

# TODAY SUMMER 2019







#### **FEATURES**

#### 2019 Alumni Awards 10

Mac honors nine alumni who exemplify the college's mission and values.

#### Finding His Rhythm 14

Composer Doug Little '91 discovers an affinity with traditional Cuban musical styles.

#### When the Science is Personal 16

With a scientist's brain and a mother's determination, Lara Pullen '88 is uncovering a new treatment for a rare disease.

#### Neighborhood Nostalgia 20

We asked for your favorite neighborhood spots over the years—and you answered.

#### The New Rules of Food 26

What's for dinner? Alumni in food and farming share wisdom to guide our decisions.

#### Lecture Notes: History, Power, and Silence 32

American Studies professor Duchess Harris examines race, class, and the Me Too movement.

2019 Reunion 34

#### ON THE COVER:

For 46 years, Audrey Arner '73 and Richard Handeen '73 have built community around food at Moonstone Farm in western Minnesota. Photo by Darin Back





#### **DEPARTMENTS**

Correspondence 2
Household Words 3
1600 Grand 4

President Rosenberg's departure, senior honors projects, and a more sustainable move-out

Class Notes 36
Books 39
Weddings 40
In Memoriam 45
Last Look 48



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#### EEO perspectives

As a white middle-class student who began studying at Mac in 1969, I read the article about EEO (Spring 2019) with both interest and sadness. I was, at the time, proud to be studying at a college that was a pioneer in such inclusion, but was sad that there wasn't more interaction between us. While reading the article, I learned more about why the EEO students felt as they did, but although I noted that they felt that some students and staff did not seem to have wanted to make students of color feel fully included, I'm sure there were many of us, myself included, who would have welcomed the opportunity to get to know those students as individuals so that we could all have known each other better. Could there have been some way to make that possible? Perhaps it was just too soon. I hope things are better now.

#### Anne Sterling Haselhurst '73 St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland

As a '69 graduate, I was invited to stay on campus the following summer as one of the EEO program's student tutors/advisors. We worked with incoming freshmen in writing, communicating and interpreting literature, social studies, and other nonfiction texts. In addition, we were closer to being peers than the professors involved and could offer advice, suggestions, and clues to peripheral college experiences. We lived in the dorms, ate in the dining halls, and chatted in the Grill and around campus. We were determined to do whatever we could to give these future freshman whatever help we might.

Aside from the fact that I know we positively affected students whose paths we crossed, I wanted to extend the 50-year retrospective to note how it affected one who helped that first year. Working on the EEO program that summer led me to shift my goal from working as a college professor to working with students before high school graduation, so they could be better prepared for college. I recently retired after 35 years teaching eighth grade at the same public school.

While I was interested in reading of the EEO program's success, I thought it might be interesting for Macalester to know that some of us who assisted with the program in its first year were nudged in a new direction for our futures also. For that and so many other intangibles I got from Macalester, I remain forever grateful.

> Pua Johnson '69 Gilroy, Calif.

I started at Mac in fall 1968, so I remember the anticipation of the EEO program. I also vividly recall how many white students at the time were angry over the supposed "special treatment" of students in the EEO program. Macalester suffered many financial setbacks at that time and several non-tenured professors lost their jobs. Many Mac students directly blamed EEO for these setbacks. Not blamed was the early 1970s recession. EEO was a wonderful program, but it was not welcomed with open arms by many, unfortunately.

Another issue that your magazine might want to cover is LGBTQ students back in the day. I find this is a subject that is not covered in Macalester Today. One anecdote: Even though Macalester was considered a very liberal college, when it came to LGBTQ matters, it was not. In autumn 1968, I tried out for a production of Beckett's Waiting for Godot and was told at auditions that the two lead characters would be cast as a man and a woman- not two men, as Beckett wrote it. The director explained, "If it is two men, that means they're gay and that is sad and tragic." I remember also an interim class in January 1969 on Gay Literature. It was the talk of the campus.

> Robert Hofler '72 New York, N.Y.

Years ago, when I worked at Mac, I had the chance to meet many of these alums. Incredible people. Incredible moment in the school's history.

Heather Riddle, via Twitter

#### Could it happen again?

President Rosenberg reminded us that Macalester almost closed down in 1974 due to financial issues ("Fragile," Spring 2019). That time followed the tenure of President Flemming. One trustee told me back then he confronted Flemming about all the projects and causes he was spending money on. Could it happen again? Surely. Take a look at the spring issue of Macalester Today. Only two articles were of general interest to most alumni. The rest: political correctness, as usual, pushing out general interest. I founded the Macalester Alumni of Moderation 10 years ago to fight Mac's preoccupation with things that—are you ready for this-prompt many alumni to cease contributions. Do the math, Brian.

> Roger Peterson '67 Rocklin, Calif.

#### Good as gold

Great article in Macalester Today about Rachel Gold and her excellent work telling stories about trans and genderqueer folk!

Chris Dart '92, via Twitter

#### CONNECT WITH US (O)







Visit Mac's social media hub at macalester.edu/macsocial and join in by using the #heymac hashtag when you post on Twitter or Instagram.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE POLICY**

We invite letters of 300 words or fewer. Messages may be edited for clarity, style, and space and will be published based on their relevance to issues discussed in Macalester Today. Share your thoughts:

- Email: mactoday@macalester.edu
- · Tweet: @macalester using the hashtag #macalestertoday
- Mail: Macalester Today, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

## THE QUALITY OF MERCY

BY BRIAN ROSENBERG

President Brian Rosenberg delivered the following remarks to the Class of 2019 at Commencement on May 18, 2019.

For Mercy has a human heart, Pity a human face, And Love, the human form divine, And Peace, the human dress.

Cruelty has a Human Heart And Jealousy a Human Face: Terror the Human Form Divine And Secrecy, the Human Dress.

A few of you might recognize those passages as coming from two poems by the brilliant and unquestionably odd William Blake, the first from his Songs of Innocence and the second from his Songs of Experience, published in 1789 and 1794, respectively. Like so much in those two works, the observations are both diametrically opposed and equally true. It all depends on one's perspective. Human beings can be loving and merciful; they can also be cruel and terrifying. And I don't only mean different groups of human beings: I also mean that the same people—the same person—can be both of those things. This is one of the great and frustrating mysteries of human nature.

Do mercy, pity, peace, and love in the end more fully define us than cruelty, jealousy, terror, and secrecy? History does not here provide much reassurance, but we can of course try, each in our own lives, to make the answer to that question "yes."

Today, as you prepare to leave Macalester, I thought I might spend a moment on one of the qualities identified by Blake, the quality of mercy. Perhaps I have been inspired by the groundbreaking work of our commencement speaker on the inequities in our criminal justice system, where mercy is very selectively extended. Perhaps I am simply responding to what I see every day in our beautiful yet broken world.

What is mercy? It is defined as "compassion or forgiveness shown

toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm." It is the decision, when offered the opportunity and even the justification to inflict pain, not to do so, and maybe even to offer in its place an embrace or a word of comfort.

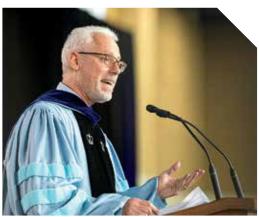
We are not at this moment living in a world in which mercy is regularly apparent: in our public policies, in our public discourse, on many of our college campuses, and especially within the sprawling universe of social media, which strikes me as relentlessly and overwhelmingly merciless. Congress abolished the use of the pillory as a form of public shaming in 1839, considering it "cruel and unusual punishment." Today we are more efficient: we have Twitter.

Let me be clear: mercy is not the same thing as indifference or lack of principle. It is not an unwillingness to hold people accountable for hurtful actions or words or a determination to ignore wrongdoing. It does not obviate the need for punishment. One can condemn what is wrong, one can do all in one's power to prevent or correct what is wrong, yet one can still stop short of inflicting upon the wrongdoer the maximum amount of pain. That is mercy, and I would suggest that it needs more often to be part of our response to the failures of our fellow human beings.

It is possible to be both just and

We need to acknowledge, too, that with mercy comes a certain amount of risk. With most of our more admirable qualities-love, empathy, patience-comes risk. It is safer to lock someone away, to cast someone out, to leave someone helpless on the ground, than to extend a hand and try to lift someone up. But these admirable qualities also carry the possibility of rewards that far transcend anything that will be born of harshness and anger.

It is possible to be both strong and merciful. Those who think that the exercise of power over the most vulnerable makes them strong, who punish because they can,



are merely revealing their own weakness.

So to our graduating seniors I offer this simple piece of advice: be merciful, to others and, especially, to yourselves. I have found that even those who are quick to be merciful to people around them are slow to extend that same quality to themselves. We are all imperfect; we all make mistakes, fail to live up to our best selves, do things of which we are ashamed. We are all, from time to time, needlessly cruel. Extend to yourselves the forgiveness and the mercy that you attempt, at your best moments, to extend to others.

You all hold yourselves to such high standards, and for that we admire and honor you. But we also worry about you, because high standards cannot always be met, and learning to accept that is both difficult and necessary.

I say this as someone who, many decades further along than all of you, has yet fully to absorb this truth.

The quality of mercy is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath. It is twice blest: It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.

Shakespeare, of course. Remember that both the granter and the recipient of mercy are blessed. Show mercy to yourselves, and be doubly blessed. M

Brian Rosenberg is president of Macalester



"MACALESTER'S
BEST DAYS LIE
NOT IN ITS
PAST OR PRESENT
BUT IN ITS
FUTURE."

-BRIAN ROSENBERG

#### ROSENBERG ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE

After 16 years as the college's president, Brian Rosenberg announced in April that he will leave Macalester in May 2020. "The opportunity to serve as president of Macalester has been by far the greatest privilege of my professional life," Rosenberg wrote in a letter to the campus community. "The longer I have stayed, the more impressed I have been by the excellence of our faculty, the dedication of the staff with whom I have worked side by side, and especially the passionate determination of our students and alumni to create a more just and peaceful world."

#### FINDING MAC'S NEXT PRESIDENT

#### **APRIL 2019**

Macalester's Board of Trustees partners with the executive search firm Spencer Stuart, whose staff visits campus for listening sessions with faculty, staff, and students.

#### **MAY 2019**

With feedback and nominations from the Mac community, the search committee forms. Led by Carrie Norbin Killoran '94 and Michael A. Huber '90, the group includes faculty, staff, alumni, and a student.

#### **JUNE 2019**

A community-wide survey gathers input to inform the leadership profile.

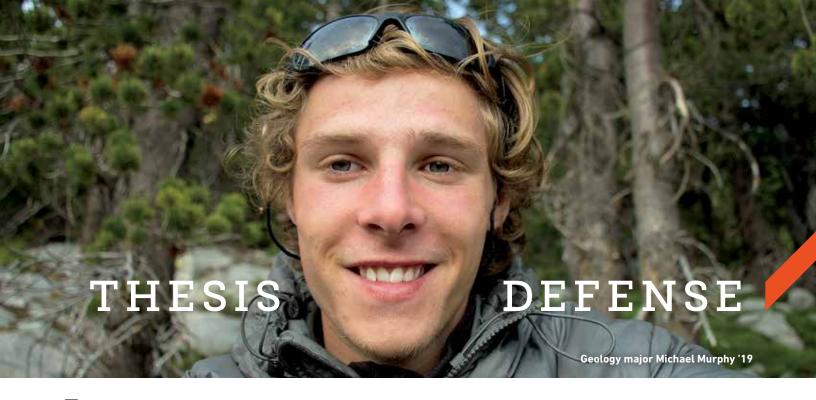
#### **SUMMER/FALL 2019**

The search committee publishes the leadership profile. This fall, the committee will begin the interview process and select one or more finalists to present to the Board of Trustees.

#### ESTIMATED: WINTER 2019-20

The Board of Trustees names Macalester's 17th president.

View the leadership profile, stay updated on the search, and share feedback: macalester.edu/presidentialsearch



Every year, Macalester seniors conduct a stunning array of original academic and creative work. We browsed this year's list of honors theses, picked out a few highlights, and asked their authors to explain more.

#### "Understanding the Construction of Accessibility and Mobility: Non-car Transportation in St. Louis, Missouri"

#### **HANNAH SHUMWAY (BARABOO, WIS.)**

#### Political science and geography

"We often talk about transportation in terms of scarcity—there's never enough money, or enough space for bike lanes, for example. But if you flip that thinking, and instead look at transportation as a common governance issue, you start to see that creating better mobility options can truly benefit everyone in that society, especially the people who already depend on them."

#### "New Places"

#### **JAKE PARSKY (BETHESDA, MD.)**

#### Music

"All music majors do a senior recital for their capstone, but I also wanted to do something that would allow me to focus on the musical direction I want to take for my career, which is in composition. I'd done some composing before, but this project was pretty different. I spent a lot of last summer doing research, studying other composers and their scores, and learning how to write for some instruments I don't play. It also took more vulnerability than I expected, having to show my music to other musicians. That really affected me, and I think it made me more courageous."

