

Class Notes



FINDING THEIR PLACES: Are members of the Class of 1960 taking placement tests as they arrive on campus for the start of their college careers? Do you know the answer? Or do you recognize anyone? Write to us at rochrev@rochester.edu.

College

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1950 Kenn Hubel received a note from **Arnold van der Lande**, to be shared with friends from the Class of 1950. Arnold wrote: "On my 91st birthday, a few days ago, we drank the last bottle of wine which my father had bought in the year of my birth. In 1939 he hid the wine in a very old cellar where the Germans could not find it during the war. He died in 1949, leaving the many bottles he had stowed away in the hiding place. I opened the bottle, which I had kept for so many years, and savored the wine together with my family. We were surprised that the wine had kept a fine flavor and taste during these 91 years." Kenn writes that Arnold's letter "evoked memories of World War II, the harsh German occupation of the Netherlands, the foresight of Arnold's father hoping for a better day, and his wisdom in sending his son to an America then rife with optimism."

1952 Dan Riley has writ-



1958 Ackerman

ten a memoir, *My Life, My Words* (CreateSpace). In addition to reminiscences and reflections, it includes several original essays and poems. Dan adds, "I am completing my 25th year as editor of *Alligator Alley*, magazine of the USS LSM/LSMR Association of World War II Navy Amphibious Veterans. Still too busy at 92!"

1953 Allen Brown writes that he's published his fourth novel, *The Elevator* (Page Publishing). He's also the author of *Constitution 20XX* (2013), *The Story of Pope Maria* (2015), and *Why Is a Cow* (2016).

1954 Hal Sobel has published a book, *The Dream Shall Never Die: Essays on the Political Landscape*

(Mountain Air Books). Hal is a retired professor in the education division of Queens College, City University of New York.

1955 Marianne Lewald Hutchinson sends an update. She writes: "After my early childhood in Dresden, Germany; immigration to the U.S.; schooling, including an MA; and marriage and three children, my family and I moved to Mexico and served as missionaries for the United Methodist Church from 1965 to 1998. Upon retirement to Phoenix, Arizona (and 10 grandchildren later), I still continue to work part time as a court interpreter for Spanish speakers, a task I find endlessly fascinating."

1958 Maude Feist Ackerman sends a photo of herself with her granddaughter, **Laura Ackerman '17**, at commencement. Maude's son (and Laura's father), Joel Ackerman, writes: "We are a family of five U of R graduates now," including **Kurt Ackerman '90M** (PhD), **'91M** (MD); **Jane Jergesen Ackerman '91** (PhD); and **Phyllis Ackerman Rosenbaum '60, '61N, '66N** (MS).



1959 Kopf

1959 Bobbie Schwennker Kopf sends a photo and a note. "Three '59ers enjoyed a week in Dunedin, Florida, in April." From left to right are Bobbie, **Gayle Green Pinkowski**, and **Bonnie Hall Sheppard**. . . . **Michael Shapiro** writes: "I've coedited a collection of essays entitled *Wrestling with Shylock: Jewish Responses to The Merchant of Venice* (Cambridge University Press). I recently completed a six-year stint as visiting professor of English at Loyola University. My wife, Elizabeth, and I live in Chicago, not far from our two daughters and four grandsons. I serve on the Joseph Jefferson Committee, which gives annual awards to equity and nonequity theater artists in the Greater Chicago area."

1960 Phyllis Ackerman Rosenbaum '61N, '66N (MS) (see '58).

1964 Jerry Zandman writes: "After 24 yearly trips, the Class of 1964 Delta Kappa Epsilon ski team, now retired, continued the tradition in Islamorada, Florida, in March." Clockwise from the left are **John Ozols** '65, '68 (MS), **Scott Yeaw**, **John Detraglia**, Jerry, **Jim O'Hara** '77S (MBA), and **Tom Collins**.

1965 John Ozols '68 (MS) (see '64).

Abbreviations

E	Eastman School of Music
M	School of Medicine and Dentistry
N	School of Nursing
S	Simon Business School
W	Warner School of Education
Mas	Master's degree
RC	River Campus
Res	Medical Center residency
Flw	Postdoctoral fellowship
Pdc	Postdoctoral certificate



1964 Zandman

1968 Jeff Roberts lives in Montpelier, Vermont, and is president of Cow Creek Creative Ventures, which consults and advocates for small-scale food producers and for sustainable agriculture and community economic development. He's published a book, *Salted and Cured: Savoring the Culture, Heritage, and Flavor of America's Preserved Meats* (Chelsea Green Publishing). He also teaches the history and culture of food at the New England Culinary Institute and is a visiting professor at the University of Gastronomic Science in northern Italy.

1969 Stuart Mushlin has published *Playing the Ponies and Other Medical Mysteries Solved* (Rutgers University Press). Stuart, a master clinician in internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, writes that the book is a memoir of his 40 years practicing internal medicine and "a reflection on how internists think."

