

# ARCADIA

Winter/Spring 2019

MAGAZINE



**HOW A  
BOLD  
VISION  
LED TO THE  
LARGEST  
GIFT  
IN ARCADIA'S HISTORY**



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Read the student blog  
[because.arcadia.edu](https://because.arcadia.edu)



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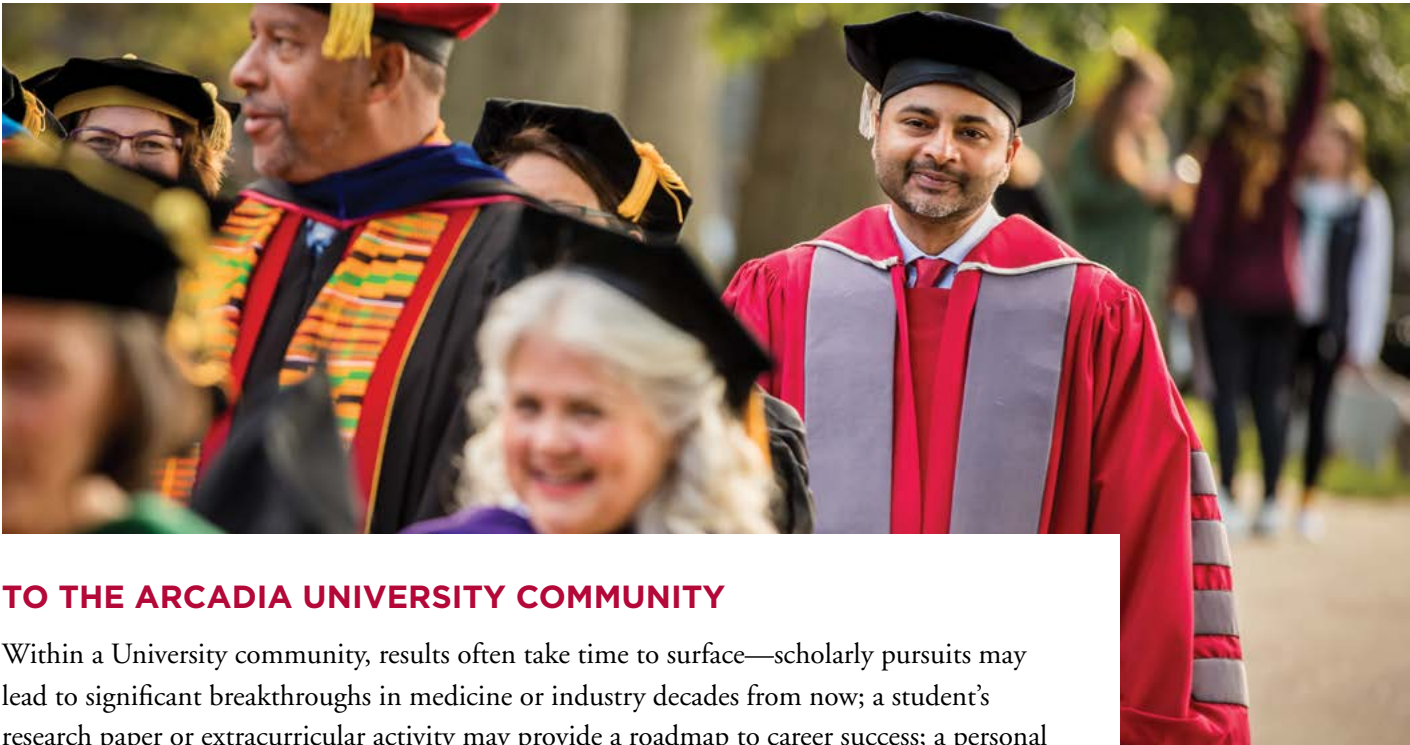
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TO THE ARCADIA UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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 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](http://arcadia.edu/Vision)

#TBT

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!



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).

You Like Us!

Reader feedback from the last issue:

“Best issue of *Arcadia* magazine ever. Layout, features, topics, photography—all excellent. Thanks for the puzzles too, that was unexpected and very fun.”

—Meredith Mashner, *director of International Student Services*

“The piece on Nikki Kimball is such an eye catcher.”

—Dr. Rebecca Craik, *dean of the College of Health Sciences*

“Thanks for the fun!”

—Janeen Aungst ’88

“I want to tell you how much I and many in the School of Education enjoyed the AU magazine. The cover of Pres. Nair is amazing and the articles are wonderful.”

—Rosemarie Kraynak, *administrative assistant in the School of Education*

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES BY the NUMBERS

4

15TH CENTURY CHOIRBOOK LEAVES

326

ARTIFACTS EXCAVATED FROM THE CASTLE

1.2K

ANTIQUE CHILDREN’S BOOKS

30K+

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

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.



# NEWS+NOTES

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



The Hamilton Celtic Pipe Band leading the Presidential Inauguration procession. View additional photos at [arcadia.edu/inauguration](http://arcadia.edu/inauguration).

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



## 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. ❖



Mr. Beaver, 1984

Ross Mathews participated in the 2011 Mr. Beaver pageant as its first celebrity host.







Meredith Mashner, director of International Student Services, and Timothy Barton, director of Student Life and Academic Operations for TCGS, at the campuswide kickoff meeting.

## 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 Budget 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 strategic plan, which will advance Arcadia’s socially innovative and inclusive community.

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](http://arcadia.edu/UKnighted)

## Brown ’06 Raises Funds for Kidney Research

By Lana Valente ’19

When Adjunct Professor of English **Clare Brown’s** daughter, Meara, was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease at six months old, Brown ’06 did what she knew best—educated herself and others.

Meara has a horseshoe kidney: The organs are fused together, with only 30 percent function on her right side. At nine months old, she underwent a seven-hour surgery to correct the ureter tube leading to her right kidney. Now, Meara is a thriving five-year-old.

“I’m an educator by trade, and I knew nothing about this disease,” 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.”

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 have 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 outstretched hand.” ❖

# Drs. Crivelli-Kovach, Wertime Named Professors Emeriti

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. 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 2005, 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. 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 “Writers 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 23 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. ❖





# 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 Archbishop 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, *Waging Justice: A Doctor's Journey to Speak Truth and Be Bold*, which covers his experiences as a doctor, activist, father, and son. ❖



Dr. Favian Guertin-Martin, Marissa Bluestine, Dr. John Noakes (department chair), Eugene Gilyard, and Sheri Gilyard.

## EXONEREE SPEAKS ABOUT WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS

Arcadia's Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Department welcomed Marissa Bluestine, 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 Professors **Dr. Anne Mahar** and **Dr. Favian Guertin-Martin** facilitated conversations about convictions and prison conditions.

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 exonerees 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 races on, 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 hasn'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." ❖



Read Lashanna's story and more at [because.arcadia.edu](https://because.arcadia.edu).

## 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 Meridians: 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 **LaTae Johnson '21**, **Daisy Saavedra '22**, and Assistant Professor of Education **Dr. Marc Brasof**, 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. ❖



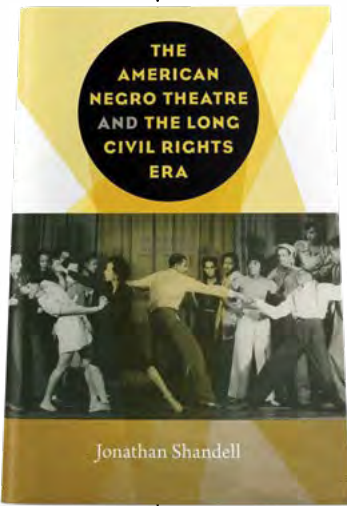
**MFA Named Among Country's Best**

Our writers put the "lit" in literature.

Best College Reviews ranked Arcadia's low-residency MFA in Creative Writing program 13th 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." ❖



# 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. ❖



## Students Reveal Curriculum Lab as a Best-kept Secret

On Landman Library'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.

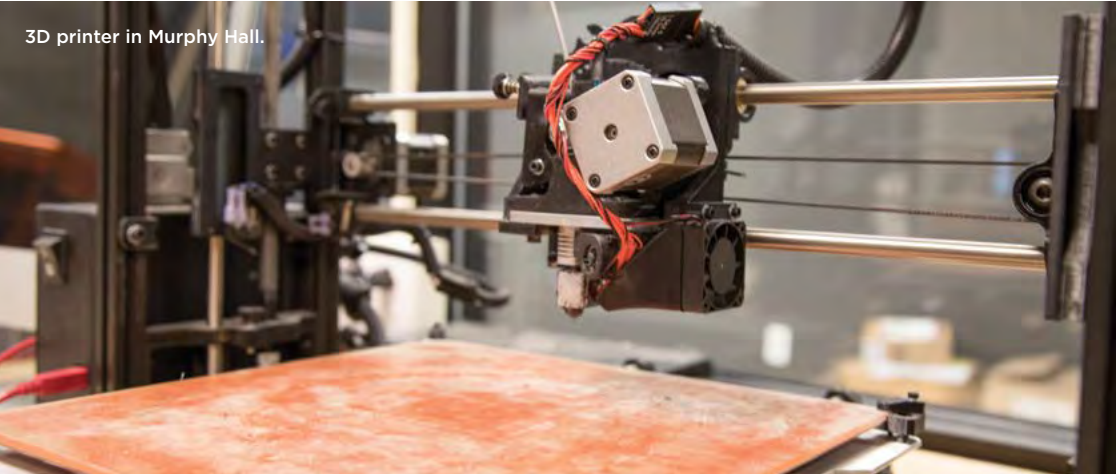
**Dr. Jodi Bornstein**, associate professor of Education, and **Melissa Correll**, librarian for Education, collaborated with students to establish a project-based

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 **Jarred Zelenski '19**. “I'd like to do non-traditional seating, and have a space that's bright and open.”

Correll 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. ❖

3D printer in Murphy Hall.



## eDNA Lab, 3D Design Space Among Campus Renovations

When students returned to campus last fall, they benefited from remodeled residence hall bathrooms, Oak Summit renovations, and improved campus technologies. No—Arcadia wasn't featured on an HGTV home improvement show; these projects were part of the University's annual upgrades, designed to enhance the educational experience for community members.

In an effort to provide cutting-edge academic resources, an eDNA lab—made possible by contributions from the Class of 1963—was constructed in Boyer Hall; an anatomy table was installed in Brubaker Hall; an Aquatic Biology

laboratory was established for students to conduct ecological research; new flooring was placed in the Printmaking Studio; and the Brookside Studio—a woodshop, fabrication, and 3D design space—was completed.

Athletic facilities scored several updates, including new lockers and flooring; upgrades to the training center, aerobics room, and Kuch Alumni Gymnasium; a press box at Jean Lenox West Field; seating behind home plate at Blankley Field (softball); infield dirt and a warning track for Skip Wilson Field (baseball); and new seating at Weiss Tennis Courts. ❖

## Psychology Faculty ‘Flip’ Over Cellphones in Class

By Nicole Gieselman '19

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. Alison Clabaugh**, adjunct professor of Psychology, who teamed 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 course sections of “Introduction to Psychology.” Two sections served as controls, while two classes were shown PowerPoint presentations to hinder cell 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—on 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.

Drs. 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 cell phone 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 UKNights 4 Arcadia

For four days during Inauguration Week, Arcadians around the world “uknighted” for the fourth annual UKNIGHT 4 Arcadia campaign. A record-setting 1,042 alumni, students, faculty, staff, trustees, parents, families, neighbors, and friends made donations, surpassing the goal of 1,022 donors 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. ❖





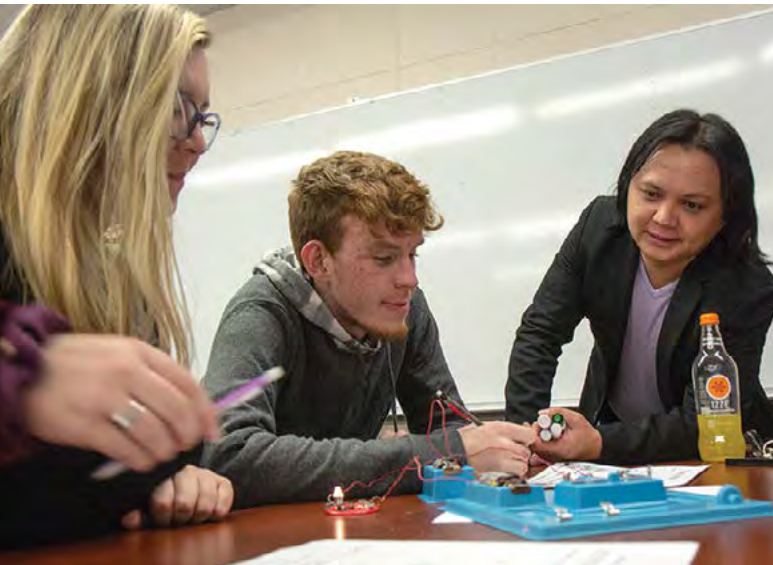
# Arcadia Nets \$1.4 Million in Grants

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, \$300,000 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.



