

Designing Our World

Alumni architects create compelling—and innovative—buildings and environments

Shreyas Shibulal '15

Powering India's electric vehicle revolution

What You Can Do for Your Planet

Individual and collective actions that can make a difference

Haverford

The Magazine of Haverford College

WINTER 2020



The Dogs of Haverford

The canine buddies of faculty and staff are a regular—and beloved—presence on campus.

Winter 2020

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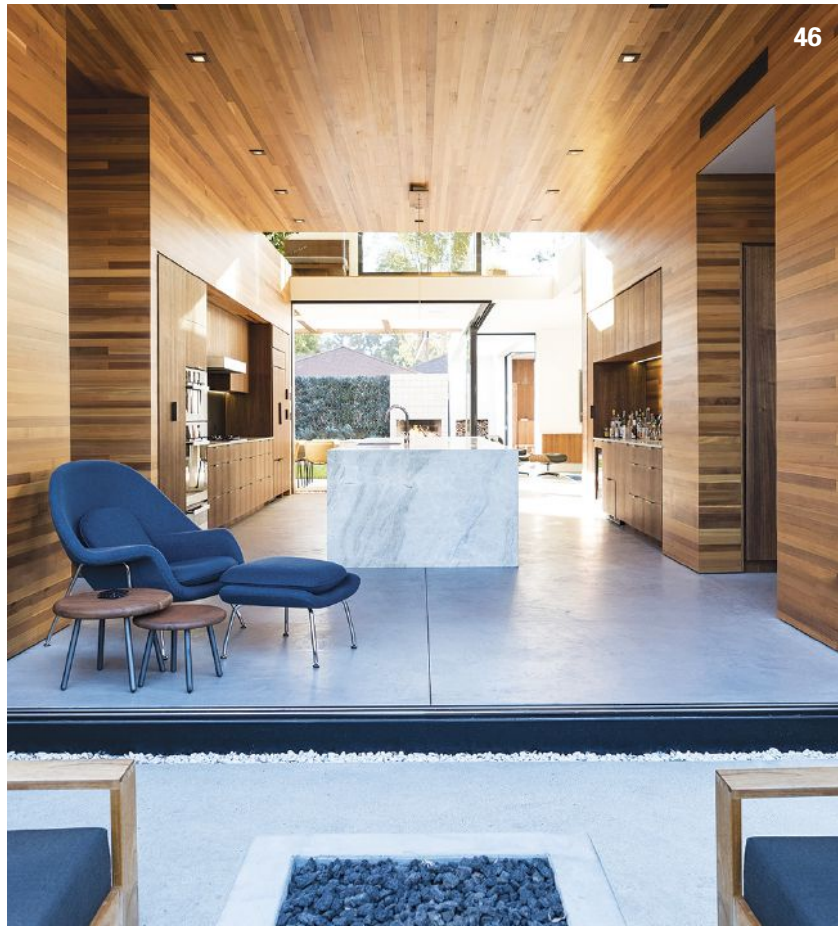
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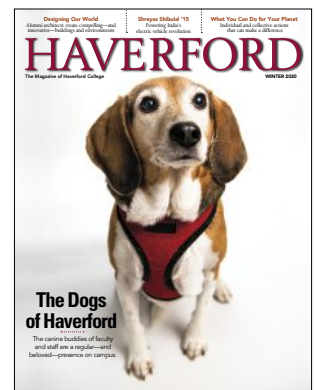
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Working in the ultimate multidisciplinary field, alumni architects are creating compelling—and innovative—buildings and environments. **By Zach Mortice**



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ON THE COVER: Peanut, the First Dog of Haverford. Photo by Holden Blanco '17

Back cover: Photo booth shots from Alumni Weekend.

Main Lines



Bicentennial City

Visitors to the Bicentennial City exhibition are greeted with a wide-screen presentation of its namesake documentary, spanning the entire back wall of the Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery.

In the dimly lit gallery, the first-person narration echoes: “1976 created a space of wonder in me. It was the first time that the city of Philadelphia deeply engaged me. It was a year of marching bands; tall ships; crappy red-white-and-blue-painted fire hydrants; all manner of hoopla; Philly Pride; and wacky, wonderful, larger-than-life, room-sized birthday cakes.”

That voice belongs to Assistant Professor of English Thomas Devaney, and the story he tells is the one explored in *Bicentennial City*, a Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery exhibition that takes its name from its centerpiece documentary.

In 1976, Philadelphia played host to what was meant to be a sort of “World’s Fair” that welcomed visitors to the city to ring in the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. With projections anticipating 20 million visitors,

the city braced itself to take center stage in the nation’s celebration. In reality, the Bicentennial in Philadelphia came to represent fractured power structures and knotty understandings of patriotism, as revealed in Devaney’s voice-over.

The exhibition, which ran through March 20, grew out of the 2019 summer DocuLab program, sponsored by the John B. Hurford ’60 Center for the Arts and Humanities. Under Devaney’s leadership five Bi-Co students (Julia Coletti ’21, Jixin Jia ’21, **Eddie Ogborn ’19**, **Cole Sansom ’19**, and Grace Sue BMC’20) joined forces to capture the complex spirit of the 1976 Bicentennial in a documentary. The resulting 40-minute film explores the previously untold stories of those affected by the tidal wave of the Bicentennial 34 years ago.

“In 1976 there was fatigue and there was exhaustion, the city was on the ropes,” said Devaney. “There were great expectations for the

Bicentennial in Philadelphia, going back 20 years before 1976, and one thing that is very clear is that it suffered from ‘the curse of exaggerated expectations.’”

This “curse” can be seen both logistically (despite expectations of 20 million visitors, only 2 million actually came to Philadelphia for the celebration) and on a personal level, as the documentary, *Bicentennial City*, reveals.

“Part of my own thinking about the film is to shift the narrative that the city tells about itself,” said Devaney. “One way we do that in the film is to focus on some of those untold stories, like the vendor wars—[people] fighting City Hall to have the right to sell their products during the Bicentennial—and the Save Chinatown Movement, with a spotlight on activist Mary Yee. I ultimately see the two million as a respectable figure because of local stories like these.”

DocuLab fellow Julia Coletti '21, a political science major with a minor in visual studies and a concentration in peace, justice and human rights, said the project has been an interesting opportunity to combine her different areas of study. “Researching the Bicentennial has turned out to be a fascinating study of populism and social movements,” Coletti said.

Visitors to the exhibition are greeted with a wide-screen presentation of the DocuLab film, spanning the entire back wall of the space. In addition, two depictions of the Liberty Bell, crafted from multicolored neon lights, illuminate the space. One was created back in 1976, and the other was commissioned specifically for this exhibit. For the students and Devaney, the Liberty Bell emerged as a symbol for the promises and shortcomings of the Bicentennial.

“The most unexpected story may be how the crack in the Liberty Bell emerged as a central image and symbol in the film,” said Devaney. “It’s unexpected because I’ve never given the Liberty Bell much thought. Growing up in Philadelphia,

I had the feeling that history related to the Declaration of Independence and the Liberty Bell was for tourists.”

Specifically, the cracked and imperfect nature of the bell serves as the perfect analogy for the stories brought to light by the documentary and exhibit. The broadside published for the gallery exhibition quotes a Leonard Cohen lyric: “There is a crack in everything, . . . that’s how the light gets in.”

The exhibit opening featured remarks from Devaney, the five DocuLab fellows, and their collaborators, Aaron Iglar and Matthew Suib of Greenhouse Media. (**Hilary Brashear '13** also supported the film’s production.) There was even a cameo from Provost and Assistant Professor of Chemistry Frances Blase, who commented on the Philly fireplug in the gallery painted with stars and stripes, and talked about 1976 and growing up in South Philadelphia. Many of the film’s interviewees and subjects were in attendance, including Mary Yee and participants from the vendor wars.

“It was wonderful to see so many people who had been part of the film, from interviewees to archivists, attend the opening,” said Sansom, one of the DocuLab fellows. “Many people came up to me to tell me how much they enjoyed the film. That was the best reception possible. Those whose stories we had filmed felt that the finished product honored their stories. That meant more than anything else.”

—Allison Wise '20

——
Julia Coletti '21 (left) and Hilary Brashear '13 prepare to film a marching band during the Summer 2019 DocuLab making of Bicentennial City.



Main Lines

10 THINGS That Make Us Happy

The Haverford Food Co-op, a new campus club that sells fresh produce and other grocery store items like tofu, milk, eggs, and yogurt at reduced prices. Launched by Griffin Kaulbach '21, the co-op is aimed at students who aren't on the meal plan. The food, distributed to co-op members every Sunday in HCA Apartment 15 (also known as Quaker House), comes from nonprofit wholesaler Common Market, which sources most of its products from sustainable family farms. That was a conscious choice, says Kaulbach: "I hoped to create an alternative food economy in which we support local farmers and food suppliers while also providing a source of food that is affordable and nutritious for students."



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The Fifth Annual Tri-Co Hackathon.

The October event had a social justice emphasis, with prompts for ideas for new apps, websites, and software programs provided by Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity and Puentes de Salud, a nonprofit (founded by physician **Steve Larsen '83**) that aids South Philadelphia's Latino immigrant population. Claiming first prize at the Hackathon, which was organized by the Haverford Innovation Program along with Swarthmore's Center for Innovation and Leadership, was a Haverford team comprised

of Jacob Valero '22, Ben Laufer '23, Anubhav Sharma '23, Sam Aronson '22, and Keeton Martin '22. They won for their work on *Salud y Dinero*, a computer game available in both English and Spanish that aims to make developing financial literacy fun for Latinx kids.

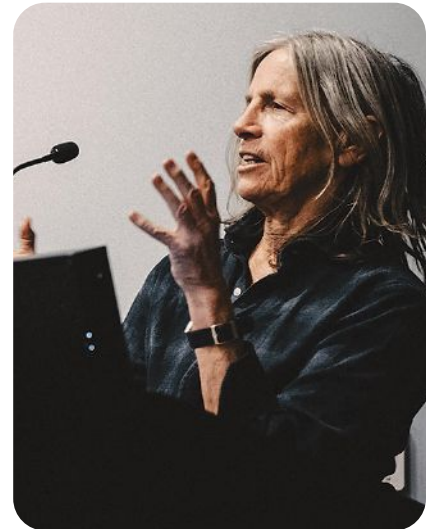
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Friend in Residence Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge.

The Quaker South African politician, an anti-apartheid activist who served a year in solitary confinement and later became a member of Parliament following the first democratic elections, will give public talks during her stay on campus and is also co-teaching a class, "After the Sunset: Lessons in Transitions to Peace, the South African Example," with Associate Professor Zolani Ngwane. Sponsored by the Office of Quaker Affairs, the Friend in Residence Program was designed to deepen Haverford's appreciation of its Quaker roots and strengthen its connections within the broader Quaker community. Madlala-Routledge received an honorary degree from Haverford in 2008.



The reading on campus given by celebrated poet Eileen Myles, who has published more than 20 works of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, and is the rare literary icon who is also popular on Instagram and has had a television character based on them (on the show *Transparent*). That reading was paired with another by Visiting Assistant Professor of English Thomas Devaney, who invited Myles to campus and in his remarks at the event praised his fellow poet for work that has "taken inclusion to another level of brave openness."



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THE SUNRISE MOVEMENT CHAPTER

started on campus by Margaret Zheng '23 and the climate change rally the chapter organized featuring guest speaker **Vince Warren '86**, executive director of the Center for Constitutional Rights. (The Sunrise Movement brings together young people across the country who are working "to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process.")



CURATOR OF QUAKER COLLECTIONS

Mary Crauderueff's month-long trip to Kaimosi, Kenya, to share her expertise with the new Africa Quaker Archive at Friends Theological College. She was the first visiting Quaker archivist enlisted by the multi-year project, which aims to document Quakerism's history in East Africa. During her visit, Crauderueff guided the cataloging of materials, trained others to continue the work, and consulted on future directions for the project.



The Quest Day party—with cake—in Founders. This annual event gives us the opportunity to celebrate our partnership with the QuestBridge organization and most importantly, our amazing QuestBridge Scholars here on campus. Haverford has been a QuestBridge partner since 2008, and we are thrilled to continue welcoming high-achieving low-income students to Haverford through the National College Match, early decision, and regular decision processes. FYI: Our current first-years—the Class of 2023—includes our largest cohort of Questies yet.

PHOTOS: COLE SANSON '19 (HACKATHON); COURTESY OF WOWWOMAN.COM (MAD LALA-ROUTLEDGE); HOLDEN BLANCO '17 (MYLES); PATRICK MONTERO (CRAUDERUEFF, GLADSTONE)

The College's role in urging lawmakers in the Pennsylvania General Assembly to enact market-based solutions for reducing carbon pollution and to increase investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation. Haverford joined more than a dozen investors, companies, colleges, and universities in signing on to a letter to the Assembly laying out the changes that need to happen. "Our students at Haverford understand that the energy policies our leaders enact today will shape the world they and their communities will inherit," said President Wendy Raymond, commenting about the College's participation. "Pennsylvania has an opportunity to promote energy systems, economic innovation, and public health that will make the Commonwealth stronger in the low-carbon future that we know is coming."



THE GLADSTONE LEE MOHAN COLLECTION of philosophical works by authors from backgrounds underrepresented in the field of philosophy. Named after one alumnus and two current students—(above, from left) **Bradford Gladstone '18**, Andrew Lee '20, and Aarushi Mohan '20—who worked with Philosophy Department Chair Joel Yurdin on the project, the collection was funded by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the President's Student Diversity Initiative Fund and is housed in Gest Lounge.

Andrea Lommen's appointment to the Decadal Survey on Astronomy and Astrophysics. The professor and chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy will help shape the next decade of astrophysics research in the United States as a member of the Panel on Particle Astrophysics and Gravitation. Sponsored by NASA, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Energy, the Decadal Survey makes decisions about how policymakers, federal agencies, and scientists should approach their research in the field for the next 10 years. Lommen is only the third professor from a private undergraduate institution to be appointed to one of the survey's panels. Haverford Emeritus Professor of Astronomy Bruce Partridge was the second.

Main Lines

ON
VIEW



"Boy, Lake Michigan," Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Leelanau Benzie counties, Michigan, 2016.

Theo Anderson Photographs: The Great Lakes Landscape 2010 to 2016

Like the Redwood Forest, the Rocky Mountains, and the "amber waves of grain" immortalized in song, the Great Lakes loom large in the American imagination. These five interconnected bodies of water on the U.S.-Canada border touch on one Canadian province and eight U.S. states, and contain more than 20 percent of the Earth's fresh water. The lakes have long been an inspiration for writers and artists, and Pennsylvania photographer Theo Anderson has similarly found a compelling subject in "the nation's fourth seacoast."

A new exhibit in the College's Atrium Gallery, on view through April 26, gathers 30 of Anderson's large-format col-

or-pigment photographs of the Great Lakes, which are part of a larger "American Episodes" series.

Working in the tradition of American landscape painting as much as the tradition of American color photography established toward the end of the 20th century, the artist's Great Lakes photographs have a true presence created by their substantial size and horizontal orientation. These original works respond to a uniquely American place with eloquence and awe, and invite the viewer to really take in the grand spaces, the photographer's meticulous attention to surface textures, and the qualities of light and sky that define these landscapes.

FYI

FOR THE FIFTH YEAR IN A ROW, Haverford was included on the list of American colleges and universities that produced the most Fulbright U.S. Student Award winners. Five Fords from the Haverford Class of 2019—Gabriel Braun, Alexandra Corcoran, Danielle Jacobsen, Justin Otter, and Seanna Viechweg—were selected for Fulbright Student Awards for the 2019-2020 year.



VCAM's 20/20 Vision

From the arts to the sciences, creative talent can be found in every department at Haverford. That was clearly demonstrated by *20/20 Vision*, an exhibition of student art selected from submissions that came in from all over campus.

Organized by staff in the Visual Culture, Arts, and Media (VCAM) facility and the exhibitions program, all four class years were represented in *20/20 Vision*, as were 15 different majors across all disciplines.

“Having an exhibition of all student work selected through a campus-wide open call has been a dream of VCAM since its inception,” said **Courtney Carter '17**, postbaccalaureate fellow for the Hurford Center. Carter helped organize the show along with VCAM Operations Manager **James Weissinger '06** and

Associate Director of Campus Exhibitions Matthew Callinan. The aim, said Carter, was to give the student body “an opportunity to see the creative work of their peers, and be inspired to try something on their own.”

“This was truly an experience I am very grateful to Courtney and the other VCAM staff for extending,” said Athena Intanate '23, whose work was featured in the exhibit. “It just goes to show that art isn't only for art [majors]—art can come from anyone, and from anywhere.”

Since its opening in 2017, VCAM has become a hub for creativity, hosting exhibits and events in the facility's Create Spaces that showcase a mix of student, faculty, course-related, and visiting artists' projects.

—J. C. Davey '21

Students take in the exhibit at the 20/20 Vision opening.

PHOTOS: ARSHIYA BHAYANA '22 (VCAM)



HELP US GET TO 10K INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS!

Having 10,000 followers on Instagram unlocks many account benefits, including the ability to link to content (known as “swipe up to read”). Fewer than 15 percent of Instagram accounts reach this magic number, but many of our peer colleges already have. The Haverford community may be small but it is mighty, so getting to 10,000 poses a challenge we think we can meet. Can you help us? Follow us [@haverfordedu](https://www.instagram.com/haverfordedu) on Instagram.



Main Lines

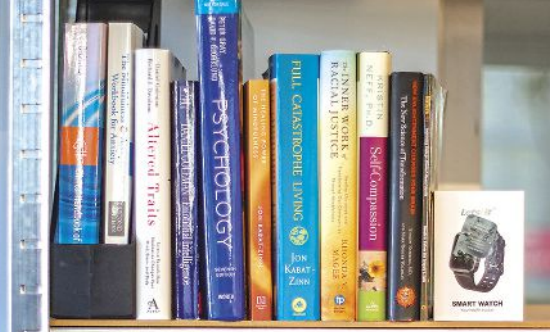


Office Hour

Since joining the Haverford faculty in 1997, **Professor of Biology Rob Fairman** has taught a wide array of courses, including “Protein Folding and Design,” “Molecules, Cells, and Organisms,” and “Genetic Roil and Royal Families,” which looks at the biology of inherited conditions through the lens of royal intermarriage. A widely published researcher, Fairman studies protein polymerizing systems and is working on better understanding the protein aggregation that underlies diseases such as Huntington’s, ALS, and Alzheimer’s. Fairman, who earned his Ph.D. in biochemistry at Stanford University, has served as associate provost of the College, and played a leadership role in the renovation of Sharpless Hall that transformed the building into a bright, modern home for two of Haverford’s most popular majors, biology and psychology—and where he now occupies a sunny office and adjoining lab. Known as a warm and encouraging mentor to budding scientists, Fairman worked with Assistant Professor of Chemistry **Lou Charkoudian ’03** to launch the “Biochem Superlab” course, whose structure encourages students to generate their own hypotheses and create their own experiments to test those hypotheses. The 2015 inaugural class, along with its professors, went on to publish a peer-reviewed paper in *PLoS Biology* in 2017. Titled “Uncovering protein-protein interactions through a team-based undergraduate biochemistry course,” the paper detailed the results of in-class research as well as how the course was designed to facilitate that research.

