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BARNARD
MAGAZINE

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BARNARD MAGAZINE

SPRING 2013

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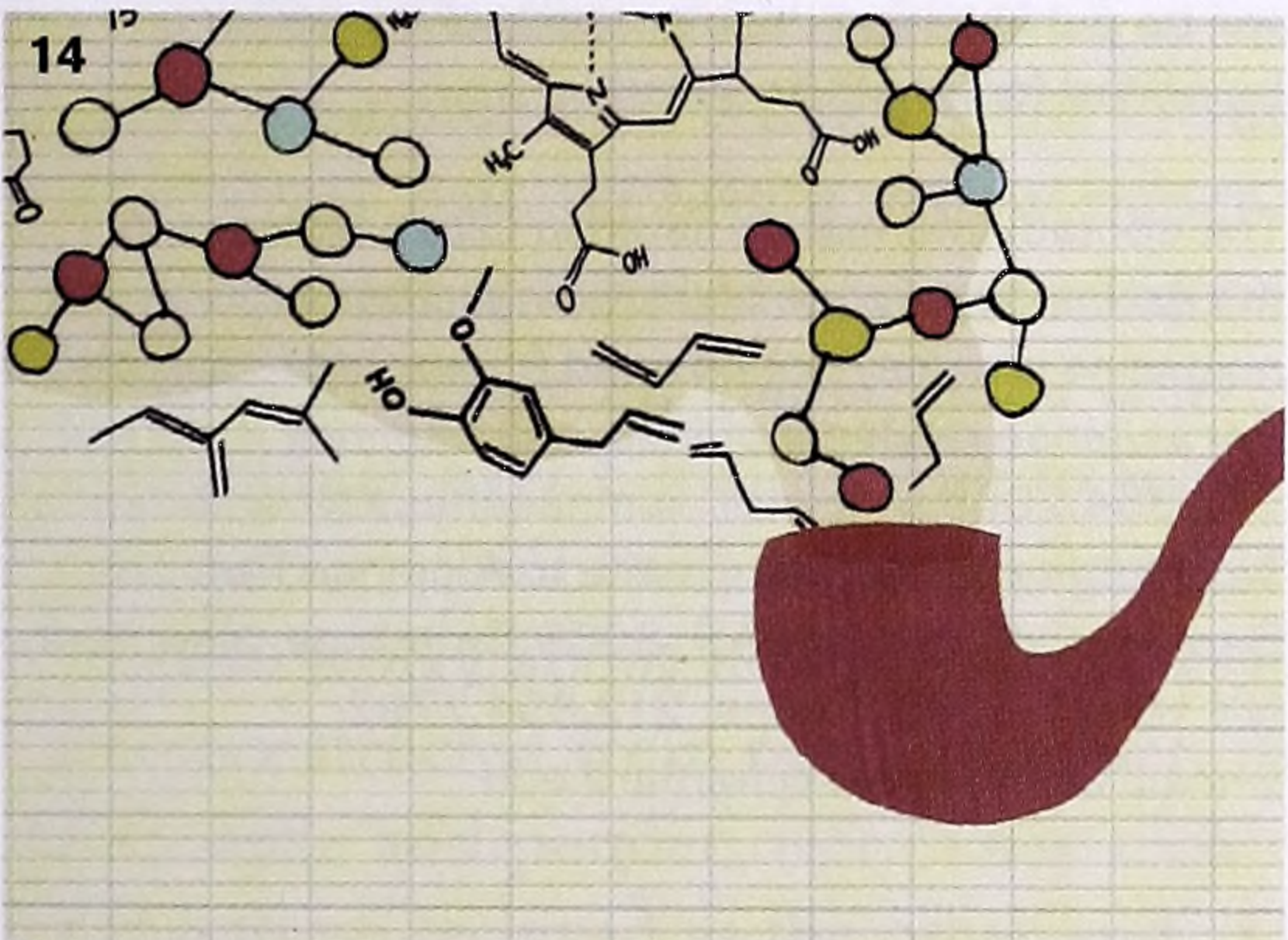
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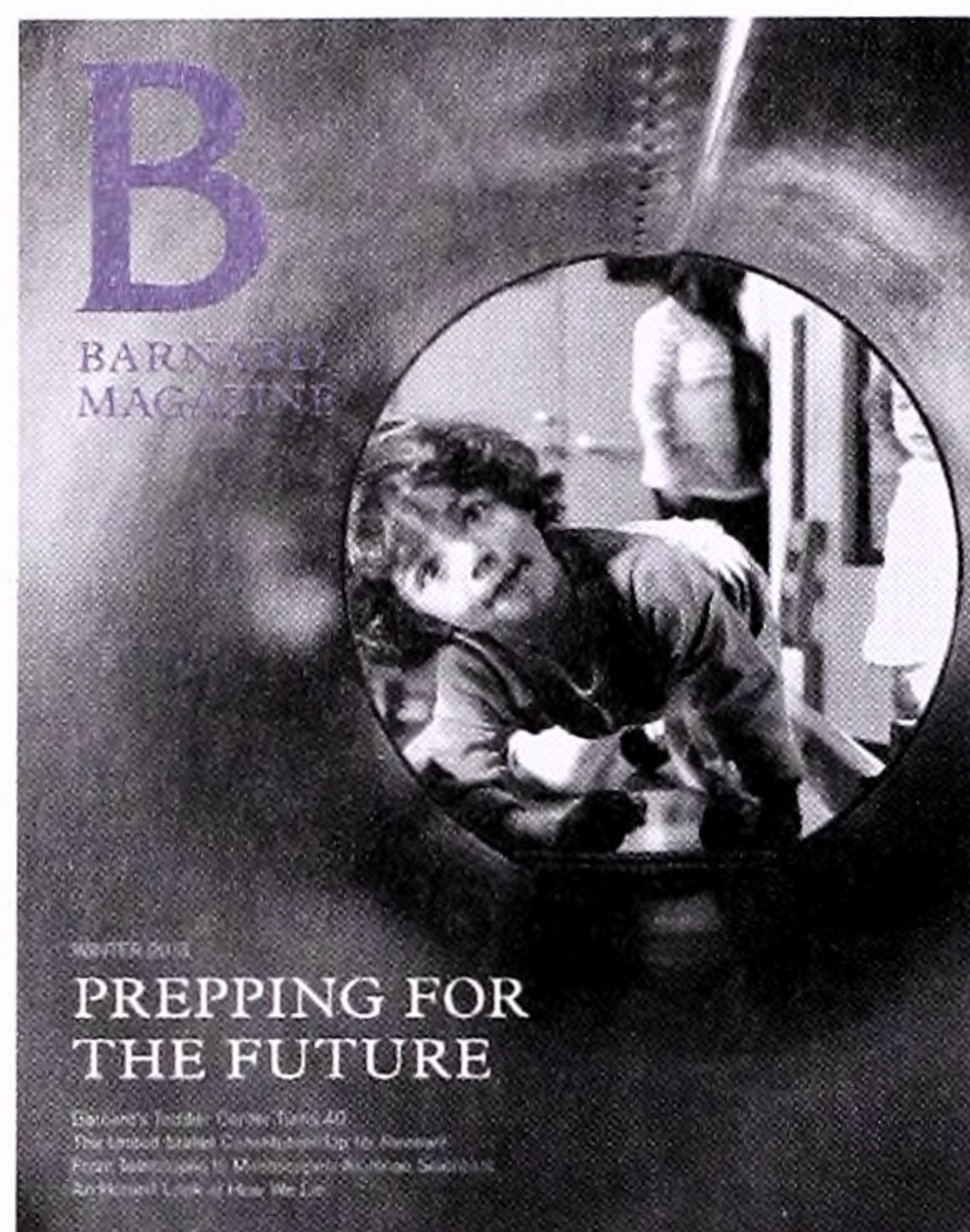
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Legacy of the Toddler Center

Congratulations to the Barnard Toddler Center! As a former student teacher at the center, I send my best to Pat Shimm and sing her praises. Pat not only mothered the toddlers, but the student teachers as well. I will always remember her positive energy, as well as the warmth, nurturance, and guidance she provided to all of us. I have many fond memories of my experiences working at the Toddler Center and of the intellectual stimulation provided by our classes with Dr. Schachter. That course started me on my career journey.

For the past 25 years I have been working as a clinical child psychologist, first helping young children with HIV/AIDS and now working with children with mental-health disorders. Pat's love of teaching psychology students sparked my own interest in that area, leading me to my current position as the director of training at Jackson Health System in Miami. Kudos to everyone for keeping the Barnard Toddler Center going. The center provides such wonderful opportunities, not only for the toddlers and their families, but also for the undergraduate students at Barnard College!

—Susan Chalfin '78, PhD
via e-mail

Global Connections

Barnard is ubiquitous. I walked into a cafe in Lincang, Yunnan, China, which sits on the Burmese border, and a young woman said to me, "Were you just in the *Barnard Magazine*?" It turns out that the young woman, Deborah

Samuels '12, is a Teach for China fellow and read the article (Salon, Winter 2013) in the magazine about my latest book, *Don't Roll Your Eyes*.

—Ruth Nemzoff '62
via e-mail

Constitutional Right

So, Professor Sloan ("An Immutable Document?", Winter 2013) thinks there's a question whether the Constitution is immutable? Of course it isn't: The document itself provides a mechanism for change through the amendment process, and it has been amended 27 times since 1787. Jefferson was naïve in thinking it would be a good idea to change the Constitution every 20 years. I doubt he would have been pleased if a new one in 1807 had abolished slavery. And Professor Sloan should not be so dubious about originalism. As I read the Second Amendment, the founders obviously said that every citizen had a right to bear arms because of the necessity for a well-regulated militia. Now that we have a National Guard and every municipality has a police force, a militia—hence, every citizen's right to bear arms—is unnecessary.

—Carole Crystle '62
Chicago

Women in Science

I just got the latest *Barnard Magazine*, which I read faithfully, and I was so excited: Barnard women in science! I want to add my daughter, Melania Doll Nynka '07 who is doing her PhD at the Columbia Astrophysics Department, [and] working on the NuStar telescope, which NASA launched this past summer.

After graduating in '73, I studied chemistry at Columbia, got my PhD, and spent 23 years in various technology/engineering functions at Lucent/Bell Labs. I then [taught] high-school chemistry. I am now writing about issues in education, focusing on secondary and science education.

As for innovations by our graduates on Wall Street, my daughter, Lydia Doll '09, is doing exciting work at the New York Stock Exchange.

—Irene Sawchyn '73 GSAS '81
via e-mail

BARNARD

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OF LETTERS, LEAKS, AND TWEETS

When I was in college in the early 1980s, letters—on paper, in ink, with self-licked stamps and everything—were the primary form of communication. Cell phones, Facebook, and e-mail were inconceivable; the payphone in the hallway was noisy and unreliable. And so, like every college student of that era, I wrote letters. Lots and lots of letters. I wrote whining letters to my parents, diligent letters to my grandparents, and daily, lovesick letters to the boyfriend I had left up north. I wrote so many letters to him, in fact, that rumor has it the student workers at his college's mail room played games every day to decipher the secret acronyms I scrawled on each and every envelope. Recently, when this friend was in a horrific accident, my thoughts went instantly to the cache of letters I still have somewhere in the attic; letters that, for all their angst and silliness, captured a key moment in this now-middle-aged man's life.

Today, of course, letters have become an endangered species. Rather than telling their tales or singing their woes in print, students communicate across a wide and rapidly expanding range of media. They e-mail. They text. They IM and pin and tweet. Rather than meeting potential partners at a mixer or in a bar, they hook up through sites such as OkCupid and HowAboutWe. Rather than writing letters home about their studies abroad, they post photos to Instagram and log their travels on Tumblr.

In many ways, this explosion of communication channels has facilitated a parallel expansion of communication itself. Today, most Barnard students write daily and fluidly, freed from the compunction to have someone specific to talk to or something specific to say. They have friends scattered around the world and means to access information from the most remote corners of the planet. When we traveled to São Paulo in March for our 2013 Global Symposium, our student fellows tweeted and blogged throughout the day, sending real-time missives back to campus and beyond.

These are the information flows that define both social and commercial discourse in the early 21st century. They are the drivers of the highest growth sectors in our economy and the holders of the jobs to which many of our students aspire. Yet even in these pre-nostalgic days of constant communication, I can't help thinking that something precious is being lost amidst this move from paper to pixels, something fundamental about the way we interact with those we like and love.

Here is what concerns me. First is the basic loss of physicality, of the smell and touch and sight that once surrounded the act of writing letters. Once upon a time, people's personalities registered through their handwriting, with the slope of an "l" or the swoop of an "e" conveying something that mattered. People wrote on stationery they chose, whether it be perfumed or monogrammed or torn, hastily, from the back pages of a notebook. When I went to summer camp many years ago, my mother wrote every day, on bright yellow paper wrapped in similarly bright envelopes. I don't remember much about the content of her notes, but I remember the sight of them, and how the paper alone conveyed a waft of homesickness. Now I write my daughter over e-mail, trying to recall which collection of question marks and exclamation points will create the emoticon that stands for love.

I also worry about how electronic communication destroys time. When letters were constructed from pen and paper, they took time—time to conceive, to create, to re-write and ponder over. They took time—sometimes agonizing, heart-wrenching time—to be received at the other end. Think for a moment of *Downton Abbey's* fictitious Anna, waiting for the stolen letters of her beloved Mr. Bates. Or of the

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Breaking new ground and shattering glass ceilings may not be identical concepts, but both imply extraordinary accomplishments. The alumnae, faculty, and students spotlighted in this issue bear testament to the notion that Barnard encourages out-of-the-box thinking and transitions.

Among the alumnae profiled in this issue is Sheila Nevins '60, president of HBO Documentary Films. Nevins appeared on campus this spring; President Debora Spar's first question no doubt asked what each audience member most wanted to know: What propelled her to such a remarkable achievement? Barbara Lovenheim '62 taught college-level English for more than a decade before she decided she would really rather write. She's since interviewed celebrities (she knows how tall Robert Redford really is), and probed social issues for newspapers and magazines. Her latest project is an online magazine for women over 40. Ntozake Shange '70 returned to campus as a Distinguished Alumna, receiving an annual award conferred by the Africana Studies Program, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Senior lecturer in chemistry Meenakshi Rao developed a new course that looks at the science from unorthodox perspectives; she hopes to engender enthusiasm and perhaps attract more students to the major.

Current students are ready to forge their own strong paths. Senior Sakina Pasha is a neuroscience major who is president of a club that builds racecars. Barnard Student Fellows attended the Global Symposium in São Paulo, to lead career workshops for Brazilian high schoolers.

Finally, we thank those alumnae who answered our request for personal stories from members of the "sandwich generation," those who are caring for children and aging parents, working, and planning for their retirement. In this issue, we share their stories. "Strong, beautiful Barnard women"—all of you.

—The Editor

REEL TALK

THE STORY BEHIND THE SUCCESS OF HBO FILM
POWERHOUSE SHEILA NEVINS '60



"I've earned the right to be wrong, which is a great right to earn, and that's probably what success is: the right to be wrong."

If you have ever laughed or, more likely, cried watching a documentary on cable television, you should probably thank Sheila Nevins, president of HBO Documentary Films. Widely considered the most powerful person in non-fiction filmmaking, Nevins has spent more than 30 years supporting and overseeing the development of fascinating documentary features for HBO and Cinemax. Within a few minutes of watching selected clips from a handful of the 500 films she has helped produce, it's easy to see why Nevins is such an important figure in the world of documentaries. From the eye-opening examination of gays in film, *The Celluloid Closet*, to the justice-serving story of the wrongfully accused West Memphis Three in the *Paradise Lost* series, to the wildly entertaining act of *Elaine Stritch at Liberty*, to racy real-life series such as *Taxicab Confessions*, and on and on, Nevins has helped change the scope of what we

watch on TV. At last count, Nevins's productions have garnered 23 Oscars, 52 Emmys, and 35 Peabody awards. She has a personal Peabody for excellence in broadcasting, a 2009 Governor's Award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, and a 2011 Directors Guild of America Award for supporting the advancement of documentary as a genre. In the first Athena Center Power Talk of 2013, the outspoken Nevins opened up to Barnard President Debora Spar about her remarkable career and why she still doesn't consider herself a success.

In her introduction, Spar referred to Nevins as a Barnard legend and started the conversation by asking what the audience wanted to know: How did she do it? Like so many trailblazers, Nevins's career path did not go as planned. A New York native, she had always wanted to work in the theater. She studied dance at the High School of Performing Arts, and after "working very, very hard at Barnard" as an English major, Nevins went on to get a master's degree in theater directing at Yale University drama school. At Yale, she met and married a lawyer who was hoping for a doting 1960s housewife. He discouraged the theater idea, so Nevins joined the more 9-to-5 world of public television instead. "I just wanted a job," Nevins said. "I wanted a paycheck." After working on a few educational shows for children, she took a risk on the nascent Home Box Office in the late 1970s. The concept of paying for commercial-free television was new and unproven. "Cable?," asked Nevins. "I went to the 42nd Street Library and looked it up. It sounded good, so I went and got the job, and I'm still here."

While it may have been unplanned, her career ascent was no fluke. She proudly and often repeats how very good she is at what she does. Calling herself ruthless, she
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SPRING SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

A RANGE OF PROGRAMS—FROM STIMULATING SPEAKERS TO MUSICAL INTERLUDES—ENLIVENS THE CAMPUS

Photographs by Ayelet Pearl



BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR

The Honorable Mauro Vieira, Brazil's ambassador to the US, visited Barnard to talk about his country's program to provide scholarships to top students to study STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) subjects abroad. Barnard is one of the program's host institutions. The talk was one of many events surrounding the fifth annual Global Symposium in São Paulo, Brazil, March 18. (See pg. 18) From the left: President Debora Spar; The Honorable Mauro Vieira; Ambassador Vieira and President Spar with students who attended the discussion.

GLAMOUR MAGAZINE

Glamour magazine hosted a panel, "How to Build Your Personal Brand and Land Your Dream Job," for students on campus in April, and celebrated the winners of the magazine's Top 10 College Women Competition. From left are panelists Jessica Williams, *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart correspondent; Wendy Kopp, Teach for America founder; Mora Neilson, public relations director of L'Oréal Paris; President Spar; Cindi Leive, *Glamour's* editor-in-chief; Anna Chlumsky, *Veep* actress; Alex Wagner, MSNBC's *Now with Alex Wagner* host; and Rachel Sterne Haot, New York City's chief digital officer.



Photographs by Asiya Khaki

FIVE SENSES

In honor of Women's History Month, an intimate crowd of alumnae gathered for a "music tasting" event, which paired music by female composers with wine and cheese made by women artisans. The evening



Photograph by Annette Kahn

was created by Kala Maxym '01 through her special-events company, Five Senses Tastings, along with her former business-development manager, Aimee Styler '01. Attendees listened to each musical selection, sampling wines and cheeses carefully

matched to each other and the music to create a full sensory experience. From the left Cassandra Wang, pianist; Audrey Lo, violinist; Kala Maxym (who also sang at the event); Leesa Dahl, pianist; Heather Meyer, wine specialist and soprano.

Photographs by Jennifer Liseo



FEMINIST UTOPIAS

The Barnard Center for Research on Women's Scholar & Feminist conference focused this year on utopias, looking at how imagining utopias can serve as a catalyst for real change. Top: At center, Jennifer Miller, performer and founder of Circus Amok with BCRW research assistants (clockwise from top left): Emilie Segura '14, Damini Mohan '15, Michelle Chen '15, Renee Slajda '13, Phoebe Lytle '13, Dina Tyson '13, Zainah Gilles '14, Lulu Mickelson '14; Bottom, from the left: Reina Gossett leads a prison abolition workshop; Ileana Jiménez leads a workshop on feminism in K-12 education.

BIKE-A-THON

Barnard held its 10th annual Stationary Bike-A-Thon in April, raising money for Columbia Community Service (CCS). About 40 volunteers pedaled away in the LeFrak Gymnasium for the eight-hour event, raising more than \$2,000. The event was sponsored by the New York City Civic Engagement Program, Barnard's Career Development office, and CCS. Top, Regina Comins of BCIT. Bottom, from the left: Joan Griffith-Lee, director of CCS; Valerie Chow, associate director of civic engagement; Jeannette Darby, public safety officer; Ken Kim of Instructional Media and Technology Services; Won Kang of the Office of Career Development; and Mike Malena of Human Resources.



Photographs by Rebecca Douglas

PROJECT INTERVIEW

More than 100 students took part in Project Interview, a day-long workshop that taught students how to put their best foot forward during a job or internship interview. The Office of Career Development sponsored the event, and several successful alumnae took part, leading small-group sessions and holding one-on-one mock interviews. Brandon Holley '89, editor-in-chief of *Lucky* magazine, taking students on a tour of her publishing career. Raleigh Mayer, Leadership Lab instructor at the Athena Center for Leadership Studies, spoke about



preparing a dynamic, two-minute answer to the common interview question, "Tell me about yourself."

Top, from the left, visiting students Daria Ermushina and Amanda Awadey; Elizabeth Williams '15; Raleigh Mayer; Deborah Kang, visiting; Jenny Mayrock '15. Bottom, Brandon Holley '89.



Photographs by Abigail Beshkin

QUINN-TESSENCE

NEW YORK'S CITY COUNCIL SPEAKER VISITS BARNARD
ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF WOMEN—AND NEW YORK



Top Speaker Quinn at the podium **Above** (from left) Professors Dina Merrer, Paul Scolieri, and Paul Hertz with President Debora Spar, Christine Quinn, and students before Quinn spoke.

The Barnard campus provided a welcome stop for the Speaker of the New York City Council and mayoral hopeful Christine Quinn. Speaking before some 300 students, faculty members, and alumnae at The Diana Center in March, Quinn shared her views on housing, public education, and other hot-button political issues, as well as her thoughts on the sometimes impossible expectations women face in their careers and personal lives.

Opening her remarks, she noted that she feels a special affinity for Barnard, given that many of the school's graduates have emerged as leaders in city government and politics—including Maura Keaney '96, Quinn's former chief of staff, and Alix Pustilnik '88, the City Council's deputy legislative director. "If you look around the City Council or the folks involved in my government office or campaign [and made a] chart of what school has the most alums, you wouldn't have to count very long before it was clear Barnard was the winner," Quinn said.

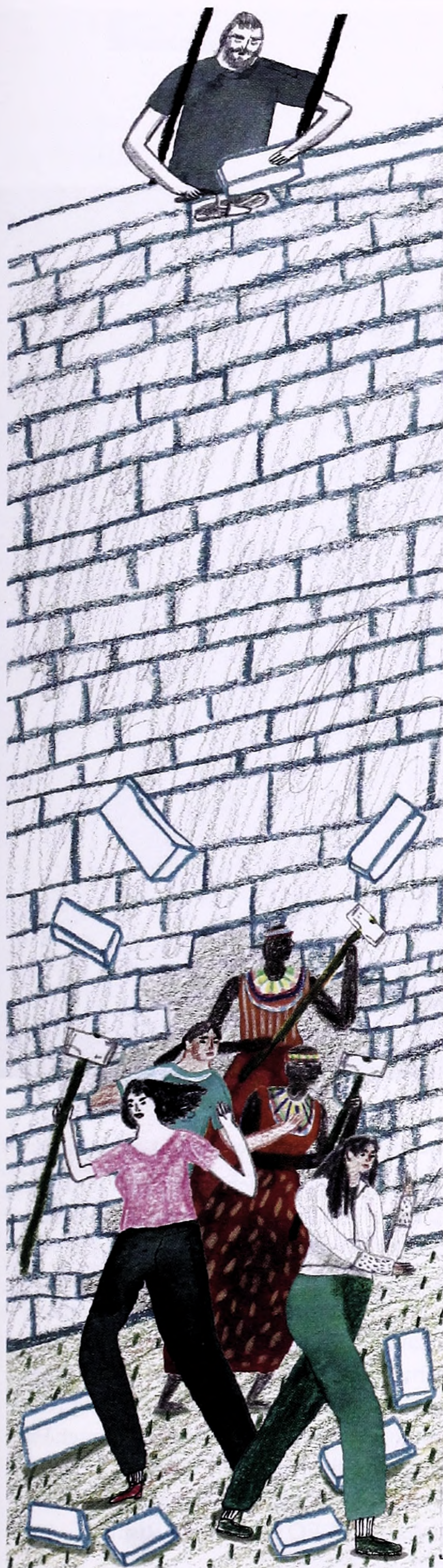
But she also pointed out that public service is entirely in keeping with Barnard's longtime mission. Barnard's "leadership and vision has helped countless women over the past century get to a place where they could understand what their dreams are, understand their potential, and reach that potential," said Quinn. "The gift that Barnard has given us is all those women who have gone out into our city, state, and world and changed the foundation for all of us."

Raised in Glen Cove, Long Island, Quinn has certainly forged her own remarkable career path. A 1988 graduate of Trinity College, she started out as a community organizer and activist on New York City housing-rights issues before entering politics. She won a 1999 race for the City Council representing Manhattan's

third district, which includes Chelsea, Greenwich Village, and other westside neighborhoods. Seven years later, Quinn was elected speaker, becoming the first woman and first openly gay person to hold the post.

Quinn told the audience that she was fortunate to come from a family full of strong women, which gave her the drive and confidence to push ahead. Indeed, she noted that her Irish-born maternal grandmother had actually set out for the United States 101 years ago on the Titanic, and was one of the few girls in steerage class to survive the voyage. Her grandmother talked about how "when the other girls dropped to their knees to pray," she decided to "take a run for it." One of the great strengths of Barnard, according to Quinn, is that it inspires students to be bold: "It's a place where it's okay to take risks, a place where it is encouraged to do what is in fact difficult."

Continued on Page 71



BREAKING BARRIERS

SHORT FILMS ABOUT WOMEN OF COURAGE AND CONVICTION
SPARK CONVERSATIONS ABOUT LEADERSHIP

While February has become synonymous with Barnard's hosting the Athena Film Festival, the dialogues about women and leadership are meant to be robust and ongoing all year. Last fall, a special collection of four short films, the Athena Global Shorts, celebrated the personal strengths and influence of women in their communities around the world. About one hour long, this inaugural collection brings together four shorts directed by female filmmakers that were screened at the 2012 Athena Festival. Each year, the festival's shorts program will provide the next year's collection of Global Shorts.

The collection was produced in collaboration with UN Women, a United Nations group that promotes gender equality and women's empowerment. Through its worldwide committees, 200 copies of the Global Shorts have been distributed, providing the basis for an array of special events. ADP is the sponsor for the Global Shorts program. Kathryn Kolbert, Constance Hess Williams Director of the Athena Center for Leadership Studies, is in discussions with the Girl Scouts of America to distribute the collection; Global Shorts is also available to Barnard's regional clubs.

Kolbert, who cofounded the Athena Film Festival with Melissa Silverstein of Women and Hollywood, points to film as a medium known to nearly all people throughout the world. Using films written, directed, or produced by women or that feature them in positions of power, enhances awareness and expands the possibilities for cultural change.

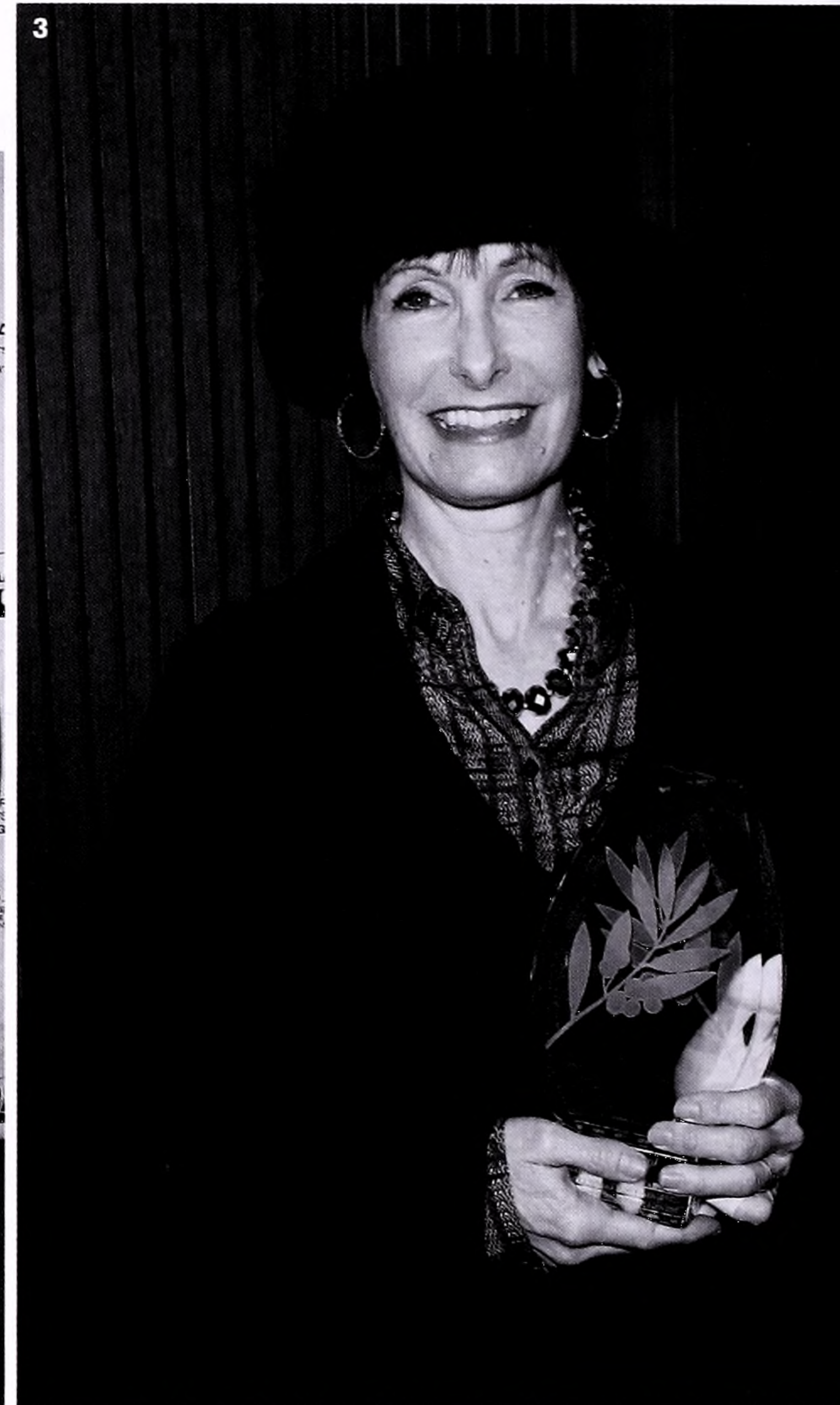
The first collection of Global Shorts features women of all ages in roles contradictory to their societies' norms. The lead characters are all marked by their creativity and determination: A Bedouin girl invades the tent where her father and his male friends are discussing his desire to take another wife; a Mexican mother frantically raises money to save a son who has accidentally fallen prey to a vicious drug cartel and finds she has endangered her own life; and, in Kenya, a band of women set up their own economically viable village—no men allowed—to escape their abusive, lazy husbands. Finally, an animated feature briefly, yet pointedly, speaks to the difficulties of women as they pursue careers in the male-dominated film industry.

Included with the Athena Global Shorts collection on DVD are some eye-opening statistics from a recent study, *It's a Man's (Celluloid) World: On-screen Representations of Female Characters in the Top 100 Films of 2011*, conducted by the Center for the Study of Women in Television and Film. Only 33 percent of on-screen characters in the films are women, and only 11 percent are actual leads; this is actually a loss for women, since 10 years ago, women made up 16 percent of overall movie leads. Women of color account for 27 percent of female characters shown on screen, with their leading roles diminishing to eight percent in 2011 from 15 percent in 2002.

Through ongoing projects supporting women in film, like the Athena Film Festival and the selection and distribution of the Athena Global Shorts (a new collection is planned for the 2014 festival), the dialogue will most assuredly continue.

For more information on the Athena Global Shorts, or if you would like to bring the program to your community, organization, or company, please contact Maria Perez-Martinez at 212-854-1264 or at mperezma@barnard.edu.

ATHENA FILM FESTIVAL



The third annual Athena Film Festival brought industry leaders to Barnard's campus for a weekend in February to celebrate the achievements of women in the film and allied industries and discuss the challenges they face. The festival screened 21 features, documentaries, and shorts centered on or created by women—or both. A highlight of the festival was the awards presentation, which took place at a red-carpet celebration attended by more than 300 people. Gale Anne Hurd, executive producer of the top-rated AMC show *The Walking Dead*, won the Laura Ziskin Lifetime Achievement Award. Hurd has been recognized for hiring women and minority directors. The Athena Film Festival Awards were presented to filmmaker Ava DuVernay, award-winning director of *Middle of Nowhere*; film critic and author Molly Haskell; Lincoln Center Film Society executive director Rose Kuo; and Paley Center for Media CEO, Pat Mitchell. The Festival was also cochaired by a dazzling roster of industry leaders, including producer and activist Regina Kulik Scully, founder and CEO of Artemis Rising Foundation, founding sponsor of the film festival.



Photos (from left): **1** TV news journalist Roz Abrams **2** Barnard President Debora Spar; actress and festival cochair Greta Gerwig '06; and Athena Center Director Kathryn Kolbert, cofounder of the festival **3** Gale Anne Hurd, film and TV producer and winner of the Laura Ziskin Lifetime Achievement Award **4** Producer Debra Martin Chase, festival cochair **5** Kathryn Kolbert with Rose Kuo, executive director of the Lincoln Center Film Society and Athena Award winner. **6** President Spar; Kathryn Kolbert; Gale Anne Hurd; filmmaker and Athena Award winner Ava DuVernay; festival cofounder Melissa Silverstein, also founder of Women and Hollywood; Rose Kuo; film critic and author Molly Haskell, Athena Award winner; and Diablo Cody, screenwriter and festival cochair. *Next year's Athena Film Festival is scheduled for February 6–9, 2014.*

TO THE FINISH LINE:

SAKINA PASHA '13 LEADS RACECAR CLUB



In the fall of her first year at Barnard, Sakina Pasha '13 was intrigued by a flyer that advertised Knickerbocker Motorsports, a student group based at Columbia that designs and builds a high-performance racecar each year for international competitions. "I didn't know anything about cars, but I've always been interested in building things," says Pasha, who worked on many home-improvement projects with her mother while growing up in Phoenix.

Today, Pasha is the president of the club, and her election has made her a trailblazer—she is the club's first female president, the first from Barnard, and the first non-engineer. A neuroscience major, Pasha is also involved in student government at the College. "I think there's real value in opening up the club" to non-engineers, says Pasha, who led the club's decision to change its constitution, which previously did not allow Barnard students to be board members.

Pasha joined the club with a friend; the two were the first Barnard students ever to participate. Pasha didn't know what many of the tools in the club's shop were, as they were nothing like the ones she had used at home to spackle, lay tile, and strip carpet. But she quickly learned about car design and construction, as well as the management challenge of organizing a complicated engineering project executed by 20 students, many of whom spend as many as 40 hours a week working on the club's car. "I latched on to people and took in as much as I could," she says.

Her outlook as a non-engineer has benefitted the team, according to Miguel Rodriguez, the club's chief engineer and a Columbia senior. "She is not afraid to question an engineering choice, which almost always ends up with us realizing

something we didn't see before," he explains. "She always says, 'You only really know your car system when you are able to clearly explain it to a non-engineer.'"

Providing an explanation of the car's design is a key element of the annual competition the club enters, the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers Competition, which takes place in late spring at the Michigan International Speedway; 120 universities are eligible to participate. In addition to racing, the team makes presentations on the car's design and cost to judges who are engineers and consultants from major racing groups and auto companies. "You have to defend the design, to know why each part is on the car," says Pasha. The presentation includes a listing of the car's 500 parts, their prices, and labor costs.

