated towards at Arcadia, it makes a lot of sense that I became a nonprofit communications professional after graduation. My time at Arcadia was focused on service and community; discovering joy in mentoring as an orientation leader, giving back during Alternative Spring Break in Florida, and finding my place as a global citizen during semesters abroad.

The Digital Future
I want to grow my skill set, be a leader in my field, and continue to work with people that value my expertise, prioritize the digital space, and believe in the power of young people.

Most Cherished Arcadia Memory
Oddly enough, my best memories of the Arcadia experience were not at Arcadia, but abroad. Arcadia, however, made it all possible and significantly broadened my horizons, opportunities, and view of the world. I will never forget the dozens of sunrises from my surfboard in Australia or the high-fives from my ultimate frisbee teammates in Venezuela.

How to Find Success
Just get started in whatever opportunity that presents itself is best, regardless of if it’s your ideal job. Then work hard, show enthusiasm, and take calculated risks to pursue your dreams. Be passionate about what you do, learn to collaborate, and live for something bigger than yourself. People desire leaders who pursue principles and virtues and exude selfless leadership—develop yourself into that person, and others will follow.

Where I’ll Be In Five Years
We have spent the last 12 months re-engineering our company to focus on inspiring our readers and clients to pursue and achieve what is most meaningful to them. Five years from now, it is my goal to build my publishing company to grow to more than 40 magazines across the nation and empower our team so that I can maintain a better work-life balance. I anticipate traveling more often with my family and working on meaningful projects that invest in people and communities.

Jeff Tintle
2002
Allentown, Pa.
Bachelor of Arts in International Business
Founder and Managing Director of Thrive Media, a healthcare publishing and media company connecting older adults to resources

The Best Advice
Keep in touch with your professors on LinkedIn. Connect with them from time to time via email or phone. Whether you need references, advice, or connections for a job opportunity, your Arcadia professors are an incredible resource and willing to help and support you even after graduation. Also, be sure to keep in touch with the University. Arcadia has a wealth of resources for alumni and a vast alumni network.

Community and Connection
I recall Arcadia having a group or student organization for everything and everyone. When there wasn’t a student organization, Arcadia had the platform and support that allowed students to create what they wanted to see. Arcadia’s commitment to inclusion and community was apparent to me the moment I stepped on campus and is what inspired my dedication to service and community engagement. Since Arcadia, when I see a need for an organization or a group, I create it. I’ve launched and grown numerous groups for professional women, entrepreneurs, and nonprofits.

Candace Yaeger
2007
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Entrepreneur, executive coach, and professional speaker

Most Cherished Arcadia Memory
The Arcadia experience was focused on giving back during my time there. I became a nonprofit communications professional after graduation. My time at Arcadia was focused on service and community; discovering joy in mentoring as an orientation leader, giving back during Alternative Spring Break in Florida, and finding my place as a global citizen during semesters abroad.

Jeff Tintle
2002
Allentown, Pa.
Bachelor of Arts in International Business
Founder and Managing Director of Thrive Media, a healthcare publishing and media company connecting older adults to resources

The Best Is Yet to Come
I’m rarely stumped by a question; yet, ask me to name my greatest achievement and I’ll struggle. After graduating from Arcadia, I went on to obtain master’s degrees in both Psychology and Business. I’ve built and grown multiple successful companies. I’m writing my first book. Yet, what brings me the most pride is how I’ve changed the lives of my clients. I consider this impact my legacy.

Rachel DeLadesmo
2014
Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Arts in Corporate Communications
Anti-violence advocate and Social Media Manager at RAINN, the largest anti-sexual violence organization in the United States

Giving Back
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Anti-violence advocate and Social Media Manager at RAINN, the largest anti-sexual violence organization in the United States

Believe in the power of your ideas and to stay true to yourself. I’ll carry that lesson with me through my life.

— Rachel DeLadesmo ’14
Design and Direction
Professors Betsey Batchelor and Mike DeLuca were integral parts of my Art and Design experience. They both created a supportive, warm, and enthusiastic learning environment, and their discussions on color theory, texture, perspective, and composition contribute to the visual language I use in my design process. Their dedication to students was always apparent.

Forging My Path
Creating a career from your interests isn’t always easy, but it will guarantee that you’ll make a true investment in your work. Success is defined differently by everyone. I’ve found success in the satisfaction of the work I create for my clients, along with the empowerment of forging my path each day.

Building a Business for Wedded Bliss
The business is constantly changing and evolving to suit the needs of both our clients and my shifting goals. As we’re able to grow and add more creative team members, we continue to focus on providing an exceptional wedding experience, while also adding more pre-designed dessert options available for order.