1 Lending library: I’m teaching a brand-new course called “The Science and Practice of Mindfulness,” and this is a whole library I’ve built of books on the subject that students can borrow. I’ve been studying neurodegenerative diseases like Huntington’s and Alzheimer’s for a long time, and my research has moved more and more into neurobiology. Now I’m interested in how we’re learning to deal with mental health. Mindfulness is one approach. So in the class, we’re looking at the techniques being used to study the science, like MRI scans that look at how the brain gets rewired when you’re practicing mindfulness. You can also look at cortisol levels, and monitor blood pressure and pulse. I’m inviting someone to come train the class in shinrin yoku—or forest bathing, mindfulness practice done in the woods. Then they’re going to be using different protocols that they will select to measure the effects of forest bathing on physiology.

2 Family photos: My wife, Susan, is the secretary at Lynnewood Elementary School in Havertown. She’s been working in the



PHOTOS: PATRICK MONTERO

school district for 23 years, which is as long as I've been at Haverford. And those are my two sons. My younger son, Drew, on the left, is 29 now and works at Haverford as a campus safety officer. That's Brian on the right, who's 33. He was teaching high school, but now he works full-time for a technology summer camp. He's in charge of their curriculum. So we all work in education.

3 His turtle, Balthazar: We didn't know she was a she when we named her that. She's a red-eared slider and she's about 15 years old, but they can live for 80 or 90 years. She's bruminating now, which is hibernation for a turtle. In the wild, they bury themselves under the mud and don't eat for two or three months. And that's Balthazar almost 10 years ago in the drawing above the tank. That was done by **Julia Durante '11**, who's now doing her pediatrics residency.

4 Beckman Analytical Ultracentrifuge: Neurodegenerative diseases share a common underlying molecular mechanism involving proteins thatglom up to form these really

large structures. The question we've been trying to answer is: How big are they, and which forms cause the disease? This instrument allows you to analyze the size of these polymers, and then you can try to correlate that with toxicity in animal model systems. My career was built on this machine. There aren't many of them in the world. I had it when I worked at Bristol-Myers-Squibb before I came to Haverford. When they bought a new one, I negotiated with the manufacturer to store this one for me and Haverford gave me start-up money to bring it here. I have 85 scientific publications, and about 40 of them are the result of people asking me to join them to do work that takes advantage of this instrument.

5 Figurines: They were gifts from my students. That's Spock, from *Star Trek*, and Gandalf, the wizard from *Lord of the Rings*, which I am a huge fan of. That was what inspired me to start writing a fantasy series myself. It's going to be a trilogy, and it's about scientists who turn into elves after injecting themselves with genes that are supposed to make them live longer. So it starts

off in the science realm, and it's not only about what it's like to live for 1,000 years, there's also an environmental arc: Elves live in the forests, and all the trees are being chopped down. What's also informing me right now is the novel *The Overstory*, which won the Pulitzer Prize last year and is all about trees. My story shares a premise with that. The elves become so attuned to the trees that they wind up recognizing that we need to save the world by replanting the forests.

6 Rocky Mountain National Park poster: I spent part of a sabbatical working in a lab in Boulder, and I spent a lot of time hiking in the park. I couldn't go up to the highest peak; I'm not athletic enough. But I did climb Flattop Mountain, which has an elevation of 12,324 feet. I made it to the top, but barely, because what Flattop is known for is high winds. It's a constant 40 miles an hour, with gusts up to 90. So I was bent over trying to climb to the top. It was pretty scary. I thought I was going to die.

—Eils Lotozo

Main Lines



The band Vampire Weekend in 2007, the year they played a FUCS concert in Lunt Basement.

The Club Life @HAVERFORD

FEDERATION UNITED CONCERT SERIES

WHAT: For anyone interested in contemporary music scenes, live performances, and a good time on campus, the Federation United Concert Series, known as FUCS, is the place to be. "We are a group of six to ten music lovers dedicated to delivering today's most relevant artists to Haverford's stages," says Henry Nye '20, one of this year's FUCS co-heads. "We typically book three to eight shows per semester, featuring musical artists of varying styles including indie rock, rap, electronic, and more." Concerts usually take place in Lunt Basement or James House.

WHO: Students seeking to be a part of the concert-booking process are encouraged to apply during the fall semester of each academic year. "We look primarily for [first-years] and sophomores who have a passion for attending concerts and finding new niche music," says Nye. "We often look for people with some familiarity with music scenes in New York or Philadelphia, since those artists are typically the most accessible."

WHEN: FUCS meets biweekly to organize concert lineups and help new members learn the process of booking bands. "Often, finding artists to perform is easier than you think," says Nye. "All it takes is locating their management email, reaching out, and then working with [Director of Student Engagement and Leadership] Michelle Leao to get together a proposal."

DID YOU KNOW: During its almost-20-year tenure, FUCS has hosted numerous artists who have gone on to hit it big in the music world, including, among many others, Vampire Weekend, Animal Collective, and Sharon Jones & the Dap Kings.

COOL CLASSES

Class name: "Machine Learning"

Taught by: Assistant Professor of Computer Science Sara Mathieson

Here's what Mathieson has to say about her

course: This class is about understanding how computers learn from data to create systems that can automatically predict or generate the future based on the past. I hope that by the end of the course, students are able to complete an entire machine learning pipeline: data featurization, algorithm selection and development, evaluation metrics, and interpretation of results. Along the way students will get the chance to think about the ethical and societal implications of deploying machine learning algorithms.

We interact with machine learning algorithms every day, so it is an exciting time to be teaching this course. My hope is that the students in this class will go on to join the broader field of machine learning in industry and academia. We need more people who are thinking critically about how to further develop and make use of these powerful methods.

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



WE'VE GOT LOTS OF CUTE POOCHES on display this issue in our "Dogs of Haverford" feature story, but maybe you have a darling dog of your own that you'd love to show off. How about a cat, bunny, turtle, or other furry (or not) friend? We want to see all of your adorable pets! Post a pic of them showing their school spirit (in or with some College swag) on Instagram using #Haverpets, and we'll share it on our account, [@haverfordedu](https://www.instagram.com/haverfordedu).



Understanding “Surveillance Capitalism”



 Shoshana Zuboff signs copies of her latest book, *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*, after her *Technology & Justice* series talk.

The College’s yearlong Technology & Justice series continued this semester with a talk by Harvard Professor Emerita Shoshana Zuboff, whose widely acclaimed book *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power* has been called “epoch defining” and likened to Rachel Carson’s seminal *Silent Spring* for the chilling warning it delivers—in this case, about what digital technology is doing to our world.

Sponsored by the President’s Initiative for Ethical Engagement and Leadership (IEEL), Technology & Justice has featured lectures, round tables, exhibitions, and workshops. It brought a lineup of notable figures to campus last semester, including danah boyd and Ruha Benjamin.

“Technology shapes how each of us engages questions of justice, equity, sustainability, privacy, ownership, labor, surveillance, creativity, and social efficacy,” said VCAM Director and Associate Professor of English Laura McGrane, who conceptualized the series with former President Kim Benston and Assistant Professor of Computer Science Sorelle Friedler. “This semester, we continued these conversations with an intensified focus on surveillance, data, and the repercussions of pervasive technologies for our everyday lives.”

Zuboff’s long history of engaging audiences with pressing issues certainly showed during her February talk in front of a packed audience in Sharpless Auditorium. Zuboff, who coined the term “surveillance capitalism,” described how internet giants such

as Facebook and Google amass digital profiles of their users that allow them to predict what someone wants or feels at any given moment based on the person’s search history. These companies then sell this data to commercial businesses or political enterprises, which can then prompt a user online with their product or their pitch at the exact moment they’re the most susceptible. This act, Zuboff argued, results in great monetary profit for the tech companies, while the loss of a user’s individual freedom is just as great.

The Technology & Justice series followed up Zuboff’s talk with a symposium later in the month. “To Be Human: Surveillance, Recognition, Distortion,” brought in three scholars to talk about “data violence,” how new technologies are affecting marginalized people, and the need for “algorithmic accountability.”

For several years, the President’s Initiative for Ethical Engagement and Leadership has supported curricular development focused on ethical questions, as well as research opportunities like last summer’s Migration Encounters project. Technology & Justice has been the first yearlong series sponsored by IEEL, and it is a framework the initiative plans to continue.

“IEEL champions Haverford students’ engagement with a wide range of ethical issues and thus contributes to their ability to lead in an unknowable future,” said President Wendy Raymond. “Great leaders come out of Haverford grounded in this framework of ethics and integrity.”

—Conor Madden ’20

Emphasis on the Environment at Spring Plenary

It's a familiar semesterly sight on a Sunday afternoon: Haverford students toting their backpacks, some with pillows, the occasional few with couches from dorm common rooms hoisted above their heads, pouring into the **Douglas B. Gardner '83** Integrated Athletic Center (GIAC). Once inside, the crowd settles in at Plenary to begin a conversation about how they hope to change Haverford for the better.

These conversations take the form of Plenary Resolutions—amendments or additions to the Students' Constitution that are written by and voted on by students. (In order for a vote to be called on any resolutions, 66 percent of the student body, or roughly 840 Fords, must be present in the GIAC.)


At Spring Plenary in February, representatives from the 2018 Clearness Committee—which is formed once every four years to evaluate the Honor Code and its implementation and the Students' Association and its governance—presented a resolution that proposed adding an extra semester to their timeline. Sunrise Haverford, the newly formed chapter of national climate-justice

organization Sunrise Movement, presented a resolution asking for environmental concerns to be made a central priority of the work of Haverford's Strategic Planning Committee. Sadie Kenyon-Dean '20, a physics major who is conducting her thesis research on the consequences of light pollution, presented a related resolution aimed at addressing light pollution on campus.

In addition, student representatives from the Committee for Environmental Responsibility proposed two resolutions focused on conservation efforts on campus. The first, called "Respecting Living Spaces," calls for making students responsible for thoroughly cleaning out their dorm rooms at the end of the academic year. The second CER resolution, "Capital With a Purpose," affirms the student body's push for the College's investment committees to consider environmental and sustainable consequences in making investment decisions for Haverford's endowment.

All five resolutions passed by a majority vote and have been sent to President Wendy Raymond for her review and response.

—Allison Wise '20


*Students at Spring
Plenary in the
Douglas B.
Gardner '83
Integrated
Athletic Center.*





IN THE COLLECTION

Spotlighting the holdings of Quaker & Special Collections

When Phillis Wheatley published *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* in 1773, beneath her name as author was the descriptor: “Negro Servant to Mr. John Wheatley of Boston, in New England.” So astonishing was the idea that an African American enslaved woman could pen poetry, that the volume also included a list of names of prominent Boston men (including John Hancock), all attesting that Wheatley was indeed the author. Even with that, no Boston publisher would agree to bring it out, and Wheatley had to publish the book in London.

The opening pages of the rare first edition of her *Poems* housed in Quaker & Special Collections bears a portrait of this remarkable woman, looking thoughtful as she wields a quill pen. Kidnapped in her native Senegal and transported to Boston on a slave ship in 1761, she could not speak English, or read or write. Yet by 1767 she had published her first poem, and was learning Latin and Greek. The publication of her book brought her international fame and spurred John Wheatley to emancipate her. (In 1776, George Washington, himself a slaveholder, invited her to visit him at his camp near Boston after she sent him a poem.) But the Revolutionary War curtailed

sales and prevented her publishing a second book. Wheatley died in poverty in 1784.

The book has been on public view this semester in Lutnick Library’s Rebecca and Rick White Gallery as part of the exhibition *Crossing Borders: From Slavery to Abolition, 1670-1865*. The exhibition was curated by Visiting Assistant Professor of English Sarah Watson and the students of the Fall 2019 “Crossing Borders” writing seminar, who explored Haverford’s collection of rare books, manuscripts, and maps related to transatlantic travel, the slave trade, and abolition.

Also in the library’s collection is one of just 20 known letters written by Wheatley, and one of only eight known letters to her friend Obour Tanner. Also an enslaved woman who survived the Middle Passage, Tanner likely met Wheatley in Newport, R.I., when the Wheatley family vacationed there. Both women were devout Protestants, and Wheatley’s letter reflects their shared beliefs. “It gives me very great pleasure,” to hear of so many of my Nation seeking with eagerness, the way to true felicity,” she writes, and later exhorts Tanner: “Let us endeavor by the assistance of divine grace to live the life, and we shall die the death of the righteous.”

—Eils Lotozo

Main Lines



Knoxville's New Mayor


Celebrating Indya Kincannon's victory on election night are (from left) her daughter (and fellow Ford) Dahlia Barton '23, her husband Ben Barton '91, Kincannon, and her younger daughter Georgia Barton.

Going into the 2019 primary race for mayor of Knoxville, Tenn., **Indya Kincannon '93** entered a six-way battle as the only transplant to the city and the only woman. She was not considered the front runner, but she prevailed. In the general election, her Republican opponent, a local businessman, was widely seen to have the advantage. But in a tight race, Kincannon emerged victorious, defying the pundits by engaging with citizens of all backgrounds at countless town halls, public forums, and community events in the Volunteer State's third-largest city.

"She will not give up," read one of the handmade signs behind the stage where she gave her victory speech, and Kincannon, who was sworn in to office Dec. 21, had this to say about her win: "I think that our campaign showed that I'm a great listener, I work hard, and I'm going to continue that. I did that throughout the campaign, and that's how I'm going to be as mayor, too."

That approach—to listen to all voices—was not mere campaign strategy. It's a core value for Kincannon, one fostered by her father, heightened at Haverford, and emblematic of her two decades in public service.

Her father, C. Louis Kincannon, served as director of the U.S. Census Bureau from 2002-08. He was instrumental in diversifying the bureau, recruiting census takers who reflected the communities in which they worked. "He was ahead of the curve in understanding the importance of how having a diverse group of people working for large organizations helps you make better decisions and reach people of all populations," she says.

At Haverford, where she was a history and Spanish double major, Kincannon met her husband, **Ben Barton '91**, and found her father's example echoed in the values of the College. "The desire to hear and respect people from all walks of life and income levels are values that Haverford cultivated in me," she says. (Following in her

mom and dad's footsteps, daughter Dahlia Barton is part of Haverford's Class of 2023.)

Kincannon earned a master's in public affairs and urban and regional planning at Princeton, and worked as a budget analyst for the Arizona State Legislature before moving with her family to Knoxville in 2001, when Barton accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Tennessee College of Law. "We fell in love with the city and raised both of our girls here," she says.

Her involvement in her daughters' schooling prompted Kincannon's 2004 run for the Knox County Board of Education, an operation with a \$450-million budget, 56,000 students, and 8,000 employees. During her decade on the board—including three years as chairperson—graduation rates and student outcomes improved significantly. "My biggest accomplishment was that we raised expectations for students," she says. "Kids in Tennessee were just as smart as kids in other places, but we just were not giving them the resources they needed to thrive."

Later, as special program manager in the

administration of Knoxville mayor Madeline Rogero, whom she succeeded, Kincannon oversaw \$1.6 million in community agency grants and managed hundreds of appointments to boards and commissions. "I had to make sure they were truly representative of the city, in terms of age, ethnic diversity and geographic representation," she says.

Now in the city's top office herself, one of Kincannon's first actions as mayor was to create a new division of government, called Community Empowerment, that will sharpen the city's focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

She also has plans for reducing Knoxville's carbon footprint to combat climate change and has promised to create a workforce development liaison position to help create a greener city. She says she's eager to build on the growth she has seen in her nearly 20 years in Knoxville. "There is a growing confidence in our identity," she says. "Instead of trying to be like other cities, we are embracing who we are and celebrating and building on those strengths."

—Kristin Baird Rattini

“
INSTEAD OF TRYING TO BE LIKE OTHER CITIES, WE ARE EMBRACING WHO WE ARE AND CELEBRATING AND BUILDING ON THOSE STRENGTHS.
”



MEMBERS OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE invited faculty, staff, and students to an open forum in December to talk about their hopes for Haverford. When a fire alarm sent them streaming out of the Dining Center's Bryn Mawr Room, so engaged was the group that they found an outdoor spot where they could keep on working, despite the chilly winter air. Participants in the forum were asked to share their thoughts about several broad questions: What makes Haverford College a compelling place to study, work, or live? What changes might we consider? What are our hopes or aspirations for Haverford as we imagine the needs of future generations of students and the world they will inhabit? The Strategic Planning Steering Committee, which will be meeting regularly through 2021, is responsible for stewarding the College through the planning process that will guide Haverford's strategic decision-making over the next five to ten years.

Main Lines

Student Loan Debt Relief Program Makes Its First Grants

Twelve members of the Class of 2019 became the first recipients of grants distributed by the Haverford Student Loan Debt Relief program (HSLDR). Made possible thanks to the commitment of **Steve Jaharis '82** and the support of the Jaharis Family Foundation, the program is designed to assist graduates for whom paying off student debt would be a burden, particularly those pursuing careers of high societal value and low pay.

Haverford College is committed to ensuring that all qualified applicants can afford a Haverford

fundraising campaign, income from the endowed fund for HSLDR became available for distribution last year, and the Class of 2019 was the first to become eligible to apply for debt relief grants. The 12 awards given in December ranged from \$900 to \$1,500 per applicant. **Arlene Casey '19**, a math teacher from the Bronx, was one recipient.

"I applied for the debt-relief program in order to make my career choice as an educator a more sustainable one," she said. "I have wanted to teach for as long as I can remember and have loved the beginnings of being a teacher. In order to continue to pursue this career and pay off my loans, it would mean taking on extra work outside of teaching that would draw time away from my development as a professional. The support of the debt relief program [will] allow me to dedicate more time to my students and developing strong curricular materials and lessons for them."

"Being approved for this program felt like Haverford telling me that I matter and I'm worth an investment," said **Alissa Valentine '19**, who works as a research technician in Northeastern University's developmental neuropsychobiology lab and started a master's in the bioinformatics program there in January. "Becoming a member of this program is an acknowledgment of my potential, and makes me feel supported and confident about my dream of becoming a neuroscientist."

This year's debt relief recipients may apply for the program for two additional years, for a total of three years of debt forgiveness. Members of the upcoming graduating class will be eligible to apply this summer, ahead of the Aug. 31 deadline.

"This program," said Valentine, "is helping me gain some financial independence and stability, and pushing me closer to applying to a Ph.D. program and starting the next phase of my life as a researcher."

"This outstanding program liberates Haverford graduates to pursue their dreams with confidence," said President Wendy Raymond. "We hope an early reduction of debt will widen our graduates' choices for meaningful work."

—Rebecca Raber




Math teacher Arlene Casey was one of 12 Class of 2019 grads to benefit from the College's Debt Relief Program.

education. This includes both meeting the full demonstrated financial need of all admitted students—including international students and transfers—and minimizing student debt at graduation. Even as Haverford caps its financial aid loans at \$3,000 per student per year, the new Student Loan Debt Relief program aims to help lighten that modest load.

"We want students to be able to pursue their passions, regardless of the student loans they may carry," said **Ann Figueredo '84**, vice president of Institutional Advancement and an early advocate for the program. "And though Haverford student debt is relatively low, it could still deter people from important careers as teachers, social workers, researchers, NGO leaders, and such. Our generous donor didn't want students' vocational choices influenced by how much debt they had."

