

A Seat at the Table

Haverford women parse the rise of trailblazing VP Kamala Harris

Sonia Aggarwal '06

Advising the White House on climate policy

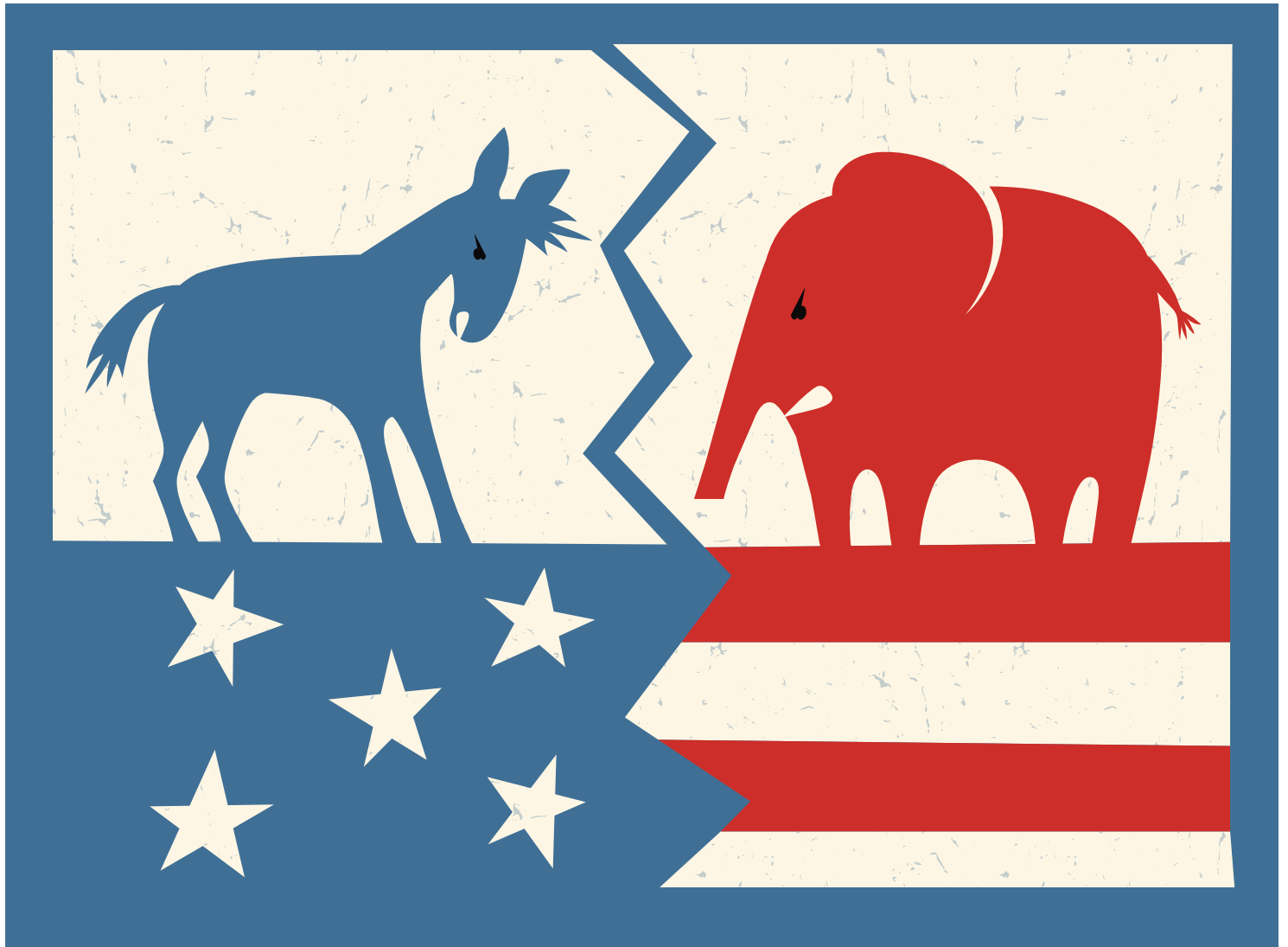
Music During the Pandemic

How campus ensembles are adapting—and thriving

HAVERFORD

The Magazine of Haverford College

SPRING 2021



FIXING OUR **BROKEN** ELECTION SYSTEM



Alumni advocates outline the problems—and the solutions that are gaining ground

Spring 2021

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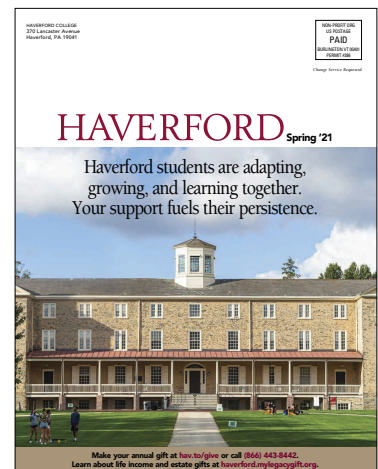
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Back cover: Photo of Founders Green by Patrick Montero.

Inbox

MORE BLACK PHYSICIANS

Thanks for the great alumni magazine feature on the need for Black physicians. It was wonderful to see so many accomplished Haverford alums (and good friends, in many cases!) highlighted. I wanted to add one more to the list: **Dr. Michelle Johnson '88**, a cardiologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. (I am sure that others will be submitted.)

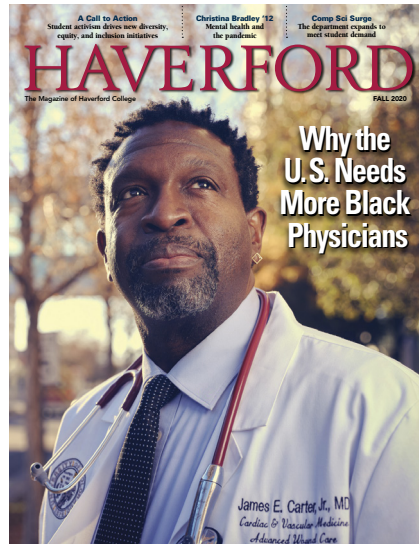
Going forward, it seems that it would be important and most timely to have a way to continue to acknowledge all of Haverford's Black alumni physicians who are changing the face of medicine and health care. Perhaps this could be a larger project for the Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center?

—**Andrea Morris '91**
(former associate professor
of biology at Haverford)

[Editor's note: Dr. Michelle Johnson '88, the recently appointed vice chair, Health Equity, in the Sloan Kettering Department of Medicine, is working on quality of care issues that may be affected by race, ethnicity, and other disparities, and helping to develop strategies for recruiting, mentoring, and retaining future healthcare professionals.]

A good article about the need for more Black physicians and the problems they face. I concur 100 percent. But there was a problem in the article. [Its author,] Karen Brooks, wrote that a study published in September 2020 said that Black newborns are three times more likely than white newborns to die in the hospital when their doctors are white. Here is the quote from the abstract:

In the United States, Black newborns die at three times the rate of white newborns. Results examining 1.8 million hospital births in the state of Florida



between 1992 and 2015 suggest that newborn-physician racial concordance is associated with a significant improvement in mortality for Black infants. Results further suggest that these benefits manifest during more challenging births and in hospitals that deliver more Black babies. We find no significant improvement in maternal mortality when birthing mothers share race with their physician.

Black infant mortality is a national shame but the data only suggests that there is improvement when there is racial concordance.

—**Kinloch Nelson '65 M.D.**



The outdoor classroom behind Woodside Cottage.

FOSTERING MAGIC ON CAMPUS

My wife, Maxine, and I were delighted to see the fall issue of *Haverford* magazine feature a photo [p. 49] of the outdoor classroom whose creation we supported.

A number of years ago, we were giving thought to donating funds to Haverford for the construction of an outdoor venue for classes, discussion sessions, and dramatic presentations. We wanted to memorialize Maxine's parents—her mother, a longtime teacher, and her father, an avid gardener. In 2014 we approached Bill Astifan, then head of the Arboretum, with various ideas.

We both had been auditing courses for a number of years (as we continue to do), with Maxine focusing on English, her major as an undergraduate at Temple University. At Haverford, she has enjoyed several of Professor Maud McNerny's courses featuring the literature of the Middle Ages. One concept featured in that literature concerns clearings found within (wild) forests. Exotic characters appear in these clearings, and magical events occur there.

Maxine viewed the clearing behind Woodside Cottage as an appropriate site for the "magic"—the delight and understanding—that can be experienced in the literature classes at Haverford.

Taken with the idea, Bill agreed, and together we worked out a plan for a circle of benches, an arrangement that fosters interchange and conversation. While we were considering the style of the benches, Bill offered to supplement the funds we were donating in order to acquire benches manufactured by the English firm of Gaze Burville, which specializes in bent oak furniture.

The result is an unexpected haven set inside a clearing in Haverford's woods.

—**David Cook '64**

STUDENT STRIKE

I recently read an article [“Race and Social Panic at Haverford: A Case Study in Educational Dysfunction” in the online journal *Quillette*] about the strike at Haverford. While sympathetic to the theme of racial justice and the administration (stuck between a rock and a hard place), I was nevertheless struck by what were alleged quotes [posted on social media] by two Fords. [One student] suggested killing the college President’s dog, Peanut; the [other] suggested tying bricks to her leg and throwing her in the Duck Pond.

Such callousness, and threats of violence and cruelty, are not part of the Haverford I remember. I do not know if such behavior is acceptable today or

not. What I can and am doing is making a large donation to the ASPCA. I will reference this event as my impetus for doing so. And I will share what I am doing and why with all my friends and ask them to also join me. I am disappointed at the thought that the money I have given to Haverford in the past has gone to educate students like these.—**Pratap Mukharji ’81**

[President Wendy Raymond responds: Following an email exchange, I met with each of these students outdoors at the president’s house at 1 College Circle. We sat in rocking chairs on the porch, in the warmth of the driveway’s sunshine. We discussed their experiences with and since the strike, their hopes for Haverford, and what they meant by their Instagram posts

that mentioned Peanut. Both apologized and expressed their regret for what they’d said. It was easy for me to accept their apologies, and I offered them some of my perspectives. We all agreed it was so much better to have these conversations than not to engage, and it was clear that all kinds of doors were opening simply on account of our being in dialogue. I am glad to know these Fords and I am optimistic about our paths forward.]

DROP US A LINE

Email: hc-editor@haverford.edu
Or send letters to: *Haverford* magazine,
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Haverford, PA 19041

SCHOLARSHIPS AT WORK

With help from the Carl 1961 and Barbara Alving Scholarship Fund, chemistry major June Hoang ’21 is prepared to pursue her dream of earning an advanced degree in clinical and therapeutic neuroscience.

.....🐾.....
“My journey at Haverford has been filled with incredible academic and personal growth,” says Hoang. “I’m forever grateful for the challenges and experiences that I would not be able to have anywhere else. Thank you for providing students like me with the opportunity of a lifetime.”



To support current use financial aid, visit haverford.edu/makeagift.
To learn about creating an endowed scholarship, contact Deb Strecker at dstrecker@haverford.edu or (610) 896-1129.

Main Lines



Celebrating Black History Month

== 🐾 ==
*Philadanco performing
“Endangered Species.”
A live virtual
performance of the
piece was part of
the Black History
Month celebration.*

Haverford marked Black History Month with a rich schedule of events that included a conversation with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, a virtual workshop and performance by Philadanco, a takeover of Haverford’s Instagram account by members of the Black Students League (BSL), along with talks, concerts, and more.

The month-long slate of activities was organized by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Office of Student Engagement, and a committee of Black students that included Madison Adore '21, Darius Graham '22, Ebony Graham '23, Bilikisu Hanidu '23, Jalen Martin '23, and Lourdes Taylor '21.

Hanidu, one of the planners, said she was excited to contribute to an energized Black History

Month celebration on campus “highlighting hidden leaders in the Black community and facilitating conversations that share their journeys.”

Among those conversations (all virtual due to the pandemic) was one with Masaru Edmund Nakawatase, the Office of Quaker Affairs Spring 2021 Friend in Residence, who gave a talk on the interrelations among civil rights, anti-war, and Native rights organizing. Valorie Thomas, professor of English and Africana Studies at Pomona College, conducted a teach-in on Afrofuturism in conversation with **Sierra Zareck '20**, and in conjunction with the Hurford Center for the Arts and Humanities’ *Strange Truth* film series, New Orleans-based filmmaker and photographer Garrett Bradley, winner of the 2020 Sundance

Film Festival Directing Award, spoke about her feature film *TIME*, a portrait of a family fighting to free their father from prison.

Alumni of Haverford's Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows program were also part of the Black History Month lineup. A panel discussion on how BIPOC scholars navigate and change educational landscapes featured **Sarah Derbew '09**, an assistant professor of classics at Stanford, **Cruz Arroyo '15**, a doctoral student in English at University of Southern California, and **Jhoenidy Javier '19**, a grad student in comparative literature at NYU.

One of the highlights of the programming was the Philadanco event. The lauded West Philadelphia dance company was founded in 1970 by Joan Myers Brown to provide Black dancers with training and performing opportunities, while celebrating African American dance traditions. Since then, Philadanco has trained more than 4,500 dancers (including **Dana Nichols '14**, a former company member) and has toured nationally and internationally.

The Philadanco live virtual event began with a modern fusion master class taught by company member Joe Gonzalez and was followed by a performance of four dances: "Rosa," inspired by the experiences of Rosa Parks; "Movement for Five," about the five Black and Latino teenagers who were falsely convicted in the 1989 Central Park rape case and later exonerated; "Conversation for Seven Souls," inspired by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; and "Endangered Species," which explores Black masculinity.

Black History Month committee member Lourdes Taylor, a dancer who has been part of Philadanco's second company since 2019, helped organize the troupe's virtual campus visit. "This event was exactly the kind of program I wish had been brought to Haverford when I was a first-year," said Taylor. "The works the company performed were beautiful, and I'm so glad so many people got to enjoy them."

In another engaging piece of programming,

Witness to History

*Sam Williams worked at Haverford College for 40 years, finally retiring from the purchasing department in 2013. As a teenager growing up in Selma, Ala., he took part in the civil rights protests of the mid-1960s, among them the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s voting rights march to the Dallas County Courthouse in Selma. In an interview with Office of Multicultural Affairs Director **Theresa Tensuan '89**, Williams spoke about being a part of an important era in Black history. Here are two excerpts from that interview, which kicked off the Black History Month celebration.*

"In my high school, of the students in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, a good 80 percent took part in the marches. Then our teachers got involved because they were pushing toward being able to vote, because they couldn't. One day after they left [school] to go march around the Dallas County Courthouse, some of us sneaked out of the windows to follow them. I have this visual memory of seeing the sheriff beat them down the steps, and that really did mess with our heads, because we couldn't do anything about it. We couldn't help."

"I got to travel a bit with SNCC [Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee] and go to other places. I even went on a fundraising trip to Chicago, and on the way there we went through Mississippi. There



was a lady sitting there, going over her speech—she was sitting in some chairs in an empty room—and later I found out that it was Fannie Lou Hamer. She was getting her speech together to create the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. ... She was so serious, and she wasn't afraid."

To read the full interview, go to hav.to/7u0.

Main Lines

throughout the month of February the co-heads of Haverford's Black Student League, in partnership with the Office of Multicultural Affairs, took over the College's Instagram account, spotlighting a wide variety of Black artists. The focus on Black creativity was intentional. "The Black History Month committee decided we would focus more on Black triumph and accomplishment than Black struggle," Jalen Martin told *The Clerk*, Haverford's online student newspaper. "There's a fetish for Black trauma, and we didn't want to feed into it."

Martin, one of the Instagrammers, curated three separate musical playlists—jazz, hip-hop, and R&B—as a reminder that "just about every genre of music derives from Black expression." Bilikisu Hanidu curated a playlist celebrating Black women musicians, and Ebony Graham created a series of posts spotlighting Black artists, such as Jamaican singer Koffee, English rapper Bree Runway, and screenwriter Steven Canals (creator of the TV series *Pose*). Graham's Instagram posts also highlighted local Philadelphia figures, including musicians Orion Sun and Tierra Whack, and visual artist and activist James Dupree.

The Black History Month programming featured another celebration of Black artistry in a virtual concert by Keith Mburu '23 and Leon Spencer, a performer, vocal instructor, and choral director from Kennett Square, Pa. In a program that highlighted Black music throughout history, Mburu, a member of the Bi-Co Chamber Singers and S-Chords a cappella group, sang from the stage of Marshall Auditorium on campus, and Spencer from his home. Their selections ranged from spirituals, blues, jazz, and gospel to more recent music, and they explained the history behind the music as they went.

Among the songs performed by Mburu was "A Change Is Gonna Come," recorded in 1964 by Sam Cooke. "Its message is very specific and detailed in its description of the struggles of the Black American, but also one that is confident in the coming of better days," said Mburu. "Sam Cooke died not long after the song was released and didn't get to see how much it touched and inspired. In performing the song, I tried to do his life, his legacy, and the cultural significance that the song holds, some form of justice."

—Eils Lotozo, Claire Nicholas '21,
and Sally Pearson '21

SOUND BITE



“I think that there are many students and faculty and staff who can't seem to recognize that if colleges and universities across this country don't make themselves more hospitable places for students of color, they may not exist in 20 years. ... If a 50-year-old white male faculty member who is at the height of their career ... but they look around their department and see only a few, if any, faculty of color [and] they don't see that as a problem, that means to me they don't see that the students of the future, according to demographic trends, are going to be increasingly students of color. And even white students are going to want to go to campuses with concentrations of students of color. And so people may not be as willing to take your major or your graduate program, which then is going to cause your department to be starved of resources, which then is going to potentially cause your department to be cut right out. If people don't see that it's in their interest to ensure that the campus is diverse and inclusive and equitable and that all students, not just white students, feel that it's a place that's welcoming to them ... the institution itself ultimately is going to suffer.”

—Ibram X. Kendi, Boston University professor and author of the international bestseller *How to Be an Antiracist*.

Kendi made a virtual visit to Haverford for a Zoom question-and-answer session that was part of the Black History Month lineup of events.

IN THE GALLERY



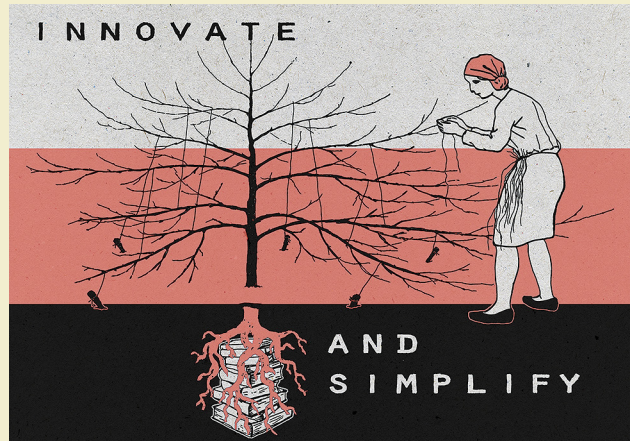
Joiri Minaya, *Proposal for artistic intervention on the Columbus statue in front of the Government House in Nassau, The Bahamas, 2017*, digital print on standard postcard paper, 5 x 7 in. Courtesy of the artist.



INVASORIX, *Nadie aquí es ilegal | Here No One Is Illegal, 2014*, video.

On view Feb. 15 through April 11, *Notes for Tomorrow* featured artworks from around the world, brought together to reflect on a new global reality ushered in by the COVID-19 pandemic. With the ever-present backdrop of the crisis, Independent Curators International (ICI) turned to 30 curators from 25 countries to share an artwork they believe is vital to be seen today.

Encompassing a variety of media, including photography, music, sculpture, painting, installations, and poetry, many of the works in *Notes for Tomorrow* address spirituality as a grounding mechanism, sharing ways to make sense of the world when so much is in doubt. In this cultural moment of transition, each work is a source of inspiration from the recent



Tamás Kaszás, *Bulletin Board for Sci-Fi Agit Prop (detail), 2009-2016*, risograph.



Shezad Dawood, *Leviathan Cycle, Episode 1: Ben, 2017*, single screen, 12:52 mins.

past and a guiding perspective for the future.

At Haverford, the first stop for this traveling exhibition, the artwork was displayed in the Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery, in Lutnick Library, and online. In addition, there were film screenings in VCAM by two of the show's artists and Zoom meetings with artists and curators from around the world. Throughout the run of the show, Haverford students and staff created unique playlists inspired by the work of First Nations choreographer and dancer Amrita Hepi as part of the series "Soothsayer Serenades." The playlists (which Hepi describes as "a provocation for moving together while apart") were released weekly on the Instagram and Spotify accounts of @hcehibits.

Main Lines

10 THINGS That Make Us Happy



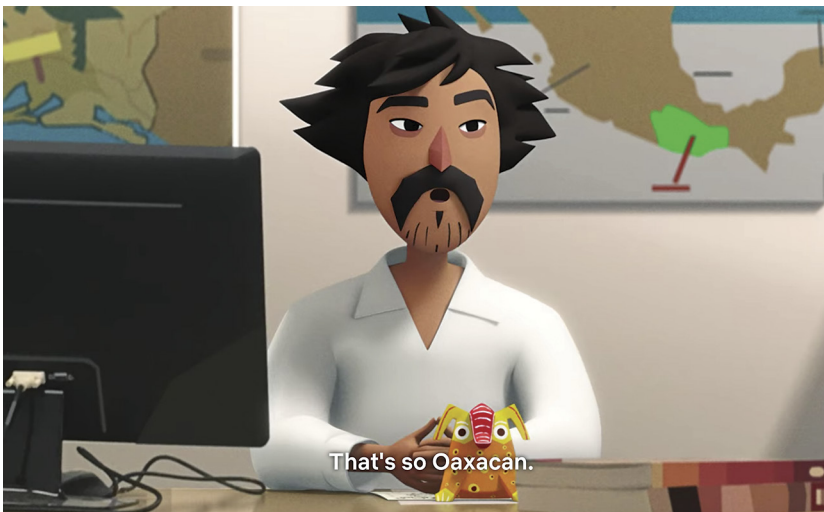
The biweekly farm stands organized by students in Visiting Assistant Professor Talia Young’s “Fish & Community: A Local Praxis” course. The stands, located on and near campus, sell fresh local fish and shellfish from the Fishadelphia network. According to Young, “The goal of the project is to build a community resource that serves to bring together the Haverford and Ardmore communities.”

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THE 2021 NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOWSHIP awarded to Kara D’Ascenzo ’22. A political science major who is minoring in environmental studies and history, with a concentration in Latin American, Iberian, and Latinx studies, D’Ascenzo was recognized both for her work mobilizing voters with Haverford Votes and as a part of the Migration Encounters project, which combats misinformation about migrants by collecting and sharing their stories. The Newman Civic Fellowships are sponsored by Campus Compact, a national coalition of colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. The yearlong program provides students with training and resources to help them develop strategies for social change.



Seeing a member of the Haverford community in the Netflix series *City of Ghosts*. Episode six of the animated show for kids, which celebrates the multicultural history of Los Angeles, featured the face and voice of Felipe H. Lopez, the Haverford College Libraries’ postdoctoral scholar in Community Engaged Digital Scholarship. In the episode, Lopez plays himself *and* a character named Chepe, who speaks Zapotec.



The Faculty Early Career Development Program award

from the National Science Foundation that went to Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy Ted Brzinski. The prestigious awards support faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the missions of their departments. Brzinski will use his grant to fund a project that uses topology, the mathematical field concerned with the shared properties of groups of shapes, to understand why granular materials are rigid.