#### "Rooting Around Beneath an Arc: Zircon U-Pb Geochronologic and Hf Isotopic Constraints on the Evolution of the Base of the Sierra Nevada Batholith"

#### **MICHAEL MURPHY (OSCEOLA, WIS.)**

#### Geology

"We were essentially using a machine to shoot laser beams at individual zircon crystals to turn them into gas, and then passing that through a mass spectrometer to see what isotopes they were

producing. That allowed us to date the particles, and look at how much continental crust was melted in the system that produced the rocks, which helps us estimate where they originated—we think somewhere in the lower crust. There's only a handful of places on earth where we can get pieces of rock originating that far beneath the surface. So these analyses are really important to understand this part of the earth miles below our feet, and how it's changed over time."

#### "Ink and Blood: American Military Tattooing from the Civil War to the Global War on Terror"

#### SAM RICHMOND (BEDFORD, N.H.)

#### History

"There are a lot of tattoos in the military, but I wanted to look at how that's evolved over time. I also saw how much continuity there's been. During the Civil War, there was a lot of superstitious or religious imagery. For example, there was a superstition among sailors that crucifixes would stop shark attacks, so they would get crucifixes tattooed on all four limbs in case they went overboard. You still see a lot of that kind of thing today. For example, one of the soldiers I talked to has a Celtic armor symbol that he got tattooed on his forearm before his second tour in Irag. He acknowledged that it wouldn't stop bullets or an IED, but he said it still gave him peace of mind while he was there-maybe it would help bring him home."

#### "Understanding the Influence of Curcumin on Amyloid-B Aggregation at the Molecular Scale"

#### ANGELINA MALAGODI (ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.)

#### Chemistry

"Amyloid-ß is a protein in our brains—I have it, you have it, we all have it. Sometimes, however, that protein can end up misfolding into a different shape. When that happens, it basically becomes sticky. It attracts other misfolded proteins, and they can start to form masses. This is one of the hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease. If you look at the brains of people who had Alzheimer's, there will be all these masses clumped throughout. So, although we still don't understand exactly why some people get the disease—that's part of the reason we don't have a cure, either—this research could lead to new therapeutic tools."



SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER Suzanne Savanick Hansen remembers the call vividly: "Come over here right now—you need to see this." Just after she was hired in spring 2008, a custodial staff member summoned her to a dumpster set up outside a residence hall for move-out. Savanick Hansen saw it piled high with usable items, including a working printer, clothes, and housewares.

That's not a problem unique to Mac. "Move-out is the largest pulse of waste from college campuses," Savanick Hansen says. And she understands why: "Time is short and emotions are running high. Accumulated stuff doesn't fit in storage or luggage, and students often don't have access to a car to take material to donate.

Still, there were plenty of ways to do better. A decade later, the process has been transformed, thanks to a collaborative effort by the Sustainability Office, Facilities Services, and Residential

Life. The dumpsters are still there, but the recycling bins fill up faster. Habitat for Humanity and Bonner Scholars student volunteers staff the donation boxes, collecting items for the organization's annual fall rummage sale. Bon Appetit food service sets up an amnesty box to collect dishware brought home from the cafeteria, and the Civic Engagement Center collects toiletries for a homeless shelter. Even clothes hangers get saved for incoming international students in the fall.

And the community effort has paid off in a big way. During move-out week alone this year, students donated more than 700 pounds of food and women's hygiene products to Keystone Community Services and sent more than 9,000 pounds to Goodwill. Since 2008, the move-out recycling rate has climbed from 17 percent to over 70 percent. In that time, Facilities estimates that more than 290 tons of household goods have been diverted from the incinerator.

#### SPRAY CHEESE SHOWSTOPPER



ON A SUNNY Friday in April, five teams of students fired up ultra-light backpacking stoves on the Great Lawn for an Outing

Club-sponsored outdoor cooking competition. Teams raced to prepare elevated camp fare from an ingredient list that included potatoes, canned pizza dough, and M&Ms. But there was also a twist: inspired by cult-classic cooking show Iron Chef, before the start of the event, the club revealed a secret ingredient that contestants had to include in their dishes. "We

were deciding between either pickles or canned spray cheese," says Josh Fortin '22 (Minneapolis), who helped organize the competition. "We thought spray cheese might be easier to incorporate."

From those humble provisions, the winning team-first-years Aberdeen Morrow (Excelsior, Minn.), Riley Waters (Portland, Ore.), Rock Park (Longmont, Colo.), and Gabe Radtke (Middleton, Wis.)—whipped up a caramelized onion and black bean pâté, potatoes au gratin, and a cinnamon apple croquette. While thoroughly impressed, Fortin admits to some lingering reservations about packing canned cheese on his next wilderness trek: "I've brought it before. It's not the best."

### Ever wonder about all those books lining professors' offices? We're with you.

Environmental studies professor **Chris Wells** studies and teaches environmental history, particularly how technology frames and changes our relationships with the natural world.

#### Any stand-out books you've read recently?

One that stands out—honestly because it's so bleak—is The *Uninhabitable Earth* by David Wallace-Wells. He starts by saying, "It is worse, much worse, than you think," and then marches you through the scientific literature on climate change.

#### What's one of your all-time favorite reads?

My first year of grad school, I read Crabgrass Frontier by Kenneth Jackson, and Nature's Metropolis by William Cronon. Both books blew my mind. I didn't even know you could write like that—about



a process like suburbanization, or the history of a landscape—and they ended up being really influential on my career.

#### What book is crucial to understanding your academic niche?

It's tough to pick one, because my subject is people's changing relationship with nature over time, which can be all sorts of things. One favorite is Flight Maps by Jennifer Price. She's essentially a historical birder, following various birds on their path through history. For example, she traces passenger pigeons: starting with how they were used by the Seneca Indians and colonists, then into the era of market hunting, when they were served in restaurants and shot for sport (that's where "clay pigeon" comes from), to their eventual extinction.

#### Any guilty pleasure reads?

There's all this stuff my wife and I read to our kids—the Chronicles of Narnia, Madeleine L'Engle's books—that were central to my childhood and have been really fun to return to as an adult. Also, one of my favorite ways to procrastinate is to read books about writing, like Write No Matter What, by Joli Jensen. I keep a stack of that one here in the Serie Center for Scholarship and Teaching, and give them away to other professors like candy.

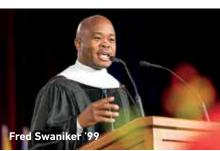
#### What one book would you recommend to everyone at Macalester?

North Country: The Making of Minnesota, by Mary Wingerd '90. Everyone should know a bit about where they live, and this will change how you see the Twin Cities and the rest of the state.

Whose shelf should we visit next? Email mactoday@macalester.edu.

#### IT'S ABOUT TIME

THROUGH EDUCATION and literature, their work has reached, shaped, and inspired people on campus and around the world. Last spring, two members of the Macalester community—African Leadership University founder Fred Swaniker '99 and writer in residence Marlon James—were named to the "TIME 100: Most Influential People of 2019" list.



By creating the African Leadership University (and its predecessor, the African Leadership Academy), Swaniker has dedicated his talents to educating Africa's next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs. Through the institutions he is building across Africa, Swaniker hopes to develop three million bold innovators and problemsolvers by 2060 to address Africa's greatest challenges and capture its greatest opportunities.

James joined Macalester's English department in 2007 and teaches creative writing, American literature, and advanced workshops. He has published four novels, including the Man Booker Prize-winning A Brief History of Seven Killings and Black Leopard, Red Wolf.

"All of us who are privileged enough to be healthy, to be alive, to have education, and to have influence: our role is not to do small things, and to solve small problems," Swaniker said at the TIME 100 Gala. "The only way that we can justify privilege is by solving the world's biggest problems, and by doing hard things."





# CATCHING EXTRA INNINGS

Back when Graham Low '19 (Piedmont, Calif.) **BASEBALL** was a first-year student, he thought about some big goals for his four years in Macalester's baseball program. Being named All-American was on the list for the team's catcher (and he checked that goal off in May). Playing professional baseball, though? He answers quickly: "I would've told you, 'No.' Right off the bat."

When Low joined the professional independent league Sioux Falls (S.D.) Canaries a few days after Commencement, it was the latest highlight in a college baseball career that first met and then wildly exceeded his expectations. He also didn't have any inkling that he'd be named the MIAC Max Molock Player of the Year his junior year—and then again in his senior year. It was the first time ever that a Mac baseball

player had received this accolade, let alone in back-to-back years, and Low is the first MIAC player to win the award in consecutive seasons since 2007. He led the MIAC in batting (with a .452 average), doubles (15), and on-base percentage (.537)—all while doing the physically taxing work of catching both games of almost every conference double-header.

Tired legs aside, he's excited for what's next this summer and grateful for his college experience: his teammates, Mac's strength and conditioning staff, and the chance to strengthen the baseball program. And along the way, another big goal became possible: "I never thought that professional baseball after college was an option, but over four years, it became more tangible," he says. "It's been a dream come true."



# CHAMPIONSHIP THREEPEAT

Forget about conference rivalries down the WATER POLO street. In Minnesota, Macalester has the state's only varsity water polo program, high school or college. The team's closest conference opponent, Carthage College, is more than six hours away.

But the distance—and all the car rides and time spent in airports that come with it—clearly hasn't been a barrier to success. In April, Macalester beat Austin College to bring home its third consecutive Collegiate Water Polo Association Division III championship.

After the championship, post-season accolades rolled in, including All-American honors for Lucille Moran '19 (Ann Arbor, Mich.) and All-American honorable mentions for Oriana Galasso '20 (Gresham, Ore.) and Cara Mullery '20 (Palmetto Bay, Fla.). Moran became the first four-time All-American in team history.

Because of all that travel, Mac's water polo players are used to

juggling logistics—and inevitably, sometimes rushing. Even their previous championships involved some scrambling, says Courtney Overland '19 (Honolulu, Hawaii): both wins happened in highstress overtime, and last year the team had to rush to the airport immediately afterward to catch the flight back home.

This championship, though, gave the team a rare gift: Up by a commanding three points with two minutes left, it dawned on Mac's athletes that there was no time for a comeback. Time seemed to slow down, and the mood in the water ebbed calm before turning into a jubilant celebration. Moran looked at the other seniors and realized it was the last time they'd be in the water together. As the clock ticked away the final seconds, goalkeeper Overland simply held the ball. "We were all just looking around the pool at each other," she says. "We got to soak it all in and realize, 'Wow, we did it again."

# 2019 ALUMNI AWARDS

Since 1949, Macalester has honored alumni who exemplify the Macalester spirit with the college's annual Alumni Awards. Today the Mac community celebrates the recipients at Reunion each June. Their graduation dates span 67 years, but their stories are woven together by a deep commitment to the college's values. Along their wildly varied paths, they've shaped lives, faced immense challenges, tackled complex problems, and changed the communities around them.

#### **Equal Justice Under Law**

That's been the wholehearted focus for the Honorable Michael J. Davis '69 in his role as a U.S. District Judge. In that role, Davis—this year's Catharine Lealtad Service to Society Award recipient-has strived to make the court system fairer to poor people and minorities, diversify the ranks of the federal court, and rebuild community trust in the justice system through inclusion. As Minnesota's first black federal judge, Davis created outreach programs to welcome the community into the courthouse and educate the public about historical events that shaped the laws we have in place today. He also created the first-ever Pro Se Project to assist those who cannot afford an attorney in navigating the federal court system. In his words: "We will always be dealing with issues of unfairness, bias, and prejudice, and so those are issues that I will always be a foot soldier fighting for."

"We will always be dealing with issues of unfairness, bias, and prejudice, and so those are issues that I will always be a foot soldier fighting for."

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL I. DAVIS '69

#### **Visionary Legacy**

As a general surgeon in 1950s Sierra Leone, Charles J. Turck Global Citizen Award recipient Lowell Gess '42 realized that his patients' visual needs exceeded his training—so he became the country's first ophthalmologist. In 1982, he and his late wife, Ruth, set up the Kissy UMC Eye Hospital, which later became an Ebola virus research and treatment hub. Through the decades, his work has served countless people—and yet one of his career's most pivotal discoveries only recently took shape. Though vision problems are a common post-Ebola complication, researchers learned that patients could harbor the virus in their eyes and had to determine how long the virus could linger. "The results were exactly what we'd been praying for," says Gess, who is based in Alexandria, Minn., and has traveled to Sierra Leone five times since 2016 for the project. "After 18 months, there were no viruses left. Those who had lost vision due to Ebola-complicated cataracts could now undergo surgery and regain vision. Our team has been actually doing cataract extractions, enabling adults to resume their occupations and for children to return to school again."





#### **Advocate for Immigrants**

In her senior year, Emma Mondadori '09 interned at the Advocates for Human Rights and unexpectedly found herself translating for undocumented immigrants in immigration court. Since then, she has dedicated her career to helping immigrants and refugees. For almost seven years at the International Rescue Committee in New York, she assisted immigrants with navigating the citizenship process, settling in the United States, and reconnecting with family members abroad. Among her proudest accomplishments there: witnessing people she'd shepherded all the way through from refugee status to becoming full-fledged U.S. citizens. In 2017, this year's Young Alumni Award recipient joined U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's staff as director of immigration and foreign affairs. "Whatever platform and resources I have just by virtue of sitting in this office," she says, "it feels really good to be able to use those to have some positive impact on people's lives."