The club gives the students hands-on experience in project management, analysis,
Continued on Page 72

CRISIS INTERVENTION

A GRANT FROM THE AVON FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN
FUNDS PREVENTIVE EDUCATION



“What we have learned about intimate-partner violence and sexual assaults...is that a number of students often witness these events and want to help but are not sure how to intervene.”

A Steubenville, Ohio, rape case exhibits just what can happen when a situation gets out of control. What began as a night of partying in August 2012, ended with an intoxicated 16-year-old West Virginia girl being violated, other teenagers standing by and doing nothing, with pictures and text messages posted on social media. Two high-school football stars have been sentenced to time in the Ohio juvenile system; others could be charged for obstruction of justice, failing to report the attack, or both.

Recently, Barnard College received a \$5,000 grant from the Avon Foundation for Women to train people in intervention techniques in the hopes of preventing such incidents. Known as the “m.powerment by mark. Healthy Relationship College Program” grant, the funds will be used to start a bystander-intervention program. “Imagine if people really understood what they could do to help,” says Mary Joan L. Murphy, PNP-BC, MSN, MPH, executive director of student health and wellness programs at the College, who applied for the grant. “Education is key to getting the message out about how ‘no’ means ‘no,’ as well as what is assault,” says Murphy.

The Avon Foundation for Women received more than 172 applications from colleges nationwide seeking an m.powerment grant to fund preventive education programs on dating abuse and violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as those programs promoting healthy relationships. Barnard was one of 25 recipients. It’s the first time the school has received a grant from the foundation, which has spent over \$33 million to fight domestic violence in the United States.

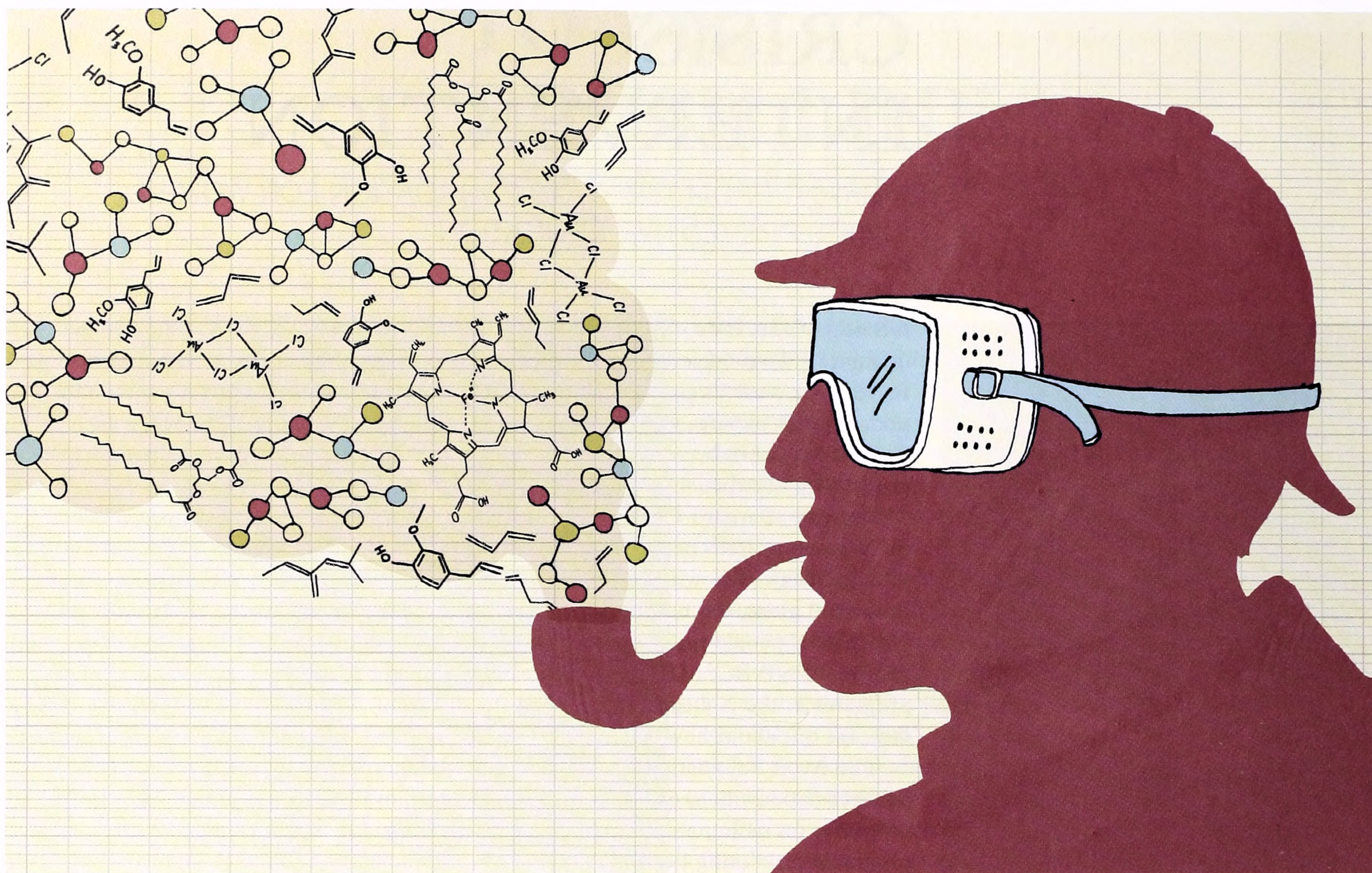
“The Avon Foundation for Women is significant in its support of women’s issues,” says Abigail Feder-Kane, Barnard’s former senior director of institutional support who oversaw the grant application to make sure it met the criteria laid out in the guidelines. “Receiving a grant from Avon is very good for Barnard’s reputation in the general funding world, and hopefully, it will bring more public attention to Barnard and help us to get additional grants in the future,” she adds.

“It made a lot of sense for us to apply, given how strong our rape crisis center and entire sexual-assault program is,” says Murphy.

Created in 1991 by Barnard College and Columbia University students, the Barnard/Columbia Rape Crisis/Anti-Violence Support Center provides peer advocacy and education to the entire student university community, including running a 24-hour help line staffed by student volunteers who are certified by the city’s Department of Health. Originally located in Butler Hall, the center has moved to 105 Hewitt in the Barnard Quad. “What we have learned about intimate-partner violence and sexual assaults on campus is that a number of students often witness these events and want to help but are not sure how to intervene,” says Dr. Karen Singleton, director of the Sexual Violence Response (SVR), a program of Columbia Health at Columbia University.

Those who run that program, which includes the Rape Crisis/Anti-Violence Support Center along with the Men’s Peer-Education Program, have been working with other departments at Columbia and Barnard to start a bystander-intervention

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FROM PUMPKIN PIE TO CSI

DR. MEENAKSHI RAO CHALLENGES STUDENTS TO FIND CHEMISTRY IN THE WORLD AROUND THEM

When members of the chemistry department asked Meenakshi Rao if she'd develop a new introductory seminar course on a subject close to her heart for the fall 2013 semester, she jumped at the chance. Rao, Barnard's senior lecturer in chemistry and director of the organic chemistry labs, has taught at the College for 22 years and knew exactly how to draw new students to the field: a course on forensics and chemistry in everyday life.

One of her inspirations for the course, "From Pumpkin Pie to CSI," the latter referring to the popular television show, came from a trip Rao took with a group of students recently to the "CSI: The Experience" exhibition at the Discovery Times Square museum. The students solved hypothetical crimes by examining blood types and matching DNA samples to potential suspects. They were fascinated by the experience, and the memory of their enthusiasm has stayed with Rao ever

since. She still keeps pictures from the trip on a bulletin board outside her office. "The excitement in their expressions was incredible," she says.

It doesn't hurt that Rao is also a fan of Sherlock Holmes. Her appetite for mysteries fuels her own passion for studying forensics. "Sherlock Holmes, *CSI*, *The Mentalist*—I can't get enough of it," she admits with a laugh, noting that it's the way that crime stories hinge on the science—the analysis of a hair fiber or a tooth filling—that captivates her. She's not alone: Today's students have grown up watching images of scientists working in labs, using chemistry to solve crimes in ubiquitous crime procedurals such as *CSI*. New technology in forensics has also brought increased media attention to the field as investigators have solved cold cases and reversed past

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SHE DOESN'T LIKE THE LIMELIGHT, BUT HER RHYTHMS TAKE CENTER STAGE

SUE HADJOPOULOS '75

She's toured with Laurie Anderson, Cyndi Lauper, and Rickie Lee Jones, but percussionist Sue Hadjopoulos '75 says that her career as a sought-after performer and recording artist wasn't something she anticipated. "Musically, I never kind of planned it," Hadjopoulos says from her apartment in Manhattan. She shares the space with a houseplant, "a palm that doesn't need to be watered for a month or two," a big plus when she's on tour for weeks at a time in Japan or Europe.

She performed with British musician and singer-songwriter Joe Jackson last summer on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* and soon after began a two-month tour with Jackson for his tribute album to Duke Ellington. They played more than 30 concerts in the United States, France, Italy, Germany, and Belgium. Hadjopoulos's professional relationship with Jackson dates from 1982, when she spotted a *Village Voice* ad by a "major recording artist" seeking a player skilled in Latin percussion, including timbales, congas, bongos, and mallets. Hadjopoulos protested to a friend that she didn't know how to play mallets, but her friend insisted that she answer the ad anyway.

When Hadjopoulos arrived for an audition, she wasn't intimidated. She didn't know who the Grammy-nominated



artist was. She was hired and performed on Jackson's breakthrough *Night and Day* album, known for hits "Steppin' Out" and "Breaking Us in Two." Her ease with genres including pop, rock, and Latin music served her well, and she's been working with Jackson for 30 years.

Hadjopoulos grew up on Long Island, the daughter of a Greek dad who was an engineer and Big Band drummer and a Puerto Rican mom who was a linguistics professor. "It was such an open time," she says. "There were so many possibilities for women. I came from a liberated family; my dad would cook and do laundry, and my mom would go to classes."

When Hadjopoulos seated herself behind her father's basement drum set, she daydreamed that she was performing at Madison Square Garden. "My dad showed me rudiments and double rolls and things like that," she says. "My older brother played sax and started being in all these bands, and they'd have rehearsals at the house. When they didn't have a drummer, they'd use me, but when they'd get a gig, my brother didn't want his little sister playing." She did, however, perform occasionally with his band and began picking up work.

At Barnard, she studied anthropology and reveled in hearing Jane Goodall

lecture at Columbia. On the weekends, she played funk, pop, and rhythm and blues in "crazy bad places" all over New York City before crawling into bed at 3 a.m.

She developed a niche picking up and playing intricate Latin rhythms, a melding of African rhythms and island beats. "People hired me because they liked how I interpreted their music," she says. "I can hear the thing all loaded up with the percussion on it. I'm good at layering what instrumentation would go on when."

After graduation, Hadjopoulos played in a touring female salsa band, Latin Fever. That experience primed her to ace her audition with Jackson, whom she describes as "very versatile. You don't know what he's going to throw out to you: Is it going to be Latin? Jazz?"

In the past 25 years, Hadjopoulos has performed with artists as diverse as Simple Minds, Laura Nyro, Barry Manilow, and The B-52s. She toured twice with Cyndi Lauper, who asked her in the audition if she could sing back up. "I said yes because you must say yes to everything," Hadjopoulos says, adding that after she got the job, she signed up for six months of voice lessons.

Hadjopoulos seamlessly blends musical skill with impressive stamina, says Andy Ezrin, a jazz pianist and keyboard player who has toured globally with her. "The main thing with her is her energy. And she's very upbeat. She's bubbly and fun to be around." He's impressed by her endurance, saying that Jackson also appreciated Hadjopoulos's ability to keep the music flowing by keeping the beat going.

Though the artists Hadjopoulos accompanies cover a variety of genres and styles, all are dedicated to promoting their music. "Nobody gets to be in these places without a lot of hard, grimy work. They're constantly thinking about what they're going to do next," Hadjopoulos says. "I don't have that drive to be in the front. I like being in my little percussion house in the back."

FLY ME TO THE MOON

LILY KOPPEL '03

Exploring the women behind America's astronauts

Lily Koppel '03 may have been just “moon dust”—as she jokes—during the great age of space exploration, but in her second book, *The Astronaut Wives Club*, the 32-year-old author deftly transports readers through that era, navigating territory that has seldom been traversed.

With an eye for colorful detail, Koppel tells the stories of the women behind the astronauts, the wives who lived in a Texas “space burb” known ironically as Togetherville, where they baked moon pies and debated the merits of Pepto-Bismol-colored lipstick. It was here that they gathered for coffee and cocktails, trading tips on how to handle the always-present press and bearing the strain of presenting the ideal family to the American public.

“The wives felt the pressure to do everything just so, now that the whole country was watching them,” writes Koppel in the book, released this spring by Grand Central Publishing. The women “found their real selves disappearing behind *Life* magazine’s depiction of what it meant to be not only the perfect Fifties housewife but the perfect astronaut’s wife, molded like the popular Barbie doll, which had first appeared on store shelves that spring,” in 1959. The women, who eventually formed an Astronaut Wives Club, largely kept up the charade of perfection, even while their husbands passed long stretches away from home,

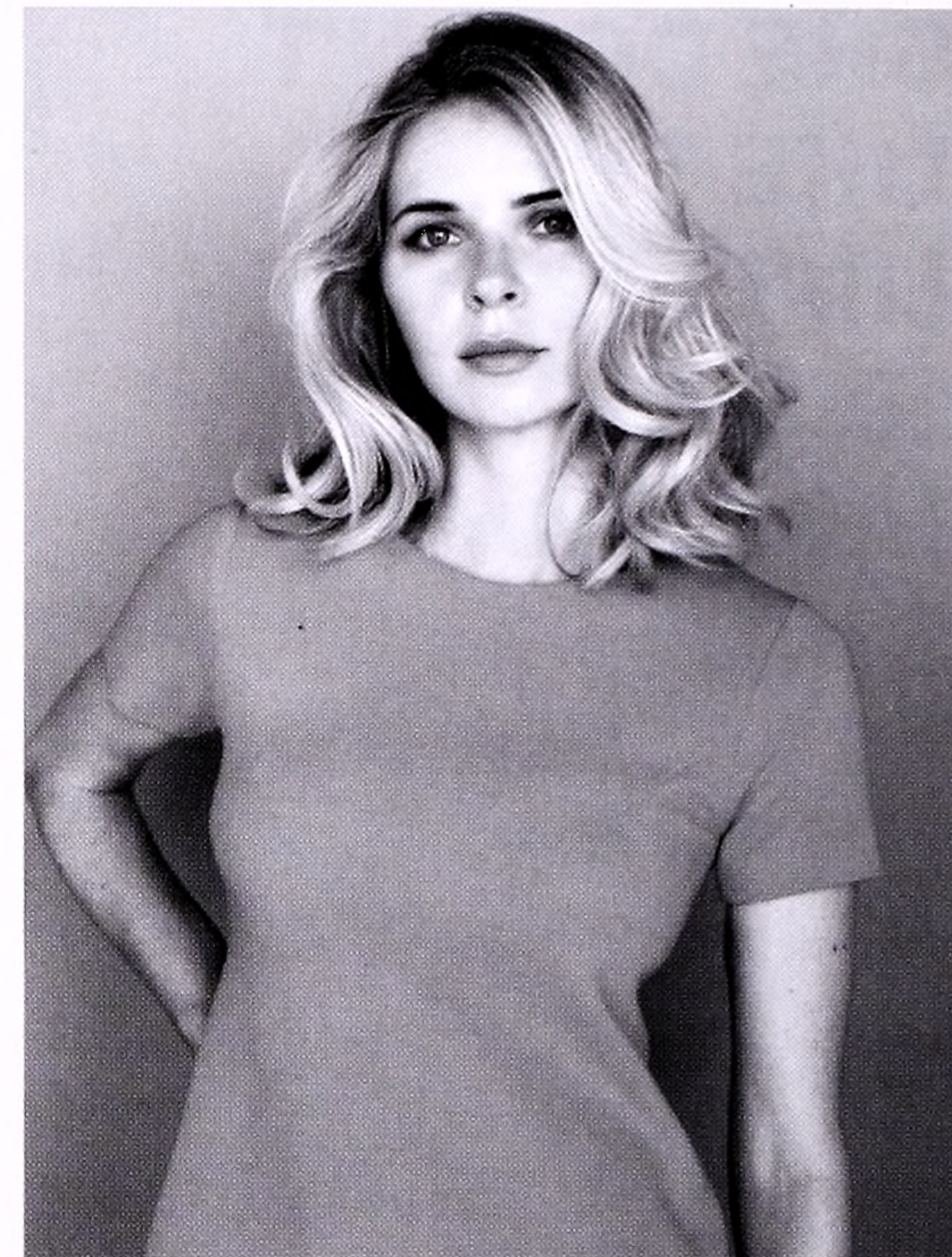
training for life-threatening missions, and cavorting with “cape cookies,” mistresses they kept in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Of course, the world of an astronaut’s wife didn’t include only hardships, as Koppel’s entertaining account points out. Not only did banks offer steeply discounted home loans, but the astronaut families received Corvettes for \$1 a year, had the chance to visit with the glamorous Kennedys, and were routinely given presents—some odd, like the \$1,000 gift certificates to Neiman Marcus each of the wives received anonymously from a priest.

The book often reads like a novel, energized by each moon mission when lives hang in jeopardy, and when a wife might turn her eyes skyward after sunset and consider her man on the moon. Koppel says that in her reporting for the book, many wives spoke about “what a magical era it was, setting this completely audacious goal and then achieving it.” She adds, “In the Facebook-Twitter world, our horizons are reduced to this very little screen. Four decades ago, we were looking up at the moon.”

Koppel’s successful first book, *The Red Leather Diary*, which escorts readers through the love and cultural affairs of a young Jewish woman in 1930s New York City, was mandatory reading for Barnard’s entering class of 2012. Like her second book, it gave voice to a woman of recent history and may shift a reader’s perceptions of that time period.

Growing up in Chicago as the daughter of an artist and a writer, Koppel says that in college she began thinking about these hidden tales of women, her writing influenced by Margaret Vandenburg’s first-year seminar. In Vandenburg’s class, she began thinking about “the different quality to women’s stories,” how they are “often told in a subversive way,” and that their “stories are told in the margins, in scraps.” This mindset enabled her to recognize the significance of a red diary found buried in a steamer trunk that had been left in the dumpster outside her Upper West Side building. The diary prompted her to track down its writer,



“In the Facebook-Twitter world, our horizons are reduced to this very little screen. Four decades ago, we were looking up at the moon.”

Florence Wolfson, who was 90, living in Florida, and still vibrant.

Koppel applied a similar logic when she stumbled across a coffee-table book of space explorations that her husband, writer Tom Folsom, had purchased. Flipping through the pages, scanning the colorful photos of “a group of guys in silver space suits,” and also finding a *Life* magazine photo of the wives decked out in candy-colored dresses, Koppel realized a story was waiting to be told.

WRITER ON THE ROAD

JENNY MILCHMAN '92

Jenny Milchman is conducting a phone interview from the front seat of her car parked on a street in Columbus, Ohio. Her daughter Sophie, 9, and son Caleb, 7, do their schoolwork in the back. Jenny's husband, Josh Frank, who creates mobile Web sites, sits next to Jenny conducting a work-from-the-road session with no fewer than three computers.

This is all part of the plan. The Milchman family embarked in February on the tour for Jenny's book, *Cover of Snow*, about a woman's quest to unravel the mystery behind her husband's suicide. They'll be on the road until September. That meant renting out their house in New Jersey, trading in their cars for a four-wheel-drive SUV, car-schooling the kids, and hitting the road for hundreds of bookstore and library events across nearly 40,000 miles. "I have to say, it's 100 percent the most fun I have ever had in my life," says Milchman. "My whole family is with me. I get to see how

everybody thinks and feels from moment to moment, and then at the end of the day I get to walk into a bookstore and meet my readers. I just can't believe it."

A trip of this magnitude is not without its challenges. "The biggest thing we had to give up in making this trip was...losing our children's spots at their charter school. We're hopeful they get back into this special school," she says. "But for now, car-schooling seems to be an excellent substitute. The occasional multiplication battles notwithstanding, the kids are getting a cultural, ecological, and historical immersion in our country. Generally, they begin with math, reading and writing worksheets, plus spelling, and then we add a special lesson for the day....So we talked about the Civil War when we were in Gettysburg, and read Robert Frost in Vermont."

Although Ballantine Books, part of Random House, published *Cover of Snow*, this is no regular first-time-author book tour. Milchman masterminded the whole marathon herself, with the help of an independent publicity firm, as a personal reward for her years of trials and tribulations in dogged pursuit of publication. She was occasionally tempted by the ease and speed of self-publishing,
Continued on Page 73



Jenny Milchman reading at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, North Carolina.

RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

FICTION

CLAIRE OF THE SEA LIGHT

by Edwidge Danticat '90
Knopf, 2013, \$25.95

NIGHT FILM

by Marisha Pessl '00
Random House, 2013, \$28

THERE WAS AN OLD WOMAN

by Hallie Ephron '69
William Morrow, 2013, \$25.99

POETRY

THE AWAKENING: A LONG POEM TRIPTYCH & A POETICS FRAGMENT

by Eileen R. Tabios '82
theenk Books, 2013, \$16

NONFICTION

THE VOICE IS ALL: THE LONELY VICTORY OF JACK KEROUAC

by Joyce Johnson '55
Viking, 2012, \$32.95

OLD-SCHOOL COMFORT: THE WAY I LEARNED TO COOK

by Alex Guarnaschelli '91
Clarkson Potter, 2013, \$30

SAMUEL BARBER: A THEMATIC CATALOGUE OF THE COMPLETE WORKS

by Barbara B. Heyman '55
Oxford University Press, 2012, \$99

ACTING ON FAITH: THE CONFRATERNITY OF THE GONFALONE IN RENAISSANCE ROME

By Barbara Wisch '70 and Nerida Newbigin
St. Joseph's University Press, 2013, \$100

WHAT MY MOTHER GAVE ME: THIRTY- ONE WOMEN ON THE GIFTS THAT MATTERED MOST

edited by Elizabeth Benedict '76
Algonquin, 2013, \$15.95

GOTTLIEB BINDESBØLL: DENMARK'S FIRST MODERN ARCHITECT

by Peter Thule Kristensen, translated by Martha
Gaber Abrahamsen '69
Danish Architectural Press, 2013, \$100

YOUNG READERS

BABY ABC

BABY 123

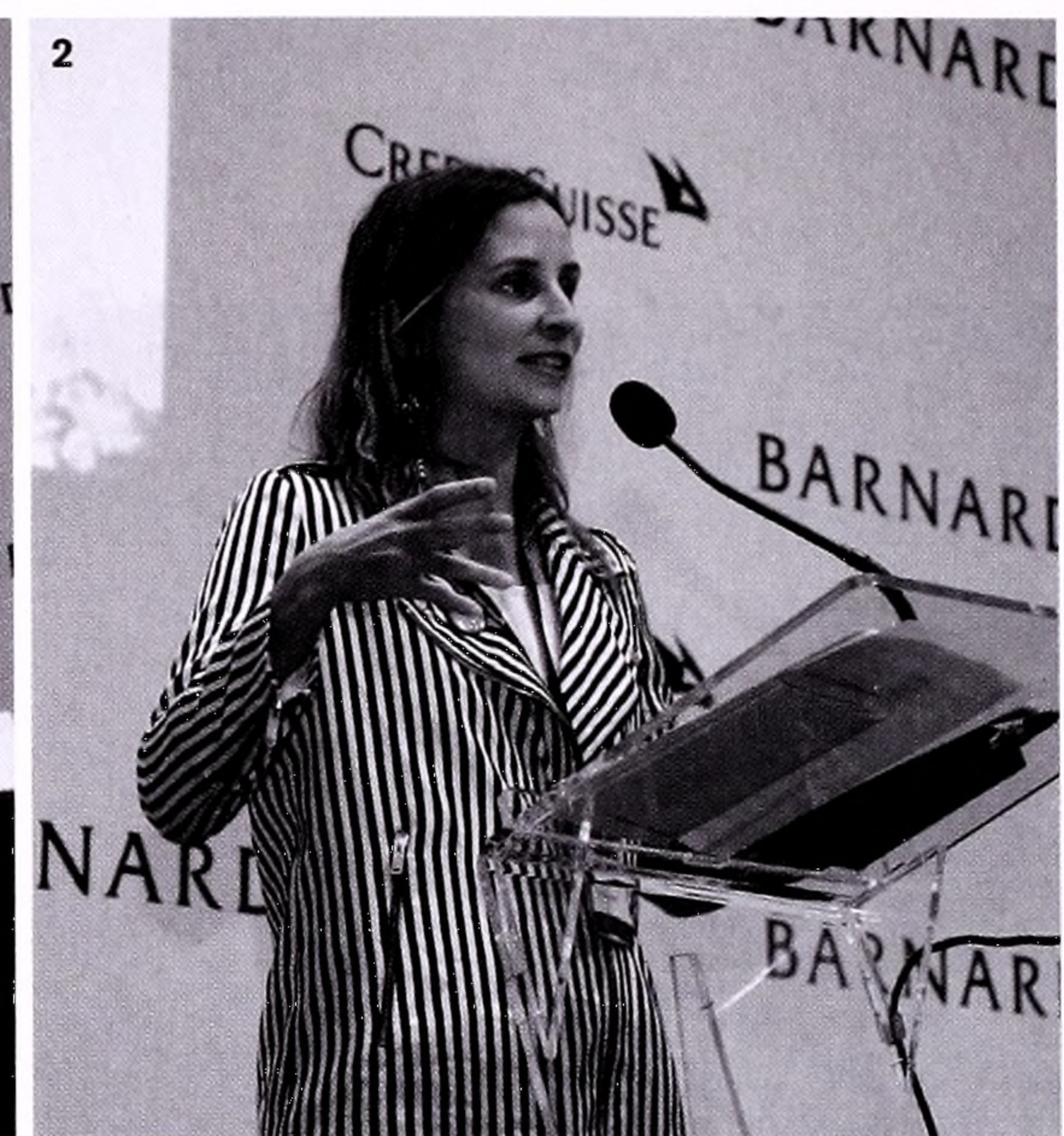
by Deborah Donenfeld '88
Penguin, 2013, \$6.99 each

FACULTY

THE BIRTH OF CHINESE FEMINISM: ESSENTIAL TEXTS IN TRANSNATIONAL THEORY

edited by Dorothy Ko (Professor of History),
Lydia H. Liu, and Rebecca E. Karl
Columbia University Press, 2013, \$29.50

Complete listings at barnard.edu/magazine



Photos (from the left) **1** Debora Spar opened the "Women in Science" panel with TV journalist Monica Waldvogel, the panel's moderator; astronomer Duilia de Mello, and geneticist Mayana Zatz. **2** Filmmaker Petra Costa '06 and **3** Michelle Gadsden Williams of Credit Suisse delivered opening remarks. **4** President Spar listened to translated remarks of columnist Maria Cristina Frias and GE Brazil's Adriana Machado **5** Eleonora Menicucci, the Brazilian government's minister devoted to policies toward women, gave the keynote. **6** Barnard Student Fellows Adriana Moore '15, Victoria Steinbruch '14, Mariany Polanco '13, Mary Glenn '13, Dhvani Tombush '15, and Annelise Finney '15 **7** "Voices of the Region" panel moderator Kathryn Kolbert with performer Mayra Avellar Neves, artist-activist Pamela Castro, and filmmaker Kátia Lund **8** Dhvani Tombush posed a question. **9** Menicucci and Spar before the symposium's opening **10** The crowd at the Grand Hyatt São Paulo

SÃO PAULO: BARNARD IN BRAZIL

Fifth Global Symposium Highlights Women's Emerging Leadership

More than 400 people attended Barnard's fifth annual Global Symposium, *Women Changing Brazil*, in São Paulo in March at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. The all-day event brought together Brazilian women leaders from the arts, community organizing, politics, medicine, science, and media to share their perspectives about women's progress—and remaining barriers—with Barnard administrators, students, alumnae, and the public. This year also marked the attendance of four appointed Global Faculty Fellows from various departments at the College. (See page 20.)

As with previous Barnard symposia, Credit Suisse sponsored the Brazil event; Michelle Gadsden-Williams, the firm's managing director and global head of diversity and inclusion, opened the symposium, acknowledging, "Women are changing Brazil and making significant impacts around the world, but there's still lots to do."

In welcoming the audience, President Debora Spar noted Brazil's significance as the symposium's location, both because of the number of women holding key leadership positions in politics and business, and because Latin America is "brimming, overflowing with...women's leadership." Besides having a woman president, Brazil has 10 female ministers. Spar also showed a short video about the Barnard experience, explaining that the College sees one of its missions as "educating students from around the world, who will become ambassadors back to where they come from. It's a powerful network of amazing women." Key components of that mission are identifying, understanding, and developing women leaders. "Women lead differently than men," said Spar. "[We want] to try to understand how women lead and educate the next generation of young women to be the best possible leaders they can be. We're expanding our mission to embrace the entire world." Spar added, "The idea is to have an ongoing series of conversations so that the work doesn't end in São Paulo."

The keynote speaker, Eleonora Menicucci, Brazil's minister of the secretariat of policies for women, delivered a strong message about Brazil's focus on expanding women's opportunities. A physician, Menicucci explained that her

portfolio is "pushing for gender equality and combating violence against women." Some of the major initiatives, which are part of an overarching effort to "have women in a protagonist role in the government and society," she said, include full-time day-care centers and schools to enable mothers to enter and stay in the labor force; safe houses for women escaping violent relationships; and allowances for women seeking divorce who have children, to help the women become financially independent.

Brazil's current administration has "tolerance below zero for gender violence," said Menicucci. "Violence against women is a wound...and that open wound has to be closed, no matter what." Further, by facing gender violence, Brazil "brings women to the center of society as subjects in their own right. We are giving to these women a sense of life, a sense of citizenship."

Innovative ways in which Brazilian women are expressing themselves was the theme of the "Voices of the Region" panel, which highlighted the ambitious, ground-breaking work of three young Brazilian women activists working in the arts—film, graffiti, and dance. Kathryn Kolbert, Constance Hess Williams Director of Barnard's Athena Center for Leadership Studies, moderated a particularly spirited discussion featuring Pamela Castro, a graffiti artist and activist who founded an NGO that uses art to promote women's rights; Kátia Lund, a film director and screenwriter known for *City of God*; and Mayra Avellar Neves, a student activist and winner of the 2008 International Children's Peace Prize.

The panelists explored the complicated questions of identity, ethnicity, sexism, and violence in Brazilian culture and the ways in which each of these women had struggled against those constraints. "When I was a teenager, I was a rebel," said Castro, once in an abusive marriage. "My dream was that my condition as a woman would not be limiting. I want to change things, and how we're seen, and contribute to our struggle against domestic violence."

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GLOBAL FACULTY FELLOWS JOIN THE SYMPOSIUM

Four Barnard Global Faculty Fellows participated in the São Paulo event, using the opportunity to network with colleagues, pursue research interests, and bring that work back to the Barnard community. Although faculty members have participated in two previous symposia—in South Africa and India—the Brazil symposium represented the first time that the Global Faculty Fellows were selected in a more formal process spearheaded by the faculty-grants committee. The shift, says Vice Provost Hilary Link, reflected a desire to open the symposium to faculty members whose research interests in Brazil might not have been readily apparent. It also reflected one of the Global Symposium’s missions of developing academic and personal connections that last well beyond the one-day conference.

The faculty members, chosen last spring, applied by outlining their proposed research projects, with an understanding that those projects would “resonate back to the Barnard community,” says Link. “As the events have become bigger and more successful, we wanted to incorporate the work of the symposium into the broader campus community. It’s the lead-up, and the follow-up, in the arc of programming.”

Fellow Nara Milanich, associate professor of history whose focus is on Latin American history, went to Brazil to research the history of the paternity test before DNA. While she had known that scientists at the University of São Paulo had conducted cutting-edge research on

paternity during the 1930s and 1940s, she was thrilled to find the actual reports at the medical school during her visit. “It was an amazing experience on many fronts,” says Milanich, who had gone frequently to Brazil as a child with her mother, an anthropologist. “I got lucky. I went to the institute within the medical school, where they had done the first paternity test in this hemisphere, in 1927, and found all the reports the doctors wrote.” Milanich has worked in Italy, Argentina, and New York investigating the comparative history of paternity tests; the São Paulo experience was “invaluable for the purposes of my research. I would never have found this material otherwise.”

History professor Jose Moya went to further his work on Brazilian multiculturalism. Describing his

experience as “eye-opening,” he notes that the diversity of the presenters alone—from a graffiti artist and a filmmaker to a government minister, CEOs, and scientists—guaranteed a wide range of perspectives. “Their insights and exchanges with the audience conveyed the dynamism of present-day Brazil,” he adds. “The impression was reinforced by contact with colleagues in São Paulo and Porto Alegre, where I was invited to give a lecture on the global circulation of people, ideas, and cultural practices. We’re now trying to figure out how to foment that type of connection between Barnard and Brazilian universities.”

There were many benefits for Colleen Thomas-Young, associate professor of professional practice in dance. “This vital exchange with other artists and art forms is a dynamic effort to expand what I am able to give my students,” she explains. “My proposal was to share my teaching and creative interests with the symposium group. I taught a contact-improvisation workshop for the professional dancers at the Balé da Cidade de São Paulo and offered a master class for other dancers, artists, and the general public. I also explored the creation of a new work in collaboration with filmmaker Petra Costa ’06.

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Debora Spar (center, in peach dress) surrounded by Barnard Faculty Fellows, Student Fellows, administrators, and alumnae in the meeting room at the Grand Hyatt São Paulo during the fifth annual Global Symposium. More than 400 people were in attendance during the day-long event.

IN SÃO PAULO: YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP



Brazilian high-school students explore gender and professional opportunities with Barnard Student Fellows at the Escola Graduada de São Paulo. Victoria Steinbruch '14 led a discussion.

After the symposium, a group of six Barnard students, selected through a competitive application process to be Global Symposium Student Fellows, held a workshop for girls from São Paulo high schools, exploring how gender affects professional opportunities. The workshop was designed and facilitated by the students and included role-playing simulations. Girls from five local schools gathered at Escola Graduada de São Paulo for the event, which opened with a welcome by Barnard's Dean of Enrollment Jennifer Fondiller '88 and an overview about women's leadership by Kathryn Kolbert, Constance Hess Williams Director of the Athena Center for Leadership Studies.

Each year, the Global Symposium Student Fellows are selected by a committee that includes administrators from College departments involved with planning the symposium. Each fellow goes through a rigorous application and interview process in which she describes her interest in the year's symposium region and women's issues, demonstrates her experience with public speaking and event planning, and showcases her leadership roles on campus.

The Brazilian high-school students divided into groups for the workshops. They were assigned to play the roles of

both male and female job candidates, hiring managers, and hiring directors. Hiring managers interviewed candidates, who talked about the credentials and backgrounds they had been assigned. Managers gave feedback to the directors, who ultimately made the decisions about whom to hire. When the scenarios were over, the Barnard fellows led conversations about how gender roles contribute to workplace dynamics and leadership within an organization.