1971 Mel Hyman writes: "My 35-year career as a journalist began with columns I wrote for the *Campus Times* during the early seventies. I'm currently ensconced on the *New York Post* copy desk." Mel would love to hear from anyone "with a memory of the old days" at mhyman@nypost.com. . . . **Jerry Newman** sends a photo of himself with his daughter, **Aurora Newman** '17, taken during May's commencement weekend.

1975 Marilynn Patterson Grant '82W (Mas) has been named program director, pre-K to 12 education, for the William and Sheila Konar Foundation in Rochester. Marilynn has advised school-based and district administrators through her consulting and coaching firm, M. P. Grant, and previously served as deputy superintendent of teaching and learning for the Rochester City School District.



1971 Newman



1980 Brandes

1977 Composer and arranger **Brett Gold** released a CD of original recordings, *Dreaming Big* (GoldFox Records), with his big band, which includes trumpeter **Jon Owens** '90E and Eastman saxophone professor **Charles Pillow** '84E (MM). Two-time

Grammy nominee **John Fedchock** '85E (MM) wrote the liner notes. Gold writes that he began studying big band arranging a decade ago after practicing law for 25 years. . . . **James Goldstein**, a professor of English at Auburn University,

LIFETIMES

The Many Lives of John Fassett '48

As an attorney and former Supreme Court law clerk, John Fassett '48 played an important role in persuading Associate Justice Stanley Reed to join other justices in the unanimous 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, a ruling that helped end legalized racial segregation in the United States.

My childhood

After third grade I was diagnosed with polio. I lost a whole year of school, but my teacher sent all the work to my mother, who had been a schoolteacher, and she supplemented it with a lot more work. When I was allowed to return the next year, the school decided I didn't belong

My law clerk days

I graduated first in my class at Yale Law School in 1953, and the dean recommended me to Supreme Court Associate Justice Stanley Reed. That led to the defining period of my life. Justice Reed and I became very close. He had produced a handwritten draft of a dis-

sent that he proposed to file in became a trial and appellate lawyer and at the same time taught constitutional law and constitutional history at Yale. I got involved in the business community and did so much work in the electric business that I wound up as president and chairman of the board of United Illumination Company, an electric company that served southern Connecticut. After 11 years, I retired to play tennis and fish and write books.

I wrote the definitive biography of Justice Reed, called

operated on and wait for the swelling to go down and my black eyes to clear up.

My family

One of the guys on my college freshman football team introduced me to a nurse who'd served in an evacuation hospital unit with General Patton's Army in Europe. Betty was only 5'2" and 100 pounds, but she'd been a second lieutenant in the war. We got married in Rochester in 1947 and had our reception in the Psi Upsilon house, where I was the man-



FACETS OF FASSETT: An undergraduate, a husband and father, a lawyer and law clerk and recognized legal scholar.

in the fourth grade with my former classmates. So I went to the fifth grade.

My military service

After six months in the Army Specialized Training Program at Cornell University in 1943, I transferred to the Air Corps. I attended armory and gunnery schools and became a member of a crew on B-17s, the Flying Fortresses, ready to go to Europe. I ended up on a project closing down surplus air fields after the war, then took a commission and eventually became a lieutenant, which meant I was on the early list of reservists called to go to Korea. But I got pulled out to become a legal officer and assistant to the training commander on a base in Virginia.

the school segregation cases that had been reargued during the term. I put the draft in my typewriter and triple-spaced it to have room to put in my complaints about the points he made, how he was wrong. He took it home and the next day we really went at it. He accused me of trying to make him part of a "government by judges" because I wanted a unanimous decision. I argued that it was very important to our country and our role in the world to do away with segregation once and for all. I don't know where I got the guts to do it. As a result of my efforts against segregation, North Carolina Central University awarded me an honorary degree.

My other careers

When I left Washington, I


New Deal Justice: The Life of Stanley Reed of Kentucky, which is 771 pages, and which led to Kentucky Wesleyan College in 1999 awarding me an honorary degree. I also wrote a 764-page tome entitled *UI: History of an Electrical Company*. And I have written three memoirs, two of them published by Chapel Hill Press.

My Rochester days

I was first-string in both offense and defense on the freshman football team. The campus newspaper dubbed me "Bloody Fassett" because I would have a bloody nose at every game. When I tried to enlist in the Army at the end of the year, I couldn't pass the physical because my nose was so beat up. I had to have it

ager. We had two daughters and a son, and a very busy life. When we retired to Florida in 1985, we decided we wanted to see some of the world. In Germany we retraced where Betty's unit had gone during the war. She died four years ago. The last thing she said to me was, "You know I love you." Her ashes are in a columbarium at Arlington National Cemetery, and the plan is that I will join her in the same niche when I cash in my chips.

