

# Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/FALL 2022

## Review

**GOVERNOR-ELECT**  
A former SA president will  
lead Pennsylvania.

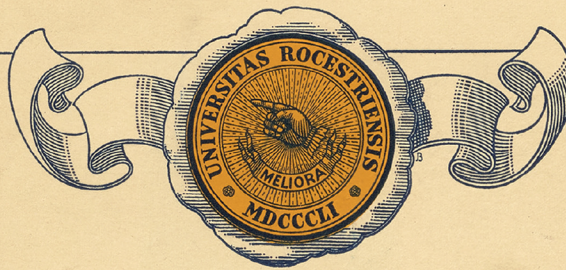
**BACK ON CAMPUS!**  
Meliora Weekend  
returns to Rochester.

**EQUITY & MUSIC EDUCATION**  
Eastman embarks on a  
cultural change.

## Rochester

ALUMNI

## Review



Alumni Secretary Appointment

University Acquires Model Theatre

Notable Contribution to Diabetic Treatment

Gilbert, the Unexpected

Two Martin B. Anderson Letters

Rochester Men in Politics

Havens' Work on Milton Reviewed

Football Season to Date

October-November, 1922

*Rochester Review* marks its 100th anniversary.



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

# Add some curiosity to your calendar.

Visit us online to view a complete virtual and in-person event listing—including those that may be happening where you live—or to watch recordings of past events.



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# Features

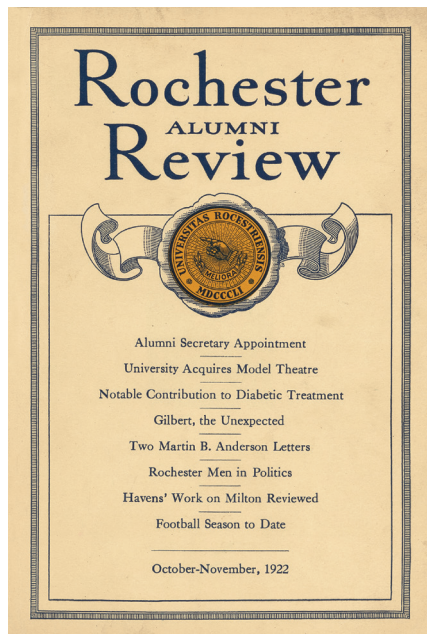
FALL 2022



## Return to Rochester!

Meliora Weekend returned to form this fall for the first fully in-person edition since 2019. As part of the weekend, the Eastman School of Music capped off its Centennial Celebration with a series of events that included the Rochester premiere (above) of a song cycle by Pulitzer Prize winner Kevin Puts '94E, '99E (DMA). The work was performed by soprano and Eastman faculty member Nicole Cabell '01E, baritone Rod Gilfry, and the Eastman Philharmonia under the direction of Neil Varon. *Photographs by J. Adam Fenster and others capture the weekend.*

**ON THE COVER:** The first issue of *Rochester Review* from 1922.



## 24 'Of-By-And for the Alumni'

In the fall of 1922, the University introduced a new publication "of-by-and for the alumni of the University of Rochester." Founding editor Hugh Smith, Class of 1907, wrote that he hoped to establish a "little magazine interesting enough" to be welcomed into the homes of alumni and others as a way to engage them in the life of the University. Now known as *Rochester Review*, the publication has evolved as the institution has expanded in scope and stature. With this issue, *Review* enters its second century of sharing the story of Rochester. *By Scott Hauser*

## In Review

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- 16 Discover** New ideas on overcoming vaccine hesitancy, handling stress, better biopsies, and other research news.
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- 20 University Notebook** The University welcomes new leaders, work starts on a Laser Lab project, and other campus updates.
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mark on Rush Rhees Library.

- 23 Sports** For the first time since 2019, a Hall of Fame class of Yellowjackets was inducted this fall.

## Alumni Gazette

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- 36 An Alien Language Lives On** As the blockbuster movie *Avatar* returns to movie theaters, so does the Na'vi language, created by linguist Paul Frommer '65.



- 37 In the News** A Rochester graduate is aboard the International Space Station; alumni earn recognition for their expertise at playing the carillon and at playing squash.

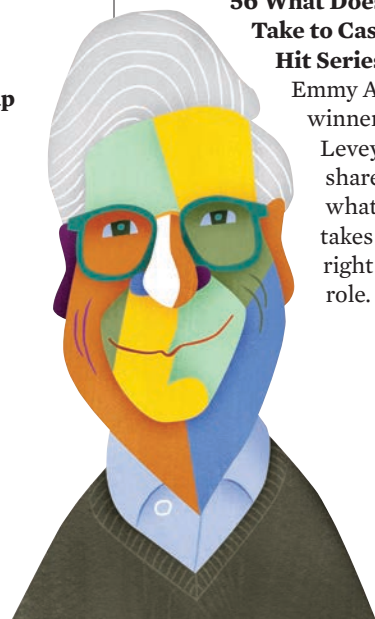
## Class Notes

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Emmy Award winner John Levey '69 shares what it takes to be right for a role.



# Much to Celebrate in Our Traditions and Strengths

As we mark milestones and embark on new initiatives, we are building a bright and exciting future.

By Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

Few campus traditions capture the spirit of a university better than our own Meliora Weekend. What a marvelous way to bring the entire University community together to reconnect with one another and to rekindle our commitment to Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—and Make the World Ever Better.

This fall's edition was particularly meaningful because it was the first fully in-person, full-scale weekend since 2019.

I was thrilled to see so many alumni, parents, students, and community friends on campus for three days of reunions, concerts, celebrations, and other activities. Our keynote speakers—Nobel laureate Steve Chu '70, '98 (Honorary), playwright Tony Kushner, and journalist Michele Norris—shared their expertise on some of the most pressing issues of our time.

And in a talk about the importance of disagreement in a democratic society, our own David Primo, the Mark and Ani Gabriellian Professor, reminded us all that we are better when we listen to other community members with open, inquisitive minds.

As all Rochester alumni appreciate, the sessions were engaging, respectful, and grounded in research.

I was particularly delighted to be joined by our new provost, David Figlio, for a presentation on the state of the University. I'm pleased to report that the University is emerging from the past two years in a position of strength across several measures.

As an institution, we have much to celebrate.

We welcomed more than 1,500 first-year and more than 100 new transfer undergraduates this fall, slightly more than many enrollment trends indicated. The undergraduates of the Class of 2026 were joined by 1,630 new graduate students on campus.

The members of the latest undergraduate class arrived from nearly all states and territories, representing continued strength in diversity. And almost one in four is the first in their families to go to college.

Similarly, we welcomed 62 new faculty



members this year, with an increased number of women and underrepresented scholars and teachers. That growth is coupled with new initiatives to support the career development of our faculty.

A wonderful example: we hosted a session for 130 women leaders in higher education as part of a HIGHER Women's Leadership Summit. HIGHER is a national organization that empowers women in higher education to advance their careers.

In September, we announced the marvelous news that University Life Trustee James C. Wyant '67 (MS), '69 (PhD) and his wife, Tammy, have established a \$12 million challenge fund to enable the Institute of Optics to aim for a 50 percent increase in faculty as the institute prepares for its 100th anniversary celebration in 2029.

The challenge gift will create five distinguished professorships for renowned faculty and five professorships for early-career faculty.

The first distinguished professorship will recognize Nobel laureate Donna Strickland '89 (PhD), one of the most notable graduates of the institute.

Optica, the leading society in optics and photonics, made a substantial donation for the Strickland professorship and Jim and Tammy's initiative will provide matching

funds. This fabulous gift will benefit many departments, as optics is inherently an interdisciplinary field. Many of the new professors will likely hold joint appointments.

Our human resources team is instituting modernized approaches for attracting, developing, and retaining staff as we work diligently to respond to a rapidly evolving employment landscape for higher education and health care. We are the biggest employer in the region, and we want to be one of the best.

To help strengthen our community, we have new key leaders joining us this year. In addition to Provost Figlio, we introduced Liz Milavec '22S (MBA) as our new chief financial officer, and Lisa Kitko as our new dean of the School of Nursing.

The start of every academic year is an opportunity to reflect both on our traditions and strengths and look forward to ways in which we can improve, grow, and innovate.


During Meliora Weekend, we also celebrated the establishment of a Department of Black Studies, a natural extension of the long-standing history of research and education of our Frederick Douglass Institute.

And we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Eastman School of Music.

The weekend was the culmination of an 18-month celebration that highlighted the profound legacy that the school, its graduates, and its community have had on the world of music.

In the days leading up to the weekend's celebration, composer Jeff Beal '85E, premiered and conducted his new piece *Cathedral* in Kodak Hall. It was simply breathtaking.

Jeff's concert and the performances following the Eastman Centennial gala were experiences I will never forget. Such events give us all confidence that the next 100 years will be even better.

The future is bright at the University of Rochester, and I'm proud to lead this historic institution in these exciting times. 

Contact President Mangelsdorf at [sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu](mailto:sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu). Follow her on Instagram: [@urochestermangelsdorf](https://www.instagram.com/urochestermangelsdorf).

## Advice from Mary Calderone '39M (MD)

I avidly read your recent article regarding Mary Calderone '39M (MD) ("The Grand Dame of Sex Education," Spring-Summer). I think the point was that a new book was written about this American heroine by Rochester grad Ellen Singer Moore '79 (PhD).

I think you omitted a reference to Dr. Calderone's visit to the University in 1967–68, one of the great moments of my education. She addressed the student body, her talk having been moved from Hoyt's lecture hall to the Men's Dining Hall due to an overflow crowd.

I remember her talk so well. It was revolutionary and a unique experience. I still remember many of her talking points, where she received loud responses from her audience, ranging from nervous laughter to great audible sighs of relief.

She started her talk by saying aloud several words that we all knew but had never heard spoken in public.

Her greatest impact from my point of view was when she referred to research findings from the 1966 publication of *Human Sexual Response* by William Masters '43M (MD), '87 (Honorary) and Virginia Johnson '87 (Honorary).

I remember her saying the research reported that 85 percent of men acknowledged that they had masturbated on occasion. Here she paused, and then added, "The other 15 percent lied."

Many of us left her talk lightened, as we

were able to put down the secret burden of adolescent guilt.

Lee Nagel '70  
Saratoga Springs, New York

## Squealy Gobbler—Ever More Delicious

I was shocked to learn that the very existence of the Squealy Gobbler ("Ask the Archivist," Spring-Summer) had been lost to posterity.

So that there can be no doubt for the record, I'd like to add that the sandwich was topped not only with barbecue sauce but also with mayonnaise, which is part of what made it so delicious (or disgusting, depending on one's point of view).

Before it was discontinued for good, it had disappeared for a year in 1997 when the grill in the Pit was replaced with a kosher deli. As a cartoonist for the *Campus Times*, I eulogized it in an October 2, 1997, strip. It returned the next year when the deli was relocated to the Douglass Dining Center, but it wasn't quite the same. Maybe that's why it didn't last.

Here's the strip. Pretend that I didn't misspell "cemetery."

Peter McNally '99  
Brooklyn, New York

*The author was syndications editor for the Campus Times in 1998.*

## Remembering Frank Nichols

Indelibly etched among memories of my year (1970–71) as a medicine-surgery intern

**"I was shocked to learn that the very existence of the Squealy Gobbler had been lost to posterity."**

—Peter McNally '99



**COMIC TOUCH:** Cartoonist Peter McNally '99 eulogized the Squealy Gobbler in a *Campus Times* comic when the sandwich was discontinued at the Pit.

# Rochester Review

FALL 2022  
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UNIVERSITY of  
ROCHESTER

at Strong Memorial Hospital is my middle-of-the-night discovery (following a handball game in the old courts in the hospital basement) of an older man prostrate and convulsing in a back hallway.

I recall first jamming something into his mouth—my wadded-up handball gloves? my wallet?—and then, somehow having obtained access to a crash cart, trying but failing to endotracheally intubate him. Frantic, I shouted for help: I almost wept with relief when Frank Nichols '74M (Res), '75M (Flw), then a junior surgery resident, appeared, and we proceeded with a tracheostomy (whether we completed it or not, or whether an anesthesiologist showed up in time to gain airway control, escapes me now more than 50 years later).

What I do know is that our patient—who turned out, astonishingly, to be one of our senior medicine attendings whose unwitting cardiac arrest had resulted in his anoxic seizure—not only survived our resuscitation efforts but ultimately returned (albeit a bit hoarse) to his teaching post.

Frank, that junior surgery resident, completed his Rochester surgery training in 1975 and went on to a distinguished 40-year surgical career in Tupelo, Mississippi.

**“[Calderone] started her talk by saying aloud several words that we all knew but had never heard spoken in public.”**

—*Lee Nagel '70*

Frank passed away recently (Class Notes: In Memoriam, Spring-Summer).

This episode remains one of a multitude of reasons this now retired vascular surgeon remembers his internship year, and Frank Nichols, and Strong Memorial Hospital, with everlasting fondness and gratitude.

*Kaj Johansen '71M (Res)  
Seattle, Washington*

#### **A Date for Graduation?**

Members of the Class of 1960 wrote to let us know that when it comes to University history, sometimes you need more than a book, or in this case, a brochure.

In a list of milestones marking how the ceremony has evolved since 1851 (“All Together Now,” Spring-Summer), we noted that 1967 marked the first time that the ceremony was officially held at the War Memorial, at least according to the University’s collection of graduation programs.



**PLAY DATES?** Several alumni readers helped pinpoint the year when the archival photo from the Spring-Summer issue was originally taken. The consensus was fall 1970.

Don’t flip your tassel too quickly, noted David Stokes ’60:

“We practiced at Fauver Stadium—heavy thunderstorms made [the ceremony] move to the War Memorial last minute. We then had to go to the University to pick up our diplomas.”

Brenda Miller Thalacker ’60 also wrote to say she remembers the ceremony taking place at the War Memorial. And noted that (the late) Richard Thalacker ’58 also celebrated graduation indoors.

Members of the Class of 1964 also reported that they celebrated in the War Memorial, too, when heavy rain forced the ceremony to relocate to the downtown location.

#### **They’re with the Band: A Photo Mystery Solved?**

The archival photo featured on the first page of Class Notes in the Spring-Summer issue prompted sleuthing efforts from alumni band members who pulled out old issues of the *Interpres* and searched a few online resources. In the course of their research, alumni detectives added details to the late-1960s and early-1970s history of the marching band at Yellowjackets football games.

The correspondents agreed that the

photo had to have been taken in 1970 or a few years before.

“The photo . . . was taken in either 1968, ’69, or ’70. The picture could be from 1970, but not 1971. I didn’t join the band in 1971 (got tired of waiting around for practice to start),” wrote Peggy Wolf Geiger ’72, who identified herself at the band member at the far left in the photo.

Fellow band member Fenton Williams ’73 agreed that the photo was taken no later than 1970 because that was the band’s last year on the field.

“I believe that would have been taken in fall 1970, my second year in the band and the last year it performed. . . . I informally compute that in fall 1971, the band was replaced by a record of the National Anthem. Other yearbooks can perhaps confirm—or refute—that recollection.”

Williams compared notes with sousaphone-playing bandmate Marcus Hatch ’72, ’73 (MS), shown in the photo. Williams also ID’d the band member on the right as Don Strebel ’72.

And Paul Trainor ’70 shared photos from the 1970 *Interpres* to try to match classmates with the photo in *Review*.

Also a member of the band, Trainor offered several plausible matches for the marchers in the photo. “Anyhow, it was a bit of fun investigation,” he noted.

*Review welcomes letters and will print them as space permits. Letters may be edited for brevity and clarity. Unsigned letters cannot be used. Send letters to Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; rochrev@rochester.edu.*

# In Review



## EVOLUTIONARY GENOMICS

# Light As a Feather

LIVING COLOR: A composite of images highlights the research of María Castaño, a PhD student in ecology and evolutionary genomics, who is analyzing the feathers of tanagers to explore how the species evolves over time. Conducting research in the lab of evolutionary biology professor Albert Uy, Castaño uses a spectrophotometer, a device that measures specific wavelengths of light, to study how the feathers—collected in her native Colombia—tell the story of the birds' evolution. PHOTOGRAPHY BY J. ADAM FENSTER



## INSTITUTE OF OPTICS

# ‘Transformational’ Gift Puts New Focus on the Future of Optics

A leading graduate of a signature Rochester program establishes a \$12 million challenge to increase the University’s prominence at a critical time for the field.

By Bob Marcotte

As the Institute of Optics prepares for its second century, a prominent alumnus is helping ensure the program remains a leading light in a field that Rochester helped establish in 1929.

University Life Trustee James Wyant ’69 (PhD) and his wife, Tammy, have established a \$12 million challenge fund to encourage fellow alumni and other members of the University community to join them in an effort to increase the optics faculty by 50 percent as the institute celebrates its centennial in 2029.

“Tammy and I made this gift to increase opportunities for world-class training and research in optics,” says Wyant, the founding dean of what is now the University of Arizona Wyant College of Optical Sciences. “Optics is a technology enabler and a huge part of daily life, yet there are few universities in the world that have a comprehensive educational and research program in optics.

“The Institute of Optics, where I went to graduate school, is one place where you can get a well-rounded education in optics, and the College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona, where I spent a large part of my career, is another.”

Under the project, the Wyants will provide 60 percent of the

funding to establish new professorships—early-career professorships as well as distinguished professorships, positions that typically attract the highest profile level of researchers and scholars.

In making the challenge public, the University announced that the first distinguished professorship will be named for Nobel laureate Donna Strickland ’89 (PhD). One of the University’s most notable graduates, Strickland and former engineering professor Gérard Mourou received the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics for research they conducted when Strickland was a Rochester graduate student in optics. The two developed an innovative way to manipulate pulses of light that eventually made lasers more practical for use in medicine, technology, and other areas.

A gift from Optica, a leading society in optics and photonics, will

**SIGNATURE HONOR:** A professorship in recognition of Nobel laureate Donna Strickland ’89 (PhD) (left) is the first of several new faculty positions planned for the Institute of Optics, thanks to a gift from entrepreneur and optics leader James Wyant ’69 (PhD) and his wife, Tammy. When Strickland returned to campus in 2019 to be recognized during Commencement, she took time to meet with future scientists and other members of Rochester’s optics community.





**NAMESAKE PROGRAM:** “Optics is a technology enabler and a huge part of daily life, yet there are few universities in the world that have a comprehensive educational and research program in optics,” says James Wyant ’69 (PhD), who along with his wife, Tammy, have established a historic fund for optics at Rochester.

be matched with funds from the Wyant challenge to establish the Strickland professorship.

The largest gift in the institute’s history, the challenge fund will support an increase in the number of full-time optics faculty members from 20 to 30. A visiting professorship and staff position will also be endowed.

An elected member of the National Academy of Engineering and a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, Wyant was one of several optics graduates who eventually settled in Tucson to help establish Arizona’s program in optical sciences. In 2018, Wyant and his family established a similar challenge program to endow optics professorships at Arizona.

Home to the nation’s oldest school of optics, Rochester has long been regarded as one of the world’s leaders in the field, awarding about half of all optics degrees in the US. Over the course of nearly a century, the University has become a leader in biomedical optics, fiber and optical communication, optical design and fabrication, lasers, and nano-, freeform, ultrafast, and quantum optics.

Institute Director Thomas Brown says the field is growing internationally, fueling an increased demand for trained optics graduates at companies, research institutes, and national laboratories.

The Wyants’ gift will help Rochester “continue to contribute as we have in the past, in both research and education, to the advancement of the field of optics.”

The new professorships will allow for the creation of a “much-needed pipeline of diverse, creative, and committed young faculty whose new ideas and work as educators and researchers will drive and shape not only the future of the Institute of Optics but the optics industry as a whole,” he says.

Brown says the program will focus on hiring professors with expertise in laser science, integrated photonics, and quantum optics.

While the new faculty will have primary appointments in optics, many will also have secondary appointments in other science and engineering units across the University, including the Medical Center and the Laboratory for Laser Energetics, helping the University build on signature strengths across areas.

“Jim’s and Tammy’s generosity is truly transformational,” says Sarah Mangelsdorf, University president and the G. Robert Witmer, Jr. University Professor. “Their vision and partnership

will help the University recruit leading scholars in optics and photonics in an increasingly competitive environment. It will dramatically impact how our Institute of Optics educates and trains the next generation of researchers and leaders. The fact that Optica has already come on board is a testament to the important work being done at Rochester.”

Wendi Heinzelman, dean of the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences, says the gift will make it easier for others to contribute.

“The match that Jim and Tammy are providing makes establishing a professorship that much more feasible for others who are thinking about a large gift. Because of their generosity, the Institute of Optics will play a key role advancing the field of optics—now and into the future.”

Brown agrees that the future will be bright.

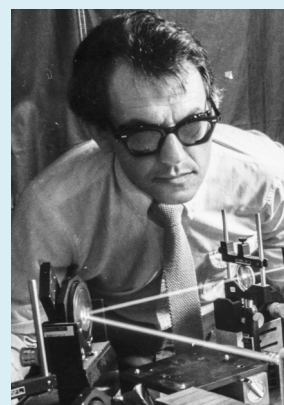
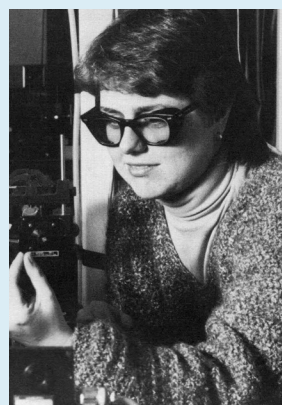
“The collective generosity here—from Jim, Tammy, Optica, and others soon—is instrumental to the growth and success of the Institute of Optics. It provides an extraordinary opportunity to build upon the unique environment and culture for optics that has been established here and elevate our preeminent position in the field.” **R**

#### BY THE NUMBERS

### Storied History

Founded in 1929 as the nation’s first optics education program, the Institute of Optics has a storied history. In 93-plus years, members of Rochester’s optics community have received Nobel Prizes, served as prominent leaders in the field, and launched dozens of companies. Here’s a quick look:

- 21 alumni and faculty members have served as president of Optica (formerly OSA)
- 150-plus alumni and faculty have started companies
- 5 faculty members have been elected fellows of the National Academy of Inventors
- 49 companies participate in the Industrial Associates Program
- Nearly 3,000 degrees have been awarded since 1929



**LIGHTING LAUREATES:** While conducting research at the University’s Laboratory for Laser Energetics in the 1980s, optics graduate student Donna Strickland ’89 (PhD) (left) and then Rochester professor and research scientist Gérard Mourou devised a method to manipulate light pulses in ways that greatly improved the viable use of lasers in technology, computing, medicine, and other fields. Their work was recognized in 2018 with the Nobel Prize in Physics.

## COURSE WORK

# War in Our Time

A Rochester expert on how wars begin and end offers a timely exploration of the war in Ukraine.

By Sandra Knispel

**Course:** War in Our Time: The Russo-Ukrainian War, PSCI/INTR 108, Fall 2022

**Instructor:** Hein Goemans, a professor of political science and an expert on international conflicts.

## Summary

Added late to the catalog as a direct response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, the course examines the war, its origins, causes, conduct, and the prospects for peace.

An introductory course with no prerequisites, the class has about 50 students.

## What do students learn?

While originally designed to focus on the war in Ukraine, Goemans added more armed conflicts to the syllabus once teaching began: first between Armenia and Azerbaijan and then between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. The spillover, Goemans says, is the consequence of Russia's de facto abdication of its traditional role of stability guarantor in the former Soviet republics of Central Asia, while focusing on Ukraine. As part of the course, students read peace proposals and discuss their feasibility.