Chartered during the recent *Lives That Speak*



Nature Trail Marathon

Lots of folks like to spend time on Haverford's lovely Nature Trail. But George Doehne '22 and Poppy Northing '22 spent the better part of a day on it in November, starting out at 5:30 in the morning to begin the first of 12 circuits of the 2.2-mile trail. In total, the pair walked 26.4 miles—just a hair over the distance of a marathon, which is 26.2 miles. "We've done long hikes before, but never this many miles in a single day, or in loops like this," says Doehne. So why the marathon walk? "This was mostly for the joy of doing it," he says. "We're both from the West Coast and are used to hiking a lot there, so we thought we'd do something big here, too. We haven't heard of anybody else doing this, although we'd be very happy if we started a trend!"

TRAVEL WITH HAVERFORD

Wonders of the Galápagos Islands

February 8 to 16, 2021

Travel with Haverford College President Wendy Raymond on this nine-day journey featuring a four-night cruise to the Galápagos Islands on an expedition-style cruise ship and three nights in Quito, Ecuador, a UNESCO World Heritage site.



For more information, visit hav.to/travel, email sgoddard@haverford.edu, or call (610) 896-4297.

Musical Legend Sun Ra Goes Solo

An unusual 1980 concert on campus popped up in the news in January when *Rolling Stone* magazine spotlighted an archival recording recently added to the music site Bandcamp. *Haverford College 1980 Solo Piano*, as the recording is titled, features free-jazz pioneer Sun Ra, without the members of his Arkestra, playing a set that, according to *Rolling Stone*, gives the sense that you're listening to "one of the 20th century's greatest musical minds play stream-of-consciousness cocktail piano.

of duets, titled *Visions*, in 1978) were slated for Saturday night, the 25th. But two weeks before he was scheduled to play, Sun Ra canceled, and Dickerson replaced him with bassist Jymie Merritt.

"We were bummed, of course, but, as we would learn over and over, shit happens in the concert business," says Lupoletti. "The upside was that we didn't need a piano for the gig, so we didn't have to pay a piano tuner and movers, saving us money that we could apply to our next event."

Then, the morning of the show, the organizers got another round of bad news: Merritt's father had died, and he had to cancel, leaving Dickerson to do a solo show—or so they thought.

That night, recalls Lupoletti: "I was backstage with Walt, waiting for the crowd in Roberts to get bigger, when one of my colleagues rushed in and breathlessly announced that Sun Ra was at the entrance door. We later learned that the Sun Ra Arkestra had gotten a gig for the same night which paid more than ours, and that's why he canceled on us. Then he heard about Jymie Merritt's dad and felt bad for Jymie and Walt, so he came out to Haverford."

Then he asked to see the piano. "I had to tell him that since we weren't expecting him, there was no piano," says Lupoletti. "But maybe we could find something for him to play, if that was OK with him. So, the word went out to the Bi-College community: 'Who has a portable keyboard instrument we could borrow?' **Tim James '82**, a very good piano player who lived right next door in Barclay Hall, volunteered the use of his Fender Rhodes electric piano. It was no substitute for the Bosendorfer concert grand (recently donated by a Haverford alum) that we would have had ready, but it was better than nothing!"

A whole lot better than nothing, it turned out. *Rolling Stone* honored one track from the recorded concert in particular, selecting it for its "Songs You Need to Know" list. That track is a wild medley of Sun Ra's signature "Space Is the Place" and "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," a musical mash-up the magazine declared "an eerie commingling of song and pure sound that sums up just what a radical and forward-thinking artist the keyboardist was."—*Eils Lotozo*

Do you have a burning memory of a particularly unforgettable concert from your student days at Haverford? Drop us a line at hc-editor@haverford.com and tell us all about it.



Sun Ra performing at the 1976 Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland.

So how did musical legend Sun Ra come to play a solo concert in Roberts Hall on a Fender Rhodes electric piano borrowed, as it happens, from a Haverford student?

According to **Bill Lupoletti '82**, the concert was part of the first weekend of events organized by the Alternative Concert Series, a Bi-College organization he cofounded that made its debut in 1980. (Among his cofounders: **Gerard Lewis '82**, **Jim Findlay '80**, **Saul Glass '80**, and **Christopher Gibbs '80**.)

The inaugural concert, held on Friday, Jan. 24, was to feature solo performances in Roberts by saxophonist Anthony Braxton and violinist Leroy Jenkins. Vibraphonist Walt Dickerson and Sun Ra (who had recorded an album

PHOTO: ANDREW PUTLER/REDFERNS

Ford Games



Conversation With a Coach

Jamie Schneck has found a winning formula for Haverford's women's soccer program: "Our family versus their team."

BY CHARLES CURTIS '04



In 2012, Jamie Schneck led the women's soccer team to the program's first Centennial Conference title since 1995.

Jamie Schneck knew about Haverford's women's soccer team long before she took the head coaching job, and she liked what she saw.

As a soccer player during her undergrad years at Muhlenberg College, and later as an assistant coach at Washington College, she saw Haverford players with terrific work ethics and the motivation to win. So when the job opened up

in 2006, she was very interested in coaching the kinds of student athletes who played for the Fords.

The result? Success, and a lot of it. Her teams have won 134 games, made the postseason in all but two of the years she has coached, and played in the NCAA tournament three times. In 2012, she delivered the women's soccer program's first Centennial Conference title since 1995.

Ford Games

“
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SO THEY'RE NOT
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”



The Rye, N.Y., native told *Haverford* magazine about her motivational mottos, her philosophy, and where her passion for soccer came from in the first place.

The reason she fell in love with the sport was ... ice cream. When I was a little kid, our coach would buy us ice cream after every game, so I thought, ‘What a great way to play: run around, and go to the Good Humor man at the park after games.’ I loved the sport and, as I got older, I loved being a part of the team and working with others toward a common goal.

That love of team led to her career. I never thought you could make a career out of coaching, but I’ll never forget when we had our last college game when I played at Muhlenberg. I was just so upset; it was the first time I wouldn’t be a part of a team because I was graduating. My college coach said, “If you’re interested in coaching, you could become a graduate assistant while you get your master’s degree.” I went right to graduate school at East Stroudsburg University and got my master’s in sports management. I then worked for two years as an assistant coach at Washington College and then was hired for the same position at Washington and Lee.

She was the epitome of a team player. I played forward in high school, but then I tried out as a walk-on at Muhlenberg, and they put me at center midfielder. I loved to defend and connect passes to my teammates. In my mind, I would have a tally of, “Did I connect that pass?” My focus was no longer about just trying to score. My favorite thing was to win headers off goal kicks and win defensive headers.

Her motto for the program: “Our family versus their team.” We have all these girls from different parts of the country, with a variety of backgrounds. We have core values for our team, but that family mentality is what the program has been about for the last 10 years. You want to be a part of a community where you can be yourself and you will be included. We want players to feel so close to each other that they want to work for each other because their teammate is doing the exact same thing.

Speaking of core values ... There are five of them, and although they stay the same, they’re designed to change with the personality of each team. [Those core values are]: open communication, shared leadership, respect, pride, and hard work with purpose. So, for example, “respect” might look different from one year’s team to the

next. We try to do things that exemplify and demonstrate those values so they're not just fluff, and I talk about them with recruits so they have a true sense of our program.

Those don't just apply to the players. I'm still learning every day about ways to communicate better or demonstrate our values in a better way. That's the beauty of coaching—you're never comfortable and you're always learning.

What was her biggest accomplishment? It's hard to pinpoint just one thing. Winning the Centennial Conference was a moment I'll never forget. But in 2013, the season after we won the conference, we started the season badly, and it was such a gut-check after coming off one of our most successful years. I met with the captains and asked, "What do we need to do here?" They said, "We'll figure this out," and they did. We won our fifth game in dramatic fashion and from then on out we went undefeated the rest of the season and got an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

She plays a larger role in Haverford's athletics department. I'm a liaison to the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), I've worked on the **Joe Schwartz '83** Memorial 3K Run/Walk during ALS Awareness Week, and I put together the senior highlights video for the awards banquet. SAAC allows me to meet with other athletes who aren't just on our team, and the video is just flat-out fun, putting together action-shot highlights mixed in with some humor. One of the things I've really enjoyed about Haverford is that you can get involved in a lot of different things.

Charles Curtis is a sportswriter for USA Today's For the Win and an author of the Weirdo Academy series, published by Month9 Books. He lives in New York City with his wife and son.



Keep up with your favorite Haverford team at haverfordathletics.com.

SCHOLARSHIPS AT WORK

With help from the Sondra Lee Spar Scholarship for International Students, **Trevor Esilu '21** is enjoying the complete Haverford experience as he pursues his dream of becoming a wildlife veterinarian in his native Botswana.



“The financial barrier that existed between my family and Haverford was much greater than anything we could ever overcome alone. Everything that Haverford has to offer—the community, educational freedom, Pinwheel Day—depended on receiving financial aid.”



To support current-use financial aid, visit haverford.edu/makeagift.

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

Mixed Media



TELEVISION

—  —
The cast of *Dickinson*,
the offbeat period
dramedy created
by Alena Smith for
Apple TV+.

It's early January, just after the finish of a long holiday break, and **Alena Smith '02** has two weeks to wrap filming on the second season of *Dickinson*, her AppleTV+ period dramedy about the 19th-century lyric poet, which films in upstate New York. "Everyone is disoriented," she says of the actors trying to transition from vacation back into their waistcoats and pin-tucked lawn gowns.

Period costuming aside, *Dickinson* is no period piece.

In the first season, Emily Dickinson, played by *True Grit* star Hailee Steinfeld, throws raging house parties when her parents are out of town, makes out with her brother's fiance, and protests the obligations of women's domestic lives. "You're not a cat," her mother says, scolding Dickinson for dropping a dead mouse in the lap of a suitor. "No," Smith's Dickinson replies. "Tragically, I am a woman."

"I think that this is a coming-of-age story about a radical young female artist who was ahead of her time," says Smith, who began working on her

show about the famously reclusive poet seven years ago. "She has this legacy that we're still unpacking, that has a lot to say to a contemporary audience." Rather than tell that story in the repressed vocabulary of Victorian Amherst, Mass., Smith translated it into the diction of today. Which means that when her characters dance, choreographed minuets devolve into twerking. When "Death" stops by to visit Dickinson, he's played by rapper Wiz Khalifa in a top hat.

Smith, who studied playwriting at the Yale School of Drama, credits her knack for building such audaciously compelling worlds to the work she did not long after leaving Haverford, when she set up an experimental theater company called Dead Genius Productions with fellow grads **Alison D'Amato '02** and **Christian DuComb '01**.

"We did little shows in the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. We did a lot of gathering of interesting source material and then creating very crazy worlds out of it. And I think that that style of working definitely helped me create *Dickinson*, because it's kind of like research meets imagination."

Upon her graduation from Yale, Smith moved to New York City, working as a nanny by day and self-producing her plays. It was a grind. As a side project, in 2011, she set up a Twitter account, TweenHobo, where she would tweet observations from the perspective of a 12-year-old railroad tramp. That work, which later morphed into a book, caught the attention of *The Office* writer and cast member BJ Novak, who encouraged Smith to try Hollywood. After a move to Los Angeles, she became a writer on Aaron Sorkin's *The Newsroom* and the hit Showtime series *The Affair*, and developed *Dickinson* on her own time.

After years of tinkering, Smith only pitched the series to one network, the new streaming

platform from Apple, right around the same time she learned she was pregnant with twins. They were newborns when season one was in production.

"I have an incredible husband who stepped up and helped me," Smith says of the extraordinarily complicated timing. But there's a "bigger picture" answer, she says, to the question "How did you do it?"

"I had worked on this project for so long and dreamed about it so much, and everything I ever wanted to accomplish as a writer was in this," says Smith. "And the timing was what it was, and I just didn't have a choice. I had to fulfill the mission."

—Amanda Whiting

MUSIC

Jazz guitarist **Brian Pardo '79** has built a decades-long career as a professional musician, surviving in a highly competitive industry by focusing on musical versatility. Over the years, he's performed and recorded with artists in multiple genres, owned a recording studio and production facility, composed music for film and television, and worked as a music educator.

And it all started at Haverford.

As a freshman, Pardo knew that he wanted to study with legendary Philadelphia jazz guitarist Pat Martino. Martino had studied with Dennis Sandole, who had taught many major jazz players in the Philadelphia area, including John Coltrane and Michael Brecker. So, in preparation for studying with Martino, Pardo spent a year learning the Sandole System and got academic credit toward his music theory and composition degree, thanks to Haverford's flexible music program and the support of professors John Davison and Tom D'Andrea. (He later went on to learn from Martino himself.)

Pardo also enjoyed being part of Haverford's vital campus jazz community, which included musical allies such as **Neal Bodner '80, Bert Seager '77, Dan Greenspan '77, Mark Schatz '78, George Dominiak '76, and David Pitt '81.**

After college, Pardo spent several years playing gigs in and around Philadelphia and New York before moving to California in the early 1980s. He quickly found that his time in the Northeast—touring with organist Jack McDuff and backing up touring artists while playing in the house band at a Poconos Playboy Resort—had set him up to be a first-call musician out West.

"Jazz is one of those fields where there are very few musicians who can afford to travel with a full ensemble, so people who came through town would hire a local band," Pardo says. "My connections from New York led me to work with Stan Getz, Eddie Harris, and lots of organ players, because they knew about me from New York." Over time, Pardo's reputation as a reliable West Coast sideman kept his phone ringing, leading to performances with artists such as Bonnie Raitt, Tom Waits, John Mayer, and Audra McDonald, as well as appearances at top-tier jazz festivals in Monterey, San Francisco, Seattle, and Miami.

Pardo, 63, now lives in Austin, Texas, with his wife Lynn Magers-Pardo (a singer who goes by Lynn Ray and is featured on his 2014 CD, *It'll Always Be Home*); he teaches jazz studies at Texas State University. He's been teaching from the beginning of his career. "I was out of Haverford a year and a half and was getting more and more gigs, and I felt like a professional musician, but my parents encouraged me to get a teaching

credential, which I did," says Pardo, who went on to earn a doctorate in musical arts from the University of Texas.

Having landed in a busy music town like Austin, Pardo is never at a loss for gigs. "I play music pretty much five nights a week," he says. And he's now in a position to offer the next generation the kind of instruction and support that helped him flourish. "When I'm at the university, I'm with musicians who love jazz—it's a blast to teach students who want to learn, and I get to learn from them all the time, too."

—Brian Glaser



Mixed Media

CRAFT

In a world of fast fashion, flat-pack furnishings, and disposable plastics, **William Francis Brown '81** crafts one-of-a-kind wood furniture by hand and with care, spending weeks and sometimes months on a single chair, side table, or spice chest that will last for generations.

He hand-cuts dovetail joints; shapes hundreds of small pieces of ebony or walnut for inlay; and hand-planes, hand-scrapes and hand-polishes his pieces. Brown needed 200 hours to complete a 27-inch tall Federal game table. He'll spend 60 to 125 hours on one of the 18th-century-style eagle wall-hangings he diligently carves, gold-leafs, and paints.

For Brown, this is a passion, not a profession; he pays the bills and finances his hobby working as an anesthesiologist. But after 40 years of woodworking, he is committed to the craft and to insuring that the time-consuming practices that go into quality furniture aren't forgotten by future generations. In May, he'll launch Coastal Maine Workshops, intensive, multi-day classes taught by top craftsmen in subjects including carving fundamentals and building furniture with hand tools.

"We are in a time where handcraftsmanship is not well understood or appreciated. I think there are a lot of rewards in learning to concentrate and getting something done with your hands, and I'd like to spread that," says Brown, who divides his time between Forest, Va., and Camden, Maine. "I think it would be neat to see someone discovering it for the first time." To that end, he will be providing scholarships for high school- and college-age students.

Brown is well-respected in the woodworking world. Last year, *Early American Life* magazine included him on its list of the 200 best traditional craftsmen in the country. His furniture and carvings have been featured in publications including *Popular Woodworking* and *Fine Woodworking*, and the caretakers of James Madison's Montpelier estate hired Brown to create replicas of the dining room chairs preferred by the president and first lady Dolly Madison.

While Brown does take commissions, he's more likely to give finished pieces to family and friends, or add them to his personal collection. For him, the fun comes from creating.

"It's hard to make more than \$3 an hour because of how much work you put into it," he says. "Even if no one ever buys it, if someone appreciates it, that's OK."

At Haverford, Brown studied biology and music and played with a classical guitar group. (He still plays, and has a YouTube channel featuring his solo guitar performances.)

He says his time at the College "reinforced something I'd always had, which was a love of learning for its own sake." An interesting tidbit learned in astronomy class would prompt him to read entire books about the cosmos. He also had a fondness for tinkering: "I was the kid who loved puzzles and was always taking things apart." That led him to seek an apprenticeship with Chester County craftsman E. Townsend Moore in 1983, after a year of graduate school at Vanderbilt.

Brown soon fell in love with 18th-century furniture and began building "historically informed" pieces. Four decades later, he continues to push himself, constantly trying new techniques. He recently completed a series of eight Federal-style tables, each subsequent table having more bells and whistles than the ones that came before it.

"I like the challenge of trying something I've never done before," he says.

More information about Brown's furniture: LineAndBerry.com

Learn more about his furniture making workshops: MaineCoastWorkshop.com

—Natalie Pompilio




William Francis Brown's handmade wood furniture pieces can take him weeks, sometimes months, to craft.



ART

Before she died of starvation in a Nazi concentration camp in 1940, Austrian sculptor Miriam Rose Silberer drew critical acclaim for her works depicting religious and mythological figures.

But few have ever heard of her.

“She’s a forgotten artist—I can’t find her work anywhere. Her life story is just gone, and it deserves to be told.” says **Carson Barnes ’78**. He discovered Silberer not because of her career, but because she had modeled for the creator of a famous memorial he visited in Vienna.

Barnes has found his artistic mission in telling the stories of “erased” women such as Silberer, whose likenesses he finds while scouring cemeteries and monuments around the world for statues he can reimagine as full-color prints.

“How ironic for these women to have been immortalized in stone, only to be so thoroughly forgotten,” says Barnes. “Their lives mattered, but their histories have been suppressed. I seek to honor and celebrate them by bringing them back to life.” Using a meticulous process that involves photographing a statue from myriad angles, then combining the images in Photoshop and enhancing bone structure, musculature, clothing, and facial features, Barnes finds his biggest challenge is producing a two-dimensional view of a three-dimensional subject.

“It’s amazing what the tiniest difference in the corner of a mouth can make, taking an expression from sneering contempt to delighted amusement,” he says.

A Haverford fine arts major who earned a mas-

ter’s degree from California College of the Arts, Barnes has worked as an artist for half a century but began this particular practice in 2014, after decades of printmaking wreaked havoc on his wrists. Transitioning to digital media provided relief. He and his wife, a microbiologist, were touring a cemetery in Savannah, Ga., a few hours from their home outside Atlanta, when a marble sculpture of a teenage girl left him curious and captivated.

“It was the first piece to alert me to these lost women and their stories, and it set me off and running. I wanted to find out everything I could about them,” he says. Among the women he has identified: a Slovenian ballerina, a French opera singer, the daughter of a Parisian chef (felled by the flu at age 12), and a Beirut-born inventor and pianist who married into a prominent Philadelphia family.


Barnes currently has prints on display at the Griffin Museum at Lafayette Passage in Boston and the SXSE Photography gallery in Molena, Georgia. In September, he’ll have a solo exhibition at the Rankin Photography Center at Columbus State University.

When he’s not making art, Barnes serves as a judge with the American Orchid Society and grows and sells dozens of orchid varieties, noting that “48 years of growing orchids means I have some idea of what a good flower is.”