"Whatever platform and resources I have just by virtue of sitting in this office, it feels really good to be able to use those to have some positive impact on people's lives."

-EMMA MONDADORI '09

#### Teaching by Example

Bob Rose '48 has always been a helper. Back in his college days, he remembers seeing "something on the bulletin board to help a student" with cerebral palsy. So he got in touch, recruited a dormmate, and for the next two years he excused himself early from classes every day to assist her around campus to attend her own classes. Rose went on to a long teaching career in Minneapolis schools, with a focus on helping students with disabilities. In the 1970s, he joined the Minneapolis teachers' union, which he later led as president. Now in his 90s, the Distinguished Citizen Award recipient still makes time to write and telephone his representatives to ask for increased special education funding. As his nominator wrote: "I don't know if anything could better embody the Macalester legacy."



#### **Dramatic Impact**

When W. Stuart McDowell '69 spent the summer of 1968 in Berlin, it changed his life. "I interviewed two actresses who played the first Mother Courage—a landmark production of Bertolt Brecht," he says. He later returned to Berlin as a Fulbright Scholar researching Brecht, continuing the focus of his Mac honors thesis. In February, he came full circle, directing Mother Courage for the first time in his life at Wright State University, where he chaired the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Motion Pictures for 22 years, and now is artistic director and the Frederick A. White Distinguished Professor of Professional Service. He and his wife, Gloria Skurski, also founded New York's Riverside Shakespeare Company, which he led for a decade. The Distinguished Citizen Award recipient's nominator writes: "Through his work as a dedicated, inspired, and inspiring teacher, Stuart has had an impact on the American theater that few have had."





#### **Elevating Sports Culture**

When his son started playing sports, James Thompson '71 was stunned by the negativity. He started coaching the team himself, "using relentless positivity, which worked like a charm," he says. "Kids tried harder and bounced back from mistakes, we won a lot, and parents asked how they could get their kids on my team." In 1998, he founded a national nonprofit, Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) to create "Better Athletes and Better People" through sports. Named a top nonprofit by The Nonprofit Times, PCA now has 18 chapters, hosted more than 3,000 live workshops last year alone, and has reached more than 10 million athletes. Based in San Jose, Calif., the Distinguished Citizen Award recipient is writing his 10th book, focusing on how coaches can use identity, character, and culture to create "Elevaters," people who look to elevate every situation.

#### From the Ground Up

"It's not that we have a broken mental health system," says Sue Abderholden '76. "It's that we never built one in the first place." For more than 17 years, Abderholden has endeavored to change that fact as the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Minnesota's executive director. Under her leadership, the chapter has grown extensively, and she's helped develop and fund new programs in suicide prevention, children's mental health, and outreach to diverse communities statewide. Among many bills she's worked on with state legislators was one making Minnesota the first state requiring teacher training to recognize early symptoms of mental illness. "One of my favorite quotes is, 'We make the road by walking," says the Distinguished Citizen Award recipient. "I use it all the time, to get people to think about making the world the way they want it to be."

> "It's not that we have a broken mental health system. It's that we never built one in the first place."

-SUE ABDERHOLDEN '76



"She makes a point to try and meet her patients where they are in their journey of life, and provide them with the support they need."

-MARC RODWOGIN '05

#### Global Health Dedication

A commitment to global health has taken Kristina Krohn '05 all over the world. After medical school, she worked with the World Health Organization in New Delhi and Geneva to advance global health messaging. She also served as Health Frontiers coordinator in Laos, where she worked with her Lao counterparts to organize a new emergency medicine residency program to help local patients get better care. Today the Distinguished Citizen Award recipient is an assistant professor and hospitalist in the University of Minnesota's Department of Medicine. Krohn speaks four languages conversationally-"my German classes were by far the most difficult classes for me at Macalester," she says—and is often able to welcome her patients in their mother tonque.



A decade after Broderick (Rick) Grubb '73 graduated, he joined a newly formed alumni committee. Little did he know that in the years that followed, he'd go on to serve in nearly every alumni volunteer leadership role possible. He has worked tirelessly to engage alumni on campus, in New Orleans, and worldwide through his roles on the Alumni Board, Reunion planning committees, and as an alumni chapter leader. And as former Alumni Board member Aramis Mendez '17 explains, this year's Alumni Service Award recipient is simply one of a kind: "He's proud to wear his passions, his thoughts, and most importantly his wit and humor, everywhere he goes. If every graduating class produces at least one Rick Grubb, my student loans are worth every penny in that gamble."



#### WHO SHOULD WE HONOR NEXT YEAR?

We're seeking your ideas especially for alumni celebrating milestone Reunions—and accepting 2020 nominations now.

More information:

macalester.edu/alumni/alumniawards

"If every graduating class produces at least one Rick Grubb, my student loans are worth every penny in that gamble."

-ARAMIS MENDEZ '17

Read more about this year's recipients: macalester.edu/alumni/alumniawards.







# FINDING HIS RHYTHM

Composer **Doug Little '91** discovers an affinity with traditional Cuban musical styles.

BY TED LEVENTHAL '91

ot many American musicians get recognized by locals on the streets of Havana, Cuba—but **Doug Little '91** of Minneapolis does. Little, who started his career playing jazz, has traveled regularly to Cuba over the past 15 years to study and perform traditional Cuban music and now is a minor celebrity of sorts, greeted by name in Havana's bars and cafes.

"I was there once with my girlfriend (now wife) and we were walking down the street, and someone was like, 'Oh! Hey! Douglas!' and it freaked her out," he says.

Most notably, his mastery of traditional Cuban music led to a 2015 invitation for his group, Charanga Tropical, to perform at the International Danzon Festival in Havana, the premier international Cuban music festival. The ensemble was the first American group ever invited to perform. The weeklong tour included performances in venues all across Havana and a recording session at the famous EGREM Areito Studios featured in the documentary Buena Vista Social Club. In the United States, Little has performed with major Cuban artists such as Tiempo Libre, Nachito Herrera, Chuchito Valdés, and Grammy winner Mayito Rivera.

At Macalester, Little majored in political science and French. He played in the Mac Jazz ensemble and expanded his jazz education by connecting with jazz musicians and educators around the Twin Cities. He has had a busy and varied musical career since graduation, performing in 37 states, Europe, and Asia, and has released several CDs.

By 2002, he was looking for a change. He won a travel and study grant from the Jerome Foundation, a St. Paul-based organization supporting young Minnesota artists, and set his eyes on Cuba. "I really liked the Buena Vista Social Club recording when that came out in the 1990s, and there was a lot of interest in Cuba," he says. "I got to pick where I wanted to study for two months, and thought Cuba would be a really interesting place to go."

Little was experimenting with Latin jazz styles and thought he'd continue in that genre in Cuba. "But then I was totally blown away and seduced by some of the pure Cuban musical styles," he says. He fell under the sway of Charanga, a percussive orchestral style originating with 18th- and early 19th-century French immigrants who fled to Cuba following slave rebellion and revolution in Haiti and Napoleon's sale of Louisiana to the United States.

The French settlers formed small musical groups with piano, flute, and violin—instruments not previously popular in Cuba—to perform popular chamber music styles, which were soon influenced by other music traditions in Cuba, particularly rhythms from Africa. Over the course of the 19th century, Charanga emerged.

"You hear Charanga in Cuba, but you don't hear it in the United States," Little says. "I got really interested in that and started playing a lot of flute." Little returned from Cuba captivated by Charanga and wanting more.

In 2005, he won a Minnesota State Arts Board grant and returned to Cuba for three more months of musical and cultural immersion. "I rented an apartment in Havana and studied with famous flute players, percussionists, and music historians, took salsa dance lessons every other day—the whole thing," he said. He came home with a stack of music and recordings and soon formed Charanga Tropical. "It's the most popular thing I've done," he says.

The invitation to play in Havana was the group's biggest break to date, and one of Little's biggest challenges. Little raised \$30,000 online to fund the tour and a recording session in Havana.

The festival ran eight days, with performances all over the city. "We played the grand, beautiful old Teatro America, we played a rural late-night party, we played a Cuban danzon dance competition, we performed on national radio, and that same week we recorded the CD," he says.

The repeated trips to Cuba have led Little to start a side gig: a tour company called Tesca Travel, through which he leads trips in Cuba for small groups and other American artists and musicians. He has also led tours for large organizations such as the American Composers Forum and the Chicago Children's Choir. "Now that I've both lived there and worked there as a musician, I have a pretty good idea of what a good itinerary would be for a week of arts and culture in Cuba," he says. "I just want to share that with people. It helps the music, and the music helps the tourism, and getting people there helps Cuba, and that helps the United States' relationship with Cuba.

"I'm combining all sorts of different things. I feel like now I'm the poster child for what a career in the liberal arts can look like."  $\blacksquare$ 



With a scientist's brain and a mother's determination. Lara Pullen '88 is uncovering a new treatment for a rare disease. "This was something I had to do for my son," says Lara Pullen, whose child Kian-now 15-was diagnosed at birth with Prader-Willi Syndrome, a complex genetic disorder.

e've all heard the story about the mother who, in an unbelievable feat of love and strength, lifted up a car to save a child who had been pinned underneath.

While Lara Pullen '88 hasn't lifted a two-ton vehicle, she's close to accomplishing the scientific equivalent. When her youngest child, Kian, now 15, was diagnosed at birth with Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS), a rare and complex genetic disorder, Pullen combined the forces of her love for her son and her scientific acumen to uncover a treatment that may forever change the way the disease is understood.

At Macalester, Pullen excelled at science. She studied biology under the mentorship of Kathy Parson and the late Jan Serie and won both a prestigious National Science Foundation undergraduate research fellowship to study neuroscience and later a Fulbright to study immunology in Germany in the lab of **Dolores Schendel '69**. Pullen earned a PhD in immunology at Northwestern University, where she met her future husband, fellow grad student L.J. Tan. Both Pullen and Tan did post-doctoral work at the University of Chicago.

Though she loved her work and was captivated by the thennew field of immunology, Pullen also always had dreamed of being a mother. After she and Tan married, Pullen quickly realized that raising children and maintaining a high-powered academic career seemed nearly impossible. "The expectation was that you spent 12 hours a day in the lab," she says. "In my mind it was incompatible with raising children the way I wanted to raise children."

And when she observed the field's standouts, the message was clear: "Most of the people who were working at the level I wanted to work at had a stay-at-home wife," she says. "I knew I was unlikely to get one of those."

Pullen stepped back from academia and took a job at the Environmental Protection Agency, where she worked as an environmental scientist and a risk assessor and could leave the office at 5 p.m. When her daughter, Jerica, was born, she began working as a freelance science writer. Tan also eventually left academia for many of the same reasons as Pullen, taking a less time-consuming job at the American Medical Association.

The next few years brought daughter Shira and son Kian. Kian's birth was uneventful, but within hours doctors noticed that the baby boy seemed listless. Then his blood sugar crashed.

During Kian's two-week NICU stay, the family's healthcare team diagnosed Kian with PWS. The news was devastating for Pullen and Tan—children with the disorder have weak muscle tone, feeding difficulties, poor growth, and delayed development. Many children with PWS also experience chronic episodes of insatiable hunger, leading in some cases to life-threatening obesity. There is no cure.

"No one should have to process what that's like," Pullen says of Kian's diagnosis. "It is one of those things that is so extraordinarily painful that you shouldn't have to go there mentally."

But Pullen says her sorrow quickly turned to determination. "On the drive home from the hospital I said to my husband, 'I will know every piece of science about this rare disease. I will know every researcher doing research. I will know everything about this as soon as the doctors do.' I vowed against hope that I would find a treatment that was far ahead of the curve."

#### Playing possum?

Thanks to his parents' focus on his care and help from a team of pediatric physical, occupational, developmental, and speech therapists, Kian became a healthy, happy boy. But when he was 11, the family's life took a sudden turn.

One day while Kian was attending a summer theater camp in a town near his family's hometown of Oak Park, Ill., Pullen's phone rang. Camp staff had found Kian sprawled on the ground in the bathroom, and couldn't wake him.

Though the EMTs weren't able to get Kian to respond either, in the ambulance Pullen was convinced that he was aware of what was happening. She talked to him, encouraging him to move a finger or toe to show he understood what she was saying. By the time they got to the hospital, she recalls, he could move his little toe.

Pullen sat with her son until he could move the rest of his body. Doctors sent him home that day with no diagnosis. A couple of days later, Kian was at home when he froze again. His parents drove him to the hospital, and again, he eventually regained the ability to move.

Pullen dove into the medical literature. She decided that Kian was likely experiencing a phenomenon called "tonic immobility," a fight-or-flight reaction somewhat like "playing possum"—where an individual freezes in response to stress and can't move. Eventually she uncovered research that linked the condition in humans to sleep disturbances.

Through online support networks, Pullen connected with other PWS parents who described their children's own periods of tonic immobility, though many had chalked them up to behavioral problems. Pullen dug deeper into the research and eventually learned that this "freezing" is called cataplexy. "It's another rare condition associated with narcolepsy," she explains.