Goemans warns his students that class assignments also include reports of violence, torture, and death but says reading about such topics and talking about them in class are important.

"War is never a clean experience; it's awful. But if you avert your eyes from these horrors, if you want a sanitized version, you risk

## ON THE SYLLABUS

### War in Our Time: The Russo-Ukrainian War PSCI/INTR 108

Fall 2022

Hein Goemans  
*Professor of Political Science*

## Further reading

In addition to current news reports, Goemans provides links to pertinent tweets, Twitter threads, blog posts, and academic articles, as well as several yet unpublished chapters of a forthcoming second edition of *Ukraine and Russia: From Civilized Divorce to Uncivil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2019) by fellow political scientist Paul D'Anieri at the University of California, Riverside. Goemans also recommends a YouTube series by Yale University history professor Timothy Snyder (search "Timothy Snyder Yale"). The series is part of Snyder's course *The Making of Modern Ukraine*. Start with the episodes "The Introduction" and "The Genesis of Nations," Goemans says.



**TIMELY TOPIC:** Goemans introduced the course War in Our Time this fall as a way to explore in real-time how wars get started and how they can be brought to a close.

failing to recognize why war really needs to be avoided. Willful blindness is not a good stance."


## How do students learn?

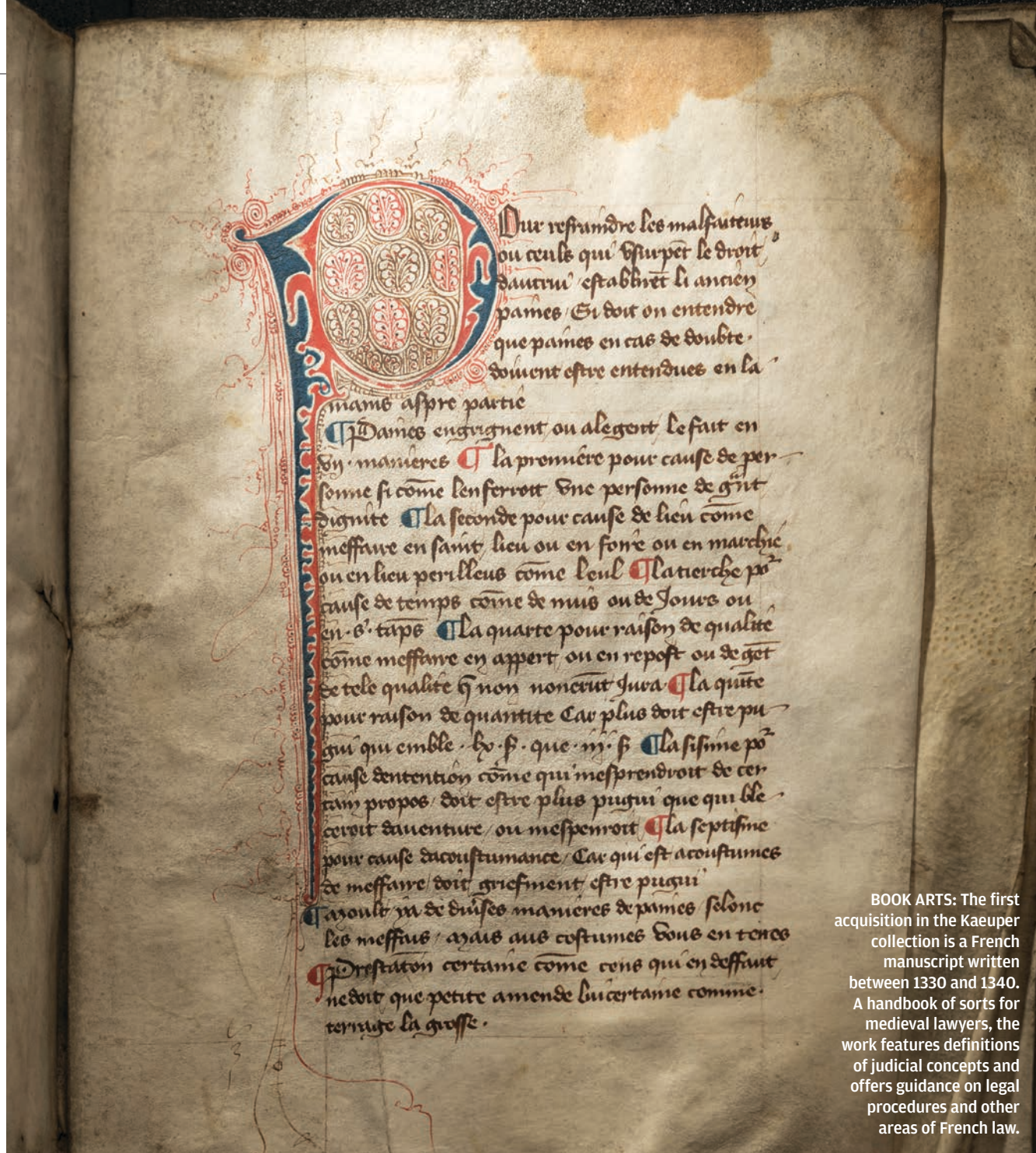
Goemans teaches mainly via lectures with PowerPoint presentations and several full-class discussions, supplemented by smaller weekly discussion sections with teaching assistants. The lectures include historical background about Ukraine, the end of the Cold War, causes of war and its termination, why soldiers fight, logistics, and related topics. Because of the evolving nature of the ongoing war, the syllabus is likely to change during the semester—as developments on the battlefield and at the negotiation table warrant, and when new information becomes available. Assessments consist of quizzes, a midterm, and a final exam.

## Why is the course being taught now?

It's hard to be more timely. According to Goemans, the war could have "massive consequences," including lasting worldwide political and economic instability and spillover wars, which might affect his students for the rest of their lives.

The assigned reading—and watching—includes the now infamous speech Russian President Vladimir Putin gave on February 21, just three days before invading Ukraine, making the case for war. Goemans hopes his students gain a deeper understanding of the conflict so that they have better context for evaluating factors that may have led to the war, such as the idea that Ukraine is part of Russia or that NATO bears responsibility for the war, which Goemans vehemently rejects. "By that logic, Ukraine and its people have no agency whatsoever."

While the class is being taught for the first time, Goemans says it won't be the last, given that he's not optimistic for a quick end to the war. He thinks "we may see the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people" and "several more years of fighting" before the conflict is over. 



**BOOK ARTS:** The first acquisition in the Kaeuper collection is a French manuscript written between 1330 and 1340. A handbook of sorts for medieval lawyers, the work features definitions of judicial concepts and offers guidance on legal procedures and other areas of French law.

## PHILANTHROPIC FRIENDS


# Acquisition Honors History Professor

A 700-year-old French legal manuscript is the first acquisition in a campus collection that honors longtime Rochester history professor Richard Kaeuper. Written as a guide for lawyers, the medieval manuscript consists of three dozen parchment folios of legal terms and definitions written between 1330 and 1340 by two brothers in Paris.

For historians, the codex—one of only two known copies still in existence—represents a vital early source for the history of the Parlement de Paris, which functioned as France's supreme court from the 13th century until 1789.

That makes it a fitting first piece in a collection named for Kaeuper, the Franklin W. and Gladys I. Clark Professor Emeritus of History and a noted expert on chivalry, medieval European law, public order, administration, and finance.

Funding for the collection was driven by Kaeuper's former students, with lead support from Paul Kreuzer '72 and bolstered by David Burkhardt '88.

The fund will be used to acquire future items and to maintain a collection of medieval manuscripts. 

—Sandra Knispel

# What Does Equity and Inclusion Mean in Music Education?

Musician and scholar Crystal Sellers Battle articulates a path toward long-term cultural change at the Eastman School of Music.

By Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

Crystal Sellers Battle began her musical journey in church, singing gospel as a youth with her father and siblings. But when she entered college to study voice, “I went into my very first voice lesson and was told by my teacher that I had to choose between singing gospel music or singing classical music,” she says.

Classical vocal training has been honed over centuries to protect the health and viability of the vocal cords. Thus, the teacher reasoned, gospel singing could limit Sellers Battle’s prospects for a long and successful career—as a classical singer.

Later, as a doctoral student at Ohio State, Sellers Battle found a mentor who supported her aspirations, and she was able to make a major contribution toward advancing the study of gospel music through her dissertation, “I Sing Because I’m Free: Developing a Systematic Vocal Pedagogy for the Modern Gospel Singer.”

But Sellers Battle, who started in July as the inaugural associate dean of equity and inclusion at the Eastman School of Music, also knew that something unspoken was at play in the efforts of teachers to steer her away from gospel.

The world of music—a practice and an art form believed to be universal among cultures and societies, and having ancient roots—is vast. Yet the doorway into schools of music in the United States has been narrow. Despite the rich musical traditions indigenous to the United States—Mississippi Delta blues, bluegrass and Appalachian folk, the musics of Native Americans, jazz—university-level American schools of music proliferated around the turn of the last

## Crystal Sellers Battle

*Associate Dean of Equity and Inclusion*

*Professor of Music Leadership*

*Director, George Walker Center for Equity and Inclusion in Music*

Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Crystal Sellers Battle earned a bachelor of music degree from Bowling Green State University; a master of music degree from Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University; a postgraduate diploma from Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK; and a doctor of musical arts degree in vocal performance, with a specialization in singing health, from Ohio State University.

Before joining Eastman, Sellers Battle served as the dean of equity, diversity, and inclusion and chief diversity officer at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. From 2009 to 2021, she was a professor of voice at Bluffton University, serving as chair of the music department from 2017 until her departure. She is also the cofounder of DIEMA (Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in Musical Arts) Consulting Group.



**SOUNDS OF CHANGE:** As the inaugural associate dean of equity and inclusion at Eastman, Sellers Battle says one of her top priorities is to hold conversations with faculty, staff, and students. “I want to make sure that we’re all engaged in thinking about what the process for change looks like,” she says.

century to teach and disseminate Western classical music. And to do so was considered a means of cultural elevation.

That historical legacy places a unique burden on schools of music, including Eastman, striving to cultivate a more inclusive learning environment. Although Eastman and its elite peers have long since begun to diversify faculty and curricula, the remnants of that exclusionary past remain entrenched.

In June 2020—deep into the COVID-19 pandemic and in the cataclysmic aftermath of the killing of George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, by Minneapolis police officers—Jamal Rossi ’87E (DMA), the Joan and Martin Messinger Dean of the Eastman School, announced the formation of the Eastman Action Commission for Racial Justice. The mission of the 20-person group of students, faculty, staff, and alumni was to recommend “actionable, achievable, measurable, and sustainable” steps to accelerate the school’s work toward achieving a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. Working on a tight time frame, the commission conducted surveys of alumni, students, and faculty and released a 175-page report the following fall.

The opening lines of the report, which Rossi called “powerful and comprehensive,” read: “The Commission asserts that diversity, equity and inclusion at Eastman have failed to reach the level of highest priority at the School, noting that there has been little change in this regard since 1921.”

There has been only one full-time Black faculty member in the history of the school’s jazz program, for example, and only for a period of two years, in the 1990s. Meanwhile, “many Black alumni, while acknowledging the excellent education they received, cite

harrowing and tragic experiences while students at the School,” the commission noted.

The position Sellers Battle now occupies, as well as the George Walker Center for Equity and Inclusion in Music, which she directs, are outgrowths of the commission’s work.

**The phrase “diversity, equity, and inclusion” has become pretty ubiquitous in higher education. What do each of these words mean to you?**

Diversity comes from our mere existence. We all came from different places. We were raised differently. We have different sexual preferences and identities. We have different socioeconomic statuses and backgrounds. We all have different stories related to our upbringing.

I don’t actually like to use the word diversity, because it’s not something we need to work toward. What we do need to work toward is equity and inclusion.

Equity is about everyone having the necessary resources for a successful outcome. I use this example: all full-ride scholarships are not created equal. A student who gets a full ride who came here from a low-income household has a very different experience than someone on a full ride whose parents are doctors. When it comes time to buy a tuxedo or a concert dress, the needs of those two students might not be the same. And to provide additional resources for one, in this case, does not take away from the other.

And I say that inclusion is about the eradication of compartments. For example, I have several identities and not just one. I’m Black, I’m female, I’m a mom, I’m married, I’m straight, I was born Christian, I grew up in a two-parent household, and I was a first-generation college student. You probably have several identities yourself. And what we’ve tended to do is to decide that because someone has a different identity than ours—in any single dimension—we’re going to put them in a compartment over somewhere in the corner. An inclusive environment is one where we’re all in the same container but there are no walls.

**You’ve said that the history of American music schools leaves them with unique challenges in fostering inclusion. What are those?**

The study of music in higher education was built on the idea that one form of music, and one which makes up a very small portion of the world’s musics, is superior to any other. Based on that assumption, schools adopted one set of rules, and those were considered the only set of rules.

The assumption of Western classical music’s superiority is very deeply rooted, and it’s interesting how that came to be. Initially most of what is thought of as classical music was created either for church services or for social gatherings in people’s homes. Art song was written to be sung in people’s homes in *liederabend*—nights where people gathered to sing together. So there were popular and practical reasons for the creation of this music.

But then there became the study of it, coinciding with the rise of the modern research university. And with the study of the music came the theorizing about it. And that theorizing turns what might have once been a popular art form into a high-level art form. I would say that you could probably have theorized West African music, too. It’s just that it wasn’t done.

I think we, meaning music schools in general, have made progress in accepting everyone’s various identities as a person. But then we get to the study of music and eliminate their identities as musicians. For a lot of us, especially those of us who are African American, our entrée into music was not through the classical arena.

**What are your top priorities as Eastman’s first designated leader for equity and inclusion?**

Priority one is identifying what equity and inclusion mean for this institution. The definitions I offered are my general definitions, but the definitions are different for every institution based on priorities and historical contexts.

Priority number two is to make the George Walker Center into a space for students. There’s a belief here that “eat, sleep, music” is how you operate—and students tend to skip the sleep part. I have a rule: we’re not going to practice in this space; we’re going to use it to unwind and rejuvenate. It’s also going to address the needs of affinity groups. So there may be nights when we’re really focused on LGBTQ+ energies, or when our Black Students Union is reserving the space for an affinity moment. But I’m also trying to convey that the George Walker Center is a space for all. And in being a space for all, it’s going to bring some people together who wouldn’t necessarily have been together otherwise.

My third priority is to engage in conversations with faculty, staff, and students to help me see where faculty, staff, and students see themselves in this process. I want to make sure that we’re all engaged in thinking about what the process for change looks like.

**Leading a cultural shift seems like a complicated and challenging job. What are your thoughts on how to go about it?**

Sometimes it’s really difficult to abandon tradition. A lot of people also think that the only way to enter into conversations about equity and inclusion is through the topic of race. It’s not. Let’s go back to my description of an inclusive space as a single container without walls. Sometimes I also use the analogy of a cruise ship. We’re all on the same ship, but there are many entryways.

My belief is that if you are not comfortable coming into this conversation through the door of race, then let’s have you enter through another door, which may be about age, or another which may be about religion, or gender, or a particular interest—whatever it is that’s going to get you into the space. Then we can begin the conversation.

Equity and inclusion are about much more than race. Let’s talk about the challenges of socioeconomic status or religious identity and all of these other dimensions to our identities. And then people who are not comfortable entering through the door of race are going to find out that there are some similarities between the challenges they face that are based on a particular aspect of their identity and the challenges faced by people that stem from race.

We’re not going to be able to eradicate institutionalized racism, or any other kind of structural inequity, in a day. But we can till the soil to break some of it up. And that takes work. A lot of work. But that doesn’t mean that it’s impossible work. **R**

**Introducing the George Walker Center for Equity and Inclusion in Music**

The George Walker Center for Equity and Inclusion in Music was formally dedicated in April to help move the Eastman School of Music toward equity and inclusion.

The center is named for the late George Walker ’56E (DMA), ’12 (Honorary), who became the first Black composer to receive the Pulitzer Prize in Music when he was recognized in 1996 for his work “Lilacs.” A recipient of the Eastman Alumni Achievement Award and the University’s Distinguished Scholar Medal, Walker was an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Classical Music Hall of Fame.

# Can Early Intervention Reduce Developmental Gaps for Children with HIV?

A long-running research effort involving Medical Center scientists and Zambian colleagues is finding some help for children with HIV. In a new study involving a project in the African nation, Rochester scientists reported that children who received better nutrition and antiretroviral therapies are less likely to face the developmental risks often experienced by children who test positive for the virus.

"HIV remains a major global health burden and children who are exposed to the virus during childbirth are known to be at greater risk for neurocognitive and psychiatric problems, like depression, as they age," says David Bearden, an assistant professor of neurology and pediatrics at the Medical Center and senior author of the study published in the *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency*

*Syndromes*. "This research is an attempt to understand if these problems persist and become more pronounced over time, and whether we can predict who will do well cognitively and who will not."

The study is the most recent example of a decades-long collaboration involving an international team of researchers in sub-Saharan Africa, a region with approximately 70 percent of global HIV cases. Since 1994, Gretchen Birbeck, the Edward A. and Alma Vollertsen Rykenboer Professor in Neurology at the Medical Center, has partnered with the government of Zambia and clinicians and researchers with the University Teaching Hospital (UTH) in the capital city of Lusaka to study neurological problems associated with infectious diseases like HIV and malaria.

The Neurology Research Office established by Birbeck on the main hospital campus serves as a hub for several National Institutes of Health-funded research and training programs which have increased collaborations between UTH and the Medical Center.

The new findings come from the HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders in Zambia, or HANDZ, study, an ongoing longitudinal study that's following a cohort of 600 HIV positive and negative Zambian children ages 8 to 18 for five years.

The research found that children who were malnourished or who suffered more severe cases of HIV infection did worse on the assessments that are tracked as part of the ongoing study.

—Mark Michaud

## Theater + Theory: An Improvisational Approach to Address Vaccine Hesitancy

Researchers at the Medical Center have developed a program that combines improv theater techniques with personal coaching based on self-determination theory to help health care workers guide hesitant patients toward vaccination. Described in an essay for *JAMA Arts and Medicine*, the Theater for Vaccine Hesitancy program reported that nearly 80 percent of its health care worker participants felt more confident and equipped to improve their conversations with patients. Nearly 30 percent believed their patients got the COVID-19 vaccine as a result of the change in their conversational approach.

The program features one-hour workshops during which team members reenact poorly executed real-world conversations between a provider and a vaccine-hesitant patient. After a short discussion, the team plays the scene again, but allows health care workers in the audience the opportunity to step into the scene as the provider and change the conversation. The "forum theater" exercise was adapted from an improvisational theater program developed in the 1970s, called Theatre of the Oppressed. In 2017, members of the Department of Health Humanities and Bioethics started using the model to help health care workers and students know how to react to instances of racial, sexual, or gender bias or discrimination.



**GETTING TO 'YES':** Workshops draw on improv theater to help clinicians build patient trust.

John Cullen, professor and director of diversity and inclusion at the University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute and lead author of the article, says, "We knew that Theatre of the Oppressed was an extremely effective tool for practicing challenging conversations with patients, so we adapted it to help coach health care workers to engage in conversations about COVID vaccinations."

While improvisation helps health care providers build the skill and muscle memory for facilitating sensitive conversations, the science of the new program is rooted in a widely accepted theory of human motivation developed in the 1980s by Rochester psychology professors Edward Deci and Richard Ryan. The research-based theory debunks the

assumption that people are motivated most strongly by external rewards, finding instead that people are more likely to choose a behavior if it meets their psychological needs of competence, autonomy, and relatedness.

Says coauthor Holly Ann Russell, an associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine and in the Center for Community Health and Prevention: "External motivators like mandates or monetary incentives have not worked for all of our patients and in some cases actually increase mistrust of public health and health care systems. So, we wanted to coach frontline health care workers on how to tap into patients' intrinsic motivation instead."

—Susanne Pallo '15M (PhD)

## How Should Students Be Grouped for Learning?

Students may learn better when they're grouped with those who are similarly skilled rather than in a randomly assigned group or placed with students with a range of skill levels. That's according to a mathematical analysis developed by Chad Heatwole, a professor of neurology at the Medical Center and the director of Rochester's Center for Health + Technology (CHeT) and colleagues.

In the journal *Educational Practice and Theory*, Heatwole, Peter Wiens from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Christine Zizzi, a director at CHeT, published the results of their mathematical approach designed to evaluate grouping methods. The findings? When the end goal is improving learning for all individuals, the like-skilled grouping yielded better results than cross-sectional or random grouping.

Which strategy best serves individual students is the subject of "a historic and ongoing rigorous debate," says Heatwole. "We showed that, mathematically speaking, grouping individuals with similar skill levels maximizes the total learning of all individuals collectively."

According to Heatwole, the research has broad implications in education, as well as in economics, music, medicine, and sports.

—Lindsey Valich

## Instant Skin Biopsies May Be on the Way

A Rochester engineering professor has developed a new imaging system that could dramatically speed up the process for diagnosing biopsies for some skin cancers.

In a pilot study summarized in *JAMA Dermatology*, Michael Giacomelli, an assistant professor of biomedical engineering and of optics, reported that the new system was able to make accurate diagnoses in minutes rather than the much longer processes that surgeons currently rely on.

For the study, the technology evaluated 15 biopsies of known nonmelanoma skin cancer—the most common type of human cancer—and was able to detect basal cell carcinoma with perfect accuracy and squamous cell carcinoma with high accuracy.

Currently, analyzing such biopsies requires a surgeon and a pathologist and often requires more than one visit by a patient.

Even when tissue is frozen for more rapid analysis, surgeons can wait more than an hour for the results to be sure they have completely removed a malignant tumor from a patient still on the operating table.

Giacomelli, who is also on the research faculty of the Wilmot Cancer Institute, is working with Sherrif Ibrahim, an associate professor of dermatology at the Medical Center, on a larger, follow-up study. Giacomelli predicts the system eventually will have applications for many types of diseases.

—Bob Marcotte

## Module Helps Teens Manage Stress, Grow in Resilience

How we respond to daily stressors can weigh us down or help lift us up. That's the concept that informs a training module developed for adolescents and tested successfully by Jeremy Jamieson, an associate professor of psychology, and colleagues at the University of Texas, Stanford, and the Google Empathy Lab.

Conventional thinking often equates stress with something "bad," but Jamieson, who heads Rochester's Social Stress Lab, says "stress is a normal and even defining feature of adolescence" that allows teens to acquire a wide variety of complicated social and intellectual skills as they transition to adulthood.

Described in the journal *Nature*, the 30-minute online training module is designed to help teens develop two synergistic mindsets: the idea that intelligence can be developed in response

to a challenge and the idea that stress responses can fuel performance. Over the course of six double-blind, randomized experiments in both laboratory and field settings, young people in grades 8 to 12 and in college who completed the module showed improved psychological well-being and fewer indications of anxiety.

The researchers caution that the tool is designed to address anxiety and depression among teens stemming from world events, peer pressure, and academics rather than those whose stressors are the result of trauma or abuse.

Says Jamieson: "These combined messages got the teenagers in our studies to view stressors as things that could be overcome, rather than as something overwhelming and outside their control."