He reckons he knows what a good portrait is, too.

For more information: carsonbarnesart.com

—Karen Brooks

—  —
(left) Carson Barnes’ photo of a statue in a Genoa cemetery that memorializes Ester Piaggio, who died in childbirth. (right) Piaggio reimaged by the artist in a digitally rendered color print.

Mixed Media

BOOKS

Q&A: Benjamin Taylor '74

Benjamin Taylor was a philosophy and French major at Haverford, and he's telling me about the moment his future plans took a turn: "On Barclay Beach I was reading The Portrait of a Lady, and I came to a scene that caused the scales to fall from my eyes, and I understood that I wasn't really interested in philosophy, I was interested in literature!"

*Thank goodness for Haverford and Henry James! Taylor's Barclay Beach epiphany led him to become a genre-hopping, critically acclaimed novelist (Tales Out of School, The Book of Getting Even), memoirist (The Hue and Cry at Our House), literary biographer (Proust: The Search), and travel writer (Naples Declared: A Walk Around the Bay). And Taylor, who teaches at The New School and Columbia University, has a new book, **Here We Are**, a thoughtful and honest consideration of his friendship with novelist Philip Roth, out this May from Penguin Random House. It's a beautiful portrait of their relationship, part frank memoir and part deeply felt homage, at once a tribute to and a new tributary flowing toward our understanding of Roth's life and work.*

We spoke over the phone about school, memory, and his unique path in the arts.

Hilary Leichter '07: Were you writing when you were a student at Haverford?

Benjamin Taylor: I wanted to be a poet—like so many prose writers. I did a private writing tutorial with Jim Ransom. I was entranced by certain American poets at the time. I think I wanted



to be Wallace Stevens. You can't do something like that. The job's always already taken. It took me a long time to find my own voice, my own originality. I was a critic, and a novelist, and a biographer, and a memoirist, and now I just think of myself as a writer. The genre seems less important than what it is I have to say. A lot of the same energies that go into writing a memoir go into writing a novel, and a lot of the same technical problems present themselves: how to set a scene, how to narrate, how to handle time. All those things pertain to memoir writing as surely as they do to fiction.

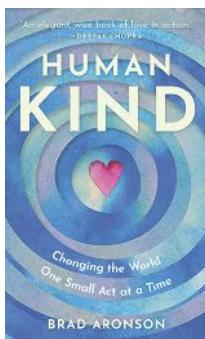
HL: There's a great line in your new book: "Writing a novel makes a god of you; writing a memoir does not." Can you say a little more about that?

BT: I meant that when you're a novelist you can make things up, when you're a memoirist you're not supposed to.

HL: Do you deal with imagination and fact differently in fiction than in nonfiction, or is it the same no matter what you're writing?

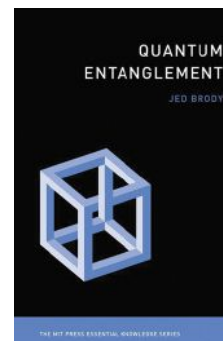
BT: Well I think it shouldn't be the same, or else you've blurred the boundary. I really believe in the distinction between fiction and nonfiction, but what I find is that when you dramatize the facts, when you frame them in scenes, when you rely on direct speech, you've worked a certain alchemy on the bare givens of experience and memory. And let's face it: Memory itself is a notorious artificer. Memory leaves out, and puts emphasis here, and de-emphasizes there. Memory is already art.

MORE ALUMNI TITLES



BRAD ARONSON '93: HumanKind: Changing the World One Small Act at a Time (LifeTree Media). Inspired by the outpouring of help his family received when his wife was diagnosed with leukemia,

Aronson decided to write a book about the acts, large and small, of people who have made a difference in someone's life—from a group of grandmothers who mend clothes for the homeless, to the woman whose efforts have provided more than 500,000 meals for the hungry. Along with inspiring stories, the book, whose proceeds will go to nonprofits, offers ideas for how readers can have an impact in their own communities and the world.



JED BRODY '96: Quantum Entanglement (MIT Press). Quantum physics is notable for its brazen defiance of common sense, and an especially rigorous form of quantum contradiction occurs

HL: There's a moment in *Here We Are* where you discuss Lucy Nelson's death in Philip Roth's novel *When She Was Good*, and how it strangely predicted Roth's wife's death. Have you ever had the experience of imagining something that then came to pass?

BT: I think all writers of fiction have the experience of writing things that then come to pass. In *Tales Out of School*, my first novel, I had the eerie experience of writing about someone whose brother suddenly dies; and that subsequently happened to me. Creative imagination has a way of getting things right. Even things that it can't know or can't yet know. I guess it's just because you know something about the fragility of life, that you tell the story in such a way that what's liable to happen to a fictional character is liable to happen to you.

HL: In *Here We Are*, you say that "Writers can be sorted into school-lovers and school-haters." Were you a school-lover or a school-hater?

BT: School-lover. Especially when I got to Haverford. I loved my time there. I still have a fantasy of going back there to teach. It was simply a golden place, and I felt that there was an ethos that must derive ultimately from Quakerism, expressing itself in secular ways. A preference for plain-spokenness. A curriculum grounded in the traditional things done well. The vibrant intellectualism of the atmosphere. You could put your tray down at any table in the [Dining Center] and hear people, despite their youth, talking about the most serious things. They were already adults intellectually, already on high-minded paths. I was well aware that wasn't the case at all colleges.

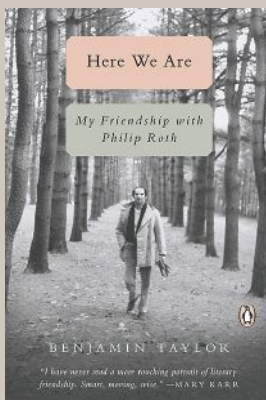
HL: You've edited two books about Saul Bellow, his collected nonfiction and his letters. If, in the future, you had your collected letters published, is there someone you would want to edit that book?

BT: No, and I wouldn't want such a book to exist! Are you

kidding? I wouldn't want ever to be the subject of a biography either. I loved what Philip Roth said about that: "Two things await me, death and my biographer. I do not know which is the more to be feared."

HL: Roth told you: "Your path has been your own." What does that mean to you?

BT: Either it meant a great deal or nothing at all, and I decided it meant a great deal and was a very fine compliment declaring me a one-off. I haven't done the customary things. I haven't become a tenured professor, for instance; I've lived half on the inside of academic life and half on the out. And instead of just writing one kind of book—there are people who just write novel after novel—I became interested in all kinds of writing, especially memoir. So, I guess he was right. My path has been my own. This may sound immodest, but false modesty is not among my vices. (I have others.)

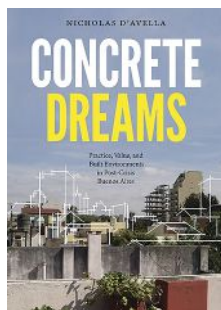


HL: How do you think Philip Roth would react to the book?

BT: I never allowed myself at any moment to say, "What would Philip think of this?" because I thought that would be bad for the book. I knew I wasn't interested in hagiography; I didn't want to ornament him or sanitize him, or present a different Philip from the one I knew—who was, to speak bluntly, a very mixed bag of a man. I know I'll have detractors. May critics swarm all over what I've written. That's as it should be.

Hilary Leichter's debut novel, *Temporary* (the story of a temporary worker with fantastical and improbable jobs), was published in March by Coffee House Press/Emily Books. She lives with her husband in Brooklyn, N.Y. You can find more of her writing at hilaryleichter.com.

in experiments with entangled particles. While our common assumption is that objects have properties whether or not anyone is observing them, and the measurement of one can't affect the other, quantum entanglement—called by Einstein "spooky action at a distance"—rejects this assumption, offering evidence of the opposite. Is quantum entanglement mystical, or just mystifying? In this volume Brody, a senior lecturer in physics at Emory University, equips readers to decide for themselves.



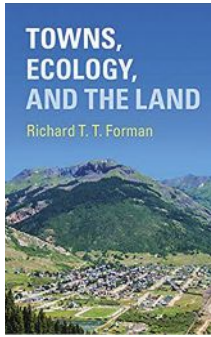
ethnography examines the construction boom following Argentina's political and economic crisis of 2001, telling the stories of small-scale investors who

NICHOLAS D'AVELLA '01: *Concrete Dreams: Practice, Value, and Built Environments in Post-Crisis Buenos Aires* (Duke University Press). This urban

turned to real estate as an alternative to a financial system they no longer trusted, of architects who struggled to maintain artistic values and political commitments in the face of the ongoing commodification of their work, and of residents-turned-activists who worked to protect their neighborhoods and city from being overtaken by new development.

RICHARD T. T. FORMAN '57: *Towns, Ecology, and the Land* (Cambridge University Press). Forman's analysis

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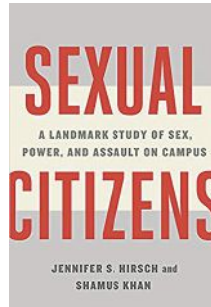
reconceptualizes towns and villages, which hold nearly half the world's population, as dynamic environmental "hotspots," examining them through spatial and cultural lenses and highlighting ecological dimensions. A concluding section presents concepts for making better towns and better land. Forman, a pioneer in landscape and urban ecology and the author of four previous books, teaches at Harvard University.



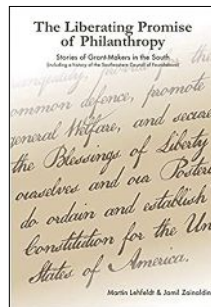
ERIC KARPELES '76: *Almost Nothing: The 20th-Century Art and Life of Józef Czapski* (Penguin Random House). The Polish painter and writer Józef Czapski, who died in 1993

at age 96, was a student in St. Petersburg during the Russian Revolution and a painter in Paris in the Roaring Twenties. As a Polish officer fighting the invasion of the Nazis at the start of World War II, he was taken prisoner by the Soviets but was somehow excluded from Stalin's executions of Polish officers. After the war, he returned to Paris, where he continued to paint and worked to keep alive awareness of the plight of his homeland. Karpeles, also a painter, reveals Czapski's full complexity, pulling together all the threads of this remarkable life.

SHAMUS KHAN '00 and Jennifer S. Hirsch: *Sexual Citizens: A Landmark Study of Sex, Power, and Assault on Campus* (Norton). Khan and his coauthor spent two years leading a community study of sex and sexual assault on the campus of Columbia University, where he is a pro-



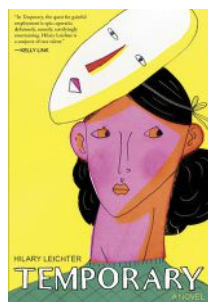
essor and chair of sociology. Utilizing interviews with students and direct observations of student life, the authors look at the roots of sexual assault and outline the forces that shape young people's sexual relationships, including physical spaces, alcohol, and social factors, and identify the ways race, class, age, and sexuality can intersect with gender to influence who is most at risk and who is most likely to commit offenses.



MARTIN LEHFELDT '61 and Jamil Zainaldin: *The Liberating Promise of Philanthropy: Stories of Grant-Makers in the South* (The Storyline Group). LeFebldt, the former pres-

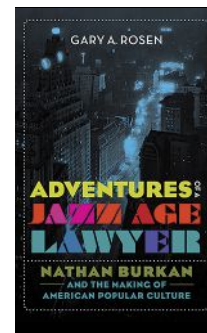
ident of the Southeastern Council of Foundations, and his coauthor begin their story with our country's founders and the role they envisioned for philanthropy in the new republic, and follow its evolution through the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the two world wars, ending with an examination of the contemporary era. The authors pay particular attention to the crippling effect of slavery and Jim Crow on the building of a civil society in the South, and how philanthropists have worked to remedy that.

HILARY LEICHTER '07: *Temporary: A Novel* (Coffee House Press). Call it magical realism for the gig economy. In Leichter's first novel, a young woman with a family



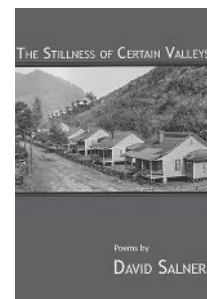
legacy of "just filling in" takes an increasingly bizarre series of temporary jobs, including shining

an endless closet of shoes, swabbing the deck of a pirate ship, assisting an assassin, and filling in for the Chairman of the Board. In this poignant, poetic, and funny novel, whose final chapter takes the form of an exit interview, "there is nothing more personal than doing your job"—whatever that job may be.



GARY A. ROSEN '81: *Adventures of a Jazz Age Lawyer: Nathan Burkan and the Making of American Popular Culture* (University of California Press). Nathan Burkan was one of the most famous lawyers

in America during the Jazz Age, with a client list that included early Hollywood's biggest stars, directors, and producers; Broadway's most celebrated songwriters and performers; and New York City's leading politicians, socialites, and mobsters. Rosen's account of Burkan's career chronicles courtroom confrontations, scandalous escapades, and momentous clashes of powerful political, economic, and cultural forces. Rosen is an intellectual property lawyer and the author of *Unfair to Genius*.

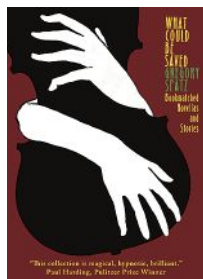


DAVID SALNER '66: *The Stillness of Certain Valleys* (Broadstone Books). Salner's poems survey a community after the closing of the mine that gave it life, offer an account of the trials

and beauty of working-class life, and evoke a Charleston slave market and a Civil War battlefield after the guns have been silenced. Wrote one critic, "Salner's lyrical poems give us the physical world, its roughness and beauty, and the life it sustains—the miner, the immigrant grandmother ... they bring us closer to

ourselves and who we were in the rapidly fading 20th century.” Also an essayist and fiction writer, Salner has had his poetry published in *Threepenny Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *North American Review*, and many other journals. His earlier poetry collections are *Working Here* and *John Henry’s Partner Speaks*.

GREGORY SPATZ '86: *What Could Be Saved* (Tupelo Press). This collection of linked stories and novellas takes readers



past the workshop door, through the rehearsal space curtain, and into the back room of a pawn shop or dealer’s office to explore the worlds of those who build, play, and sell (or steal) high-end stringed instruments. Richly detailed, and peopled with a vivid cast (including one story

that is narrated by a crate of old violins), these stories evoke the force and beauty of chamber music. Spatz is the author of the novels *Inukshuk*, *Fiddler’s Dream*, and *No One But Us*. He teaches at Eastern Washington University in Spokane, and plays fiddle in a bluegrass band.

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.

The Third Rainbow Girl: The Long Life of a Double Murder in Appalachia

By Emma Copley Eisenberg '09 (Hachette Books)

“The idea of Appalachia is well understood; the real place, less so,” writes **Emma Copley Eisenberg '09** in her new book, *The Third Rainbow Girl*. Eisenberg’s meticulous account of a long-ago double murder there and the trauma it inflicted on the local community is part of her own effort to understand that real place—as well as the impact a short but powerful sojourn in Appalachia had on her own life.

Eisenberg moved to rural Pocahontas County, W. Va., not long after her Haverford graduation to work with an organization devoted to empowering local girls. She was renting a room in an old farmhouse when she learned about the 1980 murders of two young women whose bodies had been found just down the country lane from where she was living. The pair had been hitchhiking to an outdoor peace festival known as the Rainbow Gathering and were shot at close range and left in an isolated clearing.

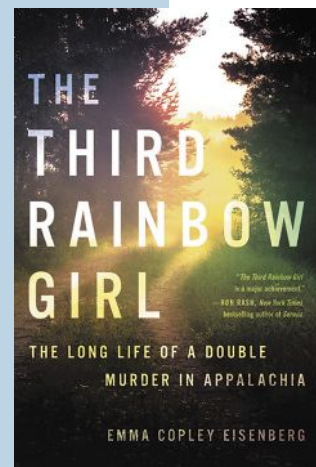
For 13 years, no one was prosecuted for the murders. Eventually, nine local men were arrested and three others named as suspects. One was convicted—and then found not guilty in a second trial in 2000. In another bizarre twist, in 1984, four years after the murders, a schizophrenic serial killer imprisoned in Illinois told authorities that he had committed the crime. That confession was dismissed as unreliable, and more than a decade would pass before his claims would be reexamined.

Eisenberg left West Virginia at the end of 2010, moving on to the University of Virginia to earn her MFA in fiction writing. But the “Rainbow Girls” case haunted her. Researching coverage of the investigation and subsequent arrests, she said in an interview on Salon.com, “I knew that something was off. Something just rang very false.” Eventually her desire to understand what happened led to five years of research and reporting in seven states.

The Third Rainbow Girl is the saga of a murder case that spanned two decades and tore apart a community. But this is not your standard “true crime” story. Eisenberg doesn’t pretend to unravel a mystery for the reader. Instead, she begins the book with a long series of spoilers in a list titled: “Here Are Some True Things.”

Eisenberg has said she sees *The Third Rainbow Girl* as part of a new genre of “modern true crime,” which is “becoming a place for socially engaged questions to be explored.” To that end, she weaves in strands of her own coming-of-age story, and also offers a compelling cultural history of Appalachia, a land whose long history of natural resource extraction has created a relationship to the broader United States, she writes, that has often been compared “to that between a colonized people and their colonizers.”

In her list of “True Things,” Eisenberg writes, “Friedrich Nietzsche famously wrote that in all desire to know there is a drop of cruelty. The same may be true of the impulse to turn the messy stuff of many peoples’ lived experience into a single story. At the same time, stories are responsible for nearly everything in this life that has made me more free. Which stories are which and to what extent this story is an example of the former idea or the latter or both is an essential question of this book.”



“**THE IDEA OF APPALACHIA IS WELL UNDERSTOOD; THE REAL PLACE, LESS SO.**”

—Eils Lotozo



TELL US MORE

SHREYAS SHIBULAL '15

Powering India's Electric Vehicle Revolution

When Shreyas Shibulal launched Micelio, a company focused on India's growing electric vehicle (EV) industry, no one in his family was surprised. He's been fascinated with cars since he was a child, even building his own replica Lotus race vehicle while a student at Haverford. And Shreyas comes from a family of successful entrepreneurs headed by his father, SD Shibulal, who cofounded India's second-largest IT company, Infosys. The family maintains a shared office in Bangalore, where they manage a philanthropic education foundation and family members run their own businesses and charitable ventures.

Founded just over a year ago, Micelio has 55 full-time employees and consists of four divisions: the \$20 million Micelio Fund, which invests in early-stage EV startups working on everything from complete vehicles to batteries; Discovery Studio, a product development workshop with equipment and experts available to startups; Lightning Logistics, a delivery service powered by a fleet of electric mopeds; and Micelio's own product team, which is developing its own electric delivery vehicle.

Micelio is both Spanish and Italian for mycelium, which Shibulal sees as the underlying ecosystem that connects all things on Earth. "It's the basic geometry for any ecosystem," he says. "You see mycelium patterns wherever you look in nature: on leaves, the roots of a tree, your own nervous system. Our logo is the simplified geometry of mycelium. We chose that name because we see ourselves as enablers of the larger EV ecosystem in India.

Why focus on the electric vehicle industry?