My life today

I live in Durham, North Carolina. I do crossword puzzles and read a lot of books. I've got a Nook, and I love that little gadget. This modern age astounds me. 

—AS TOLD TO
ROBIN L. FLANIGAN

has published a book, *The English Lyric Tradition: Reading Poetic Masterpieces of the Middle Ages and Renaissance* (McFarland). He writes that he “would not have written the book if I hadn’t taken Anthony Hecht’s course, *The Lyric in English*.”

1980 Kathy Kahn Brandes sends a photo from a minireunion held in New York City (see page 53). Clockwise from the left are **Wendy Baim Siegel**, **Bruce Saber**, **Susan Landau Glasser**, **Bethany Panziner Gilboard**, Kathy, **Barbara Rosenberg Passick**, and **Jeffrey Passick**.

1985 Jay Marinstein, a partner and commercial litigator with Fox Rothschild in Pittsburgh, has been elected office managing partner, with a seat on the firm’s executive committee. Jay serves publicly and privately held for-profit companies and nonprofit organizations in commercial litigation in state and federal courts across the country.

1987 Stephen Parente ’89 (MS), ’89M (MPH) has been nominated by President Donald Trump to be the assistant secretary of planning and evaluation for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Stephen is the Minnesota Insurance Industry Chair of Health Finance at the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management, associate dean of MBA and MS programs, and director of the university’s Medical Industry Leadership Institute. An expert on insurance, health IT, and health reform, he’s governing chair of the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit Health Care Cost Institute. He also serves as a Congressional Budget Office health advisor and was a health policy advisor for Sen. John McCain’s 2008 presidential campaign.

1989 Fred Grossman has started a new job as controller for the Credit Junction in New York City after leaving his position as controller for Prolifics. He’s married and lives in Plainview, New York, with his wife, Monica, and their two sons, Mitchell and Jeremy.

1992 Jeffrey Reznick, chief of the medical history division at the National Library of Medicine of the National Institutes of Health, has coedited the book *Images of America: US National Library of Medicine* (Arcadia).



1993 Hart

1993 Alexis Hart is an associate professor of English and the director of writing at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania. She and her coauthor won the Conference on College Composition and Communication’s 2017 Richard Braddock Award for their article “Veterans in the Writing Classroom: Three Programmatic Approaches to Facilitate the Transition from the Military to Higher Education,” which appeared in the December 2016 volume of *College Composition and Communication*. . . . **Kirt Wackford** ’94 (T5) was awarded his *shodan* (black belt) by the California Aikido Association in May 2016. His daughter, Gabriella, received her first belt (fifth kyu–yellow belt) in March. He writes: “My first aikido class took place on the River Campus in the fall of 1989, and while an undergraduate I trained often with an instructor who was also a graduate student in the philosophy department.” Kirt adds that after 10 years teaching (and the last few as chair of the science department) at Wasatch Academy in Utah, he has accepted a faculty position at Idyllwild Arts Academy in California and will move there this summer. Pictured are Kirt, Gabriella, and friend, Logan.

1994 Kirt Wackford (T5) (see ’93).

1995 Andrew and Lisa Graf Falconer visited Rome and London with their children, Ben, 10, and Everett, 7, over spring break in March. Lisa writes: “While in England, we took a day trip to Bath and visited Nelson House, home of Advanced Studies in England, where Andrew and I studied during our junior year of college. It brought back a lot of great memories, and we



1994 Wackford



1995 Falconer



2005 Vemishetti

were so happy to be able to share the experience with our kids.”

1998 Rachel Rains Winslow has published a book on international adoption, *The Best Possible Immigrants: International Adoption*

and *the American Family* (University of Pennsylvania Press). Rachel, an assistant professor of history at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, is married to **James Winslow** ’99 (T5), who shared the news of her book.



2012 Karam and Norman

1999 Jennifer Farmer, the managing director of communications for the PICO National Network of progressive faith-based community organizations, has published a book, *Extraordinary PR on a Budget* (Berrett-Koehler). . . . **James Winslow** (T5) (see '98).

2001 Rahuldeep Gill '02 (T5), an associate professor of religion at California Lutheran University

in Los Angeles, writes: "My book, *Drinking From Love's Cup: Surrender and Sacrifice in the Vārs of Bhai Gurdas Bhalla* (based on my undergrad honors thesis), was published by Oxford University Press." He adds that he's joined the national speaking organization Speak Out, whose roster also includes Angela Davis, Cornel West, Tim Wise, and others. . . . **Emily Zeman** writes that she was named associate director of

clinical education and instructor at Massachusetts General Hospital's Institute of Health Professions last July. She's also published a paper in the National Academy of Medicine's *Perspectives*, "Burnout, Stress, and Compassion Fatigue in Occupational Therapy Practice and Education: A Call for Mindful, Self-Care Protocols."