## 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 students throughout the five-year grant cycle. When students complete the program, they will receive a bachelor's degree, a Master of Education, and a teaching assignment in a high-need area of the School District of Philadelphia.

"This program will put more teachers 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."

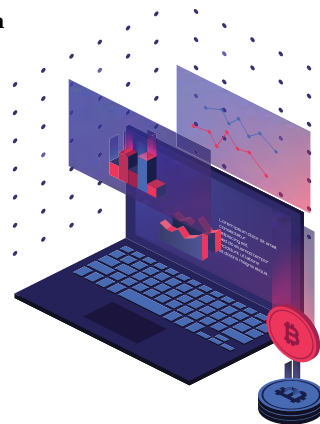
## Funding supports new campus network

Interim Chief Information Officer **Leslie Margolis** 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 cryptocurrency, 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. Tevald to study lung transplantation

**Dr. Michael Tevald**, 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. Shailesh 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. ❖



# STAY FIT PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY PARKINSON COUNCIL



Clients work with Arcadia students and faculty at the Dan Aaron Stay Fit Exercise program.

**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 '14H** 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](http://arcadia.edu/StayFitExercise)

# 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 theatergoers from the surrounding community.

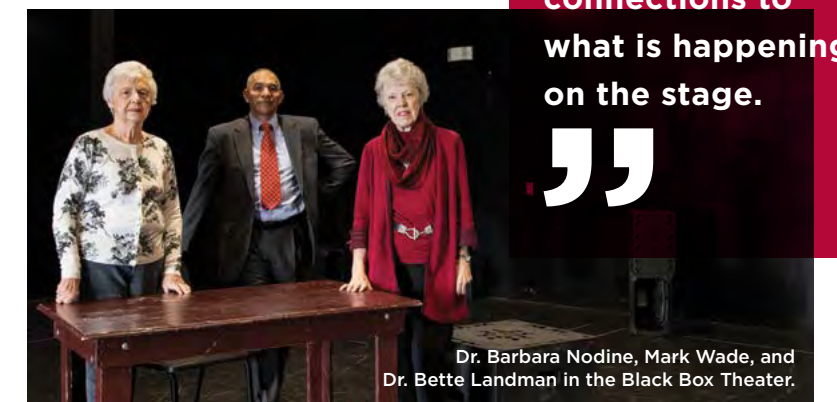
Professor Emerita **Dr. Barbara Nodine**, a dedicated supporter of the Theater Arts program, led outreach efforts to secure funding from The Arcadia Foundation.

Arcadia introduced the Bachelor of Fine Arts and launched a revival of theater programming during the tenure of President Emerita **Dr. Bette E. Landman '04H**, who led the University from 1985 to 2004. Dr. Landman, 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 four-show to a six-show season during the 2019-20 academic year. This season's fifth show, *Hedda Gabler*, debuted in Grey Towers Castle's Mirror Room this March.

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.

"We hope to have an alternate performance space that creates opportunities for more personal connections to what is happening on the stage," said Wade. ❖



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

“We hope to have an alternate performance space that creates opportunities for more personal connections to what is happening on the stage.”



EMPTY BOWL MARKS 25 YEARS OF FIGHTING HUNGER



Attendees select their bowls at last year's event.

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](http://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 Capital Planning **Tom Macchi**, **Michelle Jaisir-Peters**, **Kevin Marass**, **Edward Gensemer**, **Ed Adams**, **Jessiye 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](http://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](mailto: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 Costello-Leraris*

Kerry Ann Costello-Leraris '92, '94MED

President

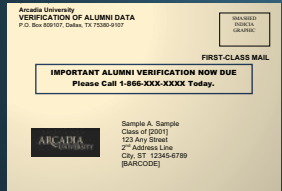
Arcadia University Alumni Association



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](mailto:alumni@arcadia.edu).







**Tandy-Connor '07M Investigates Ancestry Testing**

Genetic Counseling graduate **Stephany Tandy-Connor '07M** was the lead investigator for a study examining direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing companies, such as AncestryDNA and 23AndMe. Tandy-Connor's research highlights the downside of using family and heritage test results to obtain unofficial medical information.

The reliability of DTC and third-party testing has been called into question by genetic counselors, who stress the importance of professional consultations for patients who undergo testing.

Tandy-Connor explains that DTC tests are not deliberately misinforming consumers—rather, there is a lack of transparency as companies fail to address the limitations of these reports. ❖

**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." ❖

ALUMNI MENTOR



Be a mentor or mentee:  
[arcadia.edu/AlumniMentor](http://arcadia.edu/AlumniMentor)

**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—comprised 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-Physick 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 ambience 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, Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion, and Curio Theatre. ❖



*Picture Your Next Event Here*

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

To reserve a space, contact 215-572-2998 or [conferenceservices@arcadia.edu](mailto:conferenceservices@arcadia.edu).

Photo courtesy of Black White & Raw Photography.

**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.





“

[Cornerstone]

has, for decades, been known as a meeting place and a venue for great ideas and debate.

”

## 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' 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. The institution's connections to Cape Town's communities are unparalleled.” ❖



### 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 **Lorna Stern** and Chief Operating Officer **Colleen 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.

“

This is what alumni

associations

should be doing: Reaching back and helping the next generation as they begin their collegiate journeys.

”

## 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 “preview” 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**—helped BAAAU raise more than \$11,700, 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. ❖



Visit [arcadia.edu/Giving](http://arcadia.edu/Giving)

### 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. ❖



# Top Scores, Points, and Goals

### Women's soccer

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 Plaat '21**, **Stephanie Maggio '19**, and **Jules Oswald '21** were named to the second team. **Bridget Sway '20** was an honorable mention selection.

Pontis, Oswald, and Maggio 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.

### Women's volleyball

Coming off a school-record 23-win season in 2017, the Knights appeared in the NCAA's Regional Rankings for the first time in program history.

Arcadia set new program standards in kills (1,582), assists (1,451) and attack attempts (4,565). **Emily Eng '20**, who surpassed 1,000 digs for her career, stands as the program's all-time leader in digs with 1,555. **Julia Paliwodzinski '21** moved into second place all-time in assists with 1,857. Eng and Paliwodzinski were each named to the All-MAC Commonwealth First Team, and for the second year in a row Head Coach **Eli Porr** was tabbed as the league's top coach.

**Maddie Sehr '21**, **Lauren Enfield '21**, and **Shannon Ryan '20** 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 to earn American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-Region honors, then added the program's first-ever AVCA All-America nod as a defensive specialist.



Captain Gabby Sedares '19 battling against Wesley College defense.

### 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 Sedares '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 13th.

In its second season last year, the team advanced to the MAC Championship game. Men's volleyball is also led by Porr. ❖

## 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. ❖



# Men's Basketball Dances in National Tourney

Led by tournament Most Valuable Player **Josh Scott's** 30 points, 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. ❖

## 2018 HALL OF FAME CLASS

In October, Arcadia inducted five former student-athletes to its Athletic Hall of Fame (*left to right*): **Kristen Yapsuga '00**, **'03DPT** (women's volleyball), **Kaitlin Clare O'Malley '11** (women's soccer and lacrosse), **Jenn Compton '07** (softball), **Shawn Bishop '96** (men's basketball), and **Vince Abate '01** (men's soccer and tennis).



View previous Hall of Famers: [arcadiaknights.com/HOF](http://arcadiaknights.com/HOF)

## 73 Student-Athletes Recognized on MAC Fall Honor Roll

A total of 73 Arcadia student-athletes, representing men's and women's soccer, women's volleyball, field hockey, and men's and women's cross country, were named to the MAC Fall Honor Roll, with seven student-athletes posting a perfect 4.0 GPA. Field hockey led the Knights with 20 representatives, followed by women's soccer with 19, men's soccer with 14, women's volleyball with 11, women's cross country with seven, and men's cross country with two. The academic honor roll is comprised of student-athletes who participated in varsity-level sports that have championships during the fall semester and registered a GPA of 3.20 (on a 4.00 scale) or higher. Of the 73 student-athletes recognized, 13 received some kind of recognition on their respective sport's all-conference team. ❖



## SELECTED MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS, SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLICATIONS



**Dr. Kshamata Shah**, assistant professor of Physical Therapy and director of Education for International Physical Therapists, was accepted to the U.S. Bone and Joint Initiative/Bone and Joint Canada Young Investigator Initiative (YII) Grant Mentoring and Career Development Program, which helps young scientists develop research proposals. Dr. Shah will analyze changes in blood flow in shoulder muscles and tendons.

**Dr. Sarah Woldoff**, assistant professor of Education, presented “Classroom and Behavior Management Strategies” as part of the Autism Awareness Lecture Series at Camden County College. Dr. Woldoff’s workshop focused on behavioral

characteristics of children diagnosed with Autism spectrum disorders and proposed a model of prevention for educators to better handle classroom issues.

**Lana Iskandarani ’18** published “Production-Centered Classroom Environment Increases Students’ Understanding and Interest in Learning Foreign Languages” in the *Journal of Foreign Languages, Cultures, and Civilization*. Iskandarani’s research examined language-learning environments that encourage student interaction, technology use, and creative problem solving.

Chemistry and Physics alumna **Lena C. Jake ’16** published the first segment of her doctoral research, “Hartree-Fock symmetry breaking around conical intersections,” in the *Journal of Chemical Physics*. Jake’s research addresses irregularities in molecular potential energy by analyzing the behavior of Hartree-Fock—a method of determining the wave function and energy of microscopic systems.

**Carole Loeffler**, associate professor and chair of Visual and Performing Arts, was selected as a finalist in the Bombay Sapphire Artisan Series, which displayed her “it’s fine, I’m fine” artwork at Arch Enemy Arts in Philadelphia. “it’s fine, I’m fine” is a sculptural exhibition created in response to the toxic political environment that is enveloping the United States.

**Dr. Laura Conway ’99M**, associate director of Genetic Counseling, was named to a one-year term on the editorial board of the Genetics/Genomics Competency Center. Members of the editorial board ensure that the center’s materials are comprehensive, current, and accurate.

**Genevieve Betts**, adjunct professor of English, was featured in *Chestnut Hill Local* for her role as a mentor to budding poets. The article noted that many of Betts’ students have published poetry, and one was named Poet Laureate of Montgomery County.

**Dr. Carol Oatis**, professor of Physical Therapy, published “Characteristics of Usual Physical Therapy Post Total Knee Replacement (TKO) and Their Associations with Functional Outcomes”—an insightful examination of patient care at physical therapy facilities—with Wiley’s *Arthritis Care & Research*.

Educational Leadership alumna **Sophie Finn ’15, ’18MEd** published “Visit These 5 Gilded Age Landmarks Before It’s too Late”—a piece highlighting historic buildings under threat of demolition in Philadelphia—with WHYY’s *PlanPhilly*.

Arcadia Theater alumni **Kishia Nixon ’15** and **Trevor William Fayle ’13** performed as leads in *Sing the Body Electric* at Theatre Exile in Philadelphia.