It's a great opportunity to do what I love and to have a social impact. Globally, we are seeing a lot of countries looking at how they can transition to this [EV] technology. Dependence on fossil fuel is a huge factor, and climate change is another big factor, but also just urban noise pollution and pollution in general is the biggest factor. And from an economic perspective, EVs can reduce dependence on importing fossil fuels. India's second-largest import is crude oil, and 70 percent of our vehicles are either motorized bikes, mopeds, or tuk-tuks—motorized rickshaws. They account for two-thirds of fuel consumption in India, and that's huge.

What are the challenges of running your own company?

The biggest challenge we are facing is finding good talent. It's such a

nascent industry here, and it's difficult to find EV experts. That curriculum isn't offered in colleges. In terms of competition, there are so few EV companies here that at this point it's about seeing how we can work together, rather than how we compete. We call it "co-opetition."

What advice do you get from your father, who built one of India's largest companies?

I consult with my father and even my extended family on a daily basis. I don't think I'd be able to handle all

“THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE

we are facing is finding good talent. It's such a nascent industry here, and it's difficult to find EV experts.”

of this if I wasn't able to consult with someone who has years of experience under his belt. I'm a highly analytical person, and I take my time—all of my actions are very premeditated. But at some point you just have to get your feet wet and do it! That's the biggest lesson he's taught me so far. You can't run a business without taking risks. Lightning Logistics was born out of that philosophy of "Do *something*."

How did you end up at Haverford?

I was born in Boston and spent most of my life in Bangalore, but we went back and forth because of my father's business. Haverford was very familiar to me because my sister, **Shruti Shibulal '06**, went there. I'd been to campus many times, and I was really interested in the 4+1 Program with UPenn that was being talked about.

[The program allowed Shibulal to earn a computer science degree at Haverford and then a master's in embedded systems at UPenn]. Haverford was the only liberal arts school I applied to, and with the philosophy, economics, and linguistics classes I took, it gave me a larger perspective on the world.

What are your goals for Micelio?

We are running four different ventures within the company, but there are lines connecting all of them. In the future, for example, I see a cool company we are incubating in the Discovery Studio that's looking for a first customer, and that's where Lightning Logistics and the product team come in. We may be able to connect them with other companies, or pilot their product for them.

We are also pushing long-term, sustainable EV production here, and to do that we need a stable, local supply chain, otherwise we'll always depend on foreign economies to get vehicles to you. Batteries, for example, use lithium ion, and the raw materials aren't necessarily available here. But there are local companies working on alternative battery chemistry. And the EV motor uses rare earth, which are elements available mainly in China, so we're looking at what can be locally produced. By setting things up locally, we're trying to push long-term adoption of EVs in this country.

Is Micelio developing its own version of an electric car?

The percentage of cars in India is relatively small. But eventually you are going to have companies—if not us, then other companies—introducing electric cars or trucks. But right now we are looking at developing large fleets of two- and three-wheelers, either motorbikes, mopeds, or tuk-tuks for businesses. That's the larger chunk of the pie right now.

—Anne Stein



Ask What You Can Do for **YOUR PLANET**

WITH THE ENVIRONMENT IN CRISIS, ARE THERE INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTIONS THAT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE? OUR EXPERTS OFFER THEIR THOUGHTS.

BY LINI S. KADABA

Last year was the second warmest on record, government agencies found.

Carbon dioxide levels are higher today than at any point in at least 800,000 years, according to the nonprofit Union of Concerned Scientists website.

Human activities—what we drive, how we produce energy, what we eat, how we use land—are fueling record amounts of anthropogenic (human-caused) greenhouse gases.

For anyone concerned about climate change and other significant threats to the environment, such as plastics in our rivers and oceans, or deforestation, the mantra is act, act, act. But what exactly can you do as one person, or as one group, to have the most impact?

“That’s the really dire question,” says Jonathan Wilson,

Haverford College chair of environmental studies and an associate professor who teaches the environmental studies major’s introductory course “Case Studies in Environmental Issues.” This is the department’s central role, he says: to prepare students for this type of thinking.

Haverford magazine reached out to alumni working in a host of environmental spaces, to the environmental studies department, and the College’s arboretum director for ideas on specific actions—both individual and collective—that they think can make the most difference. While there is no single cure-all, these experts offer plenty of possibilities. Here are some:

TRANSPORTATION: In the United States, transportation is now the largest source of greenhouse gas pollution at nearly 29 percent—and within that sector, cars are the worst offenders, contributing nearly 60 percent, notes **Jeremy Martin '90**, director of fuels policy and senior scientist in the Clean Transportation Program at Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) in Washington, D.C.

The goal, he says, is to use less oil, thereby reducing greenhouse gases from this major fossil fuel needed to make gasoline.

Individual Action: *Buy an electric vehicle.*

“The importance of electric vehicles has grown enormously,” Martin says. (EVs include plug-in hybrids, battery electric vehicles, and fuel cell technologies.) And costs are falling. By 2025, Martin expects that we will see prices approach parity between electric vehicles and conventional ones.

EVs are the least polluting choice today and are getting cleaner over time as renewable power generation grows, according to the UCS report “Fueling a Clean Transportation Future.” Top models, Martin says, include Tesla’s more affordable Model 3, the Toyota Prius Prime, the Chevy Bolt, and the Nissan Leaf.

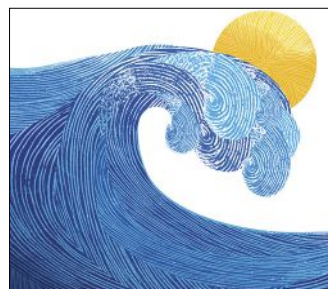
“My goal is to have half of all new car sales be EVs by 2030,” Martin says. “That’s ambitious but achievable.”

Collective Action: *Get involved politically.*

Martin suggests supporting groups that advocate for EV policies such as the Zero-Emission Vehicle regulation, known as ZEV.

Managed by the California Air Resources Board, ZEV requires automakers to sell a certain number of electric cars and trucks in California, where the program launched in 1990, and in 10 other states that have adopted it. (Those states are Colorado, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont.) ZEV has helped make EVs more widely available, he says, adding that “the evidence is clear that the standard works.”

Last year the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), however, revoked California’s ability to require ZEVs and set more stringent fuel-efficiency standards. The state, along with 22 others, has filed suit challenging the decision.



THE OCEAN

CLIMATE CHANGE IS HAVING A DEVASTATING IMPACT on the global ocean, says **Jason Patlis '85**, recently appointed president and CEO of The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, Conn., and the former executive director of the Global Marine Conservation Program at the Wildlife Conservation Society. While the public is generally aware of the threat of rising sea levels to our coastal infrastructure and communities, and the effects of warming ocean temperatures on coral reefs and other species, what’s less known, says Patlis, is the fundamental chemical change taking place. As we have produced more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the ocean has absorbed about 25 percent of it. And carbon dioxide dissolves in seawater to form carbonic acid, which changes the pH level of the ocean to make the ocean more acidic. As a result, the ocean is 30 percent more acidic than it was at the start of the industrial era.

“Ocean acidification is eroding the foundation of the food web, by affecting zooplankton, shellfish, and coral reefs, which are the basic building blocks of marine ecosystems,” says Patlis.

Individual: *Eat less red meat.*

The crisis facing the ocean is a direct result of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere. So the biggest action we can take is to reduce our own contributions to these emissions. “Raising livestock is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions, up to 15 percent by some estimates,” Patlis says. “If we can commit to eating lower on the food chain and particularly eating less red meat, we can make a significant contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”

Collective: *Educate the next generation.*

“If there is one word that provides an answer, it is education,” he says. The goal: “educating the next generation to become stewards of the planet for the planet’s survival.”

One of the best sources, it turns out, is the local aquarium. “Aquariums are among the most trusted sources for environmental information,” Patlis says. “That’s a role we need to really assume and explore and promote.”

ENERGY PRODUCTION

Globally, energy production from fossil fuels contributes to more than half of carbon emissions, what scientist **Seth Darling '97** calls “the 20-billion-ton gorilla in the room.”

“We have to shift from carbon sources to renewables,” says the director of the Center for Molecular Engineering at Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Ill.

To truly make an impact, Darling says, requires market incentives, such as carbon taxes (a fee placed on the burning of fossil fuels). The generated revenue can then be used to subsidize green energy conversion for low-income households, he argues.

“The changes that are needed to deal with climate disruption are massive,” Darling says. “It’s a global-scale challenge.”

Still, individuals and communities can make a difference.

Individual: *Drive and fly less.*

“This is an area where an individual can have a serious impact,” he says. “At the individual scale, it’s hard to change how energy is produced. But transportation involves a lot of individual-scale actions, whether it’s choosing to drive your own car or choosing to fly—or not.”

Collective: *Establish a mini solar farm.*

Putting solar panels on your own home is not an option for everyone, says Darling. A much bigger impact would come from “a neighborhood of people investing in a mini solar farm on a vacant lot.” Once the space is converted, the people who contributed reap the energy benefits.

Find information on community solar options, with links to additional resources, on the website of the Solar Energy Industries Association (seia.org/initiatives/community-solar).



LIFESTYLE

The current environmental challenges demand “durable, long-term changes in our lifestyle,” according to **Kate Irvine '86**, senior researcher in environment, well-being, and sustainable behavior at the James Hutton Institute in Aberdeen, Scotland.

One popular way to assess lifestyle choices on the environment is by measuring your carbon footprint, she says. (The EPA offers a household calculator at epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator.) The next step is to make adjustments.

Individual: *Start or join a carbon-reduction action group.*

This type of small group intervention—six to eight people who meet regularly to discuss ways to reduce their impact on the environment—has proved effective in the United Kingdom and Netherlands, research shows.

“The [groups] provide a structure to look at your transportation, look at your energy use, look at your food use, look at your other waste,” Irvine says.

By focusing on multiple behaviors across multiple areas of one’s life, such groups can help bring about long-term changes in habits. “What’s really powerful about them,” she says, “is that they provide you a supportive environment to engage in small experiments and learn from and build on one another’s experiences.”

Collective: *Get to know your neighbors.*

Neighbors coming together to address climate change can lead to more resilient neighborhoods, Irvine says. In her research in Scotland, she has found communities that have planted vegetable gardens to avoid importing food long distances and have organized groups of children who bike to school in a parent-led caravan, rather than travel by car or bus. Along with connecting community members, such actions can also reduce greenhouse gas emissions alongside addressing other environmental issues.

Plastics



EVERY TIME IT RAINS IN PHILADELPHIA, plastic bottles, chip bags, Styrofoam and other trash items enter storm drains and end up in the lower tidal Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers on the way to the Atlantic Ocean, says **Chloe Wang '17**, river programs coordinator for the 45-acre Bartram's Garden in Southwest Philadelphia.

It is a problem that plagues many urban waterways.

"Many rivers are sources of drinking water," Wang says. "We actually depend on them. There is a whole ecosystem in and around rivers that also depends on the water and habitat in various ways." In addition, waterways offer recreation, food (via fishing), and simple enjoyment.

"We're all connected," she says, "through the water."

Individual: *Limit the use of single-use plastics.*

While recycling helps, avoiding plastics in the first place goes



further to protect the marine environment, Wang says.

Aquatic life can get harmed when animals ingest or get tangled in plastics. Less known is that PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls, toxic manmade chemicals) and oil can stick to plastic, contaminating fish and ultimately the human diet.

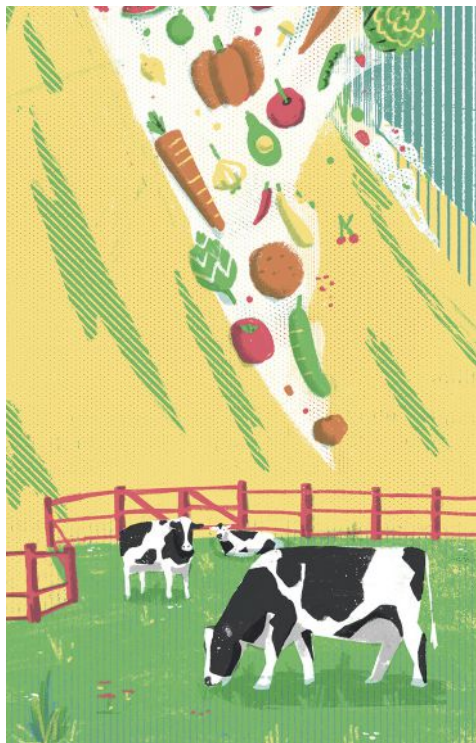
"Plastics are used in so many disposable products, but they are extremely slow to break down," Wang says. "So plastics are a huge source of aquatic pollution that just keeps building up."

Collective: *Join an environmental advocacy organization.*

Advocacy groups such as Riverkeeper networks throughout the country can help people learn about policies and regulations that affect local water quality, identify ways to improve environmental practices, and advocate for changes.

"There's more power in numbers," she says.

ILLUSTRATIONS: AGENT ILLUSTRATEUR (LIFESTYLE); LUISA JUNG (ANIMAL AGRICULTURE)



ANIMAL AGRICULTURE: Worldwide, animal agriculture accounts for about 15 percent of anthropogenic, or human-caused, greenhouse gases, says **Chris Schlottmann '02**, co-author of the 2018 book *Food, Animals, and the Environment: An Ethical Approach*.

The practice of raising livestock also is one of the largest users of land, threatening biodiversity, adds the clinical professor of environmental studies at New York University. It also consumes vast amounts of water.

"Pick your environmental issue... and you end up seeing animal agriculture showing up high on the list of contributing harm there," Schlottmann says. "It has a pretty big footprint on everything."

Individual: *Transition to a plant-based diet.*

Going vegan overnight might be too overwhelming for some. Change your diet for one or two meals, he suggests.

As more people made that choice, demand for animal agriculture would drop. "Transitioning to plant-based agriculture could happen much more quickly than transitioning to a lower-carbon electrical grid," he says. "Those are multi-decade infrastructure upgrades."

Collective: *Advocate for policies that limit animal agriculture.*

Schlottmann points to Meatless Mondays, which started as a pilot program in some New York City public schools and spread to the entire district last fall.

"In the last two years, we saw the scaling up of a plant-based diet that [now] applies to one million schoolchildren," he says.

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POPULATION GROWTH

Eileen Crist '82, author of the 2019 book *Abundant Earth: Toward an Ecological Civilization*, paints a grim, urgent picture regarding Earth's biodiversity.

It is collapsing, she says. And climate change is making matters worse.

"We're changing the face of the planet and turning it into a domesticated manor, filled with humans and livestock," says Crist, who recently retired as an associate professor in the department of science, technology, and society at Virginia Tech University.

Crist points out that 40 percent of the ice-free world is devoted to food production and within that, 30 percent to animal agriculture, displacing the habitat of wild animals. Wild fish stocks, too, are being over-exploited or depleted. "We've eaten up the ocean," she laments. (According to the World Wildlife Fund's 2018 Living Planet Report, surveyed wild animal populations have declined by more than 50 percent on average since 1970.)

Large-scale protection of the natural world is essential, Crist argues. "There's a lot that needs to be done," she says. "It's important to remember no one thing is enough."

Individual: *Do not have any children, or no more than one child.*

The population of the world is at 7.8 billion, having seen exponential growth since the Industrial Revolution, Crist says, and is headed to a whopping 11 billion by the end of the century.

"The global middle class is growing and growing incredibly rapidly," she says, adding that half the population is middle class. "This is viewed as a good thing, because you've escaped poverty."

But with respect to biodiversity and the planet's health, not so much. As people gain a better standard of living, they eat higher on the food chain and have more resources to acquire consumer goods—both of which can pose harm to the environment, she says.

Millennials who belong to groups such as Birthstrike are refusing to have children because of the ecological crisis, Crist points out. "If we want to bring down the impact on the planet," she says, "there has to be fewer of us."

Collective: *Support funding of family planning.*

Crist says family planning is especially important in developing nations, and part of that effort needs to include support of education for girls.

"If you incentivize girls to stay in school through secondary education," she says, "the number of children they have drops dramatically."

Deforestation



CLEARLY, CARBON DIOXIDE is a major culprit in climate change and global warming, and trees are one of the best antidotes, says Claudia Kent, director of Haverford's campus arboretum.

Trees have many benefits, and at the forefront is trapping the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide, thereby helping to cool the planet, she says. Trees also offer shade, provide habitat to diverse species, prevent soil erosion, and reduce water runoff.

"We wouldn't be able to live without trees,"

Kent says.

Individual: *Plant a tree.*

"Planting trees is one of the best things you can do to help the planet," she says. "Even if you plant one, it's better than nothing."

Kent emphasizes that diversity is important and notes that arboretum plant sales, such as the one the College holds in the spring, often offer a wide choice of native species. "If everyone plants only one thing and that species gets a disease, that disease will wipe out the whole block," she says.

Collective: *Join a community group.*

Shade tree committees, for one, advocate for trees in local communities. Organizations such as the Arbor Day Foundation (arborday.org) support planting trees in communities around the country.

"The more people you can get out to plant trees," Kent says, "the better."

Also a positive move: Donating to reforestation efforts going on around the globe.



REFRIGERANTS

The chemicals—hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)—used as coolants in refrigerators may not make the front page in the climate change war, but Wilson of Haverford’s environmental studies department argues that they can have a huge impact on the environment.

Even though HFCs represent only a small percentage of greenhouse gases, the impact on global warming can be many, many more times that of carbon dioxide per unit of mass, he explains. They also remain in the atmosphere for a very long time—up to 29 years, according to the Climate and Clean Air Coalition.

“One pound of refrigerant,” Wilson says, “is equal to 1,000 pounds or more of carbon dioxide. If you want to do something now that’s going to reduce the climate change impact over the next decade, prevent refrigerants from getting into the atmosphere.”

Individual: *Recycle.*

“If you throw away a refrigerator and don’t recycle the chemicals in the refrigerator, and it has two pounds of refrigerant, that’s the equivalent of 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide you’re adding to the atmosphere,” he says.

Many communities have recycling programs. The federal government’s Energy Star site (energystar.gov) offers suggestions.

Collective: *Find the policy you’re passionate about.*

Wilson says refrigerants are an issue close to his heart, but for someone else, it could be food waste. (For every three grocery bags of food purchased in the United States, one of those is wasted, he says.) Others might feel passionate about renewable energy. In Germany, for example, communities are forming energy co-ops based on renewable power, he adds.

“My advice,” Wilson says, “is open your eyes, look around you, and lend a hand.”

Regular contributor Lini S. Kadaba is a journalist based in Newtown Square, Pa., and former Philadelphia Inquirer staff writer.

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HAVERFORD COLLEGE

SUSTAINABLE FORDS

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Al Nierenberg '85 could be the poster boy for sustainability. He composts and recycles almost everything, drives an electric-powered Tesla, has solar panels on his house near Boston, and sets the thermostat at 58 degrees, which means he usually wears a jacket indoors. His work life focuses on the environment as well. As the founder and president of Evergreen Consulting & Training, he guides organizations toward sustainability through organizational change. He’s even done his part to help the College go greener by providing funding to support the work of the campus Committee for Environmental Responsibility.

More recently, Nierenberg, who calls climate change “the existential issue of our times,” has been working with other environmentally minded alums to create the new Sustainable Fords alumni affinity group.

As the impact of human actions on the planet grows more apparent with each day, Nierenberg and his fellow leadership volunteers saw a need for a group that could educate alumni about how they can make a difference. (Also on the team behind the creation of Sustainable Fords is environmental educator **Andrew Prazar '00**; FDA policy analyst **Hannah Krohn '17**; market gardener **Lucia Kearney '13**; **Paul Clayton '78**, who works in real estate management and development; and **Molly Johnston-Heck '11**, a staff member with American Farmland Trust.)