The high schoolers responded enthusiastically to the exercises and were eager to discuss women's roles in their society, according to student fellow Mariany Polanco '13. "I came away with a fresh perspective on how young women view leadership," she said. In the group led by fellow Mary Glenn '13, the conversation moved from the workplace simulation to other contexts where leadership opportunities exist, such as a university setting or even in the home. "The [Brazilian students] frequently raised the question—can anyone be a leader?" Glenn explained.

Adriana Moore '15, herself a graduate of Escola Americana de Campinas, one of the participating schools, noted an impressive degree of social awareness among the students. "They raised issues of sexism within advertisements and

everyday language," she said.

Student fellow Dhvani Tombush '15, who participated in the inaugural Young Women's Leadership Workshop as a high-school student at the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, was reminded that culture doesn't have to be a barrier between women. "As I sat with those girls, I realized that the bond of 'woman' was stronger and cut across our global differences," she said.

The girls in São Paulo were not the only high-school students to take part in the workshop. Before the trip, the student fellows held a preliminary workshop on Barnard's campus for local students from around New York City. "Leading the same program for these two distinct groups brought out cultural differences and similarities between young women in Brazil and young women in the United States," said Annelise Finney '15.

The student fellows came away with a sense that their curriculum had an impact on the students and that these conversations were an important vehicle for helping younger women think about the role of women in their own society and in other parts of the world. "One of the Athena Center's core principles is that leaders have to share what they've learned with the next generation. I loved putting that into practice," said Glenn.

As the mother of three boys, Daniela Pernis Muldowney '84 is well practiced in managing a hectic household. Those skills were essential during the past few years when she became the primary caregiver for her elderly parents. Although her parents lived in their own apartment near her home in a Boston suburb, Muldowney was kept busy shuffling their medical appointments, hospitalizations, and various crises, while also caring for her sons, who are now 19, 16, and 9.

"I would have to drop everything and go to the hospital," says Muldowney. "I'd call my friends to pick up my kids. There were significant numbers of times when I'd have to choose between being at the hospital for my father or at a play for my son. Or I'd have to choose which parent to support." She admits that when her eldest son was applying to college, she never met his college counselor, and confesses, "I'd never seen the college until we dropped him off." Muldowney takes care of her now-widowed 85-year-old mother's bills and taxes and fields "15-20 calls a day." She explains, "The fact that I don't work outside the home means my mother thinks I should be available."

Her situation is emblematic of that of many others caught in the "sandwich" generation: women raising children who are also taking care of elderly parents and relatives. According to an AARP 2009 report, of more than 40 million adults providing care for family or friends, nearly 70 percent are female. Many, no doubt are daughters or daughters-in-law. Sometimes the care is direct, other times the role is defined as managing logistics for a relative still living independently, or in an assisted-living facility or a nursing home. New skills may be needed, such as how to be an effective and appropriate advocate with physicians or with staff at an assisted-living residence.

"The majority of my patients have adult children with young children," says geriatrician Cathryn Devons '82, an assistant clinical professor of geriatrics at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, and director of geriatrics at Phelps Memorial

Hospital Center in Westchester County. "My patients' children, who are in the waiting room, coordinate appointments with picking up children from the school bus." Devons, who has three young children and a 93-year-old mother, understands the responsibilities of a "sandwiched" caregiver. "Being a woman, and in the same situation, I have practical experience and empathy," she says.

The challenges are, of course, different for each woman and her family. What makes it stressful for many caregivers is that no one is really prepared for this particular role. No matter what one's course of study at Barnard, nor one's professional expertise, learning how to provide care, advocate for older relatives with hospitals and doctors, and navigate the complex universe of insurance and entitlements can be daunting.

And the choice may not be as stark as taking Dad to the emergency room versus watching your daughter's soccer play-offs. Vacations get canceled, frantic phone calls interrupt the workday or quiet time in the evening, and medical emergencies and hospitalizations cause further disruptions. There can be tensions with siblings when there are disagreements about how best to care for a parent, and even financial burdens related to providing care or sacrificing one's own employment prospects.

Joanna Davis Berkowitz '75, a physician in south Florida, says that when her parents first moved near her they were about 30 minutes away, in good health and very independent. About six years later, their medical needs increased, and they moved much closer. There were "times when my kids got a little bit of short shrift, when I'd bang my head against the wall," Berkowitz concedes. She had to juggle her role as primary caregiver for her parents with the demands of Hebrew school, dance recitals, and proms for her three children.

"It is, and it was, exhausting," she says. "Life was like when the babies were little. I would go to work, and say, 'I may have to leave.'" On balance Berkowitz believes she

was lucky. As an academic doctor with a supportive division chief, she had more defined hours than physicians in private practice. Also, her parents were financially independent, so neither Berkowitz nor her two siblings had to provide monetary support for them.

Of course, some caregivers also say they welcome the opportunity to give back something to beloved parents. "I am very grateful to my parents for their lifelong support," says Maria Rudensky Silver '80, a retired Foreign Service officer who lives in her suburban Westchester childhood home with her children and her 89-year-old mother; her father was with the family until his death last January at the age of 90. "I've provided more care for them, but both provided a lot of nurturing for my kids." Her father frequently drove her children to their activities. Today, Silver helps manage the banking and bills, and bathes her mother.

Silver's situation is somewhat less common. For many, the pressures are unending. "There's a huge amount of stress," says Belinda Carstens-Wickham '73, professor of foreign languages and German at Southern Illinois University and mother of four. She finds it challenging and exhausting to balance the needs of her 15-year-old, who rides horses and takes lessons four days a week, with her role as caregiver for her mother, who lives in a nearby assisted-living residence.

"My daughter gets out of school at 2 p.m.," says Carstens-Wickham "I have to get her home, and then visit my mom. I feel more pressured now at 61, with my mom in assisted living and with one child at home, than when I was a single mom with two young children. Every day I have to figure out when I have to see my mom, take care of Hannah, and prepare classes."

Even when one's role is primarily that of a long-distance manager, the responsibility can weigh heavily. Seana Anderson '69 inherited the caregiving role for her mother when her sister died in 2005. Her mother, physically healthy but wheelchair-bound, was in an assisted-
Continued on Page 74

NEW YORK CITY WOMAN: BARBARA LOVENHEIM '62

Newspaper stories, magazine profiles, books—an illustrious publishing career encourages this writer to create an online magazine for women on the “right side of 45”

If you Google, “best dressmakers in NYC,” the first hit on the list is an article from NYCitywoman.com. Looking to learn more about the marriages of past US presidents? Try searching “first ladies, marriages.” Just below the inevitable Wikipedia entry is an article from NYCitywoman.com. The online magazine, as described by its founding editor Barbara Lovenheim, is devoted to lifestyle issues for women who have said good-bye to their thirties. According to Lovenheim, research indicates that about 40 percent of the women who live in Manhattan are between 45 and 65 years old; two-thirds of them are college-educated, and more of these women work in high-powered jobs than in other cities. This market, she says, is underserved by major media.

Every month, Lovenheim—an experienced journalist and interviewer who has written for *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York* magazine, and *The International Herald Tribune*—and a team of freelance writers assemble articles on a broad array of subjects of interest to this demographic: lifestyle ideas, changing bodies, caregiving issues, and economic challenges, such as career changes and retirement. Leavening these topics are fashion and beauty features, such as the dressmaker ratings, what the mother of the bride should wear, and what lotions are best for drying skin. The site includes a range of features—from newsy to quirky—such as profiles of lesser-known 19th-century first ladies. “We are not aggregators of content,” says Lovenheim with pride, “We create our own.” To do that, she draws from a team of writers, mostly female with whom she’s worked over the years. She pointedly adds that she pays her writers; many Web sites do not.

A gracious speaker with a calm demeanor, Lovenheim grew up in Rochester, New York; she was an honors student who was rejected by Radcliffe, and decided to come to Barnard, lured by its affiliation and proximity to Columbia, its New York City location, and the theatre. An English major, she earned a master’s at the University of Wisconsin and a PhD at the University of Rochester. For the next 14 years, she taught English, first at Queens College, then at Baruch. Denied tenure at both institutions, she says now, “It was a blessing in disguise.”

She left the academic world in 1975, not long after *The New York Times Book Review* published her exposé about college professors who hired ghostwriters to write their books. From academia, she joined a large New York public relations firm. At first a secretary, she was soon given a promotion one Friday, only to find out the following Monday that the agency had lost a major money-making account, which effectively ended her new position and her pursuit of a public relations career.

Although she lost her “day job,” she had been contributing to *Our Town*, a community newspaper serving Manhattan’s Upper East Side, *The Soho News*, and *The Village Voice*. These assignments led to articles for the *Times*. Lovenheim joined a friend in London in 1979, and began writing for the new arts section of the *International Herald Tribune*, interviewing the famous such as Arianna Stassinopoulos (pre-Huffington), then a Cambridge graduate with a radio talk-show; opera diva Maria Callas; Billie Whitelaw, the favorite actress and muse of playwright Samuel Beckett; and prima ballerina Margot Fonteyn, who said almost nothing for five long hours.



London was glamorous, but Lovenheim was earning very little money, and she returned to New York the following year. There were more assignments from the *Times* and the new arts page of *The Wall Street Journal*. In addition to arts coverage, she also included social issues among her story ideas.

In 1986, *Newsweek* published a study by Harvard and Yale demographers indicating, “that a single woman over 40 had a better chance of being killed by a terrorist than getting married.” The comment ignited a blaze of media attention; *New York* followed up with Lovenheim’s cover story, “Brides at Last: Women Over 40 Who Beat the Odds,” that led her to a book contract. *Beating the Marriage Odds: When You Are Smart, Single, and Over 35*, was published in 1990. Lovenheim smiles when she

recounts her own love story. She met John Grimes, a now-retired ABC radio news correspondent, when she was 50; they remain together today.

The year 1990 marked her fourth and final interview with actress Katherine Hepburn, a relationship that began with the first interview in 1983. Over the years Lovenheim wrote pieces about such high-profile figures as Robert Redford, Cher, and Woody Allen and Mia Farrow. Of her celebrity profiles, Lovenheim says simply, “I’m curious about people.” She wasn’t interested in their celebrity as much as the “how” of their lives: How they got into their fields, how they became successful, and how they did what they did so well. She says she was able to

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POETRY SLAM



For four days in April, the campus sprang to life with the sound of spoken-word poetry, as hundreds of performers converged at Barnard for the annual College Union Poetry Slam Invitational (CUPSI). Members of 59 teams from colleges across the country—from the University of California at Berkeley to Brown—performed pieces they had written individually or in groups. Rhythmic and lyrical, slam poetry is performed, rather than read, and often deals with social or political issues; judges score performances. Slams are lively events, with the audience cheering on the poets and booing at especially low scores.

Increasingly widespread since the 1990s, poetry slams have earned mainstream attention on such TV shows as HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*. Each year the CUPSI poetry slam is produced at a different college; this year Barnard hosted the event, which included preliminary bouts, semifinals, and a championship round.

Karole Collier '15, Amira Aganovic '15, Gabrielle Smith '16, and G! Pe Benito '16 were members of Barnard's team. For them, slam poetry is more than an extracurricular activity; according to Pe Benito, writing poetry and performing it at slams is both a privilege and an obligation. "Not everyone has three minutes onstage in front of hundreds of people," she says. "You have to speak for the people who can't. When we get together and create something as a team of artists, we're not doing it for ourselves—we're doing it for people we love and people we don't know."







Karole Collier '15

Karole Collier is fascinated by the multifaceted. While writing poems that explore “intersectional” issues like black feminism, she questions how such issues converge with other cultural phenomena: “How does a black feminist feel about hip-hop or about derogatory hip-hop?” she asks. “How does a black feminist grapple with the fact that this is a piece of her culture, but also somehow turned against her?” Collier, who started writing slam poetry after joining the Philly Youth Poetry Movement as a

high-school student, also bears in mind the intersection of poet and audience—far more demanding for slam than written poetry, she says. “In slam you have three minutes onstage to convey emotion, provoke thought, and make sure your audience is well-equipped with your stance on your thoughts. You have three minutes to do all that and make it dynamic and memorable and something that people want to hear again. And it has to be just as eloquent as a written poem.”



Amira Aganovic '15

“Whatever inspires someone to write in a diary, that’s what inspires me to write poetry,” says Amira Aganovic, who has been producing poems since eighth grade. But that doesn’t mean she writes exclusively about herself: she likes adopting various personas, giving voices to people who would otherwise lack them. She plays with her own voice, too. “I’m interested in challenging my style and how I usually write,” she says. She’s long favored

rhyme, but now she’s exploring other sounds. Participating in the team has encouraged her to explore different topics as well; the team’s writing prompts and exercises have pointed her toward fresh material. Freshness also preoccupies her on a larger scale: “You have to remember that what you say has been said before, so how can you do it differently, how can you present the same idea in a different way?”



Gabrielle Smith '16

Writing slam poetry has shown Gabrielle Smith—a product, like her teammate Karole Collier, of the Philly Youth Poetry Movement—that the world is filled with challenges that demand attention. And those challenges are more complicated than they first appear. How can working on poetry provide that particular lesson? During her writing process, Smith confronts multiple perspectives on any given topic (a recent one was student

debt); each new perspective represents another issue that needs to be addressed. Such complexity is just what draws her to slam poetry. “When I first started, it seemed very simple; you just put your emotions on the page,” she says. “But the art of performance poetry is so intricate and intertwined. I love how hard it is to make a picture on the stage and on the page. I love how hard it is to do a beautiful job.”



G! Pe Benito '16

When G! Pe Benito was growing up in Southern California, she filled her journals with thoughts she felt unable to share. Eventually, slam poetry would provide a means of expression. “It’s another language, like painting,” she says. “The emotions are so powerful they can’t be said in any other way.” For Pe Benito, poetry is a healing process as well as an artistic endeavor: The audience’s responses to her poems often show her that many

others feel as she does. “It takes the isolation out of struggle,” she says. “It’s kept me alive; it’s kept me grounded.” Now Pe Benito, who likes to listen to hip-hop music before her writing sessions, produces mostly poems about her emotions and experiences. The genre offers both risks and rewards: “When you open up, all the ugly and inconvenient and disgusting comes out, as well as the beautiful and passionate and wonderful.”

MARKING 20 YEARS OF AFRICANA STUDIES

A Celebration of Scholarship and Growth

“There’s been a dramatic transformation,” says Professor Tina Campt. “There’s been the transformation of going from nothing to something.” She’s talking about the Africana Studies Program, which she directs—and which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. In two decades, Africana studies has gone from being a major with little financial support—formed in response to black students’ demands for programming that addressed the issues they faced—to a thriving program on its way to becoming a full-fledged department. Along the way, Africana studies has seen major milestones.

Under the directorship of Kim F. Hall, Lucyle Hook Chair, professor of English and Africana studies, from 2006 through 2010 the program initiated student research trips to Ghana and Charleston, S.C., began offering a minor, formed the Consortium for Critical Interdisciplinary Studies (CCIS), and acquired new and expanded offices. In addition, the program hired three senior faculty, including Campt, a professor of women’s, gender, and sexuality studies. These sweeping advances reflect the College’s faith in the program. Unlike many other schools, Africana studies at Barnard focuses on the African diaspora as a starting point for a holistic look at interconnected black communities across the globe; integrates gender studies as a core component of the curriculum; and focuses on the local as well as the global.

In November, Africana studies used its 20th anniversary as a springboard to honor one of Barnard’s most renowned African American alumnae, playwright and poet Ntozake Shange ’70, as its second Distinguished Alumna in an ongoing series. A screening of Tyler Perry’s adaptation of Shange’s Obie Award-winning choreopoem, *for colored girls who have considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf*, preceded a panel discussion about the film and Shange’s work. Professor Monica Miller led a conversation between Soyica Diggs-Colbert of Dartmouth and Shange, who offered candid thoughts about the film.

But the real celebration took place in February, when Shange returned for a two-day conference. “We wanted to honor Ntozake Shange and her contribution as an incredibly visible and prolific Barnard alumna, and also celebrate the fact that we’re still producing outstanding black women artists and

thinkers,” Campt says.

Choreographer Dianne McIntyre led a conversation with Shange; Barnard students, under the direction of music producer and Barnard Center for Research on Women Alumnae Fellow Ebonie Smith ’07, performed excerpts of Shange’s work. The following day, speakers and panelists including Stanford Professor Jennifer DeVere Brody, Columbia Professor Farah Jasmine Griffin, and several other scholars, discussed her multifaceted works and their cultural and artistic significance.

“This is one of the strongest places in the country for doing Africana studies,” Barnard President Debora Spar said in the conference’s welcoming remarks. “Africana studies at Barnard is vital, it’s growing, and it’s really core to much of what we do here.”

Ntozake Shange’s contribution to the celebration, literally and symbolically, was monumental. “People came with their original copies of her work, those first editions,” says Yvette Christiansë, professor of English and Africana studies. “People who remembered going to the first staging of *for colored girls* came. Young women came who had created their own work in response, and in the creation of their own work began to learn how to reread Shange.” The conference, Christiansë says, highlighted questions about how knowledge is transmitted and why there’s a need to continually revisit lessons we’ve already learned—the same questions that drive the program year-round.

“We thought that it was singularly appropriate to celebrate our 20th anniversary by reflecting on the work of an artist who challenges and inspires us to reflect not only on how far we have come, but who commands us to think about where we want to go now,” Campt said during the conference.

Africana studies is currently moving toward departmentalization, which, when implemented, will be a major step that will confer additional visibility and legitimacy. Campt hopes to partner with more schools and with organizations in Harlem and abroad. “A public celebration is also a public commitment to keep working,” Christiansë says. “It’s a public commitment to claim, ‘We are here.’ The closing to that claim is, ‘We are here to stay, and we are here to grow.’”



Photos (read from left): **1** Sarah Esser '15 interprets Shange's choreography. **2** Festival performers with Ntozake Shange: Simone Sobers '15, Ebonie Smith '07, Taylor Harvey CC '14, Shange, Gabrielle Davenport '15, Victoria Durden '15 and Sarah Esser **3** Gladyn Innocent '14 recites a poem by Shange; seated is Ashley Terry '15 **4** "A Poetic Possibility/A Poetic Imperative" panelists: author Harryette Mullen, Professor Kim F. Hall, Professor Soyica Diggs-Colbert of Dartmouth, and Mecca Sullivan, Gaius Charles Bolin Fellow at Williams College **5** Ntozake Shange **6** Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) and Collegiate Science Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) administrators with Shange and students; at far right is Nikki Youngblood Giles, HEOP director, kneeling at left is Michell Tollinchi-Michel, assistant dean of studies and director of Academic Success and Enrichment Program (ASEP) **7** "From Analphabetic to Script Obsessed" panelists: Columbia Professor Farah Jasmine Griffin, independent scholar Alexis Pauline Gumbs '04, Barnard Professor Monica Miller, and Professor Jennifer DeVere Brody of Stanford. **8** Shange accepts a presentation poster from Yvette Christiansë; Professor Tina Campt looks on.



Health and Wellness at Barnard Today

We all know that Barnard provides its students with an excellent liberal arts education. But today a liberal arts college needs to go beyond its educational mission. Barnard must provide an atmosphere of “wellness” and meet the increasingly complicated challenges of its students’ physical and emotional needs. In addition, medical advances have allowed students to attend college today who would not have been able to in the past. Legal advancements such as the Americans with Disabilities Act have helped many young adults pursue their education with support from academic institutions.

This past March at our annual retreat of the Board of Trustees we spent the day learning how Barnard is approaching these challenges. We learned about the issues affecting young women and the breadth of services that Barnard provides to its 2,400 students. As a pediatrician and the mother of a post-college-aged daughter, I am quite familiar with this generation’s needs, but it was with particular interest that I listened to the various speakers throughout the day.

During my years at Barnard in the late '70s, students visited health services for a sore throat, a bad chest cold, or even the occasional bout of mononucleosis. Basic gynecological services were added during this era, as was counseling regarding birth control, sexual health, and emotional ups and downs. Services for both medical and psychological issues were quite basic, with referrals made outside school for more complicated illnesses. Parents could be involved at the discretion of the college medical director. As for living healthy, a copy of *Our Bodies, Ourselves* served as our survival guide.

Today, Barnard has a team of professionals to care for the hundreds of students who seek medical help each year. We heard from Mary Joan (MJ) Murphy, the new executive director of student health and wellness at Barnard who, along with the medical director, Marjorie Seidenfeld, oversees a staff of physicians and nurses that provides care seven days a week in a center that rivals my former private practice and includes a laboratory and short-stay unit.

Mary Commerford, director of the Furman Counseling Center, talked about Barnard’s commitment to the mental health of its students. Supported by the generosity of the Furman family to honor Rosemary Frankel Furman '58, the center provides short-term counseling and maintains relationships with professionals throughout New York for those students requiring additional support. Special programs, such as those caring for students with eating disorders, cross both medical and psychological fields. The entire administration and faculty are educated on the warning signs of serious mental illness, and there is excellent communication regarding at-risk students.

The Board of Trustees also heard from two students. The first was a peer educator for Well Woman, a program dealing with nutrition, exercise, and stress-reduction techniques. The second, a peer advocate for the Rape Crisis/Anti-Violence Support Center, discussed on-campus programs aimed at preventing date violence and available resources to help victimized students who have been victims of this type of abuse.

Barnard is on top of the needs of its students. They will graduate not only at the highest intellectual levels, but they will have had access to the highest levels of physical, psychological, and wellness resources available.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann LoFrumento '77
Alumnae Association President

Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 Brings the Barnard Educational Experience Around the World

There are more than 30,000 alumnae living across the globe, extending the Barnard community throughout more than 65 countries. In her role as vice president for college relations from July 2010 through the end of this academic year, Dorothy Denburg has brought a sense of the Barnard community everywhere she has visited. This year, she traveled around the world with several esteemed faculty, giving alumnae the chance to visit with professors and hear about their latest work and research.

❶ In Chicago: Professor Mary Gordon discusses the modern novel

On September 10, to kick off the first online course for alumnae, "The Modern Novel," Gordon met with a group of graduates in Chicago to discuss what defines the modern novel and her thought process behind the selections for the online course. Alumnae were able to pick her brain in a way that was very similar to a seminar course on campus. Her candid conversation and obvious love of the material made the event an enjoyable evening for all.

In London: Professor Yvette Christiansë talks about the global classroom

On October 2nd, Christiansë met with the Barnard Club of London to discuss her current research on constructions of race during colonialism and post-colonialism in addition to Barnard's movements into the area of global classrooms. She has cotaught a course, "Diasporas of the Indian Ocean," simultaneously to Barnard students and those in South Africa. Alumnae were gratified to learn about the project and its implications for continuing to connect alumnae and students abroad to the New York campus.

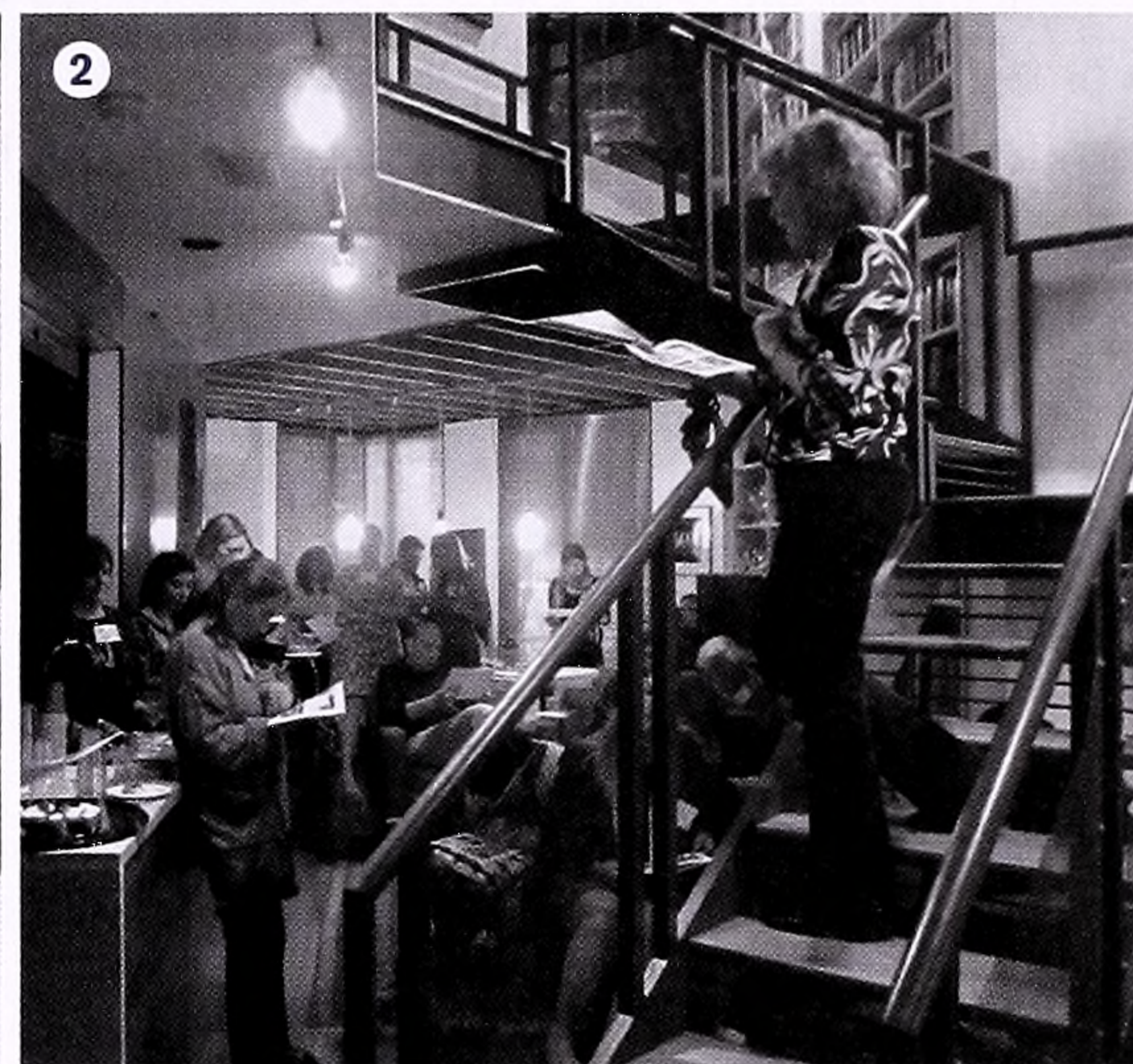


In St. Louis: Professor Anne Higonnet Reveals A New Twist on a Classic Painting

On October 16 at the Moonrise Hotel in St. Louis, Higonnet revealed her findings after researching the oil painting, *Young Woman Drawing*, which has been on permanent display at the Metropolitan Museum since 1917. Alumnae were able to discuss not only the painting, originally attributed to Jacques-Louis David, then reattributed, at different time periods, to two different female artists, but also the role of women artists during the late 1700s with the professor. Attendees commented on how they appreciated this walk through art history.

❷ In San Francisco: How Professor Stephanie Pfirman and Barnard are Changing the Arctic

On April 5, Pfirman, cochair of the environmental sciences department, presented her talk, "Changing Arctic Ice," to our Bay-area alumnae at a beautiful reception hosted by Toby Levy '72. Pfirman discussed how climate change is impacting Arctic sea ice, and the implications of those changes for the future. She also talked about Barnard's contribution to understanding and responding to the



ever-changing Arctic. The talk sparked conversations among riveted alumnae about how they might make changes in their daily lives and get involved to help protect the Arctic and the animals that inhabit it.

❸ In LA: English Professor Lisa Gordis Explains the Role of a Female Quaker Preacher

On April 7, Dawn and Richard Papalian P '15 opened their home to alumnae, Dorothy Denburg, and Gordis, who discussed the work of Elizabeth Ashbridge, an 18th-century New England Quaker minister and autobiographer born in Cheshire, England. Alumnae learned about the role of women preachers in that era and the religious and literary implications of Ashbridge's work.



Regional Clubs Offer Support to Alumnae through all Stages of Life

The Barnard regional alumnae network consists of highly valued groups of interesting and intelligent volunteers who open their own networks to their Barnard sisters. The clubs host a variety of events from book clubs and professional-development workshops to happy hours and museum tours. The clubs bridge the gaps between the classes and allow lifelong relationships to build, ultimately based on the life-changing experience of a Barnard education.

If you are interested in learning more about any of the Barnard clubs or regional events, visit alum.barnard.edu, call 212.854.2005, or email alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu. Barnard wants to connect with you, wherever you are, and we look forward to expanding these connections in your communities throughout the world.

—Celeste L. Rivera '04, Manager for Regional Alumnae Programming

Toronto Barnard Alumnae Group Honors Matie Armstrong Molinaro '43

In celebration of her 70th reunion, the Toronto Barnard alumnae group recognized the dedication and leadership of Matie Armstrong Molinaro through contributions to the Class of '43 scholarship fund. A special letter from President Debora Spar notifying Molinaro of the honor was presented to her by her husband and son on the occasion of her 91st birthday, March 24.



Suzanne Vega '81 Meets and Greets with Alumnae Clubs

Singer and songwriter Suzanne Vega, has been on tour since the fall and has received no shortage of support from her fellow Barnard alumnae. On October 16, after her performance at Barbican in London, she met backstage with the Barnard Club of London, and on February 28, members of the Barnard Club of the Triangle attended the concert in Carrboro, N.C., and had a backstage meet-and-greet. The clubs enjoyed meeting with the celebrated alumna musician and discussing their life experiences.

The Barnard Club of Long Island Showcases the Diversity of Interests of Barnard Alumnae

The Barnard Club of Long Island's activities have included a garden tour (led by Rita Rover '62), a sexuality workshop (presented by Rosara Torrisi '01), a program on women's leadership and career development (with Rochelle Cooper '84 and Francine Fabricant '93), and networking events with students. Club copresidents, Nicole Adler-Dicker '92 (Nicoledicker@aol.com) and Allison Breidbart White '86 (alliwhite@gmail.com) would love to hear from any Long Island alumnae interested in becoming involved with the Long Island Club or being added to the email list.

Nancy Gertner '67 Discusses Her Search for Justice with Boston Alumnae



On October 11, retired federal judge Nancy Gertner discussed her memoir, *In Defense of Women*, with Boston alumnae at a reception hosted by WilmerHale, thanks to Astrid Tsang '00. Gertner says she wrote *In Defense of Women* because "she wanted to talk about what it was like to make choices based on what you love and to write about making a career in the public interest." She signed copies of the book for everyone.

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Alumnae Association of Barnard College was established in 1895 to further the interests of the College and connect alumnae worldwide. Learn more online at alum.barnard.edu.

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
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The Alumnae Affairs staff work closely with students and alumnae volunteers to carry out program initiatives and further the mission of the Alumnae Association.

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I must first apologize for missing the deadline for the last issue. At 98, I find my memory completely unreliable, and time often goes by unnoticed. Since no one has sent me any news, I suspect there are few readers of this column by now. So I have decided to resign my post. This will be my final column. After five published books and an edited anthology of prose and poetry by the members of High Country Writers, I have also become a retired author.

At present, I am enjoying Florida sunshine at the delightful condo of my son at Fort Myers, but will be back in my own house in the North Carolina mountains before the end of February. So this is a fond farewell to my surviving classmates and to Barnard, an important factor in my life.

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75th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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I am sorry to report the death in February of **Helen Hirsch Acker**. She is survived by her daughter, Ruth, her son-in-law, Paul Heller, and her grandson, Michael. She was a former president of the Women's City Club of New York, active with school volunteers, and a founding member of Learning Leaders. At the time of her death she was still active in the Women's City Club and was an honorary director. Our sympathy to Ruth, Paul, and Michael on their loss.

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Sixteen classmates attended the 70th reunion. They have tried to stay in touch with each other. Class president **Doris Bayer Coster** hosted two classmates over Christmas. **Frances Murphy Duncan** transferred to another retirement complex, the Tolstoy Foundation, and is doing very well. **Marion Blum Sweet** is relying on the "van life" of the senior center for recreation and grocery shopping. In July, **Helen Cornell Koenig**, who was so helpful at our reunion, fell out of bed and broke her hip. All is healing well.

Most of our classmates are in their nineties and are living in some kind of

retirement complex. **Barbara Heinzen Colby** was just elected to the board of the directors of the retirement complex she lives in. Some here where I live are active in church work or other volunteer activity and others are taking classes through the local college. I enjoy the convenience of someone arranging for trips to the theatre in Washington, D.C.

I am also getting computer classes and hope to be computer literate soon!

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70th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Although it's hard to believe, our 70th reunion weekend is fast approaching. Do you need to reserve a dorm room? Won't it be fun to catch up with old friends? Many are working hard to make this reunion a most memorable event. We all look forward to hearing about your recent experiences.

Sadly, **Judith Protas**, one of the first to respond, wrote that she is housebound and will not be able to attend. However, she would love to hear how things turn out. As you already know, **Nina Diamond Fieldsteel** will be celebrating her 90th birthday with her family abroad at the time so she, too, will be missed.

Regrettably, we will also miss **Leonora (Lee) Garten Meister**, who recently passed away. I learned this news from Marilyn Rich Rosenblatt '52, who

knew Lee through their participation in the Barnard Club of New York City. Lee is survived by two sons and five grandchildren.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Class of '43 scholarship fund. This legacy will ensure that funds are available for tomorrow's promising students. I continue to appreciate all your news and hope to see many of you in May!

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On March 19 this year, bugles should sound, drums should roll, and marchers should assemble to mark the 70th anniversary of the worldwide acclaimed Junior Show of the Class of 1944, *Faith, Hope, and Hilarity*. With a two-night run in the historic and handsome Brinkerhoff Theatre at Broadway and 119th Street, the stunning production in three acts and nine riveting scenes featured a cast of 24, grouped loosely into dancers, singers, and pony ballet. A totally sold-out wartime audience assembled throughout the blacked-out campus, noted where air-raid shelters were located, and went on to roar with enjoyment over a wild college travesty. With a distinguished list of guests and midshipmen from Navy facilities at Columbia and on the venerable old barge, *The Prairie State*, at the foot of 116th Street, for a few hours we made light of the intensity of life in the third year of war. Men we knew "out there somewhere"; rationed meat, butter, and gas; nylons long gone. The stress to finish college and help. Two nights no one who was there will forget.

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Everyone, I am going to take a break after this issue from bios of our class members and would like in the fall issue to report brief notes, preferably on classmates who have not had their names printed in the column in the past five years. The reason your name has not appeared is that I have not heard from you. Please send me an e-mail or short note telling me where you are and what you are doing. We are a dwindling group (*about 100 still alive*), and we really want to know about the people we studied at Barnard with during the war years.

Now let me bring you up to date on our class vice president, **Ruth Carson West**, who for more than 15 years has effectively, faithfully, and graciously been our fundraiser for Class of 1945 giving to the College. Barnard has always recognized her as a steadfast alumna ready to respond to every call. Ruth lived a major portion of her formative and early-marriage years in China and the Philippines. Her father was a missionary, so as a child she lived in China where English was not spoken, and she developed a true love of the Chinese people. She came to Barnard College where she met the Union Theological Seminary student Charles West who was preparing to be a missionary overseas. Their interests were mutual, marriage followed, as did three sons who were raised in the countries to which Rev. West was assigned. "As a wife, I did what I could, depending on what was possible from within the home, since, despite household help, the home and care of the family in a foreign country was my principal challenge." About 12 years ago, Ruth suffered a deep, wounding experience: The death of an adult son, Walter Lawrence, who had the family designation of "gentle giant," beloved by all his nieces and nephews. Many members of this class live with the same sorrow—the unexpected loss of a child. It is something that partially defines the remainder of our lives. Upon retirement, the Wests went to live in a senior residence in the Princeton area, where they are active in the cultural and social activities of the center. They were still in good health but wanted to be in a setting with the university influence. They have their own home which overlooks

a large playing field used by private schools. Charlie is now struggling with some physical issues so they feel secure to be within five minutes of a new hospital, and Ruth is still fortunate to be driving.