Assistant Professor **Dr. Katherine Moore** and Psychology alumnae **Jessica Avanzato ’18, Korissa Belville ’18, Jaimie Jasina ’18, Aziza Ransome ’18, and Ariel Kershner ’19** investigated multitasking and distraction by asking participants to locate target colors on a changing computer display. Their research was conducted in Arcadia’s Attention, Memory, and Cognition laboratory and published in the *Journal of Visualized Experiments*.

Dr. Moore also published research on the limitations of multitasking in the April 2018 issue of *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*.



Senior HR Specialist **David Elliott** was appointed member-at-large on the Eastern Regional Board of Directors for the College and University Professionals Association of Higher Education.

**Clare Quigley Brown ’06**, adjunct professor of English, received Southern New Hampshire

University (SNHU)’s College of Online and Continuing Education Award for Outstanding Instruction. SNHU noted that Brown broadens her online classes through use of video, audio, text technologies, and creative visuals, enabling meaningful learning experiences.

Dean of Graduate and Undergraduate Studies **Dr. Nancy Rosoff** presented “The Role of Sociability in British and American School and College Stories,” her research on fictional narratives that reinforce leadership and female citizenship, at the University of Greenwich, London. Dr. Rosoff also received the Loyalty Award from her alma mater, Mount Holyoke College, for demonstrating exceptional loyalty to the college.

Assistant Professor of Education **Dr. Marc Brasof, Vicky Lynch ’18M, Madeline Robinson ’18, and Heather Hingston ’18MEd** presented a new framework for teaching controversial issues in politically divisive times at the Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies Conference. Dr. Brasof also published research on student discipline in urban schools in *Psychology in the School* with Special Education graduate **Kate Peterson ’17MEd**.

**Dr. Kira Baker-Doyle**, associate professor of Education and organizer of the Transformative Teacher-Educator Fellowship (TTEF), invited 14 scholars from around the world to Arcadia for the first TTEF Summer Institute, during which they learned about and designed cutting-edge instructional practices to incorporate into teacher inquiry projects.



**Colleen Muraresku ’09, ’11M and Elizabeth McCormick ’09, ’11M**, genetic counselors and researchers for the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia’s Mitochondrial Medicine Frontier program, published “Mitochondrial Disease: Advances in Clinical Diagnosis,

Management, Therapeutic Development, and Preventative Strategies” in *Current Genetic Medicine Reports*. Muraresku and McCormick, who returned to Arcadia to teach Biochemical Genetics, are dedicated to helping students get firsthand experience in genetics research and mitochondrial disorders.

Assistant Professor of Public Health **Dr. Heather de Vries McClintock** and Public Health students **Evangeline Wang ’20, Marsha Trego ’18, Ewinka Romulus ’18, and Erica Herzig ’19** co-wrote a three-part blog series, “Intimate Partner Violence: Global Burden, Risk Factors and Outcomes,” alongside public health advocates and professionals. The blog series, hosted on the American Public Health Association’s International Health sub-site, analyzes causes and consequences of spousal and partner abuse worldwide.

Counseling student **Anje McLish ’20M** performed “Cute and Depressed Black Girl Musings,” her original spoken word, at the 2018 Blerdcon, which “celebrates [connections] with LGBTQ, the disabled, POCs, and the international community.”

**Dr. Martha Eastlack**, assistant professor of Physical Therapy, received the Lucy Blair Service Award for her “dedication, devotion, and outstanding service” at the American Physical Therapy 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-Poe** presented “The Changing Paradigm of Inclusive Education” at 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 Wrocław.

**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. ❖



Photo at left by Paola Noguerras.



## ‘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 to 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 casting your faith alongside politics. Did you have any idea how drastically this would change when you wrote to your first advisee, Pat Sonnier?*

**A.** Are you kidding me? I thought I was only going to be writing letters. Louisiana hadn’t had an execution in a long time, and they were gearing 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.** *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’d 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.

**Q.** *I imagine getting to know someone in that way, then watching them die, is terrible.*

**A.** You know what was the hardest? Where I made the biggest mistake? It was with the victims’ families. The prosecutors gear the victims’ families to believe anyone against the execution is against you. They put you on a seesaw—you’re one way or another. I didn’t know what to do with their families. I knew they were angry, so I thought it’d be better leave them alone.

It was the father of David LeBlanc, one of Pat’s victims, who asked, “Sister, why haven’t you come to see us?” He was the gracious one that invited me to pray with him and led me into his journey of forgiveness. He was the first one who taught me that forgiveness is a gift you have to give yourself. It’s saving your own life. Since then, I’ve met a number of victims’ families. They help me more than anything.

**Q.** *Is forgiveness always possible?*

**A.** It’s up to the people. Anger, in the beginning, is also important—it gets the adrenaline out so that they don’t fall deeper into despair. Everybody goes through a different journey, but I know this: I’m the last one to give them advice. I haven’t had anybody in my life killed. I’ve noticed that those who have people to support them move on with their lives faster. Forgiveness does not mean you’re condoning the action. It’s not letting that anger consume you.

**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 restless—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 Manuel 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. ✨



For more information,  
[arcadia.edu/CommonRead](http://arcadia.edu/CommonRead)



**“If society is safer because we have prisons, why are we imitating the violence by killing prisoners?”**



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.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, 115 people overdose on opioids in the United States each day. Here, Smith and Beephan—who were elected to their community councils in 2017 and 2018, respectively—share their experiences working with local organizations, law enforcement, and other members of their communities to overcome the epidemic.



REBECCA SMITH '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.

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.

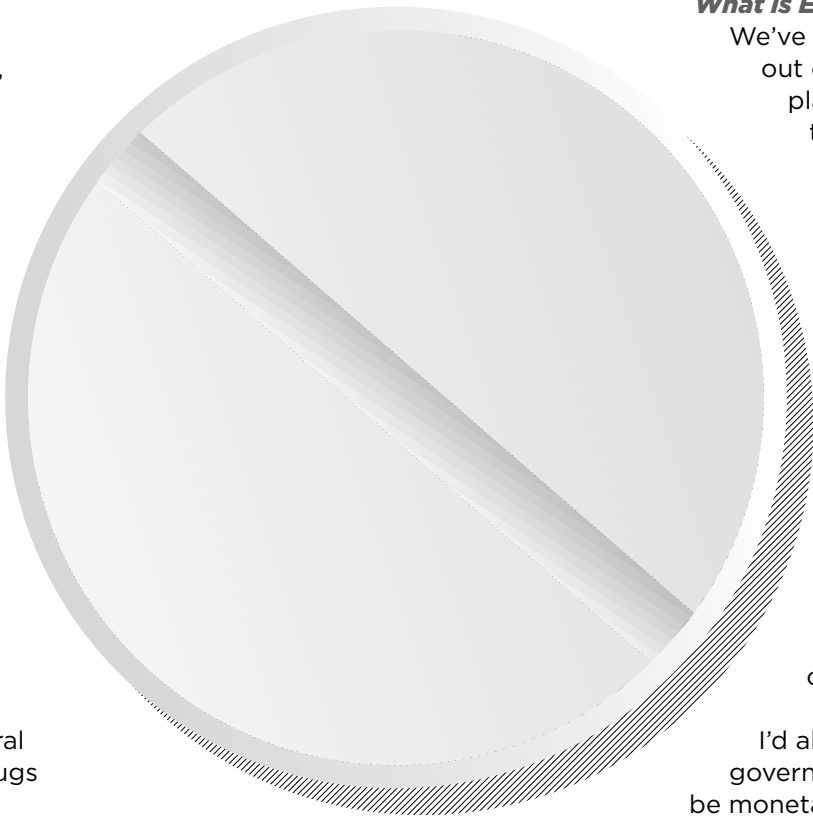
What are Norristown's strongest resources in overcoming this epidemic?

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.



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.

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



“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



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.



# HISTORIC \$8.6 MILLION GIFT FROM A VISIONARY

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.

***“THERE IS NO  
IDEAL BEAVER  
COLLEGE  
STUDENT.  
THERE IS AN  
IDEAL BEAVER  
COLLEGE FOR  
[EVERY]  
STUDENT.”***

*—Dr. Ellington Beavers '93H*



**D**r. 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.

## THEN AND NOW

Today, Biocoat's research and development facilities are state-of-the-art. The company licenses hydrophilic coatings for devices used in a range of medical practices, including ophthalmology, cardiology, and neurovascular surgery (see *"Hyaluronic Acid"*).

But when Dr. Beavers first drew up post-retirement research plans, he requested Boyer Hall, room 327—an unassuming, narrow space tucked away by a staircase. At the time, he noted that most of the labs “were being used as storage space, crammed with test papers by students of earlier years, superfluous magazines and publications, and other simple trash set aside by a distinguished pack rat who shall be unnamed.”

By the fall of 1984, the year he became chair of the Board, Dr. Beavers had organized and made Boyer 327 the hub of his operations. He established a controlled “cleanroom” down the hall to prevent contamination and helped institute protocol for safely disposing chemicals—efforts that contributed to the department's accreditation by the American Chemical Society in 1995.

Limited resources meant greater opportunities for problem-solving. And Dr. Beavers loved a challenge—particularly when it meant putting student innovation to the test. Over the 22 years Dr. Beavers spent in Boyer Hall, he and his team employed more than 60 students on a part-time basis.

Their early experiments with biomaterial coatings were met with obstacles; namely, the Boyer labs weren't equipped to handle the quantity they hoped to test. Relying on his connections in the field, Dr. Beavers



facilitated the installation of a wooden curing oven that accommodated up to 20 coated catheters in room 305. An exposure rack was built on the roof of Boyer to test ultraviolet light sensitivity. A system of pulleys and fishing lines—designed to expedite the tedious coating process—was implemented by Dr. Beavers, who dipped into his fly-fishing knowledge until an electric apparatus was installed in room 18.

Grateful for what space he had, Dr. Beavers thanked the College for opening its doors by establishing the Beaver College Research Foundation, a nonprofit subsidiary that grew into Beacon Research, Inc. He agreed to share profits from revenue-generating products with the College, provided that a portion of the funds be set aside for chemistry equipment.

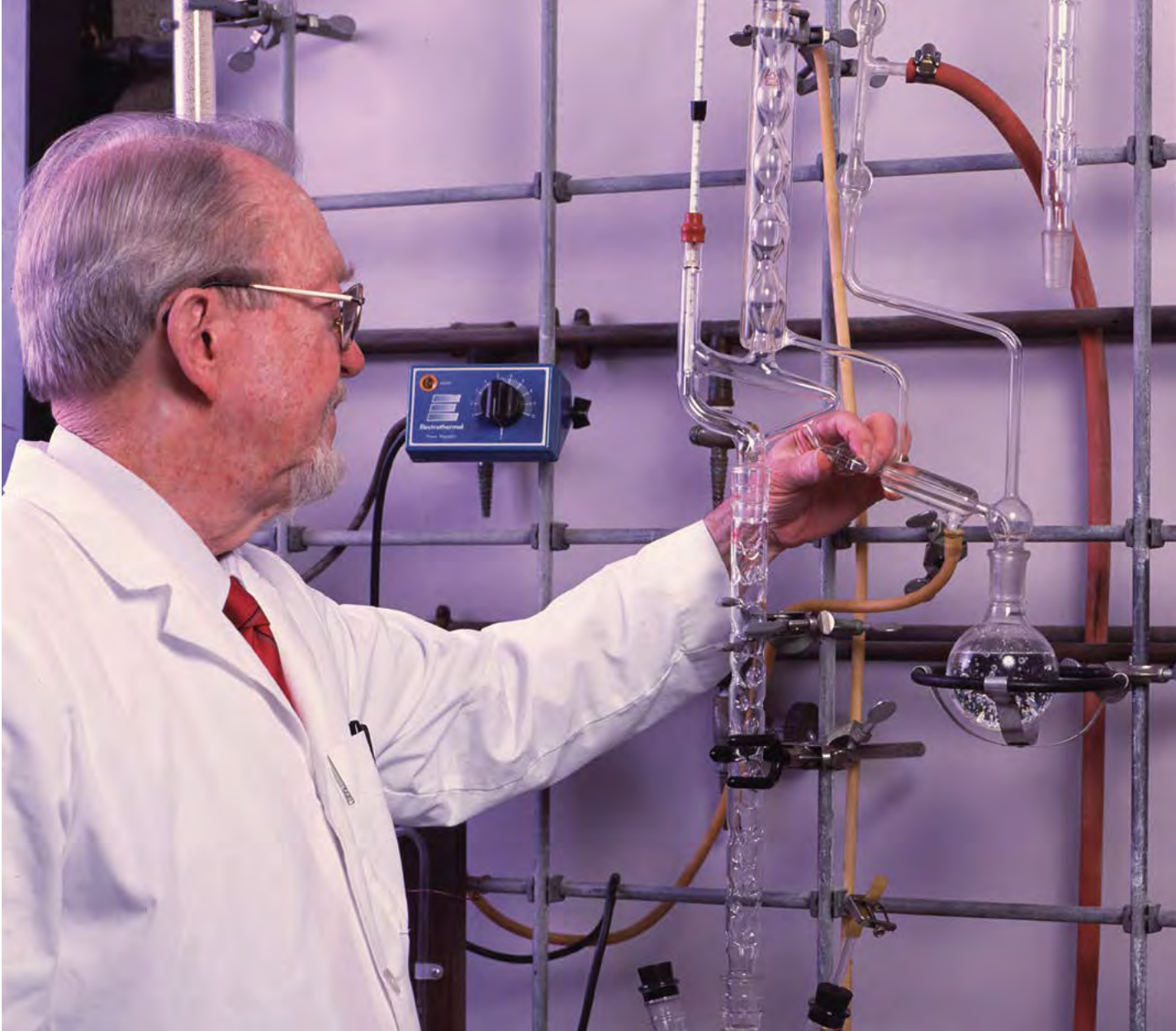
In the labs, Dr. Beavers’ team expanded their research on hyaluronan coatings, developing applications for optical lenses, automobile windshields, condoms, non-fogging bathroom mirrors, surgical blades, submarines, torpedoes, stents, bandages, and fire hoses. They even discovered a method of controlling 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 heard or read and try to find a solution to the problem,” said daughter-in-law Margaret “Peg” Beavers, who has served as executive vice president of Biocoat for the past nine years. “Today, Biocoat is looking at new approaches and opportunities to continue Ellington’s legacy.”