THE VIRTUAL WALKING TOURS

of the campus on Instagram. The weekly #touruesday, geared to prospective students, takes viewers inside dorms, such as Barclay and the Haverford College Apartments; academic buildings, such as the KINSC; and those loci of student life, the Dining Center and the Whitehead Campus Center. Thanks to Claire Nicholas ’21 for wielding the camera on the tours.

Haverford (RE)uses, a new sustainability initiative that encourages students to give their unwanted items a new life by donating them to be used by others. The initiative involves a (RE) use store, located in the basement of Comfort residence hall, which collects donations year-round and serves as a “free-store” for the campus community. (Currently open by appointment only during the pandemic, the store will have regular hours in fall 2021.) Governed by the Committee for Environmental Responsibility, Haverford (RE)uses has forged partnerships with the campus food pantry and GreenDrop, and is currently staffed by volunteers, student workers, and the Arboretum Program Coordinator. Additional support comes from the President’s Office and the Council for Sustainability and Social Responsibility.



.....

The National Institutes of Health grant awarded to Assistant Professor of Computer Science Sara Mathieson. She earned it for a project that will use machine learning to develop algorithms for analyzing genomic data sets. Several Class of 2020 Fords have already contributed to this work, and two current students are also involved in the project



The New York Times spotlight on the Migration Encounters oral history project. Launched by Professor of Political Science Anita Isaacs and Professor of Economics Anne Preston, the project tells the stories of some of the more than one million undocumented Mexican immigrants who have been returned to Mexico after living most of their lives in the United States. *The Times’* website featured an opinion piece by Isaacs and Preston, accompanied by 18 of the hundreds of arresting portraits shot by Haverford’s photography editor, Patrick Montero, on a trip to Mexico with the research team.

The first-place win at the 2021 Tri-Co Hackathon earned by Team Peanut Botters. Team members Keeton Martin ’22, Iryna Khovryak ’22, and Oleh Shostak ’24, who also won “Best Pitch,” described their project as “an interactive Facebook Messenger chatbot that automatically scrapes and consolidates the data scattered across the Tri-Co websites in one place. Its built-in intelligence allows you to get the information like the next bus to arrive, current number of COVID cases, or dining menus in just split seconds, based on the chosen date, time, and the campus you’re on.”



SPRING 2021 FRIEND IN RESIDENCE MASARU EDMUND NAKAWATASE.

A human rights activist and organizer, Nakawatase has served underrepresented groups for more than 30 years as a member of the American Friends Service Committee. During his residency he virtually visited classrooms, taught a session for the course “Global Solidarity and Local Actions,” and gave public talks. (For Black History Month he gave a presentation co-sponsored by the Black Students’ League.) The decade-old FIR program brings gifted and experienced Quakers to campus for extended stays to stimulate connections between academic pursuits and “letting one’s life speak.”



White House Advisor on Climate Policy

Sonia Aggarwal '06 has had climate change on her mind ever since she first learned about it during a class on planetary atmospheres taught by Emeritus Professor of Astronomy Bruce Partridge.

"That was before [the documentary] *An Inconvenient Truth* or much popular media attention to the science of climate change," Aggarwal recalls. "I was like, 'Wait ... What is he saying is going on?' This has to be the most important challenge of our time!"

Now Aggarwal, who majored in astronomy and physics and later earned an M.S. in engineering from Stanford University, is being tasked with addressing that challenge in a big way. In January, she was named senior advisor to the President for Climate Policy and Innovation, joining a team led by the nation's first-ever "national climate advisor." In her role, Aggarwal will focus on making sure policy supports good jobs and reducing pollution in communities across America, aiming for a 100 percent zero carbon electricity system by 2035 and net-zero economy-wide emissions by 2050.

"It blew me away to think I might have the opportunity to serve people and all beings this way," says Aggarwal, describing what it felt like to be asked to work for the White House. "The responsibility is awesome in the true sense of the word. I am hopeful I can live up to it."

Aggarwal's two Center for Peace and Global Citizenship summer internships helped fuel her interest in big-picture issues. The first was on the Panama-Costa Rica border, where she worked with indigenous farmers maintaining



a permaculture fruit tree farm in the rainforest. During the second, in rural India, she studied how renewable energy could serve areas that don't have consistent access to electricity. Both, she says, were life changing.

After graduation, she worked in public relations for a San Francisco clean tech start-up. She met people developing technical clean energy solutions and learned how to promote the work. She researched the origin of global greenhouse gas emissions and which solutions could best mitigate them.

"That was really a launching point for me," she says. "It linked the physics of the energy system with social challenges."

Aggarwal gained understanding of policymaking while managing global research at the nonprofit ClimateWorks Foundation, which aims to slow global warming by funding organizations that seek to cut down on carbon dioxide emissions. In 2012, she cofounded Energy Innovation, a nonprofit think tank that works with businesses and governments to develop clean energy policies that will most effectively reduce greenhouse gases.

Her projects there included developing an energy policy simulator, which analyzes the impacts of climate programs, and bringing together 200 experts to produce "America's Power Plan," a set of papers and policy recommendations that provide a blueprint for change.

"What I learned at Haverford inspired me to do everything I can to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at speed and scale," Aggarwal says. "I spent the last 15 years preparing for this job."

—Natalie Pompilio

“
I SPENT
THE LAST
15 YEARS
PREPARING
FOR THIS JOB.
”

FYI

A RECORD 17 FORDS were named semifinalists for the 2021-2022 Fulbright U.S. Student Program. The Haverford student and alumni applicants were chosen as semifinalists by the U.S.-based National Screening Committee and will now advance to the final round of selection by the individual country commissions. The Fulbright is an international fellowship program that funds research projects, courses of study, and English Teaching Assistant Programs.

NASA Satellite Launch Honors Mike Freilich '75

A new Earth-observing satellite named for **Michael Freilich '75** launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California in November. Part of a historic United States-European partnership, the Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich spacecraft began a five-and-a-half-year mission of “Seeing the Seas” like never before.

The satellite will collect the most accurate data yet on global sea level, documenting how our oceans are rising in response to climate change. It will also gather data on atmospheric temperature and humidity, with the goal of improving weather forecasts and climate models.

Freilich, who died of pancreatic cancer in August 2020, was the former director of NASA’s Earth Science Division and a tireless advocate for advancing satellite measurements of the ocean. Said NASA in an Instagram post that marked the event: “We celebrate and honor his legacy with this launch & mission.”



PHOTOS: DREW ALTYZER (AGGARWAL); NASA TV (SATELLITE); ILLUSTRATION: ELENABS/DREAMSTIME.COM

COOL CLASSES

Class Name: “*Real Work and Dream Jobs: Art and Theories of Work*”

Taught by: Pre-doctoral Fellow and Visiting Instructor of Visual Studies Shannan Hayes



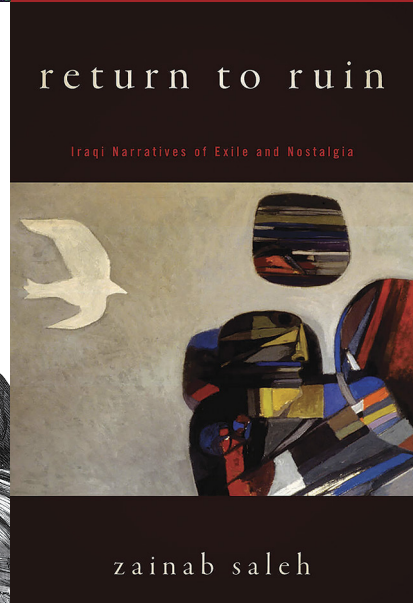
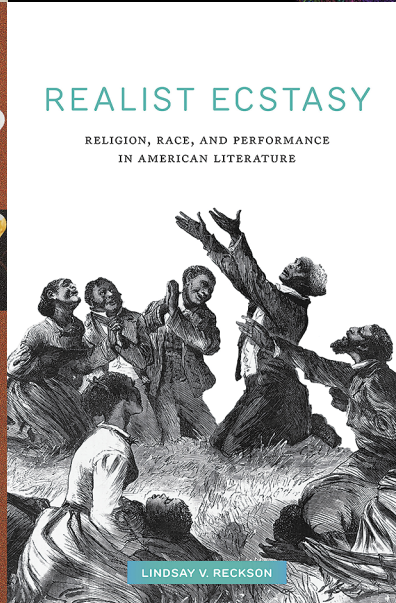
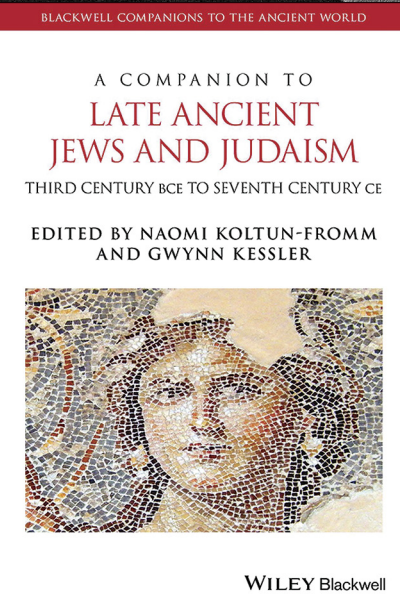
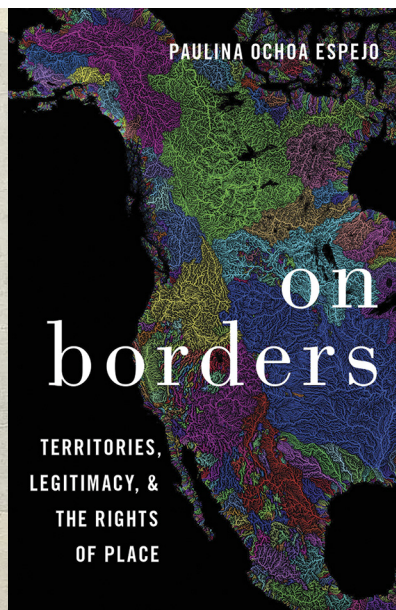
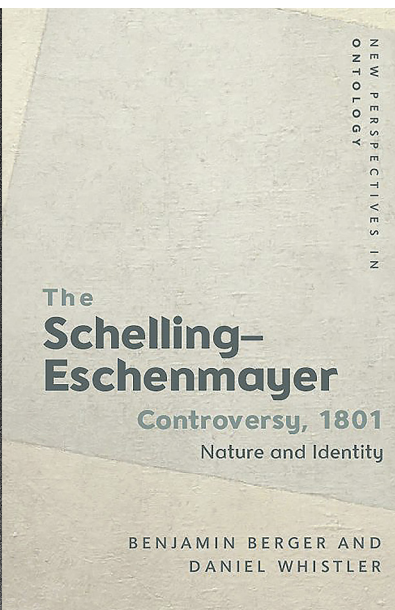
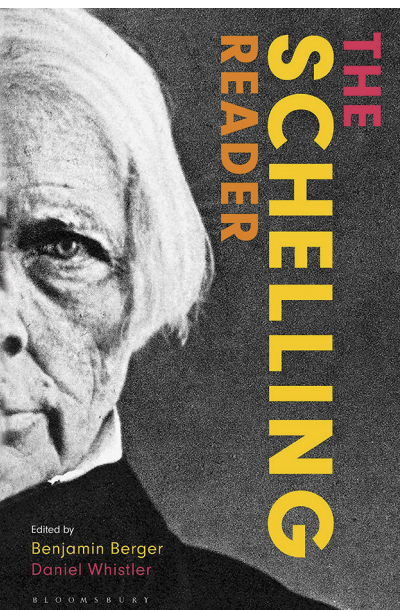
Here’s what Hayes has to say about her course:

This introductory course offers an entry into theories of work. In it we will think critically and historically about the role of work in society, the promise of art as an ideal or un-alienated form of work, and the structural persistence of gender, class, and racial divisions of labor. We will discuss key terms in the literature on work and read key thinkers who consider work in relation to gender, race, globalization, religion, nature, and art. Finally, we will visually analyze several representations of work in film in order to think critically about the stories we tell ourselves—or are told—about work.

I think a lot about the relationships between art and work and gender and work in my own research. Perhaps more than this, however, I care about work because, as a working artist, student, and scholar, I’ve had many different kinds of jobs over the years! Work organizes so much of our daily lives: who we are, who we become, who we get to know, what we think about, how we spend our time outside of work, etc. This class gives us the opportunity to think slowly about this peculiar yet oh-so-ordinary thing we call work.

Cool Classes is a Haverblog series that highlights interesting, unusual, and unique courses that enrich the Haverford College experience. More at hav.to/coolclass.

Main Lines



New Faculty Books

■ Visiting Assistant Professor of **Philosophy** Benjamin Berger and co-author Daniel Whistler published *The Schelling Reader* with Bloomsbury Academic, and *The Schelling-Eschenmayer Controversy, 1801: Nature and Identity* with Edinburgh University Press.

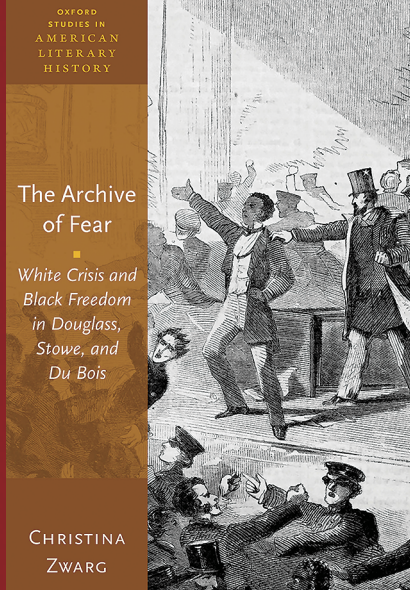
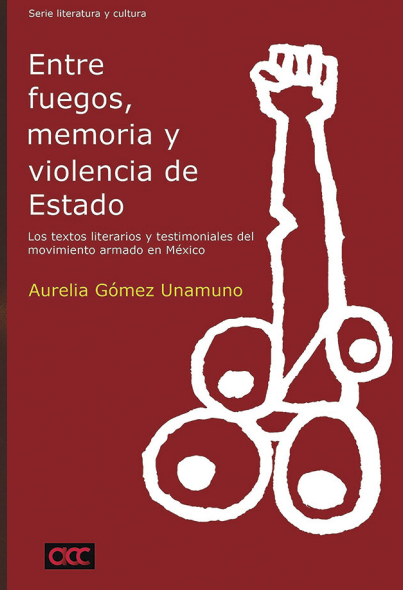
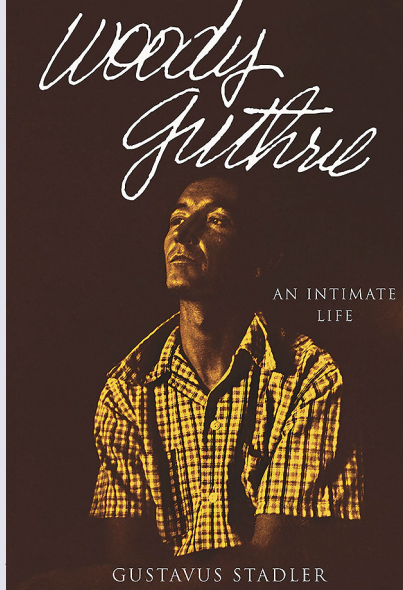
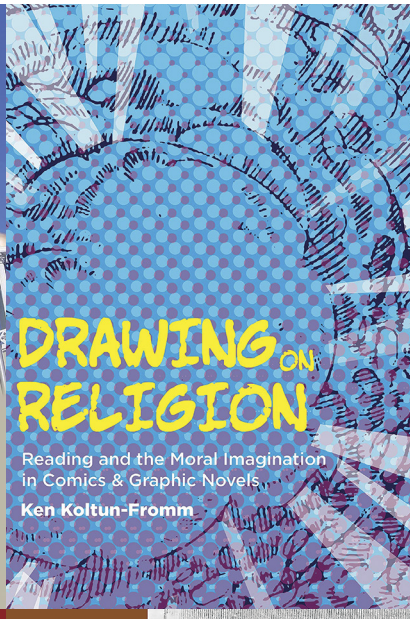
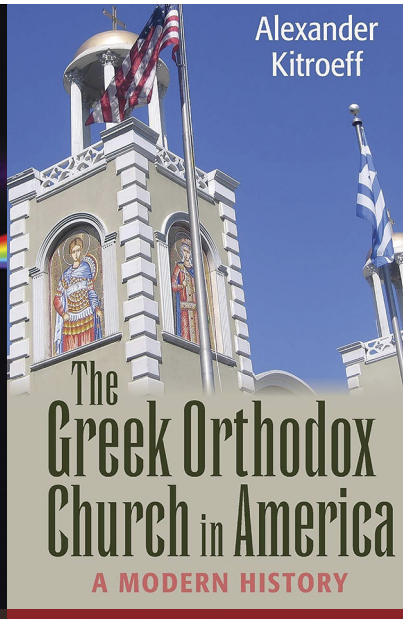
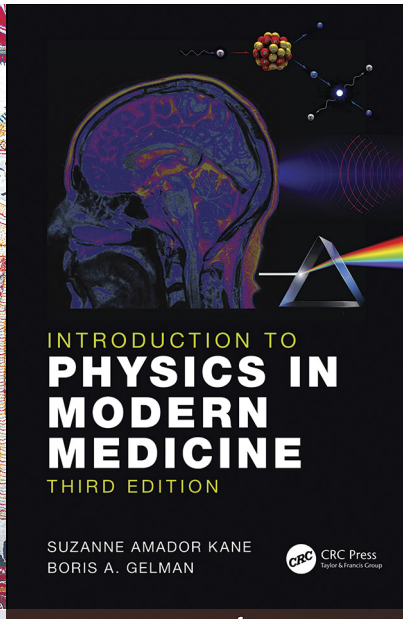
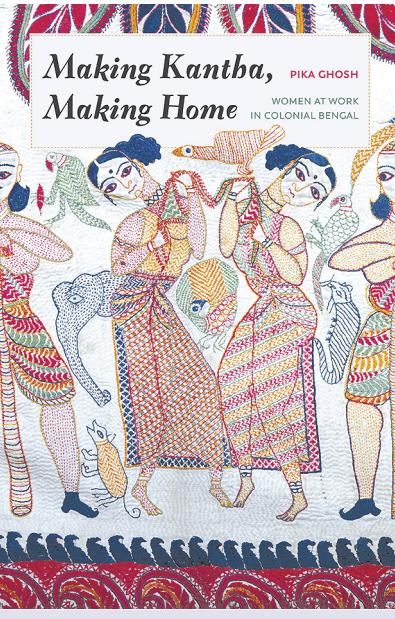
■ Associate Professor of **Political Science** Paulina Ochoa Espejo's book *On Borders: Territories, Legitimacy and the Rights of Place* was published by Oxford University Press in July.

■ Visiting Assistant Professor of **Quaker Studies** Richard Kent Evans published *MOVE: An American Religion*, via Oxford University Press.

■ Visiting Associate Professor of **Religion** Pika Ghosh's *Making Kantha, Making Home: Women at Work in Colonial Bengal* was published by University of Washington Press.

■ The third edition of Professor of **Physics and Astronomy** Suzanne Amador Kane's textbook, *Introduction to Physics in Modern Medicine*, co-authored with Boris A. Gelman, was released in March.

■ Professor of **History** Alexander Kitroeff's *The Greek Orthodox Church in America: A Modern History* was published by Cornell University Press.



■ Robert and Constance MacCrate Professor of Social Responsibility and Professor of **Religion** Ken Koltun-Fromm published *Drawing on Religion: Reading and the Moral Imagination in Comics and Graphic Novels* with Penn State University Press.

■ Professor of **Religion** Naomi Koltun-Fromm and co-author Gwynn Kessler published *A Companion to Late Ancient Jews and Judaism, Third Century BCE to Seventh Century CE* with Wiley.

■ Visiting Assistant Professor of **English** Reema Rajbanshi's novel, *Sugar, Smoke, Song*, a collection of nine linked stories and winner of the Women's Prose Prize, was published by Red Hen Press in August.

■ Assistant Professor of **English** Lindsay Reckson published her first book, *Realist Ecstasy: Religion, Race, and Performance*, in the Performance and American Culture series at NYU Press.

■ Assistant Professor of **Anthropology** and Coordinator of the **Middle East and Islamic Studies** Concentration Zainab Saleh's *Return to Ruin: Iraqi Narratives of Exile and Nostalgia* came out in the fall with Stanford University Press.

■ Professor of **Spanish** Roberto Castillo Sandoval published *Muertes Imaginarias (Imaginary Deaths)*, a collection of fictional obituaries, with Laurel.

■ Professor of **English** Gustavus Stadler's *Woody Guthrie: An Intimate Life* was published by Beacon Press Books.

■ Associate Professor of **Spanish** Aurelia Gómez Unamuno's book monograph, *Between Fires. Memory and State Violence: the Literary and Testimonial Texts of the Armed Struggle in Mexico*, was published via UNC Press.

■ Professor of **English** Christina Zwarg's book, *The Archive of Fear: White Crisis and Black Freedom in Douglass, Stowe, and Du Bois*, was published by Oxford University Press.

Main Lines

Dean of the College Named

Following a nationwide search, John F. McKnight Jr. has been selected as the next dean of Haverford College. He will officially join the staff on July 1.

McKnight is currently the dean of institutional equity and inclusion at Connecticut College, a position he has held since 2016. In that role, he oversees the programs of the offices of equity and compliance, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, religious and spiritual life, student accessibility services, sexual violence prevention, and Title IX.


John F. McKnight Jr. will officially join the staff on July 1.



“John brings a love of students, intellectual curiosity, and a capacity to build equitable communities to all that he does,” said Haverford President Wendy Raymond, who cochaired the search committee. “He believes in and models involving students in broad aspects of a college’s work. He understands and celebrates the power of the liberal arts to transform students’ lives. And he does all this with a warm, thoughtful style that invites creativity and collaboration.”

“Haverford College is known for having an ethos of both intellectual rigor and strong community values,” said McKnight. “This dual commitment very much aligns with my work in higher education to ensure that students are able to see every part of their college experience as contribut-

ing to their learning and personal development.”

McKnight earned an Ed.D. in administration and leadership studies and an M.S. in higher education administration from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a B.S. in advertising from the University of Florida. Prior to joining the staff of Connecticut College, he worked at Lafayette College as dean of intercultural development and served as director of multicultural affairs and a coordinator of residence life at Lehigh University.

In his current role at Connecticut College, he is a member of the president’s cabinet and is the college’s senior diversity officer. He developed the college’s Diversity and Equity Plan, and he designed and has co-taught classes including “#BlackLivesMatter” and “Conversations on Race.” He is also co-chair of the school’s working group on student experience during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Haverford’s dean of the College, he will oversee all aspects of student life, including academic advising, accessibility services, athletics, counseling, residential life, student engagement and support, and more.

“We anticipate John having an indelible impact on Haverford, particularly at this moment in our history, as he works to advance our vision and make lasting change in support of being a truly inclusive community centered on student success and thriving,” said Jess Lord, vice president and dean of admission and financial aid. Lord co-chaired the 12-member search committee that included five students.

McKnight succeeds Interim Dean of the College Joyce Bylander, who joined the community last summer following the departure of Dean Martha Denney after 11 years of service to Haverford.

—Rebecca Raber

COVID-19 Update

Thanks to the stringent protocols in place, Haverford has seen very few COVID-19 cases during the spring semester. With testing mandated prior to arrival on campus, 14 students had to delay their departure from home due to positive COVID tests. But since the start of the semester on Feb. 12, several rounds of mass testing on campus resulted in only three students testing positive, and, as of March 31, there were no active cases among students. (There were five active cases among employees.) To help promote a safe environment, the College scheduled a “Spring Pause” in place of Spring Break, with no classes March 27-30. No travel was permitted during this pause.