Meg Skill 2006
Age: 36
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting
Owner and designer of Nutmeg Cake Design, an artisan wedding cake bakery

Kasey Lynch Thomas 2012
Age: 30
Lehigh County, Pa.
Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, minor in English Education
Employment Case Manager for Lehigh County Department of Corrections
FBI-trained hostage negotiator

Step-by-Step
Almost every step of my life has been influenced by my time at Arcadia. I knew that I wanted to work in corrections after taking the “Inside Out” course. Before I even graduated from Arcadia, I was working full time in a prison, and now, I currently work in the treatment department of a work release. Arcadia also instilled a sense of social justice in me, leading me to be part of the Women’s March On Washington in 2017 as well as organizing an ongoing book collection, focusing on books in Spanish and English of varying difficulties, to start or supplement libraries at multiple prisons and work releases in Pennsylvania.

Five Years From Now
I will be about 35 years old with a five-year-old son at home. I envision that I will continue to work in corrections, developing my skills as an advocate for prisoner rights and reform. I have also begun the process of becoming a trained and certified doula, helping other women on their pregnancy journeys.

Lawn Bauza Miclat 2016
Age: 24
Manila Park, Calt.
Bachelor of Arts in International Business
Master of Science in Finance candidate at Università Bocconi
Former Facebook Lead Analyst, Search Integrity Team

Character and Confidence
Starting at Arcadia at the age of 16, I was but awkward and a little quiet. Arcadia, being the charming little island that it is, was a comfortable space for me to express myself. To find my personality, and connect with people from backgrounds other than my own. Being comfortable in my skin has let me network with folks that have been pivotal in my career so far.

Learning to Lead
Linda Pirzi ’05M, my supervisor at Arcadia’s Learning Resources Network (LRN), had an incredible impact on my life. She trusted me to lead tutoring sessions and to be LRN’s head business tutor my senior year. I learned what leadership style I prefer and learned how to improve my leadership abilities. That prepared me to now lead a small team of six with confidence.

A Bright Future
Whatever I’ve achieved so far, I hope it pales in comparison to what I achieve in the future. Only 24 years old and three years out of college, I have my entire life and career ahead of me.

The Arcadia experience ignited my love of serving underserved populations.
— Lt. Shantel Blume ’13DPT

Lt. Shantel Blume 2013DPT
Age: 32
Gallip, N.M.
Doctor of Physical Therapy
Physical therapist dedicated to working with Native American populations, awarded the Navajo Area for her work

Physical Therapy Highlights
My two-week pro bono experience providing physical therapy services to the underserved in St. Elizabeth Parrish, Jamaica was amazing. The icing on the cake was speaking at the Moet Museum on behalf of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program about pro bono and experiential learning opportunities.

What’s Next
In the next five years, I plan to earn my Field Readiness Medical Badge (FMRB), be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) and, perhaps most importantly, endow a scholarship to benefit underrepresented ethnic minorities entering the field of physical therapy.

Confidence and Competence
Arcadia gave me the opportunity to serve people in ways that I never imagined. From the experiential learning experiences in the greater Philadelphia area to the opportunities to study abroad, I built my confidence and competence in my clinical and interpersonal skills. The Arcadia experience ignited my love of serving underserved populations and ultimately led me to my current position with the Indian Health Service as a commissioned officer in the United States Public Health Service (USPHS).

What’s Next
In the next five years, I plan to earn my Field Readiness Medical Badge (FMRB), be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) and, perhaps most importantly, endow a scholarship to benefit underrepresented ethnic minorities entering the field of physical therapy.

Inspiration From a Beautiful Spirit
Professor Tom Brinker instilled a deep and enthusiastic love of accounting in me. Out of all of my classes at Arcadia and other institutions around the globe, his accounting and business classes were filled with the most laughter, joy, and excitement. He embodies what I hope to become one day—a great leader, an amazing businessman, a caring family man and community member, and overall, a beautiful spirit and individual.

The Journey Continues
I hope to get a few more letters after my name. And after that, say yes to as many educational and developmental experiences as I can to eventually become a professor of Accounting—who knows, maybe even at Arcadia.

Elizaveta Zibirova 2015
Age: 24
Bachelor of Arts in Accounting
Technical Accounting Consultant at Centri Business Consulting
Tax preparation volunteer and financial literacy instructor to low-income individuals
Former Auditor for the City of Philadelphia Controller’s Office

Lifelong Learning
Thanks to Arcadia, I learned to treat my entire life as an educational experience. I try to educate myself on at least three or four extra things a year on top of my primary career, similar to how Arcadia requires you to take a well-rounded portfolio of classes. Arcadia’s small class sizes taught me that speaking to small groups is more effective and productive than screaming in front of millions of people. I learned to reach more hearts and minds in personal settings rather than large public gatherings.

