Momentous Meliora!

Meliora Weekend brings alumni, faculty, students, and family together to celebrate their connections to Rochester.

FIRE PLACE: Steven Broida ’18, a member of Strong Jugglers, demonstrates his skills during the group’s annual show.

AN EVER BETTER TOMORROW: Singing “The Genesee” are Ed Hajim ’58, University trustee and board chairman emeritus; Cathy Minehart ’68, cochair of The Meliora Challenge; Joel Seligman, University president and CEO; Delores Conway, professor at the Simon Business School; Brenda Tremblay, WXXI-FM radio host and emcee for the event; Bob Witmer ’59, University trustee and board chair emeritus; Tom Farrell ’88, ’90W (MS), senior vice president for University advancement; Danny Wegman, chairman of the Board of Trustees; and Crystal Colon ’17, an English major and student leader from Perth Amboy, New Jersey.
CONVERSATIONS ON RACE: (left) Vice President and University Dean Paul Burgett ’66E, ’76E (PhD) talks to filmmaker Ken Burns about race in America at the Presidential Symposium. Burns’s grandfather, Robert Kyle Burns Jr., was a member of the University faculty from 1928 to 1939. Burns and Burgett also spoke with WXXI-FM public radio’s Evan Dawson. To listen, visit wxxinews.org/post/connections-filmmaker-ken-burns-race-america.
EVER BETTER SELFIE: (above) Twin sisters Mary ’19 (left) and Sarah Ogunji ’19, from the Bronx, were among the many students and visitors who paused to admire, pose against, and even climb upon the temporary installation of the University motto that graced the Eastman Quadrangle for the duration of Meliora Weekend.

MORNING JOE: MSNBC hosts Joe Scarborough (immediate right) and Mika Brzezinski deliver a morning keynote address—a lively discussion about electoral politics, the rise in political vitriol, and the decline of bipartisanship.
STAR ENTERTAINERS: Daily Show host Trevor Noah (top) entertains a packed Palestra; multiplatinum singer and songwriter Ben Folds (above), whose past collaborations include work with the University's own Midnight Ramblers and the YellowJackets, performs a free outdoor concert.

MEL TALKS: Benjamin Meyerhoff '96 (left), celebrating his 20th reunion, presents “Please Forgive Me If I Don’t Stand Up,” his perspectives on trauma recovery, perseverance, and augmented life with paralysis. MEL Talks is an annual series of presentations exploring research, ideas, and culture.
RAISING THEIR VOICES: Kimberly Rouse ’17 (center), an audio and music engineering major from Philadelphia, and the other members of the coed a cappella group After Hours perform at the A Cappella Jam, held at the Palestra.

MILLER’S COURT: Arthur Miller ’56 moderates the annual Miller’s Court panel, this year focusing on “The Next President, the Supreme Court, and You.” Panelists included (left to right) Jason Altabet ’17, the first student to ever participate in a Miller’s Court panel and the current president of the Rochester chapter of Mock Trial; Lew Kaplan ’56, U.S. district judge for the Southern District of New York; David Primo, the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Professor and an associate professor of political science and business administration; Robert McNamara, senior attorney with the Institute for Justice; Jennifer Farmer ’99, managing director of communications for the PICO National Network; and University President and CEO Joel Seligman.
MUSICAL MOMENTS: Provost and Senior Vice President for Research Rob Clark (top) performs with his band, Don’t Know Jack, at the dedication of the Edmund A. Hajim Science & Engineering Quadrangle; students in the Eastman Saxophone Project (above) were among the performers at the The Meliora Challenge celebration dinner.

UNIVERSITY ICON: University Trustee and Board Chairman Emeritus Ed Hajim ’58, his wife, Barbara, and their children and grandchildren pose with a new statue of Hajim on the Edmund A. Hajim Science & Engineering Quadrangle. The statue, by sculptor Marc Mellon, was dedicated during Meliora Weekend.