—Sandra Knispel

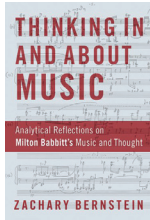


**MEETING THE CHALLENGE:** "Good stress" can help, says a Rochester psychologist.

# Books & Recordings

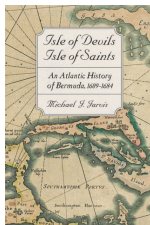
## Books

### Thinking In and About Music: Analytical Reflections on Milton Babbitt's Music and Thought



**Zachary Bernstein** explores the “idiosyncratic synthesis” of analytic philosophy, cognitive science, and the ideas of Viennese theorist Heinrich Schenker that Babbitt brought to bear on his music and writings. Bernstein is an assistant professor of music theory at Eastman. (Oxford University Press)

### Isle of Devils, Isle of Saints: An Atlantic History of Bermuda, 1609–1684



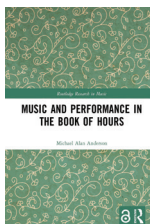
**Michael Jarvis**, an associate professor of history at Rochester, shows how Bermuda—free of humans when Europeans encountered it in 1505—became the nexus of English colonial expansion, “the first of England’s colonies to produce a successful staple, form a stable community, turn a profit, transplant civic institutions, and harness bound African knowledge and labor.” (Johns Hopkins University Press)

### 10 Days that Shaped Modern Canada



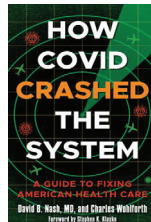
**Aaron Hughes**, the Philip S. Bernstein Professor of Religious Studies and Dean’s Professor of the Humanities at Rochester and a native of Canada, selects and explains 10 one-day events that shaped the political, social, cultural, and demographic circumstances of modern Canada. (University of Alberta Press)

### Music and Performance in the Book of Hours



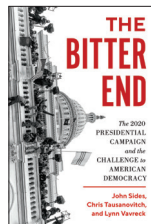
**Michael Anderson**, an associate professor of musicology at Eastman, uncovers the musical foundations and performance suggestions of popular guides to prayer in the late Middle Ages. (Routledge)

### How Covid Crashed the System: A Guide to Fixing American Health Care



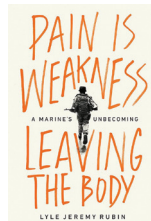
**David Nash** ’81M (MD) coauthors an analysis of the problems of the American health care system that led the US to have one of the worst COVID-19 outcomes of any modern industrialized nation. Nash is the founding dean emeritus and the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy at Thomas Jefferson University’s Jefferson College of Population Health in Philadelphia. (Rowman & Littlefield)

### The Bitter End: The 2020 Presidential Campaign and the Challenge to American Democracy



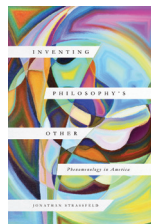
**Lynn Vavreck** ’97 (PhD) coauthors an analysis of the 2020 US presidential campaign that identifies it as a turning point in the calcification of presidential outcomes. Vavreck is the Marvin Hoffenberg Professor of American Politics and Public Policy at UCLA. (Princeton University Press)

### Pain Is Weakness Leaving the Body: A Marine’s Unbecoming



Historian and Afghan War veteran **Lyle Jeremy Rubin** ’20 (PhD) offers “an honest reckoning with the war on terror, masculinity, and the violence of American hegemony abroad, at home, and on the psyche, from a veteran whose convictions came undone.” Rubin’s writings have appeared in such publications as the *New York Times*, the *Guardian*, and the journal *n + 1*. (Bold Type Books)

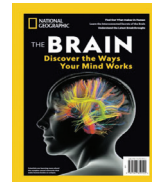
### Inventing Philosophy’s Other: Phenomenology in America



In the first systematic study of the phenomenological movement in the US, historian **Jonathan Strassfeld** ’20 (PhD) explores the analytic-Continental schism within academic philosophy,

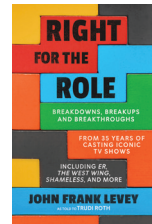
demonstrating the way in which it has obscured the significant influence phenomenology has had on 20th-century American intellectual discourse, and the promise that it holds. (University of Chicago Press)

### The Brain: Discover the Ways Your Mind Works



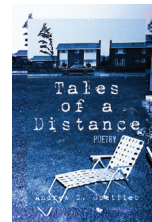
**Julia Sklar** ’14 authors a *National Geographic Magazine* single-topic “bookazine” incorporating the latest research on the human brain. (Meredith Corporation)

### Right for the Role



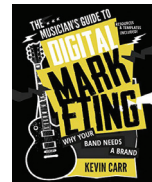
**John Levey** ’69 traces his rise from novice casting director to four-time Emmy Award winner for his role in casting the drama series *ER* and *The West Wing*. (Legacy Launch Pad Publishing)

### Tales of a Distance: Poems



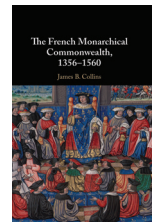
**Andrew Gottlieb** ’92 presents his first book-length collection of poems. His work has appeared in *American Fiction*, *Arts & Letters*, *Best New Poets*, and other journals. (Trail to Table Books)

### The Musician’s Guide to Digital Marketing



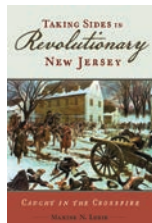
**Kevin Carr** ’15, a digital marketer and writer based in California, offers practical digital marketing strategies for musicians. (Self-published)

### The French Monarchical Commonwealth, 1356–1560



**James Collins** ’72, a professor of history at Georgetown University, explores the relationship between everyday politics and political theory in France from the Hundred Years’ War through the beginning of the early modern period. (Cambridge University Press)

## Taking Sides in Revolutionary New Jersey: Caught in the Crossfire



**Maxine Lurie** '63 (MA), a professor emerita at Seton Hall University, explores the bitter conflicts among New Jersey colonists during the Revolutionary War. (*Rutgers University Press*)

## Rape in Period Drama Television: Consent, Myth, and Fantasy



**Julie Taddeo** '87, '97 (PhD), a research professor of history at the University of Maryland, coauthors an exploration of the representation of rape and rape myths in recent period dramas.

(*Rowman & Littlefield*) Taddeo also coedited the essay collection *Diagnosing History: Medicine in Period Drama Television*. (*Manchester University Press*)

## POLL-ARIZED: Why Americans Don't Trust the Polls—and How to Fix Them Before It's Too Late



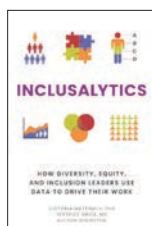
**John Geraci** '87, '89S (MBA), founder and president of Crux Research, blends data and interviews with leading pollsters in a critique of the American polling system. (*Houndstooth Press*)

## Laughing Histories: From the Renaissance Man to the Woman of Wit



**Joy Wiltenburg** '76, '78 (MA), a professor emerita of history at Rowan University, presents a history of laughter in early modern Europe, showing how laughter was inflected by gender and social power. (*Routledge*)

## Inclusalytics: How Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leaders Use Data to Drive Their Work



**Allison Goldstein** '08 coauthors a guide for leaders of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives to gather, measure, track, and use data to determine strategy. (*Independently published*)

## Recordings

### Chopin: Sonatas



**Alexander Kobrin**, an associate professor of piano at Eastman, performs all three of Chopin's piano sonatas in a two-CD set. (*Quartz*)

### The Paper-Lined Shack



Composer **Jeff Beal** '85E presents a narrative song cycle based on the diary of his great-grandmother, with a libretto composed by **Joan Beal** '84E. The work is performed by soprano Hilaa Plitmann with the Eastman Philharmonia conducted by Leonard Slatkin. The recording includes a second work, *Things Unseen*, originally written for Eastman's Ying Quartet and performed by the New Hollywood String Quartet. (*Supertrain Records*)

### The New Black: Darrell Grant Live at Birdland



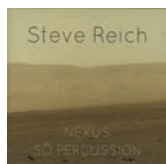
Jazz composer and pianist **Darrell Grant** '84E leads a quartet in a two-night performance at New York City's Birdland in 2019, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of his seminal debut album, *Black Art*. (*Lair Hill Records*)

### Music for Film / Volume 1



The BQE Project, led by **Tom Nazzola** '88E, features excerpts from Nazzola's original scores for silent films and early talkies. The BQE Project also includes **Dan Willis** (Daniel Wieloszynski) '90E, **Bill Hayes** '84RC, **Conrad Harris** '91E, **Gregg August** '87E, **Joe Tompkins** '92E, and **Greg Chudzik** '06E. (*Goju Records*)

### Steve Reich



Percussion ensembles Nexus and Sō Percussion perform several early and one late work by the legendary minimalist composer Reich. Nexus includes **Bill Cahn** '68E and **Bob Becker** '69E, '71E (MM); **Jason Treuting** '99E is a member of Sō Percussion. (*Nexus*)

## A Broken Anthology of Western Music



The classically trained, multigenre, and comedic group **Breaking Winds Bassoon Quartet** presents "a whirlwind tour of the history of Western music, finally restoring all those bassoon parts that composers forgot to write!" Founded at Eastman, "BWBQ" includes **Brittany Harrington-Smith** '10E, **Yuki Katayama Poole** '11E, **Kara La Moure** '10E, and **Lauren Yu Ziemba** '11E. (*Trevco Music*)

### Orchestra And . . .



Composer and conductor **Joel Suben** '69E—founder, executive vice president, and artistic director of Save the Music—presents a collection of his orchestral works from 1976 to 2008. The works are performed by the Moravian Philharmonic, the Slovak Radio Symphony, and the Žerotín Choir, and are conducted by Suben. (*Coeles*)

### Das stille Leuchten



**Clara O'Brien** '86E (MM) performs songs by Swiss composer Othmar Schoeck. O'Brien is a voice professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. (*Ablaze Records*)

### Dark Matters: Carillon Music of Stephen Rush



**Tiffany Ng** '08E (MM), chair of the University of Michigan's organ department and the university's carillonneur, performs a recital in Ann Arbor of works by the University of Michigan pianist, composer, and author **Stephen Rush** '85E (DMA). (*Innova Records*)

*Books & Recordings is a compilation of recent work by University alumni, faculty, and staff. For inclusion in an upcoming issue, send the work's title, publisher, author, or performer, a brief description, and a high-resolution cover image to Books & Recordings, Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; or by email to [rochrev@rochester.edu](mailto:rochrev@rochester.edu).*

## NEW LEADERS

### Deans of Nursing, Libraries Named; Executive VP for Finance Appointed



**Lisa Kitko**

Lisa Kitko, an accomplished scholar, researcher, educator, and clinician became the sixth dean of the School of Nursing in September. Formerly the associate dean for graduate education and director of the PhD program at Penn State University, Kitko succeeds Kathy Rideout '95W (EdD), '03 (Flw), who announced last year she was stepping down after 11 years as dean.



**Kevin Garewal**

Noted libraries leader Kevin Garewal began his first full academic year as the vice provost and Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean of the University Libraries this fall. Appointed earlier in the year, Garewal, formerly the associate director of collections at Harvard Law School Library, succeeds Mary Ann Mavrinac, who served in the role from 2012 until last January.



**Elizabeth Milavec**

Elizabeth Milavec '22S (MBA) became the University's inaugural executive vice president for administration and finance and chief financial officer this summer. A certified public accountant with an MBA from Simon, she had served as interim senior vice president for administration and finance, CFO, and treasurer since November 2021. She joined the University in 2016.

### Gifts Establish New Professorships

Financial support from University friends, alumni, and their families will establish new professorships at the Simon Business School and at the Medical Center as well as a new initiative to improve care for children with cleft palates and other craniofacial issues.

At Simon, a \$3 million endowed gift from Jackie Sperandio will establish the Robert Sperandio Professorship in Entrepreneurship. The position is named in recognition of her late husband, Rob, who, for 40 years, ran Sporting Dog Specialties, a Rochester-based direct mail company that PetSmart purchased in 1997.

Designed to support Simon's strategic plan, the position will help attract, recruit, and recognize faculty members who are leaders in entrepreneurial education.

At the Medical Center, Kenneth Ouriel '77, '86M (Res), '87M (Flw) and his wife, Joy Bracker Ouriel, have established the Kenneth and Joy Ouriel Family Professorship in the Division of Vascular Surgery. The position will help recognize faculty in the division, which is internationally known for its work to diagnose and treat aneurysms, blocked arteries, and other heart and blood flow issues.

And Joseph Serletti '82M (MD), '88M (Res) and Bonnie Serletti '90M (MD), '94M (Res) have made a gift to establish the Serletti Family Cleft and Craniofacial Humanitarian Outreach Initiative to improve clinical care for children in western New York and internationally.

The fund will support the efforts of the Pediatric Cleft and Craniofacial Center within the Division of Plastic Surgery at Golisano Children's Hospital.

In the future, the endowment will fund the Serletti Family Professorship in the plastic surgery division.

### Construction Begins on Laser Lab Expansion

The Laboratory for Laser Energetics broke ground this summer on a \$42 million, 66,000-square-foot office and lab building expansion. The new three-floor building will

have space for approximately 110 scientists and personnel and feature state-of-the-art laboratories and computing facilities.

County, state, and federal

representatives joined University leaders for a ceremony in July to mark the start of construction. The addition is expected to be completed in 2024.



**LAB SPACE:** A 66,000-square-foot addition to the Laboratory for Laser Energetics (shown here in an architectural rendering) will have space for about 110 scientists and other personnel.

# Play Premieres on Campus Stage

The world premiere of a work by playwright Sam Chanse is the latest production to take the stage through a project of the University's International Theatre Program.

Commissioned through the program's New Voice Initiative, the play *Fellowship* made its debut this fall at the Sloan Performing Arts Center. The play is the fifth production since 2005 to result from the initiative, which was funded for 2019-22 by Natalie Hurst '74.

The work was first developed during Chanse's artist residency at Rochester in 2019, an appointment that also involved teaching students in the theater program.

**PREMIERE PRODUCTION:** Sophomores Rhea Bharadwaj (right) and Nicholas Howell were among the cast who presented the debut of the play *Fellowship*, produced through the International Theatre Program's New Voice Initiative.



## Student Selected for First Obama-supported Scholarship



**Laith Awad**

Laith Awad '24, a double major in clinical and translational sciences

and health, behavior, and society, is one of 100 recipients of a new student scholarship to support public service. The Puerto Rico native is a member of the inaugural cohort of a Voyager Scholarship, the Obama-Chesky Scholarship for Public Service.

Established last spring by the Obamas and Airbnb founder Brian Chesky, the award provides rising juniors with financial aid and a stipend in addition to free Airbnb housing to pursue a summer work-travel program.

The first 100 scholars come from 35 states and territories and 70 colleges and universities.

## Rochester Establishes Medicine's First Breastfeeding Division

A new Medical Center department represents the first effort to establish a division-level home for breastfeeding within a multidisciplinary research and clinical setting.

Officially launched this summer, the Medical Center's Division of Breastfeeding and Lactation is the culmination of long-standing efforts by the Departments of Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology to bring together the expertise of specialists, dentists, toxicologists, family medicine physicians, and other researchers and clinicians to promote and advance

the cause of breastfeeding and lactation.

Casey Rosen-Carole, an associate professor of pediatrics, will lead the new division. She credits Ruth Lawrence '49M (MD), a medical school faculty member for more than 50 years, for establishing the modern foundation of breastfeeding as medical practice.

Lawrence is considered one of the foremost international experts on breastfeeding and the lead author of the seminal textbook *Breastfeeding: A Guide for the Medical Profession* in 1979, now in its ninth edition.

## National Grant Boosts Math and Science Teaching

The Warner School of Education and the School of Arts & Sciences are teaming up on a federally funded project to strengthen science and math teaching and learning in high-need schools in western New York.

Funded with a \$3 million grant through the National Science Foundation's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program, the project will support the development of teacher leaders for urban schools, offering a new round of

fellowships for secondary mathematics and science teachers from five districts—Elmira, Hornell, Jamestown, Rochester, and Salamanca.

Students in the new project will join fellows from three

previous Noyce master teaching fellowship projects in the region to improve STEM learning.

The project is led by Cynthia Callard '01W (EdD), a professor and associate dean for academic affairs at the Warner School.

# Ask the Archivist: Has anyone photographed 'The History of . . .'?

*A question for Melissa Mead, the John M. and Barbara Keil University Archivist and Rochester Collections Librarian.*

**When I was a student, and each time I return to Rochester, I find Professor [John] Slater's inscriptions on the front of the library ("HERE IS THE HISTORY OF HUMAN IGNORANCE," "HERE IS THE HISTORY OF MAN'S HUNGER FOR TRUTH") particularly moving.**

**I am searching for matching photographs—taken at the same time, from the same angle, with the same lighting, etc. When I was an undergraduate, I spent an afternoon in the library looking at historical photos and other documents from when the River Campus was first constructed. At that time, I was able to browse a set of black-and-white prints taken by Ansel Adams. But it's been 40-plus years (!) since then, so I don't remember whether the photos I am looking for were among those prints. —John Womer '82**

In 1998, then University photographer Joe Gawlowicz took the pair of photos shown here: these seem to be the only deliberately created pair in the Archives.

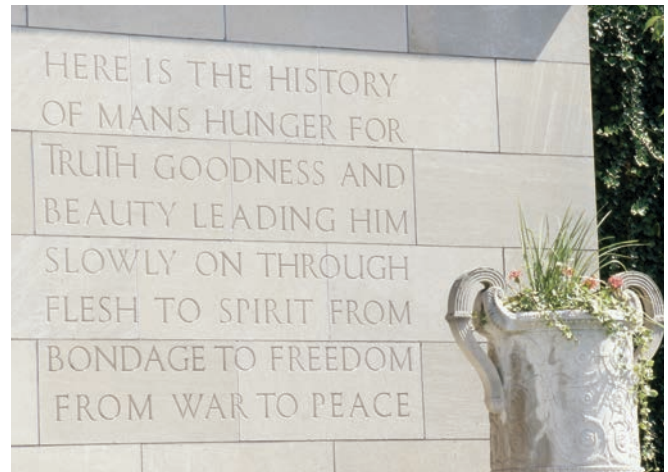
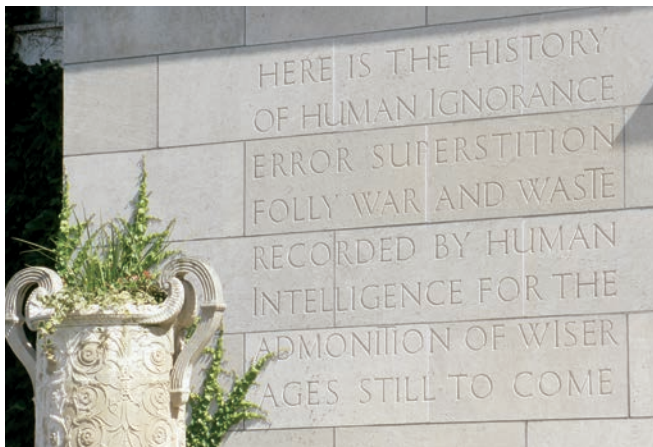
Ansel Adams visited campus in 1952 and created a portfolio of photographs to use in a capital campaign to fund the merging of the Colleges for Women and Men. Adams's photographs only include one of the inscriptions ("human ignorance"). The 1977 cover of Professor Arthur May's *A History of the University of Rochester, 1850-1962* features a dramatic photograph of the other ("hunger for truth").

As you note, the texts were composed by Professor John Rothwell Slater. Hired in 1905 as assistant professor of English, he chaired that department from 1908 until his retirement in 1942. The October 1930

River Campus dedication issue of *Rochester Review* noted: "Professor John R. Slater . . . has virtually carved his personality on the front of the Rush Rhees Library for the inspiration of future generations, as well as the present." His original compositions, or choice of quotations, also grace the library's doors and the Messenger Periodical Reading Room and the Meridian marker in the center of the Eastman Quadrangle.

## Need History?

Do you have a question about University history? Email it to [rochrev@rochester.edu](mailto:rochrev@rochester.edu). Please put "Ask the Archivist" in the subject line.




**IGNORANCE & TRUTH:** Inscribed near the entrance to Rush Rhees Library, the words of English professor John Slater have resonated with generations of students and scholars. The inscriptions are two of many examples of the imprint Slater's words have made on the University's history.

Correspondence in the Archives between Slater and the University's president Rush Rhees shows that formulating the inscriptions began in 1929. "There are plenty of familiar quotations about books, but they are all hackneyed by frequent repetition. Certainly, I would not quote Bacon's recipes for readings. . . ." A deeply religious man, Slater also looked to the Bible: "The pessimistic dicta of [Ecclesiastes] come as near the goal as anything, but not for the young."

One draft shows three pairs of suggested texts—glimmers of the final version alongside Milton and Emerson—to which Slater has added a note: "There is first the literature of knowledge and secondly the literature of power. The function of the first is to teach; the function of the second is to move."

John Lorenz, deputy librarian of Congress, spoke at the 1970 dedication of the addition to Rush Rhees Library. As a teenager, he accompanied his parents on a 1930s road trip across New York state:

"I don't recall how we happened to stop at the University of Rochester campus. I was already an inveterate reader so one of the buildings we visited was the [Library]. . . . What really made a great and lasting impact on me were the two inscriptions on either side of the entrance, an impact which led me to take paper and pencil right then and there and copy [them]. I have seen many inscriptions since that day, but I have never again been impressed to the point of copying another one down . . . and this yellowing piece of paper has been in my files ever since. Looking back, I'm inclined to believe that if there was any single influence which started me toward thinking of being a librarian, it was the impact and the meaning of these inscriptions."

In submitting the final texts to Rhees, Slater reported on a meeting at which he and other faculty considered every element of the inscriptions: weighing the meaning, effect, and word count. "One member of the faculty doubted whether 'ages yet to come' are likely to be 'wiser.' Dean [Arthur] Gale said of this criticism, 'If they are not wiser, God help them!' And to this I add, Amen." 

For more history about the inscriptions, visit <https://www.library.rochester.edu/rbscp/blog/ata-fall2022>.



**HONOREES:** The 2022 Hall of Fame inductees include (left to right) Kelly Wescott Mick '05, Marcus Gage '94, '96M (MS), Leslie Wilmert Donato '99, Kirk Dietrich '98, and Aria Garsys Goodberlet '00.

## ATHLETICS HONORS

# Yellowjackets Inducted into Hall of Fame

Five former Yellowjackets were recognized by the Department of Athletics and Recreation during Meliora Weekend as the 2022 inductees into the Hall of Fame:


**Kirk Dietrich '98:** A four-year starter in soccer who went on to a career as a professional soccer player in Rochester and Cleveland, he helped lead the Yellowjackets to two NCAA Division III tournaments, a UAA conference title, and an ECAC Northeast tournament championship.

**Leslie Wilmert Donato '99:** An All-American hammer thrower who set Rochester records in the event as a senior, she is now a board-certified clinical chemist. She is an assistant professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

**Marcus Gage '94, '96M (MS):** A two-time All-American and four-time Academic All-American in track, Gage was a member of Rochester's 1991 national champion cross-country team. Making his career as an engineer, he competed in races and endurance events, earning honors as Rochester Runner of the Year in 1999.

**Aria Garsys Goodberlet '00:** A four-year soccer starter, she earned All-American honors as a senior as part of a Rochester career that included three NCAA tournaments. She teaches AP and global history at Rochester-area Rush-Henrietta schools, and in 2007 she received the Bernard Cohen New York State Young Teacher Award.

**Kelly Wescott Mick '05:** A four-year starter on a basketball team that advanced twice to the NCCA's Division III Final Four, she was ranked among the top 10 in points, field goals, and other categories during her career. She is a business support manager for the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Carderock, Maryland.

The annual ceremony was suspended during the pandemic and returned to campus this fall for the first time since 2019. 

## Follow the Yellowjackets

For those who can't cheer on Rochester in person, you can follow the Yellowjackets online. Live coverage is available for nearly all home events. Find live stats and livestreams at [Uofrathletics.com/](http://Uofrathletics.com/) coverage.