It felt like an important discovery, but Pullen couldn't get anyone to pay attention. Only one person in the PWS community was beginning to study sleep, she explains: "Even though our kids are born sleepy and even though they are sleepy throughout their lives," the focus had always been on the insatiable hunger that was a PWS hallmark. She approached the major advocacy groups for support, but the response was muted.

Pullen arranged for her son to do a full sleep study at Boston Children's Hospital. The results were revealing. "Kian didn't have the typical profile of narcolepsy with cataplexy," she says. But the study did find that his sleep cycle was seriously impaired. An average person is supposed to have 22 percent REM sleep. Kian had just 4 percent REM sleep.

With more information in hand, Pullen discovered pitolisant, a promising drug developed to help people with narcolepsy reduce feelings of excessive daytime sleepiness. It had been recommended for approval in Europe. "It was still experimental," Pullen says, "but it had an excellent safety profile."

Once she identified a drug that might help her son, Pullen turned her focus to getting some for him. Thanks to serious campaigning on her part—and help from a few well-connected Macalester friends—she eventually got pitolisant for Kian.

When Kian started taking the drug, the changes were significant. "It not only got rid of the cataplexy, it addressed so many other symptoms of PWS that I never thought possible," Pullen says. "It was mind-blowing."

"ON THE DRIVE HOME FROM
THE HOSPITAL I SAID TO MY
HUSBAND, 'I WILL KNOW EVERY
PIECE OF SCIENCE ABOUT THIS
RARE DISEASE. I WILL KNOW
EVERY RESEARCHER DOING RESEARCH. I WILL KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS AS SOON
AS THE DOCTORS DO.' I VOWED
AGAINST HOPE THAT I WOULD
FIND A TREATMENT THAT WAS
FAR AHEAD OF THE CURVE."

-LARA PULLEN'88

#### Strong foundation

Pullen's next step was to help other children with PWS—not just kids with cataplexy—access pitolisant. She collaborated with Maria Picone, another PWS parent, who created software for a clinical trial. With Tan, Pullen and Picone launched the Chion Foundation, a nonprofit committed to improving the lives of families touched by PWS and other rare diseases.

Picone adapted the software so families could crowd-source their PWS experience, Pullen says. Under the Chion Foundation umbrella, the group convinced the FDA to agree to allow for personal importation of pitolisant so 10 test families could give it to their children. "We each have our own doctor who prescribes it," Pullen says. "We report our experiences in a systematic fashion online."

So far, the test group reports largely positive experiences with pitolisant. To make sure more families know about this option for their children with PWS, Pullen, Picone, and Tan published a set of patient-experience data this spring in the *Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology* and *Therapeutics*.

"That's a big deal," she says. "As far as I know, that's the first time a patient group has gotten together to repurpose a drug and published the results in peer-reviewed medical literature."

And the news keeps getting better: Pending FDA approval, pitolisant will likely be brought to market in the United States this year, Pullen says.

She's thrilled that her efforts and commitment are paying off. "I shifted the way we think about a rare disease from an endocrinology perspective to a neurology perspective," she says. "People are starting to make the shift to think that the actual cause of PWS might be different from what we've always thought it was."

It's a remarkable achievement—but Pullen likes to put it in perspective.

"This was something I had to do for my son," she says. "All parents would move mountains for their children. I just happen to have the background that was needed to get us this far."



# NEIGHBORHOOD

# Nostalgia



BY REBECCA DEJARLAIS ORTIZ '06

hen we asked readers about their favorite off-campus hangouts as students, they responded in droves, sharing vivid memories about the go-to spots for study sessions and study breaks. ("I can picture the interior like it was yesterday," wrote an alum about a popular '80s destination.) Alumni across six decades reminisced about egg rolls at the Phoenix, pineapple malts at Knowlton's Pizza, and calzones at Risimini's. We heard about music at the Turf Club, books at The Hungry Mind, and walks down Summit Avenue to the Mississippi River.

These places aren't part of any course catalog or transcript—and some of them are long gone, part of the neighborhood's layers of history. For countless alumni, though, they're part of the Macalester experience.

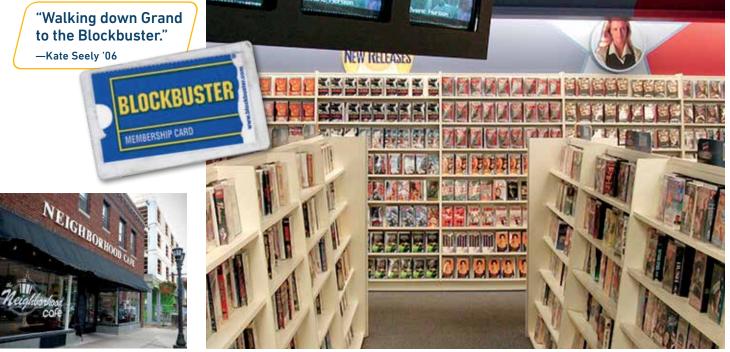




#### "Before the Green Mill became

a big chain, it was a hole-in-the-wall tavern for about 40 years. For decades of Mac students, the Mill was one of the most popular hangouts. We'd go down there on a weeknight instead of studying. On Thursday nights, they had a spaghetti feed: all-you-could-eat spaghetti and a pitcher of Grain Belt for 75 cents. I became the fifth member of a folk group on campus called Dewey Decimal and the Librarians. Bob Stimson '64 and Dave Howard '64 and Pete Malen '64 had a suite in Kirk Hall, and they let me sleep on their couch for a month while I looked for off-campus housing. They're the ones who took me down to the Mill. I was 21 at that point, but I'd order root beer. Finally I acquired a taste for regular lager. I blame it on Dewey Decimal and the Librarians."

-David Bloom '65



IOTO: DICK ANDER:



#### Gems You Loved

- Dunn Bros
- Grandview Theater
- Carmelo's "When we were really feeling fancy!" -Stephanie Davila '04
- Hungry Mind
- Neighborhood Cafe
- Laurie's Books
- The Uptowner "On early Thursday morn-

ings after a long night of Mac Weekly." - Jane Turk '02

- Groveland Tap
- Shish

"Studying there on weekends before the brunch rush." -Mollie Hudson '12

• Pad Thai

"My most essential off-campus restaurant." —Bernd Verst '09

- Italian Pie Shoppe
- Tea Garden

"Lots of study time drinking gallons of bubble tea-especially that taro lavender shake!" -Kirsten Wittkowski '10

• Zimmerman Dry Goods

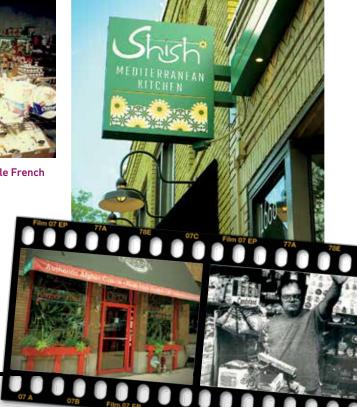
"The first thing I did when I arrived in Minnesota was buy a big, wool Italian Police coat at Zimmerman's for about \$25 that I continued to wear for many years." -Scott Fares '90

- Khyber Pass
- Spudzza Pizza

"Potato pizzas and foosball!" -Stephanie Davila '04

Raess Market: "Two sisters ran a little French grocery with great European candy." -Kate An Greenbaum Hunter '78





ROCKETMAN

Clockwise from top left:

Theater, Shish

Sencha Tea Bar, Dunn Bros,

Avalon, Pad Thai, Grandview



Like the generations that came before them, getting to know the neighborhood—and the metro area—is part of life at Mac for today's students. Exploring the Twin Cities is easier than ever, thanks to light rail that links downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul, in addition to the A-Line rapid transit bus service with a stop at Grand and Snelling. (The A-Line also stops at Allianz Field, the Major League Soccer stadium that opened a mile away from campus in April.) Plenty of bright new storefronts populate Mac-Groveland, mixed in with beloved neighborhood mainstays. Here are the spots current students named as their favorites:

Roots Roasting Avalon Blue Door Rose Street Patisserie Cahoots Coffee Sencha **Dunn Bros** Shish French Meadow Snuffy's

St. Paul Cheese Shop **Groveland Tap** Neighborhood Cafe Toppers Pizza Punch Pizza Zait and Zataar

**Quixotic Coffee** 







#### **Deutsches Haus**

#### Homecoming Special Saturday til 6 Happy Hour Mon. & Tues. 7 to 8 p.m.

bratwurst/hamburgers pool/bowling

Don Mullan Larry Ramsey U. of Kentucky, '61 lowa, '56 For all legal age Mac students

#### FLASH!! Our pizza prices have been overthrown!! Long live our new. LOWER PRICES!!

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across from the Health Service



OPEN 9 A.M. to 10:30 P.M. DAILY

#### LARRY'S DAIRY

Food for Your Weekend Meals and Goodies for Snacks While Studying

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MI 9-1144

Above: Ads from The Mac Weekly. Film strip, left to right: Groveland Tap, Hairy Larry in Larry's Dairy, Snuffy's Malt Shop, St. Paul Cheese Shop

#### Mac-Groveland Must-Haves and Memories

#### 1 RISIMINI'S

"Calzones at Risimini's and dessert at Cafe Latte—especially if parents were in town buying." —Kyra Ostendorf '95

#### **2** GRAND CAFE

"Loved their chicken gyros. Such nice owners, too."

-Kristin Johnson Anderson '93

"Forever missed for cheap pitchers and good fries." —Celi Clark Haga '99

#### 3 COFFEE NEWS

"Garlic fries."

-Kaylie Burns Gahagan '09

#### ST. CLAIR BROILER

"The Broiler for milkshakes." —Kiki Weingarten Condon '93

"I always ordered a patty melt and pecan pie."

-Mary Farquhar '78

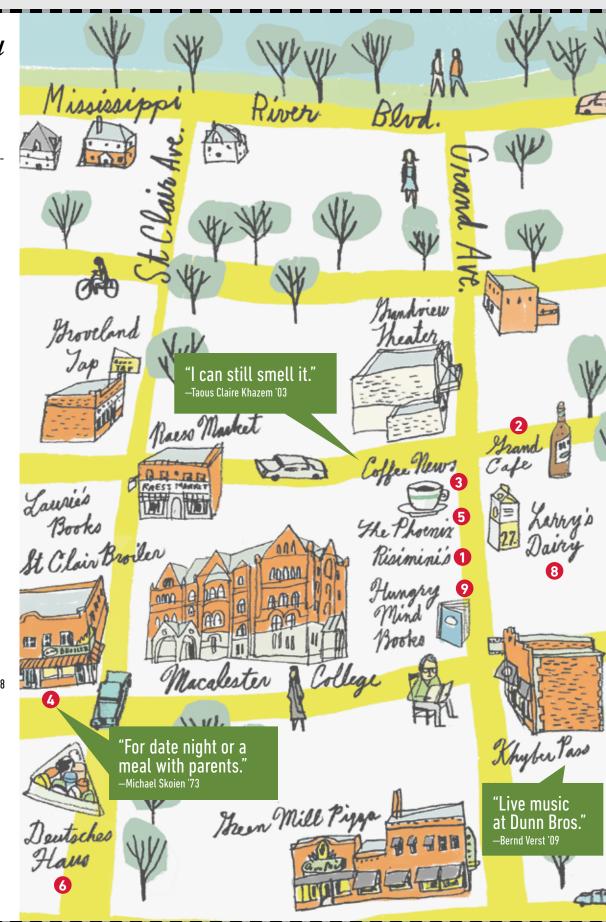
#### **5** THE PHOENIX

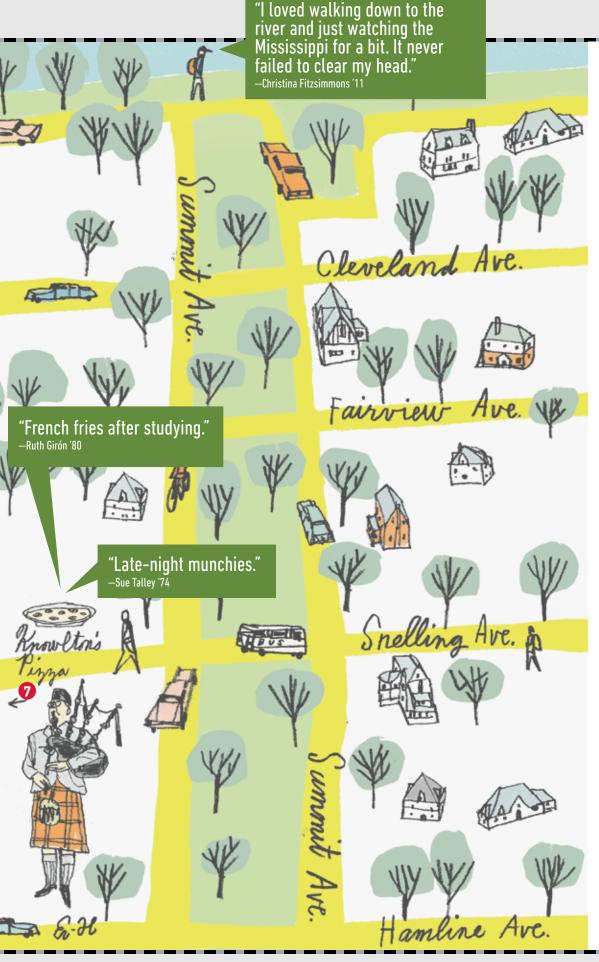
"My first Vietnamese egg roll a revelation!"