“...It pales in comparison to what I achieve in the future...” — Lt. Shantel Blume ’13DPT

Elizaveta Zibirova

FACULTY CONTRIBUTOR A LOOK BACK
The work of an interior designer in any healthcare facility not only sets the tone of the building but can have a significant effect on people’s lives and well-being.

— Jolene Mudri ’03, ’17MBA

The Best of Healthcare Design

As a healthcare interior designer, I want to continue to hone my talents and become a certified healthcare designer. The work of an interior designer in any healthcare facility not only sets the tone of the building but can have a significant effect on people’s lives and well-being.

Jolene Mudri  
2003, 2017MBA  
Age: 38  
Dallas, Texas  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Design  
Master of Business Administration  
Interior Designer at an architecture firm dedicated to hospital and health center design

Making an Impact

Since 2016, I have volunteered with the Philadelphia Covenant House to help raise awareness and funds for young people facing homelessness. I led a pop-up art installation at City Hall to represent the 546 youth the shelter had to turn away. Donations raised from the event helped to expand the shelter’s bed capacity. The installation was also recognized among the top 10 art installations in Philadelphia by “Streets Dept.”

Best Advice

Make connections and take risks.

David Jacobs

2014
New York City, N.Y.
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
Professional civil engineer

Life Coaches

My soccer coach at Arcadia, Rob Nydick, taught me a lot about soccer, but the lessons he instilled about being a good person and professional were what really stuck with me after school. Five years removed from Arcadia, I still think I’m late if I’m not 15 minutes early. I would also be remiss not to mention some of my other influences, including Helene Klein, assistant dean for Honors and Accelerated Programs, and Ned Wolff, professor of Computer Science and Mathematics. They both influenced my decision to attend Arcadia and continued to guide me throughout my undergraduate career.

Just the Beginning

Instead of looking at graduation as a finish line, I advise recent graduates to treat all that you learned and achieved at Arcadia as a starting point. Never stop learning, and you will never stop succeeding.

Arcadia’s Gifts

Arcadia introduced me to diversity and travel in a way that I had not previously experienced. Since my graduation, these two aspects of my Arcadia experience have followed me into my career and personal life. As a student at Columbia University and an engineer in New York City, I have met classmates, colleagues, friends, and acquaintances with a wide variety of backgrounds. The diversity I encountered at Arcadia prepared me to effectively navigate each of these relationships. Furthermore, Arcadia developed my love for travel, and since graduation, I have pursued ways to travel through school, work, and leisure.

Sammy Nickalls

2014
New York City, N.Y.
Bachelor of Arts in Communications
Freelance writer with bylines in Esquire, Elle, Vice, and Teen Vogue  
Social media personality and mental health advocate

Finding Confidence and Courage

Since freshman year, Dr. Michael Dwyer gave me the confidence I needed to foster my work and the courage I needed to pitch to magazines and apply for editorial jobs. He encouraged me to get involved with the University’s publications and gave me incredibly poignant advice about tricky career issues I experienced after graduation.

Next Up

I’d love to publish a book. Cue my blessedly patient agent screaming, “Then do it!”

The Best of Times

During Hurricane Sandy in 2012, Arcadia and the surrounding area lost power for several days. I was living in Oak Summit Apartments with several good friends. We made a cozy little fort-like setup out of couches and mattresses. We treated the whole thing like a spooky sleepover party, and when the hallways regained power, we camped out in the hall with other students and RAs, and we made a great time out of what could have been a scary situation. That’s what it was like for me at Arcadia—the people I met there always made everything so much fun.

Next Up

I’d love to publish a book. Cue my blessedly patient agent screaming, “Then do it!”
My professional and academic experiences have sparked my desire to continue studying issues of peace, security, and development.

— Camilo López Delgado ’15
Daniel W. Safford
2016 DPT
Age: 35
Wallingford, Pa.
Doctor of Physical Therapy
Physical therapist at Good Shepherd Penn Partners and Air National Guard veteran
Former high school band teacher, composer, and film fest winner

Best Advice
Involve yourself in as many opportunities as you can while ensuring that you excel in all of them.

You will inevitably move away from some but will likely gain many great experiences and contacts while finding a narrower path. If you do not perform well because you are overextended, however, then you will not reap those rewards.