# ‘Of-By-And for the Alumni’

## A century of *Rochester Review*


By Scott Hauser

In the October–November 1922 debut edition of the publication now known as *Rochester Review*, editor Hugh Smith, Class of 1907, wrote that when fellow alumni learned of his appointment that fall, they would ask, “What are you supposed to do, anyway?”

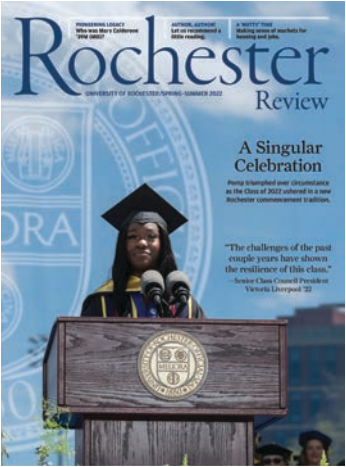
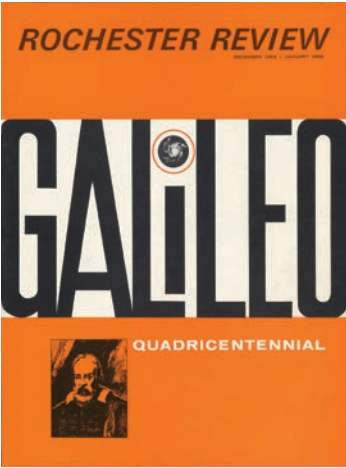
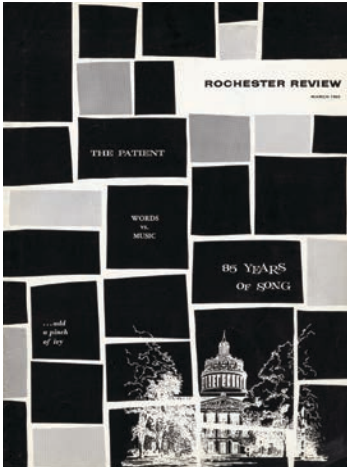
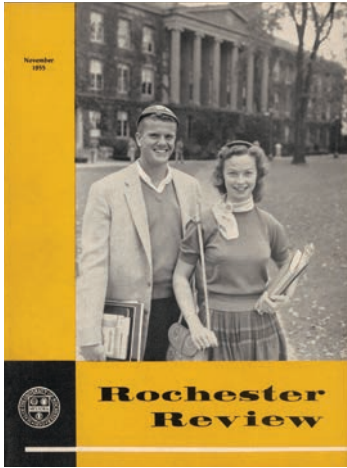
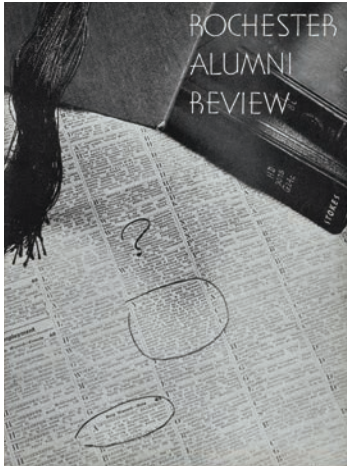
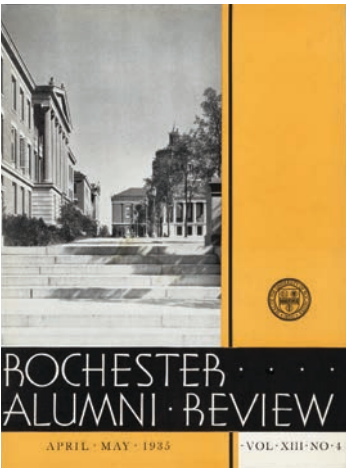
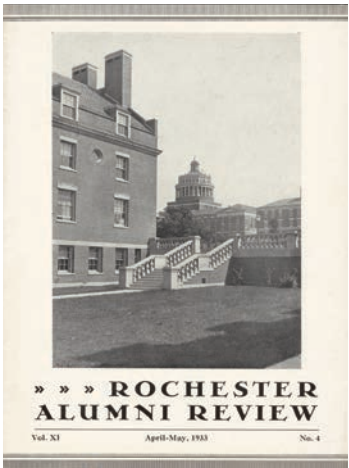
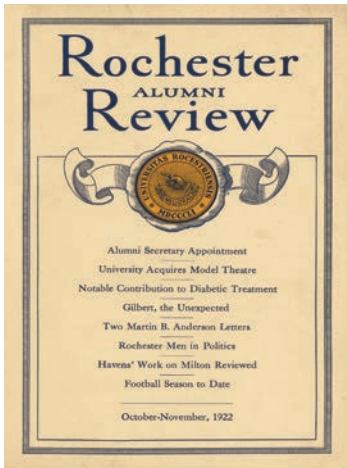
In a confident but self-deprecating tone that became a hallmark of his “With the Editor” columns, Smith noted that the job of the new publication was to build strong connections among alumni and with their alma mater, to provide the University community with reasons to talk with pride about the institution, and to convey a sense of continuity across generations as the University’s scope and stature grew in the coming years.

To do that, he said, he hoped to establish a “little magazine interesting enough” to be welcomed into the homes of alumni and University friends.

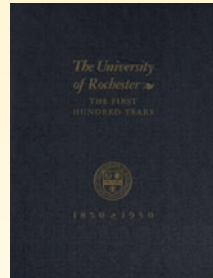
“For if interested in the *Review*,” Smith wrote, “you are bound to be interested in what lies back of it—and back of it lies your university of the past, the present and the future, memories of your own days on the campus, pride in the present and hope for the days to come.”

As we begin the second century of this “little magazine” this fall, we hope that’s still the case. 

**CENTURY CLUB:** Making its debut in 1922, *Rochester Review* marks its 100th anniversary with the Fall 2022 issue. The collected history of the magazine can be found by visiting [Rochester.edu/pr/Review/archive](https://Rochester.edu/pr/Review/archive).



## Ever Evolving



From its very beginnings, the magazine mirrored the ever-evolving University, chronicling several institutional milestones: the founding of the Medical Center and the Eastman School of Music and the establishment of the River Campus—and the historic fundraising campaign that made the new campus possible. In 1950, the magazine marked the University's 100th anniversary with a 96-page special issue.

Debuting in 1922 as the *Rochester Alumni Review*, the magazine was originally based on subscriptions drawn from about 2,400 alumni. The early magazine featured updates on campus activities and sports teams, accounts of reunions, class notes, and reports from alumni across the United States and beyond.

As the institution evolved from a small college to a multi-unit university, *Review* also adapted, an evolution mirrored in the publication's changing name. A publication "of-by-and for the alumni of the University of Rochester," the magazine incorporated "Alumni-Alumnae" into its name in 1939. By 1954, the publication would become *Rochester Review*.



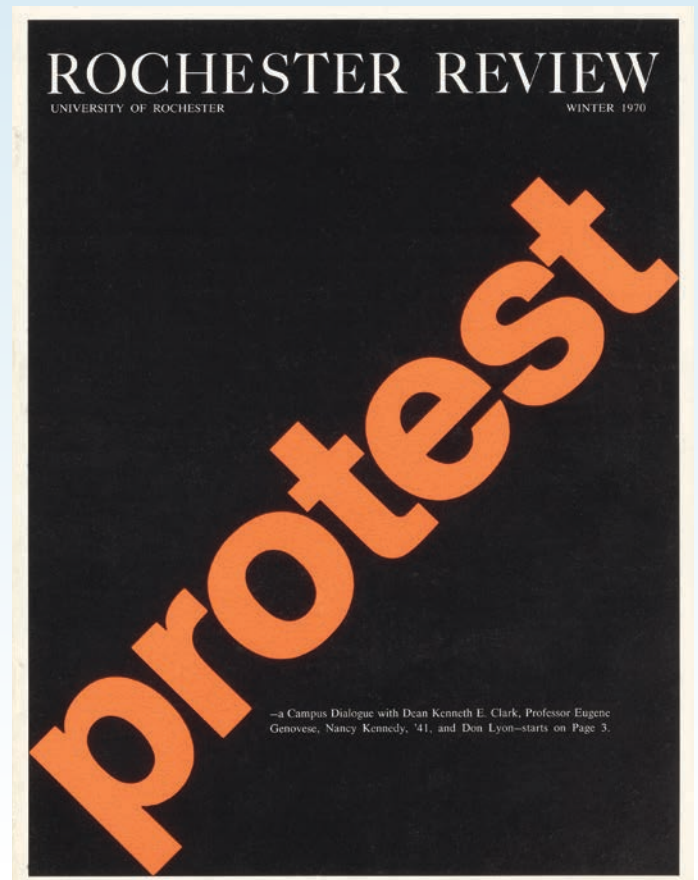
## New Identity



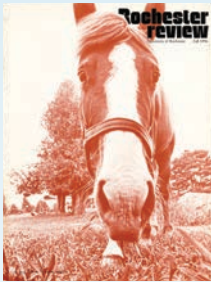
Universities across the country took on new cultural identities in the post-World War II era of the United States, and *Review* tried to help alumni readers put the era in context.

The magazine of the late-1950s and the 1960s gave space to prominent faculty and campus academic leaders to share their expertise on the changing times and the changing expectations for Rochester and other institutions of higher education. From essays on topics such as "The Challenge of Excellence" and "The University as Myth" to reports from roundtable discussions, Rochester experts analyzed the role of education in American culture, the effectiveness of student protests, the causes of civil and political unrest, and other cultural issues.

With the Fall 1967 issue of *Review*, the University introduced a new publication as a companion of sorts to the magazine. Appearing six times a year, the new *Alumni News* featured class notes and other alumni-oriented stories and updates. The quarterly *Review* continued to focus on the life of the institution, bringing the University to alumni homes but without class notes.



## A Fresh Look



Updates to the design and the content during the last decades of the 20th century helped set the template for the current magazine, coalescing around a mix of news about the institution and its place in higher education, features about alumni and the work of faculty, nods to nostalgia and a sense of place, and the return of class notes.

As longtime editor Margaret Bond '47 wrote in the Winter 1987-88 issue of a design that would last into the 2000s: "Stability is a fine thing, but a little shaking up once in a while is a great freshener."

In the mid-1970s, when the magazine re-incorporated most of the material of the *Alumni News*, then editor Ronald Roberts noted that the goal of the move was to combine the best of both publications: material that helped connect alumni with the institution as well as the "lengthier stories which have made the *Rochester Review* such a special publication."

"It's all designed to put the best product in the hands of the most people—and to involve more alumni with their alma mater."



## Key Sources



As *Review* approached its 100th anniversary, the magazine remained the only University news publication mailed free of charge to all alumni. And while the printed magazine has been regularly "freshened" with new presentations and new departments, the publication also looked for ways to adapt to an increasingly digital world.

The magazine launched a website in 1998 where the content of each issue is posted, and from 2011 to 2016, the publication was available as an electronic app for tablets and mobile phones.

Today, new issues have a corresponding PDF version that can be downloaded from the website, and the magazine's stories are regularly shared through the University's main social media and electronic newsletter channels.

Entering its second century, the publication has grown to a circulation of about 150,000 people around the world, including alumni, parents of undergraduates, faculty, staff, donors, and University friends. Recent reader surveys indicate that *Review* continues to be a key source of information for alumni, just as its founding editors had hoped.





# Meliora Weekend 2022

# Return to Rochester!

The University's signature celebration returned to form this fall as more than 6,000 alumni, students, family members, and friends reconnected on campus for the first fully in-person Meliora Weekend since 2019.

In addition to a full weekend of reunion events, keynote speakers, and performances, the weekend featured the 100th anniversary celebration of the Eastman School of Music.

**SONGS OF CELEBRATION:** Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts '94E, '99E (DMA) (left) congratulates soprano Nicole Cabell '01E, an assistant professor of voice, baritone Rod Gilfry, and the members of the Eastman Philharmonia, under the direction of Neil Varon, after the Rochester premiere of Puts's *The Brightness of Light*. With text drawn from the letters of Georgia O'Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz, the performance of the song cycle was one of Eastman's capstone events marking the success of the school's Centennial Celebration.



**O, WHAT A WEEKEND!** Maysoon Harumani '23 and Phuong Le '23 take photos at the Meliora letters set up on Eastman Quadrangle (opposite), a spot that has become an Instagram-worthy landmark for the weekend.

**STRENGTH IN STORY:** "We bring to the surface things that people don't often say out loud," noted Peabody Award-winning journalist and author Michele Norris (at right, on the right) in a keynote discussion about race and identity in America. "There's power in sharing a story, even if it's a difficult one." The founder of the *Race Card Project*, which invites people to share candid six-word stories about race, Norris was joined for the Palestra discussion by Joan Saab, interim dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences & Engineering.





**LEADING LEGACY:** Frederick Douglass Institute Director Jeffrey McCune Jr. announced the creation of a Department of Black Studies at Rochester during an event marking the institute's 35-year legacy.

### MELIORA MILESTONES

## Still Going Strong . . .

Several University organizations, departments, and programs marked milestones during Meliora Weekend. Here's a quick look:

**10 Years** The Douglass Leadership House hosted a gala to celebrate its first decade as an intellectual community for students of all cultural backgrounds to raise awareness of the Black experience.

**35 Years—and Year One** As part of a celebration of the legacy of the Frederick Douglass Institute, the University announced the establishment of a Department of Black Studies.

**50-plus Years** Founding members of the Rochester chapter of the Gay Liberation Front and LGBTQ+ community members marked five decades of organizing. Todd Union, the site of early meetings, has been nominated for status as a national landmark.

**60 Years** Named in recognition of award-winning Rochester poet Hyam Plutzik, the Plutzik Reading Series kicked off its 60th anniversary with a reading by invited poet Jericho Brown.

**75 Years** Campus radio station WRUR celebrated 75 years with a panel discussion, tours of the station, and other activities.

**100 Years** The Eastman School of Music capped off its centennial this fall with a series of concerts, commissioned works, and other activities.



**MEET-AND-GREET:** Jane Tuttle '79N, '84N (MS), a professor of clinical nursing, talks with Lindsay Batek '98, '22N (MS) and nurse and PhD student Sunita Pokhrel Bhattarai (at left, left to right) during a lunch and poster session, where attendees heard from Lisa Kitko, the new dean of the School of Nursing, and learned about current research projects at the school.

**NEW REALITY:** University Trustee Evans Lam '83, '84S (MBA) tries out a virtual reality headset during the grand opening of the Mary Ann Mavrinac Studio X in Carlson Library (near right). On hand for technical support was Liam O'Leary '23 and other students and staff of the new space, where faculty, students, and staff can try out the latest in virtual and augmented reality technology.

**REUNION NUMBERS:** A hallmark of each year's celebration, class reunions take center stage during the weekend with activities and programs to recognize alumni and for classmates to reconnect with the University and with one another. One of the annual events is to have a "class photo" taken for alumni celebrating reunions in intervals of 5, 10, and other milestone years (far right).



**PLAY SPACE:** Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tony Kushner joined students for a Q&A session in Sloan Auditorium as part of Kushner's keynote visit during the weekend. The conversation was moderated by Missy Pfohl Smith, director of the Program of Dance and Movement.



**CALL TO ACTION:** “This is our home. We have to preserve it,” Nobel laureate Steven Chu ’70, ’98 (Honorary) told the audience during his keynote address at the Palestra. A former US Secretary of Energy, Chu reflected on the obstacles to achieving a sustainable future—from a pervasive “use once, throw away” consumption mindset to a need for cutting-edge energy storage technologies.





**CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE:** Performing artist Thomas Warfield was among the members of the Eastman community who were celebrated as the school marked the success of its 100th anniversary campaign.

#### CENTENNIAL AWARDS

### Eastman Honors 100 Artists and Leaders

To help mark the 100th anniversary of the Eastman School of Music, the school established a recognition program designed to celebrate some of the people who have made Eastman such a prominent touchstone in the world of music.

Named Centennial Awards in recognition of Eastman's Centennial Celebration, the honors were presented throughout the 18-month celebration, including during Meliora Weekend, to select individuals who exemplify the school's mission and legacy through their artistry, scholarship, leadership, community engagement, and philanthropy.

The roster of recipients reads like a wide-ranging "Who's Who" of Eastman's imprint on the nation's musical and artistic culture.

Among those recognized were Julia Bullock '09E, Kristian Bezuidenhout '01E, '04E (MM), Ron Carter '59E, '10 (Honorary), Renée Fleming '83E (MM), '11 (Honorary), and other internationally recognized musicians; prize-winning composers Kevin Puts '94E, '99E (DMA), Charles Strouse '47E, and Jeff Beal '85E.

The list also includes recording artists and orchestral leaders Maria Schneider '85E (MM), Donald Hunsberger '54E, '59E (MM), '63E (DMA), Jeff Tyzik '73E, '77E (MM), and Lee Koonce '96E (MM); educators Ray Ricker '73E (DMA) and Roy Ernst; and prominent supporters and advisors Joan Beal '84E, Liz Asaro-Biggart '92, Martin E. Messinger '49, Nat Wisch '55, and many others.

*For a full list of recipients, visit [Rochester.edu/adv/eastman-centennial](https://rochester.edu/adv/eastman-centennial).*



**BE VOCAL:** Allison Williams '15 joined the a cappella group Vocal Point (top) during the ensemble's annual joint alumni concert in the Interfaith Chapel.

**MINER MEMORIES:** Lawrence Feinberg '72M (MD), '75M (Res), Arthur Geltzer '62M (MD), Dennis Clements '72M (MD), and Ruby Belton '72M (MD), '74M (Res) (middle, left to right) viewed memorabilia at Edward G. Miner Library, one of several activities at the Medical Center.

**FIERY PERFORMANCE:** Phoenix Zhang '23 and other current and former members of the Strong Jugglers (bottom), the University's student juggling club, put on a display during the 10th annual fire juggling show.

**JOSH SHAPIRO '95**

## Meet the Next Governor of Pennsylvania

GOVERNOR-ELECT: A former president of the Students' Association—who was elected to the role as a first-year student at Rochester—will be the next governor of Pennsylvania. Following what the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* described as “one of the most impressive statewide campaigns in recent history,” **Josh Shapiro '95** won election in November to lead the Keystone State. He will become the first Rochester alumnus elected to a state's top executive position when he assumes office in January. The governorship is the latest leadership role for the former political science major, who was elected to Pennsylvania's legislature in 2004. He has served as the state's attorney general since 2017.



SHAPIRO FOR  
GOVERNOR



OLIVIA HOOKER '62 (PHD)

## Pioneering Coast Guard Alumna Honored

The first African American woman to serve in the US Coast Guard was honored this summer with a building dedication in Ohio, where her family moved after surviving the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.

The Dr. Olivia Hooker Building, part of the Coast Guard's Cleveland Marine Safety Unit, was officially renamed for **Olivia Hooker '62 (PhD)** during a ceremony in August. The facility is the third in the service to bear Hooker's name, joining a dining hall at the Coast Guard's station on Staten Island and a training facility in guard's headquarters in Washington, DC.

Hooker grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where her father owned a clothing store in a prosperous African American neighborhood that was sometimes called "Black Wall Street."

In 1921, when Hooker was six years old, an accusation that a Black man had assaulted a white woman led to an attack by a mob of white men on the neighborhood. The 24-hour assault led to the deaths of an estimated 300, mostly Black, Tulsans and leveled more than 1,000 homes and Black businesses—including the Hookers' store.

Following the massacre, Hooker's family moved to Columbus, Ohio. As a college student at Ohio State University, Hooker became an activist in a campaign to secure for Black women the same opportunities in the military that World War II was opening up for white women.

She wanted to join the Navy, but her application was denied multiple times. A friendly Coast Guard recruiter convinced her to join that branch under its women's reserve program, SPAR ("Semper Paratus, Always Ready").

At Rochester, she was one of the first Black women to receive a PhD, earning the degree in psychology and embarking on a career as a psychologist and educator.

In the late 1990s, she helped form the Tulsa Race Riot Commission, which made a case for reparations. While that goal has



**HISTORY MAKER:** The late Olivia Hooker '62 (PhD) made history as the first Black woman to join the United States Coast Guard. Shown here in uniform in 1945, Hooker had survived the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre as a youngster before her family moved to Ohio. She made her career as a psychologist and educator as well as an advocate for Tulsa survivors, helping to form what became the Tulsa Race Massacre Commission.

eluded the group, Hooker achieved one of her lifelong goals posthumously: a week after her death in 2018, the group, gearing up for the centennial anniversary of the tragedy, renamed itself the Tulsa Race Massacre Commission. **R**

PAUL FROMMER '65

## Avatar—with Its Alumnus-created Language—Returns to Big Screen

The fictional language created by **Paul Frommer '65** is returning to movie theaters.

Frommer devised the language spoken by inhabitants of the extraterrestrial world depicted in the record-setting 2009 film *Avatar*.

This fall, director James Cameron rereleased the original movie in the run-up to the release of its sequel, *Avatar 2: The Way of Water*, due out in December. Subsequent installments of the story are expected to follow.

After earning a doctorate in linguistics from the University of Southern California, Frommer had become a business executive who was



teaching at USC's business school when Cameron's production company reached out to the linguistics department for help in inventing a new language for the movie.

Frommer developed Na'vi, the language of the humanoid inhabitants of the planet Pandora, the setting of *Avatar*.

In 2009, he told *Rochester Review* that the film and its success had changed his life considerably.

"People go to the movie, and they're just swept away," he said. "It touches people on a very deep level, and they come away wanting to connect with Pandora. One way to do that is through the language." **R**

## IN THE NEWS

## Rochester, You Have Another Astronaut

**Josh Cassada** '00 (PhD) will be aboard the International Space Station for several months as part of a four-member crew that docked with the station this fall.

Cassada served as the pilot for a NASA SpaceX commercial crew that lifted off from Kennedy Space Center on October 5. The spacecraft—named *Endurance*—docked with the space station the following day, joining a team of seven already on board.

Cassada and his crew mates—Commander Nicole Mann and Mission Specialists Koichi Wakata of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency and Anna Kikina of Roscosmos—are scheduled to be aboard the space station for up to six months before returning to Earth in the spring of 2023.

The mission is the first for Cassada, Kikina, and Mann, who is also the first Indigenous woman from NASA to go to space. The crew will conduct scientific studies to prepare for human exploration beyond low-Earth orbit and to benefit life on Earth, according to NASA.

Cassada is the third Rochester graduate to travel to outer space. In 1998, physiologist **Jim Pawelczyk** '82 completed a 16-day mission on the Space Shuttle *Columbia*, serving as a payload specialist responsible for the operation of a laboratory aboard the shuttle. Pawelczyk is a professor of physiology and kinesiology at Penn State University.

And in 1973, **Ed Gibson** '59 was part of a team that set a then world record for time in space when they were aboard the former *Skylab 3* for 84 days. During the mission, Gibson participated in three space walks. Gibson's record was later eclipsed by American scientist and astronaut Norman Thagard, who spent 115 days on the Russian space station *Mir*.

**PREPARE FOR LIFTOFF:** Josh Cassada '00 (PhD) (second from left) and SpaceX astronauts Anna Kikina, Nicole Mann, and Koichi Wakata suited up to test equipment at SpaceX headquarters in California in the days leading up to their October mission to the International Space Station.

## Alumnus Named Chicago Carillonneur

**Alex Johnson** '18, an award-winning musician who was introduced to the carillon at Rochester, has been named university carillonneur at the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel at the University of Chicago.

Johnson, who most recently taught carillon at the University of Texas in Austin, was appointed this fall, becoming Chicago's seventh carillonneur. Considered the single largest musical instrument ever built, the Chicago carillon comprises 72 bells and 100 tons of bronze.