Lens on the Capitol Siege

On Jan. 6, **Quinn Glabicki '19** traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend an event he thought would be similar to some of the other political gatherings for Donald Trump he'd covered in the previous year. "There's always been this incendiary rhetoric at those rallies," says the fledgling photojournalist, "but no one could have imagined what would happen."

What happened, of course, was the Capitol siege, in which hundreds of Trump supporters engaged in a deadly assault of the U.S. Capitol in an effort to stop Congress from validating the election of President Joe Biden.

Glabicki, who has been freelancing and working on building his photojournalism portfolio, drove down from Philadelphia that morning and dropped his bags at the D.C. apartment of friends **Steve Deleo '19** and **Zachary Cohen '19**. He got to the rally around noon and immediately saw things turning ugly.

"Journalists with cameras were getting harassed and jostled," he says. But Glabicki had made the decision to leave his professional equipment behind and bring only a small camera. "That allowed me to remain somewhat stealth. I also had a press pass, but I quickly decided to put that away." (Later in the day, he would see the mob taking bats to the equipment of some Associated Press journalists and then trying to set the broken pieces on fire.)

During the course of the afternoon, Glabicki made it to the top of the massive Capitol Building steps. "It was a madhouse. People were dropping down sweatshirts tied together and rope. They were climbing up freehand and helping their fellow insurrectionists up the wall. Police were shooting pepper balls and flash bang grenades. The crowd was cheering every time they went off. They were unfazed." Glabicki also recalls seeing men dressed in military-type gear, giving orders over

walkie-talkies. "They were talking about flanking the police officers."

Eventually he climbed to the top of some scaffolding with hordes of others doing the same. "That's where I got some of my good photos of the crowds," he says. "But the whole time I was thinking, 'How sound is this scaffolding?' It was pretty fortunate it remained intact."

Glabicki says he was surprised at how easy it was to just walk away from the riot later in the afternoon: "The police weren't stopping anyone." What also surprised him: "These people were speaking as if they were there defending democracy, even while they were there tearing it down."

Some of Glabicki's photos of the siege were published in Public-Source, a nonprofit digital newsroom based in his hometown of Pittsburgh. They were also featured on Sky News, which interviewed him about his experience during the assault.

While he's been shooting photos since he was a kid, Glabicki says his current career path was sparked at Haverford, when he was working on his senior thesis on the rise of authoritarianism in Hungary. "I got a [Center for Peace and Global Citizenship] grant to go over there for a few weeks to do research and interview people. That's where my interest in journalism as a career was solidified. I really enjoyed that work."

For now, Glabicki is participating in a mentoring program run by the National Press Photographers Association. "It's for early career photojournalists. You get matched with a mentor for a year, and it's very much self-designed. I work on a lot of freelance stuff, and on the business of freelancing, and it culminates in a project. What I'm working on is documenting air pollution and public health in Clairton, Pa., a struggling steel town that is home to the largest coke-producing facility in North America."

—E. L.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Champion

President Wendy Raymond has named Raquel Esteves-Joyce interim co-chief diversity officer (CDO). Esteves-Joyce, Haverford's assistant dean of First Generation/Low Income (FGLI) Student Support and Programming, shares the role with Provost Linda Strong-Leek, who replaced Raymond as interim CDO in November.

"This role is a culmination of all my work up to this point," says Esteves-Joyce. "It incorporates my knowledge, experiences, an appreciation for our diverse students, where they come from, their community cultural wealth, and a strong belief in Haverford's unfolding mission of becoming antiracist and more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible. It also enables me to bring the colleagues I work alongside and all the students I've ever worked with to the senior staff table."

Esteves-Joyce has worked in education for more than 20 years, serving the Haverford community for eight of them. She earned her B.A. in English and sociology, as well as an Ed.D., from the University of Pennsylvania, and received a master's degree in multicultural education from Eastern University. Her career has encompassed teaching bilingual middle schoolers, organizing high school students, and teaching teachers as an educational consultant; she has also held positions in Haverford's Writing Center, Office of Academic Resources, and Dean's Office. Along the way, her focus has been on making a college education



more widely accessible and disrupting notions of who belongs in academia.


"When I was a first-generation, low-income BIPOC undergraduate student, I attended classes part-time at the University of Pennsylvania while working full-time," she says. "I felt invisible, inconsequential, and alone in my academic journey." After graduation, she says, "I swore my academic career was over. I would never go back to higher education since it made it clear that I did not belong."

When she did, in fact, return to Penn as a graduate student, she was inspired by her advisor, Susan Lytle, who not only offered Esteves-Joyce support on her educational path, but also helped her understand the systems and structures that had been working against her. Now, Esteves-Joyce's goal is "to be someone else's Susan."

"Raquel brings a unique perspective as a long-serving member of the dean's staff, a deep knowledge of the student body, as well as the trust and respect of the students, and her own background as an FGLI student of color to this work," said Strong-Leek. "That is one of the things we share as well: being FGLI students of color."

As interim co-CDOs, Esteves-Joyce and Strong-Leek will help to find ways to put in place permanent structures and programs that will address some of the voids BIPOC and FGLI students have identified, while a new advisory group works on structure, budget, and the future organizational role for the CDO, which will be implemented by July 1.

—R. R.


Raquel Esteves-Joyce, assistant dean of First Generation/Low Income Student Support and Programming, has added a new role as interim co-chief diversity officer.



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IN THE COLLECTION

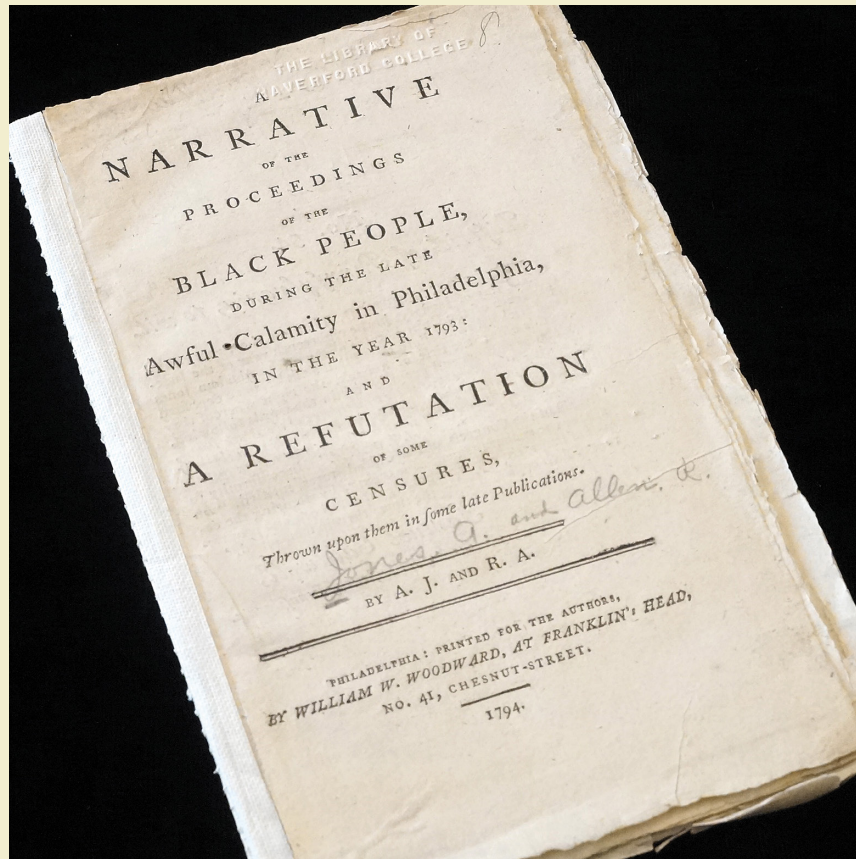
Spotlighting the holdings of Quaker & Special Collections

Long before COVID, even long before the flu epidemic of 1918, Philadelphia faced another round of deadly illness when yellow fever struck the city in August of 1793. As the epidemic took hold, an estimated 20,000 residents fled Philadelphia, which was then the nation's capital. With so many sick and in desperate need of aid, physician Benjamin Rush (who mistakenly believed that Black people possessed immunity to the disease) called on the population of free Black Philadelphians to help. Ministers Richard Allen and Absalom Jones, founders of the Free African Society, a mutual aid organization, heeded the call, visiting the sick themselves and organizing others to pitch in with nursing. As the death toll rose—more than 4,000 would die—free Black residents went to work removing corpses.

But instead of being celebrated for their efforts, after the epidemic subsided Black people (more than 200 of whom died of yellow fever) were attacked in a pamphlet whose white author, publisher Matthew Carey, suggested Black residents had been the source of the epidemic and that some had charged high prices for their help and even stole from the homes of the stricken.

Allen and Jones stepped up to defend their community, countering Carey by publishing a book: *A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Black People During the Late Awful Calamity in Philadelphia, in the Year 1793; and A Refutation of Some Censures, Thrown Upon Them in Some Late Publications.*

The two ministers—lifelong friends who were both born enslaved in Delaware, bought their freedom, and went on



to fight for abolition—used the pamphlet to dismantle Carey's claims, describing the many valiant efforts of Black citizens in the face of an escalating epidemic: "We sought not fee nor reward, until the increase of the disorder rendered our labour so arduous that we were not adequate to the service we had assumed." As for charges of profiteering, they explained that any high fees paid were the result of white families bidding against each other to procure help that was in short supply.

More than disinformation, the two leaders knew, racism was the malevolent force in the whole affair. "We have

many unprovoked enemies," they wrote in their pamphlet, "who begrudge us the liberty we enjoy and are glad to hear of any complaint against our color, be it just or unjust."

Allen and Jones also used the pamphlet for their larger aims, including a message to enslavers titled "An address to those who keep slaves, and approve the practice," in which they exhorted their readers: "If you love your children, if you love your country, if you love the God of love, clear your hands from [slaves], burden not your children or country with them." —E. L.

Here are some hints!
The grid is up, down, left, right.
The answer is not immediately available.

Main Lines

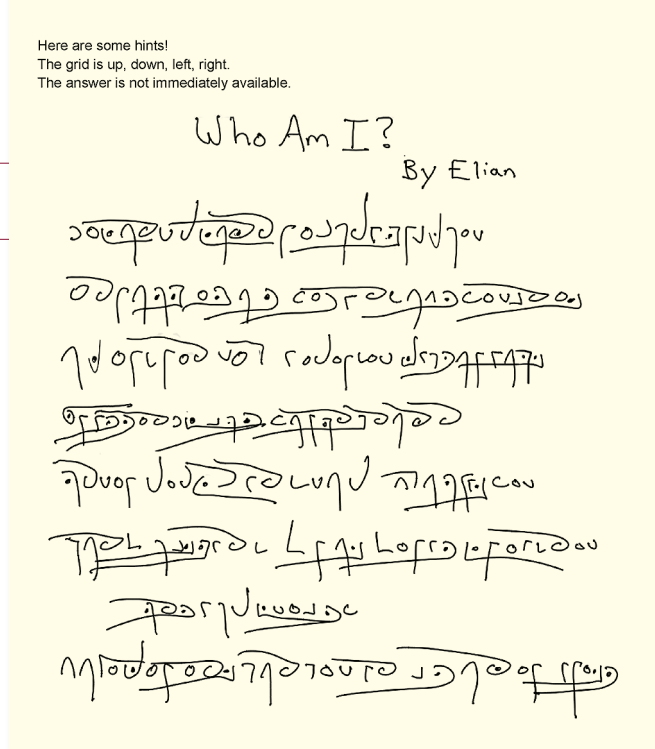
Haverpuzzle!

In a typical academic year, the student club Fords Against Boredom, otherwise known as FAB, can be counted on to organize all manner of convivial activities, such as apple-picking trips, cookie-decorating sessions, Bingo games, and cooking competitions. But in this not-so-normal school year, with large indoor gatherings nixed by COVID, FAB has had to regroup.

Enter the Haverpuzzle. The FAB-sponsored brain teaser goes out via email to the entire Haverford community, usually weekly. The first student and the first faculty/staff member to submit the correct answer win a \$20 prize each. (When a new puzzle goes out, the answer to the previous one and the names of the winners are posted at the bottom.)

The Haverpuzzle is the brainchild of Oliver Bates '22, who began crafting them in the spring of 2019. "I originally started by just sending them out to students, but then when the pandemic hit, I wanted to include faculty and staff to foster a sense of community," says Bates, a double major in philosophy and international studies (Bryn Mawr) from Washington, D.C. "In the height of the pandemic, my goal was to provide fun and relaxation as well as bring connection when the world seemed darkest. It was so heartwarming to hear students talking on Zoom about the puzzles, or to hear of students and their parents solving them together."

Bates, who hopes to eventually collect the puzzles in a book, creates them from ciphers or codes he finds interesting, or makes up. And he offers these tips for aspiring puzzlers: The answer will always be a phrase, name, or number. There is no background



knowledge or intensive math needed, and using the internet and collaborating with others is encouraged.

One of Bates's recent Haverpuzzles (above) was written in something called The Elian Script, an alternative writing system created by artist C.C. Elian. When translated, it revealed a poem about the story of "Beowulf" in which the first letter of each line spelled out the puzzle's answer: "Beowulf." —E. L.

Here's a Haverpuzzle to try your hand at:

Title: Our Place
Jawed pet was assertive get
the hat fly aft
power train rye
pedal gnome and wheel
Find the answer on p. 20.

ON VIEW



Writing the Modern World: Wallace Stevens, William Carlos Williams, and Science and Technology in the United States

During the 20th century, developments in commerce, communication, and travel accelerated the pace of everyday life, while discoveries in physics and chemistry changed the conception of reality itself. Wallace Stevens and William Carlos Williams, two of the century's most exemplary American poets, shared an interest in responding to these changes and in creating a new poetry for a truly modern world. This exhibit, curated by Charlotte Scott '21, focuses on the interactions and dialogue each man had with science and technology.

The exhibit, which features books, letters, and other documents from the collection of Alan Klein '81, runs through July 15 in the Rebecca and Rick White Gallery in Lutnick Library, and also can be viewed online at hav.to/wtmw. To view and download the exhibit catalogue, go to hav.to/wtmwcatalog.

Tracking the Wind on Mars

When Perseverance touched down Feb. 18 on the Red Planet, **Mariah Baker '14** began studying the data coming back on the live feed from a strategically important location: her living room here on Earth.

While a member of the Mars mission team, the postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian's Center for Earth and Planetary Studies at the National Air and Space Museum is reviewing facts and figures relayed back by the rover from her laptop at home. "Because of COVID-19 protocols, I will be working remotely, not at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California," Baker says.

The JPL and NASA project, which includes a rocket-powered sky crane and car-sized rover, has landed in Jezero crater to search for signs of ancient microbial life on Mars. While that happens, Baker will be reviewing for evidence of "aeolian processes." No, she won't be looking for little green aliens on the surface of Mars. Baker studies the wind-driven movement of sand and dust. Aeolian comes from the name of the Greek god Aeolus, the keeper of the winds.

"Prior to robotic exploration of Mars, we didn't think there was a lot of wind-driven activity because the atmosphere is so thin," she says. "However, we've discovered that Mars is a very active place. These missions give us a chance to study aeolian activity from the surface."

As Mars missions go, Baker is an old pro. She has been a scientist on Curiosity since 2015 and InSight since 2018. For Perseverance, Baker is conducting similar research to what she did on those expeditions.

"I use images taken from the spacecraft and meteorological data to understand how wind is transporting sand and dust across the surface—and sometimes on the spacecraft," she says. "It's really important for our scientific understanding of geologic and climactic processes on Mars. This helps us keep landed instruments safe. Potentially, for human explorers in the future, it helps us understand the surface environment and risks posed by dust and sand."

"Mariah's research will help us understand how ancient Mars evolved," says Kathryn Stack Morgan, Mars 2020 deputy project scientist at



the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. "By learning how wind and sand move around the planet, we get a better idea of the evolutionary process that led to what is there now on modern Mars. This will help us with future exploration as we move forward to a manned mission with human explorers."

Mission mavens got a chance to see Baker and other scientists from the Center for Earth and Planetary Science on television just before the landing, when the Smithsonian Channel premiered *Making Tracks on Mars*. On the program, Baker is seen in the middle of a sand dune on Earth explaining how wind shapes the Martian surface.

Fortunately, *Making Tracks on Mars* was filmed well in advance of the Perseverance landing, which is a good thing because viewers won't see dark circles under Baker's eyes. Once the mission begins, teams must work odd, late-night hours on Earth to align with the Martian day, which is 40 minutes longer than a day here.

"There will be times when I will be up all night in my living room," Baker says. "It will be interesting." —David Kindy
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Mars mission scientist Mariah Baker '14 explained the effects of wind on the planet's surface on the Smithsonian Channel show Making Tracks on Mars.

CodeCarbon Reveals Environmental Impact of Computing

In discussions of the human role in carbon dioxide emissions affecting climate change the usual focus is the burning of fossil fuels or deforestation. What's rarely talked about: the emissions cost of computing. When programmers train a machine-learning algorithm, it can require multiple computers running for days or weeks at a time. This requires a lot of electricity. And until recently, there was no easy way to estimate and visualize the location-dependent carbon footprint of such computing work.

Haverford professors Sorelle Friedler and Jonathan Wilson are part of a team that is working to change that. They—along with Université de Montréal research institute Mila, AI and analytics team BCG GAMMA, and cloud-based machine-learning platform Comet—developed CodeCarbon, an open-source software package that can help organizations track the emissions of their computing projects. CodeCarbon can estimate the amount of carbon dioxide produced by the computing resources used to execute specific code. Armed with such information, developers may be incentivized to come up with ways to decrease their code emissions.

According to Wilson, an associate professor of environmental studies, an important aspect of the project is that it highlights the variations in the electrical grid that can lead to very different carbon footprints for the same code package. "If a program is run in Montreal, for example, where the electrical grid is mostly powered by low-carbon sources like hydroelectricity, the carbon footprint will be small," says Wilson. "If the same code package is run in Missouri, where the electrical grid is powered by coal-burning power plants, the CO₂ impact is significantly greater. Therefore, the location matters a great deal, and we hope that engineers in the AI field will take these factors into consideration when choosing which data centers, or other computational resources, to use."



Jonathan Wilson



Sorelle Friedler

Wilson and Friedler, an associate professor of computer science, began their work together as part of Friedler's recent Mozilla grant, supporting the integration of responsible computing ideas into computer science curriculum.

"We were interested in the ways that the environmental impact of code, specifically the resulting CO₂ emissions, mirror computational complexity concerns that students learn about in these courses," said Friedler. "We worked on integrating these ideas into the curriculum, and found that a computing package that would allow students to calculate the CO₂ emissions of their programs would be a useful contribution."

Several Haverford students have been part of the project over the past two years, including **Kadan Lottick '20** and **Silvia Susai '20**, whose senior theses research involved working on the carbon-emissions-computing package. Ziyao Wang '22 continued the development on the package this past summer. Lottick and Susai were also co-authors on a paper presented at a workshop on "Tackling Climate Change With Machine Learning" held in Vancouver, B.C., in December 2019. (It was there, in fact, that Friedler and Wilson met some of the other team members on the CodeCarbon project.)

The Haverford team's focus throughout has been on the creation of an easy-to-access dashboard that CodeCarbon users can employ to better visualize the big picture of environmental impacts of large-scale computing efforts. "The resulting dashboard includes a map with associated energy grid mix breakdowns, so people can see how the underlying energy grid mix in a country or region contributes to carbon emissions resulting from code," said Friedler.

"I think it's important that students, software engineers, and computer science researchers better understand the societal impacts of their computational choices, and that includes the environmental impacts." —R. R.

Haverford answer, from p. 18: We are halfway done. "The middle letter of each word spells out the solution," explains Bates. "The title is also a hint. It refers literally to our place in the semester, but also to the place in the word where the important letter is located."

Mixed Media

Will Berson '98 owns a single winter jacket that has remained mostly untouched since he moved to

Los Angeles two decades ago. It finally came in handy in December 2019, when he flew to Cleveland to watch two weeks of shooting for *Judas and the Black Messiah*, a film he cowrote with director Shaka King.

"My first shoot was at night in an abandoned, unheated church," he recalls. "Much of the crew wore snowsuits. Twenty years in L.A. left me soft and unprepared."

Rewind to summer 2014, when back-to-back police killings of two unarmed Black men, Eric Garner and Michael Brown, set Berson off. For years, he'd considered writing a screenplay about the government-orchestrated assassination of 21-year-old Illinois Black Panther Party Chairman Fred Hampton in 1969—a story he'd heard from his parents, **Bob Berson '65** and Robin Berson BMC '67. The deaths of Garner and Brown spurred him to start typing.

"My parents always tried to instill in me values about social justice," says Berson, who has worked in television, including as a writer on *Scrubs*. "Ultimately, with the ubiquity of cell phone cameras, every few weeks there was new footage of another Black man, woman, or child being murdered by the police, and it felt necessary to tell Fred Hampton's story to emphasize that these horrible things that are happening are not outliers."

Unbeknownst to Berson, a friend passed along his completed script, which reached King—who had been planning a similar project with writers Kenny and Keith Lucas. They merged efforts and got the movie made: *Judas and the Black Messiah*, starring Daniel Kaluuya as Hampton and LaKeith Stanfield as the FBI informant who betrayed him, premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival and began streaming on HBO Max in February.

The project is the first about Hampton to come to fruition, Berson says, due to a "real and concert-

FILM



(right) A scene from *Judas and the Black Messiah*, a film co-written by Will Berson '98 (below).



ed effort to erase him" as well as reluctance from Hampton's partner, Akua Njeri, and son, Fred Jr., whom Njeri delivered three weeks after attempting to shield a sleeping Hampton with her body during the raid that killed him.

"It is by design that there is little written or taught about Fred Hampton, and, understandably, the family doesn't trust Hollywood," Berson says. Getting their blessing was a protracted process. "The most intense point was when I met Akua and Fred Jr. in Fred Sr.'s childhood home in Chicago. Hearing their stories—the realness of what we were doing hit home."

Sharing Hampton's story with the world matters most to Berson, but a welcome bonus has been the critical acclaim the film has received—along with two Oscar nominations, for best picture and best original screenplay. The positive reception has served as a sort of salve for Berson and his family following the death of his sister, **Jessica Berson '94**, from cancer in August 2019.

"My parents' enthusiasm for the movie is genuine, but there's also this component of us being desperate for anything good to happen," Berson says. "This whole experience has been super bittersweet, because I just want to talk about it with my sister."

—Karen Brooks

Mixed Media

MUSIC

Bill Bragin '89 doesn't have to think hard to connect his time at Haverford to his current profession. In his freshman year, he started putting together eclectic bills of live music for the Alt Concert Series, then co-ran it for the next three years and helped turn it into a Tri-College series. Now, he's the co-founding director of globalFEST and executive artistic director of The Arts Center at New York University Abu Dhabi.

Among the artists Bragin brought to Haverford were Nigerian drummer Babatunde Olatunji and Jamaican reggae legends Toots & the Maytals, and he notes that the personal and professional connections he made by booking musicians such as singer and composer Toshi Reagon and Living Colour guitarist and songwriter Vernon Reid persist to this day.

"The essential dynamic of globalFEST—discovery, turning people on to music outside of their experience—is what I did at Haverford," says Bragin, who is 53 and lives in Abu Dhabi. "I still work with some of the same artists I worked with then. It's a direct lineage."



Begun in a post-9/11 world of heightened political and economic barriers to cultural exchange, since 2004 globalFEST has been an evolving showcase for musicians around the world to find audiences that wouldn't ordinarily come across acts such as Mauritanian vocalist and ardine player Noura Mint Seymali or Japanese folk-meets-cumbia band Minyo Crusaders.