A Shared Vision
I am the lead therapist at the newly expanded Good Shepherd Penn Partners outpatient physical therapy clinic at Oak Summit Apartments on Arcadia’s campus. In working toward the shared vision of Good Shepherd Penn Partners and Arcadia University’s Department of Physical Therapy, I plan to expand our positive impact on the Glenside and Arcadia academic and athletic communities through best care practices while also facilitating joint faculty and clinician research projects in our site and creating greater integration with the Doctor of Physical Therapy curriculum.

Gianna Lozzi Wolf
2016
Age: 30
Bachelor of Arts in Theater and English
Co-founder and Artistic Director of Raw Street Productions
Playwright and theater teacher

Founding From Fringe
My greatest achievement is Raw Street Productions, the theater company I founded with my brother in 2016. The company got its start when we entered the play that I wrote for my senior thesis, “Right Behind,” into the Philadelphia Fringe Festival that year. I take pride in our continued success over the past three years, and I am endlessly grateful to my Raw Street family, who has been with us since day one.

Play by Play
I will never forget the experience of hearing my first play being read aloud and the reactions of my classmates and professors. It is one of my most rewarding memories to date.

Exciting Next Steps
In five years, I hope to be using my master’s degree to teach English within the Philadelphia School District and working towards my third degree in Education Administration. I hope that the education department of my theater company, Raw Street Productions, is thriving, widespread, and continuing to gain professional recognition. I hope the company will continue to strive toward making a difference in the Philadelphia community, using our grants, donations, and federal funding to make art accessible to everyone and that 2020’s growth plans will lead us to offer full-time positions to our staff. Last, on a more personal level, I hope I will continue to write and produce plays.

Gianna Lozzi Wolf

"I will never forget the experience of hearing my first play being read aloud and the reactions of my classmates and professors."

— Gianna Lozzi Wolf ’16

The Arcadia Perspective
My educational experience at Arcadia gave me the motivation to learn more about the world, to question norms, and to invest in myself. I had great professors who taught me how to tackle challenging issues with a creative thought process. In particular, Dr. Joshua Blustein made an impact on my life by teaching me to think critically and to look at any challenge from a different perspective.

A Foundation for Success
As president of the Student Government Organization, I gave a speech during my first introduction to public speaking, which has become a large part of my professional career.

Life Lessons
Never be afraid to take on new and challenging opportunities. You will learn the most from a challenging and adversarial experience.

Michael J. McLaughlin Esq.
2004
Age: 37
Bachelor of Arts in Biology
Partner at Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP
Pro bono attorney for individuals with disabilities

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Michael J. McLaughlin Esq.
2004
Age: 37
Bachelor of Arts in Biology
Partner at Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP
Pro bono attorney for individuals with disabilities
A LOOK BACK

40

41

Connections Across Cultures
My time at Arcadia truly incited my drive to participate in the world as a global citizen. One small moment that left a lasting impact happened when I was exploring shops in the Sacromonte neighborhood of Granada, Spain during a semester abroad. Inside a jewelry shop, I met a young girl who was the daughter of the owner. When I tried talking to her, the father explained that she spoke Moroccan Arabic. I only knew a few words, salam, zweena, shukran, but they were enough. Her entire demeanor changed, and she was beaming.

Leading the Field
At this point in my life, I feel that my greatest achievement is serving as president of PennTESOL-East. This role gave me the opportunity to plan a conference with the theme of “Celebrating the Impact of Educators.” As part of the conference, I created an award to recognize the meaningful work of TESOL professionals. I believe that honoring the work of others strengthens a community.

Warm Welcomes
During my freshman year, I was assigned to live in one of the rooms in Grey Towers Castle, and I warmly remember that whenever my roommates and I came home, TJ was there to greet us. She was the public safety officer assigned to the Castle, and we would spend hours sitting on the cushioned bench across from her station. She would give us advice, ask about our parents, and tell stories. It was like being welcomed home by family.

Courtenay Knowlton
2010, 2012 MEd
Age: 32
Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and Spanish
Master of Education
Teacher, faculty member, author, and thought leader in multilingual education

Courtenay Knowlton

Nick Gregorio
2015 MFA
Age: 34
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing
Published author and high school/college-level educator

Nick Gregorio

Patti DeBow
2002
Age: 39
Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
President of Parsons YKD
Former Accenture Management Consultant focused on government and nonprofit clients

Patti DeBow

Words of Gratitude
More than professional achievements, my personal success is embodied by moments when someone has said to me, “Thanks for being there” or “I knew I could count on you.” These are cherished words from both loved ones and colleagues. Achievements on a résumé can’t compare to knowing I made a difference to someone.