-Kate An Greenbaum Hunter '78

#### O DEUTSCHES HAUS

"I played a lot of pool at Deutsches Haus, a 3.2 bar with a great jukebox. I can picture the interior like it was yesterday."—Allen Smart '83





#### KNOWLTON'S PIZZA

"Everyone called it 'The Spoon,' short for Greasy Spoon. Officially it was called Knowlton's Pizza (Rich Knowlton was the proprietor), but I never ate pizza there. My friends and I went there really late at night—it was open until 3 or 4 a.m. Some people ate burgers. I was vegetarian but carbed out on hash browns."—Fran Lesicko '77 P'14

#### 8 LARRY'S

Also known as: Schroeder's Milk, Larry's Grocery, Hairy Larry's

"We bought groceries and snacks at a convenience store called Schroeder's Milk. It was across the street from the Hungry Mind, next door to what was then Cheapo Records and Waterbeds, a waterbed and used record store and head shop. Schroeder's was operated by a big guy named Larry, who was referred to as Hairy Larry, and the store as 'Hairy Larry's.' An older woman ran the register in the evening. Students all just referred to her as 'Ma Hairy Larry." -Fran Lesicko '77 P'14

"I was never sure if it was his mother or someone from the neighborhood."

-Ruth Girón '80

#### 7 TABLE OF CONTENTS

"It wasn't just a great place for food. It's also where many Mac grads (me included) started careers in food and wine." —Gabriel Key '96

# THE NEW RULES OF

BY KIM CATLEY

What's for dinner? Decades ago, it was an easier question to answer. But today, we're confronted with seemingly endless choices: for the diet we follow, the food we buy, where we buy it, and how we cook it.

Each choice hints at deeper questions: We might be able to eat everything our hearts, minds, and stomachs desire, but should we? If we're lucky enough to have endless choices, what is our responsibility to ensure others-in the neighboring community or across the globe-have the same? And how do we extend that access in a way that sustains and respects local food practices?

In response to growing interest in these sociological and ecological dimensions of food, Macalester has developed a concentration in Food, Agriculture, and Society.

The curriculum, which launched in 2017, emerged from a campus-wide discussion during the 2012 International Roundtable, which was focused on how best to feed the world sustainably in the 21st century. That year, student organizers took the signature event a step further by organizing a series of supplementary workshops that culminated in a call to action: they wanted the college to consider developing an academic program in the subject.

The concentration comprises a series of core courses, with a selection of complementary subjects-like ecology, sociology, environmental studies, and even food chemistry-that add interdisciplinary perspectives. For example, in "Economics of Global Food Problems," students use economics to understand agricultural production problems, household dynamics, and food security and insecurity. The curriculum culminates with an internship where students connect their academic work to practical situations at sites like community-supported agriculture farms, food shelves, and the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy.

"This [program] is an alternative model for education on food and society that's very interdisciplinary," says Bill Moseley, professor of geography and director of the Food, Agriculture, and Society program. "We're training a new generation of leaders to do groundbreaking research that hopefully changes the way farming is done in the U.S. and globally, but also grooming students who can be activists, and who have the policy analysis skills to work for political change."

Even before the program launched, Mac grads had been working in diverse food-related careers-from the Environmental Protection Agency and government think tanks to corporations such as Cargill and General Mills to international development agencies and environmentally conscious farms. We talked to a few of them about their experiences, and the principles they say can guide your own decisions about how and what to eat.

#### Know where your food comes from ...

"Identify countries of origin on labeling. The closer you get to home, the less of a carbon footprint you generally make. And you'll probably learn about new and different foods that can be produced in the place where you live." -AUDREY ARNER '73

A teacher once told Audrey Arner '73 that making sweeping changes is a bit like moving cattle. You have to go slowly, always guiding the cattle toward your intended target. Quicken the pace too much and they'll end up scattered all over the place.

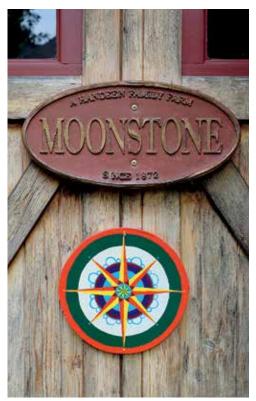
For Arner and Richard Handeen '73, that metaphor has shaped their vision for Moonstone Farm







Audrey Arner '73 and Richard Handeen '73 have grown Moonstone Farm into a biologically diverse polyculture of pastures and hayfields and a gathering place for a community, including many Mac friends and family.





since they took over Handeen's family land in 1973. They've gradually transitioned the farm from corn and soybean monocultures to a biologically diverse polyculture of pastures and hayfields for grass-fed cattle, timber, fruits, nuts, ornamentals, and medicinals.

"We have well-defined long-range goals that have driven our decision-making and the changes we implemented year to year," Arner says. "[They represent] our understanding of how ecosystem processes need to function healthfully long into the future to support production and quality of life for people who aren't yet walking the planet."

Arner and Handeen's plans have always centered on a commitment to growing food for people, and building community around food and farming. "When we got started, organic was a daunting concept to a lot of farmers, and the information stream

was very limited," Arner says. "It required the development of networks. Our circle of co-learners, both eaters and producers, has been a stronghold for us. Now I feel like we are among the most well-connected, local, organic, seasonal food eaters I know."

In recent years, Arner and Handeen have set their sights on a new goal: retiring and passing the torch to the next generation of regenerative farmers. Again, they're approaching the process incrementally and intentionally.

"We are working with some young, creative, hard-working partners who not only have a philosophical synchronicity with us, but also have a training period with information sharing," Arner says. "It has to work from all the dimensions of sustainability: their financial capacity, ecosystem integrity, and how the social dynamics work in their family and in the larger community."

#### ...AND ITS TRUE COST.

"The amount we pay on average for food, and the percentage of our income that we dedicate to food, has continuously gone down. But we are not paying the true cost. The food is too cheap because it excludes negative impacts on the environment. If you are in a privileged position, don't be afraid to pay more."

—SAEMI LEDERMANN '05, who teaches in the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University

Saemi Ledermann '05 has spent years studying agriculture, development policy, and sustainability in Africa—first as a triple major in political science, international studies, and geography at Mac, and then pursuing master's and doctoral degrees in geography. But Ledermann says his work promoting sustainable development in East Africa is most critical when conveying the nuances of agriculture and sustainable development to his graduate students.

"I try to relate with examples that I have from the field," he says. "As a geographer, the ability to connect to the local is paramount. Without an understanding of what people's lives look like, it's difficult to engage in research that is actually meaningful."

For more than five years, Ledermann did exactly that, working with a foundation to take a holistic approach to development. Specifically, Ledermann funded and later coordinated with the African research institute *icipe* to scale their integrated sustainable farming method, Push-Pull, which increases yields by controlling pests and weeds, retaining soil moisture, and improving soil fertility in an ecological way.

"Most of the interventions in conventional agricultural development are focused on increasing yield as quickly as possible without thinking about the longer term," Ledermann says. "Push-Pull can improve the soil health so farmers do not need to rely on fertilizer. It can also improve gender equality because most adopters are women. And, it even tackles climate change to some extent because, if they're not plowing their field, they're bringing carbon into the soil through their perennial crops."

Even as Ledermann has shifted to academia, his research continues to seek out long-term, holistic strategies for supporting development countries. Most recently, he's been analyzing the potential benefits and challenges of impact investments—investments that not only make money, but also have social and environmental benefits.

# Don't be afraid to ask a lot of questions.

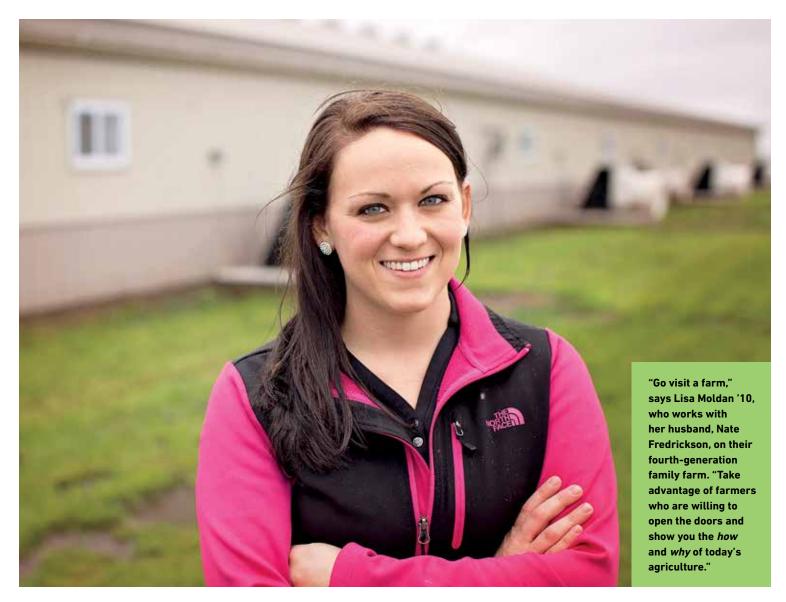
**Alex Park '09** is no stranger to questioning the relationship between food and culture. Since graduating from Macalester, he's worked as a researcher and journalist focusing on agricultural investment in Africa. His work has appeared in publications like The Washington Post, Mother Jones, and HuffPost.

Most recently, he's been working on a book about the rise of fast food in Africa and China. Fast-food restaurants are often welcomed by residents as heralding their country's arrival on the global stage. The repercussions, however, may run deeper than increases in rates of heart disease and diabetes. Park's reporting explores the impact of standardizing agriculture to focus on commodity crops like corn and soy. These crops

supply local meat producers whose products, in turn, supply fast-food companies. He also studies the relationship between multinational corporations and international development organizations like USAID in developing these local supply chains

As part of his reporting, Park has interviewed farmers, USAID contractors, government representatives, and fast-food workers. The conversations revealed complex cultural attitudes toward the presence of the companies.

"I talked to one [fast-food] employee outside of Shanghai, and it was the first time she had ever seen how working hard and being enthusiastic about her job could move her ahead in her career," Park says. "In typical Chinese companies, you got promoted through family connections and rubbing shoulders with the right people. But American companies represent something outside these traditions and values and hierarchies."







# Family-owned doesn't mean simple.

Don Mennel '68 is the fourth-generation leader of the family-owned Mennel Milling Company. Founded in Fostoria, Ohio, Mennel now spans six states and comprises six flour mills, 13 country grain elevators, three trucking companies, two bakery mix facilities, and a popcorn plant. We asked Mennel about the company's past, present, and future.

#### The family story

The Mennel Milling Company was founded in 1886. My great-grandfather was hired as the managing director and he and his sons bought it out in 1917 and changed the name. I took it over from my father in 1983. I had a good start and we grew the company significantly, expanding and building new facilities and increasing capability in research and development. Then my son took over about five years ago and has grown it even further.

#### Don's story

In a family business, it's good for the next generation to go out and get a job doing something else so that they can establish their self-confidence and knowledge. I started out as a school teacher and then I worked for a mobile home manufacturer in human resources. When my father bought a mill in Michigan, he asked me to come back and be the general manager [of that location]. It had actually been shut down, so it was a startup, all hands on deck. I did every job in the plant. I had to be a sponge, I had to learn from everybody, I had to listen, and I had to earn their respect.

#### The product

We make specialty cake flours that go into refrigerated cookie dough and cake mixes. The customers expect the product to be the same in every truckload. But each crop year is different, depending on the climate and the environment. Being able to blend the wheats and then blend the flours so that the uniformity of our product is the same every time is a really critical factor for us.

#### The challenges

The wheat milling industry has definitely been affected by the gluten-free movement. When we hear from customers [asking for a new product] often enough, we say, "Maybe that's something we ought to be doing." So we do the research and development to figure out how to best do it, and we invest in the equipment and install it so we can become operational. Our newest product is a popcorn flour; it's non-GMO, gluten-free, and very natural.

#### GO SEE A FARMER...

"I encourage anyone to drive an hour outside of the metro area and go visit a farm," says Lisa Moldan '10. "Take advantage of farmers who are willing to open the doors and show you the how and why of today's agriculture. We do things for a reason."

If you happen to take Moldan's advice and drive to Frederickson Farms just south of New Ulm, Minnesota, you'll want to get there early. At 6 a.m., you'll likely find Moldan and her husband, Nate, starting pig chores, followed by a day of farm improvement projects, fixing equipment, field work, and more. "Everywhere you look, there's work to be done!" she says.

While Moldan is deeply embedded in farm life now, in her high school

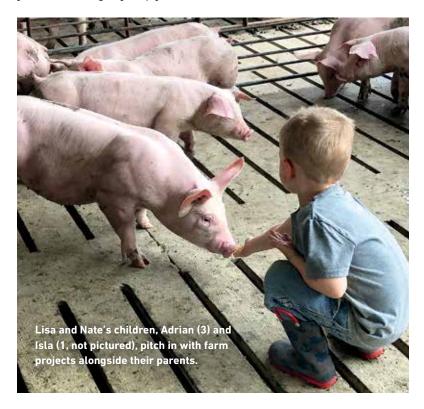


and college days, she assumed she'd live in the city. Right after graduating, she landed a position with Cargill's headquarters outside Minneapolis—a "dream job" for Moldan, who wanted to work in global trade. But a year later, when her now-husband invited her to join him on his fourth-generation family farm, she traded the city blocks for rows of corn and never looked back.