2002 Rahuldeep Gill (T5) (see '01).



BRAVO!
Ward Woodbury Winners

FAMILY TRADITION: The Goldstein family of Dunbarton, New Hampshire, is batting .500 when it comes to winning one of the top awards from the Department of Music. During this spring's commencement ceremonies, Molly Goldstein '17 received the Ward Woodbury Award, an annual honor presented by the department to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement in music. She's the second of four siblings to win the award. She follows her sister, Rebekah '11 (right), who received the honor when she graduated. Their sister, Rachel '13, '14W (MS), was an English major, and their brother, Stuart '19, is a geological sciences major. The Woodbury award is named in honor of the founder of the music department in the School of Arts & Sciences, who also founded the University Symphony Orchestra.

2003 Sudhir (Sid) Shenoy lives in North Carolina and was named to the *Charlotte Business Journal's* 40 Under 40. He's a partner at the law firm Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice and serves as cochair of the firm's public company advisors team. He's also president of the Charlotte Asian Pacific American Bar Association and is an active volunteer for Classroom Central (an organization that collects and distributes free school supplies) and Heart Math Tutoring (a math intervention program for students in high-poverty elementary schools).

2005 Rachael Gabriel, an assistant professor of reading education at the University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education, writes that she published a book, *Making Teacher Evaluation Work: A Guide for Literacy Teachers and Leaders* (Heinemann). . . . **Radhika Vemishetti** '06 (MS) writes that she and Krzysztof Laskarzewski were married last October in Somerset, New Jersey (see photo, page 55). Pictured are (standing, left to right) **Sheena Ahmad** '04, **Chandana Thammana** '03, '04 (MS), **Sona Rai, Mithun Sahdev** '03, **Hisham Rifaey, Crystal Richards Kelly, Michael Kelly, and Rupal Varshneya Karnani** '06 (MS); (seated, left to right) **Swathi Nadindla Doyle** '04, '08M (MD), Radhika, **Megha Shah**, and Krzysztof.

2007 Sudesna (Sue) Ghosh is the author of *Just Me, the Sink & the Pot* (Amazon Kindle), a novella about an overweight girl reflecting on her journey through school. Sue has also published two nonfiction books.

2008 Daniel Cochran, a doctoral candidate in art history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has been named one of 21 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellows for 2017 by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Designed to support emerging scholarship in ethical or religious values, the Newcombe fellowship grants Daniel a year of support to complete his dissertation, "Building the Body of Christ: Ecclesiastical Art and Architecture and the Formation of Christian Identities in Late Antique Italy (c. 318-450 CE)."

2011 Al Vostal and Michael Tichenor were married in May



FOOTBALL HISTORY Take a Knee

FIELD GUIDES: Coach Pat Stark, who led the Yellowjacket football team from 1969 to 1983, joins former team captains Jim Wesp '74 and Joe Hymes '75 to re-create a photo taken 44 years earlier in Fauver Stadium, when they were preparing for the 1973 season. The three took the opportunity to update the image from a Yellowjacket media guide this spring, when they met for an annual "Dinner with the Coach" event in April.

in Utica, New York. Al writes: "Although we did not know each other during our time at U of R, we met in 2014, using the dating app Tinder, in Washington, D.C. We continue to live in Washington, where Michael is working on her master's in social work at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and I recently finished medical school at the Uniform Services University of the Health Sciences and will be starting a residency in internal medicine at Georgetown University Hospital this summer. We both think fondly of our time at the U of R and spend lots of time chasing our fellow alumni around the country."

2012 Tom Norman writes to say that he and **Nicole Karam**

were married at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing, New York, in January (see photo, page 56). Pictured from left to right are Mindy Sutton, **Adam Brinkman**, **Pete Vercillo**, **Meghan Liptak** '13, Chiharu Pidgeon, **Brendan Pidgeon** '13, Tom, Nicole, **Richard Brunet** '13, Danielle Clark, **John Whiting**, **Conor Flynn**, Ann Flynn, **Andrea Morrell**, and **Bill Campi**.

2014 Joseph Cosentino '15 (MS) writes that since completing his master's degree in optical engineering, he has been working for Harris Corp. in Rochester as well as NASA, testing software for the James Webb Telescope. . . . **Rachel Stuart** graduated with a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological

Seminary in May. She writes that she is "heading to Emory University to pursue a PhD in Hebrew Bible through the Graduate Division of Religion."

2017 Laura Ackerman (see '58). . . . **Aurora Newman** (see '71).

Graduate

ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

1968 John Ozols (MS) (see '64 College).

1989 Stephen Parente (MS) (see '87 College).

1991 Jane Jergesen Ackerman (PhD) (see '58 College).

2005 Nathan Nobis (PhD), an associate professor of philosophy at Morehouse College, has written *Animals & Ethics 101: Thinking Critically about Animal Rights* (Open Philosophy Press).