Changing Careers
Over the past couple of years, I left a decade-long career as a management consultant to manage a small business that works with nonprofits, and I recently became chair of the Board of Directors at a housing organization that serves survivors of domestic violence. My near-term goal is to be an intentional learner in these roles.

The sense of wonder that can come with trying to grapple with the world is important.
— Nick Gregorio ’15 MFA

Juan Pacheco
2002
Age: 39
Los Angeles, Calif.
Bachelor of Arts in Theater Arts and English
Actor, producer, and voice-over artist based in Los Angeles, who appeared on camera in “Scandal,” “Rosewood,” and numerous national commercials and whose voice can be heard in “Coco,” “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse,” “The Walking Dead,” and more
Winner of the A.C.T.F. National Awards in Performance, ANOCA Talent of the Year Award, and the ACTF National Award for Performance Excellence

Juan Pacheco

Words of Wisdom
I work weekly as a voice actor and find myself referring to the many lessons and skills acquired in the Acting program, including lessons from Janet Pilla who encouraged me to explore character through physicality, being mentored and led into the world of Shakespeare by David Bassuk, and then, there is Clista Townsend. Clista taught me to find joy in the work, to ask questions, to enter a space with a sense of wonder, and to discover something new with each moment. The mask class I did with Clista, would probably be at the top of my list; I lost myself in the work only to find new forms of expression. Cliché much? Well, ‘tis true.

Support and Success
My most cherished memories are from my time in the Act 101 program. It’s where I discovered my writing abilities. It’s where I was told I was a writer and led into the world of Shakespeare by David Bassuk, and then into the world of culture. Nothing tops that.

Courtney Knowlton

Courtenay Knowlton

Courtney Knowlton

The faculty member who taught me to find joy in the classroom was Clista Townsend. She was beaming.
— Nick Gregorio ’15 MFA

Clista Townsend
...support...
The culture of Arcadia has had a supreme influence on how I interact with others from varying backgrounds and levels, especially in the workplace.

— Megan Corcoran Patten ’06

Lifelong Memories
Arcadia was the setting for so many memories and, most importantly, friendships that led to lifelong memories. An experience that I truly cherish is getting to be a part of the first Preview trip to Scotland. The experience was amazing in every way. The trip not only solidified my love of travel but also showed me that I could learn so much during my time at Arcadia, both in the classroom and beyond.

Work-Life Balance
I decided a long time ago to throw out the traditional five-year plan and to focus on core drivers that fuel my passions and allow my talents to grow instead.

Every opportunity I’ve taken aligns with these drivers.

In the past five years, I’ve gotten married, had two amazing children (with a third due this summer), and transitioned into a new role at work. In the last five years, I hope to keep all of this in balance while also being the best woman, wife, mother, and professional that I can be.

There is unprecedented growth happening within my company right now, which brings many opportunities to keep my family a priority while helping to bring my company into the future.

Global Connections
It’s hard to pick a singular cherished memory. My time at Arcadia was formative to who I am today. If I had to pick a focused memory, I’d say it’s Arcadia University’s study abroad opportunities and its focus on global awareness. The friends I made while studying overseas became my family. They are still so crucial to who I am today.

The educators at Arcadia University cared about me, and that has informed me of how I want to teach and coach in my domains as well.

Foundations and Friendships
Arcadia’s focus on an all-encompassing humanities curriculum with a strong foundation in its pluralism and sociology classes was essential to providing a wide breadth and depth of understanding in any environment and endeavor. Of course, the people I met and the friendships I built during my time at Arcadia have stayed with me through all of these years. That, to me, is immeasurable.

A Culture of Confidence
The culture of Arcadia has had a supreme influence on how I interact with others from varying backgrounds and levels, especially in the workplace. Because Arcadia exposed me to a variety of opportunities, I became familiar with many environments and learned to be comfortable with who I am.

The Future Is Brewing
Within the next five years, I hope to continue my education and research in all things related to the brewing industry and sensory evaluation. Ideally, I hope to commit the time to study for the highest and final Master Cicerone® Certification.

I would love to work on additional publications and get involved with teaching.

3,000 Miles of Courage
While it may not seem like much, my greatest achievement was deciding to step on a plane to Scotland and travel 3,000 miles away from home through the First-Year Study Abroad Experience during my first semester at Arcadia. This moment marked a purposeful investment in myself, my future, and the pursuit of fulfilling my dreams. All of my achievements since that day and all of the successes yet to come directly correspond to that leap of faith.