Along with organizing volunteer and social events, Sustainable Fords will help alumni connect with Haverford by spotlighting the College’s environmental initiatives and offering opportunities to interact with current students interested in sustainability.

The broad aim, according to the recently crafted mission statement of Sustainable Fords, is to highlight “the ways in which Haverford’s culture of ethics intersects with environmental stewardship, restoring our relationship with natural environments in ways that are both personal and social.”

For more information about the Sustainable Fords group and how you can become a part of it, contact Associate Director of Alumni and Parent Relations Mark Kehres: mkehres@haverford.edu.

—Eils Lotozo

.....
Peanut

AGE: 7 years

BREED: Beagle mix

BELONGS TO: Haverford
College President Wendy
Raymond and husband

Dave Backus '82



“I don’t want to sound all Californian here, but there’s something spiritual about dogs. If you’ve ever had a dog, you know what I mean; you can see it when you look into their eyes.”

*—Dave Barry '69,
Lessons From Lucy: The Simple Joys
of an Old, Happy Dog*

The Dogs of Haverford

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The canine buddies of faculty and staff are a regular—and beloved—presence on campus.

BY EILS LOTOZO • PHOTOS BY HOLDEN BLANCO '17

.....
Yoda

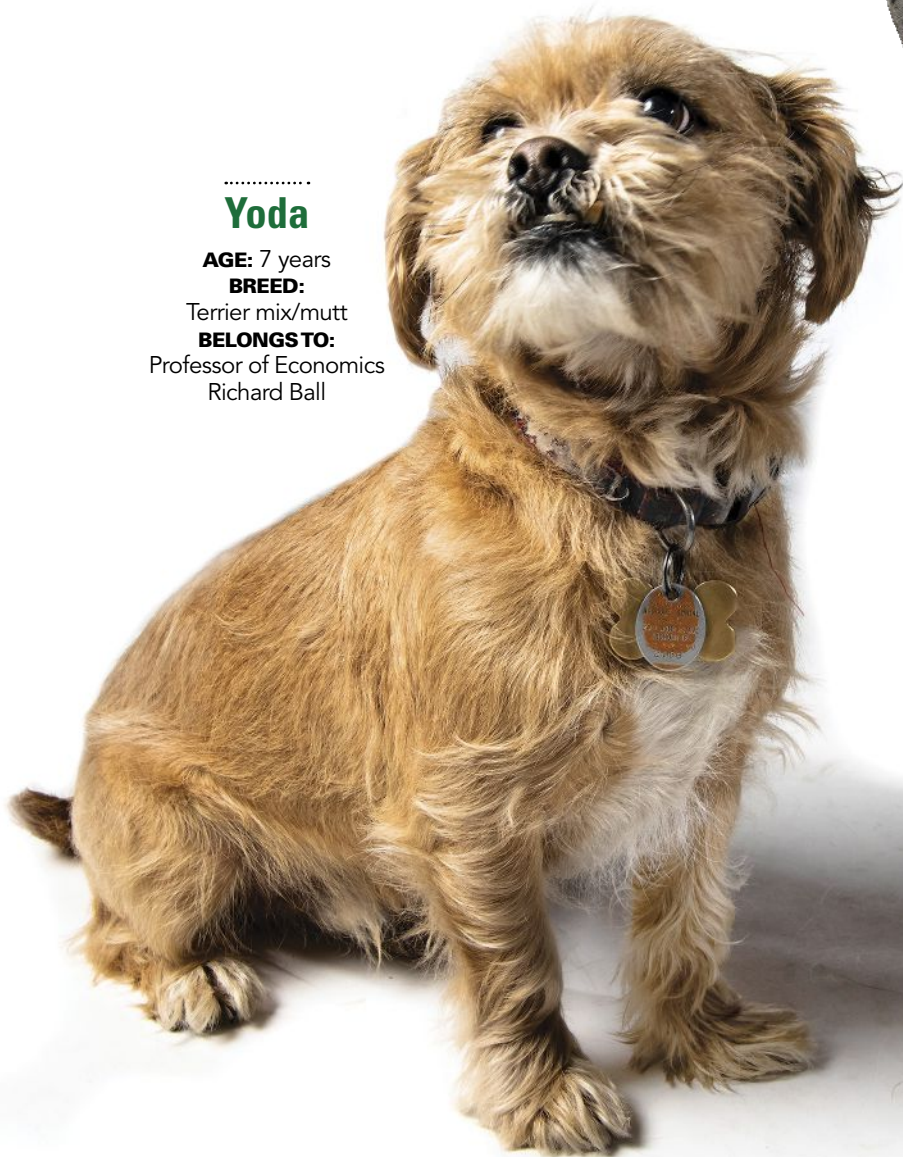
AGE: 7 years

BREED:

Terrier mix/mutt

BELONGS TO:

Professor of Economics
Richard Ball



.....
Pippa

AGE: 5 years

BREED: Plott Hound

BELONGS TO:

Associate Professor of
Classics Bret Mulligan

Dogs have always been a welcome addition to the campus community, from professors who bring their friendly pooches to office hours or class, to staff members who take their dogs to work. Then there is the Pre-Vet Society's long-running De-stress With Dogs event, which brings dogs from a local animal shelter to campus during the last week of each semester to cuddle with finals-frazzled students. And starting last year, Four-Legged Fridays, launched through the Haverhealth initiative, gives the College's dog owners a chance to share their furry friends with students.

But when President Wendy Raymond moved into 1 College Circle with her family, including seven-year-old beagle mix rescue Peanut, a new era of puppy love overtook Haverford. Peanut is not just a campus-wide celebrity, greeted by many on her campus walks with the president and her husband

Dave Backus '82, she is a social media star, with her own Instagram account (@peanutprezpup). There, you can find photos of her napping luxuriously in her dog bed, exploring the campus, posing with student groups such as Haverford Women in STEM, and generally just looking cute. In the short Instagram videos in which she stars, Peanut can be glimpsed doing some nighttime nose-to-ground "research" outside the library, casing the President's office in search of treats, doing "zoomies" (running in circles at rocket speed)... and looking cute.

For Raymond, as a newcomer to the Haverford community, Peanut has been the ideal connector. "Students stop us all the time during our walks with Peanut to have friendly, short conversations," she says. "It makes Dave and me more approachable, because Peanut breaks the ice."

So popular is Peanut, that Raymond and Backus have gotten used to taking a back seat to her. "People greet us with 'Hi

The Dogs of Haverford

Peanut!’ or ‘Where’s Peanut?’ This is true in my office as well: I recently met an alum who greeted me with: ‘I was hoping I might get to meet Peanut!’ ”

While Peanut undoubtedly possesses a special kind of First Dog cachet, there are plenty of other faculty and staff pups who are regular and beloved presences on campus, and who have attracted their own share of fans.

Paul Smith, professor of history and East Asian languages and cultures, has been bringing 10-year-old Sky to work with him every day since she was a puppy. “The Haverford campus is like heaven for dogs,” he says. “There are throngs of squirrels, a profusion of smells, lots of loving, and endless treats.” That last item comes courtesy of Sky’s many friends. “Sky’s favorite thing about coming to the main campus is bounding into Hall 101 to say hi to [Administrative Assistants] Krista McDonnell and Dru Ciotti—and getting a treat—and racing across campus to greet [Library Specialist] Rob Haley—and getting a treat. Dogs are pretty simple creatures.”

Smith’s students get along famously with Sky, he says. “Many more students say hi to her than to me.” However, he does not bring her to classes, leaving her, instead, to lounge in

his office. “If she came to class, the students would never pay attention to me,” says Smith.

Director of Athletics **Wendy Smith ‘87** is rarely seen on campus without her dog, Patches, whose daily schedule, she says, includes walks, numerous naps, and “waiting for people to walk by my office and pet her.” Patches is also a fixture at outdoor athletic contests. “She’s definitely a Ford fan!” says Smith.

For students who are allergic to or afraid of dogs, Smith keeps a crate under her desk for Patches to retreat to. And most faculty and staff who bring their dogs to campus are similarly sensitive to the needs of students who may not be comfortable with canines. Associate Professor of Classics Bret Mulligan, whose dog, Pippa, regularly keeps office hours with him, also gives students options. “I always offer to meet students away from my office if they would rather not have Pippa join us,” he says. “So those students who come are usually interested in some doggie attention.”

Dean of Student Engagement and Leadership Michael Elias always alerts students to the presence of his pooch Monty. “We have an office policy of making sure students know he’s

Monty

AGE: 8 years

BREED: Beagle/German Shepherd/Sheltie mix

BELONGS TO: Dean of Student Engagement and Leadership
Michael Elias

Khaleesi

AGE: 1 year

BREED: Rat Terrier/
Border Collie mix

BELONGS TO: Graduate Assistant for Student Life
Raina Johnson



.....
Nina

AGE: 3½ years
BREED: Siberian Husky
BELONGS TO: Associate
Professor of Political Science
Barak Mendelsohn



.....
Brandi

AGE: 9 months
BREED: Weimaraner
BELONGS TO: Dean for Student
Health & Learning Resources
Kelly Wilcox



The Dogs of Haverford

.....
Hank

AGE: 7 months

BREED: Cavapoo

BELONGS TO:

Arboretum Plant Curator
Sally Anderson



here—we use signs on our doors—but generally everyone is excited to see him, and the feeling is mutual.”

Many are also excited to see Padfoot, another four-legged regular in the Office of Student Engagement who comes to work with Assistant Dean of the College Michelle Leao. Says student worker Dexter Coen Gilbert '21, “Michelle will text me if Padfoot is around for the day when I don’t have hours scheduled so I can come say hi and have him jump on top of me a thousand times. Honestly, he’s just a cute little de-stresser and a fun presence that makes my day a little brighter.” (As a matter of fact, research has shown that petting a dog for just 15 minutes can lower blood pressure by 10 percent, and can even reduce cortisol—the stress hormone.)

Professor of Political Science Susanna Wing brings her Golden Retriever Sebastian to work at least once a week. “He never wants to go home after class,” she says. “He prefers to find susceptible students and roll over at their feet so that they scratch his stomach. We live on campus and on weekend walks he drags me to [Hall Building] and I have to show him that the doors to the building are locked, which is always a big disappointment for him.”

Sebastian has made a big impression on students such

as **Elom Tetley-Tamaklo '19**, who was the lone first-year student in Wing’s “African Politics” course when she began bringing her puppy to the class. “He used to run between our legs and play with us,” says Tetley-Tamaklo. “It was a much needed comfort to know that there was another ‘first-year’ with me and we developed a bond. Every time I would go to Susanna’s office to speak to her, to lament about the future, or stress about my thesis, Sebastian was always there, listening and comforting me with his gentle and tender cuddling. Sebastian and I have grown up together and he has left an indelible mark on my heart.”

As much as the dogs love it here, their owners love bringing them. Says Professor of Economics Richard Ball, whose dog, Yoda, accompanies him to work, “Yoda has a good attitude about life, and it rubs off on me and everyone else he meets.” Also, says, Ball, “taking Yoda for short walks is very refreshing. I say it is like being a cigarette smoker with none of the downsides: Every couple of hours I have to get up, spend a few minutes strolling around outside my building, and then come back to my office—with my head cleared, but no tobacco-related health consequences.”

Yoda has not only made lots of human friends on cam-

.....
Frosty

AGE: 11 years

BREED: Bichon Frise

BELONGS TO: Office of Academic
Resources Graduate Assistant
Julian Jackson



.....
Sky

AGE: 10 years

BREED: Mutt

BELONGS TO:
Professor of History and
East Asian Languages and
Cultures Paul Smith



.....
Ruby

AGE: 3½ years

BREED: Mutt

BELONGS TO:
Arboretum Director
Claudia Kent

The Dogs of Haverford



Sebastian

AGE: 4 years

BREED:

Golden Retriever

BELONGSTO:

Associate Professor of
Political Science
Susanna Wing



Patches

AGE: 3½ years

BREED: Mutt

BELONGSTO:

Director of Athletics

Wendy Smith '87

pus, says Ball, he's also got a regular playmate. "[Professor of Economics] Anne Preston's office is right across the hall from mine, and she has a three-month-old puppy named Mosey who comes to work with her a lot," he says. "Yoda and Mosey enjoy roughhousing and stealing toys from each other." (Before Mosey, Preston for many years brought her Maltipoo, Buddy Glass, and toy poodle, Kiwi, to the office.)

Professor of Political Science Barak Mendelsohn wouldn't think of coming to campus without his Siberian Husky, Nina. She attends all of his classes, where she typically starts off with a circuit of the room to greet all of the students before settling under a chair or on top of a backpack for a nap. When she wakes, Nina will often pop up, put her paws on the seminar table, and check out what's going on.

"Nina is a great tool to prepare students to present their work even when distracted," he says. "I find it remarkable how adept students have become at continuing to talk even if she suddenly decides it's time to wake up and say hi to the student standing in front of the class. Nina is helping us prepare students for their post-Haverford life."

But Nina also provides another valuable service, says

Mendelsohn. "Due to the nature of my courses, dealing with security questions and particularly terrorism, classes can be very intense. Having Nina around helps both the students and me to lighten up the mood. Besides, we all need cute in our lives, and, sometimes, when Nina does something cute, we all stop and look."

Michael Iacono '20, one of Mendelsohn's students, has become a major fan of Nina for just those reasons. "[She] is by far one of the best dogs on campus," he says. "She is super smart and always demands attention, which is very cute. Her presence in the classroom is noticeable but in a good way. She may be a bit distracting at times, but it is definitely worth having her around. Nina makes everyone much more relaxed and helps ease the mood during difficult discussions."

Haverford and dogs just seem to go together, and there's no mystery about why we just love having them around, says Wendy Raymond: It's all about the unconditional love dogs are always ready to offer. "Why does Peanut have so many fans? She smiles. She wags. She's cute! She's excited about things—getting treats, going for a walk, seeing people, finding an abandoned bagel. She is a happy dog, and that's infectious!" 🐾

PRE-VET SOCIETY PRESCRIBES A DOSE OF DOGS

It's something students can count on at the end of each semester during the crunch time of finals: Somewhere on campus, for a day, a half dozen or more dogs will be in residence, ready and eager for petting, kissing, ear-scratching, and tummy rubbing. It's heaven for the dogs, and heaven for the students, and it's all thanks to the Pre-Vet Society which launched its De-Stress With Dogs event more than seven years ago. Originally, the Society, which partnered for a few semesters with the HaverMinds club on the event, worked with Main Line Animal Rescue to bring to campus friendly dogs awaiting adoption. In more recent years, student leaders of the group have been working with Finding Shelter, a local, volunteer-driven animal rescue organization. (For a time, the Pre-Vet Society also ran a weekly De-Stress With Therapy Dogs event that brought two Golden Retrievers to campus.)

Pre-Vet Society co-head Johanna Fowler '21 says De-Stress With Dogs always attracts a good crowd. "As most Haverford students live on campus, it's not possible for us to have pets of our own," says Fowler. (The Student Housing Policy allows small fish, small birds, and small reptiles, as long as roommates don't object.) So, the chance to interact with a dog, she says, is a big draw for students who come to the De-Stress event. "Having a large group of dogs concentrated in one location is a great way to get much-welcomed animal contact."



A dog named Foxy thoroughly captivated students at a December 2013 De-Stress With Dogs event.

"For me, I think the happiness people feel around dogs is a reflection of the happiness that we see in the dogs," Fowler says. "Most dogs live fairly happy and carefree lives, which can sometimes contrast greatly with how stressful college can be. Sitting down and petting an enthusiastic dog for even 10 minutes can provide a welcome break from anything that might be bothering you in that moment, which is why I think dogs are instant mood lifters." —E. L.



Padfoot

AGE: 7 months

BREED: Cattle Dog mix

BELONGS TO: Assistant Dean of the College Michelle Leao

DO YOU HAVE FOND MEMORIES of how a faculty or staff member's dog brightened your days at Haverford? Tell us about it: hc-editor@haverford.edu.

DESIGNING OUR WORLD

Working in the ultimate multidisciplinary field, alumni architects are creating compelling—and innovative—buildings and environments.

BY ZACH MORTICE

If you want to be a good architect, the best place to begin your education just might be with the liberal arts.

That's because an architect has to approach the design of a building like a historian, untangling culture and precedent to create places that speak to shared narratives. An architect also needs to be a bit of a scientist, counterbalancing gravity with structure and materials with their inevitable decay, and squeezing out every ounce of operational efficiency in a world of dwindling resources. But architects also must be sociologists and psychologists, using space to bring together formal and informal communities, to set the stage for the stern deliberations of a courtroom, the exalted divinity of a place of worship, or the warm intimacy of a family home.

So it's not surprising that many of the Haverford grads profiled here spoke glowingly about how the school's liberal arts emphasis was the ideal sort of prepa-

ration for a career where it's necessary to work across so many different disciplines. (A full third of them found their entree into architecture and design through a growth and structure of cities major at Bryn Mawr.)

And just as architects work from a knowledge base that spans the arts and sciences, their work in turn reflects the breadth of this assembled history and culture. Unlike most creative disciplines, architecture has no choice but to represent its age and the people who made it. Visual artists can craft a new world from only their dreams (or nightmares), and charismatic playwrights can gather a small group of acolytes around words of revolution spoken and acted in real time, but a building—or a designed landscape—is different. It requires heaps of time, capital, and collaboration to create. It's no one's idiosyncratic vision. It's part of our shared world, and its form and function are informed by all of the liberal arts with which these Haverford grads began their education.



■ The Solarium, commissioned by the Watkinson School, in Hartford, Conn., is an energy neutral building made of high recycled content materials that features three classrooms, a lobby with a collaboration “living room,” and an exhibit area.

MARK MILLER '84

The Innovator



Mark Miller has designed community centers, tech offices, and all manner of schools, but his San Francisco-based firm MKThink spends just as much time developing technology that tracks, with exacting quantitative data, just *how* buildings are used, and how they might be used more efficiently.

After spending some time with Miller, clients often realize they “can’t just build their way out of a problem,” he says. His mantra is “build less, solve more.”

The drive for quantitative efficiency comes from a stark fact: Buildings are the single largest driver of carbon emissions. Today, a new building locks in its level of energy requirements and carbon emissions for its entire life, even as technology arises to improve it. So buildings “need to become more dynamic, more fungible, more changeable,” says Miller. “And to do that we need to have information.”

MKThink designs both the hardware that gathers this

information and the software that processes it, resulting in sensors that track building occupancy, activity, daylighting, air quality, humidity, temperature, noise levels, and more. Miller calls this area of research “spatial intelligence.” For buildings to “be more meaningful and beautiful,” he says, “they need to be more thoughtful and responsible.”

In the wake of wildfires that spread noxious fumes across the Bay Area, Miller has been working with the San Francisco YMCA to monitor air quality with “Air Angel,” which gathers weather and building occupancy patterns to analyze air quality on a room-by-room basis. For the San Francisco Zoo, MKThink is working on a master plan that will track how visitors use and move through space, and how animal wellness is affected by microclimates and the physical environment. At its heart, the plan aims to create more connection between visitors and the menagerie on display. “We’re removing ground coverage, bringing back natural landscapes, opening up habitats—basically un-building, to create a campus that is better for the animals, better for the visitors, and better for the environment,” he says.