2006 Radhika Vemishetti (MS) (see '05 College).

2015 Joseph Cosentino (MS) (see '14 College).

Eastman School of Music

1955 Editions BIM has posthumously published *Aria and Allegro* for solo viola and string orchestra and *Triptych*, a piece for six violas, by **Richard Lane** '56E (MM). Richard, who died in 2004, composed *Triptych* in the last years of his life and did not live to hear its premiere by the New York Viola Society in January 2005.

1981 Lucy Warner (MA), chair of the music department at the Browning School in New York City, published a children's book, *ZAP! BOOM! POW! Superheroes of Music* (Spring Promise Productions).

1984 Darrell Grant is one of 26 winners, spread across 20 locales, of the Jazz Journalists Association's Jazz Hero Award. The awards recognize individuals "for their personal work in keeping jazz alive and thriving in their communities." Darrell has been a leader in building the jazz community in Portland, Oregon, since moving to the city more than 20 years ago. An associ-

ate professor of music at Portland State University, he has also been nominated for a Northwest Regional Emmy for his composition work on Oregon Public Broadcasting's *Oregon Experience: Jazz Town*. . . .

Kim Milai (MM) has written a book, *Language Arts, Math, and Science in the Elementary Music Classroom: A Practical Tool* (Oxford University Press). The book is intended to help music teachers "incorporate elementary classroom subjects into their curriculum using STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) inspired strategies." . . . **Charles Pillow** (MM) (see '77 College).

1985 John Fedchock (MM) (see '77 College).

1990 Jon Owens (see '77 College).

2005 Erm Navarro (see '07). . . . **Aaron Smith** (see '07).

2007 Flutist **Tabatha Easley** (DMA) has released a new CD, *Hair/Cloth/Thread* (Garnet House), as part of the AaK Duo, which also includes percussionist Justin Alexander. They perform new works by Michael Burritt, a professor of percussion and chair of the woodwinds, brass, and percussion department at Eastman, as well as **Marco Alunno**, among others. . . . **Lauren Woodward** writes that several Eastman alumni perform with Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox. "Scott Bradlee is a pianist, composer, and arranger who takes popu-

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To ensure timely publication of your information, keep in mind the following deadlines:

Issue	Deadline
November 2017	August 1, 2017
January 2018	October 1, 2017

lar songs and reimagines them in a different era or musical style," she writes. "There are now more than 2.5 million subscribers to the channel." Trumpeter **Mike Cottone** and percussionist **Dave Tedeschi** '08 play with the group regularly, and trombonist **Erm Navarro** '05 and trumpeter **Aaron Smith** '05 have played with Bradlee as well.

2008 Dave Tedeschi (see '07).

School of Medicine and Dentistry

1989 Stephen Parente (MPH) (see '87 College).

1990 Kurt Ackerman (PhD), '91 (MD) (see '58 College).

School of Nursing

1961 Phyllis Ackerman Rosenbaum '66 (MS) (see '58 College).

1989 April Bray Haberyan '93 (MS), an associate professor of nursing at Park University in Missouri, won the university's Excellence in Academic Advising Award in April.

Simon Business School

1977 Jim O'Hara (MBA) (see '64 College).

1980 Sanjai Bhagat (MBA), the Provost Professor of Finance at the University of Colorado Boulder, has published *Financial Crisis, Corporate Governance, and Bank Capital* (Cambridge University Press).

Warner School of Education

1982 Marilyn Patterson Grant (Mas) (see '75 College).

1994 Barb Hughson (MS), CEO of DurangoLearns, a noncredit continuing education and leadership training business in Durango, Colorado, cowrote *Claim Your Light: Gaining Insight for a Fulfilling Life* (Learning Design Group Press) with Wayne Benenson.

2005 Susan Schultz (EdD), associate professor and graduate program director of inclusive education at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, has received two national awards: the 2017 Exemplary Program Award for Cross Cultural Services from the American Council for Rural Special Education for a program she developed called Rural Meets Urban; and 2016 Journal Reviewer of the Year for *Rural Special Education Quarterly*.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Rebecca Henslee '35E (MA), May 2017

