HOW A BOLD VISION LED TO THE LARGEST GIFT IN ARCADIA’S HISTORY
A Historic Gift, 40 Years in the Making
How foresight, innovation, and generosity led to the largest gift in University history.

Message of “Truth” Highlights Inaugural Address
Dr. Ajay Nair is installed as Arcadia’s 22nd President.

A Fearless Visionary
Kathy Titus Faul ’68 learned to see—and heal—through sculpture.

From the President
Leading Off
Campus News
Grants News
Community News
Alumni News
Global News
Athletics News
Q&A
Class Notes
Lessons in Giving
A Look Back
FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO THE ARCADIA UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Within a University community, results often take time to surface—scholarly pursuits may lead to significant breakthroughs in medicine or industry decades from now; a student’s research paper or extracurricular activity may provide a roadmap to career success; a personal mission for justice or equality might spark a political passion that results in elected officials fighting for constituents years later.

This issue of Arcadia magazine features such a story in Dr. Ellington Beavers ’93H, a man whose vision, focus, and determination resulted in an eponymous fund for intellectual inquiry at Arcadia, the founding of Biocoat, Inc., research opportunities for dozens of students and faculty, and now, the largest gift in the University’s history. The story of how this came to fruition, from a letter that former Beaver College president Dr. Edward Gates answered in 1980, serves as a reminder of how our actions today, however insignificant they may seem to us in the moment, could have a tremendous impact tomorrow, next year, or even 40 years from now.

This story also serves as a reminder of how it often takes a bold vision to shape the future. I would like to commend the University community, and the UKnighted Aspirational Committee in particular, for their work in developing a powerful Vision Statement for Arcadia (at right), which the Board of Trustees approved in February. This statement, which captures the spirit of our mission, core values, and feedback from the Arcadia community, will help guide us as we move forward with our forthcoming strategic plan.

And so, as we move through our spring semester, I offer my thanks and gratitude to all members of the Arcadia University community for all that you have done and all that you will continue to do to support our students and better our local and global communities. While we may not always have the chance to witness just how much of an impact our actions today have, the results could wind up improving the lives of so many.

Sincerely,

Ajay Nair, Ph.D., President

Arcadia’s extensive collection of Bates and Fendley children’s literature looks a bit more intense than Dr. Seuss.

Have an Arcadia University or Beaver College throwback? Tag us on Facebook (@arcadia.university), Twitter (@arcadia1853), or Instagram (@arcadiauniversity).

TO THE ARCADIA UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Arcadia’s Vision Statement

Our Vision, Our Dream, Our Passion

Arcadia University’s pioneering, global, integrated, liberal arts, and professional learning experience cultivates leaders who are intellectually fearless and uniquely prepared for life and work. Our highly regarded, values-based learning community reflects the world in which we want to live.

To read our full Vision Statement, arcadia.edu/Vision

In this issue of Arcadia magazine, you’ll read several stories that examine the University’s past, celebrate the present, and imagine its future. To the Archives, then!

#TBT

Clearing the Record

In the previous issue of Arcadia magazine, a news item reporting on the book World Cinema: A Critical Introduction, co-authored by Dr. Shekhar Deshpande, professor of Media and Communication, did not include the name of the book’s co-author, Meta Mazaj ’97, Cinema Studies lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania.
MR. BEAVER TURNS THE BIG FOUR-OH

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Mr. Beaver Beauty Pageant, a Miss America-style production launched during an era of Beaver College characterized by idiosyncratic festivities and “inside joke” events. One of Arcadia’s longest standing traditions, Mr. Beaver has attracted Britney Spears impersonators, Marilyn Monroe look-alikes, and even Ross Mathews—that’s right, the Live from E! and Chelsea Lately personality hosted the pageant in 2011.

Arcadia’s Student Programming Board chose “The Beavers Grimm,” a celebration of fantasy characters and legends, as this year’s theme. Shrek, Harry Potter, and Nintendo’s Princess Peach were among the lovely contestants.

From left to right: Chelsea Livingston ’19, Kelsa Look ’19, Vincent Zhang ’19, and Crystal Madison ’20.

Ross Mathews participated in the 2011 Mr. Beaver pageant as its first celebrity host.
ARCADIA CONTINUES TO UKNIGHT
The Arcadia UKnighted campuswide kickoff meeting on Sept. 20 welcomed 150 members of the Arcadia community to discuss strategic goals and challenges with President Ajay Nair and the Shared Governance and Transparency, Aspirational, and Badges Task Force committees. Throughout the fall semester, the committees researched institutional models of transparency, addressed budgetary questions, and brainstormed ways to make the most of Arcadia’s liberal arts roots, location, and commitment to inclusivity.

"We’re operating as a multiversity, not a university," said President Nair, who presented a three-year plan to develop a self-sustaining campus model. "We’re not going to be all things to all people—that’s not our mission. My commitment to you is to develop our priorities and invest in Arcadia’s future."

In December, a follow-up workshop focused on social innovation, financial literacy, University-wide shared governance, and the Vision Statement. Faculty Senate hosted a UKnighted meeting on Jan. 15 to identify high-impact initiatives and projects, including Arcadia’s next campus model. "We’re not going to be all things to all people—that’s not our mission. My commitment to you is to develop our priorities and invest in Arcadia’s future.”

In February, the Aspirational Committee presented to the Board of Trustees on its nine-month community efforts to reach the current draft of the University Vision Statement (see pg. 2) and Core Values Statement. Later that month, the Committee invited University community members to serve on the Social Innovation Task Force to explore innovation as part of the University’s strategic direction.

The Open Expression Task Force hosted its first UKnighted event with Dr. Sigal Ben-Porath, author of Free Speech on Campus and professor of Education, Political Science, and Philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania, on Feb. 22. Dr. Ben-Porath offered a framework for re-thinking controversies inside and outside the classroom, encouraging participants to examine free-speech case studies. The Task Force is developing principles for the University community regarding freedom of expression in terms of intellectual inquiry, community, and dissent and protest.

The next UKnighted event will be held on Tuesday, April 2. For more information, arcadia.edu/UKnighted

Brown ’06 Raises Funds for Kidney Research
By Lana Valente ’19

Since then, the Brown family has supported the National Kidney Foundation (NKF), raising $20,000 for the organization’s Philadelphia Kidney Walk over the past four years. Services and programs supported by NKF include early disease detection, nephrosis education and research, and patient care.

"We all had had times in our lives where we needed a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen, and a hand to hold," said Brown, who spoke about her family's struggles and triumphs at this year’s Kidney Walk on Oct. 13. "For our family, the National Kidney Foundation has been that outsretched hand.”

In recognition of their distinguished teaching, research, and leadership, Dr. Andrea Crivelli-Kovach, professor and director of Graduate Programs in the Department of Public Health, has been named Professor Emerita, and Dr. Richard Wertime, professor of English, has been named Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Andrea Crivelli-Kovach
Dr. Crivelli-Kovach (above) joined Arcadia in 1996 as director of the Health Education program, overseeing the program’s transition to a department as founding chair of Public Health. She spearheaded the accreditation of Arcadia’s Master of Public Health degree and helped establish the department’s Bachelor of Science, dual degree options, Global Health minor, and service abroad opportunities.

Beyond Arcadia, Dr. Crivelli-Kovach co-founded a nutrition consulting practice and research and evaluation business. An expert on maternity care, she developed evaluation methods for “The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative’s Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding” and to help the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention measure maternity care practices in U.S. hospitals.

Dr. Crivelli-Kovach served as president of the Pennsylvania Public Health Association from 2007 to 2009, and she is the organization’s immediate past president. She sits on a range of health care advisory boards, including the Association for Prevention, Teaching, and Research (APTR) steering committee. In 2003, Dr. Crivelli-Kovach received APTR grants to develop Public Health courses, which served as the foundation for Arcadia’s undergraduate program.

She was awarded APTR’s F. Marian Bishop Outstanding Educator of the Year Award in 2018.

Dr. Richard Wertime
Since joining Arcadia in 1975, Dr. Wertime (below) has taught creative writing, contemporary fiction, and classical literature, with emphasis on works from the Renaissance, Restoration, and 18th century. He was chief architect and longtime director of Arcadia’s Master of Arts in English and the Humanities program, which he developed during his first year at Beaver College.

Dr. Wertime was instrumental in connecting graduate students with distinguished writers through the “Written Return to Campus” series. In 2011, he led students to Umbria, Italy, for Arcadia’s first fiction writer’s residency abroad, which helped kick off the University’s MFA in Creative Writing.

Beyond Arcadia, Dr. Wertime served as editor of Archaeology magazine for 25 years, has hosted writing workshops throughout Philadelphia, and has published on a range of subjects, including psychology, medieval literature, Shakespeare, and Italian culture. His acclaimed memoir, Citadel on the Mountain (2000), was awarded Random House’s James A. Michener Memorial Prize for outstanding first books by authors over the age of 40.

Described by students as “transformative and life-changing,” Dr. Wertime received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1980, as well as Arcadia’s prestigious Professor of the Year award. •

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For more information, arcadia.edu/UKnighted

When Adjunct Professor of English Clare Brown’s daughter, Meara, was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease at six months old, Brown (above) did what she knew best—educated herself and others.

"No one in our family had it. We didn't know anyone with it. So, I did what I always do and jumped into educating myself.” said Brown. "No one in our family had it. We didn't know anyone with it. So, I did what I always do and jumped into educating myself.” said Brown. ""We’re operating as a multiversity, not a university,” said President Nair, who presented a three-year plan to develop a self-sustaining campus model. “We’re not going to be all things to all people—that’s not our mission. My commitment to you is to develop our priorities and invest in Arcadia’s future.”

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HIV/AIDS Advocate Is First Executive-in-Residence

HIV/AIDS advocate Dr. Paul Zeitz (at right), Arcadia’s first executive-in-residence, discussed human rights, equal opportunity, and global justice with the campus community on Oct. 25. Hosted by the Honors Program, the Executive-in-Residence series welcomes passionate leaders like Dr. Zeitz, who has influenced public policy related to the HIV/AIDS crisis, global health, universal education, poverty, fiscal transparency, and U.S. leadership. Over the past 15 years, he strategized and implemented solutions to some of the world’s most daunting issues alongside key philanthropists, including Archibishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Bono, and Alicia Keys.

Most recently, Dr. Zeitz served as director of Data Revolution for Sustainable Development at the U.S. Department of State. He earned his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1988, completed a Master of Public Health, a preventive medicine residency, and a global health fellowship at Johns Hopkins University between 1989-1992, and was awarded Muhlenberg College’s Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017.

Dr. Zeitz also shared excerpts from his 2018 memoir, Winning Justice: A Doctor’s Journey to Speak Truth and Be Bold, which covers his experiences as a doctor, activist, father, and son.

EXONEREERE SPEAKS ABOUT WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS

Arcadia’s Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Department welcomed Marissa Blueistine, legal director of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, and Eugene Gilyard, who was exonerated after spending nearly two decades in prison, for the third annual Wrongful Convictions Day on Oct. 2. Gilyard discussed his incarceration experiences, while Assistant Professor Dr. Anne Mahar and Dr. Favian Guertin-Martin facilitated conversations about convictions and exonerations.

Convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison at age 16, Gilyard enlisted the help of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, an organization that works to exonerate innocent inmates and prevent miscarriages of justice. He was released after 15 years in November 2013, with all charges withdrawn by June 2014.

“People who are wrongfully convicted endure emotional, social, and psychological problems,” said Dr. Guertin-Martin. “By educating the University community, we could produce social change, as some of our students will work in the criminal justice system.”

Dr. Guertin-Martin also noted that many exonerates struggle to find employment and housing, as their records are not expunged. This semester, the Pennsylvania Innocence Project recruited Criminal Justice students to support individuals through this transition, advocate justice, and research systemic causes of wrongful convictions.

Bryant ’21 Goes Hollywood

Good fortune may have led English major Lashanna Bryant ’21 (below) to Philadelphia’s Wizard World Comic Con, as she won, through a Facebook contest, a four-day event pass, prize pack, and tickets to meet Game of Thrones and Aquaman star Jason Momoa. But it was talent that earned Bryant a meeting with Columbia Pictures to pitch her first film script.

While researching Wizard World Con—an annual convention that connects pop culture enthusiasts with media icons, from sci-fi characters to professional wrestlers—Bryant learned that the organization was teaming up with Columbia to host a pitch festival for artists, exhibitors, industry professionals, and attendees. Passionate about storytelling, she submitted an idea, movie poster, and promotional materials she developed over the summer.

Reflecting her interest in thriller and horror genres, Bryant’s logline read: “A mourning man has enough to worry about, when a strange woman from his dreams starts to predict the deaths of his psychiatric patients. As time runs out, he must figure out who is responsible before they are all murdered.”

“I was shocked when I realized that I was the youngest participant by at least 10 years, and amazingly, the only female,” said Bryant, who was one of 30 writers—from a pool of more than 1,000 applicants—invited to present. “Everyone looked at me like I had come to the wrong place. It was intimidating, but also flattering.”

Though she hadn’t heard back yet from Columbia, Bryant left Wizard World Con confident in her writing and eager to revisit script ideas.

“They told me how impressed they were, and that they thought my idea was fascinating,” said Bryant. “I now know that the direction I want to take at Arcadia, and beyond, is the right choice.”

Arcadia Launches Humanities Research Lab

Dedicated to music, religion, philosophy, literature, art, history, and language studies, Arcadia’s new Humanities Research Lab (HRL) offers a space for community members to research and collaborate.

“I see this as a home for those who want a creative and social experience—a collaborative location for students and faculty,” said Dr. Kalenda Eaton, associate professor and director of the English master’s program.

The HRL, located at 2035 Church Road, includes a conference room for events, a research library and computer lab, workspaces, and an outdoor patio for meetings or performances. Dr. Eaton, who developed the HRL as part of her “Beyond the Marginals: Practicing Womanist Ideology in the New Humanities” project—supported by the Frank and Evelyn Steinbrucker endowed chair—hopes to stock the lab with cutting-edge tools, such as 3D printers.

In addition to hosting film screenings, faculty lectures, grant writing workshops, and guest authors last semester, the HRL awarded “Think Tank” funds to two research teams. “Exploring the Role of Spirituality and Global Ethics in Sustainability,” a multi-layered study led by Joi Carter ’21 and Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Instructor Alex Otieno, will focus on religion and ethics in the context of the Earth Charter. “The Local-Global History of Philadelphia,” a project by LaiTao Johnson ’21, Daisy Suavedra ’22, and Assistant Professor of Education Dr. Marc Brassard, will examine how the assimilation or accommodation of immigrants in Philadelphia shaped the city’s history and culture.

“Think Tank” participants will use the HRL for planning, research, interviews, and to host speakers and workshops.

MFA Named Among Country’s Best

Our writers put the “W” in literature. Best College Reviews ranked Arcadia’s MFA in Creative Writing program 18th among its “20 Best Master’s in Creative Writing Online.” Noting the program’s small class sizes, manuscript preparation component, and residency abroad in Edinburgh, Best College Reviews described Arcadia’s MFA as “a challenging track, providing a comprehensive background.”

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DR. SHANDELL EXAMINES AFRICAN AMERICAN THEATER

In his new book, *The American Negro Theatre and the Long Civil Rights Era*, Dr. Jonathan Shandell, associate professor of Visual and Performing Arts, explores African American theater in the 1940s and 50s. The American Negro Theatre, a 1940s production company for African American artists and audiences in Harlem, has been a research topic of Dr. Shandell’s for nearly 11 years, starting as his dissertation topic. In his book, he explains that artistic works and successes like the American Negro Theatre were seen as “either integrationist, or staying true to your ethnic identity,” and that cultural groups who achieved mainstream artistic success often changed their art to appeal to a wider audience. These changes, however, did not necessarily render their art inauthentic. “The history of this theater had never been fully documented, and I hope my book contributes to our understanding of African American theater history at that time,” said Dr. Shandell. “[Artists] who later became quite famous and renowned, like Sidney Poitier, Ruby Dee, and Harry Belafonte, got their start in this theater. My writing attempts to [show] how the American Negro Theatre prepared them for their careers.”

Dr. Shandell, who will continue researching this topic, has begun exploring race in Philadelphia theater. Dr. Shandell, who will continue researching this topic, has begun exploring race in Philadelphia theater.

Students Reveal Curriculum Lab as a Best-kept Secret

On Landman’s first floor lies one of Arcadia’s best-kept secrets—the Curriculum Lab, a vibrant, inviting room with teaching resources for Education students. Focusing on how space impacts learning and collaboration, students in the “Designing Learning Environments” course spent the fall semester redesigning the Curriculum Lab, which was launched in 2014. The class surveyed students, faculty, and staff to develop a mission, increase lab engagement, encourage professional learning communities, and sustain research beyond the Fall 2018 semester. Dr. Jodi Bornstein, associate professor of Education, and Melissa Corell, librarian for Education, collaborated with students to establish a project-based learning experience, encouraging budding educators to devote sustained attention to real-world challenges. Students presented their work to the deans of the School of Education and Landman Library, securing funding for technology and equipment, including a Smart Board, whiteboard, and new shelving.

“I’ve been thinking about how I can make classrooms more inviting to my future students,” said Jared Zelenski ’19. “I’d like to do non-traditional seating, and have a space that’s bright and open.”

Corell and Dr. Bornstein published research on the lab in “Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice” and will present at the Partners for Connections in Education Conference on April 25 in Cape May, N.J.

Psychology Faculty ‘Flip’ Over Cellphones in Class

Two Arcadia faculty members are turning heads with a new method of eliminating unnecessary cellphone use in classrooms: positive reinforcement.

“It can be really disheartening, as a professor, when you put so much time and effort into your course, and you see students on their phones,” said Dr. Erica Fortune, teaming up with Assistant Professor Dr. Erica Fortune to turn their frustrations into a pedagogical experiment. During the 2017-18 academic year, Drs. Clabaugh and Fortune tested different methods of discouraging cellphone use in six courses sections of “Introduction to Psychology.” Two sections served as controls, while two classes were shown PowerPoint presentations to hinder cellphone use. The final sections were given the opportunity to turn in their phones at the start of each class. Students who did so qualified for an extra credit point at the end of the lecture—that is, if they called the outcome of a coin flip correctly.

Despite the low stakes—an average, participating students received a two-percent grade increase at the end of the semester—more than 95 percent of pupils accepted the challenge. Course evaluations indicated that students not only enjoyed the experiment, but felt the benefits of limiting technological distractions as well.

Dr. Clabaugh and Fortune were invited to present “Different Approaches to Controlling Technology Use in the Classroom” at Duke University’s Psych One Conference, a two-day event that highlights innovative approaches to “Introduction to Psychology,” one of the most popular courses in the nation.

“The idea of combating student cellphone use is so ubiquitous and frustrating for many people,” said Dr. Fortune. “I’m hopeful other faculty in and out of the department will hear about our research and take notice.”

Community Uknighted 4 Arcadia

For four days during Inauguration Week, Arcadians around the world “uknighted” for the fourth annual UKnighted 4 Arcadia campaign. A record-setting 1,042 alumni, students, faculty, staff, trustees, parents, families, neighbors, and friends made donations, surpassing the goal of $102,000 and demonstrating a shared belief in Arcadia. This year, participants supported efforts that ensure Arcadia remains at the forefront of liberal arts education, including academic, athletic, study abroad, campus life, and scholarship initiatives. Gifts were also made to aid presidential initiatives, The Fund for Arcadia, and The Fulfilling the Promise Retention Fund, which supports students who have committed to returning to Arcadia after their first year, but are unable to do so due to financial obstacles.

Fulfilling the Promise Retention Fund

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The Fulfilling the Promise Retention Fund
Arcadia Nets $1.4 Million in Grants

During the 2018-19 academic year, faculty and staff earned grants totaling more than $1.4 million for sexual violence resources, STEM training, network improvements, and scholarly research. The funding will enhance campus life, academic offerings, and research opportunities for the Arcadia community.

DOJ grant supports sexual violence resources
Arcadia was awarded a three-year, $500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women to support victims of sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. Arcadia was one of only 57 higher education institutions across the country, and only three in Pennsylvania, to receive this grant.

The grant will help Arcadia improve survivor resources and outreach, offer training to community members, and enhance communication between Public Safety, law enforcement, and victim services. The University will start by surveying students to assess existing strategies and hiring a grant coordinator, whose salary will be covered by the funding.

Funding supports new campus network
Interim Chancellor and Provost Leslie Magoldis and Dr. Vitaly Ford, assistant professor of Computer Science and Mathematics, were awarded a $352,500 NSF grant to provide new, high-speed networking resources on campus for technology-driven science and education applications and research.

Supported by a team of faculty, staff, and administrators, the project will improve large dataset sharing and cloud-based education, eliminate technical barriers for faculty, support engagement with other institutions, enable innovative research projects, and upgrade Arcadia’s network.

Dr. Ford develops cybersecurity platform
Dr. Ford also created GenCyberCoin Incentive System, a web platform for middle and high school students to explore cryoprocurement, social engineering, bug bounty, and web security. With approximately $16,370 in funding from the NSF and National Security Agency (NSA), Dr. Ford will customize the platform for GenCyber, a hands-on summer camp that guides students to cybersecurity careers.

Dr. Tevadl to study lung transplantation
Dr. Michael Tevadl, associate professor of Physical Therapy and director of Post-professional PT Programs, received a $40,000 Acute Care Research Grant from the Foundation for Physical Therapy to study “Early Impact of Lung Transplantation on Skeletal Muscle.” His research will enable the development of evidence-based rehabilitation strategies for acute care physical therapists to address the effects of surgery, hospitalization, and illness on physical function.

Dr. Kantak receives funding for stroke research
Our dependency on using both hands— from putting on socks in the morning to pulling up our bed sheets at night—motivated Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy Dr. Shailish Kantak (right) to help stroke victims recover functionality through bimanual therapies and virtual reality strategies.

Dr. Kantak’s research will be supported by a five-year National Institutes of Health grant, totaling approximately $1.9 million. Arcadia received a sub-award of $274,281 from the total grant.

STEM grant funds teacher training
A $1.32 million National Science Foundation (NSF) grant—split between schools and universities linked to the Philadelphia Regional Robert Noyce Teacher Partnership Scholarship Program—will improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teaching programs on campus.