The idea for globalFEST grew out of Bragin's work in New York as director of the Joe's Pub performance space at the Public Theater. He'd seen diverse audiences at Joe's Pub and Central Park SummerStage react enthusiastically to music from outside of the Western mainstream. But when he attended the Association

of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) industry-only showcases, mostly held in hotel ballrooms, he saw that it was harder to replicate that audience enthusiasm in a room filled solely with bookers and other music professionals.

So Bragin and his co-producers took the model of APAP's showcase and mixed in the energy of excited fans to demonstrate that this music was a solid business proposition. Each globalFEST presents multi-artist programs of international music to an audience of open-minded music fans and industry professionals. The result: Concert promoters who might not have backgrounds in global music "could see the impact on the audience and imagine it on their own stages," says Bragin. "Our discourse was always about moving marginalized music to the center of the performing arts field. Now there are more venues and festivals that recognize the importance of artists from around the world singing in different languages."

This year, globalFEST faced a seemingly insurmountable challenge: the near-total cessation of live music in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The festival found a solution in its years-long relationship with NPR's *All Songs Considered* and the streaming Tiny Desk Concert series. Tiny Desk impresario Bob Boilen was a longtime globalFEST fan, so Bragin says, "We reached out to brainstorm, and it quickly turned into what we knew immediately was the right match." In January, globalFEST was reimaged as a four-night series of online performances under the "Tiny Desk Meets globalFEST" banner.

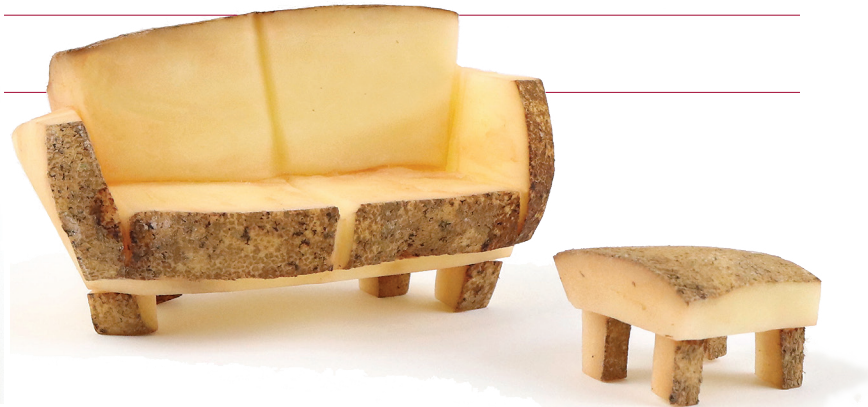
While the streaming festival was born of adversity, it had some upsides. Artists from far-flung locales who couldn't afford to travel to New York for a one-night gig were able to perform from home. "There was an intimacy in going into the artists' homes instead of a club, and the ways artists presented their sets," says Bragin. "If the goal is to provide insight into what they share and what's distinct about their culture, this format did that in a way that was really specific."

This year's lineup was hosted by African vocalist Angélique Kidjo (who performed at the inaugural globalFEST) and featured four acts per night, including Italian singer Rachele Andrioli, eclectic Ukrainian quartet DakhaBrakha, and Native American blues and soul singer Martha Redbone.

The 16 performances by artists from more than a dozen countries, notes Bragin, did the job that live music is supposed to do: stirring emotions, creating connections, and eliciting joy. "It provided the sense of catharsis that people are missing in their lives."

—Brian Glaser

The Tiny Desk Meets globalFEST performances are available to stream at tinydeskglobalfest.nprpresents.org. A full list of globalFEST artists from 2004-2021 is available at globalfest.org/gf_artists.



Most of us remember being admonished as kids: “Don’t play with your food!” But artist **Jessie Lamworth ‘18** apparently never got the message.

Since she was in high school, Lamworth has been creating punning artistic assemblages out of food, photographing them, and posting them to her lively Instagram account (@jamworth). There are portraits of the famous (“Elvis Parsley,” “Alexander Ham-ilton,” “Baby Ruth Bader Ginsburg”). There’s a streetscape of a certain European city, made from Brussels sprouts leaves; and a seasonal greeting (“Happy Hollandaise”) picturing a dish of Eggs Benedict.

During the presidential primary, Lamworth even did a series of food pun portraits of 10 of the Democratic candidates. And for *Baltimore* magazine, which profiled her last year and posted a video of her artistic process, she created “Edgar Allen Joe” out of coffee beans.

Silly? You bet. But making people smile is the point of those Instagram creations—that and providing an outlet for Lamworth’s restless creativity.

Originally planning to become an engineer, she took a sculpture class in her junior year at Haverford, and that was that. “I could make anything I wanted,” she says. “I fell in love with it.” In her last two years at the College, the growth and structure of cities major’s artistic bent took hold. Among other work, she exhibited a colorful room-size installation in VCAM (“Big Mess”) and created an undulating wall-mounted sculpture (“Memory in Wood”) that remains a permanent part of the decor at Green Engine Coffee Company, a favorite hangout near campus.

After graduation, Lamworth moved to New York City to work for a brand strategy firm. “It was an appealing way to get a sense of what it was like to work with a lot of different industries,” she says. “It was wonderful for the exposure.”

In her spare time, she also began working as

an independent artist, doing still photography, stop-motion animation, and whimsical tableaux of small sculptures for social media campaigns. Among her clients: a yogurt brand and a manufacturer of natural personal care products.

In September 2019, though, Lamworth decided New York and the 12-hour days at the office were not for her. “I felt so antsy sitting at my desk. I wanted to make things with my hands.” So she quit her job and moved back to her parents’ farm north of Baltimore. “That was one of the scariest decisions I ever made, but it was the best decision.”

While the pandemic has slowed things down a bit, Lamworth has continued to freelance—most recently for the chick pea pasta brand Banza—and was hired by her old firm as a contractor to work on branding projects for a financial services company and an alcoholic beverage manufacturer. In late February, she traveled to South Carolina to help out an artist friend with a sculpture project, learning to work in foam and fiberglass. She says she knows she’s lucky to have parents who support her creative endeavors. “In exchange, I help out on the farm. We have six cows and about 100 chickens, and my moms appreciate me being home.

“Maybe it’s because we have a farm that I like using a lot of food components in my art,” says Lamworth, who also has begun making pun-inspired wearable art—her “tea shirt (above),” for example, crafted from tea bags.

Using food as a medium has its unique challenges, she acknowledges. “I’ve got to finish it right there and then, or it will start to dry out or rot, or my dog will snatch it from the table. Even though it’s captured in a photograph, my art is fleeting, and people are shocked by that sometimes. They think art should last, that it should be up in a museum, and that its longevity is what gives it value. But I think ephemeral art is beautiful—because, really, everything is ephemeral.”

To see more of her art, go to jessielamworth.com.

—Eils Lotozo

—  —
 (top) Jessie Lamworth ‘18 wearing the “tea shirt” she made out of tea bags and her “couch potato” sculpture. (below) Some of her punning portraits crafted from food include “Danny Dorito” and “Baby Ruth Bader Ginsburg.”



Mixed Media

BOOKS

Q&A: Michael J. Lewis '80

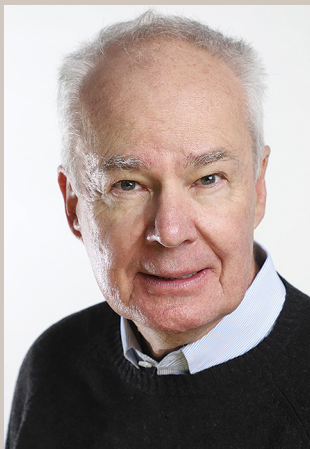
In Philadelphia Builds: Essays on Architecture (Paul Dry Books), Michael J. Lewis compiles his historical and critical assessments of Philadelphia's architecture as a centuries-long negotiation between capitalist enterprise and Quaker ideals of non-hierarchical communal spirit. From the city's strict street grid to the easy real estate commodification and speculation these tidy squares enabled, he defines the architecture of one of America's oldest major cities not in terms of aesthetic and stylistic lineages, but as the result of complex political, social, and economic forces, unique to this thin plot of land wedged between the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers.

Lewis, *The Wall Street Journal's* architecture critic and an art history professor at Williams College, even finds time to travel back to Haverford College and uncover the previously unknown designer of Founders Hall. That's George Senneff, whom Lewis identified by digging through 19th-century receipts in the school's archives—which revealed that the architect was paid \$2.97 less for the design of the building than an illustrator was paid for a copperplate engraving of it.

Lewis spoke with architecture writer Zach Mortice about the book.

Zach Mortice: Did any themes in the book only emerge after you had gone back over this work and collected these essays together?

Michael J. Lewis: I published my first piece on Philadelphia in 1986. I was an art historian, and I was taught to look at the building and the style. As you get older, you realize that the part of



architecture that is most interesting is not the style; it's human beings working within their tragic limits, trying to achieve something and being thwarted. And I realized that 15 years into the process, I was more interested, again and again, in the human drama of the making of these things.

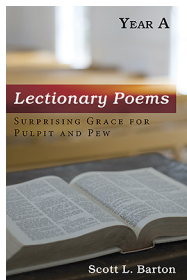
Architecture, like every arena of human activity, is tragic and comic. Tragic because we're going to fail, comic because that's funny—you try to do great things, and then you fall on your ass. I have the sense that in Philadelphia, that's particularly strong, because it's the city with the highest ideals, from the beginning, right there in William Penn's plan. When it aims so high, and then falls so low, that's funny. The human comedy is built right in.

ZM: There's a tendency in Philadelphia that you write about, where it takes a long time to marshal the money and will to undertake ambitious architecture, and by the time it all comes together, what's built is wildly out of fashion. What drives this phenomenon?

ML: There's a typical Philadelphia shambles, where things take so long to organize, as opposed to New York with its furious sense of commercial energy and political will. There's a Quaker influence, including an indifference to fashion, that has persisted long after the Quakers have become a tiny minority. But they set the pattern for us all. If you show up to a party at 11:30 and it's roaring, the people who were there at 8 or 9 o'clock are all gone, but they set things in motion. And that happened in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia City Hall is the classic example. They started to build it the moment the Second Empire style was dead. And they kept doing it with a dogged insistence right through to 1900. It

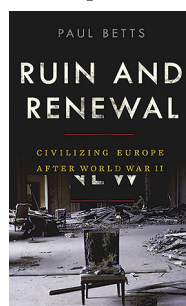
MORE ALUMNI TITLES



SCOTT BARTON '71: *Lectionary Poems, Year B: More Surprising Grace for Pulpit and Pew* (Wipf and Stock). Barton, a Presbyterian minister, offers a sequel to his first book of poems

for each Sunday of the church year—this time based on the texts for Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary. With the conviction that Scripture always proclaims something new about God, each of these 107 poems reveal a surprise, often with humor, like the proclamations made by the biblical writers. Includes an index of 128 biblical references.

PAUL BETTS '85: *Ruin and Renewal: Civilizing Europe After the Second World War* (Basic Books). This sweeping account of Europe's transformation after the

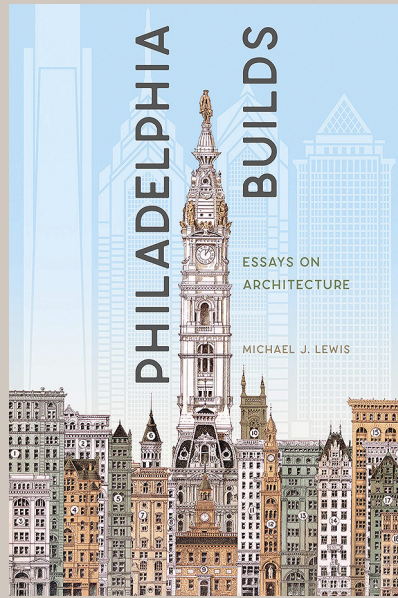


destruction of World War II describes how its "civilizing mission" turned inward, finding expression

would be like having a disco ball now. It's so dead as to be quaint. And you see it in other cases. It's a willful indifference to fashion. My thesis—unspoken—is that this is what permitted Philadelphia to be the petri dish for all these great architects like Robert Venturi, Louis Kahn, and Frank Furness to emerge. You've got a strong character of place that's very restrictive, which tells you, "No display. Don't spend a lot of money on symbolism. Don't tell me about theory. You've got to use simple materials, and you've got to fit it into this grid of 25-by-100-foot lots." Given these constraints, architects either work with it or they fight against it, but it gives you something with which to test yourself and orient yourself.

ZM: What are the challenges ahead for Philadelphia architecture and urbanism?

ML: Tear-downs have become very common all over Philadelphia. The biggest challenge now is to revive awareness of the collective value of the basic structure of the city. This happened once before in the 1960s. My generation was born into a world of modern products and modern cars, and we found it unbearably sterile. The 19th century offered us a club with which to clobber our parents, as each generation has to do. I saw the buildings of Frank Furness, and I couldn't believe this wild man, this rogue, this ruffian of an architect swaggering into the city, throwing these things up. When I was on my Fulbright [Scholarship] in Germany, a professor said, "Why don't you give a guest lecture on Philadelphia?" And when I showed [a slide of Frank Furness's Provident [Life and Trust Company], a German architect in the front row made a sound that only Germans make: "bwah!" That's the German [sound of] surprise. Ten years ago, my students stopped being staggered. They'd seen Frank



Gehry. I realized that I came out of a pocket of great historical revival in Philadelphia, from the 1960s into the start of the '90s, and then it became passé, and we're in a dangerous moment now.

ZM: How did you find the receipt that gave away the name of the architect of Founders Hall?

ML: When I was a grad student [at the University of Pennsylvania], I worked for a historic preservation firm that did a study of Founders Hall. I went to the Haverford archives and did all the things you're supposed to do: looked at minutes of the building committee, minutes of the board of managers, etc. And nothing. I kept thinking, "It's gotta be there!" I kept pestering the archivist, "What else do you have? Copies of the building contract? How much you paid for the brick?"

"Well, we do have the cash receipt book," the archivist said. And there it was. [The name of the Founders Hall designer, George Senneff.]

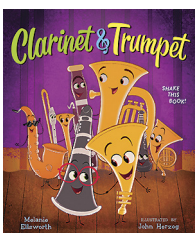
If you don't enjoy the hunt, you don't learn persistence. I realized I have the temperament of a Las Vegas gambler. I want to keep trying; one more spin at the slot machine.

ZM: Did you have any formative exposures to architecture during your time at Haverford?

ML: From the first week, I was captivated by architecture. Every semester I took a class at Bryn Mawr, and here's this glorious medieval fantasy with the intimate cloisters and bay windows, and Haverford was the dry, boxy, four-square, Quaker ethos. To go between them, I was inoculated with architecture before I knew it.

—Zach Mortice

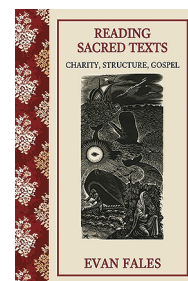
in humanitarian relief work, the prosecution of war crimes, peace campaigns, expanded welfare policies, renewed global engagement, and efforts to salvage damaged cultural traditions. Betts is a professor of modern European history at Oxford University.



MELANIE ELLSWORTH '95, illustrated by John Herzog: **Clarinet & Trumpet** (Houghton

Mifflin Harcourt). In Ellsworth's second book for children, the friendship between clarinet and trumpet—and the harmony of the band—is challenged when a new oboe comes on the scene. In her first children's book, *Hip, Hip... Beret!* (published in February), the author tells the story of little Bella, whose beloved red beret is whisked away by a gust of wind and lands in some unusual places.

EVAN FALES '64: Reading Sacred Texts: Charity, Structure, Gospel (GCRR Press).



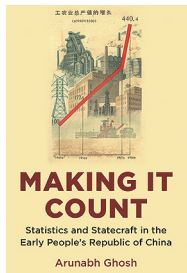
In his examination of the difficulties of comprehending alien cultures and their sacred literature, Fales proposes a "way out" of the dilemma through embracing

Durkheim's hypothesis that religious belief systems reflect native efforts to understand the social realities of their societies, and taking into account Lévi-

Mixed Media

Strauss's idea that religious narratives reflect attempts to bring intellectual order to those realities. The second half of the book explores the implications for an understanding of the origins of Judaism and Christianity, applying anthropological analyses to puzzles posed by stories found in the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament.

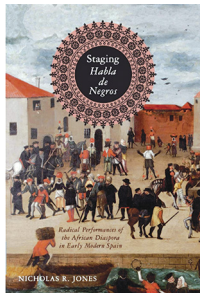
ARUNABH GHOSH '03: *Making It Count: Statistics and Statecraft in the Early People's Republic of China* (Princeton



University Press). In 1949, one of the biggest challenges facing leaders of the new People's Republic of China as they sought to reengineer society and the economy

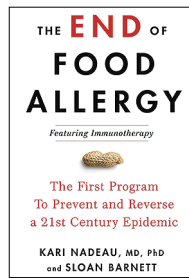
was their lack of reliable statistical data about their own country. *Making It Count* is the history of the efforts to resolve this problem. Drawing on a wealth of sources culled from China, India, and the United States, Ghosh, an associate professor of history at Harvard, explores the choices made by political leaders, statisticians, academics, statistical workers, and even literary figures in attempts to know the nation through numbers.

NICHOLAS JONES '05: *Staging Habla de Negros: Radical Performances of the African Diaspora in Early Modern*



Spain (Penn State University Press). Jones, an assistant professor of Spanish at Bucknell University, analyzes white appropriations of Black African voices in Spanish theater

from the 1500s through the 1700s, when the performance of Africanized Castilian, commonly referred to as *habla de negros* (Black speech), was in vogue.



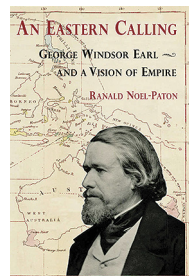
KARI NADEAU '88 and Sloan Barnett:

The End of Food Allergy (Avery).

Nadeau, a food allergies expert, clinical researcher, and physician at Stanford University, joins

with best-selling author Sloan Barnett to offer a landmark book on preventing, diagnosing, and reversing food allergies. At its heart is Nadeau and her research team's findings, including their cutting-edge work on a treatment strategy called immunotherapy—the controlled, gradual reintroduction of an allergen into the body—which has shown that the immune system can be retrained. The book walks readers through every aspect of food allergy, including how to find the right treatment, and offers a clear, supportive plan to combat a major national and global health issue.

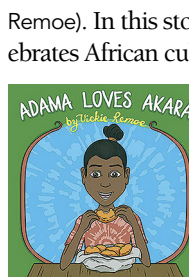
RANALD NOEL-PATON '61: *An Eastern Calling: George Windsor Earl and a Vision of Empire* (Ashgrove Publishing). George



Windsor Earl sailed for Western Australia at age 16, and went on to captain a trading schooner in uncharted waters, master at least a dozen languages and dialects, and publish

numerous works on many subjects, including *The Eastern Seas*, which helped inspire a generation of British adventurers to join in the project of imperialist empire-building. This is the first major biography of Earl, who entered government service in Singapore in the last part of his life and died in Penang in 1865.

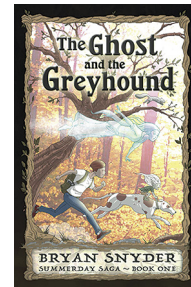
VICKIE REMOE '06, illustrated by Luseni Kallon:



Adama Loves Akara (Vickie Remoe). In this storybook, which celebrates African culture, Adama and Adamu, a Sierra Leonean daughter

and father duo, enjoy playing together, learning games, and eating their favorite snack. The book is part of an early reader series aimed at helping children ages 3-5 learn short vowel sounds.

BRYAN SNYDER '95: *The Ghost and the Greyhound* (Lost Souls Press). Snyder, author of the *Off the Map* series about his outdoor adventures in the wilds of America, turns to fiction with this first

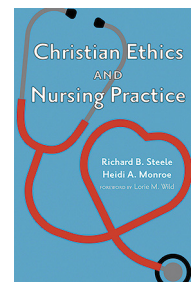


entry in a teen fantasy series. Its premise is that everything on planet Earth, including plants, is secretly intelligent, but an ancient magic has kept the species from talking to one another. When a dog

suddenly speaks up and asks his owner to help save the world, what follows is a comedic and dramatic adventure tale about tragedy, friendship, and coming of age in a diverse world.

RICHARD B. STEELE '74 and Heidi A. Monroe: *Christian Ethics and Nursing Practice* (Cascade Books). This work

shows how the religious and moral teachings of the Bible correlate with the ethical standards of modern nursing. It describes four main strands of moral discourse in the Bible—law, holiness, wisdom, and prophecy—and shows the relevance of those strands for contem-



porary bedside and advanced practice nursing. Steele is a professor of moral and historical theology and associate dean of the School of Theology at Seattle Pacific University.

FORD AUTHORS: Do you have a new book you'd like to see included in More Alumni Titles? Please send all relevant information to hc-editor@haverford.edu.

HAVERFORD IN SEASON





TELL US MORE

TYLER HARPER '14:
Shattering
Sci-Fi
Stereotypes

As an assistant professor of environmental studies at Bates College in Maine, Tyler Harper researches the evolving ways in which science fiction writers have depicted human extinction, and how the concept has changed since 1796, when scientist Georges Cuvier proved that species extinction was in fact possible. And the roster of courses Harper is teaching this academic year and the next precisely reflects those interests: There's "Catastrophes and Hope," which looks at narratives of ecological disaster; "Climate Fiction," which examines representations of climate change in contemporary literature, comics, and film; and "Extinction," which looks at the way key historical developments beginning in the 19th century have informed how writers, thinkers, and artists imagine species extinction.

Harper—who earned a Ph.D. in comparative literature from New York University with a dissertation titled "The Specter of Extinction: Environmental Nihilism in British Science Fiction (1800–1945)"—credits Haverford with sparking his interest in sci-fi.

"My first encounter with science fiction in an academic

context was in one of [Associate Professor of English] Asali Solomon's courses, where she assigned Octavia Butler's short story 'Bloodchild,'" says Harper. "It was an early experience that really opened my eyes to sci-fi as a genre with intellectual merit that could be studied as seriously as we study romantic poetry or literary modernism."

Harper came to Haverford intending to major in English, he says, "but the initial plan was to go the medical school or law school route after college." By his sophomore year, though, he'd decided to pursue a Ph.D. in comparative literature. "Asali Solomon, [Associate Professor of English] Raji Mohan, and [Professor of English] Christina Zwarg, as well as [Professor of English] Michael Tratner at Bryn Mawr, were all influential mentors who spent a great deal of time both in and outside of the classroom helping me prepare for grad school and a life in academia. Their courses and mentorship were a big part of my desire to teach at a liberal arts institution."

What follows is an edited version of a story that originally appeared on Bates News, the online companion to *Bates Magazine*.
—Eils Lotozo

PHOTO: PHYLLIS GRABER JENSEN/BATES COLLEGE

Why sci-fi? With a literary canon that includes books by L. Ron Hubbard, and with movie titles like *Abbott and Costello Meet the Invisible Man*, science fiction in America is a “heavily stereotyped genre,” Harper says. “We’re often used to thinking of sci-fi as entertainment or as beach reading.” Plus, it’s a genre that’s frequently “coded as both white and male,” he says.

For a liberal arts professor, stereotype is a door waiting to be kicked open. “One of the joys of teaching science fiction is getting students to see sci-fi differently—as a genre that not only engages with big ideas but also that includes some great works written by marginalized voices.”