I conclude with sad news that **Diana Lanier Smith** of Jamestown, R.I., passed away on January 22. She had three sons in a marriage with Donald Ogden Ross. With her second husband, Karl Beckwith Smith, she lived in R.I. and in Sanibel, Fla. Diana's post-Barnard accomplishments were outstanding and lasting. She served on the board of trustees of the Lanier Mansion State Historic Site in Madison, Ind., which was built by her great-great-grandfather; helped to restore the Heber R. Bishop jades to prominent display at The Metropolitan Museum of Art; and endowed a scholarship for undergraduates of Native American descent at Barnard College. She is buried in the historic Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn.

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Many of our Class of '46ers have remained in or near New York City, enjoying their retirement years.

I spoke to **Gemma Fastiggi** who continues to live in Greenwich Village and savors all the opportunities the city offers. Since her retirement at 59-and-a-half from her work with pension funds, she has been active with The New School and the events at the NYU campus. Traveling the subways is not an option because of some replaced joints, but she loves this area of the city.

Hedva Hadas Glickenhaus is another city dweller on Central Park West. She was active as an editor for writers such as Theodore White and Richard Clurman. Her two sons attended the Ethical Culture School and Hedva continues to be involved in supporting its programs.

A close friend, **Barbara Klar Kaim**, a former math major, lives in Port Washington, N.Y., where she has resided for most of her working life. After her children (two boys) were in junior high, she

got into the import/export business, which she found fascinating. Now in retirement, Port Washington is home.

Following the death of her husband, **Dorothy Reuther Schafer** moved to Beauford, S.C., where she is nearer to other family members. She was a math major, and worked at Western Electric after graduation. Dorothy married, had two children, and returned to math as a teacher in northern New Jersey. Later, her family moved to New Hampshire, where they made their home for many years. While there, she became active with David's House, a facility for parents with sick children at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital. Dorothy is an avid quilter, making quilts for use in David's House, and for children needing hospital care. A fine use of her math ability!

I am sad to report that **Margaret (Peggy) Cummiskey** died January 14 in Stamford, Conn. She leaves a sister, and nephews and nieces who adored her.

I received a report that the estate of **Cecile Parker Carver** has established a scholarship fund for Barnard students. It's wonderful to pass on opportunities to the new generation of students at Barnard.

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Due to an error, some of our Reunion 2012 news was left out of a previous issue of the magazine, so we're sharing it here.

Our 65th reunion at Barnard in May, 2012 was attended by a small but very enthusiastic group. We enjoyed individual sessions of our choice and getting together at lunch, pre-dinner cocktails, and dinner. I think we did our part to add to the decibels at the cocktail hour. Dinner was a joy of greetings, talking, and remembering. We were honored by a visit from Judith Shapiro, Barnard's former president, who shared her wisdom and wit with us, as well as some songs she was planning to perform. On Saturday, **Helen De Vries Edersheim** again welcomed us to her lovely home for a delightful few hours of wine, dinner, and animated talk. We left in small groups and promised we would, without fail, keep in touch.

Pioneer of the Heart Doris Wolf Escher '38

In the 1940s, it was unusual enough for a woman to study medicine, let alone become a trailblazer whose work would save thousands of lives. Yet cardiologist Doris Escher helped develop cardiac catheterization—the practice of threading a tube through a blood vessel to the heart—into the routine diagnostic and treatment tool it is today. At Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, she spearheaded the first cardiac-catheterization lab, making Montefiore one of only a handful of hospitals at the time with such a facility.

Escher, now 95, had planned to be a science teacher, and started at Teachers College. Her boyfriend (later, husband) encouraged Escher toward pre-med. She transferred to Barnard for the requisite science courses, and then went to NYU medical school. Escher specialized in cardiology, in part because she was captivated by what she saw with the new technology of fluoroscopy, or moving x-ray. “You could see the heart beating, lungs expanding, and diaphragm moving,” she recalls.

In her fellowship, Escher encountered the emerging technique of cardiac catheterization. She joined the staff of Montefiore in 1946 and launched a research lab that she later developed into the cardiac-catheterization lab. She headed it for more than three decades, and remained at Montefiore until she retired fully in 2006 at the age of 89. Under her leadership, a team inserted its first pacemaker, which included an external device that the patient wheeled on a cart.

Throughout her career, Escher trained hundreds of doctors, including John Fisher, who heads Montefiore Medical Center's heart-rhythm disorders fellowship program. He says that Escher's hallmark at Montefiore (aside from a mysteriously powerful drink still served at Montefiore holiday parties known as “Escher punch”) was a can-do attitude. “There was no obstacle that Doris didn't think she could surmount to get something done,” he says, adding that he often thinks about Escher when he encounters a roadblock in his own work. Escher credits her parents with instilling this determination she says helped her launch—and flourish in—her medical career. They told her, “If the front door is closed, you go to the back door.” —*Abigail Beshkin*



In December we held a mini-reunion at the beautifully renovated and refurbished New-York Historical Society and had lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Leila Fletcher '15, our class's Memorial Fund student, sent a sweet note thanking us for our help and for the fact that we will again sponsor her for the 2012–13 school year.

Mary Elizabeth Hayes Tucker passed away on December 8. Her home was in Scituate, Mass. She is survived by seven children and four grandchildren. Her father, Carlton Hayes, was a professor at Columbia and also ambassador to Spain during World War II. Mary Elizabeth was one of the first women on the board of trustees of the Canterbury School in Connecticut.

Ruth Murphy Walsh died on October 8. She was professor emerita of business administration at the University of South Florida and is survived by four children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. She had many friends and had recently moved to a senior residence facility in Tampa, Fla.

Betty-Jane Pratt Fannon passed away on April 24, 2012. She resided in Wilton, Conn. Betty had taken theatre classes at Barnard and worked in the community theatre in Wilton. She is survived by her husband, three children, and six grandchildren.

Margaret Weitz Hunter died on November 21 in Honesdale, Pa. She had been a teacher and was involved with various local organizations, including an



As my 65th Reunion celebration approaches, it's a perfect time for a new **charitable gift annuity, which provides an opportunity to give back to Barnard and creates an attractive guaranteed lifetime income stream** for me. How great it is to be able to help the next generation of impressive and accomplished young women benefit, as I have, from a Barnard education.

Carol Hoffman Stix '48

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animal shelter and an environmental-preservation group. She is survived by her husband, a son, a daughter, and two grandchildren.

Georgina Goodwin, a retired physician living in Baltimore, Md., passed away on September 27. She was an anesthesiologist and later an advocate for people suffering from addiction. She is survived by her brother and three sisters.

For those of us who attended the reception at Helen Edersheim's house during reunion, news of the death on December 21, 2011 of Hans Edersheim was especially poignant. Hans was 88 and in relatively good health but suffered a fall when exiting a taxi on the way home from work, resulting in a broken hip. Successful surgery at New York Hospital was followed by a stay in a rehab facility where he developed an infection, and was rushed to intensive care at New York Hospital, then by full-time nursing care at home. His spirits were good and Helen was happy to be able to care for him with the assistance of a lovely aide. His passing was peaceful with Helen at his side. Helen has a daughter, son-in-law, and two lovely grandchildren.

Our class sends our condolences to the families of these classmates.

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65th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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It's reunion time. Welcome back to Barnard after 65 years. During the past several months, each of you will have received a letter or phone call from one of our volunteer networkers. We also hope you sent in a page about yourself to be included in our class reunion booklet. Special thanks to members of the networking team who so diligently promoted reunion attendance. **Helene Wall Gersuny, Nancy Ackerson**

Kowalchuk, Liselotte Schneider Laster, Genevieve Lawrence (Lawrie) Trevor Nomer, Katherine (Anne) Battley Phipps, Nora Ravsky Schwartz, Joan Jacks Silverman, Joyce Schubert Sinsheimer, Carol Hoffman Stix, Elizabeth (Betty) Zlotsky Tovia, and Elsie Koerner Youtcheff-Rayl.

We celebrated our annual mini-reunion in New York last November at Barnard's Vagelos Alumnae Center. Following a splendid lunch, attendees traded ideas on ways to make our 65th reunion enjoyable. Along with several College staff, the people responsible for our class events were: **Erdmuthe (Mutie) Tillich Farris**, Nancy Kowalchuk, **Nora Robell**, Nora Schwartz, Joyce Sinsheimer, Carol Stix, and your correspondent.

After many decades of living in the New Jersey suburbs, **Lois Williams Emma** has moved to a retirement home near Danbury, Conn., to be near her son and his family. We had never heard of Newtown; now, of course, everyone knows where it is. Lois is enjoying life in her new home, has found congenial friends, and is pleased with the amenities.

Betty Tovia has also settled into a retirement home in Connecticut, where she enjoys the services and pleasant neighbors. Although she has given up singing in a choir, she has found a new outlet for her musical talents: She's heading up a chorus in her new community.

Helene Gersuny is still giving piano lessons. She has joined one of our Barnard clubs in Rhode Island.

Another piano teacher, Elsie Youtcheff-Rayl continues to be active on many other levels: water aerobics, German club, and a book club. Last February, she celebrated her husband George's 90th birthday with the 10 children in their blended families, their spouses, and grandchildren. Missing from the happy throng was one of Elsie's daughters, who works in China helping women set up independent handicraft businesses. Elsie's son-in-law is a doctor who provides medical care to people in underserved areas.

Nancy Ross Auster has cut back on her running exploits, about which we have reported in past years. She now does power walking. She also enjoys quilting. Good thing when the temperature in her upper-New York State town dipped to 35 degrees *below* last winter. Luckily there

were no power outages this time.

Thanks to Lawrie Nomer for forwarding this update on the busy life of **Barbara Hewlett Conolly**. Some samples:

sightings on Long Island of a painted bunting and a pileated woodpecker (a birder's cause for rejoicing); Audubon Awards dinner in New York; bird-and-botany trip to the Florida Keys with more special sightings of birds, butterflies, and the little key deer. Barbara celebrated her 85th birthday with family and friends walking the High Line on Manhattan's west side, then a visit to the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx to enjoy the Monet Garden. Weeks later, she attended a five-day writers' retreat.

Sadly, we must conclude by reporting the loss of two more classmates. Our condolences to their families and friends.

Mollie Allensworth Combes, MD, died on October 26. A native of Texas, she transferred to Barnard and then graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia. Specializing in pediatrics, she developed a new procedure that eliminated sciatic-nerve injuring in premature babies. She was a private practitioner and worked in student health services at several Dallas-area colleges. She leaves her husband, Burton Combes, MD, and her children, Burton, Hilary, and Rustin, and two granddaughters.

Dorothy (Dodie) Gaebelein Hampton died on August 27. After graduating with honors, including Phi Beta Kappa, Dodie attended graduate school at Columbia. She and her husband, Clyde, lived in Colorado, where they were active in the National Association for Retarded Children (NARC) and numerous other organizations advocating for persons with disabilities. Their daughter, Dorothy (Dee), was a poster child for NARC, now called the Arc of the United States. Active in her church, Dodie was elected one of the first women elders. An accomplished equestrian, her hobbies included show jumping and dog breeding. Her daughter, Dee, her brother, Donn, and her sister, Gretchen, survive her.

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It's just one year until our 65th reunion. I hope I will see many '49ers there.

In the meantime, since I had not received news from you, I telephoned several classmates. Some were unavailable, but I was very pleased to speak to **Agnes Yanoshat Agzarian, Jean Goohs Davis, and Barbara Rouse Hatcher**.

Agnes, who lives in Culver City, Calif., is not feeling well, but sends her best wishes to everyone.

Jean lives in the retirement home in Cranberry Township, Pa., to which she and her husband moved eight years ago. She is a widow now and very active at the home, where she belongs to several committees and takes part in the many activities offered there. She is a retired nurse and her husband was a surgeon, both Yale alumni. She has three sons, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Barbara has lived on the Upper West Side for over 40 years. A transfer, she is very grateful to Barnard and to Professor Julius Held. As an art history major, she was well-equipped to be a docent at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. She is delighted that she was able to do that for 20 years. She has a son and a daughter.

I was very sorry to learn of the death of **Loretta Betke Greeley**. She received the American history prize at Barnard and initiated, developed the curriculum for, and taught lower-school science programs in Potomac, Md., and Radnor Township, Pa. She earned two master's degrees. After retirement, she volunteered as a guide at the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia. She leaves her husband, Richard Stiles Greeley, two sons, and four grandchildren. —YDD

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Ruth Ryskind Ohman lives in Manhattan's Battery Park City. She is a member of Manhattan Community Board 1, which is currently addressing such issues as parking and traffic congestion and educating an expanding school-age population. Ruth also directs a senior group in exercises and other activities. She enjoys reading and belongs to a book club, but she is also rereading Jane Austen books.

Mary Ann Tinklepaugh Fish has led a busy life. She was a government major at Barnard, and her political activities started when she formed the Barnard Young Republicans Club. She was president of the New York Young Republicans, on the staff of the Republican National Committee, and was an assistant secretary of the US Department of Commerce for intergovernmental affairs for 12 years. In 1993, she went back to Albany to work for 12 years with Governor Pataki. Then, Mary Ann shifted gears and earned a certificate in historic preservation. She worked as a preservationist to get the Congressional Club building on 16th Street in Washington, D.C., on the National Register of Historic Places. At home, she is trying to improve her health by following a plant-based diet as suggested by the Cleveland Clinic and the film *Forks Over Knives*, and she's enjoying cooking new, interesting foods!

Joanne Fisher Gobran is an enthusiastic weaver and belongs to the Bucks County (Pa.) Weavers Guild. She primarily enjoys working with the wool of sheep or alpaca, although she occasionally uses silk. She finds cotton more difficult to weave. She is a regular reader of *The New York Times* and keeps abreast of affairs in China, which has been of special interest to her since her days at Barnard. She cooks mainly Middle Eastern and Chinese food. She and her husband live in a wooded area that felt the impact of Hurricane Sandy. Joanne enjoys her grandsons; one attends Washington University and the other will enter a new program at New York University.

Eleanor Ambos visited France, spent some time in a 13th-century chateau, and decided to become an interior designer. She decided beauty should be part of

everyone's life. From a conversation with her and from newspaper clippings, she shows herself to be a preserver, renovator, and re-user of old or historic buildings. Two projects she is proud of are the Metropolitan Building in Long Island City, Queens, and the former Elks Lodge in Hudson, N.Y. The Metropolitan Building was a derelict 1909 factory building she saved with 20 years of effort. The interior is used for weddings, parties, and photo shoots. The Elks Lodge (The Terry-Gillette Mansion) was used as the set for the filming of *Flora's Lot*. The building was on the October 2012 Historic Hudson Rooms with a View annual house tour.

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60th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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If we need any reminders that Barnard graduates are major achievers, Class Notes will readily substantiate that.

Barbara Lewittes Meister shares that since our 50th reunion, the major negative was the loss of her dear husband, Victor Trasoff, who passed away in 2009. "All the rest is good: My granddaughter, Claudia Reuben, has graduated from New York University Medical School. She is now a radiology resident at NYU. She married a delightful young man named Peter Seuss, so she is now Dr. Seuss." One granddaughter, Caitlin Meister, is an actress specializing in voice-overs. The other four grandchildren are also involved in worthwhile careers and significant relationships. Barbara, an accomplished pianist and music-book author, now has "two new CDs for Centaur Records, one all Scarlatti sonatas, the other part Haydn and part Bartok." Her latest book, *Music/Musique: French and American Piano Composition During the Jazz Age*, was

published by Indiana University Press in 2006.

Alma Suzin Flesch reminds us that she left Barnard at the end of her junior year to attend Columbia Law School. She practiced law for 45 years, representing many multinational corporations. Her multilingual fluency was a major advantage in her career. Since her husband, Stephen, was president of an international network of accounting firms, they both spent many busy years "in many fascinating places on every continent." Alma is rightfully proud of her son, her daughter, and their respective children. William and his wife are professors in the English department of Brandeis University. Their two boys, 17 and 12, are accomplished in their own right; the older, Daniel, is a Latin scholar, varsity soccer player, and junior Olympic fencer; the younger, Julian, has a karate brown belt. Alma's daughter, Caroline Wingolt, has lived in Sweden for many years and coordinates programs for a cultural institution. Caroline's son has a pharmacology degree and lives in Bristol, England, with his wife and baby daughter. Caroline's daughter, 12, is in middle school.

Ursula (Sue) Hess Oscar recently sold her company, Filmmakers Library, and is officially retired. Filmmakers Library is a non-theatrical distribution company for documentary films. Together with Linda Gottesman, her business partner, Sue has been involved with social-issue documentary films for 40 years. At the time of its sale the company represented over 1,000 films, from both independent filmmakers and from broadcasters such as the BBC. Some of her films were nominated for the Academy Award for documentary films. A profile of Sue appeared in the *Barnard Magazine* winter 2009 issue. Sue has two children. Daniel, co-founder of Teach for America, is now CEO of an educational nonprofit organization, Princeton Center for Leadership Training. Stephanie, a recruiter in the pharmaceutical industry, has currently opted to be a full-time mom for a long-awaited baby. Jerry, Sue's husband, has retired from the practice of law.

Carol Browne Harrington, in celebration of her 80th birthday, shall be joining her family—12 in total—for a ballooning extravaganza over Napa Valley. She still feels young, as also attested to by her tennis playing. She recently took a granddaughter to Bornholm, an island off

the coast of Denmark.

Connie Alexander Krueger and husband, Harvey, have recently become the very proud great-grandparents of a new member of the family—Juliette.

And, in a similar department, **Barbara Adlow Glazier's** son just had triplets—three girls: Jessie, Evelyn, and Cecilia.

The scholarship fund of the Class of '53 currently has \$5,000 in it. If we can reach \$25,000 through donations explicitly targeted for it (by contacting Kate Desulis in the Development Office at 212.854.7637), we could fund a scholarship for a given student. It would be a wonderful achievement of our class.

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Talk about a call from the past! I had one from **Roberta Nelson Farber**, wanting to fill in the past 55 years! We had a delightful chat, during which I learned that she left school after one year, married, had two sons, divorced, and spent the rest of her time in the financial industry as a broker and financial advisor. She is now retired and enjoying life.

Marlene Ader Lerner called to tell me that she gets together with **Freda Rosenthal Eiberson, Lenore Self Katkin, Audrey Scheinblum Kosman,** and **Herberta Benjamin Schacher** for birthdays six times a year.

The most interesting note I received was from **Arline Rosenberg Chambers**, who said that on January 12 she was leaving on a "weird road scholar journey" to the west coast of Africa. She will be joining her brother and sister-in-law. Why there? It was one place he has never been. She will be away for six weeks. She also said that the mention in Class Notes of her son's death prompted a note from a friend that she hasn't been in touch with

for many, many years, Edith Richmond Schwartz '52. They were neighbors in the '50s "and our young families shared a summer house on the Hudson." Arline also spent time with **Ronda Shainmark Gelb** and Al Gelb in New York in August. This was the favorite part of her trip.

Jean Ricketts reported that her only new news is that she is finally brave enough to play bridge with **Michiko (Mickey) Otani Weller**. Other than that she is taking a long-awaited trip to Israel in the spring.

From **Marcia Gusten Pundyk** comes the news that she will continue working as a docent for special-needs students at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. She would welcome any classmates for a special tour.

Finally, I heard from **Larissa Bonfante**, who writes, "I am looking forward to visiting my son, Sebastian, and his family in Brazil in February. My grandchild, Leo, is named for his grandfather, Leo Raditsa; the baby's Brazilian mother has an Italian grandfather who went to Brazil from Venice. I will also be going to Rome, where my parents left us a small apartment in Trastevere; we rent it during the school year, but keep for ourselves in the summer. It is not far from the American Academy, where I have worked on the preparation of a catalogue of their antiquities collections. I will also be working on the chapters on Greek and barbarian nudity for my book on nudity as a costume in the ancient Mediterranean."

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Braving frigid temperatures, four classmates met for lunch at the Asia Society in New York City on January 22. Enjoying the get-together were **Carol Salomon Gold, Doris Joyner Griffin, Dawn Lille**, and our class president, **Carol Held Scharff**. The class schedules quarterly lunch meetings, so plan to participate if you are in town. (Contact me for details.)

Jane Trivilino Bradford lives in Bonita

Springs, Fla., where she enjoys playing bridge and tennis, and attending a book club for good reading, conversation, "and laughs." She also enjoys Broadway shows when she and Lenard are in New York or when the shows travel to Florida. Jane also belongs to two art leagues and spends quite a bit of time painting in watercolor and pastels. Right now, she has a watercolor of a grandmother and granddaughter, whom she photographed last year in Fiji, displayed in the members' show at the Art League of Bonita Springs. **Eileen O'Connor** and Jane live in the same development in Bonita Springs, so they have the opportunity to see one another quite often.

Florence Kavalier, MD, MPH, is associate dean for research administration and chair of health policy and management for the School of Public Health at the SUNY Downstate Medical Center. She and Raymond Alexander, MBA, MS, recently published *Risk Management in Healthcare Institutions: Limiting Liability and Enhancing Care* (3rd edition). The publisher is Jones and Bartlett Learning.

Duane Lloyd Patterson passed away in February at the age of 80. Duane worked at the Nightingale-Bamford School as a lower-school librarian and homeroom teacher for 25 years. An active volunteer for Barnard for more than six decades, Duane held many leadership roles after graduation. In 1955, she served as the first president of her alumnae class. In the years that followed she continued to volunteer for Barnard, serving as class fund chair, and as a member of the AABC's reunion committee, nominating committee, and board of directors. In addition to her Barnard activity, she was active on the children's book committee at Bank Street College of Education. She is survived by her husband, English Professor Emeritus Remington Patterson, who taught at Barnard from 1955 until 1994, as well as by her son, Burns, daughter, Sarah, and five grandchildren.

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Cherie Gaines sent a long letter from her home in Panama City, Panama. Her long and illustrious career in the law included being the first war-on-poverty lawyer west of the Mississippi, the first black law professor at Golden Gate College School of Law and at the University of San Francisco School of Law, and a litigator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In 1960, she married Eugene M. Swann and they share three children. They divorced in 1978, shortly before Cherie returned to New York to be closer to her elderly parents. Her final years as an attorney were spent as the executive director of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Community Legal Services Corporation in Brooklyn. Cherie married William E. Mariano, who had led his own significant professional life as an attorney in New York. They retired and relocated to Panama City, where they live in a lovely condo. Cherie wants classmates to know her condo has an available guest room and bath for classmates who want to visit.

I'm happy to report that my books are being featured on the Writers-Editors Web site. The first, *Mewsings/Musings*, was on the site for the first two weeks in January. My other three titles will appear in due course at writers-editors.com. I'm not only a member of this network, but a regular contributor to their newsletter, *Freelance Writer's Report*.

Your turn! Hope to have news from more of you soon.

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Two tales of retirement:

Esta Kraft Sands reports that she works a great retirement job as an assistant manager at a tennis club where she runs a men's league. Her husband is retired and they spend five winter weeks in Florida—not that she is

averse to that. She writes, "Grandkids are getting so old—oldest is graduating from Washington University in May and middle is at Vanderbilt. Baby, 15, is still in high school. Our California grandkids are also off to college in the fall so no more babies anymore. All in all life is good right now."

This from **Edith Kurcz Jayne**, longtime UK resident: "As I write, it is the 15th anniversary of my husband's death. Time is a strange thing, though—it seems like yesterday, and yet it also seems a lifetime since I had a partner. I am now living in Yorkshire in a retirement village. It is a complex of 156 bungalows and a 40-bed care home in a continuing care community. As I have children in far-flung places (Essex in England and Los Angeles) and stepchildren in North Wales and the Midlands, it seemed sensible to take a retirement when I am not dependent on children should I need care. In fact it has provided a whole new set of friends and companions as well as new interests and sights to see. Definitely a good move."

Our last column reported the death of **Elizabeth Norton** last March. Here are more details: Liz had a master's from Teachers College and a PhD in education from the University of Michigan. She was faculty emerita at the New York City Technical College, a unit of The City University of New York. According to her friend Virginia Salkucki Brewer '58, until her death Liz lived in the apartment that they shared with some others during their Barnard years. Liz was an avid cyclist and it was a cycling accident that made her final years very difficult.

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January 27 marked the UN's International Holocaust Remembrance Day. In keeping with that commemoration, there are two

items of interest involving our classmates. In September, **Caroline Davis Stoessinger** was featured at a Project Continuum program at Barnard, where she presented "Lessons from the Life of Alice Herz-Sommer," who, at 108, is the world's oldest living Holocaust survivor. A video of Herz-Sommer was shown, and Caroline discussed her experiences writing the book, *A Century of Wisdom*, about the life of this remarkable woman. (See *Barnard Magazine*, Fall 2012.) Congratulations to Caroline on her highly acclaimed book.

The second item comes from **Rosian Bagriansky Zerner**, who tells us that after seeing a childhood photo of herself on the announcement for the Day of Remembrance, she notified UNESCO that she was the little girl in the picture, taken after she and her family escaped from the Kovno ghetto in Lithuania. After learning that she was alive and well, UNESCO conducted an interview with Rosian about her experiences. For those who do not know Rosian's inspiring story, the interview can be seen on the UNESCO Web site: unesco.org/new/en/education. Thank you, Rosian, for sharing your memories!

On a humorous note, over the holidays, I took a short trip from the west coast of Florida to the east coast to visit some family. While there, I decided to get in touch with **Marcia Spelman DeFren** to see if we could get together for lunch. In the Jewish tradition, we agreed to eat out on Christmas day. We found a coffee shop whose Web site indicated that it would be open. I was the first to arrive, only to discover it was closed for construction. We drove to an open Walgreens, where everyone had suggestions on places to go, but no one knew if any of them were open. We agreed that two Barnard graduates should be resourceful enough to find another place, even on Christmas day in a strange town! Our one requirement was that it NOT be in the Jewish tradition. (In other words, no Chinese restaurant.) So off we went on Annette's and Marcia's excellent adventure, and after about an hour of driving all over town, we finally found an open Starbucks, where we enjoyed catching up on personal doings and family news!

Finally, reports from the reunion-planning committee suggest that our 55th reunion plans are shaping up, and it promises to be a great get-together. A highlight of this year's program will be a

live show that weaves together stories of individual experiences with life-changing characters from their years at Barnard.

—ARS

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On 12/12/12, **Carol Herman Cohen, Regina Jerome Einstein, Gloria Cooperman Forman, Marian Bennett Meyers, Susan Schwartz-Giblin, Janet Feldman Steig, and Judith Weber Taylor** met at The Metropolitan Museum of Art for a great New York City day. We visited a few special exhibits followed by a leisurely lunch at the Petrie Court Cafe and Wine Bar in the museum. Note: Janet, Judith, Gloria, and Regina were the four dancing "horses" pulling the chariot in the '56 and '57 Greek Games.

Joan Nagourney Lesser writes: "In 1997, I retired from teaching English at G.W. Hewlett High School on Long Island. I had lived and raised my children in the same Long Island town in which I grew up. My husband suggested that it was time to leave home so we moved to Manhattan. Adjusting to life without going to work and in a new environment was difficult at first. I remember coming home very depressed when I tried to volunteer at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, thinking that a retired teacher would be a great docent, only to be told that I might try working in the gift shop (for a salary) and work my way into being a volunteer. Eventually I learned how to volunteer and to play in the city and have had a great time for 15 years. We also have a home in East Hampton where I am a very active volunteer for the Democratic party. For the past four years we have been visiting Longboat Key, Fla., in the winter. We started with one month, then

two months, and this year we are here for three months and loving it. The Sarasota area is beautiful, warm, and lively so we may start another chapter in the book that life appears to be; however, since I don't want to reproduce that entire book here, I'll just add that we have two daughters, one who graduated from Barnard and one who received a master's degree from Columbia. They have given us six terrific, talented grandchildren who range in age from 8–21."

Paola Oreffice Kulp cannot believe our 55th reunion is only a year away! "Shortly after I married in 1962, we moved to El Salvador for three years, then to Washington, D.C., where our son, Giorgio, was born. In 1967, we moved to Athens, Greece. Our second son, Edoardo, was born there. Since 1970, we have been living in Tiburon, a suburb of San Francisco. As both our sons and families (six grandchildren in all) live on the East Coast, for the last nine years we have had an apartment in Manhattan and have become "commuters." We travel a great deal, from the Arctic to the Antarctic, east to west, and yearly to Italy, as I still have family there. Richard, 82 years "young," finally retired last year and as he is a "type A+" person, I can't say we have slowed up. We certainly cannot complain. Look forward to seeing all next year."

Evelyn Farber Karet recently retired from Clark University where she has been a visiting scholar for a number of years in the department of visual and performing arts. "I had previously taught Renaissance art history. My retirement coincides with the completion of my book, *The Antonio Il Badile Album of Drawings: The Origins of Collecting Drawings in Early Modern Northern Italy*, which will be published by Ashgate at the end of this year. It was my first exhilarating course at Barnard with Julius Held sophomore year that inspired me to study art history and later at the department of art history at Columbia where David Rosand (CC '59) was my professor. For the next few months I plan to relax with a month in Naples, Fla., in February—if there are any '59ers there please let me know—and a trip to India and Nepal in March. My husband, Jim, passed away in 2010. However, I have been enjoying my children, Tom and Kate, and their families, including five grandchildren: Will, Charlie, Alexa Karet, and Lily and Oliver Levick, children of Kate

An Aide to Performance

Ann Lewin '60

Back when pianist Ann Lewin graduated from Barnard, she couldn't have told you what she'd be doing for a living now—it was a job she didn't even know existed. Lewin is a vocal coach, which is far different from being a voice teacher. In the opera world, vocal coaches serve a highly specialized function, working with singers to learn specific roles, correcting their accents, and teaching them to sing over the orchestration. If a singer forgets a line, it's the coach who offers the prompt. In essence, vocal coaches do everything voice teachers don't. "A voice teacher can help you with technique, but no way can they take you through Act One of *La Bohème*," she explains. "That's the coach's job."

Lewin, who earned a master of arts in music at UCLA and served as a rehearsal pianist for more than 50 regional opera companies for decades, says she "fell into" vocal coaching in the 1980s when she heard about a workshop being given by a well-known coach at the Metropolitan Opera House. She took the workshop and never looked back. "I was able to get a great Barnard education in my major (piano), but it didn't prepare me for coaching, because the only way to learn is from a good coach," Lewin says. "I saw what coaching was and I remembered everything I was taught." Now Lewin is a member of the faculty at the Mannes School of Music at the New School in New York and the Manhattan School of Music.

Vocal coaching is so little known outside of the largest US opera companies that, when Lewin's former student Dorji Chen returned to China after training in the US and wanted to introduce Chinese opera singers to the practice of using vocal coaches, his only real choice was to fly Lewin in to work with his Chinese colleagues and students. She visited National Northwest University in Lanzhou for two weeks in June 2012. Lewin doesn't speak Chinese and her Chinese hosts didn't speak English, but they got on famously, Lewin says, "like sisters."

"She helped many young teachers and students, and they liked her very much," Chen agrees. "They are all waiting for her to come again — as a teacher, a coach, and a friend." —*Kim MacQueen*



Karet '89. I have recently joined the board of Worcester Chamber Music Society, which has a very active program and this has been fun. All the best to my '59 Barnard friends."

Emily Wortis Leider is still writing away, working on poems, and notes of which a few have recently been published. She is also doing some events related to her biography of Myrna Loy, which came out in paperback last summer. "My husband, Bill, and I just celebrated our 55th anniversary. Yikes! I give music lessons to my grandkids and friends here in San Francisco; it's about the most fun thing ever."

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Our class Scholarship Fund has awarded its support to Alice Rottersman '16 for the 2013 academic year. Alice graduated from Hanover High School (New Hampshire) *maxima cum laude*. While there, she studied in Germany in

an exchange program, played trombone, acted in student productions, and was on the crew team. She also has 12 years of karate under her belt (get it?), and has taught metallurgy at the League of NH Craftsmen. This past summer, she illustrated a children's book for the nonprofit organization, Connecting Tanzania. Alice plans to major in classics and pursue a career in the entertainment industry. We're happy to support Alice, but a bit breathless. Our first thought was, if Alice represents a typical Barnard entrant, we would never get in, were we applying now. (Although, if we were applying now, we'd be quite different people—anyone want to write that up?)

Sydney Stahl Weinberg writes about her trip to Ukraine: "The most interesting aspect for me was (not surprisingly) the historical one. I had wanted to go to the Crimea (which had always sounded exotic) and see where Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin met at Yalta in February 1945. The place—Livadia Palace—was beautiful, and reading the documents they had signed there was exciting for me. (We all have our peculiarities.) Other historical sites were Balaclava, where the charge of the Light Brigade took place, and Babi Yar, where the Nazis, when they occupied Kiev during World War II, massacred tens of thousands of Jews. I did have mixed feelings about the trip though, because the Ukrainians make much of the Cossacks, but I know them only because they were the ones who massacred my forebears. But the Ukrainians of today seem to want to distance themselves from the bloodier aspects of their past."

Linda Kaufman Kerber writes that she and her husband regularly attend the Lyric Opera in Chicago, and "would welcome the chance to connect with Barnard friends when we come to town." I (SG) was delighted when Linda told me that one of my sister's and my children's books, was her favorite for reading to her grandchildren. Oh, the unexpected connections we continue to make!

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Where in the world are the members of the Class of 1961? Some of our correspondents are a long way from Morningside Heights.

Genevieve Acker Ramos is the president of the Barnard Alumnae Club in Paris, where club members have been reading and discussing books by Barnard authors.

Participation in a book club also creates opportunities for Israelis **Joyce Rosman Brenner** from Kibbutz Geshet Haziv and **Nancy Chezar Milgram** from Nahariya to get together.

Sylvia Elias Elman spent International Holocaust Memorial Day in Berlin, accompanying her husband who is the president of the American Jewish Committee.

Shareen Blair Brysac and her husband, Karl E. Myer, recently completed a new book, *Pax Ethnica: Where and How Diversity Succeeds*, based on research in Kerala (India), Tatarstan (Russia), Marseilles, Flensburg (Germany), and the not so far-flung borough of Queens. They have since traveled to Italy, Vienna, and the UK, are working on a new book project, and are planning an extended trip to Japan.

Judith Hamilton lives in Denver, but since mid-November she's been working with hazard mitigation to protect coastline villages and towns in Long Island against the ravages of storms like Hurricane Sandy. While in New York, she spent Thanksgiving with **Ruth Schwartz Cowan** and her family, visited **Dorothy Memolo Bheddah**, and attended a meeting of the Barnard Club of Long Island. She also enjoyed **Mary Livingston Snyder's** lovely garden in Manchester, Conn.

Several members of the class live in California. **Nancy Engbretsen Lind** and her husband, Russell LaValla, have just moved from the New York area to Pasadena to be closer to their daughter

and son-in-law.

Nora Fox Goldschlager is a cardiologist at San Francisco General Hospital of University of California, San Francisco. She has more than 200 papers, chapters, and books on her résumé. She credits her Barnard training in philosophy with helping her communicate clearly with her hospital colleagues. She and her husband, also a cardiologist, have two daughters, one an editor for the publisher Annual Reviews, and a second who is a swim coach, whose power to affect children's lives offers further reflection on the impact of teachers.

B. Elizabeth Pruitt Wright reports from Marina Del Rey on the death of her husband, Jack, which prompted a long, leisurely (and healing) motor trip to Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

Hinda Rotenberg Miller and her husband, Michael, a former family-court judge, are both retired and living in Rochester. She spends her time volunteering in a charter school, studying Jewish texts, exercising, and babysitting for six grandchildren (four of whom live on a farm that offers in-kind remuneration in the form of fresh eggs). She is also writing her memoirs in which Barnard figures prominently.

I had the pleasure of attending a panel discussion at the City University of New York Graduate Center in which **Nancy Kipnis Miller**, along with writers Edith Pearlman and Judith Shulevitz, discussed the future of Jewish women American writers, generating a rich discussion around all three adjectives. Nancy, a professor at CUNY, has recently authored *What They Saved: Pieces of a Jewish Past*, published by University of Nebraska Press. After her father's death, she discovered a cache of treasures: photographs, a deed for land, a postcard from Argentina, and locks of hair, spurring her to uncover a family story she never knew.

And on the subject of losses, Ruth Schwartz Cowan sadly reports on the death of **Linda (Linn) Walter Solomon** in December.

Please continue to share your news with me, so I can pass it on to the class.

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The New York area had a December mini-reunion in The Diana Center, with a reprise of our 50th reunion hootenanny. It was produced by **Judith Eisenberg Bieber, Maya Rosenfeld Freed Brown, Rosalind (Roz) Marshack Gordon, Joan Rezak Katz, Sara Ginsberg Marks, Joy Felsher Perla, Deborah Bersin Rubin, and Marcia Stecker Weller**; the singers were **Linda Theil Cahill, Rita Gabler Rover, Nancy Brown Schmiderer, and Vivien Deutsch Wolsk**, accompanied by **Miriam (Mimi) Erlich**. A senior sociology major, Carmen Romero '13, spoke to the group. Roz Gordon was clever enough to collect notes from some of the attendees and forward them to me, so I can report on their doings. After that songfest, Vivien Wolsk went to join her jazz choir, the Lance Hayward Singers, for their winter concert. Vivien is still practicing part time as a psychologist in private practice; she and Paul will celebrate their 50th anniversary this year.

Alidra Solday was excited by the response to her course at the Manhattan Jewish Community Center, "Embracing Transition and Change." Participants found this transformative, as well as her class, "Yes to Life: How to Live This Year as if It Is Your Last."

Linda Cahill has been a physician since 1969, and since 1988, the medical director of the Child Advocacy Center at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore. The work has been amazing, rewarding, and challenging, and so compelling that she has no immediate plans for retirement.

Joan Lewis Kretschmer's Lyric Chamber Music Society of New York is in full swing for the season. She's excited about teaching classes, "What Is a Musical Idea?" and "A History of Opera from Mozart to Wagner," in addition to her piano teaching.

Joy Perla wrote that life has its ups and down—ups with Hebrew classes and her grandchildren, downs with her mom's health issues, but overall, life is good and she's keeping busy.

Maya Brown is still practicing psychotherapy, but with a very small practice. She sings in her temple choir and takes ballet and pilates classes at the Broadway Dance Center; she loves

being in the city. "To my doctor's dismay, instead of taking Fosamax, I dance!" Maya's daughter, Alison, and her family were in a terrible auto accident on the N.J. Turnpike the day before Hurricane Sandy hit. They landed in two different hospitals; fortunately, by the time of the mini-reunion, Maya reported that they were all recovering at home. "Otherwise," she added, "we continue to muddle through life, enormously enjoying the eight grandchildren, four of mine, and four of my husband Carter's."

Susan (Susie) Levenson Pringle's husband, John, had a complete knee replacement in October; in November they were in San Francisco for the bridge Fall Nationals. She said they played some of the best bridge they had ever done, but had to go home a few days early.

Alan and **Libby Guth Fishman** went to the Galápagos Islands in November. She kept a journal and took lots of amazing photos.

Congratulations to Steven and **Joyce Ragen Prenner**, who celebrated their 50th anniversary in April.

Ruth Nemzoff is on tour with her latest book, *Don't Roll Your Eyes: Making In-Laws into Family*. In December she was the speaker at the Palm Beach, Fla., Celebrating Sisterhood Community Brunch; **Libby Fishman, Vivian Himmelweit Palmer**, and I had a great time there. She'll be at a class brunch in May at **Eleanor Traube Kra's** home in Setauket on Long Island. One save-the-date e-mail has gone out as of this writing. Look for more information to come.

We received a report from the fund office about our Class of 1962 scholarship fund. I think it began with some leftover money at one of our early reunions, and has been added to by classmates over the years, until last year it was large enough to grant an award to a student, and **Harriet Kaye Inselbuch** met her at a college reception. This year, the Class of 1962 scholarship has been awarded to a first-year student whose list of activities and accomplishments fills a big paragraph; she aspires to attend medical school and become a cardiologist.

Deborah Rubin and Libby Fishman, current and immediate-past class presidents, received this letter from Harry Sachse, the late **Elinor Yudin Sachse's** husband: "I am writing you to say how much I and our children, Michael and

Marianna, have appreciated the many letters of condolence and donations in Ellie's honor that we received from her Barnard classmates. She loved her years at Barnard and kept Barnard in her heart. A number of her friends from Barnard became lifelong friends, and she always remained a supporter of Barnard and the Class of 1962. Helping organize the 50th reunion was a real work of love, because her health was already failing, but she carried on, and more than that, thoroughly enjoyed the reunion ... I'm taking the opportunity to use this column to express our thanks and gratitude for all the love and attention she, and then we, received from the class. You were all wonderful." Ellie will be remembered at the In Memoriam service during Reunion in June, and many of our class members will be there. More about this event as it gets closer to the date.

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Susan Migden Socolow '62, professor emerita at Emory University, received the 2012 Conference on Latin American History's (CLAH)

Distinguished Service Award for significant contributions to the advancement of scholarship in Latin American history. Susan is the author of numerous books and articles, including *The Merchants of Buenos Aires 1778–1810* (Cambridge University Press, 2009) and *The Women of Colonial Latin America* (Cambridge University Press, 2000). In conferring the award, CLAH cited her for serving as an example to women in a profession that until recently was overwhelmingly male.

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I spoke to **Deborah Lodge Irwin** who lives in Moorestown, N.J., playing monkey in the middle between her sons, Bart

and Mark, one of whom teaches math in Virginia and one of whom runs an IT department from Syracuse. She has two granddaughters. She works as a computer analyst for a chemical company in New Jersey, continuing the tradition of mathematics careers she has established in her family.

Marilyn Kramer Kammerman of Houston, another mathematically inclined classmate, is retired, along with her husband, Ron, from their mom-and-pop certified public accountant office; both love not having the pressure of deadlines. She can chill out and read, travel, and come up to New York to see her son, Tom, and her four grandchildren.

Susan Rosen Koslow who has her PhD from the NYU Institute of Fine Arts has retired from teaching at City University of New York (Graduate Center and Brooklyn) but continues to write. Her specialty is 17th-century Flemish painting and at present she is working on a reading of a newly discovered painting by Frans Snyders. She spoke of her work as “unriddling the riddle of the painting,” a very large one, of a fruit and vegetable stall in the country with two women engaged in a transaction. It is her theory that the painting was a public work commissioned by Antwerp Gardener’s Guild, a guild of women workers. She also continues to work on her photography and drawing.

Shelley Chernoff Kramer spoke to me from San Diego County where she experiences her life in a lovely equilibrium, and intends to continue her full-time clinical psychology practice with children and adolescents until she can no longer walk up the stairs. She is a big sister with the child-mentoring organization Big Brothers Big Sisters and works with her husband on United By Friendship, which funds clinics and schools in Guatemala.

Ruth Bernstein Hyman tells me that after getting a master’s from Bank Street College of Education in elementary education, she went on to get a PhD in educational research and worked at the School of Nursing at Adelphi University designing projects and teaching, and later at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the epidemiology department. Widowed in 1980, she raised her three daughters, Miriam, Naomi, and Dena, alone. However in 1994 she became sick enough with chronic fatigue syndrome that she had

to stop working. She is able, however, to pursue a well-loved hobby, bird watching and counting through her windows where she has many bird feeders.

From **Alice Miller Weiss**, your undersigned correspondent: I am retiring from writing this column, and I wanted to say thank you and farewell. I have been writing the column for 10 years, the last five, sharing the work with **Rhoda Greenberg-Davis**, **Phyllis Hearst Hersch**, and **Susan Robbins Stern**, and I wanted to thank them and all the startled classmates who took my call out of the blue, never even sure who I was, and nevertheless gave me time and information for delightful vignettes. You are all such wonderful women. I am so proud to be among you. Hope to see you at Reunion.

Thanks to all who have already donated for our 50th reunion. So many more classmates gave than last year at this time—and many made much bigger gifts in honor of this milestone. Over 25 percent made the signature \$1,963 gift, and 15 percent gave \$5,000 or more. Wow! If you haven’t already given, please give now—as generously as you can. —AW

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After talking recently with **Phyllis Peck Makovsky**, **Ronnie Oلمان Horn** was surprised to learn that our 50th reunion will be next year, in 2014. Ronnie taught high-school English before her two sons were born, then began her subsequent career with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, which is now Women of Reform Judaism; Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America; and National United Jewish Appeal in public relations, staying there for

four years. She was then recruited to be director of communications for a capital campaign for UJA-Federation of New York and has been there ever since, finding it satisfying and exciting because she’s learned about social services all over New York and has met many dedicated people. Recently, she began painting portraits, winning a place in a juried show and doing a commission, and is looking forward to painting more after her retirement in one year, as well as to participating in her local Barnard Club.

Also still working, **Harriet Schwartz Oster** is a clinical professor of psychology at NYU’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies in the Paul McGhee Division, a program for adults and non-traditional students. With a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, and post-doctoral work at University of California, San Francisco, she has concentrated on developmental psychology and the psychology of emotion, specializing in the facial expressions of infants and young children and developing a coding system for describing children’s facial expressions. Married for the second time, she is a step-grandmother to the children of her husband’s two children.

Ellen Gritz just completed her 1,000th scuba dive, in Indonesia. Ellen has been diving since 1973, after completing graduate school at University of California, San Diego.

Karen Cohen Holmes reports that she bumped into **Adele Ludin Boskey** at the opera recently.

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First, save the date: **Elizabeth Farber Bernhardt** and **Jane Newham McGroarty** have begun planning a mini-reunion for the weekend of October 19–20, 2013. Barnard will provide a room in The Diana Center where we can hang out and have a Saturday-night dinner and a Sunday-morning breakfast for a modest per-person cost. “We thought a museum

visit/lunch on Saturday afternoon would be fun," Jane writes, and "some of you have suggested that we invite Barbara Novak '50, Barnard art history professor emerita, to the museum visit and the Saturday-night dinner." Jane says they will finalize the specific museum "once we know how many of you might attend and what museum shows might be next October." Please e-mail Jane (architect@jmcgroarty.net) if you are interested in attending.

Several of our classmates have recently been published. From **Marie-Louise Friquegnon**, who is a professor of philosophy and Asian Studies at William Patterson University, comes news of her two most recent books, *A Short Introduction to the Philosophy of Santaraksita*, published by Cool Grove Press, and *Studies in the Yogacara Madhyamaka of Sabtarasita* (edited with Noe Dinnerstein), from Global Scholarly Publications. She tells us that "Santaraksita was an Indian Buddhist philosopher of the 8th century." Marie is living in New York City with her husband, Raziel Abelson; they have two grown children, Maris and Benjamin.

From **Margaret (Margie) Ross Griffel**, who is senior editor at Columbia Creative (part of the office of communications and public affairs at Columbia), there's news of her latest book, *Operas in English: A Dictionary*, an updated, two-volume revision of her 1999 work. It concerns operas written specifically to an English text, and was published by Scarecrow Press/Rowman & Littlefield in December.

Sharon Klayman Farber's new book, *Hungry for Ecstasy: Trauma, the Brain, and the Influence of the Sixties*, was released by Jason Aronson/Rowman & Littlefield in November: "Anyone interested in ordering my book, contact me for a discount promo code." Sharon also mentioned that she has been involved in PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcus) support since her oldest grandchild suddenly developed obsessive-compulsive disorder and/or verbal or motor tics when he was 5. Early diagnosis and treatment of this disease may prevent a lifetime of neuropsychiatric illness, and Sharon says if you have any question about it, to call her about that as well.

From Plymouth, Mich., **Cindy Marriott**

brings us a different sort of news: "I discovered that I enjoyed going to dog shows with my older daughter, Elizabeth. At one, I saw a Scottish deerhound for the first time and thought it was one of the ugliest dogs." But in 2011, after a Scottish deerhound named Hickory won the Westminster Dog Show, Cindy spoke with Hickory's owner at the Detroit Kennel Club, then got in touch with a breeder. She now has "a gorgeous Scottish deerhound whom I show. Wild Turkey D'Lux Dag Hammarskjold is five points from his championship. Having him in my life has been miraculous."

Bayla Tulchin Silbert writes that she retired last fall after 25 years as a social worker in a psychiatric and substance-abuse clinic at North Shore-Long Island Jewish Hospital, though she still sees some private clients in her home office. She says that three of her four children are married, and she has two grandchildren.

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Susan Sandel writes from Guilford, Conn., of her work of more than 40 years in health care and therapy, specializing in dance/movement at psychiatric hospitals and other care facilities. Along the way, she got a PhD in dance/movement psychotherapy and a license as a nursing-home administrator, a post she held for seven years while continuing to lead movement groups. Susan returned to mental-health work, but retired from what had become a "mostly administrative" job, she writes, to go "back to my roots in creative arts therapies." Now she runs dance/movement therapy groups at Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center and a senior center, where she also heads a creative-writing class. Susan also fields another interesting occupation: Having worked with a therapy dog for 13 years,

she decided to "carry on the legacy of our work" after the dog's death, by volunteering as a tester-observer for an organization that certifies handler-dog teams for therapy programs. That would seem like a full plate. But, Susan adds, "I'm also a sculptor, and have a tiny studio at my home."

From **Mary Jane Incorvia Mattina** comes a "thumbnail," as she puts it, "of the past 40 years or so." It starts with Mary Jane, then a newly minted Yale PhD in chemistry, moving to Lenox, Mass., in the beautiful Berkshires, with her husband, Charles (also a PhD in chemistry). When she found limited job opportunities, the couple briefly tried living in the Atlanta area, but returned to Lenox. There, she writes, "I was faced with the same dilemma as before." While long on natural beauty and "good for raising kids" (in her case, two daughters and a son), the area was short on professional prospects. So Mary Jane found herself working in, of all places, New Haven, for the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, or CAES. The next 21 years with the state agency were "a very hard and stressful personal experience," that entailed living in New Haven during the work week and heading back to Lenox on Friday afternoons. Grueling schedule notwithstanding, she became head of the CAES's department of analytical chemistry after three years—the first woman, she notes, to be named a department head in the CAES. In 2005, her department was competitively selected as one of eight state-run chemistry laboratories nationwide to receive federal grants to perform work for the Food Emergency Response Network, established to protect the nation's food supply from terrorist threats. In the mid-2000s Mary Jane was named state chemist, the first woman, she writes, to have the honorific "in the over-100 years of this position." In 2009 she retired from the CAES, where she has emerita status. Though she's now "fully retired," she adds that "it hardly feels so, since I spend a good deal of time babysitting our four grandkids."

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Gloria Jewel Leitner writes: "I've increased my volunteer hours at Massachusetts General Hospital, doing patient education for a doctor's group, very rewarding work. Travel abroad beckons: Last summer the Netherlands and Belgium, this spring Paris. In general, as I get older, I'm trying to follow my father's motto 'Life is a series of adjustments'—but of course, easier said than done!"

Margaret Pinney shares: "I've been living and teaching for the last four years in Nevis in the Caribbean. Teaching has been my life-long career, but each move made it increasingly difficult for me to get jobs because my degrees and experience put my salary beyond what a school system wanted to pay. In Nevis, you can teach with a secondary education and a two-week training class. I teach in a small private school struggling to provide something different for children. It has been a very satisfying time for me. Oh yeah, the climate is great and the music scene keeps me dancing and enjoying life on this friendly small island."

Jessica Lobel Kahn was featured in an article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, which publicized her work gathering new and gently used children's books to distribute to schools where books are not plentiful. The result was an avalanche of books, and offers of assistance from a wide variety of people. Jessica added, "If you live in an affluent neighborhood, and you know about a school that serves less affluent children, you might consider having a book drive to provide books for school libraries or for classroom-teachers' libraries. There are too many children who don't have ready access to appealing children's books—and there are many children who have books they have outgrown."

In November, **Rhea Segal** retired from the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services after 27 years, but is continuing to work for them doing outpatient therapy as an independent contractor. She has decreased her work from six days a

week to three. She now takes fitness classes three days a week, is starting a class in pottery, and has finally gotten serious about Weight Watchers. Her adult daughters provide a constant source of joy.

Abby Pariser was able to attend the second inauguration of President Obama. She writes: "We had a WONDERFUL time ... Council for a Livable World reception Sunday eve, Senator Bernie Sanders (fire & brimstone), new Senator Angus King from Maine, new Senator Tammy Baldwin, Ed Schultz from MSNBC, and lots of others." They saw President Obama sworn in from seats in front of the Capitol and she and husband, Peter, got to visit with seven different friends, including three Barnard classmates—**Jane Lewis Gilbert**, **Miriam (Mimi) Kahal Hughes**, and **Elinor Sosne**.

Paula Fass has technically retired from the University of California, Berkeley, although she continues to teach graduate students at Berkeley and to write. She has also been teaching in the fall semester at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Her latest book, *The Routledge History of Childhood in the Western World*, is available now, and her family memoir, *Inheriting the Holocaust: A Second Generation Memoir*, is now in paperback. Her son, Charles Lesch, a graduate student in political theory at Harvard, was married on September 2 to Beth Reisfeld in New York, and Paula's daughter, Bluma Lesch, is doing a post doc in genetics at the Whitehead Institute at MIT. Paula's husband, Jack, has also retired from Berkeley but continues to write and teaches the history of science at Rutgers in the fall.

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45th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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45th reunion, be there or be square!!!

First the sad news, then the good news. I want to end our column on an "up note."

Martha (Marti) Shames Groen received this e-mail from Howard

Michaels, husband of **Lois Kwitman Michaels**. He writes: "It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of the tragic, sudden, and unexpected death of my dear wife, Lois Michaels, on December 12. Lois was a bone-marrow transplant survivor, 15 years post-transplant. Lois did not succumb to her bone-marrow disease, but it was a contributing factor. Our son, Jonathan, and I are heartbroken." Lois held two master's degrees and worked as a policy analyst for the Ontario Ministry of Health for 25 years. She was also an active amateur violinist and played in the North York Symphony Orchestra. Our sincere condolences go to Lois's family.

Linda Rosen Garfunkel, our class president, has been taking notes as well as participating in our pre-reunion phonathon and she kindly passed those tidbits on to me for the column, so here goes:

Margaret Hunting lives in Bala Cynwyd, Pa., and is a retired lawyer. She was happy to give up the law to become the head of a small foundation, which keeps her very busy. **Anne Grant** is a retired minister living in Providence, R.I. She is presently working on a book. **Margaret Deutsch Carroll** has been teaching art history at Wellesley since 1975! **Ellen Zubrack Charry** has been a professor at Princeton Theological Seminary for the past 16 years. **Katherine Borsody** was in publishing, but has been happily retired for the past few years. **Carol Norkin Ghent** is also retired. She winters on Hutchinson Island in Florida and then comes up to Connecticut in the spring to tend her garden.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch ... the reunion committee has been busy planning what we hope will be a stimulating and just plain nice reunion weekend for our class. There will be a cocktail party, class dinner, and all the usual events so that we can see and talk to one another. Spouses are certainly welcome. Check out our Web site and contact anyone and everyone. Call your friends and arrange to meet here. We'd love to see all of you.

Finally, my special news: I am a grandma! Our daughter, Miriam Kurnit Katz '00, and our son-in-law, Dave, presented the world with the beautiful and amazing Charlotte Beatrice on November 12. As with all of the rest of you grandparents, Charlotte is the most wonderful baby in the whole world. I will, no doubt, bore

anyone foolish enough to ask me with pictures at Reunion. Here's to Barnard, Class of (20)'34 (or thereabouts).

Watch your mail, "e" and/or snail, for more reunion information. See you all there. Be well. —ASK

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It's no surprise that our class has been busy in many areas lately—family, friends, travel, jobs, and leisure—though many of us are busier than ever in retirement or something like it. I'm still busy with my three part-time teaching jobs: humanities at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach; humanities at Seminole State College of Florida in Sanford; and both art appreciation and history of photography at Daytona State College. No grandchildren, and daughter, Zoe, just finished her RN degree and began working as a surgical ICU nurse while my son, Matthew, continues his music career in Brooklyn.

Leila Richards writes that she has been living in Pittsburgh for the past five years, "more or less retired from international public health though still very interested in international affairs, having lived and worked in an assortment of downwardly mobile countries that are often in the news: Lebanon, the occupied territories, Iraq, and the former Yugoslavia, among others. Have now turned to gardening, Latin dancing, and various kinds of advocacy work. And I belong to the Pittsburgh chapter of a women's interfaith book club called Daughters of Abraham."

Newly retired and enjoying it very much, **Rosalie Reszelbach** says she now has time to "work in my garden, see movies, go to the theater and museums, and spend more time with friends and family. Looking forward to more traveling in the near future after all the home-improvement projects are done." And, Rosalie adds, her son, Andrew, just began his PhD program in applied physics; she's very happy that he

decided to stay in the Boston area.

Linda Lawson Elman writes that since she retired last fall from a career in educational assessment, she's been busy. "I teach Hebrew School, mostly bar and bat mitzvah kids three afternoons a week. I also teach a one-room schoolhouse class for six students who can't make regular Hebrew school. We meet in homes, and my box of materials and I regularly get lost on Mercer Island (in Washington State). It's fun, and I think the kids are learning to read Hebrew."

Also enjoying life is **Meredith Sue Willis**, whose new edition of her popular how-to-write book for young people, *Blazing Pencils*, came out in early 2013. She received the Harrison County, W. Va., (her birth place) Davis/Jackson award and made a keynote address to county scholarship students and their families. Meredith writes that she'll also "be teaching the fiction master class at the 2013 Mountain Heritage Literary Festival at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn., in June." Besides all that, she continues to teach novel- and other fiction-writing classes at NYU's School of Continuing and Professional Studies and occasionally does writer-in-the-school gigs in New Jersey, where she lives. And, Meredith adds, she's "working on her own writing!"

Finally, Class Fund Chair **Daphne Fodor Philipson** was joined by **Laura Adler Givner**, **Rae Dichter Rosen**, and **LaVergne Trawick** at Barnard's annual phonathon on January 28, with **Karen Vexler Hartman** participating three days later. "We had a fun time chatting among ourselves and with classmates who were home to receive our calls. We encourage all of you who haven't yet made a gift in this giving cycle, which runs through June 30, to please consider doing so. Any amount is truly appreciated—our participation rate needs a bit of boosting. So, please give if you can. And come to phonathon next year if you live nearby. It's a really fun event and does important work for the College," Daphne writes.

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Pauline (Polly) Dannhauser Wilkenfeld and husband, Bruce, got together with **Elaine Wood Shoben** and her husband, Ed, in Columbus, Ohio, over the holidays. Ed and Bruce had not seen each other since college, so there was a lot to catch up on. Elaine was able to regale Polly and Bruce's son and daughter-in-law with Polly's derring-do during her Barnard days. Elaine also concludes that Polly's granddaughter is "absolutely as adorable as advertised."

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Rebecca Cook '70

was named a Member of the Order of Canada, one of the country's highest civilian honors. She was named in December by

Governor-General David Lloyd Johnston in recognition of "her achievements as a legal scholar on issues of women's rights, [and] reproductive and sexual health law." Professor emerita at the faculty of law at the University of Toronto, Rebecca is the faculty chair in international human rights and co-director of the university's International Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Program. She also has cross-appointments in the Joint Centre for Bioethics, the Women and Gender Studies Institute, and other institutes across the University of Toronto.

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Our class winter holiday card brought responses: **Katherine Reitzel** phoned, still happily employed at the Dolphin Research Center in Grassy Key, Fla., and still awaiting her whistleblower suit trial in Key West.

Alicia Pedraza Mansfield e-mailed

from Hong Kong about celebrating virtual Christmas with her sons in New York. Using old photos, the boys presented a tale of family Christmases past via Skype; then everyone simultaneously enjoyed the same preplanned menu, Christmas Eve in New York, Christmas morning in Asia.

A wonderful, real-live letter arrived via snail mail from **Elizabeth Kellogg** in Leesburg, Va., filled with details of her Christmas travels to the farm of musical friends in Gettysburg, followed by a visit with her stepdaughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren in Virginia Beach. Her reawakening enthusiasm for life's joys, following husband John's passing in May 2008, was evident in her vivid descriptions of holiday food, music, ritual, and loving company. She is celebrating 53^{1/2} years of living successfully with diabetes.

And sadly, tracking a returned envelope led to the news of the death of **Susan Gans Perreault** on August 4, 2011. Following Barnard, Susan taught at St. Hilda's & St. Hugh's School; earned her master's from West Chester University and doctorate in psychology from Temple University; and worked as an organizational psychologist in her own management-consulting firm. She was active in numerous local organizations and is survived by her sons, Jared and Paul.

Deborah Rosenthal is editing a reprise series of classics—out-of-print books on art and artists—for Arcade Publishing. She is a professor of fine arts at Rider University, and her most recent solo show of paintings was in February at the Bowery Gallery in Chelsea, which has represented her for many years. Read more about the Artists and Art book series at Deborah's blog on The Huffington Post.

Jocelyn Linnekin will be on sabbatical this semester from the University of Connecticut, where she is a professor of anthropology. Deciding to go on one more adventure "before I am too old and decrepit," she is traveling to the Shetland Islands in April for "a lot of hill walking to look at Neolithic, Medieval, and Viking sites, crofts, sheep, ponies, textiles, rare birds, and lots and lots of cliffs overlooking cold, roiling seas."

Joyce (Joy) Pollack Montgomery Rocklin has returned to active-alumna status, attending a recent Project Continuum meeting in Sulzberger Parlor, as well as the Barnard tour of the new Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia last fall,

where she met up with **Lee Canossa** and **Barbara Shear**.

Finally, work is proceeding with our class oral history project. Contact bcvoicesinc@gmail.com to schedule an interview, or to offer a hand with PR and fund-raising. We need your help to bring this important project to fruition.

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Thanks to a recent gift from **Ruth Steinberg**, Barnard's library joins the ranks of the British Library, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Frick Collection, and the Morgan Library and Museum as one of a number of leading institutions holding a copy of the limited edition three-volume set, *Pictures in the Collection of P.A.B. Widener at Lynnewood Hall, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania*.

Nancy Fried Foster recently won the University of Rochester's Martin E. Messinger Libraries Recognition Award for 2012, for her work applying anthropological principles to the study of the university's libraries and their users. *Library Journal* interviewed her regarding her work as a library anthropologist.

Sally Brender Seymour writes, "I am still working full time as a nurse, and also devoting time to travel. My husband, Mike, and I recently traveled to Aschaffenburg, Germany, the town his parents came from in 1939, and we donated letters and papers to a small Jewish museum there. We also celebrated our 40th anniversary in Florence, Venice, and Sorrento, and this year we will be in Greece and Istanbul. No grandchildren, but our two sons will watch Paco, our dog!"

Denise Dwyer reports that after retiring from the Department of Energy, she is writing poetry, which is pretty good according to her husband.

Paula Atwood has a degree in nursing and has worked as a nurse practitioner. She is retiring from the Navy and wants to pursue volunteer work in the future. Good luck, Paula! I am sure your nursing skills

will be in great demand wherever you go.

Stephanie Chelak Larson works as an organization-development consultant for the state of Virginia. She is married and has two grown children. She reports that she loves Paris and visits there every year during her time off.

A gallery seminar at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, "The Japanese Art of Flower Arranging," was given jointly by Met educator and *ikebana* artist, **Shoko Moriwaki Iwata**. The class explored screens and ceramics in the exhibition "Designing Nature: The Rinpa Aesthetic in Japanese Art," and discussed choices that artists make when depicting nature in visual art and in the art of *ikebana*. Afterward, Shoko gave a demonstration of *ikebana* flower arranging. Look for her at future Met events.

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40th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Deborah Lebow writes that her family moved to Glen Ridge, N.J., in 2000 after 30 years living on the Upper West Side. They wanted out of New York City's private-school rat race but she's still comforted being able to see the New York skyline from her third floor. Debbie was involved in fashion merchandising in one form (retail, then wholesale, home furnishings, and fashion accessories) for over 25 years since graduating from Columbia's business school in 1976. With her move to New Jersey, she tried and failed at being a suburban housewife, then found a new career that she loves as a real-estate agent for the last 10 years at Coldwell Banker residential properties in Upper Montclair, N.J. Husband Tom Altier (CC '74, BUS '78) is now CFO of Phreesia, a software company whose specialty is doctor's office check-in, payments, and medical records. Daughter Claire, 25, is focusing her career on the wine business, working for both an importer and in retail. She started a new job at wine Web site Snooth in January. Son David, 21, just returned from a semester in Barcelona, is

finishing up his senior year at UMass, and plans to get a master's degree and teach high-school history.

Barbara Cammer Paris was chosen as the President's Award honoree for the leadership event sponsored by Women in Health Management on January 24. This is a professional organization for women in all areas of health management. Her keynote topic was "Transitions in Medical Care: Answers to Improving Care for the Elderly." She's a clinical professor of medicine, geriatrics, and palliative medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. She's also vice chair of medicine and director of geriatrics at Maimonides Medical Center.

Sheila Reines retired at the end of February from the World Bank where she had worked for nearly 20 years, focusing mainly on organizational gender and diversity issues.

Terry Murphy is an American studies professor at George Washington University. She just completed her new book, *Citizenship and the Origins of Women's History in the United States*. Terry spent her first two years at Barnard with our class, then transferred to Berkeley, then to Yale, where she earned her PhD. She spent part of 2011 in Indonesia as a Fulbright scholar with her husband, Joel Kuipers, who also had a Fulbright and teaches anthropology at GW. They have three grown kids—Max, a computer scientist in Chicago, and twins, Grace and Nick, juniors at Wesleyan and Oberlin.

Just a word about me, **Judith (Judi) Hasson**: I've been a journalist for 40 years, mostly in Washington, D.C. I started my own writing business—Words by Judi Hasson—when I was diagnosed with MS six years ago. It's a tough road for anyone with a chronic disease but I'm climbing it. Our son, Adam, 29, is a biochemist. His wife, Stephanie, is working on her doctorate. Daughter Debra, 23, an award-winning filmmaker, spent 18 months working on the Obama re-election campaign in Virginia—a hard-fought state. My husband, Bob Cohen, continues his work as a writer/editor at a nonprofit in D.C. —JH

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Julie Troy is in our thoughts and prayers as she sends, "with very heavy heart," news of the passing of her daughter, Rebecca MacLean Audet '05, on January 22 at the age of 29, from an aggressive form of breast cancer. Rebecca is survived by her husband, Ryan Thomas Audet, and 4-year-old daughter, Anya Katherine. The family had moved to Monroe, Conn., in August after Rebecca was promoted to director of worldwide training at the Subway restaurant chain's corporate headquarters. An obituary on ctpost.com described Rebecca as "stunningly beautiful, incredibly intelligent, extremely focused ... a gentle and caring mother."

Sandra Smith Feldman is proud to announce that son Garrett will be graduating from Kenyon College in May with a BA in history and a minor in legal studies.

Elizabeth Davis, PhD, is now dean of the College of Business at University of New Haven in Connecticut. She was formerly based in Washington, D.C., at George Washington University as chair of organizational sciences. "I have been thinking about Barnard recently as my new digs have brought me closer to New York City. My education at Barnard has stood me in good stead all these years. I know it played a role in my doing my doctoral work at Wharton," she writes.

Pamela Gold Bothwell, who is a new contributor to Class Notes, says she worked as a litigation attorney for many years and left the practice of law in 2000. "Since that time, I have dabbled in the translation of Tibetan and Sanskrit Buddhist texts, while seeing my three children blossom into beautiful young adults, and I have been appointed as a *shastri* (senior teacher) in the Shambhala Buddhist lineage in which I have been a student and practitioner since 1973." She would also like to hear from Kate Tobin '76. Kate, you can contact your Class Notes correspondent and I'll pass along contact information.

Percussionist **Susan Hadjopoulos** toured with Joe Jackson and his band last year, performing in cities across the US, Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy, the Netherlands, UK, and Belgium. Her percussion work can also be heard on the Joe Jackson CD, *The Duke*, a tribute to Duke Ellington. They also performed on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* in July 2012.

Arlene (Beatrice) Bradley Levine and her husband continue to be involved in research and teaching. They recently published the second edition of their textbook *The Metabolic Syndrome and Cardiovascular Disease*. "Our lay book, *Say NO to Aging: How Nitric Oxide Prolongs Life*, continues to reach a broader audience," she writes.

Solange De Santis, your class correspondent, is pleased to report she has been named editor of *Episcopal Journal* and is doing communications and management consulting for Westchester's St. Thomas Orchestra and the Music School of Westchester.

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Nina Shaw was honored by the Beverly Hills Bar Association in April as the 2013 Entertainment Lawyer of the Year. In 2012, she was included in *Ebony* magazine's "Power 100" list of the most influential African Americans.

Sheila McGee-Smith works as a telecommunications analyst, with her own firm since 2001. She reports: "I travel often for international business, to Japan, London, Paris, Prague, and Israel and add on days to visit with distant friends."

Robin Blumenfeld Switzenbaum is a member of the women's committee of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Constance Hess Williams '66 is head of their board of trustees.

Deborah Krupp Ketai consults as a project manager at UnitedHealth Group, coordinating enterprise IT efforts with acquired entities. She is a member of the Local Leadership Institute of

Southern New England Chapter–Project Management Institute.

Marilyn Merker Goldman (married to neurologist Bob Goldman) reports that she has been a professor of anesthesiology and pharmacology at the Medical College of Wisconsin for over 20 years. Her son, Dan, is a PhD student in chemistry and biophysics at University of California, Berkeley, and her daughter is a tall-ship deckhand, naturalist, wilderness-trip leader and sailing scientist, based in Seattle.

Marilyn keeps in touch with Barnard and Columbia alums Charlotte (Beth) Falk '77, **Felice Zwas, Jean Grosser, Dorothy Glasser Weiss '77, J. Richard Cohen (CC '76), Peter Dervis (CC '76), mother-in-law Joan Semerik Goldman '52, and niece Jill Markowitz-Cohen '01.**

Lisa Borg reports that she left Rockefeller University after 21 years of neuroscience research to establish a private practice of addiction psychiatry on the Upper East Side. She assumed the medical directorship of Daytop Village, a “therapeutic community” organization for treating substance abuse. Lisa is an assistant clinical professor at Cornell Medical College.

Elizabeth Neiditz Benedict is the editor of a new anthology, *What My Mother Gave Me: Thirty-one Women on the Gifts That Mattered Most*, including essays by Susan Levitt Stamberg '59 and Mary Gordon '71. The Algonquin editor is Alexandra (Andra) Olenik Miller '95.

Naomi Rosenblum Remes, our class fund chair reports, “Many thanks to all of you who have given. Barnard’s fiscal year runs from July 1–June 30. Please contribute to the Annual Fund for 2013—every dollar counts.”

Andrea Katz Stimmel writes that her theme for this year is “resilience.” She was forced out of her home (in a FEMA disaster area) for three weeks. Her PR firm dream job ended when the firm’s founder unexpectedly died. She is now building a marketing, public relations, and business-development consulting practice for law and accounting firms. She invites all leads and connections on LinkedIn. Her daughter is a third-year med student and her son works with autistic children. Andrea corresponds with **Gwyneth Murphy** and also regularly sees **Martha Bakos Dietz, Nancy Matis Dreyfuss, Susan Sommer Klapkin, and Clare Lovelace.** She writes, “There is nothing

like your college friends to make you feel loved for who you are and who you have become.”

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Michele Halberian Kazarian reports the wonderful news that her younger daughter, Katherine Kazarian '12, ran for state office and won. She has just started serving as state representative in Rhode Island. When asked by the press what made her run, she refers to President Obama’s inspiring speech at her commencement this past May. It’s been one thrill after another for Michele, whose older daughter, Jacqueline Kazarian '09, served as her sister’s campaign manager. Jacqueline teaches Latin at the Winsor School in Boston. Michele is unapologetic. “I admit to unabashedly bragging. I cannot help it. We are so proud. It was a wonderful experience for three Barnard women.”

Joan Feldstein DeSalvatore has embarked on a new career as an independent educational consultant, helping high-school students and their families through the process of college application and selection. Joan tells us that her new career has caused her to consider her own college experience at Barnard. “What a wonderful mixture of educational, personal, and cultural experiences were at hand at Barnard. What a terrific selection of classes and activities. Barnard was and still is a rare breed of college and one that I often recommend to my strong, intelligent, driven, female clients.” Joan’s new company, College Bound Advising Today, can be found at collegeboundadvisingtoday.com.

Theresa Racht, a partner in the law firm Racht & Taffae, has recently published legal how-to videos on issues such as those faced by condo committees in *Habitat Magazine*. You can view them at habitatmag.com/Publication-Content/Legal-How-To-Videos.

We were saddened to hear about the passing of our friend Amy Ober Flanders '78, who died suddenly at her home in

Orange County, N.Y., on November 13. According to her obituary, “[Amy] acted and directed at Barnard, the American Place Theater, and in the Miracle Plays at Glastonbury Abbey. She joined [her husband] Richard in a thriving nutritional-counseling business through Shaklee Corporation. Amy worked at the Karen Horney Clinic in New York City, first as a psychotherapist, and eventually as director of the clinic’s trauma program. She was a beloved fixture at Broadway Concerts Direct, in which her husband frequently performed. Amy had a quick, original, and delicious wit. Her intelligence, insight, and compassion were lavished on family, friends, clients, her organic garden, her pets, the earth, and every deer mouse that made it into her cupboards. A longtime student of Dr. Jean Houston’s Mystery School, and of the late Isa and Yolanda Lindwall, she made a lifelong study of the spiritual as well as psychosocial dimensions of healing and wholeness. In her quiet, unconditional love, she changed lives. She was a vast, irreplaceable presence on this planet.”

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35th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Now that our 35th reunion is almost upon us, you’re probably wondering how the committee members have been faring over at the “reunion gulag,” where we have been toiling away to make the weekend bigger and more festive than the Olympics. Or, something like that.

Claire Tse doesn’t take chances when she delivers consulting sessions on intercultural communications to audiences in the US and abroad. She applies principles from the book she co-authored, *The SOLVE Communication Method™*. She’ll be packing that book when she addresses an audience this summer in Brazil. Claire also sends news from **Andrea Priest** (“working in New York City with the Federal Reserve”), **Grace DeSimone Reuter** (“very proud of her two sons, and doing well in upstate New

York”), and **Susan Chalfin** (“continuing with her psychology work in Miami”).

Amy Gewirtz, who ably runs our reunion committee meetings, continues to enjoy her position as director of Pace Law School’s New Directions for Attorneys program, assisting attorneys who are returning to traditional law practice or an alternative legal career. She is proud to count a number of Barnard alumnae as graduates of the program.

Myrna Keller Nussbaum has not let her bad brush with Hurricane Sandy get in the way of helping set up reunion. “We are reprising the successful Thursday night cocktail party at Abigael’s,” she reminds attendees. Everyone is welcome, including classmates from Columbia. It is also an important event because it is *glatt* kosher, for those who cannot attend the Friday night class dinner, and handicap-accessible.

Back in the real, non-gulag world, the American Heart Association has named **Merle Myerson** a “Luminary of Heart,” “in recognition of her contribution to the prevention of cardiovascular disease.” Merle, a cardiologist, is the founder and director of the Center for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York City.

In New Jersey, **Susan Spielvogel** is completing a trilogy of novels “based on my father and his family’s experiences in the Holocaust,” partly inspired by a trunk that traveled with them and contained something unfinished.

Hope to see you all at reunion, May 30–June 2!

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Ilise Levy Feitshans hosted a special kosher dinner at the end of January at the Synagogue Avenue Dumas in Geneva, Switzerland, to celebrate the second inauguration of President Obama. From the pictures, it looked like one of the best

Thanksgiving meals ever.

Speaking of cooking, **Rukhl Schaechter**, who works for the *Yiddish Daily Forward*, is excited by the “new daily-changing Web site (yiddish.forward.com), which has been written up in *The New York Times*, Reuters, and *Haaretz*. In addition to news and feature articles, the site also posts videos with English subtitles (including my cooking show!) and podcasts from around the world for those people who understand Yiddish but can’t read it.”

Martha (Sissy) Cargill Biggers, a true celebrity chef, was sorry to miss the mini-reunion (see below) and writes that she is “keeping a toe-hold in lifestyle media with occasional appearances on the *Today* show, where a woman can feel age-appropriate on television when flanked by Hoda and Kathie Lee.”

And, **Lisa Cohen Ekus** co-led a workshop called Honing Your Edge: Media Skills for Culinary Professionals, and participated in a panel titled “Blog to Book: Write a Cookbook!” at the FoodBlogSouth conference in Birmingham, Ala., in January. She moderated a panel at the New York City Roger Smith Cookbook Conference called “New Business Models for Agents: Partnerships with Authors and Publishers” in February, and is being honored by the Gourmand World Cookbooks Award at their annual fair in Paris, France, with their Outstanding Career Award.

Some *kvelling* was going on when **Jodie Rood Garfinkel** wrote in that her “youngest daughter is graduating from Barnard this year. She has two of my most favorite professors, who I hope have some recollection of my time in their classes. My oldest is back at Columbia, getting her master’s. My son has returned to school as well. All is well and I continue to feel incredibly lucky—happy with my work, my life, and so proud of my children. Barnard has been a big part of it all.”

Cristina Garcia’s sixth novel, *King of Cuba*, will be published in May 2013. Her daughter, Pilar Garcia-Brown, is a junior anthropology major at Brown, and currently enjoying a semester in Barcelona.

From the phonathon held in January, we received a few tidbits: **Shari Teitelbaum** was introduced to President Clinton as Elizabeth Bibi’s mother. Elizabeth Bibi ’11 is a senior

communications associate at the Clinton Foundation where she’s been working since she graduated. **Diana Thompson** had two of her poems published in the last issue of *Artists and Influences*. **Joan Plotkin**, a senior psychiatrist at Virginia Commonwealth University, has five children: a daughter who works at Google in San Francisco; a son at Virginia Tech; twins—one at University of Virginia and one at Virginia Commonwealth University; and her youngest son is a sophomore at the Governing School.

Amy Cogan Ramson, who also participated in the mini-reunion, was elected as coordinator of the public administration unit at Hostos Community College in the Bronx, in which capacity she oversees three academic programs and 15 faculty.

Irene Fish Gottesman was unable to attend the mini-reunion but still made time to come up to campus to attend a 6 p.m. showing at the Athena Film Festival with her daughter, who is a junior at Barnard.

I just want to let all of you who attended the mini-reunion held on February 10 know that I had a great time. Attendees included: **Jean Anthony, Jenifer Grant, Lisa Kalus Hendler** (and husband Bruce), **Nanette (Nina) Hennessey, Victoria Londin, Terry Newman** (and husband David), Amy Ramson, **Deborah Newman Shapiro** (and husband Oliver), **Raquel Solomon**, and **Joan Storey**. For more info on the event, and to see pictures, check out our Class Notes and the mini-reunion album.

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It’s feast or famine with our class. Here are some notes that didn’t make it into the last issue. This issue, nobody new wrote in. If we haven’t heard from you lately, please

send us news. Hope to see many of you at this year's reunion.

Julie Gross Gelfand is the newly appointed director of public relations and communications at Marcum LLP, a top national accounting and advisory firm.

Lois Katz Tilton was named on the 2012 New York Metro Super Lawyers list in the field of estate planning and probate.

Anne Bolles-Beaven and her husband, Paul (CC '82), celebrated 30 years of marriage with a trip to Turks and Caicos in January. Their daughter, Emma, is a Barnard senior. Their 16-year-old son, William, is learning to drive. "Exciting times!" she says, and sends good wishes to all.

Rita Gunther McGrath, an associate professor at Columbia Business School, writes of her daughter: "Anne became an alumna herself in a graduation ceremony featuring the president." Anne was an intern at the White House over the summer and now works for Planned Parenthood. Rita and her husband also have a son, Matt, who is a consultant. Rita's forthcoming book, *The End of Competitive Advantage: How to Keep Your Strategy Moving as Fast as Your Business*, will be published by Harvard Business Press in 2013.

Wendy White continues to produce plays and paintings at The New Light Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit cultural outreach organization that she and her husband run in south Florida.

And a little about yours truly:

Two-hour Skype calls with **Lisa Friedman**—writer and founder of the Amsterdam Writing Workshops in the Netherlands—feel like we're hanging out in BHR. I'm also a member of the Poetry Caravan, and have been amazed at the appreciation for the form as fellow writers bring poems to people in hospitals and nursing homes in Westchester County. Among them is Amelia Bleicher Winkler '55. Both of us also lead workshops co-sponsored by *Poets & Writers* and the arts and culture committee of Greenburgh, N.Y. Amelia has just published a chapbook, *Walking at Night*. I also continue to write stories for my local paper and have banded together with seven other women to start Transition Hastings, which is part of the international transition movement that seeks compassion, community resilience, and creative solutions in the face of climate change and the post-fossil

fuel world.

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Greetings, friends. May this spring find you well.

Miriam Lopez writes: "Here in Miami Beach where I've lived now for 10 years after returning to the US from Europe, life is sunny and bright. My real-estate business is seeing a very welcome improvement; my 8-year-old daughter, Gala (hopefully BC '26), is growing, and my very patient husband of 25 years continues to put up with us. I was also very active in the Florida campaign to reelect President Obama, and I'm a community board member of the University of Miami Interdisciplinary Stem Cell Institute. Most recently, I joined Linn Press Art Advisers as their Miami affiliate where I can again indulge myself in my longtime passion for art. I travel to New York as often as possible to spend time with my family of friends that includes **Michele Hierholzer**, **Mary Lopez**, **Belen Moreno**, Kathleen Murtha '90, and Farnaz Shemirani '81." It was wonderful to see you at reunion, Miriam.

News also that Dr. **Debra Friedman Katz** has maintained an orthodontic practice in Jerusalem for the past 13 years and has recently used her office for a week-long used-book sale to raise money for Melabev, a Jerusalem-based organization that provides assistance and services to people with dementia and Alzheimer's. The sale was a huge success and Debra reports that many Jerusalem Barnard book-club members attended. She hopes to do it again next year.

Wendy Kram is a producer working with hundreds of screenwriters through consultations as well as studio and network deals. Wendy's credits include *Mad Money* with Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah, and Katie Holmes, and the award-winning miniseries *Sally Hemings: An American Scandal* with Sam Neill. Wendy has developed and produced projects with Oscar-winning talent at Universal,

Disney, Warner Brothers, HBO, ABC, NBC, CBS, Showtime, and Lifetime, and she is responsible for packaging and selling deals for clients. She is also the founder and owner of L.A. FOR HIRE, an entertainment-consulting company for filmmakers and production companies seeking Hollywood connections and expertise. Wendy has conducted seminars at Harvard, UCLA, and other locations.

We are also thrilled and happy to learn that **Mercedes Jacobson**'s daughter will be entering Barnard as part of the Class of 2017. Best wishes to all and thanks for writing.

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30th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Our 30th reunion is upon us and presents a unique opportunity for you to visit the Barnard campus and see the many changes that have been made since we attended classes, and yet share the one thing that has not changed: the value of the Barnard experience. The festivities begin with a Thursday evening joint Barnard/Columbia cocktail party hosted by a CC '83 alum. Among the other activities will be our class dinner at Barnard on Friday night and a Saturday lunch with Professor Caroline Weber, a specialist in 18th-century French literature and culture. Her book, *Queen of Fashion: What Marie Antoinette Wore to the Revolution*, was selected by *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* as a notable book of the year. If you would like to volunteer to make fund-raising calls to classmates, please e-mail louisedunbar@barnard.edu. We look forward to seeing you at Reunion!

Dara Meyers Kingsley and her husband, Evan Kingsley (CC '84), are delighted that their daughter, Ava, will be entering Barnard as a first-year in the fall. Dara directs an honors program for artist-scholars at Hunter College and is a curator of contemporary art, and Evan is president of The Whelan Group, strategic advisors to

nonprofits.

Nadine Orenstein is a curator at the Metropolitan Museum and has a contribution to the Met's new Web section 82nd & Fifth called "Altered States about Rembrandt's Print: The Three Crosses" (82nd-and-fifth.metmuseum.org/altered-states). Nadine also contributed to the Met's previous Web focus on works of art, Connections, with her segment on "The Ideal Man" (metmuseum.org/connections/the_ideal_man).

Alison McParlin Davis reports that in January 2012 she launched the monthly What Now??? podcast, an online art gallery and blog focusing on art, music, psychological and social issues, and matters pertaining to the human condition. A fellow Barnard alumna, artist, and Web developer Yvonne Kerno '84, built Alison "an exquisite Web site," alisondavis.org. Alison writes that she had the exhilarating opportunity in March 2012 to play guitar with renowned jazz guitarist Howard Alden and guitar virtuoso Jennifer Batten (who was Michael Jackson's guitarist for 10 years and Jeff Beck's for three) at her 28th Musicians Institute anniversary in Hollywood. In addition, last year, David Maraniss, the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author of *Barack Obama: The Story*, interviewed Alison about what it was like living in New York City and attending Columbia during President Obama's time there, and, like the president, coming from a biracial background. Alison was pleasantly surprised to see that much of her discussion made it into the book.

Enid Lotstein is on the faculty of Bronx Community College/CUNY where she teaches geography and geology. She recently participated in a two-day 87-mile cycling ride in the Berkshires to raise money for a Jewish environmental organization, Hazon, which is actively involved in the Community Sustainable Agriculture (CSA) movement in North America.

Saralyn Mark, president of SolaMed Solutions, LLC and author of *Stellar Medicine: A Journey Through the Universe of Women's Health*, writes that she has been on a book tour through the US and UK. She spoke at book events for Barnard clubs in Washington, D.C., North Carolina, and London and would love to participate in more Barnard Club events.

Rebecca Siegel Singer writes that the past year has been eventful. She

From Prosecutor to Preacher

Carole Paynter '83

New York City lawyer Carole Paynter had a vision of herself preaching in front of a congregation, but she didn't pursue her dream until a close friend passed away from a lung disease resulting from the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. After the shock of her friend's death subsided, Paynter reflected on her call to the ministry and said, "What am I waiting for? Tomorrow may never come."

But, it would be a long, arduous road to the single mom's recent appointment as pastor of Bethel United Methodist Church in Brooklyn. Paynter took her first step two decades ago by leading lunchtime Bible studies for co-workers at the New York City law department, where she represented the city in a wide range of cases. The pastor of her home church near Queens then asked Paynter to lead the Sunday-school program there. "The highlight of my year was directing the Sunday-school pageant," recalls Paynter. "Organizing a conference at work gives a certain satisfaction, but it did not have the same value for me."

Paynter enrolled at New Brunswick Theological Seminary in Queens, which she attended at night for eight years, while working by day as a consumer-protection prosecutor for the Federal Trade Commission. She lightened her course schedule when her 9-year-old daughter asked, "Mom, when are you coming home?" Completing her master's degree in December 2012, she was ordained by the United Methodist Church in March. For her ordination review, Paynter was interviewed by 40 people over two days. She is "tremendously excited" to lead the weekly services at Bethel, a small church founded a half-century ago by another female African-American pastor. Her ministry includes helping congregation members, especially women, with various legal issues.

Paynter says her experiences at Barnard bolstered her courage to change careers at midlife. "I feel that Barnard gave me a sense of possibility as a woman, a sense that I could do anything," she says. —*Kristi Berner*

joined a women-owned law firm in Dallas (myerslawllp.com) where she continues to practice employment law. She and her husband celebrated their 19th anniversary, and their twin boys got their drivers' licenses (as a working mom, a welcome, though nerve-racking and expensive, change). Becky got her kids' attention long enough to take a family trip to the Obama inauguration which was awe-inspiring! She also attended the fabulous Emily's List brunch where she met several members of Congress and the Cabinet; it reminded her of all the dynamic women she met at Barnard. She says those events were a perfect bookend to a period of reconnecting with several college friends, inspired by Barnard having President Obama serve as its commencement speaker and a Dallas alumnae event.

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Emily Novick has been working at the FDA Center for Tobacco Products in Rockville, Md., since March 2012 to launch new health communication campaigns to prevent underage smoking. Her husband, David Sieradzki, is an attorney at the Federal Trade Commission. They live in Bethesda and have three daughters: Lily, a sophomore at Tufts; Rachel, in twelfth grade; and Miriam, in ninth grade. Emily writes: "I'd love to connect with parents who have successfully transitioned a child with Asperger's syndrome into college life:



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Naomi Barell and her family traveled to Israel in April 2013 to visit her daughter, Noa, who is studying in Jerusalem for the spring semester of her high-school sophomore year. Naomi managed to squeeze in a few training runs there for her participation in the Vermont City Marathon.

Linda Ravin Lodding has been living in Europe for nearly 20 years. "Even though my heart is still in New York, after five happy years tip-toeing through the tulips, this past August we moved from the Netherlands to Sweden, to a small picture-postcard village called Sigtuna, on the outskirts of Stockholm." Linda's husband, Jan, is a diplomat at the Swedish foreign ministry and daughter, Maja, is adjusting to yet another school as a ninth grader. Linda has been relearning Swedish, consulting on various public information projects, and writing children's books. Her next children's picture book, *Hold That Thought, Milton!*, will be published toward the end of 2013 and, in 2014, *A Gift for Mama* will be published in the US with Random House. She would love to hear from alumnae in the area and can be reached through lindalodding.com.

Susan (Su) McCarthy DeSimone writes that she is in that delightful time when her three children have become rather self-sufficient. "Now I can start to think about what I want to do again. (If I could only remember.)" Her oldest is a sophomore at Barnard, loves the city, especially all the wonderful restaurants. Her second daughter is a first-year student at Durham University in England, studying archaeology and anthropology. Her youngest daughter is a freshman in high school at Westover School in Middlebury, Conn. After leaving the New York City school system, Su spent most of her professional energy as an educational consultant and fund-raiser for schools. She served on a number of boards for education and the arts, but now is attempting to step back from everything and focus on a few special projects, including a children's book to benefit the families of Sandy Hook, Conn. She and her husband, Sal (SEAS '86), enjoyed their two family trips to Italy this past year. They visited wineries, olive groves, and cheese factories, and found the official Parmigiano cheese museum! Su also sends a shout out to **Sue Seferian, Sansi Sussman, Florence Wetzel, Gabrielle**

Yen, and a special cheer for **Avis Hinkson**, who is fantastic as Barnard's dean of the College.

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This is a first update from **Deborah Miller** who has lived in Chevy Chase, Md., for the past 10 years. Her husband, Adam, is an electrophysiologist at the Washington Hospital Center, and Deborah recently joined the staff of National Geographic's Cinema Ventures division as a manager of development and production. Prior to that, she was a freelancer for MacNeil/Lehrer Productions. Deborah and Adam have twin boys, Max and Sam, newly 14, and a daughter, Eve, almost 13, who will be celebrating her bat mitzvah.

Elizabeth Lissmann celebrated quite a bit last year with her youngest son, Jerome, 23, graduating from Temple University with a BA in communications and mass media, and her oldest son, Jonathan, 26, graduating from Western New England University School of Law. Then, on December 31, Elizabeth "graduated" from Unilever after working there for the last 21 years, most recently in the HR area of global mobility and domestic relocation. She is now taking time to travel and regain sanity and balance, before delving into the next chapter of her life. Highlights for January and February include: Crossing the Atlantic on the *Queen Mary II*, visiting London, and spending a month in Israel with a two-week stint volunteering on an army base through the Volunteers for Israel organization.

Ann Richter received our request for Class Notes from her friend and classmate **Valere Harris Shane** and has decided to

send her first update. Ann just celebrated 10 years of living in postcard-perfect Woodstock, Vt. She had a children's clothing boutique, which closed after floods due to tropical storm Irene. She has been busy checking off some bucket-list items as she approaches the big "5-0." She started a business teaching outdoor fitness classes and writes a column in the local newspaper about outdoor activities called "Take It Outside." Ann has also started an apprenticeship in falconry and will be trapping and training her own wild red-tailed hawk this fall. She is mom to Elise and Alex, a freshman and junior in high school, and wife to Drew Arnold, who graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology in 1986. Ann happily accompanies Drew on his global travels for Riverbed Technology, and will definitely use the German, Japanese, and Spanish she studied at Barnard and Columbia!

Daisy Otero says that after over 18 years of practicing internal medicine and primary care for Montefiore Medical Group, she has completed a geriatrics fellowship training at Albert Einstein College of Medicine–Montefiore Medical Center. Daisy will be joining St. Barnabas Senior Health Services team as a geriatrician at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx. Daisy is married and raising two lovely girls, Sidney, 15, and Faith, 3.

Alisa Bachana Jaffe reports that she has just run her first full marathon, the Disney marathon in January. Alisa trained with Team In Training and, although the last four miles were agonizing, she finished in five hours and 10 minutes and plans to run the Marine Corps marathon. She continues to enjoy the physical goals she has set and attained which improve her self-confidence, which in turn helps her achieve the professional goals she has set!

Kecia Gaither reports that she has had a few write ups in various publications. She was quoted in an online Associated Press report when Kate Middleton was hospitalized, as well as in the Costco monthly magazine's October 2012 and the *Amsterdam News's* December 6, 2012 issues.

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Polly Trottenberg was confirmed by the US Senate as the under secretary of transportation for policy. In Washington for the last 16 years, Polly served the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and was legislative director for Senator Chuck Schumer and Senator Barbara Boxer. In 2009, she joined the Obama administration as the assistant secretary for transportation policy at the US Department of Transportation. At USDOT, she worked on many important issues, including promoting more transportation choices like transit, rail, biking, and walking. She writes, "True to my Barnard roots, I have also been active in promoting women's career advancement in transportation, which remains a male-dominated field, especially at the leadership level. The work has been very exciting and rewarding, but the pace can be intense here in Washington." Her husband, Mark, has been working at the White House for the last couple of years and now that her stepchildren "have left the nest—one, graduated and to work full time, one to Clemson University in South Carolina—we are considering what comes next." Go, Polly. We can't wait to hear.

Carolyn Lewin Weiss maintains a law practice with her husband in Westchester County (www.weisslawnewyork.com). Her son, Henry, became a bar mitzvah last May. (Sorry for the delay, I missed this posting this fall!) And Carolyn writes: "The service and the party were among the happiest and proudest moments of our family life. Our family also enjoyed its first trip to Israel which was memorable and inspiring."

Lisa Berlin has recently located to Baltimore where she is now an associate professor of social work at the University of Maryland. After almost 12 years in Chapel Hill, N.C., she and her husband and their 9-year-old daughter are enjoying city living and being closer to many northeastern family members

Julie Goss attended the 25th reunion last spring with her daughter who just applied to Barnard this December, and was happy to reconnect with old friends. She particularly treasured watching her daughter dance with **Amy Jonas's** daughter at the formal dinner. Julie has been living in Washington, D.C., since 2001, with her two teenage daughters and husband of nearly 20 years. After a career as a journalist and a second career as a mom, she went to art school and is now "working as an interior designer and *loving* it."

Melinda Cody is happily living and working in Paris, with Lola, 8, and Chloé, 6. She spends summers in D.C. with her family and travels a lot for work as a manager of the very talented pianist and record producer Chilly Gonzales, whom she recently accompanied to New York for his Lincoln Center debut.

Naomi Koltun-Fromm, unable to attend our 25th reunion, made up for it by meeting with classmates over the last two years, and within a month of our reunion, dined with **Claudia Marbach** at a mutual friend's son's bar mitzvah. Soon after, she and family were off to a year's sabbatical in Jerusalem, which she says has one of the largest concentrations of Barnard alumnae. She lunches on a regular basis with **Naomi Voss**, who lives there, meeting with **Rachel (Shelli) Alekman Zargary** who lives farther to the north, and once or twice with her first-year roommate, **Jordanna (Yardena) Cope Yoseph**. Naomi Koltun-Fromm also says she attended "several wonderful evening events in Jerusalem in which 30 or more alumnae got together for dinner and a talk with a visiting Barnard professor," reconnected with Dean Dorothy Urman Denburg '70, and met members of the Class of 2016 spending a gap year abroad in Jerusalem (**Miriam Gruen Kosowsky's** daughter among them). Naomi and her husband have been professors of religion for 15 years now at Haverford College, and she published a book in her field, *Hermeneutics of Holiness: Ancient Jewish and Christian Notions of Sexuality and Religious Community*, two years ago. They have three children, one of whom recently celebrated her bat mitzvah. "Naomi Shapiro, close friend and artist, is making the centerpieces as well as holding my hand throughout the process," she writes. Her older son is in ninth grade with **Linda**

Schwartz Satlow's daughter, and she writes, "life goes on and the various threads of my adult life which started at Barnard continue to intertwine and grow."

As for me, I'm still a single mom, and loving it. My daughter, Cerentha (I borrowed her lovely name from the lovely Cerentha Harris, '93) and I commute from the Lower East up here to the Upper West, where she attends preschool at Ascension and I work as departmental assistant in the environmental science department at Barnard. The schedule is rugged, but we are somehow thriving and as happy as a 3-year-old and her mom can be. Looking forward to hearing more from all of you!

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Class of '87, please send us your news, updates, and accomplishments. Also, **Wendy Allegaert**, if you are interested in continuing to serve as a class correspondent, please contact us.

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25th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Miriam Tuchman, in the greater Boston area, has been working as a licensed architect and owner's project manager for healthcare clients for over 12 years, and has now started her own firm, Keren Project Management. A few years ago,

she cofounded Sustainable Healthcare for Haiti, a nonprofit with a mission to build an off-the-utility-grid children's hospital in Haiti. Miriam would love to connect with other alumnae working in Haiti or in the sustainable-design industry.

Deborah Donenfeld has two children—Jules, 17, and Manon, 13, and has been working for many years as a photographer, mainly shooting portraits and children. She lives in Washington Heights, having moved about a year ago after 14 years in Chelsea. She writes, "My exciting news is that I had two children's books released by Penguin this January, using photographs of babies: *Baby ABC* and *Baby 123*. I am in close contact with **Genevieve Rosenbaum** and can report that her adorable 22-month-old daughter, lyla, is number 10 in the counting book, although she was about 1 when we photographed her for the book."

Elena Rover Strothenke is a partner in a new business, Starpoint, offering marketing services such as content strategy and social-media management. She just returned from a two-week visit to Italy and Israel (dubbed the "Holy Land for the Holidays" tour), the first trip across the Atlantic for her son, Calvin, now 8.

Rita Fournier Barnett-Rose was married in May 2011 to California native Steven Rose. After the small family wedding in Hawaii, Rita had her post-nuptial party in Los Angeles, which was attended by all her East Coast Barnard friends (**Hope Kirschner Casey, Amy Leonard, Enid Newman Melville, Glorianna Valls Neiman, and Miriam Tuchman**). Rita is now in her fifth year as an associate professor at Chapman University School of Law in Orange, Calif., teaching first-year law students. She's looking forward to the 25th reunion.

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Elizabeth Oldman '87 is excited to report that **Jodie Kane**, who has worked as an

assistant district attorney in Manhattan since 1994 and has been assigned to the Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor since 2001, received the 2012 Dewey Award given to a prosecutor who has shown high ethical standards and an outstanding record of achievement. Along with five other assistant district attorneys, Jodie was honored at the eighth annual Thomas E. Dewey Medal presentation at The House of the New York City Bar Association in December.

Please send me your news. I would love to hear from you.

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Uzma Sarfraz-Khan writes that she is now living in McLean, Va. She says McLean reminds her of Scarsdale, where she grew up, and she appreciates the proximity to wine country. **Nandita Ruchandani** recently came for a visit, and Uzma recently met up with **Elizabeth Schack Rabban** at their high-school reunion.

Kristine Bird Trouchon recently joined the University of California, Davis medical school as an executive analyst. She says it is a great professional opportunity and also helps her keep her mind off her recent divorce.

Christina Wayne is president of Cineflix Studios, making television series, and executive producer of the series *Copper* for BBC America. She was previously in charge of the shows *Mad Men*, *Breaking Bad*, and *Broken Trail* for the network AMC. She resides in New York with her husband, Fredrik, and daughter, Auden Gray, 2.

Robin Lustig Schreiber has been living in Israel for almost 10 years with husband, Avi, and four kids: Aron, 21, Eli, 19, Leora, 14, and Moshe, 8. Robin and her family live in the town of Hashmonaim, halfway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, where she runs the committee to greet new families. She reports many Barnard graduates live in Hashmonaim.

Julianne Cho writes that after 17 years in the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting and the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, she recently left to take an expanded role as deputy commissioner at the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services.

Leslie Cohen has been living in Westchester County with her husband, Wade (CC '90), and sons, Sam, 12, and James, 10. After teaching and working with pre-schools and elementary schools, Leslie recently made the leap to middle-school English and loves the change. She was extremely happy to have linked up with her former Barnard roommate, **Elizabeth Gordon Jonckheer**, and her family on their last visit to New York from their home in San Francisco.

Jeannie Rhee Kenyon received her doctor of pharmacy degree from University of Maryland in 2000. After a residency, she practiced with various Veterans Affairs hospitals in three states before settling into a job at Genentech, a biotechnology corporation, in Seattle. Jeannie has been married for 10 years and has two kids, son Alex, 5, and daughter Jordan, 7.

Dana Gillette is enjoying her life in Northampton, Mass., and runs a fundraising and communications consulting business. While in New York City on a project, Dana caught up with classmate **Norah Bowler**, a public defender at Legal Aid, and made frequent trips to Amir's Falafel. While she loves living in the country, her time in the city was a reminder of why she chose to attend Barnard.

Renee Lewis works as a laboratory systems specialist at LabCorp in Cranford, N.J. She also runs a pastry business, Decadent Desserts, which you can find on Facebook. Renee is looking forward to running her first New York City marathon this year.

Emily Jagoda lives in Palo Alto with her husband, Jorge, and their two boys, Vincent, 6, and Arthur, 3. She finds her work as an architect especially enjoyable after taking a few years off to be with her kids.

Michelle Gitlitz Lupkin reports that she received her PhD in clinical psychology with health emphasis in August 2011, and is working as a postdoctoral fellow at Long Island Jewish/Zucker Hillside Hospital in child and adolescent psychology. She lives in

Teaneck, N.J., and has been married to Jonathan Lupkin (CC '89) for 22 years. They have four daughters and their oldest, Shira, is a sophomore at Barnard. Ladies, we have officially reached the stage where our daughters are turning into the next generation of Barnard women!

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Yaffa Shira Grossberg loves being a second-grade teacher at the Max Rayne Hand in Hand Bilingual School in Jerusalem for Arabs and Jews. She has been teaching there for 11 years. Her son is taking his first matriculation tests this year as a 10th grader and her daughter is doing beautifully in eighth grade at the Tehila School, whose principal is Beverly Gribetz '73. Her youngest son is in his last year of elementary school and will be moving to a new school next year. She attended a reception hosted by Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 and a lecture given by Professor Flora Davidson for Barnard alumnae in Jerusalem in January where she saw **Leah Leeder**. She writes, "I enjoyed that little piece of Barnard here in Jerusalem that night, and was so excited (all over again) to be a Barnard woman. How exciting to be with almost 100 other alumnae from different years here in Jerusalem." Leah Leeder also wrote in that she saw Yaffa at this event (which also included 37 students from the class of 2017 who are spending a gap year studying in Israel) and that, "it was wonderful to be in a room with other women who shared our history and background." Leah is active in her professional organization, the Israel Chiropractic Society, and is spearheading a membership drive to encourage all 128 chiropractors in the country to join.

Susanne Ketterer Rottenbacher lives in Germany and had a solo project at the art fair Volta NY, "an invitational solo-project fair for contemporary art" in March 2013. You can see her work at susannerottenbacher.de.

Mirja Pitkin writes that when she graduated from Barnard, she was planning to move out of New York in two years. Two years ago, she finally moved from Park Slope with her husband and then-6-month-old and 2-year-old to live in an off-the-grid cabin in Maine. It was quite an adventure, which you can read about in her blog, brooklynbumpkin.blogspot.com. This past May, they moved again to an on-the-grid farmhouse on the outskirts of Belfast, Maine. She teaches group fitness and is in the midst of deciding whether to home-school her children. Life is good there, but she misses her New York friends, many of whom are Barnard and Columbia alumnae.

Alexandra Guarnaschelli announces that her first cookbook, *Old School Comfort Food: The Way I Learned to Cook*, has just been released.

Sarita Varma has been working in publishing since graduation and is vice president, director of publicity for Farrar, Straus & Giroux. She is excited to be working with Barnard President Debora Spar on her forthcoming book, *Wonder Women: Sex, Power, and the Quest for Perfection*, due out from Sarah Crichton Books, an imprint of FSG, in September.

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Thanks to all of you who sent me your news this time around. My co-correspondent, **Jenny Milchman**, has been super busy lately promoting the release of her debut novel, a literary thriller called *Cover of Snow*. (For a full profile, see page 17.)

Amanda Steinberg Banner lives in Philadelphia with her husband, David, and two sons, Josh, 12, and Noah, 7. She went to Albert Einstein College of Medicine, went through the primary-care track, internal medicine program at NYU and was on the faculty of Temple University Hospital until 2005. Unfortunately she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1995, and with the demands of motherhood, doctoring became too physically

challenging. The good news is that she finally has the opportunity to explore her lifelong passion for creative writing. At the Philadelphia Writers' Conference she won awards in poetry, novel, and memoir categories. She would give her eye teeth to go back to Barnard and this time take every single English course offered! "Thankfully, I at least had the sense to take 'Women in Literature and Culture' with Timea Szell. I had a wonderful time with the Barnard Club last May attending a reading by Anna Quindlen '74 at the Philadelphia Free Library," she writes.

Victoria (Tory) Stewart sent her news typing with one hand, holding a baby in the other. She had her second child, Madeline, in November. Madeline joins her big brother, Silas, in Minneapolis. In February, Tory went into rehearsal for her play, *Rich Girl*, which was produced at the George Street Playhouse in New Jersey March 12–April 7 and then moved to the Cleveland Playhouse April 19–May 12. She keeps in touch regularly with **Sharon Eberhardt** who just had a daughter as well, and with Tessa Derfner '94 and a bunch of other folks on Facebook.

Constance (Connie) Pendleton writes with very sad news. "Our dear friend Andrew Littell (CC '92) died of a sudden illness in London on December 17. He was 44. Andrew leaves his wife of over 15 years, Brooke Russell, also CC '92, whom he met and fell in love with while at Columbia, and two daughters Grace, 14, and Catie, 11."

Andrea Lans Donahue and her husband, Tom, graciously hosted classmates who were able to attend the May 31 kickoff of our 20th reunion at her gorgeous home on the Upper East Side. "Our reunion was so much fun. I loved spending time with everyone, and I hope we can get together again before our 25th!" she writes.

Rachel Marshall is living it up in Rome, where she lives with her new baby boy, Davide Federico Rossi, and daughter Isabella, who is now 3.

It was nice to hear from my old freshman-year floor mate, **Kellyx Nelson**, who writes: "I have been living in San Francisco for nearly 18 years, since relocating there to be near **Ione (Onie) Burge**, my BFF from New Hall back in the fall of 1988. Like many of us, I am balancing work and family. I am the executive director of a government agency

that does environmental work with private landowners, farms, and ranches on the stunning California coast. My son, Spyder, 5, and daughter, Cricket, 2, exhaust and delight me to no end. Whenever possible, I see **Elana Fremerman James** when her fabulous band, Hot Club of Cowtown is on tour in our area." Love those names, Kellyx!

As for me, my job in the fashion industry enables me to travel and use the foreign languages I studied at Barnard. On the home front, my kids both celebrated their birthdays in January, and I planned two awesome birthday parties.

Looking forward to staying in touch. Please e-mail me or Jenny your news!

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20th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Greetings from wintry Minnesota! I hope you're all doing well and preparing for our exciting 20th reunion this spring. I'm looking forward to my first post-move visit back to NYC. Our move to the Midwest has been a great one for me and my family, though, I must admit, good bagels and lox and cheap sushi are really hard to find!

Nancy Garcia-Ruffin and her husband, Lance, recently celebrated the first birthday of their son, Maxwell. Nancy has a thriving psychotherapy practice in Brooklyn where she specializes in working with couples and individuals on relationship and sexuality issues.

Amy Talkington signed a deal to write a young-adult novel for Soho Teen, the new teen imprint of Soho Press. Her editor is Daniel Ehrenhaft (CC '92). The book, which they are simultaneously developing as a movie, will be published spring 2014.

Jennifer English Wallenberg and her family have moved to Stockholm, Sweden, to live in her husband's native country for a while. Jennifer has returned to consulting with companies to optimize web search for their intranet sites while she continues to manage the wine-making operation at her family's vineyard in southwest Washington

state. When she was there in the fall, she spent some time with **Amie Carrie**.

Happy 2013 everyone!

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Dana Lau had a son, Henry Ma, on January 14. Henry is Dana's first child and weighed in at a healthy eight pounds, three ounces. Mother and baby are both doing well at home.

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Stephanie Anderson LaMaster has recently returned to teaching science after 10 years as a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband, Brian, have been happily married for 14 years and have four children. They live in southern Indiana.

Rosesara Feinerman Greenspun and her husband, Jonathan, welcomed baby girl Liliana Rebecca in July. Liliana joins big brothers Andrew, 10, and Matthew, 6.

Melissa Sheer left her position as managing director at Kekst and Company, and in December started her own communications firm, Kent Place Communications, serving as president. The firm already has two clients signed and several potential clients in the pipeline.

Pei-Ling Lue and her husband, Peter Maceli, welcomed their first child, Julian Drake, in June. In September, Pei-Ling launched a short-story magazine for teens called *One Teen Story*. The magazine already has almost 1,000 subscribers. Pei-Ling was interviewed by Ron Charles in *The Washington Post* last August. *One Teen Story* welcomes stories from Barnard YA authors at www.oneteenstory.com.

Susana Yee merged her social media company, Go Social Now, into a partnership with a design firm to form

Buzzsmith Media, a design, social media, and marketing firm. For the last few years, she worked on client acquisition with her new partners. Their client roster included Guess, Joie, Marz Sprays, Scrollmotion, and others. Susana then sold her 20-percent share of the company to the four other partners and concentrated on her independent consulting business in marketing fashion brands. This has afforded her more freedom to spend time with her family. Susana has published articles on fashion- and social-media marketing for MSNBC and led projects with brands and social-media networks. She was named EHow's 2011 Most Influential Woman in Social Media.

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96

Hi everyone, just two updates this time. **Emily Peterson-Alva** wrote in to report that she, her husband, and their 10-year-old son welcomed healthy twin boys. Devan and Kiran Alva were born in October. "We live in New York City and still love it as much as the fall I arrived at Barnard in 1992. My best friend in the world remains my Barnard freshman-year roommate, **Sabah Ashraf**, who also has lived in New York since we all graduated." Please send us your news!

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From the West Coast, **Maia Carpenter** sends her greetings to the class. In May 2012, she founded the Canyon Cinema Foundation in San Francisco, where she lives. Beginning where Canyon Cinema Inc. left off, the Foundation's mission is to protect the heritage and future of independent, experimental, artist-made film through preservation, education, and accessibility. Check them out at canyonfoundation.org and canyoncinema.com.

Lakshmi Parekh Hutchinson and her husband, James, relocated to Los Angeles last year. Lakshmi recently launched an online jewelry boutique, Milkshake Harp (milkshakeharp.com), and also works as a consultant with the Women's Center of Los Angeles.

News from the East Coast mostly features New York-area alumnae. **Lila Place** continues to live in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and work as a documentary filmmaker and film editor. This year she edited the feature documentary *Furever*, about the dimensions of grief people experience after the loss of a pet. She also continues to edit short films for the United Nations Development Programme. When Lila is not running around after her 1-year-old, she enjoys reconnecting with old friends including **Amy Greenstein**, **Cynthia Jeffers**, and **Sarah Kay**.

Isabel Gunther has launched her much-awaited company Little Green Gourmets (www.littlegreengourmets.com) in September. The business has her cooking healthy kids' meals and getting them delivered to other busy parents. Inspired by busy life and her 2-year-old son, Isabel's business is an expression of her passion for great food and culinary education for children.

Melissa Edmands Marsh started her own firm in design strategy, Plastarc. After years in workplace consulting, she sees a future in improving office environments through social and organizational research.

We love hearing from you. You can contact us on Facebook or at the e-mail addresses below.

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15th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

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Our 15th reunion is fast approaching, but our graduation speaker's message is fresh in our minds, as evidenced by our classmates' updates.

Kameron (Kami) Lewis Levin oversees curriculum development and instruction across the core content areas for a small network of charter high schools. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and their 5- and 7-year-old boys. Kami blogs about balancing family and career at workingmomfence.com. Tongue-in-cheek, Kami exclaims: "Hey Barnard! You coulda warned me!"

Barbi Appelquist is working part time on a master's in public policy at Pepperdine University while her child is in preschool.

Shana Jackson Haines is working on her dissertation in special education at the University of Kansas. She has three children: James, 5, Zephyr, 3, and Sunshine, 1. Shana sent updates on **Katherine Philpott Jensen**, who got married in 2011 and had a son, Augustus, last spring, as well as **Joanna Smith-Ramani**, who had her second child, Eli, last July.

Amy Cosloy Kritzer is in the last year of her pediatrics residency. She lives outside Boston with her husband, Joshua, and their children: Eli, 12, Ethan, 9, Benjamin, 7, and Lily, 4.

Jennifer Coose Lunt and her husband, Matt, welcomed their son, Atticus, last April. Jen teaches part-time at Portland High School in the English-language learner department.

Judith Salzman Tortora received her JD at Brooklyn Law School and practiced law in New York until moving to Baltimore in 2005, where she and her husband, Jonathan, have two children. She practices law and represents financial institutions.

Joanna Steinlauf Shebson lives in Jerusalem with her husband and three children. She started and runs a Web site for family travel, FunInJerusalem.com. Joanna would enjoy contact with other classmates working in the travel industry.

On July 29, **Amy Gansell** married David Shapiro (CC '01) in Washington, D.C. Guests included Michael Bilborough (CC '01), Susan Helft '99, Sacha Mobarak (GSAPP '08), **Chandra Pradhuman**, Althea Viafora-Kress (GS '00), Nicole (Nikki) Zeichner '01, and Peter Zuspan (CC '01, GSAPP '05).

Julie Boas and her husband, Dave Ray (Law '98), welcomed Vijay Michael on January 29. He joins big brother Nikhil and big sister Devi.

In October, **Heidi Nasr-Moore** became the finance and economics editor of the *Guardian* in its New York office. Before that, she was the New York bureau chief for the public radio show *Marketplace*. She would enjoy hearing from other alumnae in journalism.

After practicing at Debevoise & Plimpton, **Sharon Bilar** started a trusts and estates practice in New York. She specializes in drafting wills and trusts and advises on tax and non-tax aspects in estate planning.

Allison Rhodes moved back to Texas in 2006 for an MBA at University of Texas. She lives in Dallas and advises influential families, foundations, and endowments throughout the southwest. Allison says, "For a girl from a small farming community in Texas, attending Barnard forever changed my life and I'll be forever grateful for the education and the amazing friends and professors I met!"

Helen McClure
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00

Shuvi Santo and her partner, Debbie, welcomed Rahm Azriel Sheintoch to their family on December 18. He was seven pounds, nine ounces. He joined his big brother, Tani Sheintoch, 4, and his mommy and *ima* in their growing Brooklyn family.

Mechelle Chestnut and her husband, Brian Drye, welcomed their first child, Winona Drye, on August 23 in New York City. Mechelle is opening her private psychotherapy practice and corporate-wellness consultation business, in addition to performing as a singer, composer, and violist in New York.

We are so delighted that Abby Sommer

Kurnit '68, her class correspondent, reported the following: "[M]y daughter, **Miriam Kurnit Katz**, has been teaching at P.S. 306 in the Bronx for the past 10 years. She began as a classroom teacher and is now the math coach for the whole school. Two years ago, she married David Katz and on November 12 they presented my husband, Jeffrey Kurnit (CC '68) and me with our first grandchild, the most beautiful and perfect Charlotte Beatrice Katz (Class of 2034?). Miriam has kept in touch with her former roommate, **Niyati (Niti) Thakur**, who is living in Chicago and we all got to see each other a few years ago when we all went out to visit our son (Miriam's brother) and his wife. Niti looked great and seemed happy."

Spring into spring with a "like" to our class Facebook page. And be sure to continue sending your wonderful notes to your class correspondent, **Rani Karnik** with "Class Notes" in the subject line.

Rani Karnik

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02

Kirsten Eller Laufer and her husband, Justin, who live in Gainesville, Fla., welcomed their first child, Benjamin Kai, last October. Kirsten has spent the last six years working at the University of Florida International Center, most recently as the assistant director of study-abroad services. She writes, "We hope Ben will become a world traveler—he got his first US passport at three weeks, became a Canadian citizen at 10 weeks, and went on his first cruise at 16 weeks."

Julia Cosgrove makes frequent trips to New York in her role as vice president and editor-in-chief of AFAR Media, a travel brand that includes *AFAR* magazine, the travel guide *AFAR.com*, the nonprofit AFAR Foundation, and the immersive-travel series AFAR Experiences. Julia writes, "In the last few years, I've garnered stamps in my passport from Egypt, Turkey, Ireland, Mexico, Iceland, Jamaica, the British Virgin Islands, Bali, Canada, and more. In May, I'm heading to Australia

for our third AFAR Experiences event in Sydney, a trip many of my fellow Barnard alums would love."

After 14 years in New York City, **Katherine Adams Wannan** moved to Alexandria, Va., last August. Shortly after moving, she launched her own event-planning business, The Plannery (theplannery.com), and already has clients booked through 2014. Katie says, "As I get to know this great new city, I'd love to meet up with other D.C.-area Barnard alums!"

Catherine (Cassie) Martin Christopher, passed the Texas bar exam in July and is now the director of the Bar Prep Resources Office at Texas Tech University School of Law, where she is also a visiting professor of legal research and writing.

Kate Torgovnick launched Kate-Book.com, the only Web site for Kates, by Kates, and about Kates. The site has quickly gained popularity and a loyal fan base. One of its star writers is **Kate Richlin-Zack**, our class president.

Reunion 2013 is rapidly approaching and I hope many of you can make it out this year! As always, please continue to send in your updates.

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10th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

03

Rayna Goldstein is completing a clinical genetics fellowship at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Manhattan.

Christina Zervoudakis got married on January 16, 2011, to Adam Hopkins. They had a beautiful baby boy named Alexander Zervoudakis Hopkins on February 9.

Sara Levine Kornfield completed her post-doctoral fellowship in primary care–mental health integration at the Philadelphia VA and now works as a clinical psychologist at the Penn Center for Women's Behavioral Wellness. She is the director of The Maternal Wellness Initiative, aimed at integrating mental-health care into prenatal/gynecological practices at Penn.

Anna Melman

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04

Lesley Wojcik is still living in Portland, Ore. She has accepted a position as a private-practice anesthesiologist in the greater Portland area and has recently traveled to India to provide anesthesia care for a surgical-mission trip. She then traveled with her husband, David, to the Andaman Islands to scuba dive afterward.

Vered Meir received a master's in library and information science from Simmons College in 2011. In June, she moved from Boston to the San Francisco Bay area. She now works as a database administrator at the nonprofit Save the Bay, and part time as a freelance indexer, writing back-of-the-book indexes for academic books. She loves the Bay area and both of her jobs.

Shu-wen Wang is happy to announce a string of wonderful events this year: She finished her clinical psychology PhD at UCLA in June, moved to Pennsylvania to accept an assistant professor position in the psychology department at Haverford College, and then gave birth to her son, Brandon, in September. Her husband, David Wong (SEAS '03), 3-year-old daughter Kayley, and Brandon are very happily settled in to the Philadelphia area.

Eugenia (Genie) Albina got married in Boulder, Colo., to Derek Laves on August 17. It was an intimate farm wedding and dear friend, Hanna Tulis '05 was in attendance.

Nubia DuVall is self-publishing her first book this spring called *Encounters with Strangers*, a compilation of more than 80 vignettes about real-life, wild interactions between herself and strangers in New York City.

Mayan Bomsztyk is currently a chief resident at the University of Washington and will work as an academic primary-care physician at the Puget Sound Veterans Hospital. She got married to medical-school classmate Daniel Drozd on August 29. She also wants to announce that

Isolde Rafferty is an editor and writer for NBC News and got married on August 4 to Levy Pulkkinen.

Jody Mullen and husband Gary Oeters are pleased to announce the birth of their

first child, Andrew Gary Oeters. Andrew was delivered at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, N.J., on January 24, and weighed eight pounds, three ounces at birth.

Amanda Stone Leitner would like to announce her marriage to Curtis Leitner on October 6.

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05

Pamela Cole reports that she was commissioned as an active-duty officer in the medical service corps of the US Navy. She will be stationed as a dietitian in Yokosuka, Japan, just outside of Tokyo.

Rachael Kun, an associate producer at *60 Minutes*, has won two Emmy awards and the Columbia DuPont award for her work on "The Blowout" that aired in 2010. She also got married in December.

Janine McGuire joined the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop, a training program for writers of musicals, as a lyricist, which she says is "enlightening, motivating, and fun." She was also promoted to operations manager for the nonprofit Concerts in Motion, which brings concerts to the homebound, hospitalized, and otherwise isolated New York City residents.

Elizabeth Curtis got to meet up with **Nikki Candelore Roda**, who spent the summer in San Francisco completing a graduate internship at VMware, and **Yun (Stella) Xu**, in London while she was on a business trip.

Lots of happy, heavily Barnard-attended weddings to report! **Colette Seter Elliott** married Brenton Elliott in October in New York. They were thrilled to celebrate with so many strong, beautiful Barnard women and friends who selflessly traveled from near and far for the big day, including Nicole Bufanio '06, **Armen Gemdjian Brash**, Elizabeth Curtis, **Elisabeth Garrett**, **Ashley Hamilton**, **Shion Ishikura**, **Nancy Linthicum**, Nikki Roda and Allen Roda (CC '04), Spencer Sabin (GS '07), **Erica Schieferstein**, **Jennifer**

Viola Tand, Sevan Ozcetinkaya Vahanian '06, and Colette's first-year roommate, Melissa Jacoby '04!

Vanessa Santiago Schwarz married Gabriel Duncan-Roitman. Guests at the Puerto Rico wedding included **Amira Ibrahim** (maid of honor), **Ayesha Parekh**, **Rumana Ahmed**, and **Laura Chasen**, as well as Tina Wadhwa '04 and Praerna Mathur '04.

Samantha Rebovich was married to Nigel Bardoe in New Jersey on November 4, and classmate **Jessica Rowe Duffield** and Shirley Kwok (CC '04) were bridesmaids.

This past fall, in the span of two months, one particularly close-knit group of classmates celebrated four marriages. On August 14, **Mercedes Montagnes** married John Adcock in New Orleans; **Marley Lewis** married Yevgeny Vilensky in Bolton Landing, N.Y., on September 8; **Victoria Estevez** wed Amy Kaufman on September 23 in Brooklyn; and **Zoe Duskin** married Sam Abrams in Tomales, Calif., on October 7. Barnard alums in attendance at each of the weddings included **Tess Beneduce**, **Genevieve Cortinovic**, **Danielle (Dani) Fisher**, **Daniella Steger Steinberg**, and **Jessica Stern**.

Jessica Gould Yudewitz welcomed her baby girl, Mia Noa Yudewitz, on October 4. Says Jessica: "She is absolutely perfect and we hope that someday she will be a Barnard girl herself!"

Manmeet Kaur, welcomed her son Hukam Singh on August 14, and will launch her social venture, City Health Works!, this spring.

And finally, I have some very sad news to share. **Rebecca MacLean Audet** passed away on January 22 from an aggressive form of breast cancer. Survived by her husband, Ryan Thomas, and 4-year-old daughter, Anya Katherine, Rebecca's mother described her as "stunningly beautiful, incredibly intelligent, extremely focused ... a gentle and caring mother." Our sympathies are with the family at this difficult time.

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Daniella Kahane '05

Daniella's short film, *Top Floor*, which she wrote and produced at Columbia's School of the Arts, was selected to compete

at the South by Southwest film festival in March. Daniella also wrote and produced the documentary *Growing Up Barnard*, shown at Reunion in 2010.

06

This past August, **Gabrielle Gutierrez** earned her PhD in neuroscience from Brandeis University. She recently accepted a postdoc position with the Group for Neural Theory in Paris.

In September, **Erin Moore** was married to Dan Lane in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Barnard friends, **Kirsten Beck** and **Linda Janota** were there to celebrate.

In October, **Anne Lariviere** was married to Jesse Montero at Bubby's Pie Co. in DUMBO, Brooklyn. A number of Barnard friends attended, including **Rebecca Bor**, **Danielle Crinnion**, **Hannah Gordon**, **Jessica Kennington**, **Tracey Lee**, **Crystal Marsonia**, **Hannah Munger**, and **Alisa Powers**.

Miriam Weiler and Harvey Rosenberg (CC '04) welcomed Mark Moses Rosenberg into the world on December 4.

On December 8, **Meryl Kramer Brown** and Benjamin Brown (GS '06) welcomed the birth of their daughter Sophie Alice Brown.

In January, **Amanda Boydell** was married in Sydney, Australia, and three of her closest Barnard friends flew from New York to celebrate.

Also in January, **Racquel (Kelly) Jemal Massry** gave birth to her second child, a baby girl, named Sherry Lynn. Sherry Lynn joins her big sister, Francine, while husband Morris is feeling both wowed and outnumbered by all the girls in his life. Kelly feels certain both her daughters are destined to become Barnard women!

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07

Courtney Keene worked for nonprofit Echoing Green in New York City in 2007 and 2008, and from 2008 to 2012 she worked for the Council on International Educational Exchange in Dakar, Senegal. On September 30, 2011, she married freelance filmmaker Damel Dieng. In June 2012, she completed her MBA and master's in public policy at Carnegie Mellon University, and recently joined Deloitte Consulting LLP as a federal consultant in Washington, D.C.

After getting her master's in business in Ghent and doing a brief consulting stint in Sri Lanka, **Aina Fuller** is currently working in innovation and product management for Anheuser-Busch in Brussels.

In May 2012, **Ashira Loike** got an MA in art history from Hunter College.

Elizabeth (Lili) Cohen got married on October 29, 2011, in her home state of Rhode Island. **Emily Donaldson** was a bridesmaid and she attended with her now-fiancé Fil Bortkiewicz (CC '08).

Meredith (Merry) Hill, Kara Johnson, and **Emily Nelson** were also there to celebrate. Lili and her husband now live in Rhode Island, where for the last three years Lili has been working at a children's-book publishing company just outside of Boston.

In May 2012, **Sophie Scharf** received her MBA from NYU Stern School of Business. In July, she began work as an associate at MESA Global, a boutique investment bank focused on the entertainment and digital media sectors.

Atara Hiller is finishing up her doctorate in clinical psychology at Rutgers University, specializing in child and adolescent psychology. In April 2011, she and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Maayan Shoshana.

In 2011 **Lucy Trainor** married her high-school sweetheart, Erich Roggenbuck. In 2012 they left Brooklyn and relocated to the wilds of Western Massachusetts. This past fall, she started a new job at the Civil Liberties and Public Policy program at Hampshire College, working on, among other things, reproductive-justice organizing and leadership development.

Danielle Gilbert is currently living in Pittsburgh, working as a pediatric resident at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She writes, "Also, I got married in November to a wonderful man named Chad."

Barrie Jakabovics Krause is in her third year of a doctoral program in school and clinical child-psychology. She also had a baby girl, Ella, last June.

After four years spent working in Jewish education, **Sarah Waxman** began pursuing her master's degree in social work at Bryn Mawr College in the fall.

Ariel Poster has recently been accepted into the United Scenic Artists Local 829 for graphic design and she is thrilled to have her union card.

Elizabeth Mulhall Collier got married in June to a fellow musician in Westchester County. She went to the Institute for Integrative Nutrition and is now a certified holistic health coach. She has her own business, Choose Your Food.

Yona Corn sings with the Oratorio Society of New York, which performs three times a year at Carnegie Hall.

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5th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

08

Elizabeth Case will graduate from Northwestern University School of Law. She will pursue a career in real-estate law at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP in New York City this fall.

In January, **Svetlana Kolomeyer** celebrated the completion of her first year as an assistant district attorney with the Bronx County district attorney's office and is happy to say that it has been every bit

as challenging, rewarding, and stimulating as she knew it would be. Svetlana is living in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, and would love to connect with other alumnae in the area. At the moment, her greatest challenge is finding that elusive work/life balance that many of us are searching for.

Judith Meer is pursuing a doctoral degree in physical therapy at NYU, and lives on her sailboat on the Hudson River. She is also an outdoor guide, freelance copywriter, and a *krav maga* martial arts instructor teaching women's self-defense seminars around the New York area. Judith will be spending part of this summer in Europe visiting former fellow RA and dear friend **Daniela Arreola-Segrove**, recipient of a Fulbright Grant from the Principality of Andorra.

Parisa Roshan has left the RAND Corporation to focus on graduate studies at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She remains connected to her fellow Barnard alumnae from the Class of 2008 and looks back fondly at their time together in Morningside Heights.

Laura Spiekerman is working in San Francisco at Imprint Capital, an impact investment advisory firm. She works on emerging markets investments and has been enjoying the travel and challenges that go along with investing in Latin America, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. She has been involved with the Barnard alumnae club in the Bay area, and has met many other Barnard women from different classes. She is looking forward to seeing many of you at the reunion this summer.

In summer 2012, **Adrienne Stillman** left corporate America and, with Alexa Scordato '07, launched Dipsology, an online guide of where to go and what to drink for cocktail lovers in NYC. You can check it out at dipsology.com.

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Kateri Benjamin is now public relations manager at *Glamour* magazine.

After three years of teaching through the New York City Teaching Fellows program, **Amanda Lanceter** is working at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, as the manager of curriculum and teacher programs. She misses working with her students, but loves what she's doing now. Amanda interned at the museum while at Barnard and is thrilled to be working there full time.

Holly Sharpless Grossman married Max Grossman (SEAS '07) on November 18. They will continue to reside in their condo in Manhattan.

After graduation, **Carol Caceres** worked for a law firm, but realized the profession was not for her and that she wanted to help others more directly. She now serves as press assistant/community liaison for State Senator Jose M. Serrano, who represents parts of the South Bronx, East Harlem, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island. She regularly speaks with constituents and stakeholders and finds the job very fulfilling. She is also pursuing an MPA at SIPA, with a concentration in management and finance.

Catherine Calhoun is a primary-care social worker at the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center, a free medical and mental-health clinic for adolescents in New York City. She conducts short-term therapy and crisis intervention for youth struggling with depression, anxiety, self-harm, suicidality, homelessness, issues surrounding sexuality or gender, physical or sexual abuse, prostitution, drug abuse, and gang involvement. She also counsels teen parents. In her free time, she takes yoga and ballet classes, and is an active member of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church. She lives in the Hamilton Heights neighborhood with a fellow alumna.

Tess Brustein is based in San Francisco, building an education-technology company. SmarterCookie is a video-coaching platform that helps teachers improve their practice in the classroom. Tess taught for three years at a charter school in Brooklyn through Teach for America, which inspired her to build this online tool. This past summer, Tess and her co-founder, Mike Gerson (SEAS '09), participated in Imagine K12, an education technology incubator in Palo Alto, which helped them jump-start the venture.

Rosara Robinson Torrissi, a practicing

sex therapist, led a workshop with the Barnard Club of Long Island for Valentine's Day.

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Emma Deards is halfway through her studies at the Royal College of Veterinary Medicine in Edinburgh. She's also written a novel in the New Adult genre, which is slated to be the first of a trilogy.

Irene Soto is currently finishing her second year as a PhD student at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World. When not in class, she spends her winters and summers excavating in Egypt and Turkey.

Sydney (Claire) Frosch is thrilled to be serving in her new role as the special-education liaison at the Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush High School, a special-admission school in northeast Philadelphia. Claire has also joined The New Teacher Project as a selector for the Philadelphia Teaching Fellows.

Lastly, **Abby Sugar** is very excited to be launching her new fashion company, Play Out Apparel, which specializes in fun, attractive, and playful women's boxer briefs, hipsters, and bikinis.

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Nimra Azmi is a first-year student at Harvard Law School and will intern at the ACLU's Program on Freedom of Religion and Belief in Washington, D.C., this summer. She is also the much-lauded host of an all-day *Lord of the Rings* extended-edition marathon.

Sarah Dooley recently finished recording her first fully produced album, which will be available on iTunes soon. Her first music video for one of her songs,

"Peonies," was also just released.

Francesca Gottardo is still living in New York and working in IT at Standard & Poor's. She is also president of the Class of 2011. Reach out to her at flgottardo@gmail.com if you want to get involved.

Naima Green is participating in a two-year visual arts teaching fellowship and recently started her MA at Teachers College in art and art education.

Almost immediately following graduation, **Brooke Mazurek** accepted a job assisting the editor-in-chief of *InStyle* magazine. In addition to managing the demands of her boss's schedule, she edits pages and reports for the magazine while also covering events for the Web site. Brooke continues to work on creative-nonfiction pieces and short stories on the side.

Mia Neustein moved to Lima, Peru, to eat ceviche and gain experience teaching and living abroad before figuring out graduate school. She'll be living there for a year or three, so let her know if you're traveling through the area; she'd love to show you around.

Joyce Ng is back in Hong Kong after a stint in London. She is working in the art industry.

Jillian Schreiber is a medical student at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, doing research on head and neck surgery. Jillian is president and co-founder of a student group devoted to reconstructive surgery in impoverished nations.

Evan Tamura spent a year working at the New York State Psychiatric Institute in Dr. William Fifer's developmental neuroscience lab studying newborn EEGs during sleep and learning. In August 2012, Evan started medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx with an interest in primary care and reproductive health.

Alexandra Triumph recently started working for the United States Olympic Committee in N.Y. in the development division, specifically with major-gift fundraising.

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Sonal Kumar
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Rachel Allen is the promotions coordinator at Allied Integrated Marketing in New York City, working on the films of Warner Brothers, CBS Films, Screen Gems, and others. According to Rachel, **Clare Plunkett** is working as assistant to the judiciary committee at the New York City Bar Association, and **Lily Cedarbaum** has recently moved to Los Angeles and is doing freelance work in the entertainment industry.

Jessica Blank married her college sweetheart Noam Zeffren in November, surrounded by many friends from Barnard and her bridesmaids **Shira Borzak, Suzanne Guttman, Jordana Kaminetsky, Noemi Schor,** and **Julianna Storch**. Jessica is the corporate marketing coordinator at Gannett Company, Inc.

Claire Garvin is working for the Manhattan district attorney's office as an appeals bureau paralegal.

Meredith-Anne Kurz is working for Salenger, Sack, Kimmel & Bavaro, LLP as a law clerk.

Nancy Monaco is working for Teach for America in the greater-Boston area as an eighth-grade science and English-enrichment teacher.

Carly Silver is working at Harlequin as an editorial assistant for the Harlequin Special Edition division.

Sruthi Swami teaches at the Great Oaks Charter School, a new charter school in its second year in Newark, N.J., on a fellowship. Her primary role is to tutor sixth and seventh graders in math and English and to develop the math curriculum for the sixth grade.

Sara J. Weaver studies pharmacology and pain as an associate research specialist at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Astrika Wilhelm has been inducted into the Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity.

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- 1935 **Virginia Johnson Dodge**
August 23, 2005
- Dorothy Robinson Gillet**
August 21, 2012
- 1938 **Helen Hirsch Acker**
February 1, 2013
- Katherine Horsley Bohlen**
February 18, 2013
- Elizabeth Suppes**
December 24, 2012
- 1939 **Josephine Trostler Steinhauser**
December 19, 2012
- 1940 **Agnes Cassidy Serbaroli**
September 25, 2012
- 1942 **Lana Brunner Lorenz**
February 15, 2013
- Katherine Foote Strough**
March 12, 2013
- Rosemary Short Van Metre**
February 15, 2013
- 1943 **Margaret Richardson Megaw**
March 9, 2013
- Leonora Garten Meister**
December 18, 2012
- Shirley Holt St. James**
January 26, 2013
- 1944 **Marjorie Housepian Dobkin**
February 8, 2013
- Joan Marder Gordon**
January 19, 2013
- Anne Sirch Spitznagel**
November 20, 2012
- 1945 **Marion Catalane Robinson**
October 30, 2012
- Diana Lanier Smith**
January 22, 2013
- 1946 **Joy Drew Blazey**
February 28, 2013
- Margaret Cummiskey**
January 14, 2013
- 1947 **Florence Shepard Briesmeister**
December 15, 2012
- Elizabeth Stone Poole**
July 1, 1979
- 1948 **Maureen Ennis Bettman**
January 21, 2013
- Dorothy Gaebelein Hampton**
August 27, 2012
- Ruth Landesman Wishneff**
January 31, 2013
- 1949 **Elizabeth Coryllos Lardi**
March 6, 2013
- Dorothy Wolfrath Willvonseder**
January 13, 2013
- 1950 **Mary Jane Smith**
November 10, 2011
- 1951 **Florence Jones Fried**
January 7, 2013
- 1952 **Joan Lunoe Martini**
May 1, 2012
- Maureen Howley Wolfe**
October 9, 2012
- 1953 **Jane Donohue Battaglia**
March 5, 2013
- Susan Ottinger Friedman**
March 24, 2013
- Carolyn Damp Shannon**
March 16, 2013
- 1954 **Francine Iny Simon**
July 17, 2011
- 1955 **Agatha Costanza**
March 18, 2013
- Duane Lloyd Patterson**
February 17, 2013
- 1956 **Constance Rosner Hochberg**
January 2, 2013
- Carol Sand Kaplan**
January 22, 2012
- 1958 **Marian MacKay Welch**
June 26, 2008
- 1959 **Daphne Abeel**
March 2, 2013
- 1961 **Linda Walter Solomon**
December 20, 2012
- Antoinette Domenech Warden**
March 23, 2013
- 1962 **Barbara Steinberg Geller**
March 17, 2013
- 1968 **Lois Kwitman Michaels**
December 12, 2012
- 1970 **Jill Rosenbaum Cherneff**
March 12, 2012
- 1971 **Susan Gans Perreault**
August 4, 2011
- 1973 **Wendy Altman Rada**
January 1, 2012
- 1984 **Christina Duque Corbett**
February 12, 2012
- 1986 **Patricia Conrad**
December 31, 2012
- 1987 **Roberta Shannon**
March 9, 2013
- 2005 **Rebecca MacLean Audet**
January 22, 2013

Scholarships honor the past and connect it to the future

Barnard has several options for creating named scholarship funds with gifts of \$50,000 or more. Donors are honored and thanked at annual Torchbearers receptions, where they can meet the scholarship recipients. The reasons for endowing these gifts are many, as the stories of three newer supporters attest:



Isabel Jacobs

Isabel Jacobs '54 feels a connection to today's Barnard students in large part because of the diversity of the student body. She grew up in New Britain, Conn., and says that in 1950, coming to college in New York City was as drastic as traveling to the other end of the earth. "It was an enormous cultural experience," says Jacobs. "It changed my life. I met people I would never have met before because of the diverse student body. Many of them are friends to this day. It introduced me to fields of study and interests that I had absolutely no way of understanding before."

Jacobs knew she wanted to attend a prestigious women's college. It was important that the college be affiliated with a men's school, so her choices came down to Radcliffe or Barnard, and New York easily won out. Her mother played a crucial role in Jacobs being able to live out her dream, contradicting her father when he insisted that the "local university is good enough for girls."

Now Jacobs is honoring her mother's own unfulfilled dream

of being a doctor by creating the Bessie Schafran Fenster Scholarship to provide support for pre-med seniors. Fenster graduated from New York University in 1931. Her family wouldn't allow her to apply to medical school, believing it was inappropriate for a woman to be a doctor. The scholarship fund also honors Jacobs's late husband, a physician who helped pioneer the field of pediatric rheumatology. While raising three children—her daughter Deborah Jacobs is Class of 1977—Jacobs worked as a high school history teacher in the New York City public schools for 26 years.

The IRA option in 2012 and 2013 allows individuals 70½ or older to make a charitable gift directly to Barnard from an IRA or spouse's IRA (or Roth IRA). The fact that it counts toward the individual's required minimum distribution and is not treated as taxable income, helped her decide to fund the endowment. "I wanted to do it while I was alive so that I could see the fruits of it rather than having to leave it after my death," she says.

Another of this year's Torchbearers is James Neff, who recently endowed the Elizabeth Gould Neff Scholarship Fund. Named for his mother, Class of 1927, Neff says attending a Torchbearers reception stirred memories of his mother and left him deeply impressed. A product of her generation, Neff says, his mother always deferred to his father. Only after Neff created the scholarship fund did he learn that his mother had been a regular contributor to Barnard. Although he didn't see palpable evidence of her Barnard experience, he clearly appreciates her connection to the school.

Neff attended Princeton University, and while he enjoyed his time there, he claims he wasn't a particularly good student. To graduate in 1953 he needed to retake his comprehensive exams in order to receive his diploma. But, the Korean War was going on, and since Neff was going to be drafted, he enlisted in the Army for three years. When he completed his tour of duty, he enrolled at Columbia School of General Studies for a year then obtained his Princeton degree. He joined The Bank of New York in the personal-trust department and developed a different perspective and appreciation for learning. Neff attended NYU and earned certificates in

management and marketing, and another one at the Stonier Graduate School of Banking, then at Rutgers University.

After attending an event at which Arthur Levine, then president of Teachers College, was speaking, Neff was inspired to endow a scholarship fund. With matching funds from The Bank of New York (now Bank of New York Mellon), Teachers College received approximately \$500,000. “Some shade of my own failure as a student was to help other students do better,” says Neff, who also volunteers as a tutor at P.S. 6 in Manhattan.