■ The Baldwin, a 250-unit assisted senior living community, is part of a mixed-use development that includes housing and retail and is designed to encourage inter-generational contact.

JOVI CRUCES '89 *The Senior Living Futurist*



Jovi Cruces has spent nearly his entire career at the Boston firm DiMella Shaffer, where he's become a veteran designer of senior-living facilities. Over the years, he's noticed changes in the aesthetics, services, and amenities offered, and shifts in how these facilities are used. And as 10,000 Baby Boomers

turn 65 each day, he sees more change on the horizon.

On what's next for senior housing: "Private property is not past its prime, but that model might change if we're looking at statistics of home ownership. If we think 10 to 20 years into the future, and understand that people maybe don't have that asset to sell, then the smaller approach ends up being the more flexible, malleable approach. We as a society, and the construction and real estate industry, will have to respond to the vicissitudes in wealth accumula-

tion with the appropriate housing products, and housing options that are more flexible will naturally become more viable. Caregivers [could] come to your home or a series of co-op [homes] for 10 families. Twenty-five years ago, we were attracting people to move to a place that seemed like a country club. Every sector of the service industry is reacting to what we're able to afford and build. It's not better or worse. It's isolating what we all benefit from."

"In New Hampshire, our firm has a new project called The Baldwin, which is a 250-unit assisted senior-living community that is part of a larger mixed-use development that has retail, market-rate housing, and multi-family housing. What's interesting about this is that we have designed a street that looks like a small town. You can enter different areas from the street, and also walk through the [senior-living] building. [It's] inviting residents who are living in the nearby market-rate housing to use that salon or eat in that dining room. We're actually building the inter-generational city."

PHOTOS: DIMELLA SHAFFER (RENDERING); ROBYN IVY (CRUCES)

NOAH WALKER '97

Building a Sense of Place



Before he ever puts pen to paper, Noah Walker scouts the site for each house he designs as much as possible. It's part monastic meditation, part camping trek, and part cartography hike. For his Oak Pass House, nestled into Beverly Hills' namesake ridges, he hosted a barbecue and slept in a tent while the empty three-and-half-acre site still felt like a pastoral refuge from the rest of the city. "Great architecture heightens that feeling of place," he says. The houses he designs with his design-build firm Walker Workshop are the result of this sort of deep communion with the Southern California landscape,

and they exuberantly celebrate its culture and temperament: sliding glass doors, poolside patios, and all manner of hybrid indoor-outdoor spaces set up views to the golden horizon.

At Oak Pass, the top floors are glass pavilions containing the semi-public functions of the house (kitchen, living room) while the lower, more private, floors are buried into the hill, preserving the oak trees that dot the site. For his first project with Walker Workshop, the renovation of a Hollywood bungalow, he removed interior partitions and cut a deep skylight into the pitched roof, soaking this signature Los Angeles housing type in natural light. The skylight is clad in rare old growth Douglas fir, recovered from the original house, an opportunity his expertise as both an architect and general contractor allowed him to take advantage of. "When we're designing, we're thinking about how stuff is going to be put together," he says. "One of the great things about also being the contractor is that we can't, as designers, design crazy stuff that we cannot put together."



■ The L.A. area homes designed by Noah Walker often emphasize hybrid indoor-outdoor spaces.

CLAIR COLBURN '91

Designing for Justice

With her current firm, Finegold Alexander Architects, Clair Colburn designs courthouses, a task that carries with it the responsibility to represent the rule of law in built form for the broadest possible swath of the public. "With courtrooms, if people feel like the building doesn't work for them, it reflects badly on the whole judicial system," she says. With projects like the Lowell Justice Center in Massachusetts, she's shifting the design of justice from the monumental—ceremonial stairs, fluted columns, and impenetrable masonry—into new dimensions of light, air, and clarity.

On modern design conceptions of justice:

"We design courthouses that respond to the way that courthouses are currently used, rather than traditional, iconic courthouses. In our most recent work, we express the law as mutable, transparent, and accessible to all by emphasizing glass in the public realm instead of stone. But



then there's also the solidity of the institution, which in the Lowell courthouse is expressed as a granite-clad volume that [contains] the courtrooms, in contrast to the public zone, which is much more transparent. All of the courtrooms we design have natural light—having that calming feature and a view outside is hugely important."

On justice facilities of the future:

"The judicial system is starting to move toward alternative methods of intervention, like mediation and restorative justice. A lot could be done with the architecture to support these different ways of coming together and interacting. Instead of having parties in a side-by-side orientation with an aisle between them, they would want to be oriented so that they can face each other. A circular shape facilitates that. For change to happen, whether it's a victim feeling safe again or the reform that has to happen, that has to be a powerful moment, so coming face-to-face seems incredibly important."



■ The Lowell Justice Center in Massachusetts features plenty of glass and natural light in order to evoke a sense of the law as transparent and accessible.



■ A scenic overlook pavilion in Santa Monica's new Tongva Park, which replaced a derelict urban site with a lush landscape of paths, meadows, gardens, and water features.

SARAH ASTHEIMER '01

The Green Infrastructuralist



Just about every major city is defined by at least one waterway, and lately, it's been landscape architect Sarah Astheimer's task to find ways to connect people to these origin points of urban history and culture. Practicing with James Corner Field Operations in Philadelphia, Astheimer uses the rivers, lakes, and oceans that spurred the establishment of cities

to tell their story through landscape and ecology. "Waterways really define how so many of our cities have developed," she says. "It's really incredible."

She worked on her firm's renovation of Chicago's Navy Pier, and is working on a plan for the C & O Canal in Washington, D.C., but Astheimer's favorite project is Tongva Park in Santa Monica, Calif., which re-creates "a derelict urban site into a really lush, immersive place," she says. Located adjacent to the beach, the park runs along a historic ravine, where water flowing from the Santa Monica Mountains once washed into the ocean. Tactile water features, perfect for a playful splash, and expansive meadows and gardens make it a much more dynamic environment than the sun-baked sand next door. The historical memory

of those mountain streams is honored in the form of paths that flow around hills and rises like ancient, surging arroyos. These hills and scenic overlook pavilions (rendered as biomorphic ovals) look out toward the ocean. "So [many] of those views in California are privatized, so that was really important, to capitalize on these moments where you can get up a little bit higher and enjoy the sunset," she says.

At Shelby Farms Park in Memphis, team members at Field Operations doubled the size of a lake to make it a more effective drainage site for storm water runoff and a better place for active recreation. This expanded shoreline is engineered and planted with a "crenulated edge," she says, which also makes it better for launching kayaks. "The type of work I love is when you have the opportunity to bring some wilderness into the city," says Astheimer.

And that professional aptitude, unique to landscape architects, makes landscape architecture a regenerative practice in ways that architecture and building are not. "Now, instead of looking at industrial infrastructure, green infrastructure is the way cities are developing today, around open space and parks, because that's how people should be living in cities," she says. "Landscapes in cities are these incredible common grounds. They're where people can come together."

GIL SCHAFER '84

The Traditionalist



While he was designing his own house 20 years ago in New York's Hudson Valley, Gil Schafer learned an important lesson about where, exactly, the line between classical high style and cozy lies.

Schafer knew he wanted the house to be in the Greek Revival mode, a classical style with roots in the area as far back as the 1830s. When he started investigating the architectural history of the Hudson Valley, he found that architects had created and sold Greek Revival-style pattern book templates to developers and builders. But these diagrams “didn’t necessarily look like the Greek Revival farmhouses that I was seeing,” says Schafer. He realized that local builders altered these designs on the fly to suit their budgets, skill levels, or the resources available—applying some homespun ingenuity to get the job done just well enough.

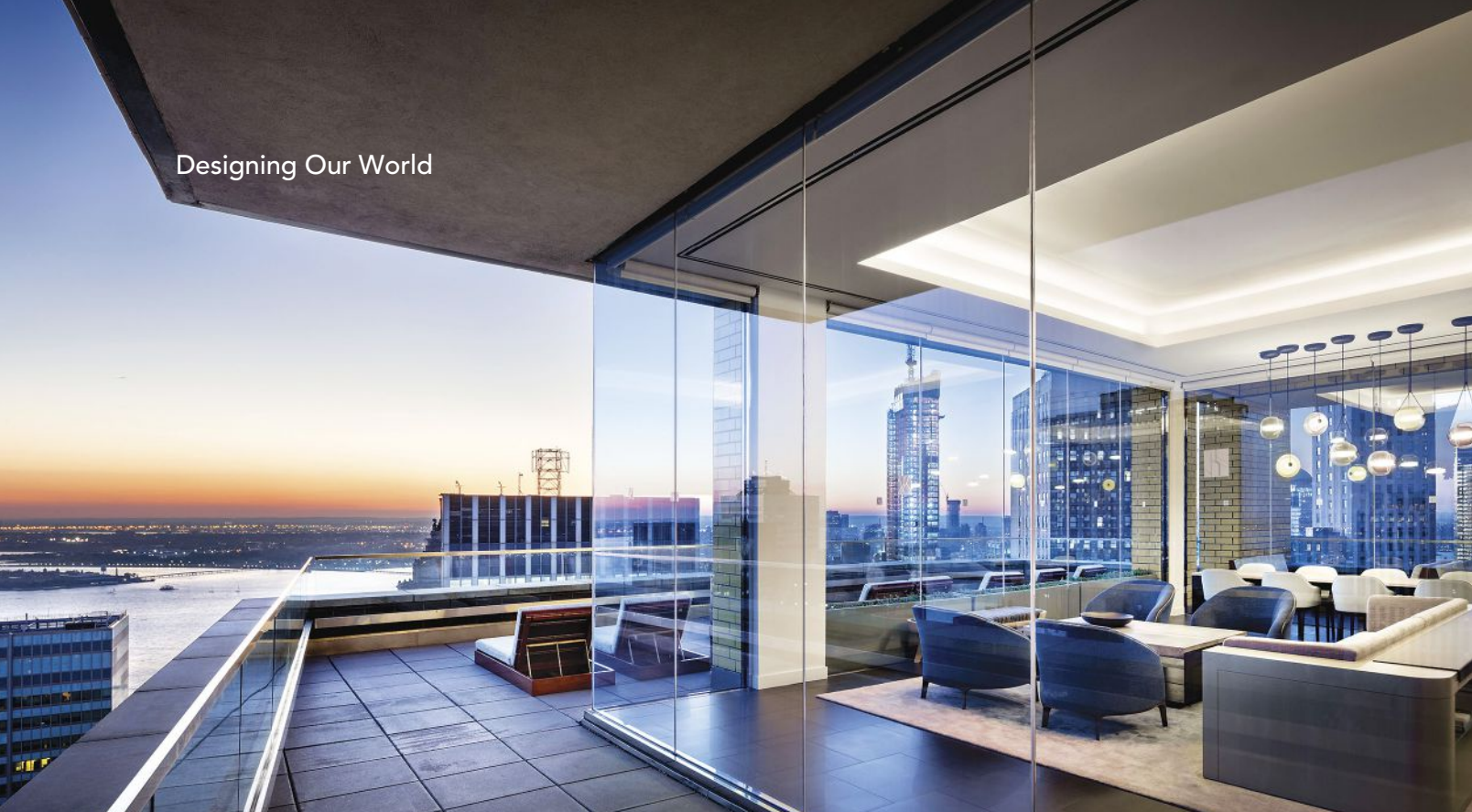
And somehow, that made these houses better. “There’s less ornament,” says Schafer. “It’s just a little less fancy. It felt more authentic, but it also felt more comfortable.”

Today, with his eponymous New York City-based firm, the most critical decisions on any project are when to “break the perfection of the ideal,” he says. Schafer combines high style motifs with traditional American building types steeped in intentional imperfection. That means barns that are equal parts picturesque and commonplace, or subtle new takes on regional housing traditions (saltboxes in New England or Spanish Colonial in California).

Focusing on residential work, Schafer’s traditionalist oeuvre offers allusions to a sophisticated and heralded past, with an acknowledgement of the way people live today, all detailed in the two books he’s written: *A Place to Call Home: Tradition, Style, and Memory in the New American House* and *The Great American House: Tradition for the Way We Live Now*. His houses are warm, inviting, and open, with any air of chilly formality evaporating at the hearth. Swapping cramped parlors for generous kitchens and ensuring an easy flow of people, air, and perhaps some joy and laughter across the space, he’s starting from a sturdy set of values—amenable, he says, to the ceaseless tide of architecture’s evolution, which somehow never strays too far. “It’s a language of architecture,” he says, “that’s endured for centuries and reinvents itself with each time period.”



■ A San Francisco home designed by Gil Schafer displays his traditionalist style, which combines allusions to the past with an understanding of the way people live today.



■ 15 William, a 47-story condominium in Manhattan’s Financial District that Neukomm helped to revamp to better suit families, features such amenities as a third-floor outdoor area with a children’s playground, basketball court, and dog run.

JEAN-GABRIEL NEUKOMM '90

Details Matter



As Jean-Gabriel Neukomm’s New York-based practice has expanded to include ever-larger mixed-use residential projects on both coasts, he’s been careful not to forget that rigorous, quality architecture has to work on the largest and smallest of scales. In JG Neukomm

Architecture’s largest project to date, he designed the interiors for a multi-tower residential development called LA Metropolis in downtown Los Angeles, more than 2,000 units across one million square feet, where he mined the neighborhood’s Art Deco history for an understated and abstracted take on the city’s first age of architectural exuberance.

Yet, “one of my favorite things to design on any project is the elevator interior,” he says. “It’s tactile and it’s enveloping.” And it’s often a surprise. At his Ashland residential building in Brooklyn, the elevator is covered in a laser-cut rosette pattern layered on top of smoky mirrored glass, creating depth and texture. “You need to look at small details,” he says. “The drive for my interest in designing furniture is not that I just want to do furniture. I want to look at the project at the scale where you sit on something or touch something. Just because it’s smaller doesn’t make it qualitatively less interesting.”

Neukomm’s current firm—launched in 2017 after he spent 15 years as a founding partner at SPAN Architecture—focuses on retail, hospitality, and residential projects, but whatever the building type, an emphasis on photography often informs the work. For LA Metropolis, his own photos of Art Deco architecture in downtown L.A. inspired his adaptation of the theme. For Brooklyn’s Ashland, he designed a floral lobby mosaic from his digitally altered photos of architectural details in Brooklyn, wrapping residents in an immersive, tactile experience. Neukomm uses photography as a tool to bring a wider world of cultural context into his projects, and as a throwback to his time at Haverford, where he studied philosophy. “I see the photography as an arm of a more humanities-driven starting point,” he says—a chance to experiment with color, composition, and light outside of any narrowly defined discipline.

As a philosophy student, well-practiced at wrestling with abstraction, Neukomm was interested in methodologies, tracking the epistemology of craft and creation. “How do you make something? Why do you make something?” were the questions he kept returning to. “All I was doing was writing methodologies for making something,” he says. After a while, he came to a realization that it might be good to get his hands dirty, and that led him to architecture.

BRIAN DOHERTY '07

Material Inspiration



In his time with BOSS.architecture in Denver, Brian Doherty has been blessed with clients that show up with trunkloads of school lunch trays, test tubes, and empty liquor bottles, and leave it to him to figure out what to do with it all. In a series of restaurants for Chef Justin Cucci, Doherty and BOSS created spaces whose textural and material variety emanate from the second lives given to discarded objects. At Vital

Root, an open-air dining room is paneled in hundreds of school lunch trays, abstracted into bands of color, fronted by a series of troughs planted with herbs. At Ophelia's (a restaurant and concert venue), the rear wall of the stage is a screen of old radios, a jigsaw puzzle of molded plastic and tuning knobs zip-tied to a welded steel mesh. Server stations are divided from the dining room with glowing, transparent acrylic cylinders pulled from Xerox machines. To attract patrons toward the bar, a wall is formed out of green glass Jägermeister bottles, laid on their sides and layered in an offset brick pattern.

"What we're always interested in is creating spaces that are both modern and also timeless," he says. "Part of the challenge is to create something that's going to live beyond a moment in time. It's about making it so you don't see Jägermeister bottles. You see color and texture and light." Doherty also designs office and residential projects with BOSS, which he says are both being influenced by the restaurant and hospitality sector. But interiors-focused hospitality design, he says, holds a special appeal. Without the functional constraints of weather and climate, there's free rein inside to create "a little world in and of itself," he says.



■ The outdoor dining area of Denver's Vital Root, one of many restaurants designed by BOSS.architecture, features a wall of school lunch trays arranged in colorful bands.

KATHARINE STORR '08

The Provocateur



■ In Storr's Playhouse Rock project, nearly every surface and material is a percussive musical instrument.

Though she practices with the architecture firm Allford Hall Monaghan Morris in London, Katharine Storr keeps some design inspiration to the side for SLAB, the entity she and a partner use to pursue charity projects, design competitions, and other speculative endeavors. "It's my extracurricular," she says. Her Postcode M25 project for an affordable housing design competition imagines housing interlaced with green space built on top of the M25 motorway that rings London, preserving what's left of the city's green periphery and plugging into existing transit infrastructure. A bit more down-to-earth is her Playhouse Rock project, a playhouse raffled off as a fundraiser for a Dallas, Texas, children's nonprofit. It's a bright purple and yellow hutch for boisterous joy, where nearly every surface and material is a percussive musical instrument.

On Postcode M25: "It started out as a pie-in-the-sky idea. I don't think it's completely unfeasible, but it's definitely pushing the boundaries of what the government and builders are willing to do. It's hard to take risks on big new ideas, but at the same time, the scale of the problem is such that it needs some big new ideas. There's a lot of quite feasible aspects to this scheme. In fact, they're already building part of Heathrow over the M25 on the west side of the city."

On Playhouse Rock: "The energy and excitement of it is important to the sentiment in which it was designed. There are times when architecture should be serious; there are also times when architecture needs to go out on a limb and be provocative and enjoyable."



Zach Mortice is a Chicago-based design journalist and critic. If you listen closely to his interview tapes, you can hear the rumble of the Red Line El train passing over the alley behind his apartment every five to eight minutes. You can follow him on Twitter and Instagram.

Making a Place in the Dance World

By Dana Nichols '14

Every time I tell someone that I am a professional dancer, I'm shocked by my own words. I spent my first three years at Haverford talking myself out of it. *It's going to be too hard. I don't have what it takes. I won't make any money. People will think I wasted my education. It's too late.*

But by my senior year, I was learning to listen to my desires, despite all the “what ifs.” I had to start making courageous decisions—even if it meant failure. Finally, I said something out loud that I had never before been able to say: “I want to be a dancer.”

I had studied ballet very seriously as a child, six days a week, but I never

saw myself as a ballet dancer. The girls I trained with were religious about it. They obsessively practiced and studied videos of their favorite ballerinas. I did not obsess. For me ballet was a discipline—an act of mastery—but mostly it was a way of achieving bodily freedom. I just wanted to float and leap across the floor.

When I entered high school, the logistics of my ballet training schedule became too difficult. My school was 20 miles from my home, and going to dance classes every night meant my mom and I spent hours in the car, often parked in rush hour Los Angeles traffic. Something had to give. I needed to prepare for college, so I ramped down my ballet training.

At the same time, I was falling in love with the freedom of contemporary dance, and I began spending more time with my modern dance and lyrical jazz teachers.

As a teenager, I had changed in so many ways. I was a black girl growing up in segregated Los Angeles, coming into my racial awakening. I was hungry to learn about the artistic contributions of my people. Ballet had my heart, but I felt other callings. Around the time my dance peers were beginning to commit to conservatory programs and full-time pre-professional tracks in ballet around the world, I was immersing myself in issues of diversity and social justice. Though I

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Dana Nichols '14

PHOTO: HOLDEN BLANCO '17

Class News



History majors checking out the offerings in Lutnick Library.



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.

Roads Taken and Not Taken

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was blessed to have an older cousin as a dance role model and a few black peers, in those 12 years I had spent every single part of my life in predominantly white institutions, and it began to weigh on me.

In my junior year of high school, I won a scholarship to the summer program at Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH). It would be my first experience in a black ballet company, and winning that scholarship was a light in the dark. However, three months before I was due to start training, I sustained a hairline fracture in my foot. Though I was cleared to go, I struggled with my foot through the entire program. And when one of the rehearsal directors at DTH pulled me aside to say I should consider coming there to train full-time in the pre-professional track, I didn't even take a minute to think about it. I knew: I *had* to go to college. And just like that I ruled it out.

Applying to Haverford College was a shot in the dark. My guidance counselor told me that I would not be able to go to the kind of school my parents went to (small, liberal arts, and prestigious), most likely because of my test scores. Fortunately, I did not listen to her.

While I have often wondered how much further along I would be if I had not missed those critical years dancing professionally, I would not trade my education for anything. I got to write poetry and short stories, and to immerse myself in African American, African, and Caribbean literature and ideas. I experimented with dance in the multipurpose room at Haverford and in Pembroke at Bryn Mawr, searching for my own voice in movement. It was creative freedom!

After college, committed to being a dancer, I played catch-up for three years in the second company of the Philadelphia Dance Company, known as Philadanco, and then began performing with the first company, which had been created in the 1970s to give black dancers opportunities.

Now the fruits of my experiences are slowly revealing themselves as useful. I

was recently given an opportunity to think about my dance life retrospectively in an article I wrote for *Dance Magazine* about the ballet world's controversial use of blackface. I got to write critically about ballet and race. It was a moment in my life where everything seemed to come together.

In December of last year, Misty Copeland, the most famous ballerina in America, took the ballet world by storm when she reposted on Instagram a picture of two Russian girls at the Bolshoi Ballet dressed in blackface costume, captioning it: "And this is the reality of the ballet world . . ." The ballet in question, *La Bayadère*, depicts South Asians as they were imagined by 19th-century French, Russian, and Georgian men.

I saw Copeland's Instagram post during a Philadanco rehearsal break, and froze in my seat. I quickly scrolled through the comments, from history lessons on blackface, to people outside of the ballet world expressing disbelief that this happened in 2019, to castigations of Copeland for putting these young girls in the line of fire for what was ultimately the Bolshoi's costuming choice. Russians staunchly defended their right to use blackface, saying it is part of their art and cultural practices, and many ridiculed Copeland, who is African American, and black Americans for being sensitive about something that carries no historical baggage in their country.

My heart was pounding because I was looking at a picture that could have been me. In 2003, when I was 11 years old, I was dressed in blackface to perform in another Russian ballet company's production of the same ballet. (When ballet companies tour, they can't bring minors with them, so they find young dancers locally to fill roles in their ballets.) During dress rehearsal I found out we were to wear blackface for the performance. The experi-

ence was jarring, but I compartmentalized it away.

Until my aforementioned teenage racial awakening, it did not dawn on me that I had played a primitive Indian caricature. I lived in ignorance, accepting the discomforts in exchange for access to the art form I loved. But looking back, I believe this is when the wall in my mind that separated ballet from the real world first began to crumble.

It was not just that I was not cut out for ballet, it was also that the ballet world made no room for me. Yes, there was Dance Theatre of Harlem, but when I was there they were still suffering from a setback that had reduced the full company down to an ensemble. Growing up, Misty Copeland was the only black ballerina I ever saw make it, and the fact is that even she is just now getting the recognition she deserves.

After seeing Copeland's post, I went home that night to reread the account of my experience I had written two years earlier for a grant application to set a ballet on people of color. That grant was denied, but feeling vindicated, I began to rewrite the story. The representation of people of color in the ballet world needs more attention.

Without my combination of experiences—including my liberal arts education—I would not have been able to write the *Dance Magazine* article. I would not have had the confidence to weigh in—to convey my own personal experience, and then to say more. It turns out my steps away from ballet allowed me to see it with clarity and contribute to it once more.

Dana Nichols is a company member of Philadanco, the Philadelphia Dance Company. She earned a degree in English literature with a concentration in African studies at Haverford.

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

Alumni Obituaries

47 Robert Dowben P'77, P'81, died peacefully on Nov. 11 at the age of 92. He received his M.D. in 1949 from the University of Chicago, then served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force at the Air Force Medical College. Following his military service, Dowben held faculty appointments at several leading academic institutions including the University of Pennsylvania, University of Bergen (Norway), and Brown University. He is the author of more than 150 scientific articles and four books on cell and muscle physiology, and was listed as an inventor on multiple patents. He received many accolades for his contributions to medicine and science including the 1980 University of Chicago Alumni Award for Exceptional Service. Through the years, Dowben also served as a dedicated mentor to many students. He was an accomplished pianist, and enjoyed traveling with his family. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Carla; his sons, **Peter Dowben '77**, and **Jonathan Dowben '81**; his daughter, Susan Day; and six grandchildren.

50 Richard McKinley P'84 died Nov. 26. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve as a radio and radar operator before enrolling at Haverford. McKinley went on to receive his master's in English from Case Western Reserve University. He then began a career in education, and held many positions throughout his life, including teacher, administrator, and educational consultant. McKinley also assisted in behind-the-scenes efforts supporting theatrical productions at the schools where he worked, instructing students in set design and lighting. A talented artist and musician, he was predeceased by his wife Alexandra, and is survived by his children Richard, Graham, and **Edward McKinley '84**, as well as two grandchildren.

Bob Wickham died on Nov. 7th. He was 94. He enlisted in the U.S. Army after high school, serving in the Philippines and in Japan. After graduating from Haverford, he earned a master's degree from Harvard and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley. Wickham was Ford Foundation representative for Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, Central America, and Mexico. In his capacity as Population Program Officer in New York, he was instrumental in creating the International Council of the Management

of Population Programs. Following his retirement from Ford in 1980, Wickham consulted for the World Bank, the UN Population Fund, the International Planned Parenthood Federation, and the Norwegian Technical Assistance Program. He was also responsible for the design and organization of the Bangladeshi National Training Center for Family Planning Workers under the auspices of the World Bank. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne; his son, Robert; his daughter, Judith; and two grandsons.

52 Dick Wilson died Sept. 29. After college, he earned a master's degree in business administration from Boston University. Wilson was a computer systems analyst for the Boston VA Hospital, and lived in Concord, Mass. for many years. During summers, Wilson and his family would spend much of their time on Cape Cod, and upon his retirement, he and his wife, Jane, moved there full time. He was known for his kindness, generosity, and spirit of volunteerism. He is survived by his wife, Jane, whom he married in 1955; his daughter, Kathryn; his son, Richard; and five grandchildren.

54 Bill Bibbins P'89 died on Dec. 1 at the age of 87. He was a partner in the architectural firm of Davies, Wolf, and Bibbins, and a dedicated community leader. Through his life, he volunteered with numerous local organizations, including the Rotary Club of Cambridge, the Cambridge Historical Society, and the Cambridge Historical Commission. Bibbins was known to family and friends as an animal lover, and adopted a number of dogs and cats over the years. He was predeceased by his wife, Judy. He is survived by his three children, **Patrick Bibbins '89**, Emily Silas, and Lydia DeJesus; and seven grandchildren.

56 Burt Richardson P'83, P'85, died Feb. 26, 2019 as a result of Alzheimer's disease. As a pediatrician and health care advocate, Richardson dedicated his life to improving the lives of children and families around the world. He graduated from Temple University Medical School in 1960, and trained at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, establishing the first pediatric clinic on the base. Richardson and his wife,

Gladys, a professional nurse, both served with humanitarian health care organization Project HOPE, participating in projects in Peru, Brazil, and Nicaragua. The two also established the innovative Winthrop Family Pediatrics Center in Maine in 1978. Outside of medicine, Richardson helped found a number of community organizations, including the Neighborhood Networks project, which aims to build more resilient neighborhoods. He was an avid runner, and organized a tradition of five-year family reunions with relatives from many different countries. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Gladys; his children, **Henry Richardson '83** and **Katherine Kenward '85**; and two grandchildren.

Robert Togasaki, of Bloomington, Ind., died Nov. 19 at age 87. After Haverford, he obtained his Ph.D. in biochemistry from Cornell University, and then conducted postdoctoral work at Harvard University. In 1968, he and his wife, Fumiko, moved to Bloomington, where he joined the Indiana University Botany Department as a biology professor, a position he held until he retired in 1997. He was a volunteer teacher at the Harmony School in Bloomington, and also taught biology at the WonderLab Science Museum. He also served on the board of directors for Area 10 Agency on Aging. He enjoyed listening to Rakugo, a style of Japanese storytelling. He is preceded in death by his wife, Fumiko, and is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

57 Mason Barr died on Oct. 7 in Ann Arbor, Mich. He was 84. Barr graduated from George Washington University Medical School in 1961, and began a career in pediatrics and related fields. He served as a medical officer in the U.S. Navy from 1964–1966, and from there was a professor in the departments of pediatrics, pathology, and obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Michigan Medical School until his retirement in 2004, when he was named professor emeritus. Barr was widely published, and was well known as an educator in the field of fetal pathology. He took great pride in his role as physician and advisor to his patients and their families, and was seen as an advocate and mentor by many. He will be remembered by friends and family for his good counsel, his irrev-

Alumni Obituaries

erent and politically incorrect sense of humor, and his numerous creative talents, including his woodworking skills and *New York Times* puzzle-solving expertise. Barr was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, and is survived by his daughters, Catherine Shafer and Jennifer Barr; his son, Christopher; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

58 **Ronald Kaback** died Dec. 20 in Sherman Oaks, Calif., after a short illness. Kaback was an accomplished medical researcher specializing in membrane physiology, and his research is considered foundational in the field. He graduated from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1962 and began his training at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center, with plans for a career in pediatrics. However, while still a medical student, he conducted innovative research on bacterial membranes, and eventually decided to study physiology instead, choosing to spend a year as a postdoctoral fellow in the physiology department at Einstein. In 1964, he joined the National Institutes of Health as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service. While at the NIH, he collaborated with Dutch scientist Wilhelmus N. Konings, who dubbed his cell-free membrane system “Kabackosomes.” From there, Kaback joined Roche Institute of Molecular Biology in Nutley, N.J., as the head of the Laboratory of Membrane Biochemistry, and later was recruited by the University of California to be an investigator for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a professor in the department of physiology. He received many awards throughout his career, including the Lewis S. Rosenstiel Award in 1973, the Anatrache Membrane Protein Award in 2007, and the Peter Mitchell Memorial Medal in 2012. He was preceded in death by his son Joshua, and is survived by his wife, Mollie “Teenchy,” daughter, Elizabeth; son George; and three grandchildren.

Lin Pennell died peacefully on Sept. 18 at the age of 82. Pennell received his master’s in business administration from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1970, and served in the Marine Corps. He worked for 35 years with PECO Energy, first as a test engineer at the

Schuylkill Generating Station, and later in public relations at the Limerick Generating Station. Pennell was a proud Eagle Scout, a dedicated member and past-president of the PMB Rotary Club, and a talented artist. He will be remembered for his love of knowledge, his passion for trains, and his devotion to his family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Lorraine; his children Susannah Rinker and Franklin Pennell III; and three grandchildren.

Jan Riegl, of Williams Lake, British Columbia, Canada, died Feb. 18, 2019 from injury-related complications. He was 84. Born in Czechoslovakia during the middle of the Great Depression, Riegl spent his formative years in Prague during World War II before moving to the U.S. After Haverford, he attended medical school, specializing in pediatrics, and moved to rural British Columbia to explore the great outdoors. He was known as an exceptional, caring, tenacious physician, solving many complex issues affecting local children. As the only pediatrician within several hours’ drive of his hometown, he had little time to get away from work, but found time to enjoy canoeing and camping. He held a private pilot’s license, and explored much of North America by plane with his family through the 1970s. In retirement, Riegl enjoyed classical music and audiobooks, and, despite physical disabilities, remained fiercely independent all his life, shopping for himself and taking daily walks with his dogs. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eva, and is survived by his son, Andy.

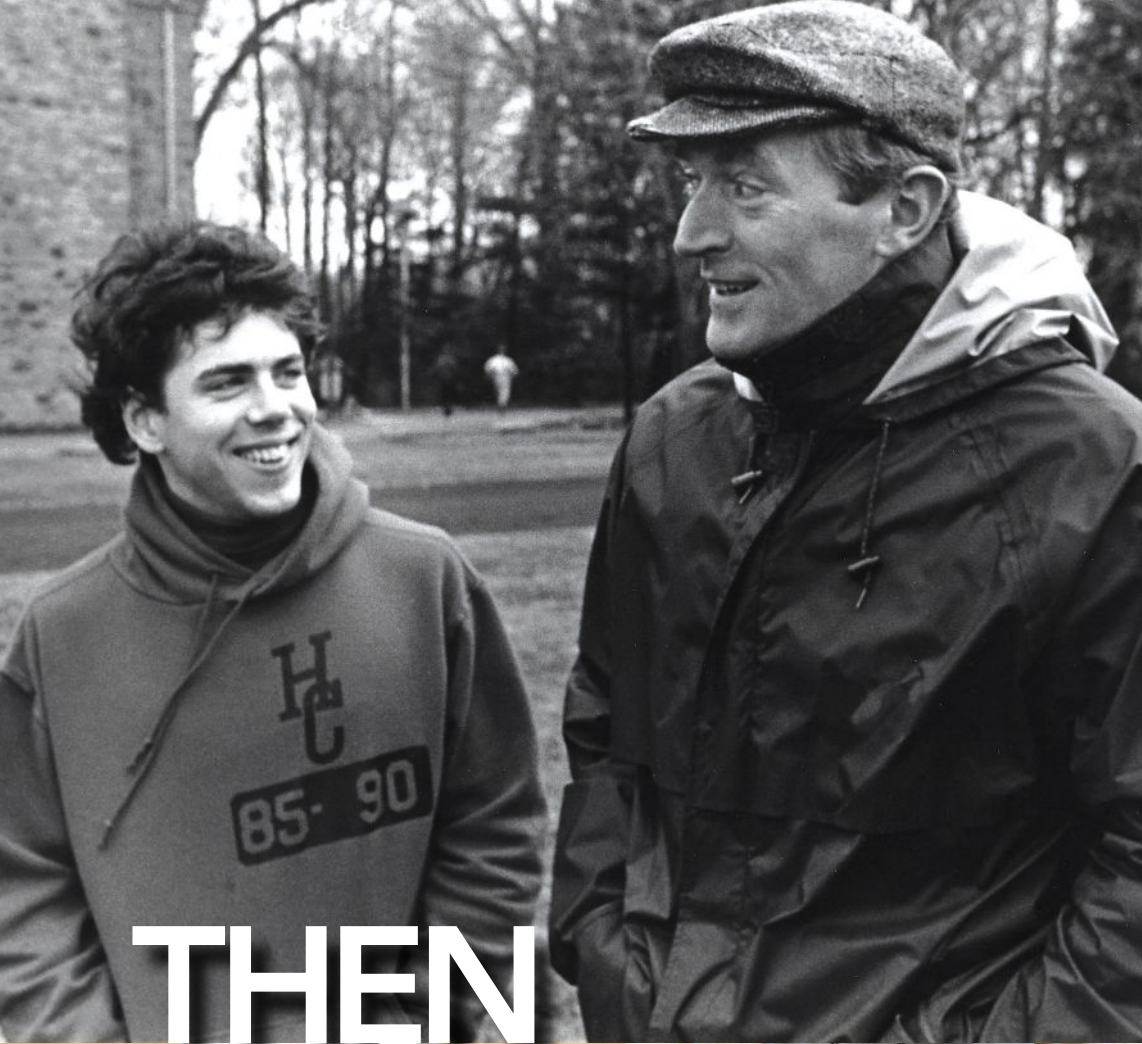
63 **Jack Liesveld** passed away Dec. 11, 2017 after a brief illness. After graduation, he moved to Paris and began a career in advertising at the *Paris Herald Tribune*. With an extensive knowledge and love of modern art, he specialized in selling advertising space to art and architecture publications, and translated numerous museum catalogs and art books. He moved between New York, London, and Paris frequently, and was living in Paris before his death. He is survived by his sister, Jane Jacobs, and by many friends in the art world.

Joerg Winterer died July 30 at age 78. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1967 with a focus in pediatrics, then

received his master’s in public health from Johns Hopkins University in 1968, and his doctorate in nutrition from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1976. He also served in Vietnam as a captain in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps. He was a dedicated physician and educator, with a sincere love for knowledge. His favorite pursuits included skiing in Telluride, bodysurfing in the Outer Banks, slalom water-skiing, swimming, biking, and running. He was active up until his last days, competing in a triathlon just days before his death. He is survived by his two daughters, Andrea Winterer and Ashley Woods; two sons, Jesse and Noah; and two grandchildren.

67 **Will White** died Oct. 11. He earned his master’s and doctorate degrees in economics from Harvard. Raised Quaker, White was a conscientious objector, and he completed his alternative service at Massachusetts General Hospital, which sparked his keen interest in health care policy. After serving as acting associate director of the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago and then as the head of the Health Management Program at Yale University, he became the director of the Sloan Program in Health Administration at Cornell University in 2003, a role he held until his untimely illness and retirement. White also worked as a professor in Cornell’s Department of Policy Analysis and Management in the College of Human Ecology. His interests included 19th century political cartoons, history, riding, and cross-country skiing. He is survived by his wife, Olivia, and his children, **Lydia Giovanni ‘10** and Gilbert.

76 **Arthur Clum** died Dec. 13. After college, he attended Antioch School of Law, and worked in Maine’s Office of Advocacy. Clum was a passionate champion for individuals with disabilities. During his time in government, he helped advocate for two consent decrees promoting disability rights. He enjoyed playing cribbage, flying kites with his grandchildren, and being a part of his local church community. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Abigail. He is survived by his wife, Jana, five step-children, 12 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.



THEN: Tom Donnelly (shown here in 1985 with Andy Frishkoff '88) began his storied coaching career at Haverford in 1975. Just a few years later, his teams won their first conference titles with Donnelly as head coach—men's cross country in 1979, indoor track & field in 1980. Since then, his athletes have won 76 conference team championships, and in 2010 men's cross country achieved another first for Haverford: the NCAA Division III Team Championship. Even more than winning, though, Donnelly is known for his generous coaching style, anchored in the firm belief that every member of the team should be valued.

NOW: In February, more than 200 people, including many of his former runners (among them Andy Frishkoff), gathered on campus to celebrate Donnelly's 45th year of coaching. (That's Donnelly, front and center, in the white cap.) In a *Philadelphia Inquirer* article about the event, sportswriter Mike Jensen mused that if there were a list of great coaches in this area, "Donnelly would be way high on that list, working with some of the great milers in the history of the sport while at the same time turning guys who could barely walk a straight line into contributing members of a small-college dynasty."

THEN AND NOW



PHOTOS: TONY WOOD (THEN); HOLDEN BLANCO '17 (NOW)

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