## A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOLAR

“What am I going to do next?”

This was, by his own admission, the worst question Dr. Beavers could ask himself.

Described by colleagues as a southern gentleman, Dr. Beavers matched his mild-mannered nature with insatiable drive. At various points in his Rohm and Haas career, he served as corporate vice president, senior vice president, and group vice president and sat on the Board of Directors. Co-founder Otto Haas even charged Dr. Beavers with scouting locations for their elite research facility, appointing him director of research—a position he served in until retirement.

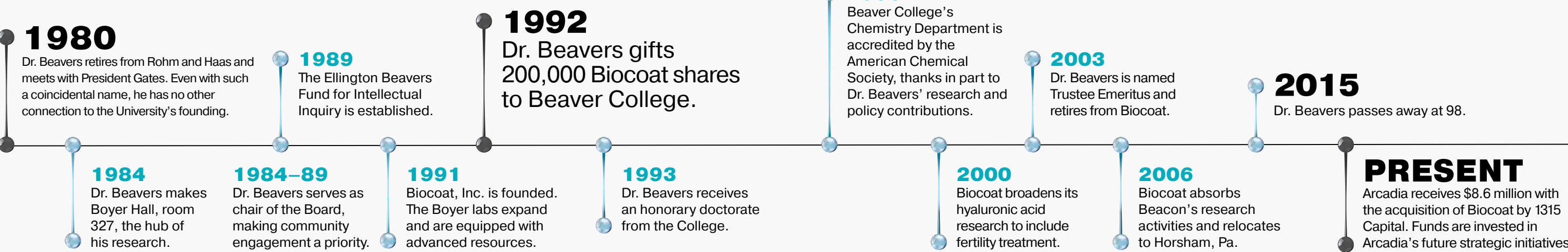
“Ellington demanded excellence, had a thirst for knowledge, and was passionate about helping mankind,” said Peg Beavers of her father-in-law, who grew up in Atlanta, Ga., studied Chemistry at Emory University, and completed his Ph.D. fellowship at the University of North Carolina. “He came from humble 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.

Though quiet and pensive, Dr. Beavers stood out as a leader; more often than not, his peers wasted no time in naming him such. When Dr. Beavers was introduced to the Board, fellow trustee **Dr. Gregory Halpern ’73H**—who later served as a Beacon Research consultant—almost immediately recognized his inquisitiveness (Dr. Beavers’ preferred after-dinner reading was, after all, organic polymer research). In those first few meetings, Dr. Halpern helped lay the groundwork for hyaluronan coatings while brainstorming contact lens alternatives with Dr. Beavers.

## 40 YEARS IN THE MAKING

A TIMELINE OF DR. BEAVERS’ LEGACY AT ARCADIA





**“HE PRIDED HIMSELF ON THE WORK HE DID IN CHEMISTRY, BUT HE WAS SO MUCH MORE THAN A CHEMIST. HE WAS AN INDUSTRIOUS PERSON [AND] A GENEROUS AND INTELLIGENT MAN.”**

— DR. CHESTER MIKULSKI  
Professor of Chemistry

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 verve 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 participant 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, “and an okay golfer.”

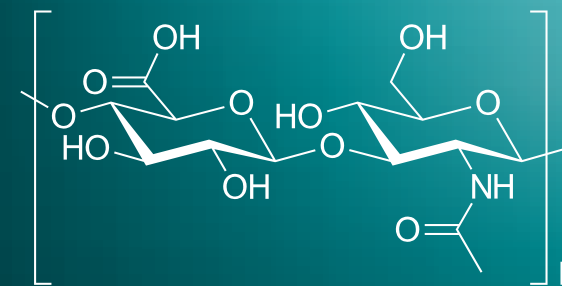
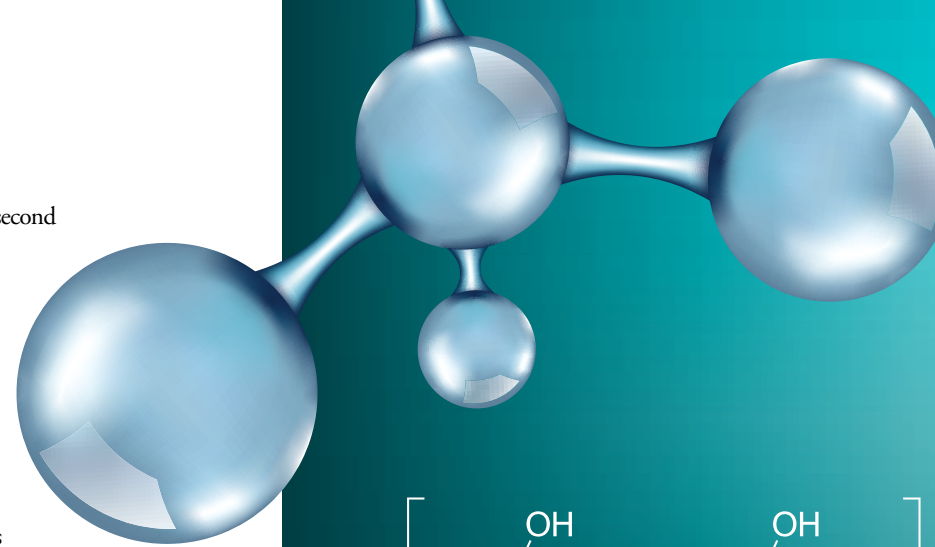
## INTELLECTUAL INQUIRY

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 disciplines, 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’s campus. In the Health Science labs, 2018 fund recipient **Jacqueline Neminski ’19M**—aided by Associate Professor and Director of Genetic Counseling **Dr. Laura Conway ’99M**—is designing educational resources to simplify and communicate disease-causing variants that pop up in genetic screenings, but are unrelated to a patient’s initial need for testing. By experimenting with a range of visual and text-based media, Neminski hopes to illuminate the importance of secondary findings in disease detection and to shed light on the relationship between health literacy, education, income, and age.

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 question, “How is nineteenth century fiction interpreted from a non-binary perspective?”

“Ellington appreciated how crucial it is to give students a start,” said Dr. Mikulski, who received the first Fund for Intellectual Inquiry to study metallodrugs. “He set up something that would live beyond him, but more importantly, he recognized the importance of research.”



# HYALURONIC ACID

*HĪ(-Ə)L-YU-RÄ-NIK*

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 attack the foreign instruments. That’s where hyaluronic acid—a natural lubricant found in body tissue, saliva, umbilical cord, even rooster combs—comes in.

When combined with polymethyl methacrylate—otherwise known as plexiglass, Rohm and Haas’ speciality—hyaluronic acid is perfect for coating medical devices, from catheters to guide wires, as the body recognizes the lubricious, abrasion-resistant polymer as a natural substance. Biomaterial coatings are easily accepted by delicate vascular channels, reducing risk of blood clots and surgical complications and providing patients more comfort.

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.”

Dr. Beavers’ quintessential university provoked curiosity and fostered exploration. Even today, his gifts work toward that paradigm, giving budding researchers what Beaver College gave him nearly 40 years ago: a chance.

## 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 transforming 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.” ❖

**“ELLINGTON DEMANDED EXCELLENCE, HAD A THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE, AND WAS PASSIONATE ABOUT HELPING MANKIND.”**

—MARGARET “PEG” BEAVERS  
Biocoat Executive Vice President and  
Dr. Beavers’ daughter-in-law



# 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.

**P**resident 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.

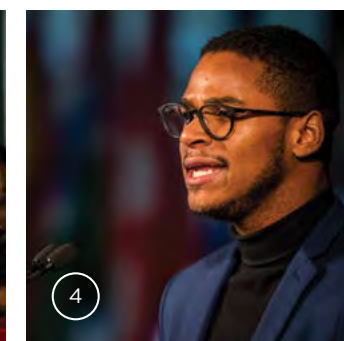
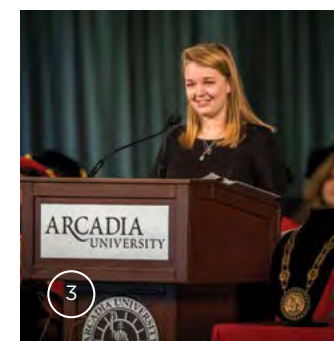
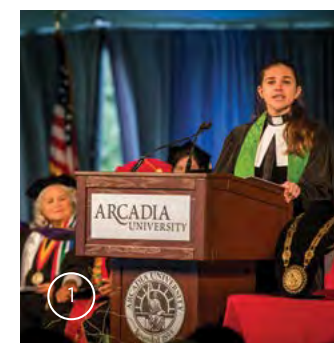
## ESTEEMED SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS

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** ①, 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** ②, 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** ③,



Top photo, Dr. Doreen Loury welcomes guests. Below, presidential citations.





president of Student Government Organization, and **Elijah Wilson '19** <sup>(4)</sup>, 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 María García**, 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** <sup>(5)</sup>, 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** <sup>(6)</sup>, 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) <sup>(7)</sup>, Philadelphia Councilmember At-Large Helen Gym <sup>(8)</sup>, Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Dr. Valerie Arkoosh <sup>(9)</sup>, and Dr. Thomas Parham <sup>(10)</sup>, president of California State University, Dominguez Hills.