In 2021, the *Diapason* magazine, an international publication that covers carillon, organ, and church music, named Johnson among its "20 Under 30," a recognition of contributions to carillon performance and composition for musicians and leaders under the age of 30.

While on a campus tour before enrolling at Rochester, the Texas native was intrigued to find out that any student could play "the bells," a reference to the Hopeman Memorial Carillon in the tower of Rush Rhees Library.

Shortly after graduation, he was one of two musicians from the United States to earn first prize at Belgium's International Queen Fabiola Carillon Competition, where he also received first prize for improvisation and a prize for best performance of a Belgian contemporary work.

## Richard Rice '65 Teams Up for Squash Championship

The team of **Richard Rice** '65 and James Zug Sr. won the 75-plus division without losing a game at the US National Doubles Squash Championships in Philadelphia last spring. The national tournament marked the debut of Rice and Zug as partners. Zug won his first doubles title 50 years ago in the open division.

The national doubles tournament featured 81 teams across 12 divisions on six courts, all of which were livestreamed on the YouTube channel of US Squash. 



# Class Notes



**SOLID GOLD GROUP:** Members of the 1972 classes from the College and the School of Nursing were presented with medallions at a Meliora Weekend ceremony (above). The 50th reunion classes from the Eastman School of Music and the School of Medicine and Dentistry were similarly honored.

## College

### ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

#### MEDALLION REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023

October 5 to 8, 2023

[Rochester.edu/reunion](http://Rochester.edu/reunion)

**1933 Max Kaplan** (see '58).

**1947 John Arthur Baynes** '48W (EdM) (see '75).

**1951 Mario Sparagana** '55M (MD) writes that he has published his fourth book of poetry, *Reverie* (Peppertree Press).

**1955 William Scouler** (see '85).

**1956 Mary Ann Paliani** writes, "I succeeded in doing a technical climb of the Second Flatiron in July 2022 at the ripe old age of 87. This is just a warm-up for the Third Flatiron climb, which I hope to do in the fall. The Second Flatiron is one of five striking slanted formations that make up a portion of Boulder, Colorado's foothills on the west side

of town and that rise up hundreds of feet over the city." . . . The son of **Donald Schaet** sends a remembrance of his father: "My father was very proud of the University and the friends he made there," writes Will Schaet. "His classmates were lifelong friends. Dad enjoyed returning to the University as often as possible. He also took great pride in the contribution he was able to make to his 50-year Class Reunion, reaching out to as many of his classmates as possible." A lifelong athlete, Don captained his high school and collegiate soccer teams and continued to play soccer into his late 40s. "Of all the things he liked about coming back, he especially relished being able to play in the alumni versus varsity soccer match," writes Will. Don attended Rochester on a Naval ROTC scholarship and retired as a colonel after 25 years in the US Marine Corps. His medals and citations include the Bronze Star with Combat V and the Meritorious Service Medal. After retiring from the Marines in 1980, Don joined the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation as executive vice presi-

dent and was instrumental in creating the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. He later returned to Rochester and was an associate director of development in the University's Office of Alumni Relations for a time. Don decided to travel the world for a year, and along the way he met fellow traveler Gail Teplin. They were married in 1987 and eventually settled in Atlanta. Don died in March 2020 at age 87. He's survived by Gail, four children, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The family welcomes remembrances sent to them through the alumni relations office. . . . **Carol Greenwald Scouler** '54N (see '85).

**1958 Martha Beck Burton** '60 (MA) "passed away on Easter morning at the age of 84," writes her son, Edward. "She was the 1958 valedictorian and earned an MA in mathematics in 1960." Martha met her future husband, the late **David Burton** '61 (PhD), while they were both students at Rochester. Edward adds, "Thank you for all that Rochester has done for us!" . . . **Ed Kaplan** reports that a fourth gener-

ation from his family has joined the University's student body, extending a legacy that began nearly a century ago. Ed's uncle, **Max Kaplan** '33, was the first family member to graduate from Rochester. Ed enrolled in 1954 and met **Irene Colle Kaplan** '58 during their first year; they have been married 63 years. Ed's cousin **David Kaplan** '66 (Max Kaplan's son) and Irene's nephew **Marion Maneker** '86 are also graduates. And this fall, Ed's grandson, **Max Gjevre** '26, began his first year at Rochester. The Minneapolis resident plans to pursue an engineering degree and swim for the varsity

## Abbreviations

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



1958 Kaplan

team. “We think Rochester is a perfect fit for Max,” Ed says. “He’s had to listen to stories about the good old days for years. Our class was about 400—so small that you knew pretty much everyone on campus. Irene and I still keep in touch with many of them.” One of those classmates is **Ed Hajim '58**, University board chair emeritus, who lived next door to Ed in Hoeing Hall when both were first-year students. “When my grandson visited campus, he imitated the statue of Ed (on the Hajim Science and Engineering Quadrangle) with his hands held up. He looks like Moses on Mount Sinai giving the Ten Commandments” (see photo). Ed is a retired physician and professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota Medical School, and Irene taught English for more than 50 years. In 2013, the two established the Edward L. and Irene Colle Kaplan Scholarship Fund, which supports students pursuing an undergraduate liberal arts degree in the School of Arts & Sciences, with preference for students with financial need.

**1959 Robert Scaer '63M (MD)** died in November 2021 at age 83, writes **Roberta Brush Mylan '60**,

his former wife. A board-certified neurologist, Robert had a long career in neurology and rehabilitation, which led to another career as a pioneer in traumatology. He lectured nationally and internationally and published three books on the topic. He is also survived by their four children and eight grandsons.

**1960 Michael Blumenfield**, a professor emeritus of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at New York Medical College, writes that he’s in private practice part time, and he and his wife are living in Los Angeles near their children and grandchildren. His 2021 book, *ShrinkTalk* (ShrinkTalk Publishing), is available on his website [Shrinktalkbook.com](http://Shrinktalkbook.com). . . . **Roberta Brush Mylan** (see '59).

**1961 Michael Cohen** (see '84). . . **Dick Crowell** writes that he and his wife, Carol, celebrated their “60th wedding anniversary in July with a family reunion highlighting great memories gained from raising a diverse and wonderful family.” In the early 1970s, they adopted an infant African American girl and a Hispanic baby boy to join their two biological children, he says. “This has proven to be an informative,

exciting, and rewarding experience.” Dick and Carol are pictured surrounded by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren and their spouses.

**1962 Gloria O'Toole Ulterino** writes, “With an advanced degree in recent American history, I taught US and European history for over three years on the high school level. After marrying **Eugene Ulterino '63** and raising our three children, I returned to school to study theology in the 1980s and delighted in parish ministry. Currently a preacher, adult storyteller, and founder of the storytelling team Women of the Well, I have had three books published. The latest, *What Time Is It? A Deep Reading of Our Lives throughout the Liturgical Year*

(Cascade Books), expresses the fruit of my ministry.”

**1964 John Denison '69W (MA)** writes, “Longtime friends from the Class of '64 met the final weekend in July for the latest ‘Geezerfest’ at the lakeside home of Sue and **Dave Noonan** in West Chester, Ohio. In attendance were **Hank** and **Tina VanRensselear Allen**, **Charlie Rathbone**, and my wife, Martha, and me. A tour of downtown Cincinnati, spirited discussions of current affairs, plenty of good food and drink, and, of course, reminiscing about long-ago days at the River Campus comprised a great reunion weekend.” From left to right in the photo are John and Charlie in front and Dave, Tina, and Hank in back. . . . **Judith**



1961 Crowell



1964 Denison



1964 Ruderman

**Lehman Ruderman '66W** (MA) sends a photo and writes, "Members of the Class of '64 traveled together to four Balkan countries in spring 2022. From left: **Robert Witherspoon**, **Neil Cullen** (accompanied by **Betsey Weingart Cullen '66**; not pictured), me, and **Naomi Schwartzman Silvergleid**. It was a wonderful trip and reunion!"

**1965 Richard Rice** sends a photograph of himself (on left in photo) with squash partner Jim Zug Sr. They won the 75-plus division at the US National Doubles Squash Championships in Philadelphia in March.

**1966 Betsey Weingart Cullen** (see '64 College). . . **David Kaplan** (see '58).

**1967 Robert Lewy** sends a photo of "three U of R alumni from the Class of '67. We were also suite-mates in our senior year, and we got together with our wives in July in Brattleboro, Vermont." From left are **Paul Stein**, **Barry Gelber**, and Robert. Seated are their wives:



1967 Lewy

Barbara Lewy, Sharon Stein, and Rona Gelber.

**1968 University Trustee Cathy Minehan**, an honorary trustee and former chairman of the board at Massachusetts General Hospital, has joined McLean Hospital's board of trustees. She is currently a director of Bright Horizons Family Solutions and a trustee of the MITRE Corporation and of the Brookings Institution. An elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cathy retired from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in 2007 after 39 years with the Federal Reserve System. Located in Belmont, Massachusetts, McLean is the largest psychiatric affiliate of Harvard Medical School and a member of Mass General Brigham. . . **Chuck Smith** writes that in May, Dominion Stage of Arlington, Virginia, did a reading of his *Romantic Comradery*, which was a winner of their one-act play competition. In October, Northport Plays on Long Island scheduled a performance of Chuck's *Meeting Acute* as part of the "Halloween Edition" of the program's One-Act Play Festival.

**1969 John Levey** has published *Right for the Role* (Legacy Launch Pad Publishing), in which he documents his career as a casting director. He is a four-time Emmy Award-winning casting director and has cast such iconic television shows as *China Beach*, *ER*, *The West Wing*, and *Shameless* as well as dozens of other television series, mini-series, TV movies, digital series, video games, and feature films. John is also a five-time winner of the Casting Society of America's Artios Award and the recipient of its Hoyt Bowers Award, given for excellence in casting and outstanding contributions to the casting profession.

**1970 Paul Trainor** writes: "The 50th Class of 1970 reunion originally scheduled for September 2020 was canceled due to COVID and again canceled in September 2021 and finally combined with other reunion classes and took place in June of this year. At the June reunion, the many events, presentations, dinners, and participating organizations did an incredible job. I think that a good number of my class, all around age 73, have not retired, especially those who are medical doctors. I wish more of my class had attended." In the photo are (front row, left to



1965 Rice



1970 Trainor



1972 Buchanan

right) Paul, **Cynthia Rauker Rigby**, **Kathleen Thomas Grenier** '75W (EdM), **Priscilla Greene**, **Judith Skinner Straw**, **Michael Kaufman** '72 (MS), **Elliot Richman** '75 (PhD), and **Dale Stewart**; (back row) **Carl Helmers**, **Ralph Singh Rakieten**, **Mark Westcott**, **Judith Wagner DeCew**, **Spencer Soohoo**, **Jeanne Crane**, **Candace Geyer Cowan**, **Charles Cowan**, **Ron Rigby**, **Keith Knox** '75 (PhD), and **Eugene Kowaluk**.

**1972 Claire Buchanan** writes, "After a COVID-19 hiatus, we were finally able to pick up our tradition of getting 'Da Gang' together every few years to visit memory lane, share current news, and explore new places." The suitmates held their minireunion in Asheville, North Carolina, in May. Pictured (left to right) are **Ann Curtin-Knight**, **Claire**, **Barb Thorne Benkwitt**, **Patty Trombly Pogue**, **Cindy Cuddeback Smith**, **Paula Fearer Rauscher**, and **Jane Hunter Imber**. . . . **James Collins**, a professor of history at Georgetown University, writes that he has published *The French Monarchical Commonwealth, 1356–1560* (Cambridge University Press), in which he "explores the relationship between everyday politics and political theory in France between 1356 and 1651, in the first of two volumes on the practical origins of the concept of the State." . . . **Carl Filbrich** has published his second mystery novel, *No One's Daughter: A Mike Ramsey Novel* (Level Best). Carl describes the book as a story about a woman who disappears shortly after becoming instantly famous on the internet when she is arrested for doing something few people would consider a crime: kissing another woman in public. . . . **Katherine**

**(Kathy) Salazar-Poss** writes that she has retired after 24 years as general counsel for the American Academy of Ophthalmology in San Francisco. A graduate of the UC Berkeley School of Law, she is helping to publicize *Antonio, We Know You* (Wyatt-MacKenzie), a memoir written by her husband, Antonio Salazar-Hobson. . . . **Joe Smith** writes that he moved from Houston to St. Louis in 2018 to be close to his daughter and her family. When not being "Grandpa" to his two granddaughters, says Joe, he does some environmental science consulting and is busy with science outreach activities sponsored by the St. Louis section of the American Chemical Society. During the 2021–22 academic year, he presented chemistry demonstrations and talks to more than 1,000 students in second- and fifth-grade classes.

### 1973

#### 50TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend 2023*  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**Len Joy** '74S (MBA) writes that his new collection of short stories, *Casualties and Survivors* (Hark! New Era Publishing) became available in ebook and paperback in August. "Most of these stories," he says, "were published in literary journals in the last 10 years. They have, as the title would suggest, a common theme."

**1974 Linda Rosenzweig** writes, "I moved to the Wagner Law Group, continuing to practice in the areas of employment law and employee benefits law. In addition to practicing law, I spend time with my three

### HONOREES

## Celebration: American Academy of Arts and Sciences



**HIGH RECOGNITION:** Fellow Rochester honorees—William Jones, the Charles F. Houghton Professor of Chemistry (left), and Cathy Minehan '68, a University trustee and retired president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (right)—joined President Sarah Mangelsdorf (center) this fall to celebrate Mangelsdorf's formal induction as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The in-person ceremony in Cambridge, Massachusetts—delayed because of the pandemic—recognized inductees named in 2020, which was Mangelsdorf's year, and in 2021, a cohort that included Jones. Minehan and Richard Eisenberg, the Tracy H. Harris Professor of Chemistry Emeritus, were inducted in 2009, two of many Rochester alumni and faculty members who have been recognized by the academy, which is one of the nation's most highly regarded honors for artistic, academic, and scientific leaders who engage in advancing the public good.

grandchildren and my husband of 43 years, splitting my time between the DMV and Rehoboth Beach, Delaware." She was elected to the board of directors of the Olney Theatre Center in Olney, Maryland, in 2020 and she has served as chair as well as president of the American Jewish Committee's Washington region since 2021.

**1975 John Baynes** wrote in April, "I want to thank the University and the sports information folks for the support given to Marquel Slaughter and the *Democrat and Chronicle* for the article ('How a team from upstate NY transfixed the nation during dark days of WWII') last Christmas regarding the WWII wartime basketball teams of my father, **John Arthur Baynes** '47, '48W (EdM). Our son, **John Andrew Baynes** '18 (PhD), earned his PhD in economics from UR. We are a

UR family. I am retiring from a 46-year career as an English teacher in Rochester-area high schools: Aquinas Institute (1976–78), Fairport High (1978–2017), and Our Lady of Mercy (2017–22). The accompanying picture (see page 42) was taken at Our Lady of Mercy on Decision Day in 2018. These four women were students in my Advanced Placement literature class, and all four are graduating from the University. In addition to my teaching career, I serve as a member of the Monroe County Legislature representing Perinton and East Rochester. *Meliora!*" Pictured from left to right are **Ramitha Jonnala** '22, **Isabella Barbagallo** '22, **Summer Mills** '22, and **Catherine (Kate) Giugno** '23. . . . **Howard Stein**, chair of the real estate practice group at Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, was honored at Long Island's Mansion at Oyster Bay in June as a member



1975 Baynes

of the 2022 Long Island Press PowerList. . . . **Jane Weintraub** sends news: she has been inducted as the 51st president of the American Association for Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research. She holds the Rozier Douglass Distinguished Professorship and is a former dean of the dentistry school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Jane adds that she is “happily married to **Chris Barker** ’76, now retired after his career on the cutting edge of genomics and biotechnology.”

**1976 Joanne Doroshov**, the founder and executive director of the Center for Justice and Democracy at New York Law School, writes, “I am featured in the new Netflix limited series *Meltdown: Three Mile Island* as lead counsel for [the community advocacy group] TMI Alert 40 years ago.” The documentary series was released in May. . . . **Kevin McDermott** has coauthored *Paragraph 3: Conversations about Prepared Leadership in the Age of Perpetual Uncertainty* (Page Publishing), a book kindled by the lack of leadership response to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. . . . **Joy Wiltenburg** ’78 (MA), a professor emerita of history at Rowan University in New Jersey, writes that her new book, *Laughing Histories: From the Renaissance Man to the Woman of Wit* (Routledge), a study of laughter in relation to power, aggression, gender, sex, class, and social bonding, “has received

high praise from several famed historians.”

**1977 John (Jack) Carmola, Gary Thal, Jeff Tischler** ’78S (MBA), **Rick Rosenblum, Neal Vorchheimer** (see ’79).

**1978**

#### 45TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
Rochester.edu/reunion

**Diane Marshall Ennist**, senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary for Carey International, “was recently honored by the Washington, DC, Association of Corporate Counsel National Capital Region (ACC NCR) Chapter with the chapter service award,” writes her husband, **Dave Ennist**,



1978 Ennist

who also sends a photograph of the two of them at the awards reception in July 2022. Diane is a board member and the chapter’s first vice president of engagement, leadership, and community as well as a former cochair of its corporate scholars program.

**1979** The family of **Andrew Libo**, who died in October 2011, has established two scholarships in his memory: the Andrew L. Libo, Esq. ’79 Scholarship in the School of Arts & Sciences and the Libo Meyerowitz Family Scholarship to Promote Study in Neuro Oncology in the School of Medicine and Dentistry. . . . **Ricky Peltzman** writes, “Yes, **Gary Thal** ’77 really exists and is doing well!” Ricky sends a photo taken this summer at Gary’s Fire Island house. Pictured are **Jeff Tischler** ’77, ’78S (MBA), Gary, Ricky, **Harwin (Bone) Goldman** ’78, **John (Jack) Carmola** ’77, **Neal Vorchheimer** ’77, and **Rick Rosenblum** ’77.

**1981 Fred Guterl** (see ’14).

**1982 Peter Antonucci** writes that his second book in his Billionaires at Sea series, *Scandal at Sea: Billionaires in the Deep* (self-published), was released in July. The book follows his 2019 novel *Billionaire’s Paradise: Ecstasy at Sea* (Willow Street Press). . . . **Kim Buster Turner** writes that she graduated from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in May with a concentration in health management. While at Harvard, she received additional certifications in leadership; Harvard peer coaching; and equity, diversity, and inclusion. She plans to be a chief health officer for a consulting company. Kim has

worked as an executive in public health for more than 20 years and was instrumental in COVID-19 community outreach and response. She adds that she has three children and enjoys playing golf and tennis.

**1983**

#### 40TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
Rochester.edu/reunion

**1984 David Bertoni**, a partner in the Portland, Maine, law firm Brann & Isaacson, writes that he is joining the University of Maine Law School in the fall of 2022 as an adjunct professor teaching advanced civil procedure. . . . **Amy Zaslow Cohen** sends a photo and writes, “**Bill Cohen** and I enjoyed watching our son, **Ben Cohen** ’22, graduate in May from the Hajim School. Ben’s grandfather **Michael Cohen** ’61 was also there. From left to right are four alumni from three generations: Bill, Ben, Mike, and me.” . . . **Scott Evans** writes that his poems “Lies!s Sonnet” and “All Clouds Are Beautiful” will be published by Poetry Salzburg at the University of Salzburg, Austria, in *Poetry Salzburg Review* 39. His poem, “Write Your Words in the Sand” will be published in the fifth issue of the e-zine *Straight on Till Morning* (Lost Boys Press). . . . **Bill Hayes** (see ’88E). . . . **Brian Neff** (see ’86). . . . **Scott Rummler**, founder and CEO of the financial technology company BooleanGrid, writes, “I’ve developed an algorithm that uses quantum supercomputers to accurately predict the outcome of complex ‘random’ phenomena. We’re crushing the benchmarks for



1979 Peltzman



1984 Cohen

Bitcoin, equity markets, and NBA spreads (sports fans know what I mean). Hedge fund managers at Latham & Watkins suggested I start my own hedge fund—so I'm looking for partners and investors." . . . **Kurt Wittneben** (see '86).

**1985 Forrest Strauss** writes, "After more than 33 years of practice, including five years as a Brooklyn assistant DA and 28 years as a principal court attorney engaged in the investigation and prosecution of attorney misconduct cases, I finally retired at the end of December 2021 from my position as a principal attorney for the New York State court system. Since then, I've continued to serve as Monroe Village's part-time elected village justice while preparing to open a small attorney and judicial grievance defense law practice sometime later this year." Forrest adds, "In the meantime, I'm enjoying playing more piano and guitar, searching for a hot rod to wrench on so I can road rally more with my son, using my hands to work on my house, and finally enjoying the absence of the full-time work stress that was taking so much from me until now. Retirement

is good!" . . . **Bonnie Scouler Wojciehowski** writes to share that her parents, both alumni, have died in the last few years: **William Scouler** '55 in February 2020 and **Carol Greenwald Scouler** '54N, '56 in January 2022. Bonnie adds, "They were both huge supporters of Rochester and were very involved. I remember growing up and seeing my father do U of R interviews in our house. I knew I was destined for Rochester, even as a young child."

**1986 Marion Maneker** (see '58). . . **Emily Swartz Silva** sends a photo and writes, "My husband **Curt** '85 and I went skiing at Vail, Colorado, in March 2022. We had a great time connecting with **Brian Neff** '84 and **Kurt Wittneben** '84. Brian, Curt, and I skied, and Kurt snowboarded throughout the back bowls of Vail, and we enjoyed many drinks and some nice meals together." . . . **Glenn Stambo**, chief of interventional radiology at AdventHealth Carrollwood, writes, "I was accepted into the fellowship of the Society of Interventional Radiology. This is the highest honor for our society. After 25 years in interventional radiology

practice, it was well worth the wait. I am in practice in Tampa, Florida."

**1987 John Geraci** '89S (MBA), founder and president of the market research agency Crux Research, has written *POLL-ARIZED: Why Americans Don't Trust the Polls—and How to Fix Them Before It's Too Late* (Houndstooth Press). The book, writes John, "is a provocative examination of what has gone wrong with US pre-election polls." . . . **James Husson** has been named vice president of development and alumni relations at the University of Pennsylvania, where he will head a division devoted to fundraising and to nurturing relationships with the university's more than 290,000 living graduates. James was previously with Boston College, where he served as senior vice president for university advancement and led the planning and execution of the largest campaign in its history. . . . **Julie Taddeo** '97 (PhD), a research professor of history at the University of Maryland-College Park, writes that she has published two books in 2022. She coauthored *Rape in Period Drama Television: Consent,*

*Myth, and Fantasy* (Lexington), and she coedited an academic collection of essays, *Diagnosing History: Medicine in Period Drama Television* (Manchester University Press).

## 1988

### 35TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023

October 5 to 8, 2023

Rochester.edu/reunion

**Jackie Millard Kramer** writes, "In June I was promoted to managing attorney of the Maryland staff counsel office for Selective Insurance Company." . . . **Kenneth Slater Jr.** has been named managing partner of Halloran Sage, a law firm with more than 80 attorneys and six offices across Connecticut and Massachusetts and a branch in Washington, DC. Ken practices municipal law, land use and environmental law, real estate, and civil litigation. He cochairs the firm's environmental and land use practice group.

**1989 Michael Chang** '96 (PhD) sends a photo from a May 2022



1986 Silva



1989 Chang



1990 Mui

minireunion in Istanbul (see page 43). “I was on vacation visiting Turkey with my wife and planned ahead to meet up with these three Turkish alumni. It was great catching up and learning about their success stories,” he writes. Clockwise from left are **Arif (Tanju) Erdem** ’90 (PhD), Michael and his wife, Sue, **Mehmet Ozkan** ’92 (PhD) and his wife, Hatice, and Tanju’s wife, **Cigdem Fidan Erdem** ’20W (PhD).