Standing Upon the Shoulders of Giants
Without a doubt, Arcadia has the most passionate, brilliant, and student-focused faculty and staff with whom I have ever had the honor to work. The best way that I can describe my experience is a quote attributed to Isaac Newton, “I if have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants.” Two of these “giants,” to which I owe the world, are Dr. Linda Mascavage, professor of Chemistry and Physics, and Helene Klein, assistant dean for Honors and Accelerated Programs.

When it came time to think about a thesis topic, Dr. Mascavage allowed me to set up a functional brewery in her organic chemistry lab. While other students were working on forensic or polymer-based research topics, I stunk up Boyer Hall with the smell of fermenting beer. She took a chance on me, and I can’t thank her enough.

The Artist’s Eye

Alan Powell. Media and Communications professor, helped reframe how I looked upon the world, both as an artist and as a working professional. He has continued to do so even after I graduated, with a keen eye on personal development as well as a deeper contextual understanding of people and the communities in which we engage.

Phillip Le

2005
Bachelor of Arts in Communications
Director of Design: Innovation & Customer Value Proposition at Infinity
Martial arts instructor

The Artist’s Eye

Megan Corcoran Patten

2006
Orlando, Fla.
Bachelor of Arts in Communications
Associate Project Manager
Serving Walt Disney World
Communications
Bachelor of Arts in Communications
Orlando, Fla.
Age: 35
Patten
Corcoran
Megan
2006

The Future Is Brewing

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nace. She had fun making some adjustments to our church, which will soon be celebrating its 100th anniversary. Her outdoor outlook, order of success, and choice of books are a model for us all. Eunice has been providing hands-on help and资讯 on her parish, alma has organized an auction, and directed the church's important events and accomplishments. Editor’s note: Knowing all as well as I do, I think the project could be in more capable hands!

As for your class editor, dwanye fry sutherland, I am burdened with the details. They’re from the bottom of my right car door during a car accident, but I have very little pain. They tell me that’s six to 12 months to get rid of them. Does this mean an mending? Oh well, I can貼紘 still love you! Thanks for the kind and encouraging words! I’ve been always up for a phone call. Until next time!

we send our condolences to gwendolyn reid rives, another alumna. Dwanye flew away on May 20, 2018.

1959 Barbara Deiter steiner’s granddaughter is studying ophthalmology at Colorado. She sends her greetings.

1958 Mary lou Pickell nelson has a grandson and granddaughter-in- law living in Glenside, Pa., who recently flew to visit her in Philadelphia. Sue Douglass Mitchell, before the Arcadia University Alumni Association, sent us the latest news from Arcadia University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his doctoral degree from Emory University and is currently doing his 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Ginny Dunstan Bruno (above) admits, “Now that we’re 80! Anyway I am a fan and well and planning various activities for our birthday year. I went to the Glyndebourne Opera last summer and we had a final lunch party for my 80th birthday, but our 80th year. Life is good, thank you. We both wish our 50th wedding anniversary just three miles from the John B. Ford Wildlife Reserve. I’ve been a member of the board since 2011, and I enjoy spending time at the reserve and meeting the wildlife staff.”

Betty White Jameson shares, “I am still active in my church over ten years ago. I am a member of the Civic Club of North Wales.”

In the Eglise de Saint-Jean-Savoy. The event took place in the Eglise de Saint-Jean-Savoy. The event took place on November 20, 2019 by Finishing Line Magazine, was published in November 2021 by Finishing Line Magazine, is available through Cokesbury Press.

Heidi Giessel has shared: “I do! It’s nice to be younger.”
Patricia Maye Moore ’79, ‘84MED shares, “This is my fifth year teaching preschool. As a former classroom teacher and reading specialist, this is very different from my previous career. My husband and I have downsized and relocated to Collegeville where my children and their significant others also live. We see them more often. Our only two-year-old puppy is our only child left in the house.”

Mary Murphy Lee says, “I am still working for the School District of Philadelphia. I’m no longer in the classroom though. I am now working with architectural construction staff to lend an educational eye—my high school should be designed and built from an educator’s perspective. It’s exciting and still gives me the opportunity to work with teachers and administrators, but I do miss those little munchkins! It’s hard to believe I’m going into my 39th year with the district. I also have two little munchkins, a granddaughter and grandson, to spoil whenever I am. Sparrowtime is a commodity—I don’t have much of it, but I am looking forward to a trip to Denmark shortly. I’m ready to travel if any of you are looking for a traveling partner, let me know!”

Wendy Sloter Josephs shares, “I recently retired from the Bucks County Intermediate Unit. Since retiring, I went volunteering on my first cruise, am catching up on my reading, and volunteering weekly at Manna on Main Street in the downtown area. I’m thinking of my 30th anniversary that is coming up on July 20,2019, in Blue Point, on Long Island, N.Y. Mr. and Mrs. Russo had their honeymoons in Ireland, where they took a road trip to explore the beautiful emerald green island.”

Dana Bartol spent four days driving around Britain.

Kevin Janus started a new job as administrative vice president of the Ameritas Life Insurance Company.

Mandie Messer founded and owns Inner Light Botanica, a 100% hemp lifestyle and lifestyle brand for the earth- and nature-loving community. Her goal is to support suicide prevention and awareness. Boga-inspired and balanced on the idea of chain excellence management, the business model combines many aspects of wellness and integrates the collections into one package that helps you use the small spaces in your home in during your daily routine to create positive movement in your life. At the core of Inner Light Botanica’s values is Alumina (meaning non- violent). It is a company that provides a helpful and hope for all of planet’s beings, including the canines we love and care so much for. She graduated from Arcadia University with a degree in marketing, and now she and her official 200-hour certification in historical chainmaille, recycled bullet jewelry, and accessories for the woman who wants a result of epic armor but for her wardrobe. One of my design was created for the show Omorph in the Lifetime movie The Road Home for Christmas.”

Shaina McInerney was sworn into the Board of Directors for the Montgomery County Chapter of the American Red Cross, serving 2020-2021. This position will help her serve her clients, colleagues, and community in a greater capacity. It was a great opportunity and was held at The Highlands Mansion in Feasterville on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020.

Christina Kuhman McGinley ’10M was appointed executive director of Foundation and Alumni Relations at Bucknell University in December.

Lindsay Antonik McGann ’10MPH received the Arcadia University Alumni Adjunct Faculty Award.

Andrew Santagata shares, “I recently completed my first book project, a memoir, titled When I Wake Up. It is a collection of stories and personal anecdotes about the people, places, and events that have played a part in my life both professionally and personally. The book was released on June 1, 2019.”

Paige Walters was appointed executive director of foundation and alumni relations at the University of Minnesota.

Drew Hurdick moved back to his beloved Northern Pennsylvania where he lives with his wife, Nicole Sowinski Hurdick ’74, and their two children, Lila Rose and Leo. Drew works as a state trooper tasked with patrolling rural communities on the PA/NY border. He and Nicole got married in 2018.

Katie Dry, ’10DPT and Abbie Dehurius ’10, ’13DPT (above) were married on Oct. 29, 2019, in Darien, CT. They are both physical therapists, and they currently reside in Westport, CT, with their two children, Myles and Madi. The couple is also celebrating eight years of teaching dance and being able to share their passion with their students.”

Hope Kowket (above) graduated from UC Davis Law School in California. She then moved back to her hometown, Washington, D.C., where she now resides. Hope is a staff attorney in the Education Defense Services program with Rising for Justice in Washington, D.C.

Billy Peitz just had his first anniversary working at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) in the Records and Registration Office as a registrarial. He will be getting married in December 2020.

Julie Hutton (above) moved to Baltimore and began working at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 2015. She is currently working as a program manager for the Road Home for Christmas. She is also pursuing her Master of Education in Student Affairs.

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EMEBERING WALTER E. BLANKLEY

Walter E. Blankley, a beloved member of the Arcadia University community and husband of Life Trustee Rosemary Blankley ’57, passed away on April 27.

Together for 67 years, Walter and Rosemary established an extraordinary legacy at Arcadia, defined by a lifetime commitment to higher education. Walter and Rosemary supported Beaver College and Arcadia University to express their gratitude for the opportunity Beaver gave to Rosemary. Their dedication to our University’s growth and success has reached every corner of campus, and their generosity has led to major developments in the areas of academic affairs, student life, and financial aid.

A graduate of Princeton University, Walter received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1957. Walter brought exemplary leadership to AMETEK—a global manufacturer of electronic instruments and engineering services—for nearly 30 years. As CEO, he oversaw the funding of early childhood education programs in all of the 65 cities around the world where the company maintained sites.

Walter and Rosemary, who met while they attended Collingwood High School in New Jersey, married on August 16, 1958, and later welcomed their son, Stephen Ronald Hahn, in May 2015. They have a beautiful granddaughter.

In August 2019, Daniel Whitehurst and Kayla Peterson got engaged.

Deborah Ludwig ’14DPT became an attending instructor at Nursing at Pennsylvania Institute of Technology where she teaches the class, Understanding Anatomy and Physiology. She is still a regional executive coach.

Nicholas Bongarzine and Erin Schneider ’15 (below) met at Arcadia and were married on January 4, 2020.

Evelyn Hahn started working in March 2018 at Copper Ridge, a facility that specializes in care for people with neurocognitive impairments, including Alzheimer's disease, frontotemporal dementia, and various others. She is excited to be a part of a research project involving a new balance assessment to address fall risk in people with cognitive impairments. She married Ronald Hahn in May 2015. They had their first child, Odin Hahn, in 2017 and are now expecting a second child in June 2020.

April Stanko Mohr and Simon Mohr ’16, ’19MEd are celebrating their third anniversary in June 2020.

Joe Neill and his wife started a business specializing in niche engine parts for exotic cars and heavy-duty trucks. They launched momentsunwerks.com and just opened a sales office in downtown Quakertown.

Sophie McDougal ’14DPT is entering the Air Force in February 2020. She will continue to work as a physical therapist stationed in Los Angeles.

Kathleen Madara ’14DPT completed her Ph.D. in Biomechanics and Movement Science in 2018 at the University of Delaware and is currently a postdoctoral researcher in the Arcadia Shoulder Research Lab.

Daysoona Smith ’14, ’19MBA is the proud mother of a daughter in the Anthos and a beautiful granddaughter. She recently completed her Master of Business Administration at Arcadia in 2019, is currently employed with Genesis healthcare, and has started her own consulting and funding business.

Kathryn Davies got married in December 2019.

ClassNOTES

CLASSEDITOR
If an editor is not listed for your class, and you are interested in volunteering, contact the Office of Alumni Engagement (alumni@arcadia.edu or 215-517-2566). Class notes may be submitted online at arcadia.edu/classnotes.

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STRIVING FOR A MORE PERFECT UNION

By Taylor Raymond ’16, advance associate for the City of Chicago Office of the Mayor

Educator, author, and politician Shirley Chisholm famously said, “If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.” When she announced her candidacy for president in 1972, she offered the less-known but no-less-true sentiment “I stand before you today, to repudiate the ridiculous notion that the American people will not vote for qualified candidates, simply because he is not white or because she is not a male.”

The 19th Amendment was about more than suffrage; it was and continues to be women’s formal ticket into the political system. Women in this country have a rich history of political pursuits; and yet, 100 years later, we are still marveling at the precipice of this country’s female story. In 1992, a record number of women were elected to the House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. It was the beginning of a seismic shift in politics, in the way Americans saw electability; and in how women saw themselves and each other.

We could win. And we have. While we are still waiting for the highest office to be referred to as Madame President, we can count some big wins since 1992’s “Year of the Woman.” The 2018 elections saw women win 102 seats in the House, 14 in the Senate, and nine gubernatorial races. While there were also losses, these women are the shoulders in the Senate, and nine gubernatorial races. While there were also losses, these women are the shoulders in the way Americans saw women’s formal ticket into the political system. Women in this country have a rich history of political pursuits; and yet, 100 years later, we are still marveling at the precipice of this country’s female story. In 1992, a record number of women were elected to the House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. It was the beginning of a seismic shift in politics, in the way Americans saw electability; and in how women saw themselves and each other.

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On the hyper-local level, Chicago’s Mayoral runoff election featured two black women for the first time in history. I am grateful to stand at the beginning of this new history with Mayor Lori E. Light-foot. As the first Black female and LGBTQ mayor of a large city, her achievement is the culmination of hundreds of women before her that tried, failed, and tried again. I have gained a unique perspective through the work I do as an advance at City Hall, a role that, while perhaps not well known, is essential to the daily operations of most politicians. We have walked into neighborhoods so far south, the “Welcome to Indiana” sign is visible; we’ve spoken with folks who have lived in these neighborhoods who told us that a mayor had never come to their neighborhood. We

Mayor Lightfoot inspires a city to believe that change is coming to them personally.
Take your Knight status to a new level of nobility.

The Knights of the Round Table are a distinguished group of Arcadia’s most loyal alumni who are honored on an annual basis for their giving, engagement, volunteerism, and pride.

The Four Steps to Knighthood

Each year, alumni who complete the four steps to Knighthood will be admitted to the Knights of the Round Table.

- Stay Connected
- Participate
- Make a Gift
- Show Your Knight Pride

#ArcadiaAlumni

Dear Class of COVID-19: A Tribute to Graduates

The Time Is Now: Radical Change at Arcadia