Jane Winchell Tellier '38, March 2017

Lucia Smith Merritt '42, May 2017

Betty Margaret Ferris Nolting '42E (MM), April 2017

Jean Ferguson Stevens '42E (MM), March 2017

Mildred Lantz Macdonald '43E, May 2017

Margot Heilbrunn Brauer '44, May 2017

Winifred White Morrissey '44, April 2017

Mary Gillette Baker '45, May 2017

Mildred Gillett Durfey '45N, March 2017

Anne Barnetson Gilbride '45N, April 2017

Ruth Darcy Herzog '45, '46N, March 2017

Helen Woolston Anderson '46E, April 2017

Marion Saeli Ullrich '46W (Mas), January 2017

Almera Marshall Brannick '47N, April 2016

Arthur E. Danese '47, '56 (PhD), April 2017

Doris Robinson Jones '47, May 2017

John W. Lawrow '48, February 2017

Eugene J. Moscaret '48, March 2017

Robert J. Duplessis '49, April 2017

Joseph T. Francati '49, April 2017

Jane Noble Moser '49, '53W (Mas), May 2017

Harry R. Nickles '49, May 2017

Ingvar E. Eliasson '50, May 2017

Joseph L. Gattuso '50, April 2017

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES

Honoring Alumni

Eastman and Simon recognize alumni with annual awards.

EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC Distinguished Alumni Award

Gene Scheer '81E, '82E (MM), a widely recognized composer and librettist, received the Eastman School of Music's Distinguished Alumni Award this spring.

In work that spans art songs, song cycles, oratorios, and operas, Scheer has earned accolades for his collaborations with many of the leading musical artists and performers of his era, including Steven Stucky, Tobias Picker, Wynton Marsalis, Jennifer Higdon, and Joby Talbot.

At this spring's Eastman commencement ceremony, Scheer's longtime collaborator, Jake Heggie, addressed the Class of 2017. The two have worked together on several projects, including *Out of Darkness* and *Into the Fire* (presented by Eastman Opera Theatre this year), the critically acclaimed opera



Gene Scheer

Moby-Dick, the opera *Three Decembers*, the choral opera *The Radio Hour*, and the lyric drama *To Hell and Back*.

The duo also worked on an operatic adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life*, which received its world premiere by Houston Grand Opera in December 2016.

SIMON BUSINESS SCHOOL Distinguished Alumnus Award

Joseph Abrams '74S (MBA), who serves as a managing member of the Cicero Consulting Group, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in June from the Simon Business School.

A successful entrepreneur, Abrams founded The Software Toolworks (a developer, publisher, and distributor of educational and entertainment software) and Intermix, the predecessor company to MySpace, which was later sold to News Corp. An executive leader, he has been an influential investor in such companies as Akeena Solar, the first publicly traded integrator and installer of home and small-business solar panels in the United States.

After earning an MBA from Simon, he embarked on a 40-year career as a leading expert in technology, drug discovery technology services, consumer products, big data, online job placement, among



Joseph Abrams

other areas.

A member of the Simon National Council, Abrams serves on the Simon School Venture Capital Fund Board and is a member of the San Francisco Bay Regional Cabinet. He and his wife, Patricia, are members of the George Eastman Circle, the University's leadership annual giving society.

Harold C. Lundgren '50,
April 2017
Charles H. Marino '50, '57M (Res),
April 2017
Thomas F. Siebert '50,
May 2017
Marvin Trott '50,
May 2017
Lee Willoughby Brumet '51, '52N,
April 2017
Nathan Morris Collier '51E (MA),
April 2017
Joseph J. Garen '51,
May 2016
Abraham Golos '51,
May 2017
Beverly Jones '51E (MA),
May 2016
Donald L. Knaub '51E, '61E (MM),
May 2017
E. John Schoenheit '51,
May 2017
Edgar L. Shriver '51 (MA),
April 2017
Donald F. Verget '51,
April 2017
Harry J. Geiger '52,
December 2016
Sarah Krams Henderson '52,
May 2017
Charles R. Hoffer '52E (MM),
May 2017
Irwin S. Rosenbloom '52,
April 2017
William O. Stamm '52E,
March 2017
Martha Holcomb VanZile '52,
April 2017
Ruth Wurster Wright '52E,
March 2017
Suzann Fries Griffith '53N,
March 2017
Philip L. Townes '53 (PhD), '59M (MD),
'60M (Res), '63M (Res), April 2017
Edward J. Zebrowski '53M (MD),
April 2017
William H. Hagedorn '54,
May 2017
Donald B. Hunton '54M (MD),
May 2017
Arthur Jewett '54,
April 2017
Donald K. Rice '54,
May 2017
Angela Roncone '54,
January 2017
Joan Alaimo Smith '54,
January 2017
Arthur M. Bernhang '55,
August 2016
Betsy Fincke Fulghum '55E, '58E
(MM), March 2017
John W. Fulreader '55,
May 2017
Phyllis Bryant Gutheim '55, '61W
(MS), April 2017
Alan K. Bruce '56M (PhD),
February 2017

TRIBUTE

William Muchmore: He Set the Course of My Life

I met William Muchmore when I took his vertebrate zoology class my junior year, not long before he retired. He was everything I had always imagined a professor to be: the glasses, the beard, the graying hair, the lab coat. He had a soft-spoken, humble demeanor, despite his great knowledge. The next year I was a lab teaching assistant for Professor Muchmore and I had the chance to get to know him better.

As much as I enjoyed his classes, I was not sure what I would do with a degree in biology. But I loved zoology, and I loved taking art classes. In both vertebrate and invertebrate zoology, I would draw the animals we studied for the lab notebooks. One day, after looking at my lab book, Professor Muchmore said to me, "Do you know there's a career in medical and scientific illustration?" I had no idea such a thing existed, but I knew, the minute he said it, that this was what I was going to do with my life.

After I got my biology degree, I stayed in Rochester to enroll in the medical illustration program at RIT. I contacted Professor Muchmore to toss around some ideas for my master's thesis. Unbeknownst to me, he was working on a checklist of terrestrial invertebrates of the Virgin Islands, and he needed someone to illustrate it. That became my master's thesis.

I knew I had hit the jackpot. It was exactly what I wanted to do, and he was exactly the kind of person I wanted to work with.

I went to his lab every week. He gave me access to everything—microscopes, specimens, books. I knew his specialty was pseudoscorpions, so out of curiosity one day, I asked him how many experts on pseudoscorpions there were in world. He said, "Two." "Wow," I said. "Are you in touch with the other one?" "No," he replied. The other expert, it turned out, had passed away. That's how humble he was; he wouldn't say he was the foremost authority in the world.

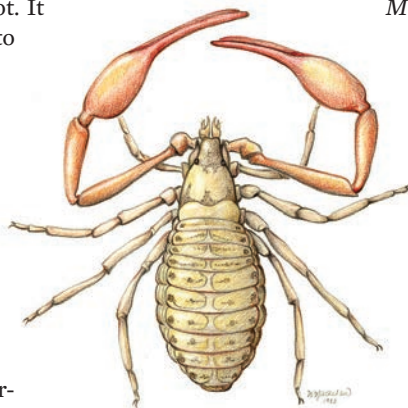
Professor Muchmore sent me in the direction



DRAWN TO BIOLOGY: A member of the faculty since 1950, Muchmore (above) identified nearly 300 species of pseudoscorpions, including *Bituberochernes jonensis* Muchmore—which was named for him—drawn (below) by his student Wendy Beth Jackelow '83.

I was meant to go in, and for that, I will always be grateful to him. 

—WENDY BETH JACKELOW '83,
AS TOLD TO BOB MARCOTTE



Muchmore, a professor emeritus of biology at Rochester, died in May at age 96. A member of the faculty since 1950, he was a specialist in systematic zoology, the study of the diversification of living forms. He discovered and named more than 290 species of pseudoscorpions during a research career spanning nearly four decades.

Jackelow graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology and is the founder and owner of Wendy Beth Jackelow Medical & Scientific Illustration. She worked for hospitals and a publishing company as a medical and scientific illustrator before going into business on her own.

TRIBUTE

Elizabeth Cohen: Helped Students, Colleagues ‘See Anew’

Elizabeth Cohen brought the conventions of art making to contemporary technology and blended the traditional and the accessible with the progressive and conceptual. As a colleague and a teacher, she constantly helped those around her to see things anew.

Elizabeth, who died in May, joined the studio art program in 1997. Upon her hiring, she began to lead transformations to the program—those changes, combined with her engagement in art making, were instrumental to the growth of an innovative program.

She regularly taught courses that incorporated a wide variety of production processes, from sculpture to video and sound to film and media. Her course *Imagined Futures* questioned how our vision of the future embodies our needs and desires. And her invention and execution, with film and media studies students, of a weekly student-driven radio program, called *On the Bus*, proved her early commitment to the education of a broader community—one that later evolved into her role in the University’s Art New York program.

Elizabeth was skilled at the delicate balance of proximity and distance required in the one-to-one instruction that art necessitates. She and I frequently exchanged views on teaching and often discussed the progress and needs of particular students.

Elizabeth was highly sensitive to students’ needs and tended to instinctively know the best approach to take with them. Her students left the classroom with a well-developed visual vocabulary. But most importantly, they left having an example of an artist and teacher they maintain as model.

In 2001, she became director of the University’s Art New York program, in which students complete an internship and take coursework in New York City. Elizabeth again turned to revising a curriculum, fortifying the academic rigor of the then



TEACHER AND ARTIST: Elizabeth Cohen (above, right) directed Rochester’s Art New York while maintaining an active career as a practicing artist whose work mixed objects, performance, technology, and media (below).



three-year-old program. She worked tirelessly to develop, maintain, and manage the program, creating one of the finest facets of our department. Elizabeth provided instruction and professional development skills to students while also expanding the program’s relationships with collaborating institutions.

“Guided by her extraordinary vision, the program gave me the confidence, resources, and exposure to contemporary art that were defining influences on my career as an artistic director and curator,” Cori Wolff, an Art New York alumna who is now the director of public arts at the nonprofit organization ArtWorks, told me. “I loved that she viewed and treated us as professionals,

challenging us to experiment, think critically, and reach deep within ourselves.”

Elizabeth brought the same forthright spirit and intensity to her own work.

Her art successfully mixed object, performance, language, and time-based media. It synthesized technology, hand, concept and emotion—and it questioned them all simultaneously.

Attentive to how information can be manipulated by form, Elizabeth enriched her work with a keen sensitivity to materials and how they speak.

What I enjoyed most was working one-to-one with Elizabeth on projects and proposals, mostly curriculum-related. We both recognized the incongruities that arise when pressing art production within the sometimes-stifling parameters of academia. She was a lot of fun in these instances. Her sharp sense of humor often came in unexpected pokes.

And I take comfort in the fact that her daughter Katya’s inner voice was bequeathed to her by Elizabeth. **R**

—ALLEN TOPOLSKI

Topolski is a practicing artist and an associate professor of art at Rochester.

Kathleen Payment Gates '56,
March 2017

Don P. Haefner '56 (PhD),
May 2017

Gerard C. Kress '56,
April 2017

Wayne A. Shelton '56E (MM),
May 2017

Ronald W. Rankin '57,
December 2015

Burt C. Hawkins '59,
March 2017

Angelo A. Lacognata '59 (MA),
April 2017

Susan Jones Boulay '60, '61N,
April 2017

Friedrich J. Grasperger '60 (MA),
April 2017

A. Karen Kessler Kreutner '60,
'63M (MD), '66M (Res), May 2017

Frank E. Mockevicius '60W (Mas),
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John Benesch '61,
April 2017

William J. Gray '61, '75D,
May 2016

William W. Robinson '61,
April 2017

Daniel E. Sandidge '62E,
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Joanne Pearce Gaudio '65,
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Suzanne Alhart Hagen '65, '83W
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July 2016

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Douglas P. Solomon '66,
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Joseph F. Cunningham '67 (MA),
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Rick C. Eglit '69,
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Dorothy Battles Phillips '69W
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Ronald K. Sonner '70,
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Reid J. Stava '71,
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Flavio R. Pinto '73D (PDC), '75D
(PDC), '77D (MS), March 2017

Bruce E. Stern '73,
May 2017

TRIBUTE

Peter Dzwonkoski: A Poem

The Bibliomaniac

By William Heyen

I dreamt that my wife shouted downstairs to tell me that Peter had called, that I should call him back. But when I woke, I realized my friend was dead, had died the week before. If in that dream I called him, I can't remember what was on his mind,


maybe nothing except to say he'd found a Gutenberg, as we used to joke. How much moveable type is there up there, anyway, & how many monk angels are busy with illuminations of letters & their own paintings? Did I once visit the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz,

or was that, too, a dream, or did Peter tell me he himself visited there during his bodily existence? I know that we don't know what Johann looked like, don't have a clue, though now there are statues of him. If anyone ever can, Peter will wrestle a bible from him.

(Peter Dzwonkoski, 1940–2017)

Dzwonkoski, who directed what is now the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation at Rush Rhees Library from 1978 until his retirement in 2001, died in May at the age of 77. As director of the department, Dzwonkoski played a key role in acquiring several important collections for the River Campus Libraries, including the papers of John Gardner, Frederick Exley, and Colin MacInnes.

Poet William Heyen and his wife, Hannelore, established the William and Hannelore Heyen Collection of Modern Prose and Poetry. Housed in the Hyam Plutzik Library for Contemporary Writing, the materials are considered one of the premier collections of inscribed first editions, manuscripts, and correspondence from major post–World War II American writers.

Heyen wrote "The Bibliomaniac" for Dzwonkoski's memorial service this spring. Used with permission. 

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William M. Tarrasky '74,
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Andrew Garber '75,
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Dale F. Kempf '75S (MBA),
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Mary Beth Vandura Nagalski '75E,
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Donald T. Simpson '75 (MS),
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Marsha Taylor-Tyree '75W (Mas),
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Ogden H. Webster '75S (MBA),
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Richard R. Miller '77 (MS),
April 2017

Elaine Shimmel '77E (MM),
May 2017

Hildegard Blum Herz '78 (MS),
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Alton Owens '79,
April 2017

Raymond R. Quintin '84S (MBA),
April 2017

Theodore M. Veremeychik '87E
(PhD), March 2017

Uzara Carson '90N (MS),
April 2017

Todd H. Feldman '92, '93W (MA),
May 2017

Mary Jo Hohl '92N,
May 2017

Kristie Carter '99,
March 2017

Shelley Willson '02 (MA),
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Michael H. Levine '10,
March 2017



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to kill each
other for
99 million
years

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