**1990 Lisa Mui** sends a photo of “Class of 1990 KDs together on the Jersey Shore.” From left are **Erin O’Rourke Fuller**, **Lisa Chapman Clay**, **Brenda Gingalewski Smith**, **Lisa**, and **Stacey (Nicole) Schaeffer Orlov**.

**1992** “Coyotes, flyfishing, rivers, and wheelchairs,” writes **Andrew Gottlieb**. “My first full-length collection of poems, *Tales of a Distance: Poems* (Trail to Table Books), came out in May and examines landscape, the natural world, and our humanity among the same.” His work has appeared in *American Fiction*, *Arts & Letters*, *Best New Poets*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Ecotone*, the *Fly Fish Journal*, *Mississippi Review*, *Orion*, and other journals. He’s been the writer-in-residence at wilderness locations, including the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest and three US national parks: Denali, Everglades, and Isle Royale. . . . **Valery Perry**, a researcher and consultant and senior associate for the Democratization Policy Council in Sarajevo, was a guest on WXXI-AM’s *Connections* with *Evan Dawson* in Rochester in May. Valery discussed her research on political violence and extremism in Europe and

Central Asia and what can be done to address the issue of far-right, white supremacist extremism both abroad and in the US. . . . **Shail Mithani Rajan** has published her second book, *The Recipient* (self-published), featuring romance and suspense in a small-town setting.

**1993****30TH REUNION**

*Meliora Weekend 2023*  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](http://Rochester.edu/reunion)

The husband of **Gail Speakman** shares news that Gail died unexpectedly in May. Peter Cavallo writes that Gail earned an MBA from LaSalle University and an MS from Temple University and worked in biochemistry before transitioning to clinical trials data management. For the last eight years she operated Speakman Data Services as an independent contractor to Pfizer. Peter adds that while Gail was a student, she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority, the Pep Band, and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

**1994 Alvaro Navarro**, an adjunct professor of entrepreneurship at IE University in Madrid, Spain, has published a collection of 80 free-verse poems written in English, *Words in the Storm* (Letframe Editorial). Alvaro writes that the poems, inspired by quotes from 50 contemporary and classical writers, “capture my thoughts and reflections about life.”

**1996 Daniel Dardani** writes, “After spending nearly 20 years at MIT’s technology licensing office as a

technology transfer executive, I have joined Duke University’s Office for Translation and Commercialization as its director of physical sciences and digital innovation licensing and corporate alliances.”

**1998****25TH REUNION**

*Meliora Weekend 2023*  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](http://Rochester.edu/reunion)

**Jennifer Barsamian** has been appointed assistant to the director of the University’s Arezzo Liso Italian Studies program. One of the first graduates of the Italian studies program, she attended the Arezzo program in its inaugural year, 1994, as well as in 1995 and 1996. She has a master’s degree in Italian language and culture from Middlebury College. Jennifer taught Italian in public schools for 17 years, forming an exchange program with Liceo Vittoria Colonna—a linguistic high school in Italy—and has traveled to Arezzo with dozens of students.

**2000 Meghan Brown**, a partner with the law firm Goldberg Segalla, has been named a vice chair of the firm’s national civil litigation and trial practice group. In addition to counseling and representing clients, Meghan provides mentoring support to newer attorneys as part of the firm’s women’s initiative.

**2001 Joseph Brennan** ’05S (MBA) has been named senior vice president, commercial and industrial banking market executive for Northwest Bank’s upstate New York region. He also serves on the Board of Governors Construction Exchange of Buffalo and Western New York and the board of directors of the Construction Finance Management Association. . . . **Emily Zeman Eddy**, an assistant professor at MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston, writes that she has been promoted to program director of the entry-level occupational therapy doctoral program. Emily moves from her role as associate director of clinical education in the department. She continues to mentor research advisees and teach pediatric-based coursework while also serving the department in her new role.

**2002 Jarlath McGuckin**, the deputy director of the Monterey Initiative in Russian Studies at the

Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California, and **Adam Kurtz** ’01 have formed a band called Kino Proby. The group is a tribute to Soviet rock group Kino, founded by influential songwriter and singer Viktor Tsoi. The band performed a campus concert in September as part of a Department of Modern Languages and Cultures symposium “Viktor Tsoi, Rock & Roll and the Soviet State.” “Adam and I have been playing Tsoi’s music since 2004, bringing together Russian speakers (and non-Russian speakers) with a fierce live show that highlights this musical genius,” Jarlath writes. Professor Rita Safariants and Professor John Givens (thesis advisor for Jarlath and Adam) organized the event. “Having worked in international education for almost 20 years, I have visited campus many times for study abroad fairs and to give talks to students in the Russian department.” . . . **Elizabeth Strychalski**, the founder and leader of the cellular engineering group at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, has been named a 2022 Outstanding Young Scientist by the Maryland Academy of Sciences and the Maryland Science Center. Elizabeth conducts research in engineering biology, synthetic biology, nano- and microelectromechanical systems, and policy to provide a foundation of measurements needed to support the design and control of engineered function in living systems. In the accompanying photo, Elizabeth (center) received her award from Mark Potter, president and CEO of the Maryland Science Center, and Mollie Mulherin Thompson, vice chair of the center’s Science and Education Advisory Council.

**2003****20TH REUNION**

*Meliora Weekend 2023*  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](http://Rochester.edu/reunion)

**2006 Alec Immerman**, a financial analyst in Ithaca, New York, has written his third novel, *The Lost Timepiece* (self-published), a surrealist story, he says, that “blurs lines between past and present, romance and reality, poetry and prose.” The ambitious narrative is a departure for him, he says, as he is best known for the “sci-fi cerebrum trilogy.” Alec adds that his economics degree from Rochester “still comes in handy” at



## 2002 Strychalski

his day job. . . . **Jonathan Lax** has been appointed deputy chief of the business and securities fraud section in the US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York.

## 2008

### 15TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**Allison Goldstein**, a self-employed writer and editor, has coauthored *Inclusalytics: How Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leaders Use Data to Drive Their Work* (independently published) with Victoria Mattingly and Sertrice Grice. The book is a guide for leaders of internal diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives to reliably gather, measure, track, and use data to determine their strategy and measure its effectiveness. . . . **Jennifer Mikels** has been promoted to director at Goulston & Storrs in Boston, where she represents clients in commercial disputes and legal malpractice matters. Jennifer writes that she has deep experience trying cases in federal and state courts and arbitration, helping obtain many pre-trial judgments, and guiding her clients through complex settlement negotiations.

**2009 Amanda Ziegler '10 (KEY)** writes that she earned her PhD in community health and health

behavior from the University at Buffalo in 2022.

## 2013

### 10TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

### Grace Czechowski and Gert Lloaj

'09 were married in Isle of Palms, South Carolina, in March 2022, surrounded by close friends and family, writes Grace. They live in Washington, DC, where Gert works for the Department of Energy, and Grace works for Piper Companies as a technical recruitment account executive. . . . **Jason Silverstein** is the social strategy editor for the



2013 Czechowski and Lloaj

audience team at the *New York Times*. Before joining the *Times* in March, Jason was a social media manager and video producer covering national politics at CBS News, where he also worked on several documentaries.

**2014 Julia Sklar** has written *The Brain: Discover the Ways Your Mind Works*, a single-topic special "bookazine" issue of *National Geographic Magazine* on neuroscience. "I credit this opportunity in many ways to my time at Rochester and connections made through the alumni network," she writes. As a sophomore majoring in brain and cognitive sciences, Julia says she spent many hours working on the *Campus Times* and thinking about what she wanted to do after college. A profile in *Rochester Review* of **Fred Guterl '81**, then executive editor of *Scientific American*, sparked an idea for how she could reconcile her interests in journalism and brain and cognitive sciences. "A science journalist. I'd never heard of such a job, but I thought, 'this person is doing what I want to do.' I reached out to Fred in search of a mentor, and he was the first person to point me in the right direction." Julia later got a master's degree in science journalism at Boston University, worked for several years at *MIT Technology Review*, and built a successful freelance career over the last four years, encountering many Rochester connections and support along the way. "I joke often that science journalism is the natural career for a Rochester graduate: a perfect marriage of the sciences and humanities and a life path made for someone who doesn't want to pick only one interest. Ultimately, my major, opportunities, and alumni connections coalesced to bring me to this *National Geographic* issue."

**2015 Anansa Benbow** has been named a lexicographer for the *Dictionary of African American English* published by Oxford University Press. Anansa founded and hosted the Black Language Podcast, which ran in 2020. . . . **Kevin Carr** writes that he has published his first book, *The Musician's Guide to Digital Marketing* (self-published), which presents practical digital marketing strategies for musicians. . . . **Victoria Le** writes, "I got married last November to Eric Burkett in Houston and had a mini-U of R reunion at our wedding.

The photo (see page 46) was taken after our surprise lion dance performance during our reception. In the photo, we are both wearing traditional Vietnamese wedding attire." Pictured, from left, are **Samay Kapadia**, **Runyu Bi**, **Kyle Abram**, **Kristina Souders-Medvescek**, **Eli Medvescek**, **Ashley Dockham '17M (MS)**, **Ashok Kamani '16**, **Victoria**, **Eric**, **Khoa Nguyen '89**, **'94M (MD)**, **Nicholas Hill**, **Thanh Hoang '13**, **Thomas Doser '13**, **'13E**, **Erick McNair '17**, and **Javier Dominguez**.

**2016 Siyavush Saidian** has been promoted to managing editor at LSI Solutions, a medical device manufacturing company in Victor, New York, which he joined in 2020 as a technical writer. . . . **Abby Wentworth** and **Isaac Sheinkopf '15** send a photo (see page 46) from their January 2022 wedding. The sizable group of guests are "all U of R alumni!" writes Abby.

**2017 Rachel Wadsworth** has been admitted to practice law in New York State and has joined Bousquet Holstein, a firm with offices in Syracuse and Ithaca. She graduated from Albany Law School in 2021, where she served as the managing editor for submissions of the *Albany Government Law Review* journal during her third year. Rachel worked with the Federal Public Defenders of Northern New York and Legal Assistance of Western New York's Pro Se Divorce Clinic during law school.

## 2018

### 5TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend 2023  
October 5 to 8, 2023  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**2022 Ben Cohen** (see '84). . . . **Isabella Barbagallo**, **Ramitha Jonnala**, and **Summer Mills** (see '75).

**2023 Catherine (Kate) Giugno** (see '75).

## Graduate ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

**1959** The son of **Richard Weeks** (PhD) writes with a remembrance of his father, who died in July. Richard received a master's degree and a



2015 Le



2016 Wentworth and Sheinkopf

PhD from the Institute of Optics. Writes Dan Weeks: "During a long career, he contributed to the Apollo space program and worked with early lasers. At Polaroid Corporation, he headed the team that designed the optics for the iconic Polaroid SX-70, the world's first folding single-lens reflex camera. For this he and a colleague earned the Richardson Medal from the Optical Society of America, of which he was a fellow, for distinguished contribution to applied optics in 1980. Later, NASA

asked him to chair a blue-ribbon panel of scientists and engineers charged with overseeing the metrology in fabricating the optics of the Chandra x-ray observatory."

**1960 Martha Beck Burton** (see '58 College).

**1961 David Burton** (see '58 College).

**1963 Maxine Neustadt Lurie** (MA), a professor emerita of

history at Seton Hall University, has published *Taking Sides in Revolutionary New Jersey: Caught in the Crossfire* (Rutgers University Press), an overview of how the American Revolution played out in New Jersey that concentrates on the sides taken by residents. She writes, "The book argues that this was a nasty civil war in which everyone paid a price."

**1972 Michael Kaufman** (MS) (see '70 College).

**1975 Keith Knox** (PhD) and **Elliot Richman** (PhD) (see '70 College).

**1978 Joy Wiltenburg** (MA) (see '76 College).

**1979 Clinton Parker** (MS) writes, "I retired after 31 years as senior software engineer with Parker-Hannefin in Charlotte, North Carolina. We moved to our family farm in Delaware after my retirement. I have been married to Deborah McCord for 28 years, and we have four grown daughters: Chelsea, Vanessa, Alexis, and Marissa. I'm enjoying rural living after 30-plus years of suburban living and looking forward to traveling soon. We raise and show purebred Tonkinese cats as a hobby and now have a working farm."

**1982 Clive Diefenbacher** (MS) was a recipient of the American Chemical Society's 2021 Heroes of Chemistry Award for his work at Novartis as a member of the research team that discovered Entresto, a medication for the treatment of heart failure.

**1984 Patrick Scanlon** (PhD), a professor emeritus of communication at Rochester Institute of Technology, has published *Casting and Mending: How Therapeutic Fly Fishing Heals Shattered Minds and Bodies* (RIT Press).

**1986 William Creasy** (PhD) has published *Making a Happy Society: Group Selection and Culture* (independently published), a collection of essays from the newsletter of Washington Area Secular Humanists, a nonprofit educational organization in Maryland that promotes secular humanist activities.

**1988 Randi Minetor** (MA) has written the seventh book in the non-fiction *Death in the National Parks* series: *Death in the Everglades: Accidents, Foolhardiness, and Mayhem in South Florida* (Lyons Press). She writes that the book "tells gripping tales of mysterious deaths, clandestine crimes, and disasters in Everglades history. Body dumps and murders, commercial airline crashes, hurricanes, alligator attacks, smuggling shootouts, airboat accidents, and more crowd this epic page turner."

**1992 Mehmet Ozkan** (PhD) (see '89 College).

**1996 Michael Chang** (PhD) (see '89 College).

**1997 Julie Taddeo** (PhD) (see '87 College). . . **Lynn Vavreck** (PhD), the Marvin Hoffenberg Professor of American Politics and Public Policy at UCLA and a professor of political science and communication, has coauthored *The Bitter End: The 2020 Presidential Campaign and the Challenge to American Democracy* (Princeton University Press), released in late September.

**2007 Jennifer Ailles** (PhD) writes, "In August 2021 I was promoted to professor III, the highest rank at Palm Beach State College. I have taught literature and English at the Palm Beach Gardens campus since 2016."

**2018 John Andrew Baynes** '18 (PhD) (see '75 College).

## Eastman School of Music

**1930** Robert Freeman, who directed the Eastman School from 1972 to 1996, and his brother Jim are keeping alive the story of their remarkable family and its connections to Eastman. Their grandfather Harry Freeman was a trumpeter in John Philip Sousa's band and the first trumpet professor at Eastman. Their parents **Henry** and **Florence Knope Freeman** met as students at Eastman and went on to notable careers in music—Henry as principal bass in the Boston Symphony; Florence as a teacher of violin, viola, and chamber music. The sons have edited and published Henry's autobiography, *American Dream Realized: From the Tenements of New York City to the Eastman School of Music to the Boston Symphony Orchestra* (self-published), and they commissioned a recording, *Three Tributes* (Innova), in their parents' memory. Among the composers contributing to the CD is Pulitzer Prize winner **Kevin Puts** '94, '99 (DMA). Robert received an honorary degree from the University in 2015, when the atrium of the Sibley Music Library was dedicated in honor of the Freeman family. Jim was a member of Swarthmore College's faculty for nearly 40 years and founded and conducted Philadelphia's Orchestra 2001, with which he made recordings of new American music. [Note:

Robert Freeman died in October, a few months after submitting this note—Editor.]

**1968 Bill Cahn** writes that Nexus and Sō Percussion have released a new album, *Steve Reich*, which features four works composed by Reich. Bill and **Bob Becker** '69, '71 (MM) are members of Nexus, and **Jason Treuting** '99 is a member of Sō Percussion.

**1969 Joel Suben**, executive vice president and artistic director at Save the Music, writes, "I am pleased to announce the commercial release of an album of my orchestral music, *Orchestral Works, 1976-2008* (Coeles)."

**1970 Geary Larrick** (MM) has published writing citations in Books in Print, Music Index, RILM Abstracts, WorldCat, and Google Scholar. A percussionist and retired music professor from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Gary lives in Glenview, Illinois.

**1971 Bob Becker** (MM) (see '68).

**1972 Ted Piltzecker**, a professor emeritus of composition at SUNY Purchase, writes that he is enjoying more time to perform as a vibraphonist. Appearances include the Hungarian House in Manhattan, Dazzle Jazz Club in Denver, the Muse in Boulder, North Street Cabaret in Madison, Wisconsin, and the Blue Bamboo Arts Center in Orlando as well as college dates at the University of Wisconsin-Duluth, University of Colorado, Boulder, and the University of Central Florida. His *March* recording was released in the summer, and he was scheduled to do another in October. Ted adds that he

is also a first pilot for the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and still rides his unicycle regularly.

**1975 Andrea Kapell Loewy** writes, "I retired this spring term from my job as a professor of flute/theory at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette after 37 years. I was appointed professor emerita and will be happy to continue to be involved in music making with colleagues as well as helping with committee work as needed. I will continue to play principal flute with the regional orchestra, Acadiana Symphony, and have been asked to perform a concerto with the orchestra this coming season."

**1978 David Starkweather**, a professor of cello at the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia has written *Johann Sebastian Bach Six Suites for Violoncello Solo* (self-published), for which he received the University of Georgia's Albert Christ Janer Creative Research Award in 2022. David writes, "Most likely written in 1720, the original manuscript in Bach's hand is lost. The lack of a clear primary source is an interpretive challenge for cellists. This comprehensive 614-page PDF edition compares the six sources line-by-line by vertically aligning them. Differences between these sources are clearly marked, thus greatly facilitating comparison."

**1979 Elizabeth (Bettie) Bankhead Buccheri** (DMA), a retired senior lecturer at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, is chair of the artistic and awards committee of the Solti Foundation US. She writes, "Our mission is to support young

American conductors. In the past 20 years our foundation has given over \$1 million to these worthy young musicians." In 2018, the foundation named its opera residency program for Bettie.

**1984 John Cipolla**, a music professor at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, has been named a University Distinguished Professor. He writes, "Being named a University Distinguished Professor is among the highest honors a WKU professor can achieve at the university." The program is designed to recognize faculty members who have served Western Kentucky with distinction and have compiled an outstanding record of achievement in teaching, research, and service. John's music career has taken him across the globe, including engagements throughout Europe and South America, along with a decades-long career in New York City as a woodwind specialist.

**1985 Donald Kendrick** (DMA) writes: "I was the first DMA conducting student at the Eastman School of Music when the program was initiated. I started with Dr. James G. Smith, and halfway through my program, he left to teach at George Mason University, so [then Director] Robert Freeman asked me to take over the choral music department for the next year while they did a national search. I was also the early recipient of the Louise Rogers Goucher scholarship that included a work project under the guidance of my advisor, Dr. Alfred Mann. I was fortunate to conduct the Eastman Sing in the early years, also. I have such happy memories of my time at Eastman. I retired after 33 years as the director of choral activities at Sacramento State School of Music, where I initiated the graduate degree program in conducting. I have continued my post as the music director for Sacramento's Schola Cantorum of Sacred Heart Church and as music director for the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra." Donald sends a photograph of himself "conducting that ensemble in a performance of the Verdi Requiem in May after over two years of silence due to the pandemic. We had a sold-out theater of over 1,500 people."

**1986 Clara O'Brien** (MM) has released *Das stille Leuchten* (Ablaze



**1975 Loewy**



1985 Kendrik

Records), a recording of songs by Swiss composer Othmar Schoeck. Clara is a voice professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is codirector with her husband, **Lance Hulme** '98 (MM), of *À la carte*, a concert series of eclectic music.

**1988 Tom Nazziola** writes, "After several years in the making, I am pleased to share the first album by my ensemble, the BQE Project, featuring excerpts of my original scores for silent films and early talkies. From the comedies of Buster Keaton to early science fiction (*The Golem* by Paul Wegener), *Music for Film Volume 1* (Goju Records) is a compilation of diverse soundtracks flawlessly performed by musicians of the BQE Project, many of whom are Eastman alumni." The ensemble includes **Dan Willis** (Daniel Wieloszynski) '90, **Bill Hayes** '84RC, **Conrad Harris** '91, **Gregg August** '87, **Joe Tompkins** '92, and **Greg Chudzik** '06. Tom adds that his 2021 release, *Distant Places* (Goju Records) includes the Grammy-nominated piece "Cat and Mouse." . . . **Paula Santirocco** (MM) wrote an article published in the May 2022 *Bulletin of the Rochester Academy of Science*. In "Inscrutable Smile of the Universe: DaVinci in Space," she compares the shape of the spiral

galaxy NGC 7172 to the smile captured in Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*. Paula is a member of the astronomy section of the academy and continues her career as an artist and jewelry creator. She adds that she is the former principal flutist in the Cleveland Opera and Cleveland Ballet orchestras.

**1990 Robin Holtz Williams** (DMA), a music professor at the University of New Orleans, released *A Piano in the House: On a Winter's Eve* (Mockingbird Press), the third CD in her *Piano in the House* series. Robin writes, "The series looks back to a time when the piano, and someone playing it, often underpinned the daily currents of home life. Such works, some by composers whose names have largely been forgotten, deserve to be preserved. They collectively reveal the surprising truth that some of the world's most beautiful music resides comfortably in this smaller-scale world."

**1991 Conrad Harris** (see '88).

**1992 Joe Tompkins** (see '88).

**1993 Violinist Kelly Hall-Tompkins** sends an update from a busy first half of the year. In March, her nonprofit organization, Music Kitchen—Food for the Soul, pre-

sented at Carnegie Hall the world premiere of "Forgotten Voices," a composite song cycle that sets comments written by homeless-shelter clients to music. In April, Kelly was part of another Carnegie Hall debut, when she served as concertmaster for the Gateways Music Festival Orchestra's performance. And in May, she received an honorary degree and was commencement speaker at Adelphi University, the first musician to receive such recognition from Adelphi. Kelly was a featured artist of the McKim Commission Series for violin soloists at the Library of Congress in June. She has also made her debut as a published author by contributing a chapter to a new Routledge International publication on music and human rights. In June she was preparing for upcoming performances of the Wynton Marsalis Violin Concerto with the Las Vegas Philharmonic and the Elgin Symphony. "I am honored to be the first violinist to perform this monumental piece after the original dedicatee. I think it is one of the most important violin concertos of the 21st century, and it feels like being reacquainted with an old friend."

**1999 Kevin Puts** (see '30). . . **Jason Treuting** (see '68).

**2004 Gregory Hershberger** sends news: "Gonzaga [University] and WSU [Washington State University] both accepted me into the music program, you are loved, and go Cougs!"

**2006 Greg Chudzik** (see '88).

**2007 Guitarist Simon Fletcher**, who grew up in Rush, New York, writes that he has released his first self-published record of original compositions and hosted a live premiere at the newly renovated Avon Park Theater in Avon, New York, as part of the theater's reopening on the eve of its 84th anniversary. Simon's *Soundtrack to the Seasons: Upstate New York* (self-produced) features 12 songs reflecting the cyclical nature of the seasons.

**2008 Tiffany Ng** (MM) writes that she has been appointed chair of the University of Michigan's organ department, a year after her promotion to tenure and receipt of the Henry Russel Award, the university's highest honor for early-to-mid-career-stage faculty. Her most recent album is *Dark Matters: Carillon Music of Stephen Rush* (Innova).

**2019 Blaire Koemer** (DMA) writes that she and **Rosanna Moore** (DMA) as part of their duo Hats + Heels, have developed an all-female and nonbinary commissioning project. Their *Women Are . . .* project features collaborations with artists to create new interdisciplinary bassoon and harp repertoire that incorporates women-related figures, characters, topics, or ideology.