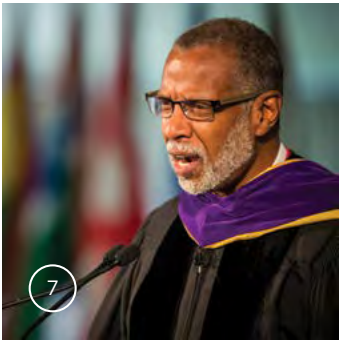
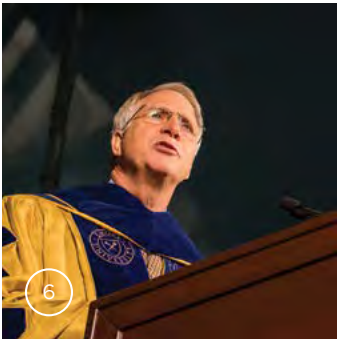
Madsen led the transferral of office with President Emerita **Dr. Bette E. Landman '04H** (president, 1985-2004) and former president **Dr. Jerry Greiner** (president, 2004-2011), who presented to Dr. Nair the University’s Chain of Office and Charter, respectively. <sup>(11)</sup>

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. ❖



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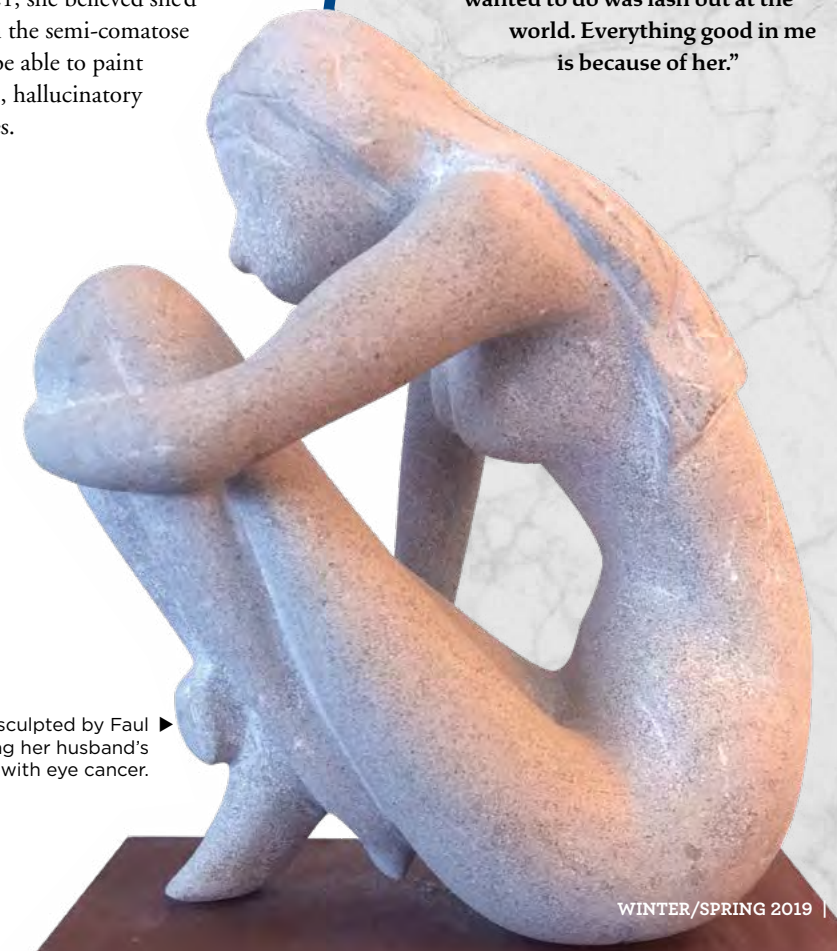
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president of Student Government Organization, and **Elijah Wilson '19** <sup>(4)</sup>, president of the Class of 2019; **Kerry Ann Costello Leraris '92, '94MEd**, president of the Arcadia University Alumni Association; **Aashika Suseendran '15**, a Psychology graduate who performed “Imagine” during the ceremony; **Dr. Ana María García**, 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** <sup>(5)</sup>, 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** <sup>(6)</sup>, 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) <sup>(7)</sup>, Philadelphia Councilmember At-Large Helen Gym <sup>(8)</sup>, Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Dr. Valerie Arkoosh <sup>(9)</sup>, and Dr. Thomas Parham <sup>(10)</sup>, president of California State University, Dominguez Hills.

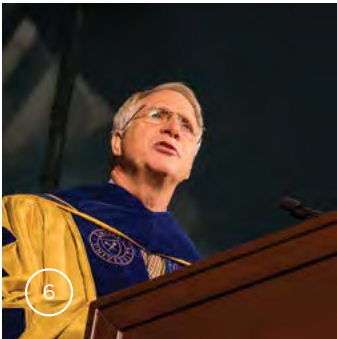
Madsen led the transferral of office with President Emerita **Dr. Bette E. Landman '04H** (president, 1985-2004) and former president **Dr. Jerry Greiner** (president, 2004-2011), who presented to Dr. Nair the University’s Chain of Office and Charter, respectively. <sup>(11)</sup>

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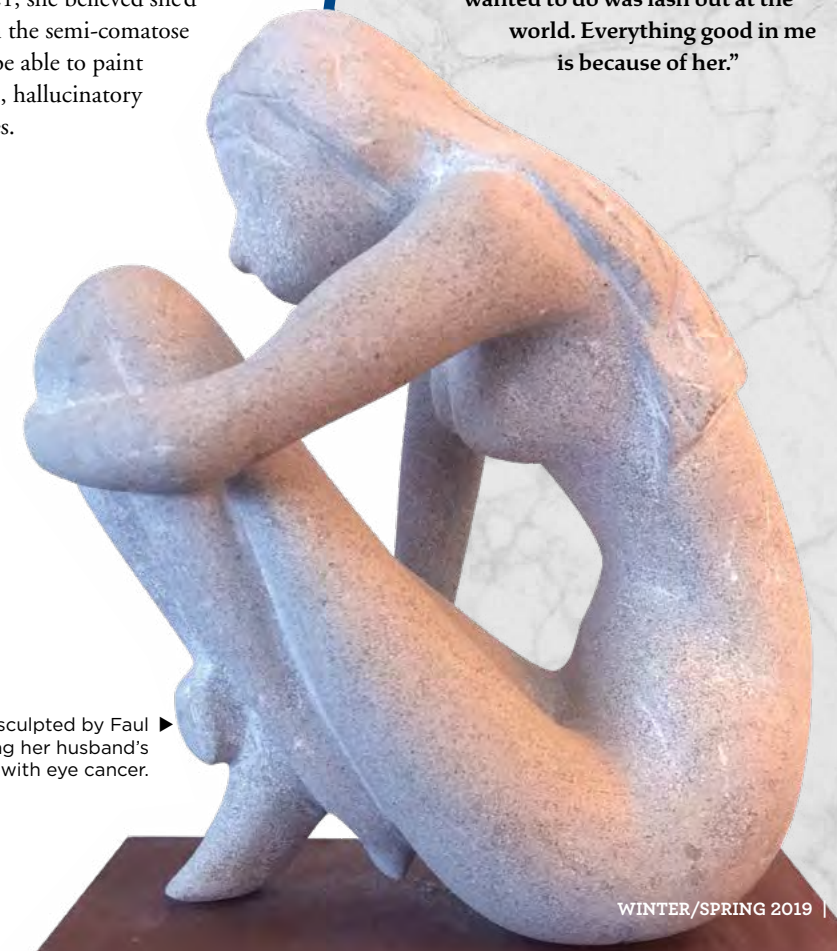
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lynnberman@msn.com
- 1964

Linda Mann  
llmann@mac.com
- 1965

Rebecca Wagner  
justwagner@msn.com
- 1966

Judy Simon King  
bigj1051@verizon.net
- 1967

Gail Agerton  
gail.agerton@foxroach.com
- 1968

Leah Nicholls Duckworth  
Induckworth@cox.net

Ann Piler  
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- 1969

Christina Anne Hill Connell  
chrisconnell@cogeco.ca
- 1970

Cheryl Hopkins Damico  
cheryldamico@hotmail.com
- 1971

Judith Odonovich  
jodonovich@comcast.net
- 1973

Chris Hibbard  
chibbard@upenn.edu
- 1975

Patricia Roberts Lucas  
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Linda Strickland  
lynstrickland@yahoo.com
- 1976

Karen Schwartz Scheiner  
doxyladyNJ@gmail.com



1953

**Eleanor Spano Martin** and **Beverly Rappaport Goldberg** represented the Class of 1953 at their 65-year reunion in May (*above*).

**Marilyn Blocklinger** writes, “To all classmates, a big hello! Still in Florida in an independent retirement facility. I’m sorry I missed our big 65th; I had a family wedding with the last of the single grandchildren. Would love to hear from everyone. The last person I talked to was **Betty Rizotte**, who is now gone. I keep in touch with family in Pa., especially since the family tragedy.”

1954

**Loretta Parker Liljestrand** writes, “Dear Octogenarians/Class of 1954, you have received the comprehensive letter about our 65th reunion, the appropriate gifts to Arcadia, and our class fund/scholarship. We thank Marilyn, Ruth, Nancy, Peg, and Murph for their precise accounting and their notification of the 65th reunion [on May 3 and 4, 2019]. I regret a family graduation will prevent my attendance.

As we grow older, there are numerous ways we can maintain our mental acuity. Some are challenged by crossword puzzles, some by Mah Jongg, and some with technological devices, but I have a challenge. Try to understand a different sonnet by Shakespeare each day (there are 154—enough for five months or more), and

write its meaning in one sentence. Another challenge is to define the Swedish word dastadning; it translates as a gruesome ‘death cleaning,’ which should remind us that it is time to organize our final years so that our lifetime collection of ‘stuff’ does not overwhelm our loved ones.

As college-educated women, we can appreciate the limitations of time and calibrate these years to be productive, generous, and worthwhile. How blessed were we to have the years at Beaver and to have had the best education possible in the 1950s with the best teachers and peers?”

1956

**Harriet Swoyer Horner Baisch** writes: “In a way, the complete absence of news about the Class of ’56 in the latest *Arcadia* magazine is a tribute to our friend and classmate, **Patty Darling Kile**. Patty reported all the available news about us. She was the most organized and dedicated friend of us all, and we happily took her for granted. She was supposed to outlive us all and write about our final escapades.

Some alumnae from ’56 are still traveling, playing with grand-and great-grandkids, voting in elections (but let’s not get too political), and enjoying life between doctor’s visits. Life is not perfect, or easy, at our age. Friendships and caring for others is vital in the scheme of life.

Patty caught the gold ring and got off the merry-go-round when God told her to. Thanks to her for keeping track of us for so many years.

Now, let’s all remember to send in some notes about ourselves whenever we receive another envelope from Arcadia. Instead of always sending back money, send a note and the funniest thing you’ve done or seen in the past year...just a paragraph to let your Beaver friends know you’re still ‘with it.’ Patty will know.

Hugs to all (all names apply!).”

1957

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

**Joanne Stoneback Graves** wrote that it has been a long time since we have heard from her, but her husband, Ted, died on May 9 after 11 years on dialysis, in and out of hospitals and nursing homes. She received a lot of support from her church, her condo neighbors, and Home, Health and Hospice groups in Nashua, N.H. None of her children are local, so 24/7 responsibility was on her shoulders. Now she can get back to volunteer work, her church, and maybe a new dog! She commented that time has gone so quickly, and she has realized that all of us are 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 meet her for breakfast whenever we were together. Have to do it in Lititz, Pa. now, I guess.

“Slowing down a bit, but still taking walks,” writes **Barbara Gordon Cooke**. She does get to the gym! (Wonderful!) Recent vacations have been more local and to see the kids. Ned had his tendon repaired on his hip and is finally getting back to normal.

**Pene Zack Riggs** and Lou celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary by going to Disney World. They then continued on to Naples, Fla. to visit her brother. She and Lou played golf on my favorite course, Bonita Fairways. Lincoln, Neb. may be the next place to visit and to see her oldest grandson and his wife, as they are taking classes and receiving advanced degrees. Her daughters arranged for a “shower” of cards from those of us who go a long way back, all wishing them continued happiness. (I hope it was a surprise.)

**Betty Siebener Kleman** and I (**Freda Friz Schopfer**) were able to have a delicious breakfast in Naples, Fla. in mid-October. She was busy arranging a family

reunion at Hilton Head at the end of the month. Everyone in the family is busy. But her son, Tom, is off the boat for a while, and so a visit with everyone is unusual. All is well with her and she is still very active at the church and playing “games.”

**Bernadine Spangenberg Loeser** just wanted to say “hi” to everyone from Ormond Beach, Fla.

**Emma Jane Murphy Burns** reported that her son retired from the Navy as a captain after 30 years of service. What an accomplishment; we are so proud! Also, another 60th wedding anniversary was celebrated.

**Martha Berglund Curtiss** (bless her heart) left me a voicemail saying that she had finally retired for real. She is busy volunteering with her church and the Village for Families and Children and going to the symphony and playhouse. She and the 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 Ventnor, N.J. area and is a spiritual care coordinator (chaplain) for Heartland Hospice. She also chants at her synagogue and is a member of the South Jersey Board of Rabbis and Cantors. She writes that her daughter, Amy, lives in New York and her granddaughter, Gracie, is studying for her master’s degree in social work.

**Gail Leonard Williams** said what we all feel when she stated that she thought about the good old “Beaver” days often and about the great times with good friends. She still keeps in touch with **Lee Olsen Karwoski**, **Edie Hall Neal**, and **Ellie Perrine Cox**. Water aerobics and the pool keep her active in the summer, along with senior yoga each week.

**Julia Sturgeon Martin** wrote that she is still living in Grass Valley outside of Sacramento. At the time of her note, she was practicing for her 15th *Messiah*, finding it difficult to reach all of

those high notes. However, she still sings in her church choir, is active in other church activities, and volunteers at Friends of the Library (and has since 1994), besides playing tennis. She said she opted not to attend our 60th because she wanted to remember Beaver as it was in 1957, reminding us that she “grew up” at Beaver since her father had been head of the Chemistry Department until 1959, and her mom taught English.

**Anne Godsey Stinnett** writes that she has lived in the same house in Sarasota, Fla. longer than anywhere else in her entire life—25 years! For the past 15 years, she maintained her law practice out of the second bedroom, but has now let her license lapse and is wondering what to do with the rest of her life. Her three children, three grandchildren, and one great-grand all live within an hour’s drive, so she feels very lucky. She invites anyone passing through Sarasota to give her a call.

All is “good” with **Paula Dinkelacker Wojciechowski**. She’s enjoying life as it’s being dealt to her and is still busy with choir, prayer shawl committee, and Bible study. She enjoyed the summer at the shore and was busy with family projects.

**Janice Williams O’Connell** enjoyed her five months on Long Beach Island last summer playing bridge and golf and seeing her six grandchildren often. She wrote that “sometime in the next several months” she would be moving to a 55 and older community in Allentown, N.J., but in the meantime, would be busy getting her home ready to sell. Then it is off to Siesta Key, Fla. on March 1 for six weeks. Busy!

Sad news: **Verna Banks Johnson** passed away on March 29, 2018, after suffering several infections and a mini-stroke. Thanks to her son, Dave, for sharing this information.

**Freda Friz Schopfer** writes, “I am still busy running my CURVES exercise place in the small town of Dublin, Pa. All is well. Grandsons are completing college and

finding employment—hurrah! Little aches and pains in the knee, hip, feet—you name it, I’ve had it! But I feel blessed that I have made it so far. Many thanks to all of you who sent news in various ways. It makes my job so much easier to do.”

1958

It’s April 2019 as you read this, but October 2018 as I, **Dwaine Fry Sutherland**, write. As if approaching my 83rd birthday isn’t confusing enough! Anyway, I’ll do the best I can.

I begin with offering condolences to **Gwen Reich Rosvold** on the passing of her husband, Donald. Gwen was unable to attend our reunion in May because of Don’s illness. She is in our thoughts and prayers.

**Pat Fletcher Lyford** is a marvel and defies explanation. What follows is a direct quote: “We live with our altered life since my husband, Larry, had a stroke four years ago. In spite of this change of life, we get out for a variety of appointments and activities. The end of July we were blessed with a visit of a daughter of my Italian friend and her husband. Their visit brought so much joy! I have known Isabella since she was three. This was followed by an amazing visit from the Alaskan family; a glorious time followed. The house buzzed with people, lots of cooking, and a shopping spree with my granddaughter at the mall. Laura is soon to be 13 (going on 15). Rose’s (my daughter-in-law and Laura’s mom) sister came from N.C. for a long weekend. My son Peter’s friends popped in, and my other son, Stephen, took Peter to various breweries. The ladies went to the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The day before their departure, they bought a 12-week-old Gold Rush Golden Retriever and flew home to Alaska with her. A busy, joyful visit!”

Our reunion committee finalized our endowed scholarship and had a wonderful visit with **Grace Warrington Lowe** when she came to the campus to meet with the committee. A great THANK YOU to Grace and her very generous contribution!



President Ajay Nair with **Marjorie Klotz ’36** at the Florida reunion in February. At 102, Klotz is believed to be the University’s oldest living alumna.



- 1983** Barbara Reppert Million  
bjmillion@comcast.net
- 1988** Stacey Downey  
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- Elizabeth “Scottie”  
Scott Hall  
esh203@aol.com
- 1990** Linda Vandegrift  
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- 1992** Jennifer Seyfried  
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- 1993** Linda Helbig Coceano  
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- Elisa Hoffman  
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- 1996** Stacey Lombardi Soricelli  
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- 1997** Maya Basu Johnson  
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- 1998** TaraJean Tweddle  
Trzaskawka  
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- 2000** Tricia Kershner Luddecke  
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- 2002** Tiffany Strahan  
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- 2003** Eileen Butkovic Cook  
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- Kerry Ann Braunstein  
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- 2008** Caitlin Rooney Meeker  
caterooney@gmail.com
- 2009** Barry Hendler  
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- 2010** Grace Wainwright Taylor  
gracewainwright@gmail.com

This summer we lost our classmate, my dear friend **Kathie Kavanagh Evans**. I will never forget this story that Kathie loved to tell: As a freshman, I came to Beaver for hockey camp two weeks earlier than the incoming class. I was settled into our room in Ivy Hall. I was an art major who loved sports. Kathie was shocked when she arrived and found high-top Converse sneakers in our room. “My God, who am I rooming with?!” Fond memories of my loving friend.

**Sandy Dart Kaser** and I had a long overdue telephone chat this past summer that was delightful! Sandy followed with a contribution to this newsletter: “This past June, Dennis and I spent a month at our cabin in Cape Breton. We had some improvements made to make it easier to spend time there. It was kind of like camping with having to haul in water. Unfortunately, it was HOT! Whew! The swimming was good and was helped by the floating dock that our son, Owen, had jury-rigged for us. I used a bathing cap to keep the horseflies from attacking me on the head. Oh yes, our son and daughter-in-law spent their whole summer up the road about a mile away. Good company!”

And now from me, Dwaine. Where’d you go?! Only two contributions to the newsletter. If you have nothing new to report, dig into your memories of our four magical years. The previous responses have been very positive and much enjoyed. A request: please send me your most current email address and include your maiden name. I will send you updated information after I have compiled it. No need to add a note, though I cherish anything you send. My best to you.

1960

It is with great sadness that I, **Betty Holton Weiss**, report the passing of my brother Alan Holton in July, nine days short of his 86th birthday. My husband, Morrie, and I will miss our annual trip to his home in Delray Beach, Fla. His wife, Bobbie, has moved to their oldest daughter’s home outside of Atlanta, Ga.

In chatting with **Jane Annan Allen** of Mill Valley, Calif., near San Francisco, she mentioned she travels a lot since being widowed seven years ago. Most recently, Jane has been to the Arctic and Chile. Closer to home, she is going to Ashland, Ore. with a group of friends. They plan on attending several theater productions. Jane’s hobby is photography, and she uses her talent on her various tours of foreign countries and the U.S.

**Joan Eddleman Finerty** of Annapolis, Md. was fighting pneumonia when I contacted her. Hopefully, as you read this, she is back on the golf course and is able to join the Naval Academy alumni trips. Joan thoroughly enjoyed a cruise along the Snake River following the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The Naval Academy also has a book club that she enjoys. Her husband Marty, a graduate of the Naval Academy, passed on two years ago. One of Joan’s daughters lives in Fredericksburg, Virginia. with her husband, who is an FBI agent. Another daughter lives in Charlotte, N.C. Joan has two grandsons. One is studying to be a flight surgeon. Her second grandson is a musician and an acoustical engineer in Nashville, Tenn. Joan hopes to attend our 60th reunion in May 2020.

**Gloria Vogel Hering** is taking a trip to China and Tibet with Grand Circle Tours. Her daughter lives in Florida and her son lives in Virginia. Gloria, Morrie, and I attended the alumni trip to Bucks County Playhouse this past summer, preceded by a delightful luncheon at the Dubliner on the Delaware.

**Maryann Shear Miko** sees **Phyllis Merhige Macksoud** once a month for lunch. After 51 years of living in Franklin Lakes, N.J., Maryann will be moving to a townhouse in the next town. Both her daughter and son live close to her. Her granddaughter graduated from MIT and is working in Washington, D.C. Her grandson attends UVA Law. Maryann has been widowed for nine years.

1962

As you will read, the tone of our “Class Notes” is changing due

to downsizing, illnesses, and deaths. Since we are all around 78 years old, I guess it is to be expected. When you finish reading our entries, please write some updates, especially GOOD news, and send them off to me (**Lynn Kronenberg Berman**) for the next article due this spring.

If you are not receiving emails from me, please send your email address to me now! We really need to stay connected! Also, if you are coming to Florida, especially from the East Coast, let me know. The members of the Class of 1962 and a few other years try to get together several times during the snowbird season! Also, we have the Florida Reunions, run by Arcadia, usually in February, held in several locations in Florida, which are fun to attend.

**Carol Purdy Fugate** (missing the deadline for the previous issue) sends: “Hope I’m not too late with my reply! Bill and I have been spending time on Cape Cod for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s. We were able to visit with family, friends, catch up on various appointments, and then head back to Prince Edward Island for the spring and summer. We are lucky enough to have family in both places. Here in Canada we especially look forward to the beautiful natural scenery: beaches, forests, fields. Gardening (both flower and veggie) is definitely a relaxing, worthwhile hobby. I’m especially looking forward to my watercolors and oil paints with so many subjects to choose from!”

**Gail Williams Tattersfield** shares: “A bittersweet message this time. My husband, George Tattersfield, passed away on Aug. 13, 2018, after a stroke and then a heart attack. It was a terrible surprise as he had been in what seemed like excellent health up until he had his stroke, walking our therapy dog, Dickens, twice daily, and being active physically every day. The celebration of his life was Oct. 6, and **Susan Davison Lundborg** and **Judy Boetticher Leve** made the effort to come from Florida and Tennessee. to attend. It was wonderful to see them. **Susan Mandelbaum**

**Axelrod** kept in touch with me regularly during the weeks of George’s illness until his passing.”

**Ronnie Kaye Herman** tells: “All is fine in Naples, Fla. As I write this, Hurricane Michael is hitting the Panhandle. Last September it was Naples, so I feel for the residents. We were lucky that we personally had no damage—just a power outage for nine days. Jim and I traveled some this past year and even made a New Jersey beach tour. We will be going on a cruise for Thanksgiving and then enjoying Naples weather for the winter. I am in contact with **Mary Jane Murray Poole** and **Natalie Zegans Kessler ’60**.

**Sherry Kugler Weidner** tells us: “**Barbara Starks Favazza** in Missouri, **Keiko Tani Fujimoto** in Japan, and I in North Carolina continue to stay in touch via email. Our hope is to be able to get together again. Keiko takes care of her husband Ted, who has dementia; I take care of my husband Chuck, who is at home under hospice care; and Barbara keeps us all uplifted with mentions of her three-year-old grandson, Miles. It is a different time of life. I am grateful that Chuck is not in pain, and his mind is good. We appreciate this time together and a long history of shared memories. Here in Wilmington, many are still suffering the effects of Hurricane Florence, especially those who were flooded. Personally, we came through the storm well. Son Chuck from Roanoke, Va., and son Jim from Singapore were here in the following week and were major helpers in changing the yard from debris-filled to normal status. Mostly Chuck and I take joy in our eight grandchildren, seven of whom are in various stages of their college careers and one who is still in high school in Singapore.”

**Elizabeth (Jean) Walker** writes: “Times are changing as we get older. Right now I am on leave from the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, as the Egyptian section galleries and storage area have been partially closed and are getting a major reinstallation. They probably will

reopen sometime in two or three years. I am planning on moving in about two years when my retirement home is completed in the retirement community. I am busy with caring for **Pat Squire**, a lot of house repairs, and some church volunteer work.”

**Pat Squire** has had some major health setbacks, mostly due to her dementia. She is now living in a residence for memory care in Philadelphia. She enjoys her friends, who visit frequently. Pat was a terrific elementary teacher for 33 years. When she took early retirement, she needed an activity and became a book reviewer. She did book reviews from 1996 until 2014. She spoke to 60 organizations both in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In that time, she did 216 talks. She read all the books that she reviewed and usually spoke about 25 books per talk. She sang in a local chorale for many, many years. She followed in her father’s footsteps and periodically gave sermons in her church. She loved to travel and visited many countries over the years. Pat was very pleased with the preparation for elementary teaching that she received at Beaver.

**Lynn Auerbach Kaplan** and husband Steve moved to an independent living community. They are happy to be in a one-floor cottage. They had lived in their home for 39 years! It’s a good way to declutter! She keeps in touch with **Linda May Sklar**. They enjoy their late-night chats!

**Andrea Fedowitz Johnsen** says: “Hello. God is good. I took a grand trip throughout Greece, four Greek islands, and one place in Turkey. It was called ‘In the Footsteps of Paul.’ What made it very special was that I had my daughter, Madeline, and her daughter, Christine (my grand), with me last year in beautiful April.”

**Wilma Maxwell Gray** updates: “All’s well with us. Ed and I are still enjoying life in northwest Arkansas. We just returned from another long, 4,000-mile road trip to attend two special reunions: our 60th high school

reunion in Collingswood, N.J., and our Atlanta neighbors’ of almost 50 years reunion on Jekyll Island, Ga. We visited some family and longtime friends along the way. Our three children, eight grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews now live in nine different states plus the Marshall Islands, so Ed and I do a lot of traveling. We both enjoy exploring our beautiful country, especially the National Parks, along the way. Since I last sent in news, two of our grandchildren have married, two beautiful weddings in Fayetteville, Ark. I do hope that more of our class will be able to return for our 60th Beaver/Arcadia reunion. I know the change in Reunion Weekend makes it difficult for all those in Florida. Sounds like you all have well-attended reunions there. We missed you all at our 55th! The only classmate I have seen since reunion is **Mary Ellen Dougherty Hanling**. We went to the same high school, and she was at our 60th, where we had 100 attend. It was wonderful to reconnect with so many long-time friends!”

**Gail Spevack Wohl** writes: “This year has been one of making a new life for myself since my husband, Alan, passed away a year ago. I am lucky to live in a community in New Jersey as well as in Florida, so there are many community activities and events. Between those, golf, card games, old friends who have been wonderful, and new friends, I keep very busy. In August, I took a CIE trip with a friend to Scotland. We had a fabulous time and are already planning another trip for next summer. I just spent a weekend at Woodloch Spa in the Poconos with my three daughters, and we had a blast. I’m looking forward to seeing all the family for Thanksgiving and Hanukkah, and then I will be in Florida at the end of November. Hopefully, many of us Arcadia alumnae will get together in Florida. I’m looking forward to seeing old friends.”

Here is an update from **Gilda Battaglia Rorro Baldassari**: The American Foundation of Savoy Orders conducted a successful 16th

Annual Savoy History Lecture at the Knickerbocker Club in New York City. This year’s theme was “The Chapel of the Holy Shroud of Turin, Guarini and the Royal House of Savoy.” A reception and dinner followed the lecture. Cav. Dr. Gilda Battaglia Rorro Baldassari was invited to sit at the table of the president of the organization, Gr. Cr. Avv. Carlo J. Morelli, and the Prince of Yugoslavia, Dimitrije “Dimitri” Karadordevic. At the dinner, Prince Dimitri was pleased to receive a copy of Dr. Rorro’s book, *Gilda, Promise Me (below)*.



As for me, **Lynn Kronenberg Berman**, Stanley and I continue to enjoy our retirement lives in New Jersey and Florida. We have had one granddaughter graduate from Temple Medical School and start her residency at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. Three granddaughters are living the life in Manhattan and one in D.C. Our Orthodox family has given us 24 great-grandchildren with at least one more on the way. It is a joy when our granddaughters and their children come down to our house on Long Beach Island for the day—they bring all of the food; we get the leftovers!

I look forward to seeing my Beaver friends when they all return to Palm Beach County, Fla.: **Janet Copeland Zinman**, **Linda May Sklar**, **Connie Gerber Levin**, **Gail Spevack Wohl**, and maybe **Joan Dretler Rubinstein**, who sends a “hello!”

I, as your Class Editor, reached out to **Mary Waring**, senior Advancement



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Derek Tracey  
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**2012** Susan Laverty  
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**2015** Chelsea Reedman  
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If an editor is not listed for your class, and you are interested in volunteering, contact the Office of Alumni Relations (alumni@arcadia.edu or 215-572-2160).

Class notes may be submitted online at [arcadia.edu/alumni-class-notes-submission](http://arcadia.edu/alumni-class-notes-submission).

officer, for an update on our endowed scholarship.

Our Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship was established by members of our class at our 50th reunion and has received contributions throughout the years. The current information will be reported in December, and I will send out a copy of the report when I receive it.

The scholarship is awarded to students who demonstrate meritorious scholastic ability and financial need. It is based on an individual's intellectual promise, personal character, and leadership potential. The financial need is determined by the Financial Aid/Scholarship policies of Arcadia University and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The first scholarship was awarded in the 2013-2014 academic year and continued until 2016, to a Political Science student in the Honors Program. The next recipient was a Sociology major in the Honors Program. The recipient for 2018-2019 academic year is a Chemistry major from Lansdale, Pa., who plans to graduate in 2020.

The best way for us to help our scholarship recipients is by growing the principal through donations. Please continue to contribute to our Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship, and request that your Arcadia contributions be earmarked for this fund.

I have greetings from **Lyanne Lindo Wassermann '61**, an Arcadia Trustee living in Hollywood, Fla. She was so excited about Arcadia's new president, **Dr. Ajay Nair**. She reports: "His inauguration was moving and the memos with the new ideas he has for the university are inspiring!"

Keep sending your news, and happy new year!

## 1964

**Linda Mann** writes, "Our condolences to the family and friends of **Francine M. 'Wicky' Woerthwein**, who died in

October. She is survived by her husband Kenneth, son Joshua, and two daughters, Charity Hyde and Amanda Pressel; three grandchildren, Erica McQuartin, Mikayla Pressel, Nicole Pressel; and a sister, Paula Willmore. Two of Wicky's remarkable qualities were her ease of forming sincere, long-lasting friendships with people of all ethnic groups and classes, and for standing up against discrimination in all of its forms. A wonderful legacy."

**Mimi Hirsch Brauch** just returned from the Arcadia alumni trip to the Southwest and is preparing for the alumni trip in December to the Christmas markets in Germany.

An item in the last "Class Notes" reminded **Elsie McDonald Smoluk** that a few years back, while she was on a business trip to Dallas, **Sue Mason Bothwell** had met up with her at the airport for a brief, but good time before Elsie's plane took off. Elsie is still traveling for business to Nashville in September. She is an independent LegalShield associate.

A big reminder: Our 55-year reunion will be held on campus on May 3 and 4, 2019. Elsie, **Phyllis St. John Skok**, **Catherine Kissner Schultheis** (our Fund Agent), **Janet Smith Corson**, **Mary Ann Marshall Speakman**, **Peggy Lees**, and I (Linda Mann) are on the Reunion Committee; we hope to see many of you there! Donations to our reunion gift will support the *Student Research and Conference Travel Fund* (75%) and *The Fund for Arcadia* (25%). Gifts of any size are welcome. We're hoping for a huge percentage of participation and, of course, we'd like to present a large monetary gift as a result (\$15,000 is our goal). Many thanks to the Office of Alumni Relations for all of their help!

**Judy Applegate Jervis** and her husband, AJ, take a trip each year. In 2017, they went to the Grand Canyon, Zion, and Bryce National Parks. This year, they flew to San Francisco and then drove north to Seattle. We want to know what you have planned for 2019, Judy!

I (**Judy Simon King**) spent a terrific summer in Avalon, N.J. Once again, B.A. Yerkes and I did not get together! But, I did have a wonderful couple of hours with **Dorothy Button Mohr '65**. Between the hoagies and raindrops, we were able to catch up, reminisce, and laugh. Patti's husband, Ken, and her sister, Linda, added to the fun. Thanks

Chuck, **Judy MacCrate Stephens**, **Sue Thomas**, **Betsy Mackerell Ruch**, **Sheila Murphy Kerr '68**, **Mary Roberts Marino '64**, and **Marcia Krysa Hamilton '64**. They enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner along with lots of reminiscing, laughing, and catching up with all of their news. They came from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Florida for this happy Beaver gathering. A special addition to the group was Mikki's brand new granddaughter, Maeve!

They talked about the future of Phys. Ed., various hurricane experiences, and what is keeping them busy. Mikki is adjusting to grandparenthood. Mary is writing her fifth book. Marsha loves her garden and the whole gardening process. Betsy has 11 grandchildren and takes two at a time on a trip. Diane continues to be delighted with her granddaughter, Blake, and enjoys auctions. Mary Jane and her husband drove through Florida, South Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania to get to the gathering, while staying with friends along the way. They live in Naples, Fla., enjoy tennis and golf, and, of course, traveling. After the gathering, they flew to visit Badlands National Park, Wind Cave National Park, Lead, S.D., Mount Rushmore, and the surrounding area. Needless to say, a good time was had by all.

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so much for calling me, Patti!

Keep the news coming—we are interested in your happenings!

## 1969

**Christina Hill Connell** writes: "I was privileged to attend the celebration of **June Mamana Guertin**'s life in Boston on Sept. 30. It was a lovely event at the St. Botolph Club, organized by June's sister and **Julianne Mamana Boyd '66, '17H**. There were several speakers, including Julie; June's brother John; and her nieces and nephews: Ned, Emily, and Sarah Boyd. Everyone commented on June's humor, her irreverence, her sense of fun, her many achievements, and her distaste of authority! Also in attendance was **Janet Parker DeLaney** and her husband, Bob, who have retired to Maine.

Jan was June's roommate at college. She was an interior designer in Richmond, Va., and Bob was working in Human Resources prior to retiring to the country. Jan and I hadn't seen each other since graduation, but we recognized each other!

I am putting in a plug for our 50-year reunion [May 3 and 4, 2019] at Arcadia University! You should have received communication about this event from the University, and there will be more to come. You may hear from some of us by phone in the new year to encourage you to come. Even if you have never attended the reunion, please consider it. We really, really want you to be there! Here's hoping to see you in May!"

## 1978

**Mary J. Meo Davis** says: "I graduated from Beaver/Arcadia in December 1977. I think that makes me Class of '78. In the years since, I've graduated from Temple Law, practiced law for many years, and received a master's in Liberal Studies from Villanova. Now I am living in New York where I am a producer, on- and off-Broadway. On Broadway, I've been a producer on Tina Fey's *Mean Girls*; *Angels in America*; *M Butterfly* starring Clive Owen; *Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812*; and *Disaster!* by Seth Rudetsky and Jack

Plotnick (on- and off-Broadway). Off-Broadway, I produced *Pressing Matters* by Jennifer Jasper; Jakob Hoffman's *A Persistent Memory*; *C.O.A.L.* by David Brian Colbert; James Wesley's *Unbroken Circle*; Susan Charlotte's *When Truth is Not Enough* (also in Philadelphia); *She's of a Certain Age* by Susan Charlotte; the New York premiere of Tennessee Williams's *The Pretty Trap*; *The Shoemaker* starring Danny Aiello; James Wesley's *Art and Science* (Uptown Theater, Dallas); and *Doubt* by John Patrick Shanley (London's Southwark Playhouse).

I have three [new] shows: *Unraveled* by Jennifer Blackmer (Theatre Row, September 2018); *The Cher Show* (Broadway, Fall 2018); Willy Holtzman's *Smart Blonde* (59E59, February 2019). I'm still a pro bono lawyer for the ACLU. I even have a website: mblproductions.net!"