Arcadia was awarded $178,249 to support educator certifications and professional development for 11 Mathematics or Biology (STEM) teaching programs on campus. The program, funded by a three-year, $300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education, and a teaching assignment in a high-need area of the School District of Philadelphia.

“Programs like this are critical to supporting the career development of educators in underserved communities,” said Assistant Professor of Education Dr. Augusto Macalalag (above, at right). “We hope to improve opportunities for School District of Philadelphia graduates by enabling students to start at Community College of Philadelphia and finish at Arcadia.”

Black Box Theater Receives Grant

Last fall, The Arcadia Foundation awarded a $91,000 grant to the University for the renovation of the Black Box Theater in support of Arcadia’s growing Theater Arts program. The grant will transform this performance space, dedicated by the Class of 1968 in celebration of its 45-year reunion, for emerging student artists and the University community, as well as for the downtown arts sector that surrounds the neighborhood.

Professor Emerita Dr. Barbara Nodine (right), a dedicated supporter of the Theater Arts program, believes that the Black Box expansion will bring the stage closer to young audiences while breaking down the figurative fourth wall.

“With the support of the Arcadia Foundation, we hope to have an alternate performance space that creates opportunities for more personal connections to what is happening on the stage,” said Wade.

Assistant Professor Mark Wade, artistic director and co-chair of the Theater Arts program, believes that the Black Box expansion will bring the stage closer to young audiences while breaking down the figurative fourth wall.

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Dr. Janet Readinger ’07DPT, assistant professor of Physical Therapy and associate director of Clinical Education, received a $17,000 grant from the Parkinson Council to support the Dan Aaron Stay Fit Exercise program, designed to help community members with Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson’s disease maintain and improve their endurance and mobility.

The program, founded by Gerri Aaron ’74H and her family in 2004, has received support from the Parkinson Council since 2011 (see pg. 53 for a tribute to Aaron). Grants have enabled the development of exercise programs, caregiver support groups, and hands-on student experiences that benefit local patients.

For more information, arcadia.edu/StayFitExercise

Dr. Barbara Nodine, Mark Wade, and Dr. Bette Landman in the Black Box Theater.

Dr. Bette E. Landman ‘04H, who led the University from 1985 to 2004, a lifelong champion of liberal arts education and president of The Arcadia Foundation, has seen her commitment to visual and performing arts flourish thanks to support from the University community.

On campus, the Theater Arts program continues to evolve. Facilitated by the introduction of the Musical Theater concentration in 2017, enrollment has increased steadily with prospective students from Maine, Massachusetts, Florida, and Vermont making the journey to Arcadia for auditions. Seeking to fulfill the needs of aspiring artists, the program unveiled a robust production schedule that includes moving from a first-show-to-a-six-show season during the 2019-20 academic year. This season’s fifth show, Hooda Gabber, debuted in Grey Towers Castle’s Mirror Room this March.

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EMPTY BOWL MARKS 25 YEARS OF FIGHTING HUNGER

More than 1,000 bowls of all shapes, sizes, and colors filled the Grey Towers Castle Dining Room on Nov. 12 during the 25th annual Empty Bowl Benefit Dinner, hosted by Arcadia’s Community and Civic Engagement Center. Since the event’s inception, Arcadia has raised nearly $150,000 for regional, national, and international organizations. This year, proceeds supported Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network, an agency that provides temporary shelter and food to homeless families, and Rise Against Hunger, an international program that facilitates crisis response, provides nutritious meals, and supports empowerment initiatives in impoverished areas and regions affected by natural disasters.

“The future of Empty Bowl is unlimited,” said Christine Friis ’12, who was inspired by her experience as an Empty Bowl coordinator to pursue a career with Operation Homefront, which provides financial assistance, housing, and support services to military families. “It’s grown every year, and can only go upward as we continue serving the hungry and homeless.”

For more information, arcadia.edu/CCEC

Arcadia Transfers Sponsorship of Genetic Counseling to Penn

Beginning in fall 2019, Arcadia University will transfer sponsorship, accreditation, curriculum, and faculty of its Master of Science in Genetic Counseling program to the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Established in 1995, Arcadia’s Genetic Counseling program is one of 45 accredited programs in North America and one of the largest in the country, with 259 graduates. The program has worked closely with Penn since 1995, with Arcadia students fulfilling clinical placements within the University of Pennsylvania Health System and at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

The 16 Genetic Counseling students in the second year of the two-year program will graduate from Arcadia University in May 2019, prior to the proposed changes. The 16 students admitted to Arcadia in fall 2018 will complete their curriculum without any changes or disruption to their schedule and will graduate from Arcadia. The students will be taught by the core Arcadia Genetic Counseling faculty to complete their didactic coursework and master’s thesis projects, and will be guaranteed clinical placements within the University of Pennsylvania Health System.

This program transfer will also benefit Arcadia’s nationally ranked Physical Therapy (PT) and Physician Assistant (PA) programs, with Penn guaranteeing clinical placements for students for five years. Penn will open training sites for Arcadia’s PT and PA students and provide access to resources unavailable at Arcadia, including a simulation center, cadavers, and state-of-the-art virtual technology.

Cheltenham Commissioners Laud Facilities

Last fall, the Cheltenham Township Board of Commissioners presented Arcadia’s Facilities Management team with a citation for helping to restore and maintain the landscape around Cheltenham Township. Posing in above photo with township commissioners and President Ajay Nair (standing, center) are Timothy Gallagher, Kevin Titus, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management and Capstral Planning; Tom Macchi, Michelle Jaisir-Peters, Kevin Maras, Edward Gensheimer, Ed Adams, Jessey Almonte Gonzalez ’16, Robert Melissen, Nicholas De Rosato, and Nicholas Rogers ’18.

LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Alumni,

On June 1, I had the privilege of becoming president of our Alumni Association. While I have enjoyed a relatively long “alternative career” as a volunteer for Arcadia, it is particularly exciting to represent all Arcadia graduates at a time when University leadership is actively working to increase our membership and diversify our alma mater.

The Alumni Association’s Leadership Council has since developed its 2018-2021 Strategic Goals—three guiding objectives by which our committees are developing action items, initiatives, and programs to better connect alumni and students.

We have set about to enhance the mentorship, lifelong-learning, networking, and career-focused opportunities not only for current students, but for all Arcadia alumni. We have created a Career and Mentorship Committee to focus on this goal and to work to enrich the Alumni Career Mentor Program—which has connected more than 260 student mentees with 162 alumni mentors in the past six years.

(Get involved at arcadia.edu/AlumniMentor.)

Our second goal is to increase opportunities for alumni to connect based on shared student involvements, cultural experiences, and other mutual interests and passions. Shared interest and affinity groups such as our recently formed Physical Therapy Alumni Association and the Black Alumni Association are already helping to increase the connections among alumni who have similar academic and cultural experiences and strengthen their ties to the University. I particularly hope to see more graduates build connections around shared industries beyond their majors. There are many alumni working in education, health care, international relations, business, the arts, and so many other intersections that they may not realize. These connections will be both beneficial and fun.

We have an ongoing goal to continue to increase awareness among alumni of the volunteer opportunities that are available within the Association and the University. We want you to be informed and invested in the life of Arcadia, and we know how you can get involved!

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can, and I want to hear from you. Send me suggestions on how we can make our Alumni Association a stronger, more engaged organization through the Alumni Relations Office at alumni@arcadia.edu.

I am excited about the next three years and what they hold for us as we partner to strengthen and grow our Alumni Association.

Best wishes,

Kerry Ann Costello-Leraris ’92, ’94MEd
President
Arcadia University Alumni Association

A New Alumni Directory Is Coming

Over the next few months, Publishing Concepts (PCi) will reach out to alumni via postcard, phone, and email to collect class years, contact information, and employment updates so you may reconnect and network with peers.

Questions? Contact Alumni Relations at 215-517-2560 or alumni@arcadia.edu.
Be a Mentor
By Caitlin Joyce ’20

Eager to get ahead in her career, Business major Maya Walker ’19 (below) turned to the Alumni Career Mentor program for guidance. Through the program, Walker was able to connect with alumna Candace Yaeger ’07, who put her on a path to success.

A Psychology and Art Therapy graduate, Yaeger operates Candace Yaeger Coaching, a career and business service that helps entrepreneurs maximize their potential. Using goal-oriented counseling and business savvy, Yaeger helps mentees narrow their professional interests into achievable objectives.

“She reminds me of my older sister who has an entrepreneurial spirit,” said Walker. “I instantly felt a connection. The most helpful part of the experience is having someone to talk to about conflicts as I enter the ‘adulting’ life.”

Yaeger and Walker meet frequently—and schedule calls when Walker returns to her home in Colorado—to explore career options.

“In my work, I see a lot of people who end up living in default,” said Yaeger. “I pull from my client’s experiences when helping. Maya through certain situations or crossroads. I try to be the mentor I never had.”

HITCHENS ’07 SHARES SPOOKY PAST
By Nicole Gieselman ’19

Director, playwright, and Acting alumnus Josh Hitchens ’07 (below) sent shivers down spines with his autobiographical play Ghost Stories. The one-man show—composed of six paranormal tales that haunted Hitchens throughout his life—was featured at the SoLoW pop-up festival in June, the New Jersey Fringe Festival in August, and Philadelphia’s Hill-Peck’s House on Halloween night.

Originally performed in a musty, candle-lit garage filled with battered folding chairs—the address of which was revealed to audiences on the day of the performance—Ghost Stories maintains an eerie ambiance that earned Hitchens critical acclaim, with Broad Street Review calling him an “intimate, compelling storyteller.” The production highlighted the primal need for human connection through ghostly and demonic encounters, which ranged from humorous to horrifying.

Ghost Stories is Hitchens’ second original work in the horror theatre circuit, following The Confession of Jeffrey Dahmer, which premiered in 2015. Founder of Going Dark Theatre, Hitchens has directed and performed at numerous venues in Philadelphia, including Ruba Club, Ebenzer Maxwell Mansion, and Casino Theatre.

LUNAVICTORIA ’18 PUBLISHES ILLUSTRATION TO HELP MIGRANT FAMILIES

Scientific Illustration alumna Julia Lunavictoria ’18 contributed a sketch to Coloring Nature: Hatchlings!, a coloring book designed in collaboration with the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators. Lunavictoria, a gallery assistant at Bernarducci Gallery in New York City, illustrated the Wilson’s plover (a medium-sized shorebird) for the publication, which features North American birds nurturing their young.

Hatchlings!, the first professional publication Lunavictoria has been involved with, is a coloring book with heart: 25 percent of proceeds were donated to charities aiding migrant families separated at the U.S. border. The Florence Project, an organization providing free legal and social services for detainees, was the main beneficiary.

This year, Animation Career Review ranked Arcadia’s Illustration program fourth among Pennsylvania schools and 36th in the nation. The recognition was based on Arcadia’s academic reputation, admission selectivity, program depth, tuition value, and geographic location.
ARCADIA IN CAPE TOWN

The College of Global Studies (TCGS) launched Arcadia in Cape Town, a program designed to help students merge their academic interests with community development initiatives in South Africa. Though South Africa has been one of Arcadia’s study abroad destinations since 2008, TCGS’s partnership with Cornerstone Institute supports field work and curriculum linked to the needs of Cape Town. Arcadia in Cape Town offers Sociology, Community Development, Management and Entrepreneurship, Media and Communication, and Psychology courses, encouraging students to explore global issues, develop research, and pursue social entrepreneurship careers. An intimate learning environment similar to Arcadia’s, Cornerstone provides hands-on instruction, small class sizes, and one-on-one student support.