## School of Medicine and Dentistry

**1955 Mario Sparagana** (MD) (see '51 College).

**1962 Charles Halsted** (MD) sends an update: "Since my graduation in 1962, I performed my military service at the US Naval Medical Research Unit No. 3 in Cairo, Egypt, where I cared for military personnel as well as several sick Egyptian children with tropical diseases. Subsequently, I returned to Baltimore, Maryland, where I obtained specialty training in gas-

troenterology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. In 1968, I moved to Davis, California, where I established my career at the UC Davis Medical Center with a new specialty of clinical nutrition. During my medical career, I published more than 200 original scientific articles and several book chapters. Following my retirement in 2015, I established a new career as a poet, publishing in more than 40 poetry journals as well as publishing four books of poetry with three more in progress."

**1963 Robert Scaer (MD)** (see '59 College).

**1968 Stuart Bauer (MD)**, a urologist at Boston Children's Hospital and professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School, writes, "Last November I received the 2021 John W. Duckett Jr., MD Pediatric Urology Research Excellence Award from the Urology Care Foundation of the American Urological Association for my contributions to pediatric urology over my career." He notes, "The ceremony was delayed six months due to the COVID pandemic and its impact on the AUA's annual meeting last spring."

**1974 Lionel Cudzinowski (Pdc)** sends an update: "I was a full-time professor at the dental faculty of the Université de Montréal in pediatric dentistry for 42 years. I also worked at the pediatric hospital attached to the faculty. I am fully retired, but I still give lectures at the university in pediatric dentistry. I am married to my wife of 43 years, and we have two children; both are established in their respective professions."

**1981 David Nash (MD)**, the founding dean emeritus and the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy at Thomas Jefferson University's Jefferson College of Population Health in Philadelphia, has coauthored *How Covid Crashed the System: A Guide to Fixing American Health Care* (Rowman & Littlefield).

**1993 Amy (Janai-Ami) Halikman (Flw)**, an ophthalmologist in California, writes that her artwork was included in the 21st *International Japan Exhibition* in April. The juried exhibition included the *USA Exhibition*, with representation of the American Contemporaries, many from the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

"I had several contemporary florals in oil commenting on societal events that were juried into this year's show. The exhibition opened during cherry blossom season at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, the first art museum in Japan opened to the public for their enjoyment and as such retains a unique position in arts and culture in Japan." Amy also had two pieces juried into a September show at the Boomer Gallery in London.

**1998 Laura Hirayama-Madrid (PhD)** received an Outstanding Service Award in 2021 from the National Association of Medical Examiners in recognition of outstanding service and significant contributions to the advancement of the medicolegal investigation of deaths in the United States.

**2000 Babur Lateef (Res)**, a board-certified ophthalmologist in northern Virginia, has been appointed chair of the Health System Board of the University of Virginia's board of visitors. The board provides oversight for many constituents, including the UVA Medical Center, its schools of medicine and nursing, and UVA Community Health, as well as an affiliated physicians group.

**2011 Catherine Yee (MD)** writes, "I have been appointed medical director and CMO of Western Washington Medical Group as of April 2022. I'm excited to be serving the organization and the community while also continuing to practice interventional pain and psychiatry. I am grateful for the SMD and URM network as I take on this new role."

## School of Nursing

**1954 Carol Greenwald Scouler '56RC** (see '85 College).

**1984 Beth Quinn Jameson**, an assistant professor of nursing at Seton Hall University, was inducted as a fellow of the National Academy of School Nursing at the National Association of School Nurses' annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia. She was one of only seven school nurses from around the country to receive the association's highest recognition this year. For almost 30 years of her nursing career, Beth has advocated for children's health, developing a program of research to advance

the health of school-age children and to inform school health policy in academic and clinical practice environments. In 2021, Beth received a Seton Hall Faculty Researcher of the Year Award.

**1994 Sandra Mitchell (Pmc)** writes that she has been promoted to senior scientist at the National Institutes of Health's cancer institute. She also serves as a program director in the institute's outcomes research branch of the health care delivery research program. Sandra's primary research focuses on the measurement and management of symptom distress and impairments in physical function, pediatric and adult cancer survivorship, and testing and implementation of novel approaches to cancer care delivery. A fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, Sandra maintains a clinical practice in survivorship care and conducts research as an adjunct investigator in the institute's immune deficiency and cellular therapy program.

## Simon Business School

**1963 Bruce Hopkins** is being remembered by his family and friends. His wife, Jane, writes that Bruce made a 20-year career of the Navy, serving in Vietnam, Cambodia, Spain, and Morocco before retiring in San Diego at the rank of commander. He met Jane while pursuing his MBA at Stanford University; they married in 1970 and remained inseparable for the next 52 years. Jane adds that they enjoyed traveling the world, musical theater, entertaining, movies, bridge, and fine cuisine. Bruce died in August at age 80. He's survived by Jane, his sister Carol, son, Brent, daughter-in-law, Rebecca, and granddaughter, Charlotte.

**1968 Robert Hesselberth (MBA)**, the retired founder and CEO of Spectracom Corporation (now part of Orolia), wrote in April that his new book had just been released. *How to Manage Small Business Cash Flow* (Artisan Quest Books) is a basic how-to book for those who need to keep the bank balance of a company or a nonprofit from dipping below zero.

**1970 Donald Kingston (MBA)** writes, "I was reelected in December



1993 Halikman

2021 as the mayor of the Town of Duck, North Carolina, now serving in my sixth consecutive term and seventh term on the town council.”

**1971** Singer-songwriter **Ron Gidron** (MBA) writes that, due to the pandemic, for the past two years “we [have been] spending most of the time in our beach place in Alicante in southeastern Spain. Here I keep writing music and recently also a life journey book, teaching online classes to granddaughters, and hoping peace will return soon to Europe.”

**1974** **Len Joy** (MBA) (see '73 College).

**1978** **Jeff Tischler** (MBA) (see '79 College).

**1989** **John Geraci** (MBA) (see '87 College).

**1992** **Christopher Rossi** (MBA), president and chief executive officer of Pennsylvania-based Kennametal, has been named to the board of directors for the National Association of Manufacturers, the largest manufacturing association in the United States.

**1995** **Dorothy Hunter Gordon** (MBA) writes, “I am delighted to share that I changed jobs in November 2021 after 19-plus years at the same place. I now am the chief advancement and engagement officer for Mainstay Life Services [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania].” Dorothy adds, “In this role, I spearhead fundraising and communications efforts to promote and support the Mainstay mission of providing life-long, high-quality support services, ensuring that people with developmental disabilities lead fulfilling lives and realize their vision of a desirable future.”

**2005** **Joseph Brennan** (see '01 College).

## Warner School of Education

**1948** **John Arthur Baynes** (EdM) (see '75 College).

**1966** **Judith Lehman Ruderman** (MA) (see '64 College).

**1969** **John Denison** (MA) (see '64 College).

**1970** **Richard Kellogg** (EdD) has published the eighth book in his series of mystery books for children. In the latest escapade, *Barry Baskerville's Fishing Adventure* (Airship 27), Barry and his friends use their powers of observation and deduction to identify the thief who has been stealing fish from successful anglers along Oxford Creek. The target audience of young readers ages 6 to 10 will learn about the methods of the legendary detective Sherlock Holmes while enhancing their own problem-solving skills.

**1975** **Kathleen Thomas Grenier** (EdM) (see '70 College).

**1988** **Anne Gardner** (MS), an ordained minister currently leading the chaplaincy program at Harvard-Westlake in Los Angeles, has published her first book, *And So I Walked: Reflections on Chance, Choice, and the Camino de Santiago* (Adelaide Books). Anne says she used her walk across Spain on the famed 500-mile pilgrimage path as a backdrop for her memoir, weaving together her personal narrative with the physical, emotional, and spiritual challenges presented by the Camino.

**1994** **Don Gala** (PhD) presented two sessions at the 59th annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Las Vegas, in March: a research paper, “School Safety and Firearms: Considering Alternatives,” and “Social Support: Conceptualizations & Mis-conceptualizations.” A member of the academy's Affirmative Action Committee, Don sends a photo from the group's presentation



1994 Gala



2001 Magrin

of a Student Travel Grant award to PhD student Iris Luo.

**2001** Colorado landscape artist **Michael Magrin** (MS) was one of 10 artists featured in an exhibition of 100 skiescapes at the Museum of Western Art in Kerrville, Texas, earlier this year. *The Heavens Declare! Celebrating the Glory of the Skies* ran April 1 through July 9 and included 10 of Michael's oil paintings. His work has been featured in several publications and exhibits since he moved to Colorado from New York in 2001.

**2020** **Cigdem Fidan Erdem** (PhD) (see '89 College).

## In Memoriam Life Trustees

**William Balderston**, a banking and financial executive in Rochester and western New York, died in October. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 1980, Balderston also served on the board of the Medical Center and the former Genesee Hospital in Rochester as well as in leadership roles for several Rochester-area nonprofit and educational organizations.

Balderston and his wife, Ruth, moved to Rochester in 1966, when he began working for Lincoln First Banks, where he rose to CEO and chairman as the company became part of

Chase Manhattan Corporation. He retired from Chase as executive vice president in 1993.

**Robert (Bud) Frame** '53, a former president of Forbes Product Corporation, a custom manufacturer located in western New York, died in September. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 1979, Frame was a longtime volunteer and supporter of the University, helping lead several campaign efforts in the 1990s. He was a key philanthropic supporter of the David Kearns Center for Leadership and Diversity, which was named for his friend and campus roommate, the late David Kearns '52, a former chairman of the Board of Trustees and CEO of Xerox Corp.

Frame and his late wife, Margaret, commissioned a landmark clock that stands on Dandelion Square on the River Campus. Installed as part of the University's sesquicentennial celebration in 2000, the clock was dedicated in recognition of Kearns and his commitment to the University.

**James Gleason** '68S (MBA), the former chairman and CEO of Gleason Corporation and chairman of the Gleason Foundation, died in June. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 1980, Gleason was an active volunteer and supporter of the Simon Business School, holding important advisory roles for the

## TRIBUTE

## Rhonda Ores '87: 'Destined to Make an Impact'

Rhonda Ores was core to our band of sisters who easily gravitated toward each other in the first semester of our freshman year. It was 1983, and we lived on Morgan 4 on the Hill. We had few pretensions, but a lot of silliness and laughter.

She was game for nearly any adventure, prank, or opportunity to have fun—whether singing Broadway tunes on a road trip, planning the first ever crush party on campus, or Russian dancing on a cold snowy Rochester night when there was nothing else to do.

Rhonda, who died in May, had a brilliant and inquisitive mind and those of us who knew her quickly realized that she was destined to make an impact on campus as well as in her life after Rochester.

She took her passion to the *Campus Times*, where she earned the nickname “Scoop.” A skilled debater, she could argue her way out of anything. When Meir Kahane, the fiercely opinionated and vocal Israeli politician spoke at Rochester, Rhonda eloquently challenged his nationalist views. The typically outspoken and combative Kahane was silenced and simply shrugged.

By contrast, Rhonda would concede defeat in a debate with any child, regardless how irrational their opinion.


After she earned her law degree at New York University School of Law, she practiced matrimonial and family law for over three decades. Exceedingly modest, it was only after her death that we learned of how influential she was in her field. A member of the board of directors of the New York County Lawyers Association, she received many awards, including “Super Lawyers” and “Women Leaders in the Law.” The recognition was just a small testament to her commitment to practicing law and of the tremendous work she did on behalf of her clients.

Most important, Rhonda was a loving and devoted friend. Never wanting to bring anyone down, Rhonda laughed and reminisced with us at our 30th reunion in 2017, sharing the joys and



**CAMPUS CONNECTION:** Rhonda Ores (second from right) reunited with 1987 classmates Marian Tanofsky-Kraff, Lorin Armanini Donnelly, and Jill Siegel during Meliora Weekend 2017.

disappointments of the intervening years. We made plans to attend our 35th reunion this fall, unaware of how limited our remaining time with her would be.

A bright star who was lost too soon, we are blessed with having known her. Rhonda will live on in our hearts and spirit and in so many wonderful memories. 

—MARIAN TANOFSKY-KRAFF '87,  
LORIN ARMANINI DONNELLY '87,  
AND JILL SIEGEL '87

school as well as on the Strong Memorial Hospital Board of Managers and other committees. He was a graduate of Simon's first executive development MBA program.

He and his wife, Janis, provided a lead gift for the construction of Simon's Gleason Hall, a 38,000-square-foot space that was dedicated in 2001. The couple were also the namesake supporters of Gleason Library, a multifunctional academic and

social space on the east side of Rush Rhees Library that was dedicated in 2007.

### *Faculty Emeriti*

**William Barker Jr.**, a longtime member of the faculty in the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Medical Center, died in September. With research interests that spanned infectious diseases, epidemiology, and geriatric health services, Barker

joined the faculty in 1975. He also held positions in community medicine and public health sciences at Rochester.

**Ronald Jones**, who joined the Department of Economics as a professor in 1958 as part of a cohort that built the then new department into an academic powerhouse, died in September. Considered a leading figure in the field of international economics, Jones influenced ideas about global trade, and

the policies, systems, and institutions that affect trade during his 50-plus years as a scholar and author. His 1973 book, *World Trade and Payments*, (Little Brown & Co.), coauthored with Richard Caves, became a preeminent undergraduate textbook, going through 10 editions. His most recent book was 2018's *International Trade Theory and Competitive Models* (World Scientific Publishing

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## TRIBUTE

## James Longenbach: 'An Extraordinary Body of Work'



James Longenbach, the Joseph H. Gilmore Professor of English, is being remembered by colleagues and former students as a master poet and critic and a dedicated teacher and mentor.

"In his brilliance and generosity of mind, his breadth of understanding, and in the vital beauty of his writing, he intensified the conversations between poets, critics, and ordinary readers of poetry in America in a way that was hard to match," says Kenneth Gross, the Alan F. Hilfiker Distinguished Professor of English.

A Guggenheim Fellow whose work earned recognition from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and other literary and academic organizations, Longenbach died in July at the age of 62.

He published six collections of poetry and an equal number of works of literary and scholarly criticism. His fifth book of poems, *Earthling* (2017), was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. His poetry appeared in publications such as the *Atlantic*, the *Nation*, the *New Republic*, the *New Yorker*, the *Paris Review*, *Slate*, and the *Yale Review*.

At Rochester, Longenbach taught courses in modern and contemporary American poetry, British and American modernism, James Joyce, Shakespeare, and creative writing.

Longenbach was married to Joanna Scott, a celebrated novelist and the Roswell Smith Burrows Professor of English at Rochester.

The pair met while studying abroad in Rome in 1981, eventually marrying and raising their two daughters in Rochester.

In addition to teaching at Rochester, Longenbach was on the faculty of the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers and the Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. At Bread Loaf in 1995, English professor Jennifer Grotz first met Longenbach. She came to work regularly with him after joining Rochester's faculty in 2009.


**CLOSE READING:** Professor, poet, and critic James Longenbach "has left an extraordinary body of work that rewards close and repeated reading," says poet and faculty colleague Jennifer Grotz.

"There was no better person to correspond with about poems," she says. "His editing suggestions were always in service of making the poem sound more like you—or like itself—than sound like him. Not only was he one of the most legendary workshop leaders

**"His editing suggestions were always in service of making the poem sound more like you—or like itself—than sound like him."**

—Jennifer Grotz

in American letters, he had made himself so without ever having been a student in a workshop himself.

"He has left an extraordinary body of work that rewards close and repeated reading," notes Grotz. "I will be reading and teaching his work—poems and prose—for the rest of my life." 

—SOFIA TOKAR '20W (MS)

Tokar wrote about Longenbach's class on Joyce's novel *Ulysses* for the Spring-Summer issue. This essay is adapted from an online story that's available here: [Rochester.edu/newscenter/remembering-james-longenbach-poet-critic-530072/](https://rochester.edu/newscenter/remembering-james-longenbach-poet-critic-530072/).

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Company). Recognized by the American Economic Association, the Econometric Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Sciences, Jones was a recipient of the University's Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and received honorary doctorates from several institutions.

**James William (Bill) Johnson**, a professor of English from 1955 to 1997, died in June. The editor and author of nine books, Johnson was recognized for his work on the English Restoration era, particularly the relationships of the poet John Wilmot, the Second Earl of Rochester, with playwrights in London from 1660 to 1680 and Wilmot's influence on later writers. He taught courses on 18th-century literature, the English novel, women in film, and other areas.

**William McHugh**, who directed the Eastman Dental Center for nearly a quarter century, died in October. In addition to serving as director from 1970 to 1994, McHugh was a professor and associate dean for dental affairs. He is credited with leading the effort to relocate the center to the campus of the Medical Center, a move that was completed in 1978. Widely recognized as a clinician and researcher, he was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the American College of Dentists, and other leading academic organizations.

**Adrian Melissinos**, a professor of physics from 1955 to 2022, died in July. Melissinos developed an international reputation for research in experimental high-energy physics and the nature of the universe, helping physicists identify properties of subatomic particles considered important in understanding dark matter, which accounts for about 85 percent of matter in the universe but has only been inferred by scientists from other observations. Involved in the first searches for cosmic axions—particles that barely interact with normal matter—Melissinos led some of his era's most exhaustive searches for dark matter.

**Peter Regenstreif**, a professor of political science from 1961 to

2009, died in May. An expert on Canadian and comparative politics, mass media, and public opinion, Regenstreif was the author of *The Diefenbaker Interlude: Parties and Voting in Canada; an Interpretation* (Longmans, 1965). Recognized as a teacher, Regenstreif taught some of the political science department's largest and most popular courses, including Politics and the Mass Media, Introduction to Comparative Politics, and Politics in Canada. He also frequently gave talks on the subjects for alumni audiences and for others outside the classroom.