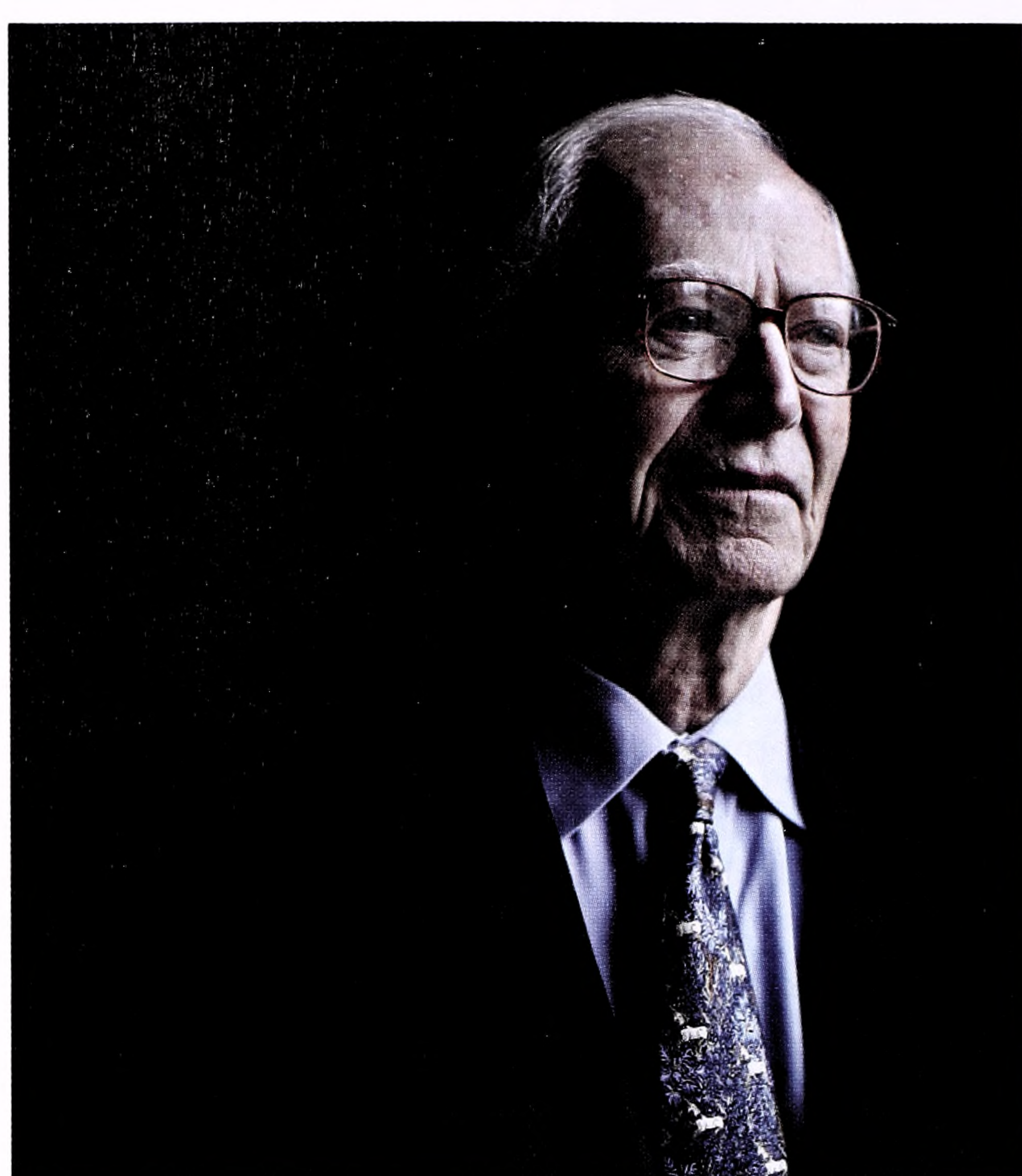
Neff established another connection to Barnard through the late Diana Lanier Smith '45, a relative of Neff's wife. Smith endowed a scholarship for women of Native American descent. Smith and Neff attended a Torchbearers reception where Neff met India Lovato '14, the student aided by Smith's generosity. “I thought of my mother at that time,” says Neff, who then decided to endow a scholarship. He adds candidly, “I felt I owed my mother's memory something because the money I have in my pocket right now is from her estate, which I helped to manage.

“My interest in education in the broadest sense has always been there one way or the other. I'm pleased to try to facilitate a good education [for someone else].”

Lori E. Gold '78 came to Barnard after attending an “experimental” high school in Brooklyn, where she studied anthropology. Barnard's anthropology department, where Margaret Mead was still lecturing, was a lure. As Gold was about to graduate, her younger sister, Grace, decided to enter Barnard's class of 1982. Tragically, Grace's life ended on the night of graduation 1979 when she was struck by falling masonry from a building on Broadway and 115th St. Today, New Yorkers can thank Grace for the existence of Local Law 11/98 (formerly Local Law 10/80), which Gold is campaigning to have renamed the Grace Gold Law. Created in the aftermath of her death, the law mandates the periodic inspection of New York City building facades higher than six stories. If unsafe conditions are found, repairs must be made or other reinforcement measures taken.



Lori Gold



James Neff

Members of the class of 1979, Grace's senior suitemates who were celebrating their graduation before she was killed, helped establish a darkroom in the McIntosh Student Center named for her. Subsequently, the Grace Gold Digital Photography Center, in the publications suite at Brooks Hall, was dedicated on April 7, 2011. “As part of my talk about Grace during the rededication, I revealed two things. One was the portrait of my sister by artist Rob Rush, which he created from several 30-plus year-old, mostly black and white images, which now hangs in the Grace Gold Digital Photography Center. The other was that I would be moving the Grace Gold Memorial Scholarship Fund from The Miami Foundation to Barnard, its ultimate home,” says Gold. The fund is for students who intend to pursue a career in writing, journalism, or a related field.

“That my sister's life was over at 17 can only, in my opinion, be shown to have had value beyond those who knew her in that brief time by allowing her to do good for others as time moves forward,” she continues. “Now she will help Barnard students achieve their dreams, finish their educations, and follow their passions.”

Gold, a consultant who advises non-profit organizations on fund development, strategic planning, and long-term sustainability, was a BAAR (Barnard Alumnae Admissions Representative) for 10 years in South Florida, interviewing prospective students; she continues to speak with children of friends and family interested in Barnard. “I feel a connection when I am physically back on campus walking the paths and halls that connect us, intergenerationally,” she says. “It is not the choices that Barnard women make, but the manner in which we make choices—doing it with full-throttled determination, conviction, and focus.”

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Continued from Page 3

real-life Samuel Morse, who created the telegraph after hearing, too late, of his young wife's death. Clearly, in this latter case, e-mail or texting might have helped, but the very real-time nature of communication can impede communication as well, allowing quick messages to be forged by the urgency or anger of a moment. Quick messages, like all contemporary messages, are also relegated with equal speed to the cloud, a vast and inchoate space that remains very difficult to conceptualize. Will my personal emails, carefully filed in my Outlook (or Gmail, or whatever) folders really be there when I want to reminisce over them, 40 years from now? Will they be there for my children, if they ever want to understand them, or me? Or will the cloud devour such ephemera once I've forgotten my password again?

Which brings me to my third concern. Because, as we've learned from various unfortunate scandals over the past several years, no electronic message ever truly disappears. I may forget my login or tire of social media, but Facebook remembers every post I've ever posted or personal message I've ever sent. Our children's unfortunate photos are stuck on their walls, now, forever; our partners' indiscretions are logged, not so discreetly, on their smartphones. Maybe the world is better off with the eternal vigilance of WikiLeaks. Or maybe we were safer when our words were simultaneously more perishable and more private.

Thankfully, my friend survived his accident and our letters are left, once again, to the vagaries of whatever mice or memories may desire them. I don't know if I will ever read them, or if anyone will ever care. But there is something about the tangibility of long-lost time, saved, as it is, on paper, in bundles, for real.

For now, though, I have thrown caution to the cloud and started to tweet. You can follow me @deboraspar. Happy Spring!

REEL TALK: SHEILA NEVINS '60

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also told the audience she is fair. She has developed an ear for stories, and a gut that tells her what people will want to watch, not just today but 18 months from now and beyond. Most importantly, Nevins said, "I've earned the right to be wrong, which is a great right to earn, and that's probably what success is: the right to be wrong."

However, it is not easy for Nevins to admit to her success. Her first marriage ended, and she could have spent less time at work during the years her son was growing up. She does not let herself off the hook, "I failed a lot. I failed as a mother. I failed as a wife. I consider myself very accomplished but don't consider myself a success." Even in her career, she said, she could have strived for more, "I drew a circle around myself, a protected area where no one could get me." She added, "At the time I started to work, I wanted to limit myself to a world where I could be successful."

Nevins's perspective is important, said Spar, and is a major point in an ongoing conversation. Do we demand more advancement and responsibility at work or more balanced working lives? Spar has followed the topic closely as she researched her forthcoming book, *Wonder Women: Sex, Power, and the Quest for Perfection*, to be published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux this fall. You can have it all, but you can't have it easy. There are trade-offs. Said Spar, "If anyone tells you there aren't, they are lying. Sheila's not lying."

To young women starting out on a career path, Nevins keeps her advice simple and straightforward: Don't be defensive about getting someone else's coffee. "Getting coffee for other people is part of life. That shouldn't be something wrong." In other words, you can be hindered by your own sense of entitlement. "No one," Nevins said, "is entitled to success."

QUINN-TESSENCE

Continued from Page 8

Her advice to young women: Don't listen to your "internal naysayer" or try to conform to societal expectations. "There's still pressure to stay within the norm. It still exists in a tremendous way," she said, adding that too many women grow up thinking they have to be perfect at everything. "I think we need to find a way to let go of that," she averred, while also tuning out the internal voices that tell women what they can't do.

Quinn, who officially announced her mayoral run in early March, has called her bid to replace current New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg "a daring expedition on the level of bungee jumping."

In a question-and-answer period led by Barnard President Debora Spar, Quinn said one of her top priorities is addressing the severe shortage of affordable housing for middle- and lower-income families. "I'm worried a great deal about the fact that we don't have enough affordable housing for all the New Yorkers who are here, who want to stay here, and all those others who want to come here," she said.

Likewise, she'd like to step up the city's efforts to use tax credits to attract high-tech businesses and entrepreneurs, specifically those focused on medical and biotechnologies. "We want to beat everything out of Boston [and California] as it relates to tech," said Quinn, who noted that the city has already proposed a "tech triangle" in Brooklyn, but could also turn old Queens factories into incubator space for start-ups.

Quinn said the city has partnered with City University of New York to develop a tech-training program for local community colleges. Still, she added, the city needs to do much more on the education front, especially in regard to expanding access to early-childhood education and improving New York's middle-grade schools. New York, she said, "needs to embrace the goal of becoming the literacy capital of America."

TO THE FINISH LINE

Continued from Page 12

and fundraising, in addition to car design and testing, says the club's faculty advisor Robert Stark, lab manager in Columbia's mechanical engineering department. He describes Pasha as "the glue that binds the team together. She is very well-organized and a forceful personality." Her selection as president provides inspiration to other women. "The need to encourage female students to get involved in a hardcore engineering project like this one is very important," he adds.

About a quarter of the club's members are women. Pasha's leadership has changed the atmosphere, pushing members "to open themselves up to people who don't know as much about cars" but have other valuable organizational and business skills as well as a desire to learn, Pasha says.

Pasha is thinking about a career in engineering management, a field she hadn't previously considered. Leading Knickerbocker Motorsports "tested my abilities to manage a group of people," she says. "I wasn't aware that I had the skills to do so."

CRISIS INTERVENTION

Continued from Page 13

program since 2010.

"Any time we can find outside support for programming that has already been defined as a high priority for the College, there are good and practical reasons to do so," says Feder-Kane. "The college was already planning to move forward with the program, and the outside funding ensures that we can make it even better."

"Part of the money will go toward developing materials to get the message out about healthy and safe relationships," notes Murphy. "We have been brainstorming about some of the tools that will help us do this. We want to use this money to reach as many groups as possible. The rape crisis center has already done education and intervention models for the athletic teams at Columbia, but we want to reach people from a wide variety of backgrounds."

The goal is to unveil the bystander-

intervention program in the fall. "Right now we are developing the curriculum," says Singleton. "We are looking at what has been done on other campuses and deciding if we want to take elements from those programs and create our own, or if we would rather adopt one in place at another institution."

SYLLABUS: PUMPKIN PIE TO CSI

Continued from Page 14

convictions with new DNA evidence. "When I was growing up, I wasn't exposed to these topics," Rao says. "You didn't see science in the mainstream media." Her own undergraduate and master's education at India's Bangalore University rarely covered how chemistry could be found in the outside world.

Forensics and a Calendar of Chemistry

That won't be the case for Rao's students. In the weeks the course is devoted to forensics, students will learn crime-scene chemistry and evidence-analysis techniques. For example, they'll learn how they can use atomic absorption spectroscopy, a way to detect trace amounts of elements in a sample, to identify the additional metals in a gold tooth filling found at a crime scene. Knowing the filling's makeup can lead investigators back to a specific dentist who uses a particular filling mixture—and to a list of patients who could be potential suspects.

Students who continue in chemistry will encounter atomic absorption spectroscopy in the course "Quantitative and Instrumental Techniques," where the method is used to determine how trace elements found in certain foods match the foods' dietary information. An early understanding of how scientists use these techniques in fields such as forensics gives students a broader sense of how hard science is applied outside the classroom or lab.

The changing seasons and holidays also inspired Rao to design "Calendar of Chemistry." As the leaves change, she will teach the chemistry of color and invite her students to her family's home on Long Island. The trip, which includes a hike through the fall foliage, has become an annual tradition for Rao

and the students in her fall courses. Rao will then teach the chemistry of fear to coincide with Halloween, exploring how our bodies produce chemicals that induce a fight-or-flight response after a sudden fright.

Popular cooking shows have also introduced food chemistry to a mainstream audience; before Thanksgiving break, Rao will delve into that topic. Students will learn how one small structural difference in the otherwise identical molecular formulas of nutmeg and cloves—common pumpkin pie ingredients—makes these two spices dramatically different in aroma and taste. She will devote the final class to the chemistry of ice as students depart for winter break. Rao will also have her students explore chemistry in art restoration, forgery detection, cosmetics, even the chemistry of love.

Putting Science in Context

Rao designed the new course to provoke a passion for chemistry in first-year students—even before they take "General Chemistry I." Telling the stories behind the science captures their attention, she explains. "Then they're awake for the chemistry part of it."

Her passion for chemistry and novel approaches to teaching it helped earn Rao Barnard's Emily Gregory Award for excellence in teaching and for devotion and service last year. Her methods have adapted to changes in her students. Over the past decade, she has observed that many students want to apply their chemistry studies to careers outside the traditional pursuits of medicine, research, or academics; Rao sees some of her former students going into such fields as art restoration and forensics.

The students respond so well to stories of the real-world applications of science that she discusses chemistry-related news articles in class. The more she exposes her first-year students to the ways science fits into life, the more likely they'll find inspiration in the field. "If high-school students were exposed to these stories more, most would consider majoring in chemistry in college," she believes. Rao expects a full classroom this fall, and hopes to add a lab in coming years. Students aren't the only ones clamoring for Rao's seminar.

Turn the page

“People who know me on campus—other faculty and staff, even—are coming up to me saying they want to take the class,” Rao says, laughing. “I think the title—‘From Pumpkin Pie to CSI’—has really clicked with people.”

SALON: JENNY MILCHMAN

Continued from Page 17

but knew it couldn't offer the same reach that a Big Six publisher could. She planned to add to Random House's efforts with her own, and her family worked with her to bring her dreams to reality. “I knew no publisher was going to pay for a trip of this magnitude, and certainly not for a ‘baby’ author,” Milchman says.

Before selling *Cover of Snow*, she met novelist Carla Buckley online; the two became close friends. When Buckley heard about Milchman's plans for the tour, she wondered, “if she [Milchman] had a crazy side to her that she had managed to hide from me.” Buckley adds, “I know a lot of debut novelists, and I've never heard of anyone embarking on a book tour of this magnitude.”

Cover of Snow is actually Milchman's eighth novel. It's been 13 years since she left work as a psychologist (she majored in English and psychology) to focus on writing. She's since worked with three different agents and had five different early novels on submission to editors, “and we were stuck in that stage for 11 years,” she says. In the end, another novelist friend she met online took *Cover of Snow* and put it into her editor's hands and Milchman had a contract within the week.

Now, about a third of the way through her tour, Milchman says she loves that while every day is different, most end with events that put her in touch with the people she cares a lot about right now: potential readers. “The reason I stayed on the road was that I wanted to be able to walk into a bookstore or library and get to meet them. I could have sat at home, in the converted closet I use for a writing space, and just kept writing more novels. But I wanted to meet them in person. And now I get to do that every day, for this book that nobody wanted to publish for so long! It's really a miracle.”

SÃO PAULO: BARNARD IN BRAZIL

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Neves explained that her work as a dancer and actor “touches people in a different way. I've tried to transform and change people's mentality.” And filmmaker Lund, who had grown up in a more privileged background than the other two panelists, urged the audience to “get started, sometimes to take risks. Don't try to be so perfect. Don't try to know everything. Learn along the way.”

The “Women in Science” panel, moderated by Brazilian journalist and television host Monica Waldvogel, featured Duilia de Mello, a NASA astronomer and professor of astrophysics at The Catholic University of America, and Mayana Zatz, professor of human and medical genetics at the University of São Paulo. Their primary issue was countering stereotypes that keep women from pursuing the sciences. Said de Mello, “We can't have girls think that science is [just] for men.” Similarly, Zatz pointed out that her field of genetics was nearly unknown when she began her career, “School has to be restructured to teach young people how to think.”

The afternoon panel, “Conversations on Leadership,” was moderated by Spar, who said, “One of the ideas behind the global symposia is to learn from other countries and to bring back that learning to our students. [Here] we see mothers playing a big role in telling their daughters what they could do. We're not hearing complaining. What has Brazil done right? What can we learn?”

Maria Cristina Frias, columnist for *Folha de São Paulo*, and Adriana Machado, CEO of GE Brazil, highlighted some of the ways that Brazil's policies and culture work for women. “Gender has not been an issue in my career,” said Frias, adding that 40 percent of the editors at her paper are women. “There's a culture of meritocracy.” For Machado, a key element is Brazil's policy of granting six months of maternity leave; as a result, women aren't afraid of losing their jobs after they have children. Machado, mother of a 14-year-old and 7-year-old, said, “I got promoted after the birth of my second boy. I have a structure at home where I know my kids are taken care of.” Then again, middle- and upper-class women in Brazil can afford to hire household help, which

enables them to work outside the home with less stress than their American counterparts. “Ultimately,” said Machado, “women shouldn't be ashamed of desiring power. You have to teach women and girls that there's nothing wrong with having power.”

FACULTY FELLOWS

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“Petra and I shot four hours of footage,” she says. “I danced in the streets of Rio, as we were exploring ways in which women measure themselves, their experience, and their life. Police stopped us twice because we were in the middle of the street or on some forbidden property. It was amazing to be so focused on any impulse that might immediately become the seed for movement.”

Maria Rivera Maulucci, assistant professor of education, expanded her exploration of gender-equity issues in elementary-science education in Brazil. (Previous research was done in the United States and Argentina.) She developed a survey to understand young girls' perspectives on science education. In collaboration with Prof. Felicia Moore Mensah from Teachers College, she visited local schools and spoke with teachers, parents, administrators, and students. Maulucci says, “I gained a much greater appreciation for the Brazilian education system. There are similar challenges, and unique challenges, around issues of equity, especially with access for secondary students to quality education.”

She adds, “Both Argentina and Brazil have female presidents. They've broken that glass ceiling. I wonder what impact that has on girls' aspirations for science, considered a non-traditional field.”

BALANCING ACTS

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living facility, but memory loss required a move to a nursing home. Anderson, executive director of the American Trust for the British Library, is the one responsible for decision-making. “I try to visit her every four to six weeks.” Not easy, since Anderson and her partner live in a multi-generation household in Brooklyn, with Anderson’s daughter and grandchildren. She admits to “a constant, high level of stress.” Similarly, Muldowney, who cares for her mother and has three children, acknowledges, “I’d get short-tempered. “With all these people poking and prodding at you, you yourself disappear. You’re exhausted and feel guilt all the time.”

“Guilt and anger are very normal reactions,” says Reeva Starkman Mager ’64, director of DOROT East, a social-service agency for the elderly in Manhattan. “People start feeling out of control. It’s important to get help. Examine your support system; give small, defined tasks [to someone else] so you aren’t burdened with all of it. You need to develop and maintain friendships. If you cycle into isolation, you don’t have [any] available [relief].”

The sandwich role can just as readily also apply to someone who doesn’t have children but is trying to balance multiple roles. “I grew up with extended family—my grandmother and an aunt—living in the home,” says Angela Macropoulos ’82 who returned to the family home on Long Island to take care of her mother. “Caregiving is not new to me.”

Macropoulos has been dealing with her mother’s neurological condition, which leaves her unable to walk. Although her mother remains at home and attends a day program nearby while Macropoulos is at work, (She’s a lawyer and also a stringer for *The New York Times*.) managing care has been challenging. “No one tells you how to navigate,” she says. “For the last year and a half, I’ve been navigating between my life with my partner...and caring for my mother. I believe my caregiving staves off depression for her, [but] I’m tired all the time.” She adds, “I’m being pulled in different directions and have chronic anxiety.”

There are remedies to alleviate some of the on-going stress related to caregiving. Devons suggests seeing what services

can be delivered to the home, to reduce the stress of maneuvering a frail elderly person in and out of cars. Social workers can provide home visits, eligible elderly can receive Meals on Wheels, and more and more geriatricians provide home-care visits for their patients. If finances permit, geriatric-care managers will help with the logistics and details of many aspects of elder care, from paying the bills to finding health aides, to arranging medical appointments.

Support groups composed of people in a similar situation who will understand what you’re going through can be invaluable for the caregiver’s psychological health. Many are free, and the advice that’s shared can be practical and useful. Respite and day care can also be invaluable, to give the caregiver a break from the relentless routine.

Mager urges caregivers to get support from friends and other family members and to look at ways to simplify their lives whenever possible. Outsource tasks, like house cleaning, cooking, or even chauffeuring a parent or child to appointments. “Many women don’t even self-identify as caregivers, but doing so changes how you understand what you are doing and the level of your involvement in a new way,” says Mager. “Although a tremendous burden, the role of caregiver also builds strengths, allows for reconciliations, and introduces new skills.”

Simply understanding that being a “good enough” caregiver may be good enough. “You cannot fix or reverse time,” says Mager. “Be careful about your goals. What can you reasonably do? The benchmarks should be whether your parent is safe, and has some quality of life.” Ultimately, caregiving is about how to honor your parent, and preserve yourself and your family, offers Mager.

NEW YORK CITY WOMAN

Continued from Page 25

land these interviews because she had powerful newspapers and magazines behind her, and a good network of contacts through her freelancing. She also approached her subjects when she knew they had a new project—play, film, or other performance—in the works, and

would find the publicity beneficial.

From newspapers and magazines, Lovenheim took her career in yet another direction, while remaining part of the publishing world. An inheritance provided her with the means to create and produce books and brochures for nonprofit organizations, such as the Museum of American Folk Art, Museum of Jewish Heritage, and the New York City Ballet. During this time, a chance introduction to two Holocaust survivors who remained hiding in Berlin with five other family members for almost three years during the Nazi regime, led her to another book: *Survival in the Shadows: Seven Jews Hidden in Hitler’s Berlin* was published in 2003. Lovenheim hopes that at some point, the book will become a film.

In 2010, she switched gears with the release of *Breaking Ground: A Century of Craft Art in Western New York*, for which she interviewed master craftsmen such as furniture maker Wendell Castle, metal sculptor Albert Paley, and ceramic artist Wayne Higby, all of whom made major contributions to the studio craft movement in this country.

For now, NYCcitywoman.com remains Lovenheim’s focus, with the latest issue (as of Barnard’s publication date) including features such as “Party Math: How to be Your Own Caterer,” a feature that grew from one food writer’s advice to a widowed college chum who, after several years, decided it was time to throw a drinks party for 20 people; “Ageless Erotica: Pleasures that Never Grow Old”; and a profile of author and former Berkeley activist Barbara Garson who chronicled the lives of real people during this economic downturn in a recently published book, *Down the Up Escalator: How the 99% Live in the Great Recession*. The site also includes an extensive archive of past features, so you can still easily find the names of those great dressmakers and visit the best flea markets in New York City.

LAST IMAGE: CALL FOR ENTRIES

Do you have an amazing photograph or work of art that you would like to share with fellow alumnae? Please send submissions to David Hopson at dhopson@barnard.edu.



A Comedy Written In Terezín

It has been nearly 20 years since I first encountered *The Last Cyclist*, an absurdist cabaret written by the young Czech playwright Karel Švenk in 1944. My long journey in reconstructing and reimagining it for the modern stage is made all the more improbable by the incredible circumstances of the play's remarkable history. It was created in the Nazi concentration camp Terezín (in German, Theresienstadt), 40 miles from Prague, but it was banned after its dress rehearsal by the camp's Jewish elders, who feared the thinly veiled mocking of the Third Reich would cause trouble. Švenk was sent to Auschwitz a few weeks later, at age 28, just before the war ended. Though a modified version remains, the original script no longer exists.

Terezín was not a death camp, but 33,000 Jews died there of starvation and disease. It was a transit point for nearly 144,000 Jews, including 15,000 children. Over four years, some 88,000 Jews were sent from Terezín to the gas chambers in Auschwitz, Treblinka, and the other death camps. Only 17,247 people who came through Terezín—including fewer than 200 children—survived the war.

It is an unlikely setting for a rich creative life, but that is exactly what the Jews in Terezín—highly educated, cultured, and incapable of imagining the horrors awaiting them—created. There was a remarkable wealth of theatrical performances, concerts, recitals, and more than 2,000 lectures to boost their morale. The Nazis exploited this, making Terezín a “show” camp and even fooling a Red Cross commission. It was in these circumstances that Švenk wrote *The Last Cyclist*, a comedy that imagines cyclists as the victims of lunatics who escape a mental asylum and exile or kill everyone who rides a bicycle. The hero triumphs when he accidentally shoots the lunatics to the moon on a rocket they had built to get rid of him, the last remaining cyclist.

I have been in Terezín many times and studied what happened there, and I am awed by this demonstration of human resilience and spiritual resistance. It has motivated my deep commitment to bring *The Last Cyclist* to the stage, and renew its life.

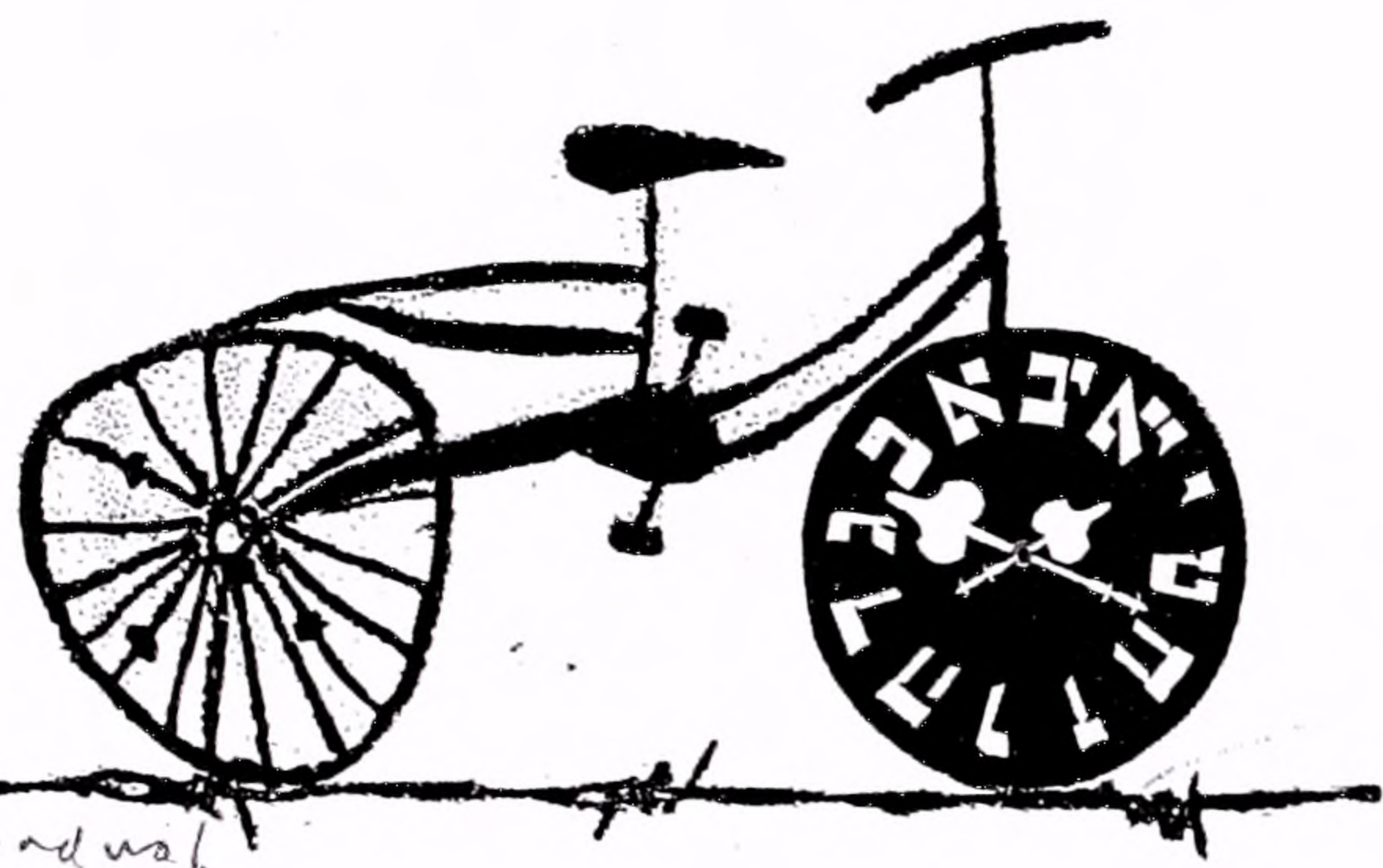
I first encountered the play in 1995 when the congregation, which my husband, Norman, serves as rabbi, hosted an arts weekend on the Czechoslovakian Jews. At his request, I wrote a play based on the description of *The Last Cyclist* in an essay by Terezín survivor Jana Šedová, published in 1965 by the Jewish Communities of Czechoslovakia.

In 1999, a Czech friend located a typescript of the play, which had never been published, in the library of the Theater Institute in Prague; I had it translated from Czech into English. When I read it, I was shocked to discover that the second act was markedly different from Šedová's 1965 précis of Švenk's cabaret. Exploring further, I learned that the script now in my hands was not Švenk's original, lost forever when he was sent to Auschwitz, but rather, a version of the play written in 1961 by Šedová herself, possibly the only member of the original *Cyclist* cast to survive the Holocaust, for a production in Prague honoring the 40th anniversary of the Czech Communist party. She had not only recreated the play from memory some 17 years later but also changed the ending to speak in ideologically acceptable language of a totalitarian society.

I've rewritten the second act to restore what I believe are the plot and spirit of Švenk's original. And because there was no mention of Terezín in either Šedová's play or in Švenk's, and the concentration camp is the context in which both the humor and implicit horror of the plot become understandable to us, I have created opening and closing scenes that set *The Last Cyclist* on the night of its dress rehearsal.

The Last Cyclist powerfully demonstrates the evil of intolerance and makes clear, in a non-confrontational way, that each of us is obligated to stand against intolerance and hatred. The message is timeless and universal. As survivors of the Holocaust die out, it's even more critical that their testimony is heard.

The Last Cyclist will run from May 25–June 9 at the West End Theater in Manhattan. For ticket information, visit thelastcyclist.com.

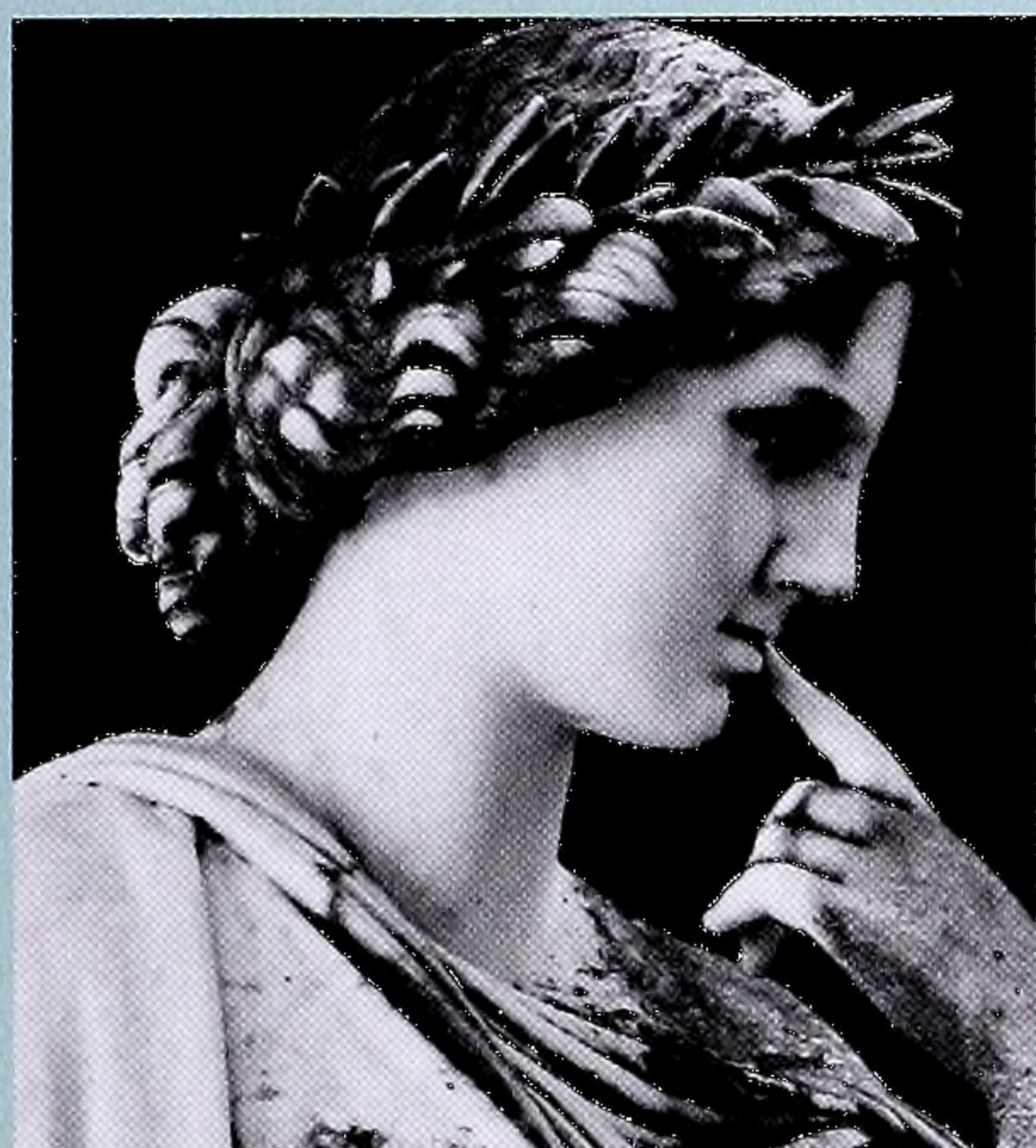


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or
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Please watch your e-mail inbox this summer for information about registration, dates, times, and costs; these courses do sell out quickly. **Questions?** Please contact Alumnae Affairs at 212.854.2005 or alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu.



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