“Cornerstone is central to the social justice work of the city,” said Resident Director Dr. Alan Jansen, who teaches a core study abroad course that students will now take at Cornerstone. “It has, for decades, been known as a meeting place and a venue for great ideas and debate.”

LONDON CENTER HOSTS FIRST SYMPOSIUM

Arcadia’s London Center hosted its first symposium, “Marx & the City”—an examination of philosopher Karl Marx’s life, work, and influence on London as a revolutionary exile—on Nov. 2, the 200th anniversary of Marx’s birth. The event featured 16 international panelists, who were encouraged to explore “the city” as a sociological concept, one that does away with disciplinary boundaries.

For this reason, speakers outside of academia also presented on political, social, and economic issues. The London Center invited Arcadia students to challenge ideas and participate in discourse by chairing panels and reviewing abstract submissions. Several sessions were led by The College of Global Studies faculty: Oliver Sutton, Barcelona Center, presented on protest and power in Spain; Dr. Chris McMillan, London Center, addressed London’s post-industrial reserve army of labor; Dr. Katherine Connelly, London Center, explored Marx’s lumpenproletariat; Dr. Morgan Daniels, London Center, presented on “seasickness as dialectics;” and Garrett Fagan, Dublin Center, shared research on Irish rebellion, nationalism, and Marxism.

BAAAU Exceeds Scholarship Fundraising Goal

It took merely three months for the Black Alumni Association of Arcadia University (BAAAU) to exceed its fundraising goal for scholarships that will help students “prevail” the world. Alumni, faculty, staff, families, and community leaders—including former Board Chair Lois E. Haber ’71, ’16H, Michael Haber, and former president Dr. Jerry Greiner ’71, ’16H—helped BAAAU raise more than $31,700, surpassing its goal of $7,450, to cover the cost of Preview and in-country expenses for 10 students this year. The Act 101/Gateway to Success program, led by Dr. Angela McNeil, helped finance passport costs for five scholarship recipients.

“Reading the student statements reaffirmed how important this scholarship is,” said BAAAU President Aliyah Abraham ’18. “This is what alumni associations should be doing: Reaching back and helping the next generation as they begin their collegiate journeys.”

According to Arcadia’s Office of International Programs, only 6.5 percent of African American students participated in Preview in 2018. Through its #20for2020 campaign, BAAAU hopes to alleviate financial barriers for 20 students to participate in next year’s Preview experience.

President Nair Tours U.K. Centers

In December, President Ajay Nair met with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and First-Year Study Abroad Experience (FYSAE) participants at Arcadia’s Centers in London and Edinburgh. Accompanied by The College of Global Studies’ Vice President and Executive Director Lorra Stern and Chief Operating Officer Calleen Burke, President Nair toured Arcadia’s London housing, attended a “Talk of the Town” presentation on slam poetry, and met with long-standing institutional partners: Queen Mary University, Goldsmiths University, City University, King’s College, and University College London.

In Scotland, the trio connected with Arcadia interns working for the Scottish Parliament, where they attended a debate on health care; met a student interning at the Scottish Malawi partnership; and visited the University of Glasgow, the Glasgow School of Fine Arts, Edinburgh Napier University, and the University of Edinburgh.

Members of the BAAAU, including President Aliyah Abraham ’18 (front row, fourth from right), gather at Grey Towers Castle.

Visit arcadia.edu/Giving
Women’s volleyball

For the third time in three seasons, the women’s soccer team earned a berth in the NCAA Division III Tournament. Coach Rick Brownell, who has been at the helm for the last 16 seasons, picked up his 200th career win as Arcadia defeated Albright 3-0 in the semifinals of the MAC Commonwealth Championship. Brownell’s career record now stands at 200-91-33 (.668), and he is the Knights’ all-time leader in wins and winning percentage.

Brianna Crowley ’22 was named Rookie of the Year and earned First Team All-MAC Commonwealth honors. Veronica Pontis ’19 joined her on the first team, and Veronica Garcia ’20, Erin Vander Plate ’21, Stephanie Maggio ’19, and Kaitlin Clare O’Malley ’00, ’03DPT (women’s volleyball), ’11, ’14 (women’s soccer), ’03 (women’s cross country), were named to the all-conference second team as the Knights advanced to the MAC Commonwealth Championship Finals for the second time in as many years. Eng capped her season by becoming the first Knight named to the all-conference second team as the Knights advanced to the MAC Commonwealth Championship Finals for the second time in as many years.

Eng and Paliwodzinski were each named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) All-Region accolades and was named to the Philadelphia Inquirer Academic All-Area Team.

John Bologni ’19 and Austin Fiorio were also named to the United Soccer Coaches (USC) NCAA Division III Mid-Atlantic All-Region Team. Crowley joined Pontis on the All-ECAC Second Team, and Pontis was named to the USC Scholar All-East Region team.

Men’s basketball

Men’s basketball captured the program’s first MAC Conference title with a 92-56 victory over Widener University on Feb. 23 in the Kuch Alumni Gymnasium. The victory clinched a berth to the NCAA Tournament.

The Knights continued their season with a 80-60 victory over New Jersey City University in the first round of the NCAA Division III tournament in Marietta, Ohio. Their historic season ended in the second round with a 88-76 loss to nationally ranked Marietta College.

The title is Arcadia’s fifth MAC Championship overall and fourth since 2017, with men’s basketball joining the women’s soccer, women’s lacrosse, and baseball programs.

Field hockey

The Knights established a program record with 16 wins en route to the MAC Commonwealth Championship and ECAC Championship finals. Head Coach Erin Livingston jumped to second place in program history with 104 career wins.

Isabelle Houser ’20 was named First Team All-MAC Commonwealth and was joined on the all-conference team by Gabby Sodares ’19 and Sydney Cyr ’20, who were each named to the second team. Houser added National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) All-Region accolades and was named to the Philadelphia Inquirer Academic All-Area Team.

Men’s soccer

The men’s soccer team experienced a transitional year under first-year Head Coach Joe Clementi ’11. A number of narrow losses and near misses were the story of the season as Arcadia finished 5-11-1. Eight of the Knights’ 11 losses were by one goal, with two coming in overtime. Ryan Hammer ’19 proved to be one of the more consistent players in the MAC Commonwealth, leading the team with 10 goals and three assists for 23 points en route to a First Team All-MAC Commonwealth nod.

Men’s volleyball

In just its third season, men’s volleyball was ranked in the American Volleyball Coaches Association Division III top 15 poll, coming in at No. 12 in the first poll of the season. As of March 1, the team was ranked 10th in the Men’s Division II second season last year, the team advanced to the MAC Championship game. Men’s volleyball is also led by Port.

Knights Make SportsCenter’s Top 10

A bicycle kick goal by Daniel Tittelmayer ’22 on Oct. 9 over Albright University was featured as the No. 3 highlight on ESPN SportsCenter’s Top 10 list. The goal gave Arcadia a 1-0 lead in the match, which they won, 2-1.

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Dr. Katherine Moore presented “The Role of Sociability in Developmental Psychopathology” at a conference organized by the American Psychological Association’s 2018 NEXT Conference and Exposition. Dr. Eastlack’s award-winning research primarily focuses on bone and muscle functionality, morphology, and performance.

Professor of Education Dr. Graciela Slesaransky-Pobre presented “The Changing Paradigm of Inclusive Education in European Society,” as a contribution to a conference organized by the International Institute for the Study of Culture and Education in Warsaw, Poland. She also led seminars on identity, disability, gender stereotyping, racial profiling, and other issues related to inclusive education for European Doctorate in Teachers Education students at the University of Lower Silesia in Wroclaw.

Jennifer Manzella, adjunct professor of Art and Design, co-created an art installation on Ludlow Street in Philadelphia’s East Market area. Laura Bonacci ’20 and artist Katie VanVliet collaborated with Manzella on the installation, which blends depictions of Philadelphia’s history and architecture.
‘The Nun Was in over Her Head’

Sister Helen Prejean, author of Arcadia’s Common Read selection Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty, visited campus during inauguration week to discuss her work as a spiritual adviser to death row inmates, a storyteller and public speaker, and a fierce supporter of the Catholic Church’s opposition to state executions.

Before addressing a packed house of students, faculty, staff, and alumni, Sister Helen sat down with English major Jess Derr ’20 to talk about her journey—from a nun “in over her head” to a nationally recognized advocate for the abolition of capital punishment.

Q. What led you to the Catholic Church?
A. I grew up Catholic, and I had great nuns who taught me that your spiritual life or faith can be at the heart of everything that you do. When you're in church all the time, you can fall into a trap where you don’t apply faith to your life. The Catholic Church could get hung up on “correct doctrines” and be oblivious to social problems. I joined the Sisters of Saint Joseph at 18, and I knew I wanted to participate in the Catholic Church’s Second Vatican Council, which opened the windows and said, “Look at the suffering, world. Get involved.” Nobody did that more than the Catholic nuns. In fact, I just finished a memoir (River of Fire) about that journey—joining the Sisters, the Vatican II changes, getting involved in a poor neighborhood in New Orleans, and eventually getting the invitation to write to a man on death row. It changed my life.

Q. So, in the beginning, your work wasn’t cemented in social justice?
A. No. I had a wake up to that. It took a while. I was in my 40s. I was working in suburbs and in parishes with people who, if not affluent, were middle class. I had to accept the deeper invitation of Christianity to get involved.

Q. In Dead Man Walking, you write that you were wary about entering your faith alongside politics. Did you have any idea how drastically this would change when you wrote to your first advisee, Pat Sennier?
A. Are you kidding me? I thought it was only going to be writing letters. Louisiana hadn’t had an execution in a long time, and they were grating up to get started again. I didn’t know. Then suddenly, I’m with him when he’s executed. Tim Robbins [director of Dead Man Walking’s film adaptation] liked to say, “The nun was in over her head,” and it’s so true! I knew nothing.

Q. What was your biggest takeaway from working with death row inmates?
A. First, how privileged, cushioned, and protected I had been in my life. The inmates all came from hard childhoods, poverty, broken homes. They did not feel loved. They were reeless—often they did drugs or alcohol and were violent. I saw a pattern, and looked at my own life: It’s not that I’m virtuous, it’s that I’d been protected.

When Dead Man Walking came out in 1993, I learned that 80 percent of people in America supported the death penalty. Most people don’t think deeply about the death penalty. They have no reason to—they don’t have a family member who was murdered. I knew I had to bring people close to the issue. I tell stories so people can reflect on whether it really helps a victim’s family to watch the state kill the person that killed their loved one. When they watch violence, is that supposed to heal them? If society is safer because we have prisons, why are we imitating the violence by killing prisoners?

Q. I imagine you face a lot of backlash. What keeps you going?
A. There is a man named Mul Ortiz, from El Salvador, who I’m accompanying on death row in Louisiana right now. He’s the third innocent inmate I’ve been with out of seven. Twenty-four years sitting in a cell, and he’s maintained his courage, faith, and who he is. In an extraordinary situation where most people would break, he’s not broken. We talk, we laugh, we pray. What I come away with is courage. That’s what keeps me going.

Q. How can a college student get involved with similar social justice projects?
A. How many people do you have on death row here? See, you don’t know. Start looking into Pennsylvania. Get in touch with human rights groups that are working to end the death penalty in Pennsylvania, or groups that help the wrongfully convicted. Consider being a penpal to somebody on death row—that’s how I started.

Q. Knowing what you know now, would you have done anything differently?
A. I probably would do the same thing, which is to let things unfold. You put your boat in a little current, and you’re paddling along until all of a sudden the rapids start. But you want to be true to what you’ve started. I’d written to Pat; I promised to visit him. And I learned what a great gift that can be to a human being that everyone else thinks of as disposable human waste, vermin, a monster. I got to see his dignity. That was invaluable.

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An Issue That Transcends Political Parties

Despite different political affiliations, Political Science alumni Rebecca Smith ‘16 and Anil (A.J.) Beephan ’16 share similar goals and strategies for fighting the opioid crisis.

How is Norristown addressing the opioid and heroin crisis? There are a couple of different ways: Norristown is involved in a class action lawsuit against some of the prescription drug companies at the local level to get the costs of resources covered, such as Narcan and EMT training. But this is in the early phases. We also have a great police chief who is taking a very human approach to this issue by supporting treatment over incarceration for users. The policy is to get users treatment rather than make them part of the prison cycle.

What are Norristown’s strongest resources in overcoming this epidemic? From anywhere in Norristown, if you want help, you have access to it. We have service centers that provide mental health and addiction services for anyone who needs it. We also have at least one methadone clinic.

What would you like to see the state and national governments do to combat these issues? I don’t see Pennsylvania paying a lot of attention to the opioid crisis. They need to consider a policy-driven approach, rather than just talking about it as an issue. Obviously, funding would help to support daily practices and police training. But there’s inconsistency when it comes to resources, too. In some communities, methadone clinics are illegal, or police don’t carry Narcan. There needs to be more consistency.

We also haven’t seen much action from the federal level. They need to be more careful about the drugs people have access to.

Why is the opioid epidemic an important area to address for you? I’ve lost eight people that I graduated high school with due to the heroin and opioid epidemic. I want to work with the police chief to support addiction and treatment, while getting opioids off the streets. We’re trying to look at the history—we used past practices from the ‘80s and opened up more clinics. We’ve started holding Narcan training sessions. But we’re dealing with a whole different animal now since these drugs are laced with fentanyl.

What is East Fishkill doing to overcome this issue? We’ve opened a stabilization center to get opioids out of users’ systems while we try to find them a place at recovery centers. We’re meeting with the county to discuss what is going on. East Fishkill has organizations in town that are working in the field of addiction, and we work with these groups to make sure they have the resources they need.

What would you like to see done by the state and federal governments? The hardest thing about [the opioid crisis] is that the communities don’t always have the resources to deal with it. They can’t afford to have the level of services they need. We need shared resources. It’s more than a community issue, and it needs to be recognized as a national one. The drugs come from across the country. I’d like to see more coordination between police with the state and county governments to develop a task force.

I’d also like to see the state and national governments provide more aid. It doesn’t have to be monetary—it can be training and resources. I’d like to see communities open methadone clinics. It’s currently illegal in New York to have them.

What is Norristown’s closest neighbor? East Fishkill.

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My favorite thing about Norristown is that you’re able to get some of the benefits of city living without being in the city. It’s smaller, there’s green space, there’s no skyscrapers. I like having that happy medium.”

—Smith ’16

“It really is a tight-knit family. We’re constantly looking out for one another. My favorite thing about East Fishkill is it’s a big town, but it maintains that small town feel. It’s what makes it feel like home to me.”

—Beephan ’16

Councilwoman At-large, Norristown, Pa.
Elected November 2017

Upon graduating in 2016, Smith was looking for a way to get involved with her hometown community, so she began attending Norristown Democrats meetings. Shortly after, the party asked her to run for council.

The seat of Montgomery County, the borough of Norristown has 34,510 residents and is located only six miles from Philadelphia.

A.J. BEEPHAN ’16

Councilman At-large, East Fishkill, N.Y.
Elected November 2018

Beephan has served as councilman since March 2018, when he was appointed to fill a vacant position. Prior to his appointment, he was a volunteer firefighter in his community and worked as a legislative assistant in the New York State Senate.

Part of the Hudson Valley, East Fishkill is a community of 29,282 residents in Dutchess County. It is approximately 70 miles from New York City.
In 1980, Dr. Ellington Beavers ’93H was about to turn 65, an age when many enter into or contemplate retirement. The company for which he had worked for 40 years, Rohm and Haas, had a policy of compulsory retirement for chemists employed as long as Dr. Beavers was. But he was by no means ready to stop.

Dr. Beavers wrote to the presidents of Beaver College, Gwynedd Mercy College, and Temple University—three institutions within commuting distance from his home in Meadowbrook—and offered to make himself available, without compensation, if his laboratory expertise could be useful in some capacity. Beaver College’s president at the time, Dr. Edward Gates, asked Dr. Beavers to meet him for lunch at The Union League of Philadelphia. Shortly after, President Gates asked Dr. Beavers to join the College’s Board of Trustees.

For more than two decades, Dr. Beavers, who died in 2015, worked with Arcadia students and Chemistry professors in Boyer Hall’s laboratories. In 1991, Dr. Beavers founded Biocoat, Inc., a global medical device coating company. Fifteen years later, when the company’s work became more than the facilities in Boyer could accommodate, Biocoat’s operations moved to Horsham, Pa.

And, nearly 40 years after that initial meeting, Arcadia University is the recipient of an $8.6 million gift, the largest single gift in the University’s history, with the December 2018 acquisition of Biocoat by 1315 Capital. The proceeds from the acquisition were realized through the University’s ownership of 16 percent of Biocoat, shares which Dr. Beavers gifted to Arcadia when the company was founded.

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facilitated the installation of a wooden curing oven that accommodated up to 20 coated catheters in room 305. An exposure rack was installed in room 18.

Grateful for what space he had, Dr. Beavers thanked the College for allowing him to make his mark on the college. He hoped that his research would continue to be funded and that his legacy would endure. He also thanked his colleagues for their support and dedication.

In the labs, Dr. Beavers’ team expanded their research on hyaluronan coatings, developing applications for optical lenses, automobile windshields, condoms, non-fogging bathroom mirrors, surgical blades, submarines, torpedo, stents, bandages, and fire hoses. They even discovered a method of controlling the invasive zebra mussel population by making ships too slippery to attach to.

“Pacemakers, hip implants, knee implants—Ellington realized that more than just instruments should be coated with a natural, human product,” said Dr. Chester Mikulski, professor of Chemistry and one of Beacon’s first members. “At this point, you wouldn’t want to sell the coating, but the technical know-how to medical companies.”

Biocoat’s inception on Nov. 1, 1991, was the first step toward this goal. Beacon operated concurrently until 2006, when the Food and Drug Administration pressured Biocoat to absorb all research activities and relocate to Horsham, Pa.

But despite the FDA’s stringent requirements, Dr. Beavers’ work in Boyer’s evolving laboratories led to 11 patents and numerous patent applications.

"Even toward the end of his life, he would conduct research on something he recognized his inquisitiveness (Dr. Beavers’ preferred after-dinner reading was ‘The Great Gatsby’) and his peers wasted no time in naming him such. When Dr. Beavers served in the college, described the then-68-year-old’s routine: wake up at 6 a.m., jog two miles, squeeze in a gardening session, and hit the labs by working hours.

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Dr. Beavers’ research and success earned him an honorary doctorate from the University of Virginia, and American Chemical Society, thanks in part to his efforts to improve healthcare and support the institute. He was honored by his peers and colleagues for his dedication to science and his passion for helping mankind.

A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOLAR

“Dr. Beavers was a gentleman and a scholar,” said Peg Beavers of her father-in-law, who grew up in Atlanta, Ga., studied Chemistry at Emory University, and completed his Ph.D. fellowship at the University of North Carolina. "He came from humble beginnings, and he always tried to support the institutions that helped him along the way.”

Dr. Beavers governed his health as methodically as he conducted scientific investigations. He eschewed foods high in fats for healthier cuisine, exercised at fitness centers regularly throughout his life, and even completed two marathons. Kathy Mackin Sweeney ’81, a Beaver College alumna who interviewed Dr. Beavers just after he was appointed chair of the Board, described the then-68-year-old’s routine: wake up at 6 a.m., jog two miles, squeeze in a gardening session, and hit the labs by working hours.

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As a trustee, Dr. Beavers’ community involvement was second to none: from establishing a group of local leaders and industrialists to ensure Beaver College was a recognized name, to spearheading hands-on fundraising campaigns that issued a wave of scholarship on campus. Showcasing his generosity, Dr. Beavers also gave more than $218,000 to Arcadia during his lifetime, including matching gifts from Rohm and Haas. But his true vere for life was nurtured in the solitude of Boyer 327.

“He always felt that there was room for improvement,” said Lorraine Beavers, his wife of 57 years. “He was motivated by the challenge of discovery. He lived for research.”

In 2007, when asked what his goal was for Biocoat, Dr. Beavers imagined the mom-and-pop operation becoming “a major participi- pant in world commerce, providing products and services of reliable merit, opportunity, and security.” From day one, his target was bigger than Boyer Hall. But the modest, resourceful innovator knew he could set a global enterprise in motion by listening, collaborating, and making the most of his labs in Glenside.

“He prided himself on his work in chemistry, but he was so much more than a chemist. He was an industrious person, a generous and intelligent man,” said Dr. Mikulski, adding with a smile, “an okay golfer.”

INTELLECTUAL INQUIRY

After Dr. Beavers’ tenure as Board Chair ended in 1989, a fund was established in his name to support research initiatives led by faculty and, later, students. Aligned with his commitment to pushing boundaries across discipline, the Ellington Beavers Fund for Intellectual Inquiry enables scholarly and creative discoveries that might otherwise remain unexplored.

As you read this, theories rooted in Dr. Beavers’ legacy are being tested, refined, and shared far beyond the third floor of Boyer Hall—beyond even Arcadia campus. In the Health Science labs, Jacqueline Neminski ’19, an associate professor and director of genetic counseling, is researching non-binary characters and spaces in American gothic literature. Focusing on Julia Ward Howe’s The Hermaphrodite, Lawlor Mullen examines inverted gender stereotypes and cis-heteronormative literary structures alongside Charles Brockden Brown’s Wieland. Mullen explores how, in fiction, the body might reject and, later, students. Aligned with his commitment to pushing boundaries across discipline, the Ellington Beavers Fund for Intellectual Inquiry enables scholarly and creative discoveries that might otherwise remain unexplored.

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Across campus, Creative Writing’s Lawrence Lorraine Mullen ’19MFA is researching non-binary characters and spaces in American gothic literature. Focusing on Julia Ward Howe’s The Hermaphrodite and Charles Brockden Brown’s Wieland, Mullen examines inverted gender stereotypes and cis-heteronormative literary structures alongside Associate Professor and English Graduate Program Director Dr. Kalenda Eaton, inviting literary theorists to consider the broader non-binary perspective.

For Dr. Beavers, “inquiry” wasn’t about fulfilling lab requirements or padding résumés; rather, he conceived of an outlet for students to tailor their collegiate experiences to their passions. In his interview with Mackin Sweeney, Dr. Beavers lauded the campus, faculty, and facilities as best-kept secrets for researchers, noting that “there is no ideal Beaver College student. There is an ideal Beaver College for (every) student.”

AN IDEAL REPRESENTATION

While Dr. Beavers’ gift comes as something of a serendipitous gain for the University, it is emblematic of a recent rise in fundraising at Arcadia. As of February 2019, giving totals are up by nearly 10 percent over this time last year, notwithstanding the aforementioned $8.6 million. The number of pledges are up, and members of the Board of Trustees collectively pledged $600,000 at President Ajay Nair’s inauguration in October to support presidential initiatives.

The Biocoat gift will be invested in a quasi-endowment, with the interest to be used to fund initiatives established by Arcadia’s forthcoming strategic plan. The gain stands, in a way, as an ideal representation of the innovation and vision that Arcadia hopes to instill and encourage in students, faculty, and community members.

“This gift was made possible through Dr. Beavers’ bold vision of transform- ing space in Boyer Hall into his laboratory, through the vision of President Gates to bring Dr. Beavers onto the Board, and through the vision of the researchers at Biocoat, which have included Arcadia faculty and students,” said President Nair. “For those who had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Beavers, I can only presume that news about this gift realization is not shocking. I am learning, each day, not to be surprised by the remarkable actions, talents, and generosity of this University community.”

HYALURONIC ACID

Imagine introducing steel wire to the bloodstream. Disrupting the body’s ebb and flow with a vascular catheter. Implanting a metal mesh stent.

These are necessary steps for unclogging arterial plaque, but at any point in this process, the body might reject and, later, students. Aligned with his commitment to pushing boundaries across discipline, the Ellington Beavers Fund for Intellectual Inquiry enables scholarly and creative discoveries that might otherwise remain unexplored.

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President Nair addressed the challenges facing liberal arts education, calling for universities to encourage students to work harder to meet the educational needs of all students, not just a select few; and to redefine higher education in America. “In the role of president, I am privileged to serve my community by working to transform the higher education landscape through truth, justice, and liberation,” said President Nair. “We need leaders that are committed to justice; leaders that can problem solve and think critically; leaders that are thoughtful and imaginative in their approach; and leaders that seek the truth. We are about to embark on a journey that will pave the way for others and change the landscape of higher education and the world around us.”

The University community, along with representatives from more than 50 institutions of higher education and governing bodies across the nation, came together to celebrate a new chapter in Arcadia’s 165-year history—one that President Nair envisions as a model for other institutions hoping to merge justice and education.

ESTEEMED SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS

To begin the ceremony, representatives led by the Hamilton Celtic Pipes and Drums processed along the Walk of Pride and onto Haber Green. Dr. Doreen Loury, assistant professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, welcomed guests and delegates, while reminding President Nair, “We got your back!”

Attendees heard from a wide range of University community members, including Reverend Rebecca Crate ’09, pastor at Springfield Presbyterian Church, who offered an invocation; Lorna Stern, vice president and executive director of The College of Global Studies (TCGS), who introduced several of the event’s dignitaries; Dr. Alan Jansen, resident director of TCGS in South Africa, who echoed the words of Nelson Mandela while speaking on behalf of the University’s international community; Alexandra Heilbron ’20

MESSAGE OF “TRUTH” HIGHLIGHTS INAUGURAL ADDRESS

“The truth shall set us free,” was the message from Dr. Ajay Nair on Oct. 13, as hundreds of students, staff, faculty, alumni, trustees, families, friends, and community members ushered in a new era at Arcadia University with his inauguration as 22nd president.
Madsen led the transfer of office with President Emerita Dr. Bette E. Landman ’04H (president, 1985-2004) and former president Dr. Jerry Greiner (president, 2004-2011), who presented to Dr. Nair the University’s Chain of Office and Charter, respectively. The speaker who received perhaps the most enthusiastic applause was Rani Nair, daughter of President Nair and his wife, Paayal Nair. Rani shared a loving tribute to her father, detailing humorous moments President Nair has used as lessons for her and her brother, Krishna, and emphasizing what it means to minority children to have a role model like him. Prior to her remarks, an original rap song by Krishna, “Utopia,” played, which described President Nair’s journey to becoming president of Arcadia.

The weeklong Inauguration celebration began on Oct. 8 and included LGBTQ allies training; a lecture by Sister Helen Prejean, author of Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States; and a presidential panel led by Dr. Nair, Dr. Parham, and Dr. Karen Stout, president of the nonprofit Achieving the Dream Inc. and former president of Montgomery County Community College.
A FEARLESS VISIONARY

After losing her sight as a Beaver College student, Kathy Titus Faul ’68 learned to see—and heal—through sculpture.
The stone speaks to you; it shows you the problem area, and lets you know how to handle it.”
—Kathy Titus Faul ’68

“Tink - tink - tink - thud.
"Did you hear that?" asks Kathy Titus Faul ’68, tracing her palm along a curve in the alabaster. The change in pitch, barely audible to an untrained ear, warned Faul that she’d struck a vein in the rock. “That’s how I know to work softer. The stone speaks to you; it shows you the problem area, and lets you know how to handle it.”

Faul places her chisel on the cut and taps. A fragment, smaller than a grain of rice, crumbles. With her thumb and index finger, Faul measures pointed ears, an angular jaw, rounded shoulders—a rough outline of the Egyptian cat she’s sculpting for her daughter. "File, sand, and the piece of alabaster. The change in pitch, barely audible to an untrained ear, warned Faul that she’d struck a vein in the rock. “That’s how I know to work softer. The stone speaks to you; it shows you the problem area, and lets you know how to handle it.”

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“She raised me to choose love over hate, when all I wanted to do was lash out at the world.”
—Kim Faul Daughter

"Alone," sculpted by Faul while traveling during her husband’s battle with eye cancer.
Matriarchal [Time]line

1850s
Faul’s great grandmother, Emily, sailed to America from Sweden at five years old. In 1870, she enrolled in the first art class for blind adults at the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA). Emily’s search for meaning led her to the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA). Emily discovered her passion for art was a “special needs” section blank. Faul had applied for a scholarship to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA), leaving the “special needs” section blank. Faul had sculpted independently for years and saw no obstacle preventing her from studying terracotta with sighted students. But her first assignment presented a challenge: a live model. Faul examined her subjects through touch. (If you’re blushing, you know where this is going.)

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1930s
Kim’s lifelong interest in LEGO lead her to the “special needs” section blank. Faul had applied for a scholarship to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA), leaving the “special needs” section blank. Faul had sculpted independently for years and saw no obstacle preventing her from studying terracotta with sighted students. But her first assignment presented a challenge: a live model. Faul examined her subjects through touch. (If you’re blushing, you know where this is going.)

1970s
Faul’s search for meaning led her to a career planning course at Chester County Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Her tests suggested she work as a farmer, forest ranger, professor—or—you guessed it—an artist. But she didn’t heed her support group’s advice until it hit her. Faul stepped off a bus, smacked into a pole, and heard a voice in her head say, “You are to be an artist.” When she asked how, the voice answered, “I will teach you.” So, after she enrolled at PMA. Faul structured her life in a new direction. Faul’s PMA instructors encouraged her to sculpt with unconventional materials, paint through manual expressions, and, eventually, take classes with sighted students. She applied for a scholarship to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA), leaving the “special needs” section blank. Faul had sculpted independently for years and saw no obstacle preventing her from studying terracotta with sighted students. But her first assignment presented a challenge: a live model. Faul examined her subjects through touch. (If you’re blushing, you know where this is going.)

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“I was brought up by strong and creative women, and I believe my courage and positive attitude come from this matriarchal line.”

—Kathy Titus Faul ’68

“Kathy is fearless. She sees things differently than other students.”

—Steven Nocella
PAFA Professor

For most, a misshapen, unrefined chunk of alabaster is what it is—no face, no ears, no paws. It’s daunting, if not inconceivable task to see beyond the rock. So, where does Faul begin?

“Steve can always see the finished sculpture inside the block,” explains Faul, who starts with basic shapes and works downward to the finer features. “He has a genius gift for visualizing what the piece will be. He’s taught me how to feel the angles on my sculptures, how to measure with my hands, and picture them on my work.”

Transforming stone takes a mathematical eye, a healthy dose of imagination, and quite a bit of patience. Faul’s model—a discarded wooden cat—helps her gauge proportions, identify major planes on her stone, and determine dimensions for her own sculpture.

From there, it’s all about angles. “Kathy is fearless,” says Nocella, admiring her willingness to change, adapt, and grow over the 17 years that he has taught her. “She sees things differently than other students.”

Faul calls it magic: File, sand, smoo. Others might argue it’s endurance, devotion, and care that carry Faul through the two years it takes to finish a sculpture. She believes the key to visualizing and completing a project is choosing a meaningful subject. Her last sculpture—a mother elephant and her baby—started as a headache for her beloved service dog. In 2017, “Mother and child” won an honorable mention at PAFA’s Continuing Education Showcase.

“I didn’t know what to do with the great burden of grief,” admits Faul, who finds meaning in heartache through her work. “I started making the headstone and eventually saw an elephant appear. Sometimes, the stone doesn’t want to be what you want it to be.”

In this way, each piece is a character. When Faul broke a statue she’s had for years while carving, a mentor suggested that the female figure didn’t like who she was becoming. According to Faul, figuring out what went wrong is her greatest challenge—but it’s also part of the charm. A seasoned problem solver, Faul is used to overcoming hurdles. “If this doesn’t work out,” says Faul, gesturing toward the delicate legs of her Egyptian cat. “My daughter is getting an owl.”
president of Student Government Organization, and Elijah Wilson ’19, president of the Class of 2019; Kerry Ann Costello Leraris ’92, ’94MEd, president of the Arcadia University Alumni Association; Aashika Suseendran ’15, a Psychology graduate who performed “Imagine” during the ceremony; Dr. Ana Maria Garcia, associate professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice and president of Faculty Senate, who read excerpts from “The Tragic Plight” by Kumaran Asan, Dr. Nair’s favorite poet; and Bre Donnelly ’04, ’18M, assistant dean of Students and chair of Staff Council. Board Chair Alison (Aaron) Madsen, Esq., ’85, Vice Chair Dr. Joycellen Young Auritt ’71, and Trustee Dr. James Wagner, a mentor of Dr. Nair and president emeritus of Emory University, spoke on behalf of the Trustees.

Also speaking at the ceremony were government and higher education officials from around the region and country, including Pennsylvania State Senator Art Haywood (D-4), Philadelphia Councilmember At-Large Helen Gym, Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, and Dr. Thomas Parham, president of California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Madsen led the transfer of office with President Emerita Dr. Bette E. Landman ’04H (president, 1985-2004) and former president Dr. Jerry Greiner (president, 2004-2011), who presented to Dr. Nair the University’s Chain of Office and Charter, respectively. The speaker who received perhaps the most enthusiastic applause was Rani Nair, daughter of President Nair and his wife, Paayal Nair. Rani shared a loving tribute to her father, detailing humorous moments President Nair has used as lessons for her and her brother, Krishna, and emphasizing what it means to minority children to have a role model like him. Prior to her remarks, an original rap song by Krishna, “Utopia,” played, which described President Nair’s journey to becoming president of Arcadia.

The weeklong Inauguration celebration began on Oct. 8 and included LGBTQ allies training; a lecture by Sister Helen Prejean, author of Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States; and a presidential panel led by Dr. Nair, Dr. Parham, and Dr. Karen Stout, president of the nonprofit Achieving the Dream, Inc. and former president of Montgomery County Community College.
FEARLESS VISIONARY

After losing her sight as a Beaver College student, Kathy Titus Faul ’68 learned to see—and heal—through sculpture.

Faul works on limestone in the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts’ Stone Room.
Above, Faul works on her current project: an Egyptian cat sculpture.

“The stone speaks to you; it shows you the problem area, and lets you know how to handle it.”
—Kathy Titus Faul ’68

“I never had formal art education, but I enjoyed being creative,” says Faul, who was attracted to “the artist’s way of life” at Beaver. “I wanted my peers carry their portfolios across a sundial field on their way to class, and I have vivid memories of sitting with friends on the hill above [Spruance Fine Arts Center]. I reflect on those images today when I work.”

An avid painter, Faul also drew inspiration from renowned printmaker and longtime Art Department chair Benton Spruance. During the summer before her senior year, she saved for a Spruance lithograph—a coveted purchase available only to Beaver students. Faul hoped to connect with Spruance over their shared interests, but never had the chance.

On Halloween night, 1966, Faul was in a major automobile accident that critically damaged her eyes. Paramedics found Faul in a comatose state, her face crushed against the dashboard. The ambulance technician feared she wouldn’t survive. Faul woke several days later in total darkness. She was thrust into plastic surgeries, rehabilitation, and therapy. Her parents and social worker made independent living a priority, with her mother insisting that if Faul wanted breakfast, she could make it herself.

During recovery, Faul re-learned life: from cooking, to ironing clothes, to traveling with her first seeing-eye dog, Kitty. Eager to earn money, she taught herself Braille, studied through textbooks on tape, trained Kitty to navigate campus, and returned to Beaver the following year. “I was so brave then, to go from a sighted learner to a functioning learner—I’m not sure I could do it today,” shares Faul. “I was brought up by strong and creative women, and I believe my courage and positive attitude come from this matriarchal line.”

After graduating, Faul was accepted to a computer programming school in Pittsburgh, Pa., where she met her husband, Phil, with whom she had two children (see box at right). She built a career as a programmer for a bank in Philadelphia, inspecting and redesigning code through Braille printouts. Though she continued to fuse artistry and analysis, painting was a bygone passion. It wasn’t until she lost her mother—the rock in her strong matriarchal line—that Faul retreated to the solace of her college hobby.

DREAMING IN COLOR

During the weeks following the accident, Faul dreamed in striking colors. At 21, she believed she’d wake from the semi-comatose state and be able to paint her surreal, hallucinatory experiences.

“She raised me to choose love over hate, when all I wanted to do was lash out at the world.”
—Kim Faul Daughter

“I always knew I wanted to be a sculptor,” says Faul. “I started to sculpt at 16, and I knew, I have a passion for it.”

Faul measures pointed ears, an angular jaw, crumbles. With her thumb and index finger, Faul measures pointed ears, an angular jaw, rounded shoulders—a rough outline of the Egyptian cat she’s sculpting for her daughter. “File, sand, and the piece of alabaster. The change in pitch, barely makes it possible for Faul to hone in on satisfying modulations and sensory exercises—not just necessary, it’s meditative.” Faul, who also prefers a quiet workspace, too. “The stone speaks to you; it shows you the problem area, and lets you know how to handle it.”

Faul places her chisel on the cut and taps. “Tink - tink - tink - thud.”

“What does it sound like?” asks Faul. “She raised me to choose love over hate, when all I wanted to do was lash out at the world.”

It takes years of experience to visualize what a slab of alabaster might become. Faul, who lost her vision as a Beaver College student in 1966, is a guide to the world around her.

PARALLEL PASSIONS

Faul anticipated a traditional education. Her time at Beaver was anything but. Encouraged by her mother to pursue an analytical field of study, Faul enrolled as a Mathematics major in 1963. Rather than stifle her creativity, the left-brained course-work familiarized Faul with the geometric forms and architectural patterns she now references as a sculptor.

“Her greatest work

Traveling, shopping, cooking—all things you might assume are toughest to learn when you lose your sight at 21 years old. But Faul argues motherhood took the most courage (and more patience than carving stone).

As with most obstacles met by Faul, creativity was essential. Her children, for example, wore shoes with bells—a stroke of ingenuity that saved her daughter, Kimberly, from crashing into their concrete basement floor. Faul was there, at the bottom of the stairs, to catch her. “And her finely tuned ears! Not just for sculpting. Kim recalls her mother catching every act of defiance with her “supersonic hearing”— no matter how quietly she thought she’d opened the snack cabinet.

Kim reflects on her upbringing as typical. Thanks to their mother’s “wildly creative brain,” she and her brother, Bradley, didn’t realize Faul was blind until they discovered she was reciting picture books from memory (and making up much more interesting stories).

“My mother has taught me endless things about life,” says Kim. “She raised me to choose love over hate, when all I wanted to do was lash out at the world. Everything good in me is because of her.”

Faul’s measure for measure approach to life and art reflects not just the condition of her eyes, but of her heart. “Alone,” sculpted by Faul during her husband’s battle with eye cancer.
“Matriarchal [Time]line

1850s Faul’s great grandmother, Emily, sailed to America from her home in England. She was 20 years old—alone. She wore sailcloth to America from her grandmother, Emily, Faul’s great grandmother. From 1850 to 1900, strong and creative women came from this matriarchal line.

1907—nearly 100 years later, Faul’s daughter enrolls.

1906 Faul’s mother, Pearl Bastian Titus ’34, is the first in the family to graduate from Beaver College. In the decades that follow, Faul learns to paint alongside her mother, grandmother, and aunt. They instill in her a skill that will carry Faul through the two years it takes to complete her matriarchal education.

1974 Faul gives birth to son Bradley in 1974, and daughter Kimberly in 1978. Kim describes their upbringing as “full of creativity and wonder.” To date, Kim’s favorite work of art is a couch potato toy her mother crafted by hand after hearing her daughter obsessed over the Toys “R” Us model.

1990s Kim’s lifelong interest in video games led her to software engineering, like her parents. The youngest female figure didn’t like who she was becoming. According to Faul, figuring out what went wrong is her greatest challenge—"seeing" is a cognitive process that requires, first and foremost, a well-rested mind.

2019 Kim’s lifelong interest in video games led her to software engineering, like her parents. The youngest female figure didn’t like who she was becoming. According to Faul, figuring out what went wrong is her greatest challenge—“seeing” is a cognitive process that requires, first and foremost, a well-rested mind.

“I was brought up by strong and creative women, and I believe my courage and positive attitude come from this matriarchal line.” —Kathy Titus Faul ’68

Faul’s search for meaning led her to a career planning course at Chester County Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Her tests suggested she work as a farmer, forest ranger, professor—or you guessed it—an artist. But she didn’t heed her support group’s advice. Instead, she took up a brush, smacked into a pole, and heard a voice in her head say, “You are to be an artist.” When she asked how, the voice answered, “I will teach you.” Soon after, she enrolled at PMA.

Steering her life in a new direction, Faul’s PMA instructors encouraged her to sculpt with unconventional materials, paint through manual expressions, and, eventually, take classes with sighted students. She applied for a scholarship to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PFA) and learned she was the “special needs” section blank. Faul had sculpted independently for years and saw no obstacle preventing her from studying terracotta with sighted learners.

But her first assignment presented a challenge: a live model. Faul examines her subjects through touch. (If you’re blushing, you know where this is going.)

“You can imagine how embarrassed I was to ask, ‘Oh dear, can I touch you?’”

“I could learn to read, I could learn to type, but the thing that was most difficult to accept was that I’d no longer experience life in color.”

Still, her imagination was vibrant, compelling. After her mother died in 1984, Faul sought grief counseling in part to analyze her dreams. She interpreted a recurring image of a man, angry that he couldn’t see or create with the paints he once used, as a sign to enroll in a pottery class at Wallingford Art Center for visually impaired artists.

Faul’s life took another sharp turn when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1993. No longer sculpting at Wallingford, she joined a support group to evaluate her personal and professional goals. In meditation, Faul visualized an eagle guiding her to a potter in New Mexico. A member of her support group directed her to an art class for blind adults at the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA).

“When I was diagnosed with cancer and started counseling, our therapist asked us what we were living for.”

“Most people said their children. But what I think he meant was, ‘How can you stay motivated? What can you do for yourself?’”

“Color is what I miss most,” says Faul, who rejected her vision loss until she left the hospital on a cold November morning in 1966. “I could learn to read, I could learn to type, but the thing that was most difficult to accept was that I’d no longer experience life in color.”

“Kathy is fearless. She sees things differently than other students.” —Steven Nocella PFA Professor

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“I could learn to read, I could learn to type, but the thing that was most difficult to accept was that I’d no longer experience life in color.”

“Steve can always see the finished sculpture inside the block,” explains Faul, who still steps off a bus, smacked into a pole, and heard a voice in her head say, “You are to be an artist.” When she asked how, the voice answered, “I will teach you.”

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**1957**

In our quest for information from or about our classmates, we received the following answers to these replies came in October.

Joanne Stoneback Graves writes that she had been a long time since she heard from her classmate, but her husband, Ted, died on May 7 after 11 years of dialysis, in and out of hospitals and nursing homes. She received a lot of support from her friends, her church, her doctor, and her family, and Home, Health and Hospice groups in Nashua, NH. None of her children are local, so she had to do most of her shopping on her own. She now can get back to volunteer work, her church, and maybe to a new hobby. She said that her hosting is gone so quickly, and she has realized that all of us are all in our 80s.

Joy Gill Allen shared that her husband, Bob, passed away four years ago, and she has sold her condo in Naples, Fla. A few of us would do to meet her for a meal whenever we were visiting Naples. She has now moved to Lititz, Pa., now, I guess.

“Slowing down a bit, but still taking walks,” writes Barbara Goldberg Cook. She and her family are happy to be in Naples. She and her entire family are excited that a great-grandchild is due to arrive on the scene.

Deborah Fisher Stern still conducts Sabbath services at assisted living facilities in the New York area and is a spiritual care coordinator (chaplain) for Home Hospice. She also runs the house and she said to be the best house so far, and she has commented that time has gone so quickly, and she has realized that all of us are all in our 80s.

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This summer we lost our classmate, my dear friend Kathie Kavanagh Evans. I will never forget her. Kathie loved to tell: As a freshman, I came home on Thanksgiving break 2-3 weeks earlier than the incoming class. I was settled into our dorm room by Hall. Kathie was an art major who loved sports. Kathie was shocked when she arrived at our doorstep to find a converse sneaker in our room. “My God, Kathie you are the only one who has a converse sneaker in your room.”

Kathie described in a NYU Alumni newsletter in 1990 how she was a double major who loved sports. Kathie described how she used a bathing cap to keep the water out of her hair. “This past June, Dennis and I traveled some 6,000 miles away. Good company!”

Cynthia (Jean) Walker, who sends a “hello!”, and maybe this time, “ goodbye!”

In 2016 the publication was going to be a flight surgeon. Her second daughter-in-law, a FBI agent. Another daughter, a graduate of the Naval Academy, passed theboards 3 years earlier than the incoming class.

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Auntie Jo Jo conducted a six-week Introduction To Storytelling Program this summer at Arcadia in partnership with the Urban Affairs Coalition (UAC) Summer Youth Work Study Program (below). Participants gained valuable work and technical experience as they updated R.O.O.T.S social media presence. They learned the art of storytelling from professional storytellers, created personal adaptations of Aesop’s Fables, and learned the fundamentals of writing poetry from workshop leader Shani Carington ’18. With financial support from PCA, participants procured an illustrator from Fiverr to draw pictures for the fables they created. Illustrations were also created for Auntie Jo Jo’s new children’s book *One Cool And Windy Day On Table Mountain*, scheduled to be released soon. The participants created their own adaptation from the book, *The Frog Who Wanted to Take Flight,* and they did. Auntie Jo Jo’s new children’s book, *A Singer* by Linda Goss. Their adaptations received high praise from the author. As with most successful endeavors, there was a team of individuals who made this six-week summer program a success. Auntie Jo Jo stated, “As an Arcadia alumna, I could not have thought of a better place for imaginations to take flight, and they did.”

Kevin Janus (above) has a new position as regional vice president with Ameritas. He lives in the Lehigh Valley with his wife, Shannon, and their daughters, Natalie (age 6) and Daphne (age 2).

Hilda T. Rivera, MPH, CHES moved back to her hometown of Allentown, Pa. and is recently engaged! She is working at Lehigh Valley Health Network Department of Community Health as a program coordinator overseeing the implementation of community health programs and mentoring college interns (below, left).

Nicole Freeman will celebrate her 10-year anniversary at the Vanguard Group next year and has recently accepted a promotion to the role of solutions consultant, with an industry certification in Business Relationship Management.

Cali Bjelland Belney wed Stacy Belney, FSU ’04, in June 2017. This fall, Cali became a program director with the nonprofit College Tracks, a college access program that supports low-income and first-generation high school students in Maryland.

Lisa Robinson continues to roll away on her dissertation about ecosexuality and productive queer spaces in Shakespeare’s tragedies for her Ph.D. in English at St. John’s University in Queens, N.Y. She will present papers about “Shax” and his plays at the American Society for Theatre Research and Shakespeare Association of America conferences this academic year.

Tara Cote married Paul Jacob on August 18. She is working as an outdoor environmental and farm educator and field trip coordinator with Common Ground in New Haven, Conn. (below, right).
Angela Beazon has been working in her family’s jewelry business, Family & Co. Jewelers, in Marlton, N.J. He has designed custom jewelry for years and is releasing his own line of jewelry, Angela Paul Jewelry (bottom, left).

2010

Patricia Sullivan (bottom, right) has been named business relationships manager for Interior Solutions at Advanced Office Environments (AOE). Based in the Philadelphia office, she has been with AOE since 2016. Formerly a senior sales consultant, Ticia is responsible for AOE’s contracts with Wish.com, RS Energy Group, and the Philadelphia Management Office of MPB Realty. She serves in the regional Boards of CoreNet and the Network of Executive Women in Hospitality and is the AOE contact for philanthropic involvement with Cradles to Crayons and Habitat for Humanity.

2012

Anne Wildermuth ’12M (top, right) recently earned a Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Emergency Medicine from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA). She works at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha and Fontenot Health in Fremont, Neb.

2016

Christina Hancock Rossi and her husband, Alex (bottom, right), are opening an independent bookstore called “A Novel Idea” in South Philadelphia, with a focus on local writers, including other Arcadia University MFA alumni. A grand opening is planned during the first weekend in January. For more information, follow “A Novel Idea” on Instagram (@anovelideaphilly), Twitter (@anovelideaphilly), and Facebook (@anovelideaphilly).

Riki Gifford-Ferguson ’16M, PA recently earned a Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Psychotherapy from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA). She works at Connections Community Support Programs in Wilmington, Del.

Gina Ferrara is the owner of Social Skills for Life, an organization in northern Virginia, which supports children on the autism spectrum as well as those with other social needs in order to promote confidence, self-advocacy, and foundational skills for social success.

Justin E. Callahan achieved his Technology Specialist certification in December 2017.

Mandee Metzger launched the Inner Light Botanicals skincare line, a family brand, which seeks to help people create a positive life and spread happiness to others while using Inner Light Botanicals natural skincare products and Lifestyle Ritual Journals during skincare routines.

More information at innerlightbotanicals.com or info@ innerlightbotanicals.com.

Steve Carpenter recently returned to West Philadelphia after an almost two-year hiatus in St. Petersburg, Fla. At the 2017 Barrymore Awards in Philadelphia, Steven and his colleagues accepted the 2017 Victory Foundation Award for Outstanding Theatre Education on behalf of Curio Theatre Company and the Curiosity Ten, an advanced young theater company he co-founded in November 2014. Steven is continuing in Theater Arts education and standardized patient work as a trainer/program assistant with the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Jannalyn Bailey and her family welcomed their first baby, a daughter named Marlowe Ohna, in February 2018. She also successfully funded a Kickstarter in August for the expansion of Curio Stone, a small ceramic business based in the Fishtown neighborhood of Philadelphia. The art objects produced by the studio can be found at boutiques in both Philadelphia and New York City, as well as online with Anthropologie and Etsy (top, left).

Lloyd Abernethy

Professor Emeritus Lloyd Memran Abernethy, longtime faculty member and benefactor of Arcadia, passed away on Feb. 5.

Abernethy served with distinction as a professor of History at the University for 42 years, including as dean of Beaver College from 1985 to 1986. In an article highlighting his retirement in 1999, President Emerita Dr. Betty Landman ’04H described him as the “individual whom every faculty and faction trusted to be unbiased and even-handed.”

In 1986, Abernethy was awarded the Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching. Upon his retirement, he was honored with the Faculty Outstanding Service Award for his exceptional record of service to the College. Every two years, the Lloyd M. Abernethy Faculty Outstanding Service Award is presented to a full-time faculty member or professional librarian who has distinguished himself or herself through an exceptional career of service to Arcadia.

Abernethy was married to his first wife, Suzanne Keith Abernethy, for 47 years until her passing in 1999. A longtime benefactor of Arcadia, Abernethy was a member of the Covenant Landman and Landman Societies with his wife, Theodora Sweeney. In addition to Theodora, Abernethy is survived by three children—Keara Abernethy Guin, David Keith Abernethy, and Elizabeth Ann Abernethy Darby—and four grandchildren. During Darby’s Commencement ceremony, Dr. Landman stepped aside so that Darby could receive her diploma from her father.
LESSONS IN GIVING

Legacies of Enduring Generosity at Arcadia

CARL B. HOFFMAN, PH.D.

Dr. Carl B. Hoffman, former professor of History at Beaver College, passed away on March 13, 2018. While teaching at Beaver from 1948 to 1953, he met his wife, Doris Anderson Hoffman ’40, assistant professor of Home Economics, on campus. They were married in Rockville Centre, N.Y. on Dec. 30, 1950. As loyal members of the President’s Circle, Carl and Doris provided support for several initiatives, including The Fund for Arcadia and the Landman Library, and established the Dr. Carl B. Hoffman Scholarship. When Doris passed away in 2000, Carl paid tribute to her legacy with memorial gifts in her honor.

As a member of Arcadia’s Covenant Society, Carl created a charitable gift trust that allowed him to provide for his family and to arrange a bequest of $200,000 to ensure a thriving future for the University.

DR. BERNICE WENZEL JEFFREY ’42, ’10H

During her time at Beaver College, Dr. Bernice Wenzel Jeffrey held the top GPA for her class each of her four years, graduating summa cum laude with a degree in Psychology and a minor in Zoology. After earning a doctoral degree in 1948 in Experimental Psychology from Columbia University, Bernice enjoyed a rewarding teaching career for more than 44 years, and was named Professor Emeritus in Psychology at UCLA in 1989. In recognition of her accomplishments in higher education and scientific research, the Arcadia Alumni Association honored Bernice with the Golden Disc Award for Distinguished Achievement in 1992, and she received an honorary doctorate of letters from her alma mater in 2010.

Following decades of loyal support for The Fund for Arcadia and several capital campaigns, Bernice made a generous bequest of $50,000 in support of the University’s endowment.


JANE F. KRONER ’59

Jane Kroner cherished the memories of her time as an Early Childhood Education student at Beaver College. A proud alumna, Jane often reflected on the positive impact her days at Beaver had on her life after graduation. Jane worked as a second-grade teacher in Chicago before traveling the world as a flight attendant for Trans World Airlines. After spending many years in Chicago, she retired in Prescott, Ariz., where she enjoyed art and theater.

She also volunteered her time for a family hospice care provider and a senior peer program.

A loyal member of the President’s Circle, Jane generously supported her alma mater because she wanted current students to have positive experiences, similar to her own, at Arcadia. When she was diagnosed with glioblastoma, the most aggressive form of brain cancer, Jane decided to make an estate gift of $100,000 through her Individual Retirement Account (IRA), which launched the Jane F. Kroner ’59 Endowed Scholarship for Education, the Arthur Kroner Endowed Physical Therapy Award, and the Florence O. Kroner Endowed Scholarship for Theater.

Through thoughtful estate planning, Jane had the opportunity to see the impact of her generosity at Arcadia before she passed away on May 2, 2018.

The Office of Alumni Relations is accepting nominations for Arcadia’s next “40 Under 40,” which recognizes 40 of the University’s most promising, accomplished, entrepreneurial, and creative alumni.

The selected alumni, who will be featured in the Winter/Spring 2020 edition of Arcadia magazine, should represent Arcadia’s diverse community and fields of study.

Visit arcadia.edu/Arcadia40.
Spot the Difference | Spôt the Dìfference
Can you spot the six differences between these two photos taken in 1994 (a graduation year we’ll celebrate at Alumni Weekend 2019)?

1) Woman’s top color 2) Woman’s sock length 3) Missing books 4) Tree color 5) Third window in Kuch 6) Extended “ramp” on Brubaker

Faculty, staff, alumni, and friends are honoring Associate Professor of Biology Dr. R. Wesley Rose’s legacy at Arcadia by establishing, and ultimately endowing, the R. Wesley Rose Fund to Support Undergraduate Research. The Rose Fund will facilitate student research in the sciences, reflecting Dr. Rose’s thirst for knowledge, commitment to education, and enthusiasm for undergraduate exploration.

Supporting the Rose Fund celebrates, in perpetuity, Dr. Rose’s tremendous influence on the Arcadia community.

Celebrate Wes’ legacy by making a gift today at arcadia.edu/RoseFund.
REMEMBER • RELIVE • REUNITE!
MAY 3 & 4

Alumni of all class years are invited to reconnect with classmates and look ahead to the future at Alumni Weekend. We’ll also commemorate special milestone reunions for classes whose years end in “4” or “9.” Members of the Class of 1969, who will celebrate their 50-year reunion, are also invited to share news, updates, and Beaver College memories for a commemorative memory book.

Learn more at arcadia.edu/AW.