## Alumni

**Inez Rothman Lipman** '42N,  
May 2022

**Paul M. Spiegel** '42, '50 (MA),  
June 2022

**Lona Stoddard Feltham** '44E,  
May 2022

**Edith Sunde Hesselbrock** '44E  
(MA), April 2022

**Lydia Ponari Rizzo** '44, May 2021

**Judy Strubhar Ross** '44E,  
August 2022

**June Goff Herman** '45,  
August 2022

**Lorraine Rose Mann** '45E,  
December 2021

**Shirley Mowry Reichenberg** '45E,  
April 2022

**Werner Kunz** '46, May 2022

**Rita Sheridan Studley** '46N,  
July 2022

**Virginia Jones Campbell** '47E (MM),  
March 2022

**Sylvia Nielsen Etnyre** '47, July 2022

**Mary T. Pitlick** '47N (Diploma),  
March 2022

**Max L. Rohrer** '47M (MD),  
August 2021

**Ruth Allen Andrews** '48E,  
June 2022

**Alice Getman Beasor** '49N,  
June 2022

**Reba Pfaff Beyer** '49, '50N,  
January 2022

**Edward F. Caldwell** '49, May 2022

**Helen Uebel Inglis** '49, April 2022

**Betty Lowenthal Levin** '49,  
July 2022

**Genevieve Porter Lotz** '49, '50N,  
July 2022

**Robert J. Sinnott** '49, July 2022

**Allan D. Zinter** '49, March 2022

**Nelson R. Barrett** '50, July 2022

**Donald R. Barry** '50, April 2022

**Elizabeth Stell Curtis** '50,  
March 2022

**Helen Conrad Davies** '50M (MS),  
March 2022

**Jean Cutler Henty** '50,  
August 2022

**David A. Leidig** '50, June 2022

**Thomas F. Lodato** '50, '61S (MBA),  
May 2022

**Lawrence K. Moss** '50E (MA),  
June 2022

**Maurice S. Reizen** '50M (MD),  
May 2022

**Frederick B. Remington** '50,  
August 2022

**Gabriel Tiberio** '50, April 2022

**Arthur W. Tucciarone** '50,  
August 2022

**Dorothy Fisher Washburn** '50,  
June 2022

**James P. Atwater** '51, May 2022

**Anita Brooks Bennett** '51,  
April 2022

**Roger L. Cason** '51, '52 (MS),  
February 2022

**Robert E. Druckenmiller** '51,  
October 2021

**Martha C. Haines** '51,  
February 2022

**Pearl R. Hanig** '51 (MA), April 2021

**Sally Lee Black Howd** '51,  
February 2021

**Anne Ingebretsen Johnston** '51,  
April 2022

**Roberta Netzman Kalsbeek** '51N,  
January 2022

**Thomas M. McNeill** '51M (MD),  
July 2022

**Edwin A. Olsson** '51, April 2022

**Warren F. Beauman** '52E, '58E  
(MM), March 2022

**Elizabeth Tuttle Clay** '52,  
June 2022

**Robert J. Cleary** '52, October 2020

**Richard A. Closson** '52, March 2022

**Theodore J. Ellstrom** '52,  
August 2022

**Lorie A. Gulino** '52, March 2022

**J. Robert Hladky** '52E (MM), '59E  
(DMA), January 2022

**Ralph A. Hyman** '52, March 2022

**Donald B. Killaby** '52, July 2022

**S. Paul Malchick** '52 (PhD),  
February 2022

**Dean L. Moyer** '52M (MD),  
February 2022

**David R. Pefley** '52, '56 (MS),  
May 2021

**David C. Seelbinder** '52, June 2022

**John W. Seidlin** '52M (MD),  
July 2022

**Donald A. Trismen** '52E (MM),  
February 2021

**Barry K. Beyer** '53, '62 (PhD),  
August 2022

**Joanne Liersch Bodwell** '53N,  
July 2021

**Donald R. Hauler** '53, March 2022

**Dorothy Ray Marengo** '53,  
February 2022

**Doris Delong Morgan** '53,  
March 2022

**John C. Schottmiller** '53,  
August 2022

**Jane Gouverneur Ten Eyck** '53,  
July 2020

**Carl E. Gearhart** '54E (MM),  
June 2022

**Carlyle J. Roberts** '54M (PhD),  
May 2022

**Zoe Cormack Sargeant** '54,  
June 2022

**A. Louanne Laird Shelton** '54E,  
March 2022

**Rae Linehan Donoghue** '55,  
May 2022

**Lee I. Edwards** '55, April 2022

**Frederick W. Hahn** '55,  
June 2022

**Allan E. Inglis** '55M (MD),  
April 2021

**Wesley A. Kissel** '55M (Res),  
April 2022

**Ann McSweeney Klos** '55, '56N,  
December 2021

**M. James Lenhard** '55, '70S (MBA),  
June 2022

**C. Philip Meyer** '55, May 2022

**Sylvia Buddenhagen Nelson** '55,  
January 2022

**Elizabeth Thompson Nicholas** '55,  
May 2022

**Nancy Baker Schlaffer** '55N,  
August 2022

**Albert L. Sieg** '55 (PhD), July 2022

**Joan Vecellio Torpie** '55N  
(Diploma), '58N, June 2022

**Herbert L. Zimiles** '55M (Res), '56  
(PhD), August 2022

**Glenn H. Bowen** '56E (MM), '68E  
(DMA), May 2022

**Jeann Larson Clifford** '56E,  
May 2022

**Jan A. Fawcett** '56, '64M (Res),  
May 2022

**Frank H. Gruber** '56M (Res),  
June 2022

**Morris E. Gruver** '56,  
December 2021

**Gwendolen Brush Johannessen**

'56, October 2021

**Margaret Stephenson Shantz** '56,  
June 2022

**Walter L. Turle** '56, March 2022

**Joseph F. Baranowski** '57, '67 (MA),  
August 2022

**Davis W. Clark** '57, '67M (MD), '72M  
(Res), July 2022

**George W. Cobb** '57, July 2022

**Joseph A. Ferlicca** '57, April 2022

**Gary C. Kent** '57, March 2022

**John C. Klahn** '57, '60M (MD),  
July 2022

**Jane Bartz Mehlenbacher** '57W  
(EdM), May 2022

**John M. O'Neill** '57E (MM),  
February 2022

**Lloyd G. Thompson** '57, July 2022

**Richard F. Weeks** '57 (MA), '59  
(PhD), July 2022

<p><b>Cordell H. Bahn</b> '58, '62M (MD), March 2022</p> <p><b>Dean G. Blair</b> '58E (MM), April 2022</p> <p><b>Martha Beck Burton</b> '58, '60 (MA), April 2022</p> <p><b>Robert L. Dawson</b> '58, April 2022</p> <p><b>Theodore C. Doege</b> '58M (MD), August 2022</p> <p><b>Donald S. Frank</b> '58, July 2022</p> <p><b>Samuel P. Gotoff</b> '58M (MD), April 2022</p> <p><b>Julian P. Hecklen</b> '58 (PhD), March 2022</p> <p><b>Peter J. Kerrigan</b> '58, April 2022</p> <p><b>Anthony J. Laplaca</b> '58, October 2021</p> <p><b>Jerome J. Moga</b> '58M (MD), March 2022</p> <p><b>Robert F. Murray</b> '58E (MD), January 2022</p> <p><b>Daniel B. Schneider</b> '58, September 2020</p> <p><b>Alan J. Stone</b> '58, February 2022</p> <p><b>Raymond J. Ashton</b> '59, July 2022</p> <p><b>Robert L. Baker</b> '59, '60W (MA), May 2022</p> <p><b>Thomas J. Cole</b> '59E (MA), June 2022</p> <p><b>Richard B. Crawford</b> '59M (PhD), June 2022</p> <p><b>Elizabeth Benz Croft</b> '59, '68 (MA), May 2022</p> <p><b>Brett W. Hawkins</b> '59, February 2022</p> <p><b>Peter L. Hays</b> '59, June 2022</p> <p><b>Thomas E. Schillinger</b> '59, July 2022</p> <p><b>Donald S. Yeaple</b> '59, May 2022</p> <p><b>Ronald J. Barnett</b> '60E, June 2021</p> <p><b>William D. Burnett</b> '60M (MS), July 2022</p> <p><b>Edward L. Clark</b> '60 (MS), April 2022</p> <p><b>Susan Busch Cullen</b> '60, May 2022</p> <p><b>Gail Greenfield Eyer</b> '60, June 2022</p> <p><b>James D. Gallup</b> '60M (MD), March 2021</p> <p><b>Chester S. Jaworski</b> '60, April 2022</p> <p><b>Thomas J. Malmud</b> '60, August 2022</p> <p><b>C. Arthur Pearson</b> '60M (MD), May 2022</p> <p><b>Jerome L. Shaver</b> '60, July 2022</p> <p><b>Graham T. W. Solomons</b> '60 (Flw), October 2021</p> <p><b>Lalitha Rau Sudarshan</b> '60 (MS), April 2022</p> <p><b>Robert F. Allen</b> '61, August 2022</p> <p><b>Nancy Driscoll Bishop</b> '61E, July 2022</p> <p><b>Gale Furman Coffee</b> '61E, March 2022</p> <p><b>Brett B. Gutsche</b> '61M (MD), April 2022</p> <p><b>Paul D. Harris</b> '61M (Res), February 2022</p> <p><b>Joseph C. Hill</b> '61M (MD), May 2022</p>	<p><b>David A. Howitt</b> '61, April 2022</p> <p><b>Phillip J. Lasusa</b> '61, January 2022</p> <p><b>Donald W. Mellis</b> '61, May 2022</p> <p><b>Elsie Lister Orb</b> '61, April 2022</p> <p><b>Bernard J. Panner</b> '61M (Res), April 2022</p> <p><b>Delores Persichitti Saada</b> '61W (CA), May 2022</p> <p><b>Carol Barrett Shepard</b> '61, August 2022</p> <p><b>Howard Aduss</b> '62D, August 2022</p> <p><b>David W. Bills</b> '62, July 2022</p> <p><b>Beverley Macomber Brown</b> '62, June 2022</p> <p><b>Peter L. Duncan</b> '62, February 2022</p> <p><b>Bonnie Palmer Hull</b> '62N, March 2022</p> <p><b>Diane Gold Koenig</b> '62, March 2022</p> <p><b>Helen Schanz Martin-Klaver</b> '62W (MA), July 2022</p> <p><b>Stella Hulsberg Megargle</b> '62N, May 2022</p> <p><b>Robert H. Morse</b> '62, March 2022</p> <p><b>Donald H. Peters</b> '62, May 2022</p> <p><b>Arthur R. Phipps</b> '62 (MS), December 2021</p> <p><b>Albert M. Sax</b> '62M (Res), July 2022</p> <p><b>Robert M. Sterrett</b> '62 (MS), June 2022</p> <p><b>Philip B. Stoddard</b> '62M (MD), '71M (Res), March 2022</p> <p><b>Bayard W. Allmond</b> '63M (Res), July 2022</p> <p><b>Michel E. Ashmore</b> '63E, April 2022</p> <p><b>Donald S. Conway</b> '63W (MA), February 2022</p> <p><b>Christopher A. Eckel</b> '63, July 2022</p> <p><b>Anne Campbell Gratian</b> '63W (MA), August 2022</p> <p><b>Geralyn Chiarito Haug</b> '63, June 2022</p> <p><b>Bruce A. Hopkins</b> '63, August 2022</p> <p><b>Jeffrey A. Kaffee</b> '63, July 2022</p> <p><b>Howard M. Rockoff</b> '63D (Res), July 2022</p> <p><b>James E. Roland</b> '63, June 2022</p> <p><b>Martin I. Sickels</b> '63, April 2022</p> <p><b>Karen Lyons Taylor</b> '63N, March 2022</p> <p><b>Virginia Maher Wingard</b> '63, April 2022</p> <p><b>Richard B. Arnaud</b> '64, June 2022</p> <p><b>George V. Bettoney</b> '64, May 2022</p> <p><b>Richard A. Bircher</b> '64, May 2022</p> <p><b>Margaret Goshorn Bruce</b> '64, '67M (MS), July 2022</p> <p><b>Martin J. Fields</b> '64, August 2021</p> <p><b>Arthur R. Gaudio</b> '64, March 2022</p> <p><b>Joseph Gold</b> '64W (MA), May 2022</p> <p><b>Franklin P. Jacobson</b> '64E, March 2022</p> <p><b>Warren B. Knapp</b> '64W (MA), August 2022</p> <p><b>Eric A. Pfeiffer</b> '64M (Res), July 2021</p>	<p><b>Harold J. Phillips</b> '64, April 2022</p> <p><b>Ernest A. Rider</b> '64D (Pdc), April 2022</p> <p><b>Russell Sandfield</b> '64, January 2021</p> <p><b>Raymond A. Anselment</b> '65 (PhD), April 2022</p> <p><b>Joseph W. Baber</b> '65E (MM), March 2022</p> <p><b>Peter R. Beaven</b> '65, July 2022</p> <p><b>Cenie C. Cafarelli</b> '65M (Res), March 2022</p> <p><b>James A. Diez</b> '65, May 2022</p> <p><b>Michelle Levenbook Kohler</b> '65, June 2022</p> <p><b>Daniel Luch</b> '65, June 2022</p> <p><b>Howard J. Maat</b> '65W (MA), August 2021</p> <p><b>Jack Mendelson</b> '65M (MS), '65M (Res), May 2022</p> <p><b>Joseph C. Reiners</b> '65W (EdM), August 2022</p> <p><b>Daniel E. Reynolds</b> '65, February 2022</p> <p><b>Harold W. Schneider</b> '65, March 2022</p> <p><b>Patricia Estes Schrader</b> '65N, September 2021</p> <p><b>Daniel D. Stern</b> '65E, July 2022</p> <p><b>Margaret A. Wittman</b> '65, November 2021</p> <p><b>Judith Barwell Yurecka</b> '65, August 2022</p> <p><b>Kelvin C. Bridge</b> '66, June 2022</p> <p><b>Gerald E. Kirwin</b> '66, June 2022</p> <p><b>Arnold M. Markoe</b> '66M (MS), November 2021</p> <p><b>James A. McRae</b> '66E (MA), December 2021</p> <p><b>William R. Parry</b> '66 (MS), June 2022</p> <p><b>Madeline Schreiber</b> '66 (Flw), January 2022</p> <p><b>Dale H. Ursprung</b> '66, August 2022</p> <p><b>Eva Zahorian Wiesner</b> '66, December 2021</p> <p><b>Carole L. Bahou</b> '67, March 2022</p> <p><b>Robert W. Browning</b> '67, May 2022</p> <p><b>Larry J. Cook</b> '67E (MM), August 2022</p> <p><b>Roger B. Eckers</b> '67E (MA), '77E (PhD), March 2022</p> <p><b>Janice Porter Gump</b> '67 (PhD), April 2022</p> <p><b>Harold W. Janks</b> '67E, June 2022</p> <p><b>Susan Venable McKimm</b> '67, May 2021</p> <p><b>John A. Robbins</b> '67, May 2022</p> <p><b>Nancy Wyrick Thorne</b> '67, August 2022</p> <p><b>Eleanor Roney Wilcox</b> '67 (MA), March 2022</p> <p><b>Zara Wallace Wilkenfeld</b> '67 (MA), April 2022</p> <p><b>Hubert R. DeWindt</b> '68, November 2021</p>	<p><b>James S. Gleason</b> '68S (MBA), June 2022</p> <p><b>John A. Heitner</b> '68 (PhD), April 2022</p> <p><b>Barbara Jones Higbee</b> '68, June 2022</p> <p><b>Eileen Thaney Morton-Cubitt</b> '68W (EdD), April 2022</p> <p><b>Lenore Bolling Phipps</b> '68N, '76N (MS), December 2021</p> <p><b>Ronald P. Premo</b> '68, February 2022</p> <p><b>Kathleen Hansen Putnam</b> '68N, March 2022</p> <p><b>Norman Schafner</b> '68, June 2022</p> <p><b>Carl R. Wille</b> '68M (MD), February 2022</p> <p><b>Frederick T. Boyd</b> '69E, '71E (MM), May 2022</p> <p><b>Lawrence W. Lipman</b> '69, August 2022</p> <p><b>Wheeler D. Maynard</b> '69S (MBA), April 2022</p> <p><b>Henry N. Muller</b> '69 (PhD), May 2022</p> <p><b>Catherine Dudley Prabhu</b> '69W (EdM), August 2022</p> <p><b>Eldon E. Ronning</b> '69 (PhD), May 2022</p> <p><b>Michael I. Stolar</b> '69, April 2022</p> <p><b>James M. Acheson</b> '70 (PhD), June 2022</p> <p><b>Gladys Arak</b> '70M (Res), November 2020</p> <p><b>Charles F. Bliss</b> '70S (MBA), April 2022</p> <p><b>Richard E. Bolt</b> '70M (MD), '75M (Res), February 2022</p> <p><b>Ward W. DeGroot III</b> '70S (MBA), March 2022</p> <p><b>Virginia Dobbie Greenblatt</b> '70, '70N, May 2022</p> <p><b>Dolores Lux Kleinberg</b> '70W (MA), April 2022</p> <p><b>Kenneth S. Medzie</b> '70, June 2022</p> <p><b>Susanne Smith Prestianni</b> '70W (MA), July 2022</p> <p><b>Kenneth J. Schreiber</b> '70, May 2022</p> <p><b>Joseph A. Streisfeld</b> '70E, '72E (MM), November 2021</p> <p><b>James S. Ward</b> '70M (MD), '73M (Res), March 2021</p> <p><b>Donald E. Ware</b> '70M (Res), August 2022</p> <p><b>Jamie A. Alden</b> '71, December 2021</p> <p><b>Stephen D. Combs</b> '71, April 2022</p> <p><b>Charles T. Cordaro</b> '71, June 2022</p> <p><b>Sharon H. Dantzig</b> '71, February 2021</p> <p><b>Thomas G. Eadie</b> '71E, '75E (MM), August 2022</p> <p><b>Arvid Forsman</b> '71W (MS), April 2022</p>
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**Walter P. Gross** '71, July 2022  
**Angela L. Nazzaro** '71N, March 2022  
**H. Mark Sutton** '71 (MA), December 2021  
**Barbara B. Vallone** '71N, March 2022  
**Richard O. Bollam** '72W (MBA), June 2022  
**John J. DeCamilla** '72, April 2022  
**Christos S. Hasiotis** '72, June 2022  
**Jerome J. Redington** '72W (MS), May 2022  
**Tiina Hele Runkla** '72E, October 2021  
**Charles L. Trowbridge** '72S (MBA), January 2022  
**Gary A. Klein** '73, December 2021  
**William F. Lewis** '73 (MS), October 2021  
**Peter M. Palermo** '73S (MBA), July 2022  
**Philip R. Reynolds** '73W (EdD), May 2022  
**Florence Seldin** '73W (EdD), April 2022  
**Stanley L. Shaw** '73S (MS), June 2022  
**Charles G. Williams** '73, June 2022  
**David L. Elwell** '74M (MS), April 2022  
**Theodore A. Hagg** '74 (MA), July 2022  
**John H. Horton** '74W (EdM), July 2022  
**Karl J. Marchenese** '74M (MD), '79M (Res), August 2022  
**Alexander M. Waitkus** '74D (Pdc), May 2022  
**David L. Wilson** '74S (MBA), August 2022  
**Geraldine Marriott Ernst** '75 (MS), August 2022  
**Winton A. Hancock** '75 (MS), February 2022  
**Peter H. Helmers** '75, April 2022  
**Gary J. Lisman** '75, '76S (MBA), March 2022

**Martin L. Miller** '75, June 2022  
**Dyan Monte-Verde** '75 (MS), February 2021  
**Richard E. Morse** '75 (MS), July 2022  
**Norine Galo Orsini** '75, '79W (EdM), March 2022  
**Karen Voegely Scofield** '75W (MS), August 2022  
**Marilyn K. Stulken** '75E (DMA), December 2021  
**John A. Ward** '75E, July 2022  
**Robert P. Weber** '75 (PhD), March 2022  
**James A. Meyer** '76M (Res), December 2021  
**Barbara Weeden Pasley** '76N, May 2022  
**Steven A. Rehbein** '76E, December 2021  
**Robert P. Sulpy** '76, May 2022  
**Barbara White Grignol** '77, March 2022  
**Susan Papanek McHugh** '77, June 2022  
**Bradley R. Nelson** '77E (DMA), April 2022  
**Sallie Craven Brennan** '78, '88 (PhD), July 2022  
**Gloria Jackson Langston** '78, May 2022  
**Ira Lichtenstein** '78, May 2022  
**Joseph J. Pansini** '78 (PhD), March 2022  
**Frederick D. Schlitzer** '78, April 2022  
**William J. Silva** '78M (MD), October 2021  
**Andrew Swinburne** '78M (Flw), July 2022  
**David C. Tillman** '78, August 2022  
**Carol Shempp Vitolins** '78N, '91N (MS), June 2022  
**Herschel R. Rothfield Kroll** '79S (MBA), July 2022  
**Robert C. Pascalar** '79, May 2022  
**William S. Thompson** '79S (MBA), November 2021  
**David J. Anderson** '80, April 2022  
**Howard Holmes** '80D (Pdc), April 2021

**Rebecca Smith Olsen** '80N, June 2022  
**Reuel D. Ash** '81E (MM), June 2022  
**David J. Friedman** '81, April 2022  
**Michael E. Hammond** '81, '82S (MBA), June 2022  
**David M. Lukasik** '81, January 2022  
**Andres A. Martinez-Trueba** '81M (Res), March 2022  
**Patrick M. McNamara** '81, February 2022  
**Leonard A. Roberts** '81, March 2022  
**Charles C. Smith** '81 (MA), April 2022  
**Marjorie Little** '82, May 2022  
**Victor B. Nakkache** '82M (Res), August 2022  
**Edward L. Schlueter** '82 (MS), March 2022  
**Joanne Landy Steinberg** '82, March 2022  
**Robert C. Cordes** '83S (MBA), October 2021  
**John T. Ambrosi** '84, '97 (MS), April 2022  
**Paul J. Rose** '84 (MS), June 2022  
**William R. Davidson** '85M (Flw), July 2022  
**Philip A. Latulipe** '85S (MBA), April 2022  
**John R. Liston** '85E (MM), July 2022  
**Hwa N. Shen** '85S (MBA), March 2021  
**Christine Cannella Suski** '85, '86 (MS), July 2022  
**Bruce C. Bodden** '86E, March 2022  
**Ann M. Chatfield** '86W (MS), April 2022  
**Jonathan E. Markson** '86M (MD), '89M (Res), April 2022  
**Jonathan R. Pegis** '86E (MM), March 2022  
**Joe T. Fedison** '87, March 2021  
**Rhonda E. Ores** '87, May 2022  
**Janice E. Hurley** '88N (MS), May 2022  
**Ellen M. Canapary** '89, July 2022

**Jan E. Fredericks** '89E (MA), April 2022  
**S. Altan Ozcandarli** '89 (MS), '90 (MS), November 2021  
**Todd D. Shuster** '89M (MD), June 2022  
**Jill Wohlhueter Bloss** '91M (MPH), April 2022  
**Barbara L. Russak** '92N (MS), April 2022  
**Zaheer A. Azeez** '93, July 2022  
**Gail C. Speakman** '93, May 2022  
**Mary Ann Lester** '94D (Pdc), January 2022  
**Ryan B. Woodgate** '95, March 2022  
**Carrie Johnson Adelman** '97, February 2022  
**Ricardo E. Van Snek** '97S (MBA), June 2021  
**Jenny A. Macfie** '98M (Pdc), '99 (PhD), March 2022  
**Tracy A. Schneible** '99, May 2022  
**Michael L. Miller** '00E (DMA), April 2022  
**John E. Moore** '00S (MBA), July 2022  
**Keith W. Taylor** '01, '02S (MBA), February 2022  
**Paulina Twumasi Boohene** '04M (Flw), June 2022  
**Robert Cass** '04, March 2022  
**Fern M. Hilsinger** '04N, May 2022  
**Christopher M. Cotroneo** '05M (MD), July 2022  
**Christopher S. Kelly** '05, June 2022  
**Brandon J. Erdle** '06M (MD), August 2022  
**Laura M. Price** '06M (Res), March 2022  
**Christine E. West** '09W (MS), June 2022  
**Neftali Morales** '12, '13W (MS), '16S (MBA), March 2022  
**Emily E. Morris** '13, '15W (MS), July 2022  
**Sherri Drabin Guinn** '15N, March 2022  
**Jenelle A. Noble** '16N, March 2022

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## What Does It Take to Cast a Hit Series?

John Levey '69—casting director on iconic TV shows including *ER*, *West Wing*, and others—shares what it takes to be right for a role.

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

**I started my career directing theater. How I got into casting supports the idea that we should all be open to happy accidents.** A production I was directing got bad reviews, and it was the first time in my career that I had been publicly criticized for not doing a good job. I went out for a cocktail after the show with Barbara Claman, who was a famous casting director in New York and Los Angeles. She said, “If you’re going to take it this hard, kid, you should come and work for me.” And I did the next Monday. We cast TV, movies, theater, all kinds of stuff, and I got an education by fire.

**Sometimes I may have someone in mind for a role, but generally, I’m a big believer in the process.** That means you get the script and you read it again and again to get a sense of what’s going on emotionally and intellectually and spiritually for the characters. Then you have a meeting with the writer and the director, called a tone meeting, where we discuss age, gender, race, any specific kinds of things that might be important—or whether none of those things is important. Then I communicate with people who represent actors, they submit actors’ pictures and resumes, I sift through all


of that, auditions are set up, and we collaborate with producers, directors, and writers on a decision.

**I say being right for a role is like having a good haircut. You never look like you need one, nor like you just got one. You just look natural. George Clooney as Dr. Doug Ross in *ER* was an example of someone with a good haircut.** Ross was a pediatrician, and the idea was he would be someone able to interact with children who are ill, or in pain, or in trouble with a kind of compassionate sense of humor and an ability to reach them at their own level. In his personal life, he was to be an unsettled man in his mid-30s and a serial dater. And dashing. We had Clooney in mind immediately, partly because he had what was called a holding deal at Warner Bros.—they owned his services for pilots—but Clooney was also everything shows were looking for back then: the funny, smart, sexy, slightly dangerous, a bit vulnerable, 30-something leading man.

**Racial balance was a central focus for casting *ER*, and I like to think we—the writers, producers, directors and I—valued diversity before it was a mandate.** We had

tremendous diversity especially in what I dub “the trampoline”—the recurring characters and guest stars. In the case of *ER*, those were the working people of Cook County General, the ones who inform the show’s character and pace. We were telling raw stories from a big city hospital emergency room, and we were also acutely aware that most of the patients in those settings are the poor and the disenfranchised.

**One of the exciting parts of the job is witnessing young talent—and if you can, playing some role in helping them advance their career.** A memorable example was when I

was casting *Growing Pains*. We were looking for a young teenage boy to join the cast, and Leonardo DiCaprio was represented by someone I had a good relationship with in those days. She suggested him to me, he came in and read, and eventually was hired for the part. And then he was offered a film, *This Boy’s Life*. I went to the president of Warner Bros. TV and said we should let him out of his contract to do this job. We weren’t sure if *Growing Pains* was coming back the next year. If we got picked up for another season, it would help us with promotion. And if we didn’t get picked up, we would be doing a good service for a talented young man. He agreed, and DiCaprio went and did *This Boy’s Life* and hasn’t looked back in 35 years. 

### John Levey '69

Home: Burbank, California

Casting director; author of *Right for the Role: Breakdowns, Breakups and Breakthroughs from 35 Years of Casting Iconic TV Shows* (Legacy Launch Pad, 2022)

**Major credits:** *China Beach*, *ER*, *West Wing*, *Shameless*, *Animal Kingdom*

**On life lessons from theater at Rochester:** “Under the leadership of Suzie Smart '69 and Vic Becker '69, we started the University of Rochester Summer Theater in 1968 in an old, abandoned cement factory, just off campus, on River Road. I look back at that, and the work we did there was just really fun and exciting. We were a raucous group of theater lovers who formed a community and a creative collaboration and really, that’s what my memoir is about. It’s about finding your role in a collaborative community.”





# A Legacy of Gratitude

“My wife and I wanted to do something to give back to the University for what they gave me, which is time. We decided on a charitable trust to support research that would be done to find cures for other patients.”

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**RALPH OLNEY**

Wilmot Cancer Institute Board Member  
Member, Wilson Society  
Member, George Eastman Circle  
Rochester, New York

When Ralph Olney was first diagnosed with a rare form of acute myeloid leukemia in 2011, he did not anticipate having much time to leave his mark on the world. Today, he credits his survival to the Wilmot Cancer Institute and is giving back with immense gratitude.

After Olney's late wife, Beverly, was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's, they decided to fund a University-managed charitable remainder unitrust that will be invested in the University's endowment. This provided an income tax deduction and a stream of income which would continue to support their children for some time.

Olney finds joy and solace knowing that his legacy will ensure discovery and innovative treatments for future patients around the world.



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MELIORA

**TOWER POWER**

**Ever Better View**

SPELL TEST: The Meliora letters always attract a crowd when they're set up for Meliora Weekend and other milestone events. This fall's installation offered University photographer Adam Fenster a chance to get a drone's-eye view of the popular scene. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER