CLASS NOTES

Sarah Walker Brandt ’04, Erin, and Megan Braun ’13. Erin teaches music and runs early intervention groups for a parent-infant program, Sarah is a deaf education specialist, and Jessica is the school’s program director.

2013 Megan Braun (see ’10).

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING


1993 Thomas Moore (PhD), professor of physics at Rollins College, near Orlando, Fla., was awarded a grant of more than $200,000 from the National Science Foundation to support his research with undergraduate students in musical acoustics. This is Thomas’s third grant from the National Science Foundation’s Research in Undergraduate Institutions program since 2007.

1994 Wendy Schiller (PhD), associate professor of political science and public policy at Brown University, has been invited by the New York Times to lead seminars on its educational travel program, Times Journeys: Journey to Western Europe, in October. Wendy joins journalists Elisabeth Bumiller, Timothy Egan, and David Sanger on the program, which takes place aboard a cruise ship that will originate and end its journey in England, making several stops in France, Spain, and Portugal. Wendy’s seminars include “Is the U.S. Constitution Outdated?,” “The Obama Presidency in Historical Perspective,” “Equality in America: What Really Constitutes the American Dream?,” and “How Congress Really Works.”

PEAK PLACES: Rachel Isenberg ’02 combines physical feats with fundraising for the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation.

A Large-Scale Accomplishment

It took Rachel Isenberg ’02 and her two friends 16 hours to climb California’s 14,500-foot Mount Whitney last August. She says that’s a leisurely pace, “It can be done in 12. We just kind of took our time and enjoyed it.”

For Rachel, scaling the highest peak in the continental United States was the latest in a series of summertime physical feats. She started the annual ritual for fun, and later, also to raise money for the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation in honor of her mother, who suffers from the illness. She attracts sponsors from her Facebook page as well as from a personal page on the foundation’s website. Since 2009, she’s raised nearly $18,000.

“I’ve always enjoyed hiking and nature, and being active and traveling,” she says from her office at Temple University, where she’s an English language instructor.

On August 25, Rachel and two friends from graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania started the hike up Mount Whitney at 4 o’clock in the morning. “My friends felt the altitude a bit, which is typical,” Rachel says. “But we got to do sunrise and sunset, which is pretty cool.”

Her greatest challenge came in 2011, when she and Doug Briller ’01 scaled Tanzania’s Mount Kilimanjaro, which at more than 19,000 feet, is the highest freestanding peak in the world.

“Kilimanjaro is a five-day climb and you pass through five different ecosystems,” Rachel says. “But any climb takes a similar mentality. A lot of it becomes mental after a while, just to keep on hiking for hours or for days, to have that kind of determination and fortitude. Or craziness!”

1999 Jeffrey Jackson (PhD), associate professor of history at Rhodes College, has coedited The Thinking Space: The Café as a Cultural Institution in Paris, Italy, and Vienna (Ashgate).

2000 Harmit Singh Malik (PhD), an evolutionary geneticist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, has been named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. He was one of 27 biomedical scientists in the United States to win the honor out of more than 1,100 applicants.

2001 Nicholas Waddy (PhD), associate professor of history at Alfred State College, has published his first work of historical fiction. Jewel of the East (CreateSpace) is set in 18th-century India. Nicholas offers more information about the book at jewelnovel.blogspot.com.

Eastman School of Music

1952 Wayne Bohnnstedt (PhD) writes that the Redlands Symphony Orchestra performed his Variations for a Celebration as part of the California city’s 125th birthday celebration. Wayne is the retired director of the University of Redlands School of Music and Division of Arts, and served on the school’s faculty for 40 years.

1968 Harry Faulk ’71E (MM) has been named vice president for academic affairs at Mountwest Community and Technical College in West Virginia. . . . Webb Wiggins (MM) has released a CD, Variazioni (Smithsonian Friends of Music), on which he plays two 17th-century Italian harpsichords from the Smithsonian collection.

1969 Max Stern has released Perik Shirah (Israel Music Institute), a recording of his composition for narrator and orchestra by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, with Max conducting. He writes that the piece is “a cosmic song of praises from Psalms.”

1971 Harry Faulk (MM) (see ’68) . . . . As a result of a data entry error in a University-wide database, the Review mistakenly included Helen Tuntland Jackson’s (MM) name in our In Memoriam column in the September–October issue. Helen is, happily, alive and well. We apologize to Helen and her family and friends for the error.

1973 Jeff Tyzik ’77 (MM) has been named principal conductor of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

1974 Bill DiCosimo, an assistant professor of music at Syracuse University, completed a performance tour in Brazil during which he spoke to students at the Federal University of Rio about music production. Bill chairs the department of music and entertainment industries at Syracuse’s Setnor School of Music.

1977 Jeff Tyzik (MM) (see ’73).

1981 Pianist Bill Cunliffe (MM) released the CD River Edge, New