## 1983

**Mary Stillman Sundra**'s son, James, has joined a new company called CreateAR as a senior experience engineer working on an augmented reality app.

**Cheri Lockett Zubak** (B.A. in English, 1983; M.A., 1990) is a principal experience designer at Vertex Inc., a company in King of Prussia that develops technology solutions for tax professionals. Cheri works in the Vertex Innovation Labs, where she leads research and design related to early market, incubation projects. Cheri is also an adjunct graduate faculty member in the Organizational Performance and Workplace Learning program at Boise State University, where she teaches Advanced Design. Cheri's husband, Walt, is an electrician with IBEW Local Union 269. Her son, Andy, owns a valet company that provides services to high-end restaurants and event facilities throughout the Delaware Valley.

## 1988

My, how time flies! We are curious (and by we, I mean me, **Stacey Downey**, and **Elizabeth "Scottie" Hall**, and the entire Class of 1988) about what you've been up to since the days of scrunchies, Madonna,

and acid-washed jeans. Wait, 1988 was SO long ago that one of those things has made a comeback, one never went away, and one deserved the fate it got.

We'd love to hear from you. Please send us your email address so that we can reach out and include your update in the next issue of "Class Notes."

**Art Himmelstein** of Bucks County, Pa. works for the State of New Jersey as a computer programmer; actually, to be more precise, as computer programmer extraordinaire. He has been married to his wife for 909 weeks and 1 day, as of this submission. Art wrote to us about a college memory, saying: "After completing my final exam on May 18, 1988 (3 hours and 7 minutes), I opened my umbrella, walked out in the rain to my car, and said to myself, 'I'll never have to use my brain again.' And I was right; I've been working 28 years in my current job." Art explained that it took him 15 years after high school to get his degree but it was well worth it to get his current job. Art enjoys bowling and as of this date, Art has bowled 1,683 consecutive league games, and said that a few of them were fun.

**Rebecca Eizman Prigal**, a divorced mother of three and an empty nester, has been residing in Baltimore, Md. for 25 years. Working the afternoon and evening shift six days a week as a licensed massage therapist at Lifebridge Health and Fitness in Pikesville and Elements Massage in Timonium leaves little free time. Her time off is spent taking Continuing Education Units (CEUs), attending/ assisting at Landmark Worldwide and Your Infinite Life/HMS workshops, programs sponsored by CHANA for abuse/trauma survivors, miscellaneous lectures by other various organizations, and catching up with friends. Otherwise, she can be found reading, writing, cooking, or watching movies. What she misses most about Beaver College is the campus, professors, and proximity of friends.

**Stacey Downey** of Washington, D.C. is a program analyst for the government working on adult education policy and programming. She, her husband, and their two teenage daughters enjoy cooking, traveling, hiking, and camping. Stacey also enjoys gardening and taking advantage of the museums, festivals, and films that the District has to offer. Stacey loved living in the Castle senior year with her roommates and has become nostalgic of late for those salad years in college.

Suasion Communications Group President **Susan Adelizzi-Schmidt** was recently named one of Folio's 2018 Top Women in Media, which honors females who have stood out, taken risks, and pushed their teams to new heights, exemplifying successful leadership at its finest (*below*).



## 1989

**Charleen Leonetti-Johnson** writes: "Having stepped away from the classroom, I am now working in Early Intervention with Elwyn SEEDS as a lead service coordinator. It's extremely rewarding to help families of children with special needs. For any Special Education or Early Childhood (Pre-K-4) majors who would like to be in more of a leadership role, feel free to reach out to me at charleen\_leonetti-johnson@elwyn.org."





## 1998

Members of the **Physician Assistant Class of 1998** gathered for their 20-year reunion in the Poconos on Oct. 20, 2018 (*above*).

Front row (left to right): **Shannon Gierczak Marriott; Donna Berner; Sheila Cook.**

Back row (left to right): **Matthew Marriott; Barbara Black Leuber; Shannon Deitz Vinson; Karen Beales Finke; Thomas Giovinazzo; Renee Langstaff.**

Holding banner, left: **Dena Breslin**; right: **Philip Krajewski.**

## 1999

**Stephen Clark** will publish his second novel, tentatively titled *Hands Up*, with WiDo Publishing™ in the next few months. Based in Philadelphia, this “socially conscious thriller” follows three protagonists from different worlds who are on a collision course after a deadly police shooting spins their lives into chaos. More information about the author and his work can be found at [stephenclarkbooks.com](http://stephenclarkbooks.com) (*left*).

## 2004

Storyteller **Joann Frasier Dasent**, compassionately known as

“Auntie Jo Jo,” is the recipient of a 2018-19 Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeships Grant awarded by the Pennsylvania Council on the Art (PCA) that supports the learning of folk and traditional arts. This grant enabled Joann to partner with master storyteller Mama Linda Goss. The theme of their ongoing project is called “Straighten Up and Fly Right,” which focuses on the importance of passing on fables and sayings to the next generation and reminding communities that, more than ever, we need to straighten up and fly right. Joann is the founder and CEO of Regenerating Our Offspring Through Stories, Inc. (R.O.O.T.S), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, whose

mission is to use the art of storytelling to promote literacy to reach various types of learners in a multicultural society.

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 Carrington ’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 Be 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.”



Valley Forge Military College (VFMC) announced **Dawn Wilson Dreese** will serve as the new senior director of College Admissions. Dreese started her new position earlier this year following a promotion from associate director of Admissions. In her new role, Dreese will oversee the entire College admissions process and ensure prospective students have a positive experience from their first moment of interest to enrollment. Dreese will also manage financial aid and help cadets with their documentation and applications.

## 2007

I, **Lauren Trager**, celebrated 10 years at the National MS Society and was recently promoted to senior manager, Event Logistics. I will continue to have responsibility for our local Bike MS Rides as well as all Walk MS and Bike MS in the state of Florida.

## 2009

A message from Class Editor **Barry Hendler**: “Can you believe our 10-year reunion is closely approaching? The Reunion Planning Committee and I are excited to see you during Alumni Weekend on Friday, May 3, and Saturday, May 4! Keep an eye out for more information.”

**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*).



**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).

**Nicole Foreman** 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.

**Cait Bjellquist Belney** wed Stacy Belney, FSU ’04, in June 2017. This fall, Cait 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 toil 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*).







**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 P. Calhoun** achieved his Technology Specialist certification in December 2017.

**Mandee Metzger** launched the Inner Light Botanicals skincare + lifestyle brand, which seeks to help people create a positive life and spread happiness to



advanced young theatre 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 Marlow Oona, in February 2018. She also successfully funded a Kickstarter in August for the expansion of Curious Clay, 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*).

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.

**Steven 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 CuriosiTeens!, an

**Angelo Breaux** has been working in his 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, Angelo Paul Jewelry (*bottom, left*).

2010

**Patricia Sullivan** (*bottom, middle*) 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, Tricia is responsible for AOE's contracts with Wish.com, RS Energy Group, and the Philadelphia Management Office of MRP Realty. She serves on 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 Freemont Health in Freemont, Neb.



2016

**Christina Hanscom Rosso** 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 (@anovelaidephilly), Twitter (@anovelaidephl), and Facebook (@anovelaidephilly).

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

Gerri Aaron '14H

*Geraldine "Gerri" Aaron '14H (right), longtime supporter of Arcadia University and mother of Board Chair Alison (Aaron) Madsen, Esq. '85 (left), passed away on Feb. 14.*

Aaron was renowned in the Philadelphia area and in Sarasota, Fla., for her extraordinary generosity. Among the causes Gerri was passionate about were education, the arts, the environment, Jewish organizations, and health—particularly Parkinson's disease, which her husband, Dan, one of the founders of Comcast, lived with for nearly 25 years before his death in 2003.

In 2000, Gerri and Dan Aaron helped found the Dan Aaron Parkinson's Rehabilitation Center at Pennsylvania Hospital to provide education, counseling, and physical therapy for Parkinson's patients with limited resources. Four years later, the family established the Dan Aaron Stay Fit Exercise Program at Arcadia in his honor. Aaron was a major benefactor of Arcadia, including as a platinum sponsor of President Nair's Inauguration, a lead donor of the 2013 *Changing Lives, Teaching Students* campaign for the Department of Physical Therapy, and a member of the Kistler Society of donors.

Aaron received numerous awards and honors throughout her life for her philanthropy. These include the Legacy of Leadership Award from the American Jewish Committee in 2014, the Nancy Roucher Annual Arts Education Award from the Sarasota County Arts Council in 2010, and the Women in Power Award from the National Council of Jewish Women in 2009. In addition, she was inducted into the Sarasota Community Video Archives' Hall of Fame in 2014.

In 2014, for her remarkable philanthropic efforts, Arcadia awarded Aaron an Honorary Doctor of Humanities. In her address to graduates, Aaron urged them to "Learn to give back. Try to help the world. Embark on humanitarian giving *now*. Always have compassion in your heart."

At the 2019 Doctor of Physical Therapy Commencement on Jan. 20, Aaron was the recipient of the Carol Leiper Physical Therapy Outstanding Commitment Award, which recognized her distinguished and lasting contributions to the department and to the student experience. Her son, Jud Aaron, accepted the award on her behalf.



Lloyd Abernethy

*Professor Emeritus Lloyd Mermmon Abernethy, longtime faculty member and benefactor of Arcadia, passed away on Feb. 3.*



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

In 1968, 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

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 and Landman Societies with his wife, Theodora Sweeney. In addition to Theodora, Abernethy is survived by three children—Karen Abernethy Guin, David Keith Abernethy, and **Elizabeth Ann Abernethy Darby** '86—and four grandchildren. During Darby's Commencement ceremony, Dr. Landman stepped aside so that Darby could receive her diploma from her father.

1931

Elizabeth Kremer Solliday

1937

E. Charlotte Pfizenmayer

1941

D. Shirley Cleaver Beck  
Susan Sanderson Howlett  
Shirley Isacowitz  
Leviton '41, '73H

1942

Elizabeth Chapman Singer

1943

Ardala Cozine Jones

1945

Ruth Schuster Quemore  
June Konowitch Segal

1946

Fayetta Wells

1947

Adrienne Thomas  
Cunningham  
Theodora White Raines

1948

Marjorie Welde Parsons

1949

Beverly Tucker Bowen  
Emily Heizer Hall

1950

Christine Hopkins  
Barbara Hinchcliffe Russel  
Dorothy McCurdy Terranova

1953

Joan Levy Bachman  
Irene Ruger Lawrence

1955

Jean Sparklin Hager

1957

Beatrice Durham Blackman

1958

Elizabeth Solliday Courtney  
Kathleen Kavanagh Evans

1959

Marcia Bihari Weston

1964

Linda Reppa Gordon  
Francine Willmore  
Woerthwein

1967

Jean Hill Macht

1969

Nancy Switzky Goodman

1973

Robin Hodes Jacobs  
Rose Smoliar

1980

Marilyn Edenborn '80MEd

1987

Peter Palau

1989

Marcia Yoder '89MEd

1991

Lisa Malone Ehrlich  
Arlene Stern '91MEd

2008

Katherine Butterworth '08H

**Faculty and Staff**  
Violette Auteri



# 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 Physiology 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.

Bernice passed away on Jan. 31, 2018.



**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.

*Arcadia University salutes these individuals and extends its sincere gratitude for their dedication and commitment to providing planned gifts in support of our mission. To learn more about making an estate gift, please contact Mary Waring, senior advancement officer, at 215-517-2567, or visit [arcadia.giftplans.org](http://arcadia.giftplans.org).*



-SIXTH ANNUAL-

**ARCADIA**  
ATHLETICS

GOLF OUTING

**Monday, June 24**  
**Old York Road Country Club**  
*Spring House, Pa.*

**[arcadiaknights.com/GolfOuting](http://arcadiaknights.com/GolfOuting)**

## NOMINATE ALUMNI

40 **ALUMNI**

UNDER

40 **2020**

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](http://arcadia.edu/Arcadia40).



# Spot the Difference | Spøt the Difference

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



## THE R. WESLEY ROSE FUND

(1972-2018)



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](http://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](http://arcadia.edu/AW).