A sample lesson: Harper says that he’s always loved introducing students to the novel *Dawn*, by Octavia Butler, the first Black female science fiction writer to reach national prominence.

One of Butler’s earlier works, *Dawn* poses the “big questions that I find tend to excite students. Questions like: Is the fear of otherness innate? Or is it learned? Can it be unlearned? And, is the exploitation of nature or other species ever justifiable?”

In class, he’ll lead an exercise in argument-mapping to “break down the various worldviews presented by a novel or film and look at who is presenting those views, how they clash, and how they’re reconciled.”

The exercise “gets students to slow down, look past the aliens and the spaceships, and really confront the profound and topical questions about the environment and our place in it that a novel like *Dawn* conveys.”

Imagining Extinction: British science fiction writers of the 1800s and early 1900s, such as Mary Shelley, Edward Bulwer-Lytton, and H.G. Wells, imagined that the natural world was the prime threat to human life.

In their works, “nature was reimagined as not only a threat to

the species, but a threat to the very moral vision that informed Western thinking about humanity in general,” Harper says. He calls this “environmental nihilism”: “the threat of meaninglessness posed by the recognition that nature is completely indifferent to human existence.”

In Britain during the early Romantic era—the late 1700s into the early 1800s—these initial extinction narratives also tended to “imagine threats to the species as arising from absolute catastrophes that could not be avoided or prevented,” he explains.

Later, particularly in the wake of Darwin’s discoveries in the mid-1800s, the threat of extinction was reimagined as “something that could be mitigated by human ingenuity and power, something we might be able to prepare for politically, technologically, scientifically, and so on. This view still informs contemporary reflection on human extinction.”

The idea that nature was the major threat to humankind changed after the

United States dropped atomic bombs on Japan: “Human extinction was now recognized as something that humans might bring about,” says Harper.

Now, climate change: A legacy of 19th- and early 20th-century science fiction is today’s belief that “we can confront the threat of climate change with large-scale technological solutions, like geo-engineering,” Harper says.

However, clinging to a magic-bullet solution, he says, merely “becomes a way to avoid thinking about climate change as a political crisis.” Today’s science fiction can address this avoidance and reinforce the politics of the climate crisis by imagining the “ways different groups of people are more or less implicated by environmental violence.”

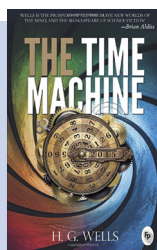
In other words, writers of climate fiction can show us new worlds after climate change and raise the question: Who gets to live in these new worlds?

Any catastrophe, whether it threatens extinction or not, “impacts different racial groups unequally and acts on different communities in different nations unequally,” he says. “It’s imperative that we think about a problem that seems fantastical but is in fact quite pressing.”

Do we survive? “I remain an optimist,” Harper says. “But I think one of the reasons I’m drawn to thinking about human extinction is that there are people with tremendous power and wealth who take the question of human extinction very seriously. You have people in Silicon Valley building compounds in New Zealand in preparation for a coming climate catastrophe.”

Harper adds, “We have, especially in academia, a duty to think seriously about this as well and to draw attention to the oversimplifications that we see in a news item, for example, about Elon Musk wanting to establish a human colony on Mars as a backup if Earth were to become uninhabitable.”

—Emily McConville



MUST-READ SCIENCE FICTION

Tyler Harper's short list of top titles in the genre

H.G. Wells, *The Time Machine*

Walter M. Miller, Jr.,

A Canticle for Leibowitz

J.G. Ballard, *The Drowned World*

Samuel R. Delany, *Babel-17*

Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Dispossessed*

Octavia Butler, *Kindred*

Gene Wolfe, *The Book of the New Sun*

Alan Moore, *Watchmen*

Kim Stanley Robinson, *Red Mars*

Jeanette Winterson, *The Stone Gods*



MUSIC DURING THE PANDEMIC

The Bi-Co Chorale's virtual performance of J. S. Bach's "Dona nobis pacem" featured 140 singers accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra.

The pandemic has been hard on so many things, and music is one of them.

For music lovers, it's meant a sad suspension of the joy of attending live performances. For musicians, COVID-19 turned the once-simple idea of getting together in the same room to jam or rehearse into a logistical challenge shadowed by health concerns.

Yet on Haverford's campus, the music program has found ways to carry on, adapting, and even thriving, in the face of limitations and constraints.

AN EXPANDED CHORALE PERFORMS BACH VIRTUALLY

The cancellation of large group-singing events was an unfortunate byproduct of the pandemic. But for the Bi-Co Chorale, there was a silver lining: With the group restricted to rehearsing and performing virtually, its membership could expand. The Chorale's ranks have always included alumni, staff, and faculty along with students, but with the need to travel to campus for rehearsals no longer a factor, conductor Nathan Zullinger opened up the group's ranks to singers who live far beyond commuting distance.

More than 200 singers expressed interest, and 140 eventually assembled online during the fall semester to learn, practice, and record J. S. Bach's "Dona nobis pacem" accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra of local professional musicians. (The video of the Chorale's virtual performance—pieced together from more than 150 individual audio tracks by Alexander Brusencev, an audio engineer from Frankfurt, Germany—premiered New Year's Day.)

"I've always loved the B Minor Mass, but particularly the last movement," says Zullinger, who is also the director of the Bi-Co Chamber Singers. He was inspired to add "Dona nobis pacem" ("grant us peace") to the Chorale's repertoire after hearing it on a playlist during a walk over the summer. "It is a culmination of the complete work, but also projects forward in the most universal terms. The piece spoke to me in a very different context this summer, and I knew that it could provide a point of focus for our work this fall."

The expanded Chorale met Wednesday afternoons to work on vocal technique and explore the history of the text. Some of the singers were on campus, logging in from laptops in their dorm rooms and attending rehearsals in an open-air tent on Lloyd Green, while others joined from much farther afield.

Frank De Mita '81 Zoomed into rehearsals from his apartment in Athens, Greece, despite the fact that the sessions started at 11 p.m. local time for him. The former classical and near eastern archaeology major had been a Chorale member for four years as a student—as well as a three-year member of the Bi-Co Chamber Singers—and has found ways to keep singing in the decades since his graduation, most recently as a member of the Edinburgh International Festival Chorus. (Pre-pandemic, he lived part-time in Scotland.) But he was particularly excited by Zullinger's invitation to rejoin his college choral group, albeit remotely.

"It was like being back in a classroom after many years, and I don't think I fully realized just how much I missed that experience," says De Mita. "It was special—in spite of the [technical] challenges—to work on a piece as thoroughly as we did the Bach 'Dona nobis pacem' movement from the B Minor Mass—a mere three minutes and 20 seconds or so of music—and really get under its skin. I've missed having such opportunities to develop a deep knowledge of a musical work."

Sandra Tamarin '13, a former biology major who lives near Philadelphia, was part of the Chorale for two years during her time at Haverford and had continued singing with them on and off since her graduation. But she was particularly grateful for the opportunity this year, when so much else was canceled or postponed.

"I think that reaching out to the community and inviting past participants to return was a brilliant idea—chorale is a very social activity, perfect for a year that's been startlingly lonely, and judging by the number of people that showed up every week, a lot of people felt the same way," she says. "Of course I would have preferred to be there in person, and to get a chance to hang out with friends, but it was still nice to be able to see faces over Zoom and to know that there were all these people taking the time out of their day to be present."

In addition to the rehearsals and the lectures, Zullinger also brought guest artists to the weekly meetings to discuss singing technique and their own compositions. Both De Mita and

GIFTS AT WORK



A new College fund, the Music Virtual Chorale Project, established in 2020 by **Benn Sah '62** and Eva Sah, supports the considerable production costs associated with virtual concerts, including sound engineering and editing. The Bi-Co Chorale's virtual performance of the "Dona nobis pacem" is the first to be supported through this new funding.

Support academic innovation with your annual gift at haverford.edu/makeagift. To learn about creating an endowed fund, contact **Deb Strecker** at dstrecke@haverford.edu or (610) 896-1129.

Music During the Pandemic

Tamarin says that the most meaningful part of the semester was a session with Joel Thompson, the Atlanta-based composer of the choral work *The Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*. As part of that meeting, participants got to view a performance of the piece, which uses as text the last words of seven unarmed Black men killed by police or authority figures. Thompson's virtual visit, says Zullinger, was an opportunity for further discussion about race in classical music and choral singing as a healing force.

"I'm proud that, at the end of an impossible year, we can summarize all our efforts in these three simple and timeless words, [grant us peace]," Zullinger says. "Though we miss per-

forming together in the traditional sense, we still have important work to do."

For the spring semester, the Chorale is again meeting mainly online, except for students residing on campus, who will receive several sessions of in-person vocal coaching in the tent. Instead of the kind of large-scale recording project that the group did in the fall, Zullinger is planning several shorter recordings that will be released at the end of the semester.

A link to the Chorale's recording of "Dona nobis pacem" is posted on the Music Department web page: haverford.edu/music.

—Rebecca Raber, with additional reporting by Eils Lotozo



A NEW WORK ABOUT A CHALLENGING YEAR: **CHAMBER SINGERS** COLLABORATE ON *TWENTY/TWENTY*

The shifting stream of video images featured in *Twenty/Twenty* includes clips contributed by Chamber Singers members Keith Mburu '23 (top left) and Gabriela Godin '23 (bottom right).

Nathan Zullinger, conductor of the Chamber Singers of Haverford and Bryn Mawr colleges, met composer Scott Ordway at a concert in early March 2020, just days before the pandemic began shutting down the country. A few months later, Ordway pitched an idea to Zullinger: Why not collaborate on an audiovisual project that could be taught and performed completely online, if necessary?

“I wasn’t sure what to think,” Zullinger recalls. “It was such an overwhelming time, but Scott had the foresight to realize that our options for creativity were going to be limited going forward. He chose to focus on the possible, rather than what had been lost.”

Zullinger was intrigued, but he felt it was important to engage other schools in the project. With fall enrollment numbers then a wild card due to the pandemic, enlisting other colleges would ensure there would be enough singers to fully mount the work. It would also offer an opportunity for several schools of similar size and scope to work together toward a common goal. By the end of the summer, Hamilton College and Swarthmore College had agreed to join Haverford and Bryn Mawr to commission the work. Each school faced its own challenges: Charlotte Botha, conductor at Hamilton, had just arrived for her first year of employment; Joseph Gregorio, conductor at Swarthmore and himself an accomplished composer, was teaching completely online.

At the start of the fall semester, Ordway asked nearly 100 singers from all four colleges to complete the sentence: “One year ago today, I did not know that ...” He then compiled their responses into a final text and completed the composition in early October. The choirs immediately began preparing the music with an aim to finish the recording process by Thanksgiving. All singers prepared six recordings apiece, aided only by a click track (to help synchronize the performers) and by intensive preparation with their respective conductors. Swarthmore’s Gregorio commented that the completed score “allows performers and listeners alike a chance to reflect on the trying, tumultuous year 2020 has been.”

From the beginning, a visual element was an important part of the project. Originally, Ordway planned to create the visuals himself and use mostly footage of student performers. But as time went by, it became clear that it would be far more effective to capture the viewpoint of each individual singer. Ultimately, the singers were given a series of eight prompts for which they could shoot original footage or submit videos they had shot at some point during the year. In this way, they functioned as authors, performers, and videographers on the project.

“As a teacher, I believe that creativity and the creation of new work can be a part of every student’s training,” says Ordway, “whether they study composition, performance, education, or a non-musical subject.”

“In a time where our ability to connect with each other has suffered greatly, learning and composing this collaborative piece helped me regain a sense of togetherness,” says Cole Roland ’21, president of the Bi-Co Chamber Singers. “Even recording alone in my room, I was able to feel the experiences of each person who contributed to the text through their words and the music which accompanied them. The struggles and joys which we have had largely in isolation are shared through the powerful medium of music.”

“In a time where our ability to connect with each other has suffered greatly, learning and composing this collaborative piece helped me regain my sense of togetherness.”

In all, students submitted nearly 1,600 audio and video files, which were processed and edited by Ordway with Frankfurt-based engineer Alexander Brusencev and two research assistants from Rutgers University, Mateo Urgilés and Kimberlee Sibilia. The raw materials were prepared and submitted by the end of November. Ordway and his team then worked to assemble the finished work, titled *Twenty/Twenty*.

The piece (which was posted on YouTube) offers a shifting stream of dreamlike black and white video images—landscapes glimpsed from a window, hands putting on masks or holding small objects, somber faces gazing steadily into the camera. Accompanying the images, Ordway’s hauntingly beautiful composition features the students singing the poignant lyrics they themselves contributed:

*One year ago today, I did not know:
How much I could cry,
How much I could take for granted,
How much I had left to learn from my parents,
Or that we could ignore the science,
We would not stand together,
I would live behind a mask . . .*

In the end, as Hamilton conductor Charlotte Botha notes, “[We were] reaching across vast distances to form a connected, stretched-out ensemble of strangers. *Twenty/Twenty* is our space of consonance and dissonance; our pain, our pride, our care, and our gratitude.” The idea of connection in a time of isolation was also an inspiration to composer Scott Ordway: “Through this project, we have formed a large community of musicians and designed a structure through which we can directly collaborate with one another in ways that would have been unimaginable just a few months ago.”

“I am very thankful to have been a part of making and recording *Twenty/Twenty* during this unprecedented time,” says Bi-Co Chamber Singers soprano Jordan Polster ’23. “In a

Music During the Pandemic

year in which almost all live performances have had to be canceled, it brought me great joy to be a part of the music-making.”

At the start of the spring semester, the Chamber Singers began their rehearsals online and are gradually shifting to twice weekly in-person rehearsals (masked and socially distanced) in the Music Department tent, which has moved from its original Lloyd Green location to Walton Field, behind Drinker

House. At semester’s end, the group will present its annual Commencement Concert, which will be either live-streamed or prerecorded. Along with a variety of choral works from different eras and traditions, the Chamber Singers will perform a new work composed by Grace Coberly ’21.

Twenty/Twenty can be viewed at hav.to/814.

—Rebecca Raber, with additional reporting by Eils Lotozo



ORCHESTRA PLAYS ON DESPITE CHALLENGES

The Orchestra’s string players (masked and distanced) rehearsing in Founders Great Hall.

There was no need to wait for a concert to hear the Bi-College Orchestra play this fall. All you had to do was eat dinner on Lloyd Green on a Thursday and listen to the rehearsals that took place under the Music Department tent.

Practicing with wind instruments outdoors is one of many COVID-19 safety precautions the Orchestra has had to follow. They also have had to rehearse in smaller groups for shorter periods of time, sitting farther apart. The rules are all outlined in a nine-page

document—posted on the Music Department web page—that lists the pandemic safety protocols for music teaching, rehearsal, and practice spaces.

There are almost 70 students in the Bi-Co Orchestra, but under the protocols only 19 to 25 of them can play together at once—which has made scheduling rehearsals a real puzzle, says Orchestra Director Heidi Jacob. “We cannot all practice together. There are too many of us to put outside under the tent, and acoustically it would not work. The players would be too far from each other.”

So, at any one time, the percussionists might be Zooming in Marshall Auditorium while the brass section rehearses with Jacob in the tent, and the string section practices in Founders Great Hall. (Players who are not on campus can still participate in remote small groups and work with the same repertoire the Orchestra is performing in remote classes.)

Despite the restrictions, the students in the Bi-Co Orchestra say that it has been worth it.

“It has been fantastic just to be able to make music with other people,” says Co-Concertmistress Meg Bowen ’23. “While it was rewarding to focus on my individual skills over quarantine, I desperately missed playing in ensembles and having that connection that only comes with seeing each other in person.”

Elena Bien ’24 says that in-person rehearsals this fall have helped her form new friendships during her first semester at Haverford.

“I think one of the most rewarding aspects of Orchestra this year is being able to play together with other students who enjoy music in a fun and relaxed environment,” says Bien. “It has allowed me to form new friendships with students across different years from both Haverford and Bryn Mawr.”

It hasn’t been easy, though. The group has been accidentally locked out of rehearsal spaces, and in outdoor practices players have had to compete with background noise from crickets to construction. But the biggest challenge of the fall semester was fluctuating weather, says Nina Mandel ’22, the Bi-Co Orchestra’s principal cellist. “For string players, the cold makes it quite hard to move your fingers, and the rain could ruin our instruments easily.”

Also not easy, says Jacob, was moving all of the percussion instruments, including the timpani and bass drum, outdoors in order to perform Roberto Sierra’s *Fanfarría for brass and percussion*.

Yet, the Bi-Co Orchestra has grown from these challenges.

“We encountered frustration and learned to be flexible and resilient,” says Jacob. “It is important for our students to see that we sometimes must try different ways to try to solve the problem and that we must compromise to make things work.”

The Orchestra gave its first performance of the fall semes-

ter on Oct. 10, playing in the tent on Lloyd Green. “I was so pleased with the concert!” says Jacob. “The students played beautifully, musically, and with composure despite the wind and occasional airplane overhead while we were in the tent.”

Three other “concerts” followed, including a beautiful performance of Tchaikovsky’s *Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48* in Founders Great Hall that was videotaped and recorded. (The players were masked and distanced, and there was no audience present.) The group also did a multitrack recording of a section of Handel’s *Water Music Suite*. In addition, Haverford’s chamber music students were spotlighted in three recorded concerts featuring 10 different ensembles playing in a range of performance and practice spaces on campus.

“It has been fantastic just to be able to make music with other people... I desperately missed playing in ensembles and having that connection that only comes with seeing each other in person.”

For the spring, in which all of the strict pandemic practice protocols are still in effect, Jacob has divided the semester into two halves, “to make the practices less frantic.” The first half will be devoted to the repertoire for strings, with a concert recording planned for Founders Great Hall in early April. “Starting April 8, the repertoire that includes woodwinds and brass, along with some string players and percussionists that will perform in those pieces as well, will rehearse and perform under the new Music Department tent by the Walton Field scoreboard,” says Jacob. “My brass and woodwind players may also have some Zoom sectionals with professionals there on Thursday evenings, if it is warm enough.”

Links to recordings of Orchestra and chamber ensemble performances are posted on the Music Department web page: haverford.edu/music.

—Sally Pearson ’21, with additional reporting by Eils Lotozo



ILLUSTRATIONS: DOUGLAS JONES

A *Seat* at the Table

Haverford women parse the rise of trailblazing VP Kamala Harris. **BY LINI S. KADABA**

June Elcock-Messam '86

When Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris were declared the winners of the November election, pediatrician **June Elcock-Messam '86** was elated.

A specialist in child abuse who has her own practice in Wallingford, Pa., she says her joy was grounded in the triumph of an experienced, smart ticket whose policies, especially around child abuse, she passionately supports. But Elcock-Messam, 56, allows there was another reason that this particular victory was especially sweet: Kamala Harris would be the country's first woman, first Black person, and first South Asian to hold the vice presidency.

"I have the same roots as Kamala," she says. Elcock-Messam grew up in Guyana, the child of a mother who is of Indian ethnicity and a father who is Black, originally from Barbados. At 16, she immigrated with her family to the United States. "My eldest daughter said, 'Mom, she is you.' We're immigrants. We are people of color. It's hugely impactful for us to have this representation."

For Elcock-Messam and five other Haverford College alumnae, Harris's ascendancy strongly resonates. It's a barrier broken,



or at least cracked, as the country takes one more step toward greater diversity and equality. Finally, these women say, they see themselves reflected—whether by gender, race or ethnicity—in one of the highest positions of power in this country, and they take great inspiration from the vice president's story, both in the struggles she has overcome and the successes she has found.

Elcock-Messam, for one, views Harris as a role model, not only for herself but also for a younger generation of color.

"As a pediatrician, I see the impact that racism has on my patients and their parents," she says. "When people expect less

of you solely because of the color of your skin, ... the only way to break through this barrier is for more of us to become front and center and to demonstrate that we are strong, confident, motivated, intelligent, creative, persistent, accomplished, courageous, thoughtful people of character.

"We are role models," Elcock-Messam continues. "We are *more than*, not less than." Harris embodies those traits "all wrapped up in one person—an amazing trailblazer."

Sarah Bruno '01

While a record number

of women are serving in the 117th Congress, women—and women of color even more so—are still woefully underrepresented. As the former executive director of the nonpartisan Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN) in Washington, D.C., **Sarah Bruno '01** has long worked to boost those numbers, preparing women in college to become leaders.

Of course, Harris's election thrilled her, she says. She had volunteered to get out the vote for the ticket, taking off from work the week before the election to knock on doors in York, Pa. As a white woman, she was buoyed by a woman in the No. 2 slot.

"I feel so strongly that women bring so much to the table, and we need that representation at the top of everything," says Bruno, 42, who headed



PLEN for five years, and recently started as chief of staff at Accountable.US, a Washington, D.C., nonpartisan watchdog group that exposes government corruption. "The fact we haven't had that ever is just incredible to me." As she watched the inauguration, she says she was overcome with emotion. "I

teared up when [Harris] took the oath."

The significance of the moment, Bruno says, is encapsulated in a modern-day refrain: If you aren't at the table, you're on the menu. She follows that with a favorite quote from Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress: "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."

"You have to be in the room and part of the process," she says. "In Washington, things get done when you have relationships with people, when you're in the room late at night, hashing out the policy. It's really important Kamala Harris is there for that."

Already, Bruno says, the new vice president has given younger women confidence to pursue public leadership roles. "I've heard women say, 'If she can do it, I can do it.' At PLEN, we said you can't be what you don't see."

A Seat at the Table

Monica Rao '10

While many women,

and especially those of a certain vintage, can hardly believe this day has come, Millennials such as **Monica Rao '10** wonder, at some level, what all the fuss is about. After all, they came of age witnessing a Black president—and women running for the nation's highest offices.

Rao, who has been living in Arlington, Va., since the pandemic, says that her Indian immigrant parents “were over the moon” and “my mom, ... I don't think it's something she ever expected.” But for the 33-year-old chief program officer at the nonprofit Global Detroit, which helps immigrants and refugees integrate into the local economy, “this seems the natural progression of things. It's amazing. But it also feels right. She's a smart woman.”



That said, one of her Millennial cousins celebrated Harris's historic win by emailing a coloring book picture of the vice president for Rao to color—one way a younger generation marks a big deal.

Perhaps reflecting another generational difference, Rao also has less interest in Harris's specific heritage—she was not even aware of the candidate's South Asian roots until her mother told her. As a first-generation American, she says she doesn't necessarily identify herself through an ethnic lens: “For me, it's that she's a daughter of immigrants. I'm a daughter of immigrants.”

In fact, Rao says she looks forward to Harris championing immigrant rights. “We focus so much on individual identity,” she says. “‘She's Black,’ or ‘She's Indian.’ Why are we focusing on these small differences? I wish people focused on, ‘She's an immigrant like me,’ or ‘She could be my daughter.’”

“That sends a strong message,” Rao says, “that we are the face of America.”

Sarah Willie-LeBreton '86

Like many, Sarah Willie-

LeBreton '86, provost and dean of faculty at Swarthmore College, takes inspiration from Harris's rise to a heartbeat away from the most powerful job in the world. At the same time, she urges caution in this intoxicating moment.

Even though the United States now has its first woman and woman of color as vice president, the barriers that have prevented that feat for so long still remain in place, says the 57-year-old sociologist, who lives in Media, Pa.

“The only reason we haven't had a woman in either the presidency or vice presidency before is because of structural sexism and prejudice,” Willie-LeBreton says. “I continue to believe that patriarchal expectations and misogyny are twin rivers that run through our culture. They don't define everything, but they, as twin rivers, saturate a lot of the land around them.”

“The barriers have not been broken for all women, or all women of color, or all people of color,” she adds. “They've been challenged—beautifully challenged—by [Harris's] ascendance. But those barriers are still very clearly there.”

Willie-LeBreton, who is biracial, has challenged a barrier or two



herself. She is Swarthmore's first Black provost and serves with its first Black president, Valerie Smith.

In Harris's story of perseverance, Willie-LeBreton takes encouragement “to not collapse under constant judgment. ... On the personal front, being in a big job is really challenging. There are days it's exhausting. When you see someone in a bigger job, with bigger challenges, who has lots in common with you, it reminds you that you have the resilience to do your piece, and that's really wonderful.”

But even as she celebrates the new administration and finds hope for the future, Willie-LeBreton says that neither Harris nor Biden should be treated as beyond reproach, even though she represents so many firsts,

and even though he picked her.

“There's a real compulsion, an understandable one, to be so grateful to Biden for choosing her that we don't continue to hold him accountable to do what's best for the country,” Willie-LeBreton says. “Or we're so excited about her advancement over these particular barriers, that we don't hold her accountable, either. I just don't want to find myself thinking only about race and gender.”

“It comes back to the fact she represents a part of my identity, not just the first woman, but a person of color, who’s Indian, a daughter of immigrants. She’s a symbol of progress in a lot of ways.”

Saumya Varma '18

When Donald Trump won

the 2016 election, **Saumya Varma '18** was a junior at Haverford. She was an international student from Calcutta, and, at the time, the sociology major didn't have much interest in politics, especially U.S. politics.

But Varma, like many Americans, says she felt a deep sense of loss as she watched the results with other Fords. Some of her friends wondered why she cared so much, given she was not a U.S. citizen.

“That’s true,” says Varma, 25. “I’m not a citizen.” But her time at Haverford and conversations both inside and outside the classroom have made her more attuned to American politics and their impact on her life. She has realized she has more at stake in the U.S. election than she ever imagined.

“For many, many countries around the world, the U.S. is not just the self-proclaimed leader, but they actually look to the U.S. to set an example, to set the way forward,” Varma says. “When you see a country like that failing, regressing instead of progressing on human rights, women’s rights, LGBTQ rights over the last four years, it’s shocking. It’s scary. If the U.S. can’t uphold those standards, what kind of expectations



do you have for the rest of the world?”

Now back in India, Varma is the co-director of her family’s nonprofit Calcutta Foundation, which does disaster relief and other work in West Bengal. She watched closely as the 2020 presidential election unfolded, rooting for Harris first during the primaries, and then when she received the vice presidential nomination.

“It comes back to the fact she represents a part of my identity,” Varma says, “not just the first woman, but a person of color, who’s Indian, a daughter of immigrants.

She’s a symbol of progress in a lot of ways.”

In India, Harris garnered a lot of attention. Some, though, noticed that she seemed to only spend time talking about the Indian part of her heritage once she made it to the Democratic ticket. Within Varma’s family, the discussion turned on whether Harris was capitalizing on her roots purely for political purposes.

But the important thing is, Varma says, Harris was elected. “The end result is that you are seeing a more diverse White House, and having a diverse White House weighing in on decisions on international relations is important not just for the U.S., but the world.”

“For years, we’ve been fighting to get into the room.

Kamala totally gets it. I don’t have to describe my challenges to her. These are issues she cares about, that she represents personally and professionally, and she always has.”

Samantha Phillips Beers ’84

When Joe Biden selected a

woman of color as his running mate, attorney **Samantha Phillips Beers ’84** welcomed the choice as a sign of balance.

“It showed Biden had a willingness to begin to hear someone from a different background,” says the 58-year-old director of the Office of Communities, Tribes and Environmental Assessment for the Environmental Protection Agency’s Mid-Atlantic region. “I didn’t say *hear*. I said *begin* to hear.”

Beers, who is biracial and was part of Haverford’s first coed class, has no illusions that Harris’s election provides a panacea around race relations in the United States—just as the election of Barack Obama as the first Black president, she notes, did not create a post-racial America.

“It’s a slow process,” she allows. “We have to take a step, plant a foot, and stay there.”

Harris is that step, Beers says. She offers a multitude of lenses that balance out Biden. There’s gender and race, of course. But Harris also is 22 years younger than Biden. In addition, she was raised by a professional, working mother, Shyamala Gopalan Harris, a cancer researcher—a fact that resonates with Beers, herself a working mother.

“Those are all the lenses that she brings that he does not have,” the University City resident says. “That provides balance. And given what happened to Anita Hill, I needed to see that,” she adds, referring to Biden’s handling of Hill’s testimony in 1991 during then-Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas’s confirmation hearing.

On the Saturday after the election, Beers says she was glued to the television, drinking herbal tea with a friend and waiting for the networks to call the race. When they did at



11:24 a.m., “we were clapping,” she says. “The amount of relief I felt for this country was huge. . . . The strength of this country comes from a variety of people getting to a better answer than we can by ourselves. That’s what we want.”

Beers is particularly encouraged when it comes to environmental justice, the focus of her career. During the Trump administration, environmental regulatory rollbacks hit Black and brown communities hard, she points out. Even before, minority communities faced a disproportionate impact from pollution, with little changing over decades. In Biden’s first week in office, Beers

was pleased to see that he signed an executive order creating the White House Environmental Justice Interagency Council.

Beers sees Harris’s imprint on such actions. Even as a prosecutor in San Francisco, more than 15 years ago, Harris created an environmental justice unit to go after polluters who hurt some of the city’s poorest residents. She pursued environmental justice as a senator as well, introducing an environmental justice bill.

“For years,” Beers says, “we’ve been fighting to get into the room. Kamala totally gets it. I don’t have to describe my challenges to her. These are issues she cares about, that she represents personally and professionally, and she always has.”

“Because of balance, . . . environmental justice is now part of the national conversation and includes communities, even disenfranchised communities,” she adds. “It’s now starting to happen. Kamala is a significant part of institutionalizing that change.”

Regular contributor Lini S. Kadaba, a former Philadelphia Inquirer staff writer, is the daughter of Indian immigrants.

The VP and Children's Ideas on Race and Gender

When Kamala Harris

took the oath of office in January, it wasn't solely adults who were witnessing a groundbreaking moment. Harris was also sending an important message to children: "While I may be the first woman in this office," she said in her acceptance speech, "I will not be the last."

Assistant Professor of Psychology Ryan Lei directs Haverford's Intersectionality in the Social Mind Lab, and was interviewed by CNN about the effect that the new vice president could have on children. His lab studies how kids ages 3-13 acquire stereotypes and biases about race, gender, and socioeconomic status.

To study bias in Lei's lab, children are shown an array of faces and asked, for example, who's the most athletic among them. They're most likely to pick Black and white men (rather than women, or Asian men). When shown an array of white and Black faces and asked who is rich and who is poor, they tend to answer along racial lines.

Lei says Harris's election offers an opportunity for parents to counter stereotypes children may have about women and leadership. "As a parent, I would talk about Harris not as an exception, but as the beginning of a pattern of women in leadership," he says. "That could help guide children to think about being a



Harris's election, as well as the supportive role embraced by her husband, Doug Emhoff, offers parents plenty of fodder for discussion about the potential for girls to be leaders and boys to be caregivers, says Ryan Lei.

leader, or to think about leadership qualities both genders have."

It's an opportunity, especially for white parents, to discuss race and gender. "I think they are often less comfortable talking about race in particular," notes Lei. One approach he suggests is to say, "Isn't it cool that we now have a vice president who's the first African-American, Asian, and woman VP? Why do you think it took so long? Use it as an opportunity to

talk about broader forces that prevented people from attaining these roles."

And it's a chance to talk about the way Harris's husband, Doug Emhoff, has embraced his role as supportive partner. "We not only want children to see that girls are capable and can occupy leadership positions, but also to know that boys and men can occupy support or caregiving roles."

This past year the lab has been on a "major pause" due to the pandemic, but typically there are eight to 10 student assistants helping with all aspects of research, from interacting with the kids (whose parents sign them up via the lab's website) to analyzing data and writing papers. Re-

cent work by Lei and his students includes papers documenting specific anti-Black boy bias and the phenomenon of preschool-aged children associating Blackness with masculinity.

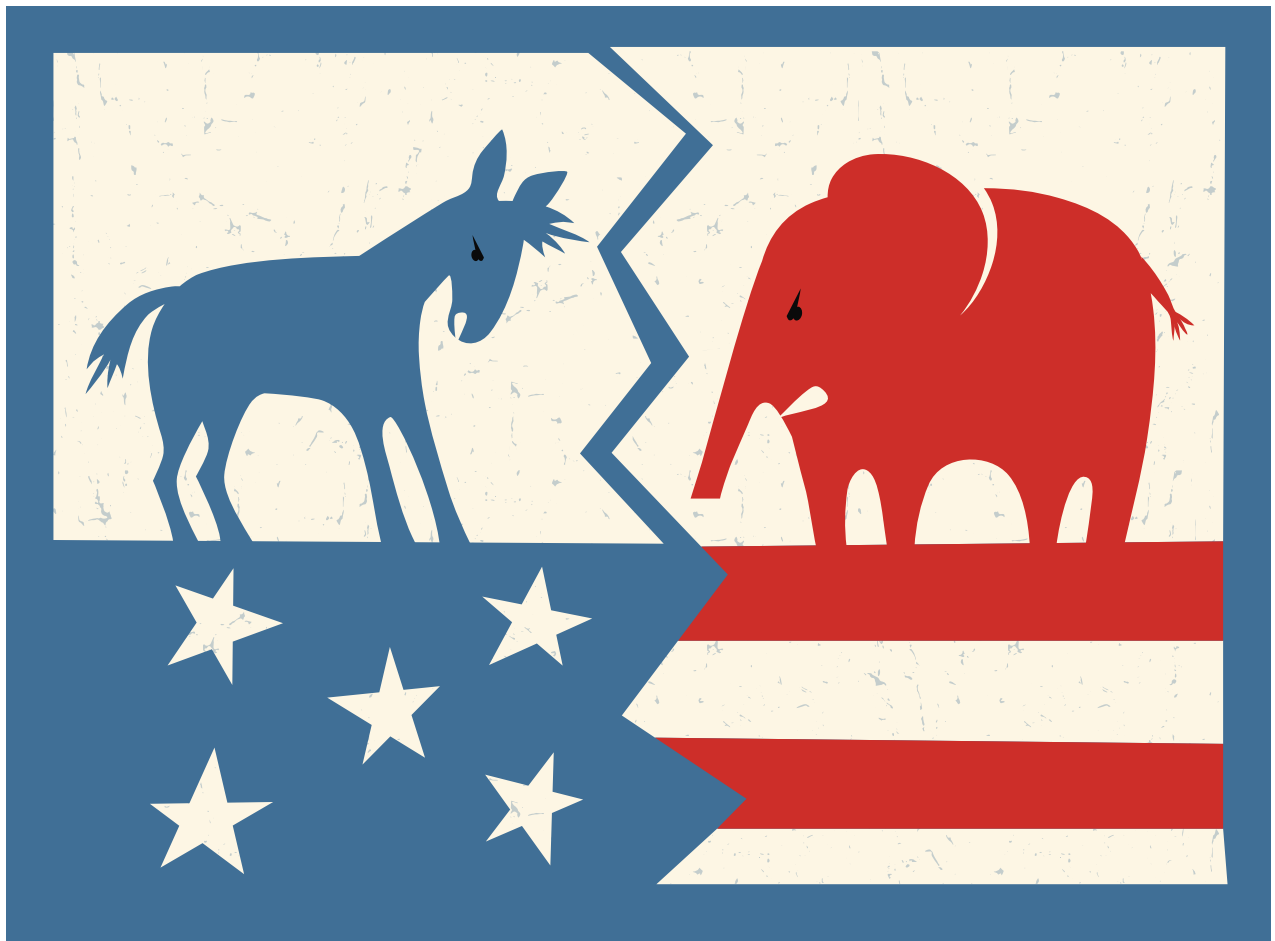
"Children are not born to hate. It's not like they innately dislike people who are different," says Lei. "There's a lot of socialization that happens in small, almost pernicious ways that can influence children."

—Anne Stein



Assistant Professor of Psychology Ryan Lei

pens in small, almost pernicious ways that can influence children."



FIXING OUR **BROKEN** ELECTION SYSTEM



Alumni advocates outline the problems—and the solutions that are gaining ground.

BY DEBBIE GOLDBERG

On March 3, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, the “For the People Act,” a transformational bill designed to fix our broken election system. The legislation would ensure voting rights, end partisan gerrymandering of congressional districts, strengthen ethics laws, and place limits on campaign financing.

“H.R. 1 would give everyday Americans a greater voice,” says **Aaron Scherb '04**, director of legislative affairs at Common Cause, a nonpartisan group that works on pro-democracy reforms to make government more fair and representative. “There are some incredibly powerful reforms in there.”

For these reforms to become law, however, the Senate would have to pass its version of the bill, S. 1, and reconcile any differences with the House before it could land on President Biden’s desk for signing. As of this writing, the Senate Rules and Administration Committee is scheduled to hold a hearing on the bill March 24, but it is uncertain whether it can pass the full Senate, which has a 50-50 party split and where the filibuster could be used by Republicans to block passage. In the House, H.R. 1 was passed by a slight Democratic majority with no Republican support.

Despite the partisanship in Congress, the bill is popular among voters: A recent poll by Data for Progress found that 68 percent of likely voters supported H.R. 1, including 57 percent of Republicans.

“It’s obvious that this polarized, dysfunctional party system is a complete breakdown of good policymaking and efficient representation of our interests,” says **Rob Richie '84**, president and CEO of FairVote, a nonpartisan organization focused on electoral reforms for a more representative democracy. Richie helped found the organization in 1992.

“Our Constitution depends on a more Quakerly approach grounded in compromise and negotiation,” says Richie, father of **Lucas Richie '18** and **Becca Richie '20**; he comes from a long line of Haverford graduates, including his father, grandfather, brothers, and uncle. “This is breaking our democracy.”

Richie and Scherb are among a number of Haverford alumni who are working hard to bring about substantive democracy reforms to ensure fair elections, give a voice to all voters, and fight ethical and financial corruption in politics.

The stakes may be higher than ever. Following months of baseless claims by then-President Trump that the 2020 election was fraudulent, the country witnessed the deadly storming of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 by those attempting to change the outcome of the election. To some, it was the culmination of the deterioration of democratic standards and ethics that

have chipped away at the foundations of American democracy.

“There is a myth in America that we are a conservative country. We are a progressive country with antebellum institutions,” says **Waleed Shahid '09**, communications director for Justice Democrats, which works to elect progressive candidates such as Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-NY. “We don’t have a democracy that represents the will of the people.”

At the same time, there are positive changes taking place in cities and states across the country. For example, Maine has enacted ranked-choice voting for most elections, and its Clean Election Act offers public funding for state candidates. And voters in Alaska last November approved sweeping changes to end dark money in elections, establish a single primary for all parties, and allow voters to rank candidates by preference, even for presidential elections.

“We have opportunities in 50 states and many dozens of large cities,” says **Alex Kaplan '09**, vice president of policy and campaigns at RepresentUs, a national, nonpartisan democracy reform and anticorruption organization that focuses on change at the state and local level through legislation and ballot measures approved, and often initiated, by voters.

Many national advances, including women’s suffrage and marriage equality, first took root in the states, Kaplan points out. “Every state has some form of a ballot measure to put questions directly to the people.”

Here’s a closer look at some of the major problems, and the ways to fix our broken election system.



★★★
**THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE VS.
THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE**

Twice in recent years, in 2000 and 2016, a U.S. president was elected who had lost the popular vote. How is it that the candidate with fewer votes wins the highest office in the country?

Blame it on the Electoral College, an archaic system that was designed in part to give more power to slave states. It takes 270 state electoral votes to win the pres-

Fixing Our Broken Election System

idency, regardless of whether that candidate wins the most votes nationwide. It's a system that undermines the basic democratic principle of every vote having equal weight.

Ending the Electoral College, however, would require a constitutional amendment, a lengthy and challenging process unlikely to be successful in such a partisan era.

The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact solves this problem by having states agree to award all of their electoral votes to the winner of the national popular vote. (FairVote was an early champion of the concept, with Richie coauthoring Every Vote Equal in 2006.) When the electoral votes of the states that join the compact total the 270 electoral votes needed to win the presidency, it would ensure that the candidate with the most votes wins. So far, 15 states and the District of Columbia have joined the compact, representing 196 electoral votes. If states whose combined electoral votes total 74 or more sign on, the compact will take effect.

"It renders the Electoral College harmless, and it's more doable than a constitutional amendment," explains Scherb, who majored in political science at Haverford and was inspired to work in politics by the rancorous 2000 election, in which a U.S. Supreme Court ruling enabled George W. Bush to win the White House, although he lost the popular vote. (Two of Scherb's colleagues at Common Case are **Jesse Littlewood '03** and **Steve Spaulding '05**.)

"I think people of many different political persuasions and backgrounds can get behind the idea that the person with the most votes wins," says **Andrew Eldredge-Martin '01**, who runs the political firm Measured Campaigns and previously led digital paid media operations for Sen. Bernie Sanders's 2020 presidential campaign.



CAMPAIGN FINANCE: GETTING BIG MONEY OUT OF POLITICS

"Until we get big money out of politics and ensure everyone's sacred right to vote is protected, we won't be able to fully address climate change, gun violence, cutting prescription costs," and other issues that go against corporate and other big-money interests, Scherb says.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, about \$14 billion was spent on the 2020 national elections, about twice as much as in 2016. Only about \$1.8 billion of that came from small donors.

The problem of big money in politics worsened after the 2010 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, which removed many campaign finance safeguards. H.R. 1 includes campaign finance provisions that would undo much of the fallout from *Citizens United*.

Meanwhile, cities and states are moving forward with their own election finance reforms. Seattle, for instance, gives every registered voter four \$25 vouchers to donate to candidates. "It's very different from going to a lobbyist's fundraiser," Kaplan says. "There's \$100 in every door; it gives every person the same power."



“**THERE IS A MYTH** in America that we are a conservative country.

We are a progressive country with antebellum institutions,”

says Waleed Shahid '09.

The Maine Clean Election Act, passed in 1996, offers a public funding option for state offices, including governor. “It gives an ordinary person a way to run a decent election,” says **Anne Carney ‘84**, who was elected to the state House of Representatives in 2018 and the state Senate in 2020. Public funding for a contested House seat, for example, is \$5,075, and once funded, candidates may not accept outside donations.

Although she considered public funding for her own races, Carney faced primary and general election opponents who raised money the traditional way, showing the limits of the Clean Election Act. “I needed the flexibility to match what they brought to the campaign,” she says. Even so, her senate opponent spent almost twice what she did.

★★★ GERRYMANDERING

If your U.S. congressional district looks like a pretzel, chances are it’s the result of gerrymandering. Every 10 years, the number of congressional seats assigned to a state may go up or down based on new U.S. Census data. In a practice going back to the early 1800s, the party that controls the state legislature often redraws district lines to favor its party.

It’s a tactic used by both Democrats and Republicans and, ultimately, results in unfair voter representation. It also creates mostly safe districts for candidates, Richie says, thus further removing incentives for them to speak to all voters, not just those in their own party.

A more equitable way to redistrict is by establishing independent commissions that include all parties. Eight states already do this to varying degrees, says Kaplan, with Arizona, Michigan, and California representing the gold standard with independent, multi-party commissions, a transparent process, and clear rules.

Another five states—Colorado, Ohio, Utah, Missouri, and Virginia—have enacted beneficial redistricting reforms.

Tellingly, redistricting reforms in these states came from ballot measures passed by a majority of voters, says Kaplan, who got hooked on democracy reform at Haverford and earned a master’s in public policy analysis and a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley. “Even conservative voters want reform.”

Currently, six additional states are moving toward redistricting ballot measures, and H.R. 1, if enacted, would require states to create independent redistricting commissions and end gerrymandering. What happens this year is critical, as any redistricting changes from the

2020 census will remain in place for the next 10 years.

Kaplan is optimistic: “I do think we can stop gerrymandering by 2031,” he says. “It’s a worthy, achievable, and audacious goal.”



★★★ WINNER-TAKE-ALL VS. FAIR REPRESENTATION

Our political system is primarily winner-take-all: Candidates win elections even if they receive only a few more votes than their opponent. The result is that the views and values of about half of the voters in these elections are unrepresented.

“In winner-take-all, 51 percent of votes is 100 percent,” Richie says.

The Fair Representation Act—first introduced in Congress in 2017 and introduced again this year—would address this inequity by creating new, multi-member congressional districts that would be drawn by independent commissions and elected through a form of ranked-choice voting that provides proportional representation. These larger districts with more candidates to choose from would give voice to a wider swath of voters who may not be represented in our winner-take-all system: red-state Democrats, urban Republicans, independents, women, and communities of color.

To put this in perspective, Shahid says if his Brooklyn congressional district were to be enlarged to include three nearby districts, and this larger district similarly represented by four members of Congress, voters in the larger district would probably end up electing two Democrats, one Republican, and one Socialist candidate.

Fixing Our Broken Election System

But in the current winner-take-all system, he says, the four separate districts that cover the same geographic area would likely elect only Democrats. The fair representation approach gives a larger, combined voice to people whose votes may be diluted in smaller, gerrymandered districts of our current system.

To date, more than 200 U.S. cities and counties use some form of fair representation voting to elect city council members, supervisors, school board members, and other elected offices, according to FairVote. Illinois has elected its House of Representatives by fair representation for more than 100 years.

If enacted nationally, it would be a wholesale change in the way we elect U.S. House members that would give more voters a say in government and encourage candidates to reach out beyond their own base.

“Third-party candidates and independents are so weak now, but a lot of people are hungry for additional choices,” says Richie, noting that passage of The Fair Representation Act is a top priority for FairVote. “Given the troubling state of our democracy, winning in 10 years is not only possible, but an imperative.”

★★★ RANKED-CHOICE VOTING

In our winner-take-all election system, large numbers of people end up unrepresented, and third-party and independent candidates don't have much of a chance to compete—or, worse, are considered spoilers. It's a system of government unlike those of most western democracies, which have multiple political parties and proportional representation of elected officials.

To remedy winner-take-all, there is growing support for ranked-choice voting, an alternative that FairVote says would make our democracy more equitable and functional. Ranked-choice voting allows people to rank a number of candidates in order of preference. If a candidate wins more than 50 percent of the vote in the first count, he or she would win the election. If not, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated, and those who voted for that person as their top choice will have their votes go to their second choice. This continues until there is a majority winner.

“Winners in this system tend to get highly ranked by 65 to 70 percent of people,” Richie says, noting it creates an incentive for candidates to make connections with more people. “At the end of the day, almost everyone gets to elect someone they like. It also means you can vote for a third-party or independent candidate and not feel like you're throwing your vote away.”

It's a system that's gaining traction. Some 25 cities are using ranked-choice voting for their local elections, with over a dozen adoptions just since 2018. San Francisco has been doing it since 2004, and New York City recently adopted ranked-choice voting for mayoral and city council primary races.

“This is something we think can win everywhere,” says Richie. “It's a one-person, one-vote system with backup.”



★★★ VOTING RIGHTS

Since the landmark Voting Rights Act was passed in 1966, barring racial discrimination in voting, state laws have been chipping away at its impact by making it more difficult for people to register and vote.

Following the historic turnout in the 2020 general election, hundreds of bills in 43 states have been introduced this year that would restrict voting, according to the Brennan Center for Justice. Typically, these include restricting mail-in and early voting and registration, allowing purges of voter rolls, and limiting voting by felons who have completed their sentences. Many of the proposed bills would have the effect of disenfranchising voters of color who tend to vote Democratic.

“We don't make it easy to vote in our country,” says **Kate Stewart '92**, mayor of Takoma Park, Md., since 2015. But this city of 17,000 just outside Washington, D.C., has expanded voting rights in recent decades, automatically sending ballots to all registered voters and offering same-day registration, early voting, and ranked-choice voting.

And in 2013, Takoma Park became the first U.S. city to lower the voting age to 16 for municipal elections. The success of this move is evidenced in the city's 2020 election report, which found that 69 percent of 16- and 17-year-old registered voters went to the polls—the highest rate of all age groups. Stewart isn't surprised: "Many of them are working and paying taxes, and the issues we face as a country, such as climate change, will impact us for a generation or more."

Stewart, who works in public relations promoting women's reproductive rights in addition to serving as mayor, thinks lowering the voting age would be good national policy: "Voting is a habit, and getting into the habit of voting early on helps predict you'll be a voter for the rest of your life."

Further north, Carney says Maine is a model of voting rights: same-day registration, no-excuse absentee voting, early voting, and multiple ways to apply for and return ballots. "People can register to vote on the day of the election; even if you just moved to Maine, you can bring a utility bill and an ID to the polls and register and vote," she says. "There are so many ways to vote, and it supports high voter turnout."

★★★ REASON TO BE OPTIMISTIC

While the problems in our electoral system are pervasive and entrenched, those working on the front lines for democracy reform are cautiously optimistic that we could see positive changes in the foreseeable future. Flaws in the voting process seem to be fueling public support for large-scale reforms that would create a more fair and just system.

"Four years of nonstop ethical abuses and scandals from the Trump administration can hopefully catalyze significant reforms," Scherb says. "As a Chicago Cubs fan, I have to be an eternal optimist, but it's definitely a marathon, not a sprint."

Shahid agrees there is reason to be hopeful, especially with Democrats in control of the White House and both chambers of Congress, and a possibility of ending the Senate filibuster rule that requires a super majority of 60 votes for legislation to pass.

"There is enormous opportunity to transform our democracy," Shahid says. "I have to be optimistic because I want to see this country become more representative and pass laws that address people's needs."

Journalist Debbie Goldberg is a former reporter for The Washington Post and university public relations leader based in the Philadelphia area. She has covered many national and local political races.



GIFTS AT WORK

Students in the course "Constitutional Law in Principle, Policy, and Practice" are taking a hard look this semester at the limits on congressional lawmaking, the growth of presidential authority, and the relationship between federal and state governments.

"Our students have good reason for flocking to law courses," notes Associate Professor of Political Science Steve McGovern. "They understand that the threat posed to constitutional rights today has arguably never been greater. To take just one example, widespread efforts to restrict voting access through changes in state laws disproportionately burden lower-income populations and people of color," he explains.

In honor of his 50th Reunion, retired attorney **George Stavis '67** established the Living Constitution Fund to bolster the curriculum with courses, programs, and speakers, bringing expert practicing attorneys to campus. Stavis sees the Constitution as a "living document" and encourages a progressive approach to its analysis.

"The Living Constitution Fund holds an idea which presently may be unique at the undergraduate level: the teaching of the law as intertwined with the development of American history," says Stavis. "The added potential benefit is that it may provide additional background for students who wish to pursue a legal career."

Support academic innovation with your annual gift at haverford.edu/makeagift.

To learn about creating an endowed fund, contact Deb Strecker at dstrecke@haverford.edu or (610) 896-1129.

My Battle With COVID

By Juan Williams '76

In early December, I tested positive for the coronavirus.

I am a 66-year-old cancer survivor. I am a Black man. And I inhale my share of second-hand smoke because my wife smokes cigarettes. So I set off several red lights that indicate a high risk of a bad outcome if I got COVID-19.

And I really didn't want my wife, the smoker, to have COVID-19 attack her lungs.

After the phone call telling me I tested positive on a lab test, I was sent for two more tests. They confirmed the worst.

A bad situation kept going down. My wife told me I couldn't come home for fear of spreading the virus to her. So I immediately went into quarantine in a hotel room.

Physically, I was not doing well. Already there was extreme fatigue, sudden waves of fever and then chills that left goosebumps on my skin. The headaches, the sinus pain, feeling as if I was going to pass out—it was terrible. At night, sleep was rare and dreams out of control.

I'd turn over and think, "This bed is wet." Then I'd realize there was sweat pouring off me.

But it was the isolation that was hell. That and feeling caught in an out-of-control situation.

The doctors tell you there is not much they can do for you until you can't breathe. If you have trouble breathing, call an ambulance, they add.

Suddenly, I felt trapped in a small room. I began to fixate on the thought that there is no fresh air because the windows don't open.

As I looked out the window at masked people walking down the street, I realized I was the one they



“
The doctors tell you there is not much they can do for you until you can't breathe. If you have trouble breathing, call an ambulance, they add.
”

wanted to avoid—a person with a confirmed positive test capable of spreading the disease. What a mind shift.

Until then I'd thought of myself as the cautious one, avoiding people spreading the virus. I am the one always wearing the mask, even stepping off the sidewalk to avoid getting too close to anyone. Now, I was the threat, the bad guy.

Turning on the TV did not do much good. The numbers on the virus do not calm. At the time, in December, this deadly disease had infected 16 million people and killed about 300,000, in the United States alone.

The hospitals were full.

The texts and emails from friends became a lifeline.

Given that it was the Christmas season, I had a new appreciation for how angels helped that cranky Ebenezer Scrooge and the depressed Jimmy Stewart, playing George Bailey, in *It's a Wonderful Life*.

So many people helped me to push back the fear. Even one of my critics, a big Trump supporter, tweeted: "God's Blessings to you and your family during this difficult time. I hope you get better soon so we can disagree some more. Get Well Soon."

My son left novels. My daughter left a folding exercise bike so I could keep moving.

Even better, she brought my grandchildren to the street far below my hotel room window. They waved at me.

The hotel staff left food outside my door. They were my lifeline.

One night, a waiter stood at a distance to tell me he had only two couples at the lobby restaurant. One of them was talking about me. They argued about my wife not letting me come home. Is that true, he asked?

When I said it was true, he laughed. And for the first time in days, I got to laugh, too.

Despite the kindness, my mind started to wander into some dark places. I won't sugarcoat it. I went a little stir-crazy. Sick as I was, I found myself telling a friend to look out for my family if the virus overwhelmed me.

And you start asking yourself, "Where did I get this? What did I do wrong?"

It is only speculation, but the biggest risk I took was one cold night when I got pulled into a crowded New York restaurant.

continued on page 74

Alumni Association News

A Note from the Alumni Association Executive Committee

Dear Fellow Alumni,

The past year has taken a toll on many of us: from the impact of COVID-19 on the health of our loved ones, to the economic fallout from the pandemic, to an increased intensity of political discord. On the positive side, we've also seen a heightened level of activity around racial justice and equity in the United States. And many of us have had reasons to celebrate, from recent births and graduations to meeting personal challenges (like finally learning how to make banana bread). All the while, the Alumni Association Executive Committee (AAEC) has continued its mission to strengthen relationships between alumni and Haverford College, build connections across generations, and develop avenues for alumni to support current students.

Finding New Ways to Connect

As the pandemic has made it necessary for everyone to move to more digital forms of



Evan LeFlore '06

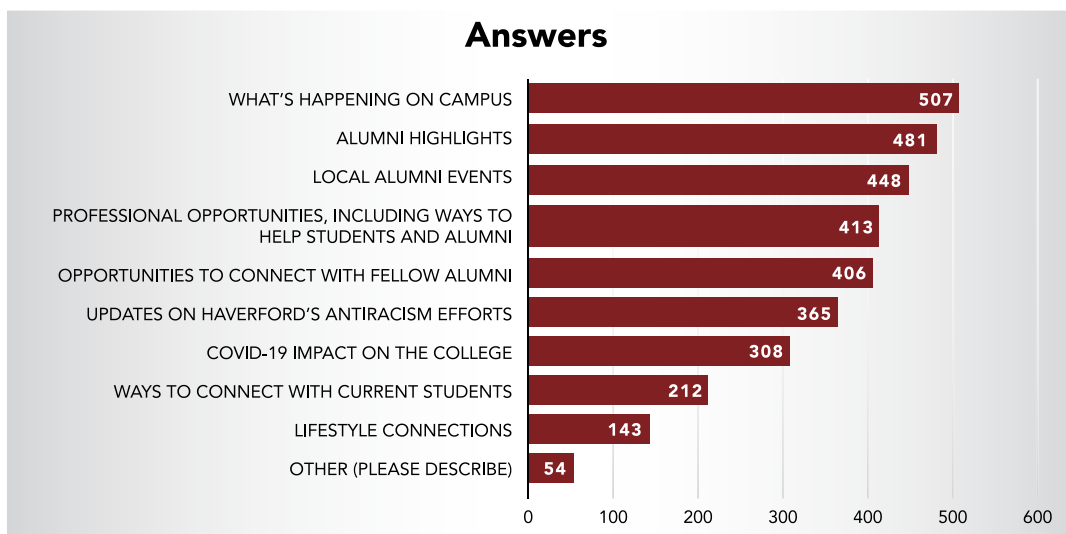


Beverly Ortega Babers '84

interaction, Haverford, the AAEC, and various alumni affinity groups have sought to provide resources and connections to help us navigate this new world. For example, we have held a town hall for alumni of color, a forum to help parents navigate changes in the college admissions process, and numerous professional networking events. We have also launched initiatives to support the school's antiracism efforts, including through documenting the experiences of Haverford students across generations who

“
Haverford, the AAEC, and various alumni affinity groups have sought to provide resources and connections to help us navigate this new world.
 ”

Answers



A survey conducted by the AAEC identified the kind of information about the College and opportunities to connect that alumni respondents most value.

Alumni Association News

identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Initiatives like these are important not only in helping to understand Haverford's history, but also in providing the community the chance to support one another.

We Asked. This Is What You Told Us

In order to prioritize our efforts, we reached out to you in September to hear about how the AAEC can best continue to support the alumni community. Your responses to our survey highlighted a continued desire from alums to keep apprised of campus news, learn about how Haverford alumni are impacting the world, generate professional opportunities, and foster connections among the alumni body. Thus, in the coming months you will begin seeing events focused on these areas.

The survey also showcased areas where we can continue to improve to meet alumni needs. For instance, digital engagement has created opportunities for alumni to engage with each other and the College in ways that geographical distance and scheduling did not previously afford. Therefore, we will be working with Haverford staff to gener-

ate opportunities to virtually bring together alumni, faculty, and students in ways that meet your stated desires. We appreciate your responses and want you to know that we are listening!

Connect With Us!

Are there events, speakers, or types of connection that interest you? Do you have a question about campus life today? Want to give back to Haverford but don't know how? Have a burning question for the Haverford administration or faculty? To get your questions answered, feel free to reach out to us any time at hav.to/askaec.

Wishing you and your families the best in 2021. Viva La Ford!

Evan LeFlore '06, AAEC President

Beverly Ortega Babers '84, AAEC Vice President

Join Haverford Connect



Haverford Connect is our official online community for nurturing Ford connections.

Joining will allow you to:

- search the alumni directory
- update your profile
- network with other alumni
- post to the discussion boards
- advise students interested in your field
- post job openings

Alumni can create a Haverford Connect account using their preferred email, or authenticate via LinkedIn credentials. Make sure you select your areas of interest and indicate whether you're open to meeting requests from other Fords.

Find out more at connect.haverford.edu.

2021 Alumni Awards Honorees

Eleven Haverfordians will be recognized by the Alumni Association for their service to the College, society, and their professions.

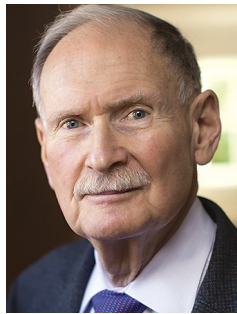


The **KANNERSTEIN AWARD FOR SUSTAINED SERVICE** will be presented to **Ted Love '81, P'15, P'17**. Over the past three decades, he has served on both the Board of Managers and the Alumni Association Executive Committee, played leadership roles in two major fundraising campaigns, and volunteered as an Admission representative.

in 2020. Harper coordinated the national Juvenile Death Penalty Initiative, which played a key role in ending juvenile capital punishment in the United States. His commitment and expertise helped create a paradigm shift in the way the justice system perceives and treats adolescents, resulting in many youthful offenders being resentenced and freed.

PHOTOS: KENT CLEMENCO (LOVE); FOX WETLE (BESDINE); JUSTIN KNIGHT (MCGOVERN); JOVIELLE GERS (KRIEGMAN); BE DROZ (STERLING)

The **DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** will recognize **Richard Besdine '61, P'89** who has devoted his career to the advancement of geriatrics through university-based and public healthcare policy work. He has managed research and educational programs on aging and served as a senior healthcare executive in the federal government.



The **LAWRENCE FORMAN AWARD** will honor **Orion Kriegman '96**, the executive director of the Boston Food Forest Coalition, a nonprofit land trust that builds edible parks in the city. He also has been involved with many nonprofit initiatives, including the Egleston Community Orchard, NET New England, and Tellus Institute, where he served as coordinator of the Great Transition Initiative, a network of scholars and activists examining the requirements for a global shift toward sustainability.

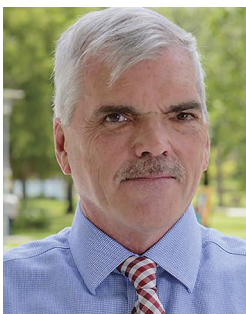
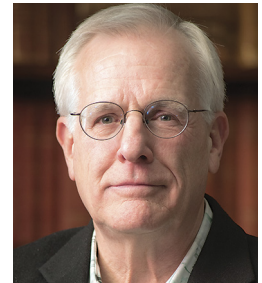


The **Haverford Award for Service to Humanity** will recognize two alumni:

Liz McGovern '91 is a social justice advocate, nonprofit leader, and physician. Her career has been defined by a commitment to establishing and perpetuating equity-driven, inclusive, and participatory approaches to health and human welfare. She has served at urban community health centers and founded WEEMA International, which partners with rural communities in Ethiopia.

Stephen Harper '76 is a former public defender and director of the Death Penalty Clinic at Florida International University College of Law from 2013 until his retirement

Eric Sterling '73 will be recognized with the **WILLIAM KAYE AWARD** for exemplary service in career development. He has sponsored Bi-Co students in externships for more than four decades, spoken at regional alumni gatherings, and served as a member of the Corporation of Haverford College.



David Thomas '71 will be honored with the **ARCHIBALD MACINTOSH AWARD** for service as an admission volunteer. He has served on the Board of Managers and the Alumni Association Executive Committee. The longtime Admission representative has focused recently on interviewing international applicants.

(continued on next page)

Alumni Association News



Two alumni will be honored with the **CHARLES PERRY AWARD** for exceptional service in fundraising:

Jenifer Schweitzer Brooks '91 has been involved in fundraising since her fifth reunion. She played a leading role in the *Lives That Speak* campaign and was a key player in the Class of 1991's 25th reunion gift drive. She joined the Annual Giving Executive Committee in 2013 and is now chair.

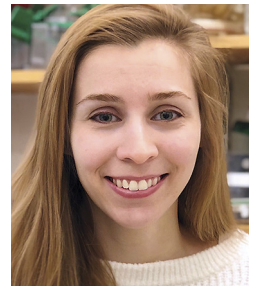


Alan Klein '81 was a member of the Committee of One Hundred during the *Educating to Lead, Educating to Serve* campaign, as well as the Scholarship Steering Committee. He was the New York Regional Campaign Chair for the *Lives That Speak* campaign.



Thien Le '05 P'24 will be honored with the **WILLIAM E. SHEPPARD AWARD** for service in alumni activities. She is a founding member of the Multicultural Alumni Action Group and a Center for Career and Professional Advising extern sponsor. She has served on the Board of Managers and is a member of the Corporation.

The **YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD** will recognize **Brianna Duncan-Lowey '15**, a doctoral student in virology at Harvard Medical School. She currently volunteers with two high school science enrichment programs created to address poor health outcomes in underserved communities.



TO LEARN MORE about the awards, see complete biographies of the honorees and their acceptance remarks, and nominate deserving Fords, visit hav.to/awards.

Save the Dates ■ May 26–30, 2021

ALUMNI WEEKEND
2021

All Fords are welcome to join the online celebration. This extended program will feature a series of engaging virtual offerings hosted by the College, with additional class-organized reunion gatherings.

Visit hav.to/alumniweekend for details.

Class News



The new Michael Jaharis Concert Hall, built as an addition to Roberts Hall, is part of a major music building renovation project slated to be completed in fall 2021.



HVERFORD COLLEGE

Due to privacy concerns, the Class News section is not included in the digital edition of *Haverford Magazine*. To get updates on your classmates and other Haverford grads, sign in to the alumni community, fords.haverford.edu.



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Roads Taken and Not Taken

continued from page 48

A few days after that, I reached out to a doctor. But he told me not to worry. Even when my nose started to drip, I told myself not to be a wimp—it is allergy season and people do get colds.

But it got worse. And then came the positive test.

Three days into quarantine, my wife called to say she tested positive.

The guilt kicked in. But the doctors said since we both had the virus we could quarantine together. I could go home. Ending the isolation was a big emotional lift.

Fourteen days after my positive test and my quarantine, I was feeling much better. My wife was even better. Thank God.

Over the years, I have rarely shared personal stories. My general rule is to only open personal wounds when there is a clear lesson to offer.

The lesson here is to take this virus seriously—wear the mask, wash your

hands, keep your social distance. And reach out to people hit with it.

The coronavirus doesn't care whether you are a liberal or conservative. We are all in this together. Our best hope is to take care of each other.

Juan Williams is an author, and a political analyst for Fox News Channel. This essay was first published in The Hill.

CARE TO SHARE YOUR STORY of roads taken (or not taken) since graduation? Drop us a line: elotozo@haverford.edu

Alumni Obituaries

48 Martin Oppenheimer P'85 died Sept. 26, after many years of living with Alzheimer's. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Oppenheimer spent much of his career dedicated to tax law. He worked in the IRS Chief Counsel's Office in Washington, D.C., for seven years, before opening his own practice in New York City. He finished his career in New York at the small trusts and estates firm of Morris and McVeigh, and moved to Boston, Mass., in 2011. Oppenheimer was an avid reader and an active member of the American Association of Individual Investors. He will be remembered as a true gentleman, with a strong moral compass and charitable spirit. He is survived by his wife, Helene, and their children, Alan, William, and **Elizabeth Oppenheimer '85**.

50 Philip Flanders died Jan. 21. In his senior year of high school, Flanders enlisted in the U.S. Army, and served in World War II. After completing his service, he earned both his bachelor's and master's in physics from Haverford, and started his career in physics at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, Pa., before going on to work at the University of Pennsylvania Physics Lab until his retirement. When not at the lab, he did home and car repairs, published eight non-fiction books, and enjoyed artistic endeavors, such as creating linoleum block-printed Christmas cards. He was predeceased by his wife, Nancy, and his daughter Charlotte Carver. He is survived by his daughters, Stephanie Sun, Adrienne, and Melissa Flanders; his sons, Jonathan and Ian Flanders; nine grandchildren; and 3 great grandchildren.

John Hobart died Nov. 30, at age 91. Hobart attended Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, graduating in 1954. He interned at the University of Chicago Clinics and was a surgical fellow at the University of Pennsylvania prior to serving in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, stationed in Landstuhl, Germany. After his military career, Hobart returned to Pennsylvania and began a private practice in urology, serving in numerous roles at Easton Hospital. He was an active member and leader within several medical associations,

and enjoyed reading history, and playing golf. Family and friends will remember his quick wit and wry humor. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Joan; his three sons, William, Edward, and John Hobart, Jr.; his two daughters, Ann Tinker and Elizabeth Zang; and 10 grandchildren.

Lawrence Imhof died Nov. 12 in Pineville, N.C. After Haverford, Imhof received both a master's degree and Ph.D. in chemistry from Carnegie Institute of Technology. He served as a project scientist for Union Carbide Corporation in Bound Brook, N.J., where he acquired many patents in plastics, and later pivoted to a career as a senior account executive with Merrill Lynch in Somerville, N.J., before retiring in 1984. After his wife Mary Ellen's death in 2001, Imhof moved to Charlotte, N.C., to live with his daughter, Kathleen, and her family. Known for his gentleness, infectious smile, and sage advice, he cherished time with his family, attending all school and sports activities for his grandchildren. He is survived by his daughter, Kathy Imhof Coleman, and two grandchildren.

Harry Nason died Dec. 17. He was 92. Nason worked in human resources for Sun Oil Company for 38 years, operating in the Philadelphia, Pa., area and in Puerto Rico. After retirement, he dedicated himself to supporting his local community, and spent more than a decade serving as boys' lacrosse coach for several area high schools. Family and friends will remember him as a family man, an enthusiastic outdoorsman, and a football lover, who gave excellent advice. Nason is predeceased by his wife, Sue, and his daughter Janet Korkuch. He is survived by his daughter Beth; 3 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and his companion, Marie Yost.

51 William Wixom P'86 died Nov. 26, at age 91. A celebrated medievalist, Wixom dedicated his career to fine arts and curatorship. He received his master's degree from The Institute of Fine Arts of New York University in 1963, before working as curator of Medieval and Renaissance Decorative Arts at the Cleveland Museum of Art, and then chairman of the Department of Medieval

Art and The Cloisters at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. At these museums, Wixom oversaw major exhibitions, facilitated numerous acquisitions, and served as a mentor. After retiring in 1998, he remained active in the art world as a writer, lecturer, and consultant. He was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy, and is survived by his daughter, Rachel; his sons, Llewelyn and **Andy Wixom '86**; his granddaughters; and numerous nieces and nephews.

52 Clark Johnson died Jan. 24 of colon cancer. He was 90 years old. Johnson graduated with his MBA from Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1954, and began a lengthy career in business, serving as president of Allied Chemical and chairman and chief executive of Union Texas Petroleum. He served on the College's Board of Managers from 1986–1998, as well as the boards of Teachers College, Columbia University, and Argentinian oil company YPF. Johnson was a voracious reader who loved to travel, and often spent summers lakeside in Vermont. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 39 years, Myra "Mike," and is survived by his second wife of 12 years, Geraldine Greer; his daughter, Elyse Lyons; his stepsons, Marc, Dyer, Sam, Jay, and Matt Greer; two grandchildren; 14 step-grandchildren; and one step-great grandchild.

Hershel Shanks P'89 died Feb. 5 of COVID-19. Shanks graduated from Columbia University with his master's in sociology in 1953, and graduated Harvard Law School in 1956. He joined the U.S. Justice Department, and then practiced law privately in Washington, D.C., for more than 25 years. Though he never formally studied archaeology, he cultivated a passion for the subject on a yearlong sabbatical in Israel in 1972. After his return to the U.S., while still practicing law, he founded the publication *Biblical Archaeology Review* (BAR) in 1975, which he edited until his retirement in 2017. He was a major advocate in the successful 1990s campaign to make the Dead Sea Scrolls accessible to the public. Shanks was a prolific writer and editor on subjects related to law, archaeology, and religion; he

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served as the editor for *Moment Magazine* for 15 years, and published several books including *The Art and Craft of Judging: The Opinions of Judge Learned Hand* and *The City of David: A Guide to Biblical Jerusalem*. He is survived by his wife, Judith; his daughters, Julia Shanks and **Elizabeth Alexander '89**; and two grandchildren.

53 Harry Richter died Sept. 29. He served in the U.S. military in Germany in World War II and later received his master's degree in electrical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1964. He worked for many years as a consultant with IBM, before he retired to Florida in 1992. Outside of work, Richter served as a sea turtle nesting guide, and volunteered with the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute and the Marine Resource Council. He is survived by his sons, Matthew and Cory Richter; his daughter, Hilary Stinard; his life companion, Patti Buzek; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dave Schlegel P'83 died Nov. 7 of cancer. After college, Schlegel served two years on active duty with the U.S. Navy, then spent two decades in the Naval Reserve, retiring as a commander. Schlegel enjoyed a lengthy career in insurance, founding Insurance Incorporated and serving as its president for a number of years. Inspired by the Quaker spirit he absorbed at Haverford, he was active in community stewardship projects, including founding the Reading Center City Development Fund and serving on the board of the Greater Berks Development Fund. Schlegel was a skilled golfer and tennis player, and a member of Calvary United Church of Christ, where he sang in the choir and served in several leadership roles. He was preceded in death by his brother **Dick Schlegel '48**, and is survived by his wife, Janet; four children, including **Katherine O'Connell '83**; and six grandchildren, including **Hallie Larsson '03** and **Elizabeth Larsson '08**.

54 Philip Howorth died Nov. 30, after a period of declining health. Howorth graduated from Harvard Law School in 1957, served in the Army

Reserves, and then worked as counsel for numerous firms and companies. He became corporation counsel for the city of Nashua, N.H., in 1974, was appointed as a justice of the Nashua District Court in 1984, and retired from the court in 2003, having assumed the role of chief justice. Howorth served as treasurer of the Pine Haven Boys Center in Allenstown, N.H., and Mary Sweeney Home in Nashua. He was a communicant and choir member of Nashua's St. Patrick Church, as well as an experienced sailor and accomplished cellist, and was also known to ride his bicycle to work at the courthouse daily. Throughout his life, he traveled extensively, and especially enjoyed visiting Sicily, Italy. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Anne; his son, Paul; his daughters, Claire Kieley and Joanna Howorth; and four grandchildren.

Dick Klein died Dec. 4. Klein graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in 1957, and served six years in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. In his legal career, Thomas was the first public defender of Chester County, Pa., earning the nickname early in his career as "the adoption lawyer." Following his government work, he went into private practice, operating with several partners. He was a member of a number of organizations, including the Chester County Bar Association, the West Chester Lions Club, and the 49ers Chorus. He attended the First Presbyterian Church of West Chester, and sang in its chancel choir. He was predeceased by his first wife, Mary Lou, and is survived by his second wife, Carole Barraclough; his children, Jennifer Tuori and Paul Klein; his stepchildren, Scott Barraclough and Holly Mitchell; seven grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Kenneth Miller died Aug. 25 at age 88. Miller joined the U.S. Navy in 1955, serving as a hospital corpsman until his discharge in 1957. Miller then began a career in dairy food production management, working for companies such as Sealtest Foods, Lehigh Valley Dairy, Dunkirk Ice Cream, and Red Wing. He was a trustee of the former Village of Forestville from 1995–98 and served as mayor of the town from 1998–2004.

He was known as an American military history buff and a Buffalo Bills fan, and enjoyed reading, antiques, and caring for his two Shih Tzus, Elizabeth and Victoria. Miller was predeceased by his son Kenneth Miller III, and is survived by his wife, Linda; his daughters, Rebecca Smith and Laura Schantz; his sons, Loren Smith and Bruce Miller; and eight grandchildren.

Baylis Thomas died June 9, 2020, after a long illness. He was 88. After college, Thomas studied philosophy at Harvard University, and received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at New York University. He opened a private psychotherapy practice in New York City, and taught at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine. An outspoken critic of Israel's policies towards the Palestinians, Thomas wrote two award-winning books on the subject, including *Dark Side of Zionism: The Quest for Security Through Dominance*. His diverse interests included historic cars and machinery repair, songwriting, farming, and photography. Family and friends will remember him as a Renaissance man, with boundless curiosity, wicked wit, sensitivity, and charm. He is survived by his wife, Norma Hurlburt, his brother **Lewis J. Thomas '53** P'78, and many other family members and friends.

55 Eric Blanchard P'82 died Dec. 19 at his home in Freeport, Maine. He was 87. After college, Blanchard was drafted to the U.S. Army, and served as the sports editor for the Army command newspaper, stationed in Munich, Germany. After returning to the U.S., he worked for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and had a brief stint at *The Washington Post* working under Ben Bradlee. A passionate civil rights activist, he served as an information officer for the National Council of Churches Commission on Religion and Race, a board member of the organization Efforts From Ex-Convicts in Washington, D.C., and a spokesman for both the Martin Luther King, Jr. Poor People's Campaign and President Johnson's National Commission on Civil Disorders. He was a tennis player and USTA certified umpire, a self-taught renovation carpenter, and a frequent

I N M E M O R I A M

ROBERT BOCKING STEVENS

Robert Bocking Stevens, who served as Haverford's 10th president from 1978 to 1987 and helped guide the College through its transition to coeducation, died Jan. 30 in Oxford, England. He was 87, and had retired as a Master of Pembroke College, Oxford University, in 2001.

Stevens was born in Leicester, England, in 1933. He was educated at Keble College, Oxford University, where he received a bachelor of arts and an advanced degree in civil law. He was called to the bar by Gray's Inn, one of London's Inns of Court, but decided to go to the U.S. in 1956, to take a teaching position at the Northwestern University Law School. After getting a master of laws degree at Yale University, Stevens returned to England to become a law tutor at Keble College and launch a practice as a barrister. He was lured back to the U.S. in 1960 by Yale Law School, which offered him a position as an assistant professor.

During much of his 16-year tenure at Yale, Stevens served as a legal adviser to the Commission on East African Cooperation in Nairobi, and later advised a successor organization, helping to negotiate agreements between Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and their neighbors. It was at Yale that he taught his first course in legal history, which became the eventual focus of his scholarly research.

Stevens, who became a naturalized U.S. citizen, went on to serve as the provost of Tulane University for two and half years prior to being named Haverford's president in 1978. Stevens took up the presidency at a challenging time in the College's history. Finances were precarious, protests by students questioning the school's commitment to diversity roiled the campus, and the debate over whether historically all-male Haverford should become a coed school had been dragging on for years.

Not long after his appointment, Stevens promised to thoroughly study the issue of coeducation: "My sense of the situation is that, this time, the question will be settled once and for all," he said. He was as good as his word.

After surveying the feeling on campus in meetings with



students and faculty, and after studying the potential effects for both Haverford and Bryn Mawr, Stevens persuaded reluctant members of the Board of Managers to give up their objections to coeducation. In May 1979, the College announced women would be admitted with the class of 1984. (Women had been admitted as transfer students since 1977.)

Stevens was known as a vivid and witty public speaker who shifted easily from the erudite to personal, and worked to increase academic cooperation with Bryn Mawr, while helping the College move toward divestment in South Africa, which was completed in 1987. A federal law that denied financial aid to students who failed to register for the military draft inspired Stevens to commit the College to supporting students who refused to register as a matter of conscience by providing legal advice and alternative aid.

Stevens also tackled the College's financial issues—which included an undersized endowment—by creating a long-range financial planning committee and presiding over a successful \$20 million capital campaign launched with the College's sesquicentennial. Under Stevens' watch, Haverford enjoyed eight years of balanced budgets and saw the endowment increase dramatically. In 1987, Stevens announced his decision to leave Haverford for the University of California, Santa Cruz, to serve as chancellor.

"Robert brought intelligence, humor, and vision to the presidency of Haverford," remembers former Bryn Mawr President Mary Patterson McPherson, who was inaugurated on the same day as Stevens in 1978. "His support of two-college cooperation enabled us to work together over 10 years to the benefit of both institutions, and he was much enjoyed by his colleagues at Bryn Mawr College. I have remained friends with Robert over these 43 years and I will miss him greatly."

Stevens was an expert in legal history and legal education in the United States and England. He wrote more than half a dozen books, including *In Search of Justice* (1968), *Welfare Medicine in America* (1974), *Law Schools: Legal Education in America: 1850-1960*, (1983) and *The English Judges* (2002).

He is survived by his wife, Kathie, three children, and two grandchildren.

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participant in community theater productions, as a performer, director, and usher. He was preceded in death by his younger sister, Karen Blanchard Kramer, and is survived by his wife, Judith; his sons, John and **Dave Blanchard '82**; his daughter, Jordana; and six grandchildren.

56 **George Anderson** died Aug. 4 in Merion Station, Pa. He received a master's degree from The Johns Hopkins University, and studied at Oxford University in England, before entering the Society of Jesus. As a Jesuit, Anderson studied philosophy at Loyola College in Maryland, graduated with his master's of divinity from Woodstock College in Maryland, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1973. Anderson served as a prison chaplain at Rikers Island in New York City before being assigned to St. Aloysius Church in Washington, D.C., in 1980, where he served for 14 years, first as associate pastor and then as pastor. In 1994, he began writing for *America Magazine* in New York, and worked for 17 years with the publication as writer and editor. He also was the author of *With Christ in Prison*. He later served in pastoral ministries at the Jesuit Community of the Immaculate Conception in New York, and then was affiliated with the Colombière Jesuit Community in Baltimore, Md., and Manresa Hall in Philadelphia, Pa.

David Dorsey died April 8, 2017, of complications from dementia. He was 82. Dorsey earned a master's degree in Greek from the University of Michigan in 1957, and a Ph.D. in classics from Princeton in 1967. He was an instructor of classics at Howard University, and taught at a number of institutions around the world, including the University of Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania. While working at Clark Atlanta University, he also earned his master's of science in library science to catalog his own large book collection. After a short retirement, he attended Georgia State College of Law, graduating in 2003, and focused his legal career on issues of zoning law. He is survived by his sister, Jeanne, his brother, Frederick, three nephews, one niece, and a host of friends and former colleagues.

Norman Kalen died Dec. 24, 2019,

at age 88. Born in Caracas, Venezuela, Kalen was an investor, and a member of the Point Judith Country Club, the Dunes Club, and the North-South Bowling Club. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Leslie, and is survived by his wife of 64 years, Glenna; his sons, Alexander and David; and five grandchildren.

58 **Robert Crist** P'82 died Oct. 11 in Lenox, Mass. Crist received his master's and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, where he studied English and American literature, and then embarked on a long career as an English professor at universities across the U.S. and in Greece, including Deree College, the University of Athens, and Messiah College. He translated numerous Greek literary works, and published critical studies on both Greek and American writers and poets. He retired from the University of Athens as professor emeritus in 2004. Crist was a lifelong pacifist and a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War. He enjoyed playing the trombone and euphonium, listening to opera, and writing poetry. His most recent book, a bilingual English-Greek poetry collection titled *Companion Sonnets*, was published in 2019. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Despina; his children, Ray and **Eileen Crist '82**; one grandson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

59 **Victor Liguori** P'00 died Dec. 7. After college, Liguori completed his master's and Ph.D. in sociology and anthropology at Princeton University, and then spent nearly 40 years teaching at the College of William and Mary. Liguori's research centered on marine sociology, and he worked with and closely studied seaside communities in Guinea over the course of three decades. Having spent many childhood summers on fishing boats off the coast of New Jersey, Liguori loved fishing, and also enjoyed music, gardening, cooking seafood, and woodworking. If he had written his own obituary, it would have been in rhyme. Family, friends, former students, and colleagues will remember him for his expansive generosity, displayed in his life motto, "Go big or go home." He

is survived by his wife, Victoria; his daughter, **Lisa Liguori '00**; his son, Robert; and one grandson.

60 **Paul Blackburn** P'09 died Oct. 23 of mesothelioma. He was 83. A career diplomacy officer, Blackburn joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1962, after getting his master's in international affairs from The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He also attended American University School of International Service, graduating with his Ph.D. in 1971. Over the course of his four-decade tenure in the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) and the State Department, he served in China, Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, and Washington, D.C. After he retired, he worked part-time in the State Department's Freedom of Information Act Office, volunteered with several local organizations including the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, Va., and researched his family history. He is survived by his spouse, Pek Koon Heng; his daughters, Sylvia Richins, Alison Roberts, and **Sarah-SoonLing Blackburn '09**; five granddaughters; and one great-granddaughter.

62 **Bob Lynn** died Feb. 4 after a long illness. Lynn earned his master's in English from Yale University and joined the Peace Corps, serving in Malaysia and Singapore for a number of years. One of his assignments took him to Tanjong Lobang School in Miri, Malaysia, where he taught English literature. He remained a mentor and friend to many of his former students from that school throughout his life. He married Siew-Juy Wong in 1973, and supported her career as a neonatologist, helping to raise their children. Friends and family will remember him for his remarkable mind, clever wit, keen sense of humor, and unsurpassed personal integrity. He is survived by his wife; his son, Andrew; his daughter, Theresa; and five grandchildren.

Benjamin Newcomb died Nov. 29 in Lubbock, Texas. Newcomb earned his master's and Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and then accepted a professorship in American history at Texas Tech University, where he remained

until his retirement in 2000. He served on the faculty senate at the school for many years and was its president for a few terms. He was also a member of multiple professional organizations and societies, and published two books on subjects of American historical politics. He regularly attended St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Lubbock, where he sang in the choir and served on various committees. A lifelong Philadelphia Phillies fan, Newcomb loved to visit Ocean City, N.J., spend time with his grandchildren, and read and research. He is survived by his son, Benjamin Everett Newcomb; his daughter, Laura Jones; and five grandchildren.

63 James Geddes died Nov. 17. He was 79. He graduated from Georgetown Law Center in 1966, and served in the U.S. Army. Prior to his retirement, Geddes was an active lawyer at the offices of Silverblatt and Townend in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Michael Weber P'99 died Feb. 11 of pancreatic cancer. He received his Ph.D. in biology from the University of California San Diego, and then dedicated his career to cancer research. Along with his colleagues, Weber discovered mitogen-activated protein kinase, a cellular protein that has become a drug target in several cancer therapies. In 2000, he became the director of the University of Virginia Cancer Center, where he championed the creation of the Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center, and served as professor of microbiology, immunology, and cancer biology at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. After retirement, he continued to run a research lab with funding from The V Foundation for Cancer Research. His recent work contributed to the discovery of a novel drug combination therapy for patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia and mantle cell lymphoma. Those who knew him best will remember him as a formidable debate opponent, a good listener, and a generous family man. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Alison Weber; his sons, Joel and **Aaron Weber** '99; and one granddaughter.

64 James Donaldson died Sept. 20 in West Hartford, Conn. Donaldson graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1968, and began his residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, until he was drafted by the U.S. Army in 1970. He served as battalion surgeon for the 237th Engineer Battalion in Heilbronn, Germany, and then was the physician for the U.S. Embassy in Bonn, Germany, until 1973. After completing his residency in neurology at Penn in 1976, he joined the faculty at University of Connecticut School of Medicine, where he worked until he retired in 2012. He also practiced at John Dempsey Hospital in Farmington, Conn., until 2018, serving as the director of the Multiple Sclerosis Clinic for 12 years. He published medical papers and textbooks on the subjects of neurology and pregnancy, and served as a medical expert witness, including in the "Baby M" trial that codified the rights of surrogate parents. Donaldson lived a full life and will be remembered for his love of family, his optimism, and his storytelling abilities. He is survived by his second wife, Susan; his sons, Andrew Donaldson, and Brendan and Ian McDonald; and six grandchildren.

66 Paul Primakoff died April 25, 2020, of Lewy body dementia. Primakoff graduated from Stanford University in 1973 with a doctorate in biochemistry, and conducted postdoctoral work at Harvard Medical School, where he met his wife, Diana Myles. Diana and he formed a research team, sharing insights and laboratories, and in 1981, they were both appointed to the University of Connecticut Medical School faculty, sharing an assistant professorship. They moved to the University of California, Davis in 1994, where they continued to work together until his retirement in 2008. After being diagnosed with Lewy body dementia in 2010, he contributed to science research on the disease, including joining a research study and a clinical drug trial. Throughout his life, he traveled the world, with his adventures continuing into his retirement. He also volunteered in the Oak Grove of the UC Davis Arboretum. He will be remembered for his spirit of fun and his

elaborate jokes with family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Diana; his children, Anna and Dylan; and four grandchildren.

Mike Warlow died Oct. 1 of complications of Lewy body dementia. Warlow graduated from Columbia University School of Law in 1969, attended Naval Justice School in Newport, R.I., and served in the U.S. Marine Corps, teaching at The Basic School in Quantico, Va., and working as deputy staff judge advocate for the First Marine Aircraft Wing in Iwakuni, Japan. He left the Marines in 1973, with the rank of captain. After moving to Baltimore, Md., Warlow became a partner at Wright, Robinson, and Dowell, and eventually became a sole practitioner in Towson, Md., where he worked until his retirement in 2012. He was active in St. David's Episcopal Church, sang tenor in the Foxheads a cappella group and the Annapolis Chorale, and painted sets and performed in the Young Victorian Theatre's Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Family and friends will remember him as an excellent cook, a bourbon connoisseur, and an accomplished duck hunter, who loved his family dearly. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Melissa McCarty Warlow BMC '66; his son, Whitney; his daughters, Mary Bushel and Melissa Elkins; and seven grandchildren.

67 Al Brown died Nov. 14. Brown served in intelligence in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, interpreting aerial photography. Upon his return to the U.S., he attended the University of Pennsylvania, graduating with a doctorate in German language and literature in 1976. He taught German at Rutgers University and the University of Delaware, before transitioning to serve as director of publications for the OKI Data Corporation. After his retirement, he spent time in his home library and cultivated his passion for book arts and origami. Brown was an active member of the Philadelphia Metro Chapter of The Society of Technical Communication and the Philadelphia Center For The Book, and a dedicated supporter of the Quintessence Theatre Group. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Ellen; his children, Dan and Kate; and one granddaughter.

David Watts P'04 died Jan. 16 of heart

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failure. Born in a collaborative community in upstate New York, Watts committed his life to the pursuits of social justice and equity. He graduated from Antioch School of Law in 1975, and began his legal practice at Vermont Legal Aid. In 1984, he opened his own practice in Burlington, Vt., specializing in family law. He was essential in the founding and leadership of the nonprofit service organization Volunteer Vermont, which helped rebuild southern Black churches and community centers after racist arsons in the mid-1990s. Watts delighted in supporting his community, and loved to camp, ski, canoe, and travel. He will be remembered for his generosity, enthusiasm, and lack of pretension. He is survived by his wife, Lynne Bond; his sons, Tucker, Ethan, and **Brooks Bond-Watts '04**; his honorary son, Omar Granados; two grandchildren; and many other family members and friends.

68 Christopher Kane died Aug. 3. After graduating from Haverford, he attended New York University, graduating with an M.F.A. in film and television. He served behind the scenes of several theatrical and media endeavors in the city, including directing an “off-off” Broadway play and working as the stage manager and associate director of ABC’s *Good Morning America* crew. After moving to California in the 1990s, he worked in advertising, sales, and teaching, before beginning his career as a technology expert for private law firms. He worked as a paralegal for the Office of the County Counsel in Los Angeles, Calif., starting in 2008, coordinating litigation records management among numerous other projects. Outside of work, Kane was passionate about music, food, and culture, and regularly attended live performances while living in New York and Los Angeles. He maintained a blog about his interests for friends and family. Those who knew him will remember him for his diverse interests, many talents, and energetic curiosity. He was preceded in death by his father, **Arthur Kane, Jr. '36**, and is survived by his sister, Christine Kane; and numerous cousins and friends.

74 Peter Bludman died Oct. 28. After Haverford, Bludman received a

second bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Pennsylvania, and worked in microbiology and genetics laboratories before returning to Penn, graduating with his J.D. in 1985. In his law practice he specialized in defense litigation involving medical liability. He joined the law firm of Margolis Edelstein in 1993, and was named partner in 1997. He was a member of the State Civil Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association and lectured and wrote on several aspects of insurance defense litigation. He was also an active member of Beth David Reform Congregation in Gladwyne, Pa., and served on the synagogue’s Board of Trustees. He is survived by his wife, Helene; his children, Evan Schiff, Emily Stearns, and Laurie Bludman; his brothers, **Joel Wittenberg '76** and Lee Bludman; and one grandchild.

Timothy Tammany died Jan. 13 of complications from COVID-19. Tammany was a staunch pacifist who came of age in the Vietnam War, and he actively supported the Civil Rights movement. After college, he graduated with his J.D. and MBA from the University of Pennsylvania, and received his LL.M. degree from New York University School of Law. He then spent nearly 30 years working at insurance company Cigna, first as a tax lawyer, then running international life operations before returning to corporate law, managing mergers and acquisitions. Outside of his work, Tammany was a cartoonist, guitar player, collector, frequent traveler, and a fine wine aficionado. He was known for his dry and frequently dark sense of humor. He grew ill around age 59 with a rare neurodegenerative disease, corticobasal degeneration, and was living in a nursing home before his death. He is survived by his daughter, Hope; his son, Douglas; his sister, Patty; and a rich network of beloved family and friends.

85 Joe Vitale died Dec. 18. Known professionally as a union advocate and labor law specialist, Vitale spent his three-decade career representing union clients in several industries including nursing, education, and construction. He graduated from Fordham Law School in 1989, and joined the law firm of Cohen, Weiss, and Simon. One of the highlights of his career was his successful 2019 defense

of Construction and General Building Laborers’ Union Local 79’s use of an inflatable rat named Scabby to protest a grocery store chain’s use of non-union labor. Vitale commemorated this federal court victory by getting a tattoo of Scabby. Vitale was a devout Catholic and an avid collector of union memorabilia, and will be remembered for his sense of humor and passion for supporting working people. He is survived by his wife, Sookkyung; his daughters, Eushin and Chaewon; and many other family members and friends.

94 Kevin Jones died Aug. 15 of sarcoma. A 2001 graduate of Duke University School of Law, Jones spent many years of his career focused on aerospace, defense, and technology law. Most recently, he served as the senior contracts negotiator at Lockheed Martin, in projects related to the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). Jones was deeply passionate about social justice and helping underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students, particularly Black students, succeed. While at Haverford, he helped to found Sons of Africa (SoA), a student group still active today, which provides academic and social support to students of color. He will be remembered for his warmth, quick wit, and generosity of spirit. Family, friends, and classmates have endowed the Kevin R. Jones Career Development Internship in his memory. The fund will benefit underrepresented students working for social justice and caring for their communities.

99 Pedro Carrasquillo died Nov. 30 at age 43. Carrasquillo received a master’s degree in public policy and finance from Carnegie Mellon University, and worked for years as a financial analyst in the New Jersey Legislature. Outside of work, he wrote poetry, hit home runs, backpacked through Europe, scored touchdowns, and swam in the Caribbean Sea. Known for his open heart and his keen mind, he was a generous listener, compassionate soul, and an encouraging friend. He is survived by his parents; his brothers, Jose and Luis; his sisters, **Erica Carrasquillo '96** and Agnes Yelitzka; and many other family members and friends.

Students celebrated the Festival of Colors at a 2017 event organized by Haverford's South Asian Society. Throwing colored powder at others (along with water balloons) is one of the hallmarks of the joyous Hindu festival, also known as Holi (pronounced "holy"). Celebrated throughout India with feasting and family gatherings, Holi marks the beginning of spring and also signifies the triumph of good over evil.



THEN AND NOW



The South Asian Society's Festival of Colors has become an annual event, taking place this year on Barclay Beach. The Society describes itself as "a small group of people who are trying to bring our home culture on campus," and includes among its members international students hailing from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal. Past events sponsored by the group have included henna workshops, Bollywood-themed parties, and Eid/Diwali celebrations in the fall.

PHOTOS: COLE SAJISOM '19 (THEN); BILGE NUR YILMAZ ZI (NOW)

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