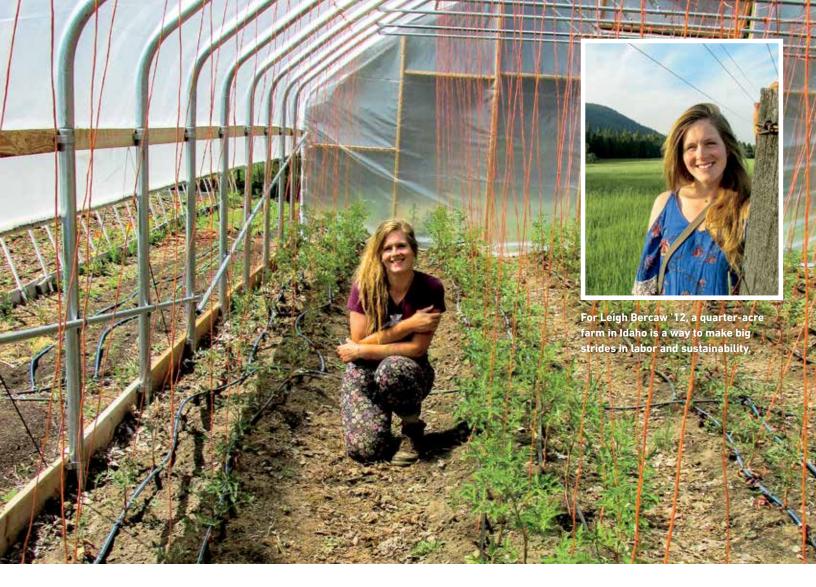
Even after the move, she spent a few years working as a grow-finish field representative for Wakefield Pork, where she supervised local con-

tract farmers and served as a liaison between the farmers and the company. She scaled back after welcoming her second child, but still works one day a week for Wakefield.

"It was fantastic to have that dual perspective," she says. "As a supervisor, I wore the company hat and said, 'This is what we're doing for pig care, antibiotic and vaccination management, this is what our stewardship looks like, here's how we're doing what's best for the pig.' And on the flip side of that, I know what the growers go through every day—all the work they're doing to produce safe, high-quality pork and feed the world."



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LISA MOLDAN '10



#### ...Or just look out your window.

When you think of a farm, you might picture cows grazing across acres of pastoral land, row after row of crops, or an orchard full of fruit trees. Leigh Bercaw '12 went for something a bit more compact. She started Blue Fingers Farm in her friend's backyard in Idaho—which totaled just a quarter-acre. Bercaw sees the tiny space as a way to make big strides in labor and sustainability. We asked her to tell us more.

#### The winding path to farming

After graduating, I taught English for a year in rural Tanzania with

a program called World Teach. I spent a lot of time talking to my neighbors—most of whom were subsistence agriculturalists—about their food system. I left that year thinking that the U.S. had some lessons to learn from a food system that was supported by a network of smallholder diversified farms.

That summer, I went home to Colorado and got a job as a farmhand on a nearby organic farm while I worked on grad school applications. That was a simultaneously brutal and rewarding experience. By October, the end of that growing season, I knew I was not going to grad school anytime soon. I was captivated by the process of growing food.



When I started my own farm, I set out to be as small as possible because my labor experiences on other farms left me with a stringent set of values. That involves fair paid labor, ecological sustainability, and a good livelihood for the farmer—a good lifestyle that doesn't destroy your body, or your family, or your pocketbook. The only way that I saw that as possible for me was on an extremely small scale.

That's why farming has been so intellectually challenging to me; over time I can control certain variables, and then start tweaking the system to produce more food at a competitive price.



#### On growing efficiently

Crop planning is key. My two big limiting factors are space and time, because we have a really short growing season in Idaho. I am very careful about what crops I grow and sell. I primarily grow crops that take a month from seed to harvest, and I specialize in tender, high-value restaurant produce like baby greens, herbs, and edible flowers.



EDITED BY REBECCA DEJARLAIS ORTIZ '06

merican Studies professor Duchess Harris is a scholar of contemporary African American history and political theory. In March, she sat down with President Brian Rosenberg in Washington, D.C., as part of the college's Big Questions event series. Their conversation-edited and condensed below-examined race, class, and the Me Too movement.

#### How did the Me Too movement actually begin?

People think actor Alyssa Milano started it by tweeting #metoo, but actually it was Tarana Burke, an African American woman from the Bronx. In 1997, when a young black girl told her about being mistreated, Burke-also a survivor-regretted not responding, "Me, too." After that, Burke set up a MySpace page for survivors called Me Too. She did all the work on the ground-but it's different if you have a working-class background, if you don't have certain social networks. When Alyssa Milano found out about Tarana Burke, Alyssa apologized and said she wasn't trying to take credit for what's been going on for more than a decade.

Before Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation hearing in 2018, there was Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill. What did people not understand about Anita Hill?

In 1991, we didn't have any language. No one knew how to talk about sexual harassment and we didn't understand it. People didn't understand why she didn't come forward—everyone said if it were true she would have reported Clarence Thomas herself. People said, "She must want to undermine him." People said that she had a civil rights agenda because she was African American, but actually her politics were very similar to his. She was not radically left; she was very religious and very conservative.

#### How does race and class figure into Me Too?

Part of it is the politics of Western beauty. With Anita Hill, people said that she wasn't attractive enough to be sexually harassed. They were also saying she probably made it up because, God forbid, she was single. What Alyssa Milano realized is that people were hearing her because she had the Hollywood look and a lot of money.

#### Regarding Me Too and the issue of sexual harassment and assault: Are we on a trajectory that leads you to be optimistic, or are we going in circles?

I'm optimistic because of what is happening in middle schools and high schools. Twenty years ago, you couldn't really have these conversations. I think that 10 years from now young people will come to college and say, "We learned about that; we've had a conversation about that."

#### How do you see this play out on a college campus?

These are 18- to 22-year-olds, and the whole idea of what con-



sent is is really messy—it's messy even for older adults. I think that a lot of students struggle with what harassment or assault is. And if you are convinced that you've experienced it, then do you tell people? That's one of the issues that's still real: figuring it out, then figuring out what you should do with it.

## How do you assess the effectiveness with which college campuses, including our own, are dealing with this issue?

I think it's difficult. A few years ago, faculty were put in the position where if someone shares something with you, you're required to report it. I understand that—and I understand the legal implications of keeping something like that private—but I think it makes it difficult because students know that as well. Sometimes students want to talk about it, but they're not ready to report it.

# You've written a book series about race and gender, aimed at a younger audience. What's it like to move into this world where you're trying to speak about the same sorts of complexities but in a different voice to a younger audience?

I tell people that I'll ask my colleagues in math if they've ever had a student who didn't take pre-calculus or calculus in high school, and they'll say. "Of course not." And then I say that I've never had a student who understood anything about what African Americans were doing during World War II. Ever. The books

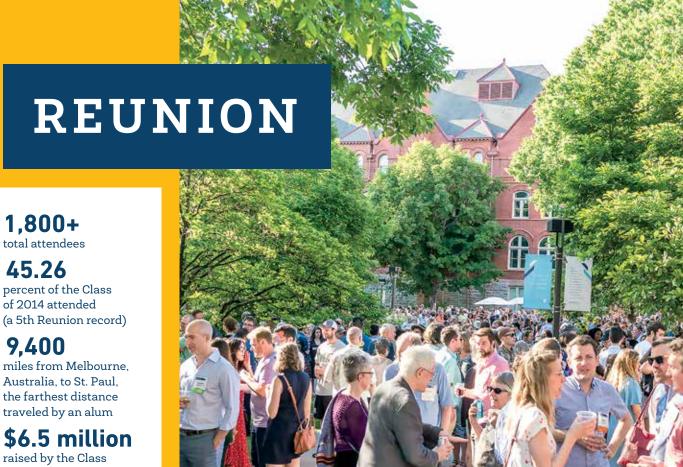
are 112 pages long, written at an eighth-grade level. That's one undergraduate assignment. It gets my students where I need them to be, so we can take it to the next level. My vision is that, sometime before I retire, I'll have a student who says, "I read your work in high school." If anyone could show up just having the basics, it would mean so much.

#### Have you gotten hate mail?

My first hate mail was in 2015, when I published my first book for young people. It was about Black Lives Matter, and people were like. "We will not stand for this."

# Minnesota has some of the country's most dramatic race-based disparities. I've always found white people in Minnesota deeply reluctant to have that conversation. How do you get your students to have those conversations?

I open it up and say what it's going to be. A lot of faculty members are challenged to have trigger warnings, and I say, "This whole class is a trigger every single day, so there's no need for me to even put that on [a syllabus]." I talk about how we're going to treat each other. I say that they're not here to agree with each other or with me—but we're going to do this with respect. I remind them that it's fine to be upset, but we're going to try to have a constructive dialogue. And then I explain to them that this is the skill set they need. When you graduate from Macalester, if you can do this, then you're going to be okay.



1,800+

45.26

of 2014 attended (a 5th Reunion record)

9,400

miles from Melbourne, Australia, to St. Paul, the farthest distance traveled by an alum

#### \$6.5 million

raised by the Class of 1969, a new record

100+

alumni served on Reunion committees

#### 80th

Reunion (and a standing ovation) for Frances Tripp Bell '39













In case you missed it... REUNION IS HERE! This will likely be the first of many #heymac appreciation posts. #macalesteriswonderful #askmeaboutalumniengagement



Merriam-Webster defines Réunion as an island of the western Mascarene Islands and overseas department of France in the western Indian Ocean.I'm thrilled that I got to celebrate a different kind of reunion with so many people I love, pictured or otherwise! #heymac

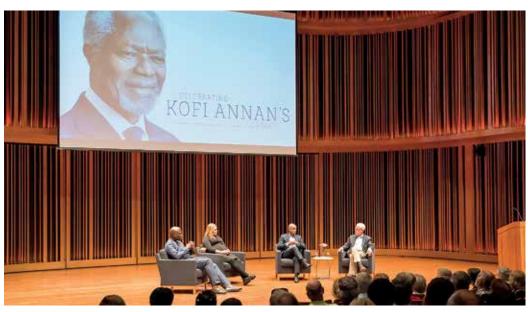








CO 1
Alumni of Color Intergenerational group brainstorming and discussing ideas to contribute to future art work to commemorate and celebrate students of color, past, present, and future. #heymac #AoC #reunion2019 #EEO







"When you have the good fortune to be part of a community like this ... that is something really precious. So hold onto it." —President Brian Rosenberg



View more photos from the weekend—and learn how to get involved with Reunion 2020 planning: macalester.edu/reunion

# CLASS NOTES

#### 1967

Professional flutist **Richard Mayer** has been performing and recording since 1989 with his wife, Norma, who is an operatic soprano. In 2003, they founded Opera-Essence Performances, a nonprofit organization that presents staged musical events and opera workshops in the United States and Europe. Richard and Norma have also made available their recordings of over 600 musical pieces on YouTube and Bandcamp.

#### 1970

The Class of 1970 will celebrate its 50th Reunion June 5–7, 2020.

Paul Sherburne of St. Paul retired on April 1, 2014, after a 40-year career in international relations. After serving as program director and executive director of the World Press Institute, Paul was appointed the first executive director of the Traveller's Society, a Minneapolis-based travel exchange program. He also worked for three years as an international consultant and was the initial executive director of the Japan Society of Minnesota. Paul spent the last 17 years of his career as international marketing manager for Explore Minnesota Tourism, traveling on behalf of the Minnesota state tourism office to foreign markets, including Japan, China, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

#### YOUR CLASSMATES LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Share your story and send us your class note via email (mactoday@macalester.edu) or mail (Class Notes Editor, Communications and Marketing, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899).

**CLASS NOTES PHOTO POLICY:** We welcome photos of alumni gathered together anywhere in the world. Photos must be high-resolution, approximately 2MB or larger in file size. If you have a question about your class note, call Editor Rebecca DeJarlais Ortiz at 651-696-6123.

#### 1972

Nancy Havernick closed her practice in child neurology at the end of 2017. She continued her part-time association with the neurology department of Upstate Medical University through June 2018, then retired. She is preparing to move to Israel with her husband, where they will join their daughters and their families.

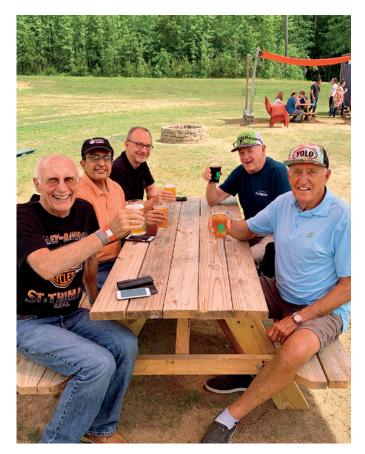
Raymond Runyan received the 2019 Markwald Award at the Weinstein Cardiovascular Development and Regeneration Conference. He was recognized for his contributions to the understanding of heart development and his dedication to the conference community.

#### 1973

R. W. Haynes is the author of two poetry collections, Laredo Light (Cyberwit) and Let the Whales Escape (Finishing Line Press). He has been a professor of English at Texas A&M



From left: Beth Miller '10, Demoya Gordon '06, and Philippe Knab '02 work at the New York City Commission on Human Rights.



With more than 130 years of teaching in the Economics Department among them, five former professors (from left: Tom Simpson, Vasant Sukhatme, Todd Petzel, Paul Aslanian, and Karl Egge) raised a glass to Dear Old Macalester when they gathered recently in Georgia.

International University since 1992.

Anthony Smith has been named president of the American Council of Academic Plastic Surgeons. He is a hand surgeon and the director of the plastic surgery residency program at Mayo Clinic Arizona. He often reminisces about Macalester with Karin Parrett '91, who is a physician's assistant in cardiothoracic surgery at Mayo.

#### 1975

The Class of 1975 will celebrate its 45th Reunion June 5–7. 2020.

Pat Thiel has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and of Materials Science & Engineering, at Iowa State University, as well as a scientist in the Ames Laboratory. She conducts research into atomicscale structures and processes on surfaces, related to topics in materials and nanoscience.

#### 1980

The Class of 1980 will celebrate its 40th Reunion June 5–7, 2020.



A group of Macites gathered recently in Palm Springs. Standing from left: Dave Berg '69, Lou Schatz '69 Lynn Berg, Karen Jordan '69, and Jim Jordan '69. Sitting from left: Jim Schatz '68, Dick Anderson '68, Laurie Anderson '69, Bill Harper, and Mary Harper '68.

#### 1983

After more than 21 years in the San Francisco Bay Area, Michael Dickens and his wife, Jodi Williamschen, moved to Mount Rainier, Md., in May 2017. Michael is a contributing editor for Tennis TourTalk, an Englishlanguage tennis website based in Germany. He also guides public tours as a docent at the Library of Congress and has spent the past nine years writing about such topics as sports, music, and urban travel on his blog, A Tuesday Night Memo (tuesdaynightmemo.blogspot. com).

#### 1985

The Class of 1985 will celebrate its 35th Reunion June 5-7, 2020.

**Darcy Berus** graduated from Hamline University with a master's degree in nonprofit management this past May.

#### 1990

The Class of 1990 will celebrate its 30th Reunion June 5-7, 2020.

#### 1992

Scott Spencer has been appointed assistant professor of musicology (world music) at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music.

#### 1995

The Class of 1995 will celebrate its 25th Reunion June 5–7, 2020.

#### 1999

After six years with the Minnesota Department of Education under Gov. Mark Dayton, **Josh Collins** is now doing direct communications work for the Roseville Area School District.

Elyssa McIntyre is helping organize a campaign to move the public schools in Wayzata, Minn., to 100 percent clean energy consumption.

#### 2000

The Class of 2000 will celebrate its 20th Reunion June 5-7, 2020.

#### 2005

The Class of 2005 will celebrate its 15th Reunion June 5-7, 2020.

Erik Hankin and his wife. Kathy, welcomed their first child, Lukas Eiler Hankin, on June 21, 2018. Erik has been promoted to executive manager for centennial programs at the American Geophysical Union in Washington, D.C. He has worked there since 2011.

#### 2006

Diana and Ted Clement announced the birth of a daughter. Alice Merrell Clement, on Feb. 19, 2019. Alice joins big brother David.

Kate Ayer Seely was diagnosed with a meningioma in early May and underwent successful surgery the following week to remove the tumor from the covering of her brain. She is recovering at home with her family in North Carolina and is doing well.

#### 2009

Anna Min was named Twin Cities Quorum's Business Leader of the Year in April. She also served as a judge for the 2019 Congressional Art Competition and received a Business of Pride Award from the Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal in June 2018.

#### 2010

The Class of 2010 will celebrate its 10th Reunion June 5-7, 2020.

Laura Eash moved in June to Canberra, Australia, She would like to get in touch with Macites with ties to Australia.

#### 2012

Andrew Ojeda has joined the Atlanta office of Slalom as an analytics and data visualization consultant.

> Continued on page 43



When Marjorie Witherspoon Frost '51 celebrated her 90th birthday, several Macites were among hundreds of well-wishers at the Red Wing, Minn., party. From left: Harris Waller '57, Nancy Knauff Waller '57, Marjorie, David Foster '67, and Barbara Anderson Tittle '53.

## WHAT I WISH I WOULD'VE KNOWN WHEN I GRADUATED

"I wish I would have known how important it is to follow your passions and not settle for a career path just to make money. I was in a career for 13 years before I finally had the courage to leave that pathway and start my own business, doing things that feed my soul." —Kathy Wells Paauw '81

"It's very easy to drift blindly. That is how a lot of people get by. If you are not careful, you will, too." —Henry Zuo '17

"The only person putting pressure on me to go to graduate school was myself." —Meggie Royer '17

"How to live financially in the real world." —Jean McCord '65

"That the journey ahead would be rough, but not undoable. To keep going, and to be as tender and forgiving as possible with myself and others along the way. Because we all deserve the opportunity to learn who we are and what is possible for us, and we should not make this process any harder for ourselves and others than it has to be." -Nola Pastor '14

"With more years behind me than ahead of me, I would suggest embracing an attitude of gratitude in everything I do." -Bruce Armstrong '79

"Wish I would have known you don't have to have graduate plans, or even a job when you graduate. Those things have literally nothing to do with what you end up doing 20 years later, which is creating your dream life, with hidden skills you didn't know you had (and yes, going back to grad school at 36 with two small kids!). -Elizabeth **Doherty Thomas '98** 

"There's so much more to learn (about yourself, too)." -Matt Patton '06

#### **NOW TELL US:**

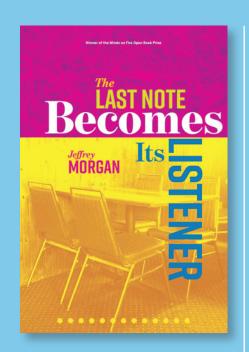
What piece of classroom wisdom from a professor do you carry with you?

Send your answer via Twitter (#heymac), email (mactoday@macalester. edu), or mail (Macalester Today, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105).

#### JEFFREY MORGAN '98

The Last Note Becomes Its Listener

(Conduit Books & Ephemera, 2019)



#### "Origins of The Roman Empire"

You get numb to the pleasure but never the disappointment, so says the sunlight in August,

filtered through wildfire smoke that hangs

like cloth in a church no one bothers to clean, a ceremony that may have started already.

This is the month named after Augustus Caesar

who banished his only daughter

Julia to a rocky island for having sex out of wedlock,

chose empire over daughter, dictated his own accomplishments

to be chiseled on his tomb, for whatever reasons

men do that—am I doing that? Probably

Augustus never made his daughter waffles from scratch,

bought the expensive syrup,

stayed home for years, sometimes thought less of himself

in his empire of boredom, how love is about boredom,

how you can turn your back to the sun,

but then your shadow shows up in front of you like a hole

you never stop falling into and crawling out of.

Already today I have unbanished myself

so many times it's like I never left.

Tonight I will sing her favorite song about a fox that holds in its teeth what the moon helps it find.



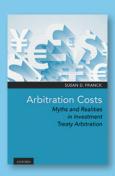
Chris Birt '84, Awareness Without Advertising: Making Buzz That Brands, Bravely (independently published, 2019)

Michael Dapper '80 with Lee Klancher, Victory Motorcycles 1998-2017: The Complete History of an American Original (Octane Press, 2018)

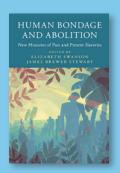
**Susan Franck '93**, Arbitration Costs (Oxford University Press, 2019)

Janet Wykes Moore '61, Moose, Baseball and a Friend Named Dutch (Outskirts Press, 2016)

Jeffrey Morgan '98, The Last Note Becomes Its Listener (Conduit Books & Ephemera, 2019)



James Stewart, emeritus professor of history, with Elizabeth Swanson, *Human Bondage and Abolition*:



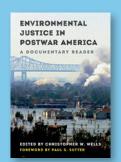
New Histories of Past and Present Slaveries (Cambridge University Press, 2018)

Yue-Him Tam, professor of history, with Yan-Jun Yang, Unit 731: Laboratory of the Devil, Auschwitz of the East (Japanese Biological Warfare in China 1933-45) (Fonthill Media, 2018)

**Karin Vélez**, assistant professor of history, *The Miraculous Flying House of Loreto: Spreading Catholicism in the Early Modern World* (Princeton University Press, 2019)

Christopher Wells, associate professor of history, Environmental Justice in Postwar America: A Documentary Reader (University of Washington Press, 2018)

Brent K.S. Woodfill '99, War in the Land of True Peace: The Fight for Maya Sacred Places (University of Oklahoma Press, 2019)



#### WEDDINGS





- 1. Jeremy Kurtz '86 and Ronald Bauer were married Jan. 18, 2019, at Minneapolis City Hall, exactly 10 years after they first met. Mac alumni attending included Marc Purintun '85, Julia Weinstein Wolfe '86, and Tom Moberg '86.
- 2. Emily Humphreys '13 and Forest Schenck '13 were married on Sept. 22, 2018, in Annisquam, Mass.
- 3. Krasi Tomov '10 married Julia Masleva Tomova in Bulgaria on June 7, 2018, joined by many Mac friends.
- 4. Shekinah R. Stewart '99 married Paul J. Harvieux on Sept. 29, 2017, in Grant, Minn. They were joined by Dameun Strange '95, Chris Chang '99, Jessica Blythe Phetvorasack '99, and Nicole Kanne '99.
- 5. Erika Weimann '14 married Eric Polack on Feb. 23, 2019. Veronika Jakubovie '14, Emma Leyden '14, Annie Drabot '15, and Kathryn Medinger '14 celebrated with them.
- 6. Dale Dybvig '11 and Eliza Leahy '12 were married on June 16, 2018, in Houlton, Wis., surrounded by many Mac friends.









## CAREER CONNECTIONS

Forming Mac Clubs for wherever you are, whatever field you're in: that's this year's top focus for the Alumni Board working group Macalester Career Connections. Our hope is to have alumni launching Mac Clubs in companies, nonprofits, and regionally with alumni in similar professions. The goal: foster more Mac connections in the workplace.

United by a focus on helping alumni get more out of their careers and find jobs they love, the working group includes chair Kate Agnew '11, incoming chair Niloy Ray '99, past chair Deb Broberg '82, Ezequiel Jimenez Martinez '13, Darrel Gubrud '56. Kaarin Khandelwal '20. Andrew Kaufteil '01. Alex Horn '11. Ken Iosso '87, Jennifer Gobel '81, Firat Taydas '92, Molly Thorsen Connolly '92, and Fatiya Kedir '21. On campus, the group works closely with Career Exploration (formerly Mac's Career Development Center) and the college's entrepreneurship program to create opportunities for alumni to engage with current students and leverage Mac resources, regardless of when they graduated.

#### Ways to Get Involved

- · Update your professional information in MacDirect, the college's online alumni community: macdirect. macalester.edu.
- In MacDirect, you can also sign up to be a Career Helper, to indicate to alumni and current students that you're interested in networking.
- . If you are interested in joining or starting a Mac Club, either at your workplace or in your career pathway, watch for more information or help guide the process by sharing ideas with associate director of alumni engagement Erin Updike: eupdike@macalester.edu.

### **OUR MACALESTER MOMENTS**

"A few months ago, I represented Amnesty International in the annual meeting of more than 120 states' members to the International Criminal Court in The Haque. In awe of such a privileged position, I reflected on why I cared about issues of human rights accountability and why I was able to contribute my small part to such an important meeting.

The primal moment when I was compelled to know everything about the International Criminal Court occurred when two separate essay assignments-one from David Blaney and one from James von Geldernchallenged me in my junior year to find an example that explained how international human rights law influences norm-abiding state behavior, even in times of turmoil. In my research, I stumbled across a quote from Kofi Annan from 1998 in Rome telling the world about the Court's establishment. Sitting in The Hague as the Court commemorated its 20th anniversary, the President of the Judges read that same quote from Kofi. Macalester all over again. Without Macalester, I would have never been able to witness history in the making, much less play a part in it." - Ezeguiel Jimenez Martinez '13

"I had been unexpectedly unemployed for about three months when I ran into Mark Abbott '96 at a Twin Cities event. I had cold-emailed him four years prior and we never ended up connecting, but somehow he remembered my name. I described the type of role I was looking for, and Mark thought of another Mac grad, Heather Mickman '96, who was hiring. She happened to arrive at the same event about 15 minutes later, and after I suggested which donut shop to buy her son's birthday donuts from, we scheduled a lunch to talk more. Three weeks later, I joined Optum and have been on her team ever since. I absolutely love the work I do and the team I'm on, and I'm so happy my Mac network helped me find this opportunity!" -Kate Agnew '11

"Geography fascinated me from an early age. At five, I memorized the world's countries and capitals with my father; at 15, I watched the last divided capital in the world unite as the Berlin Wall fell. Then, as a Mac freshman over dinner in Kagin, I was shocked to learn there's yet another capital split in half, forming a country I didn't even know existed. 'Nicosia has a wall running through it?' I ask. 'Yes,' says the Turk next to me. 'Yes,' echoes the Cypriot to my right. The Greek just nods, while the Northern Cypriot across the dining table starts educating me about life past the Green Line...because that indelible moment is Mac's quintessence, our identity, and the Macalester way: giving the curious from every country, every corner, an opportunity to break bread, break protocol, and erode the boundaries that lie beyond." -Niloy Ray '99

> Continued from page 38

#### 2012

Eve Woogen looks forward to pursuing an Ed.M. in international education policy at the Harvard Graduate School of Education during the 2019-20 academic year. She received the school's Urban Scholar Award, which is intended to attract and reward graduate students committed to the improvement of urban education.

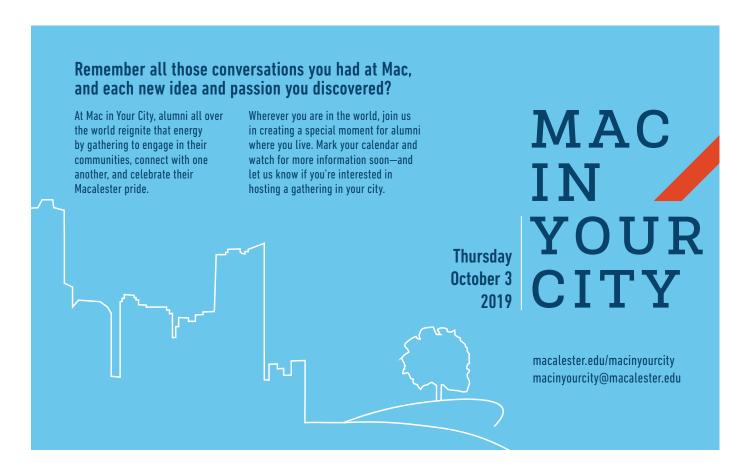
#### 2015

The Class of 2015 will celebrate its 5th Reunion June 5–7, 2020.

Tiffani Turinski graduated from the University of Wisconsin– Madison this past May as a doctor of veterinary medicine. She planned to move to Vancouver, Wash., to begin a career with the U.S. Public Health Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety Inspection Service.



Former Turck 4 floormates Josh Conlan '17 (left) and Dan Klonowski '17 reconnected in May in Dallas. Dan is a teacher and Josh works in a rotational program with Amazon that has sent him to Minnesota, Kentucky, California, and now Texas.



## SHAKING THINGS UP

Last year, Maureen Acosta, John Gnagy, and Sue Gnagy volunteered to lead the Class of 1969's gift committee to honor their Mac experiences of broadened perspectives, international spirit, and lifelong friendships. As the three co-chairs reconnected with classmates, they noticed everyone was thinking about the next chapter and realizing how Macalester continues to be part of their worldview. "We're all making serious decisions about the next 20 years," Sue says. "We talked with people about our Macalester roots and how that core mission has stayed with us."

"Those values will shape the years ahead, when we have more time to do what we really want to do," John says. "For many of us, that means getting involved in our communities and giving back. Those conversations led right to how we can support Mac."

This summer, the Class of 1969 set a new record and created a legacy. By raising a \$6.5 million Reunion gift, the class exceeded its own fundraising goal by more than \$2.5 million and surged past the Class of 1957's previous 50th Reunion record by more than \$1.5 million. Their generosity will provide crucial support for both current and future students through the Macalester Fund and planned gifts. Each year, Reunion gifts across all classes represent 20 percent of total Macalester Fund donations.

Just as meaningful as presenting the final check to President Rosenberg at Reunion, the co-chairs say, was the cumulative effort—including campus visits, many calls with classmates, and



meetings with fellow committee members Charlie Bartz, David Livdahl, John Latham, Rod Mackenzie, Stephen Pierce, Dick Pyle, and Jerry Straks. The collective result was remarkable—by Reunion weekend, 246 classmates had supported the gift. "I learned how generous my classmates are," Maureen says. "What our class did is really astounding. We shook things up in '69, and we're still shaking things up today."



Former Mac football teammates Frank Ross '97 and Andrew Borene '98 reconnected at General Mills headquarters for a board meeting. Both are members of the advisory board for the Cyber Security Summit, a Twin Cities-based leadership consortium that brings together industry, government, and academic interests to improve the state of cybersecurity.

#### 1938

Marjorie Hedtke Durand, 102, died April 28, 2019. She worked for the Department of Public Relief in Minneapolis, served with the American Red Cross in Texas and England during World War II, and taught in the Lamphere School District for 17 years. Durand is survived by a daughter, a son, three grandchildren, and a greatgrandchild.

#### 1942

Virginia Leach Mouw, 97, died March 22, 2019. She did flight control work with the U.S. Navy during World War II and taught speech at Mid-Pacific Institute in Hawaii. Mouw later taught in public schools in Louisiana and directed the speech and hearing clinic at Southeastern Louisiana University.

#### 1944

Robert K. Hood, 94, died March 24, 2018, in Medford, Ore, He

served during World War II as a navigator in the Pacific Theater. During a career in the forest products industry, Hood worked in the Pacific Northwest and Melbourne, Australia, for Timber Products, Boise Cascade, and International Paper. He is survived by two daughters, a son, and seven grandchildren.

Delores Nelson Richter, 95, of Evansville, Minn., died March 3, 2019. After earning a degree as a registered laboratory and X-ray technician, she worked in several doctors' offices in St. Paul. She later joined her husband in a woodworking business and sold their wares at craft shows around the Twin Cities

#### 1945

Beuna May "Vicky" Victor Carlson, 95, of Chisago City, Minn., died April 26, 2019. She worked in the Minneapolis mayor's office, for the Minnesota Legislature, and for Minnesota Gov.

Elmer Andersen. Carlson is survived by a daughter, three sons, and four grandchildren.

#### 1947

Mary Justice Dobie, 93, died April 21, 2019, in St. Peter, Minn. She is survived by a daughter, a son, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Shirley Strom Hooker, 89, of Minneapolis died Oct. 14, 2016. She is survived by three daughters, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

#### 1948

Robert J. Brummond, 94, of Fargo, N.D., died March 27, 2019. He was an Army veteran who fought in both Battles of the Bulge during World War II. After working as a teacher and high school principal, Brummond joined the physics department at Concordia College, where he taught physics, earth sciences, and astronomy for 35 years. He also facilitated Operation Physics workshops for elementary and middle school teachers. Brummond retired in 1990. He is survived by his wife, Joyce, daughter Janice Brummond '77, a son, a sister, and a brother.

Richard B. Dierenfield, 96, of Eagan, Minn., died March 30. 2019. He served in the Pacific Theater during World War II as an aerial photographer with the Army Air Corps. He taught in Macalester's economics and education departments for many years, eventually becoming a full professor and department chair. Dierenfield wrote two books (as well as numerous monographs and articles) and directed Macalester's Evening College and master's program in education. He retired in 1988. Dierenfield is survived by two sons, four grandchildren (including William Dierenfield '13), and brother Charles Dierenfield '50.

Phyllis Straube Landstrom, 92, died March 16, 2019. She



# ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATIONS

# Think about your Mac network

Who exemplifies Mac's values of internationalism, multiculturalism, and service to society?

Help us celebrate our alumni. Each year, Macalester honors graduates with Alumni Awards—and nominations are now open for 2020.

To learn more about how to nominate a friend or classmate—especially in honor of an upcoming milestone Reunion—visit macalester.edu/alumni/alumniawards or email alumnioffice@macalester.edu. The nomination deadline is Aug. 26.

#### IN MEMORIAM

worked for 37 years as a teacher. Landstrom is survived by two daughters, two sons, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

#### 1949

Betty Woelk Lincoln, 93, died April 25, 2019. She began working in the main library of the State University of New York at Binghamton in 1966 and retired as a full librarian in 1991. Lincoln was the author of the scholarly book Festschriften in Art History, 1960-1975. She is survived by her husband, Harry Lincoln '44, two daughters (including Nancy Lincoln '75), son Thomas Lincoln '73, and four grandchildren.

Faye Finch Peterson, 92, of Edina, Minn., died May 25, 2019. She volunteered at the Minneapolis Institute of Art for more than 30 years. Peterson is survived by two daughters, two sons, nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and two sisters (including Diane Finch Curran '58).

#### 1951

Beverly Robinson Allen, 88, of McKinleyville, Calif., died April 2, 2019. For more than 50 years, Allen supported women's rights, women's health, human rights, international peace, and programs promoting community enrichment and development. In addition to serving as a board member of General Hospital, the League of Women Voters, and a Unitarian Universalist congregation, Allen helped launch the McKinleyville Union School District's language immersion program, served as co-trustee of the Andree Wagner Peace Trust, and attended the United Nations Decade for Women Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1985. She received Macalester's Distinguished Citizen Award in 2016. Allen is survived by three daughters, four grandchildren (including Hannah Buffenbarger '16), three sisters, and a brother.

Marjorie Petersen Christiansen, 86, formerly of Maplewood, Minn., died Aug. 30, 2016. She was survived by two daughters, a son, two grandsons, three great-grandchildren, sister Marlys Petersen McGaver '50, and brother Marshall Petersen '53 (since deceased).

Marian Smith Johnson, 89, of Mahtomedi, Minn., died Dec. 9, 2018. She was a high school music teacher and choir director in Mahtomedi for 34 years. Johnson was named a teacher of excellence by the Minnesota Education Association in 1976. She also performed as a mezzo-soprano soloist with the St. Paul Civic Opera and the Minnesota Chorale, and at the New Hampshire Music Festival and many churches in St. Paul. She is preceded in death by her husband, former Macalester music professor and choir director Hollis L. Johnson '32. Johnson is survived by a stepdaughter and stepson Joel Johnson '63.

Mary Denison Nelson, 90, died May 14, 2019. She worked in various national church offices in New York City before becoming a homemaker. She also did bookkeeping for her husband's optometry business. Nelson is survived by a daughter, a son, and six grandchildren.

Janine "Jada" Smith Schiller, 89, of Elkader, Iowa, died April 12, 2019. She had a long career as an English teacher in the public schools. Schiller is survived by a daughter and five grandchildren.

#### 1952

Ruth Snyder Johnson, 88, died March 20, 2019. After her children left home, she worked for the St. Paul School District Transportation Department until the age of 83. Johnson is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and two greatgrandchildren.

Anna Andersen Palmer, 88, of Elk River, Minn., died April 25,

2019. She volunteered at Mercy Hospital in Anoka, Minn., and the Guardian Angels Senior Living Center in Elk River. Palmer is survived by four children, 13 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 11 great-greatgrandchildren.

Mary Marchuk Wilcox, 88, of Minneapolis died March 11. 2019. She taught the hearing impaired for 42 years. Wilcox is survived by her husband, Gordon, a daughter, a son, and a granddaughter.

#### 1954

Gerald M. Flathman Jr., 87, of Cuthbert, Georgia, died March 7, 2019. He was a retired Lutheran minister, Flathman is survived by his wife, Eleanor, two daughters, two sons, 14 grandchildren, and a greatgrandchild.

Ardis L. Rohwer, 86, of Denver died April 27, 2019. After teaching physical education in Superior, Wis., she spent 34 years with the Denver public school system, where she taught, coached, and worked for 17 years at the system's Outdoor Education Center. A promoter of girls' sports in her state, Rohwer was inducted into the Colorado Coaches of Girls Sports Hall of Fame in 1983 and was named Outdoor Education Teacher of the Year in 1989. She is survived by a brother.

Marilyn Williams Rolland, 97, of Spokane, Wash., died March 14, 2019.

Otto K. Korth, 88, died March 9, 2019. He was an Air Force veteran who served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars and worked for 3M's aviation department as an international captain. Korth received a Legion of Merit Award and retired from the Minnesota Air National Guard in 1985 after 36 years of service. From 1991 to 2000, he was director of operations and restoration for the Minnesota Air National Guard Museum.

Korth is survived by a daughter, a son, grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

#### 1958

Margaret Fleming Peterka, 85, of Elkhart, Ind., died April 7, 2019. She was a social worker for several years before becoming a homemaker. Peterka is survived by three daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

#### 1959

Edna McDilda Bailey, 97, died Dec. 13, 2016. She was a public school teacher in St. Paul. Bailey is survived by a daughter, a son, 10 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and a brother.

Patricia Allderdice Knottnerus, 83, died May 17, 2019, in Big Sandy. Mont. She is survived by four children, 11 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

#### 1962

Nancy Halstead Mattfield, 78, of Bemidji, Minn., died March 11, 2019. She worked for the Itasca County Welfare Department, the Minnesota Department of Public Health, and Beltrami County Social Services. Mattfield retired in 1990. She is survived by her husband, Dewey, three children, eight grandchildren, and three sisters.

#### 1963

Susan Ames Thoms, 77, of Bloomington, Minn., died May 1, 2019. She retired in 1999 after more than 30 years as a learning disabilities specialist with the Robbinsdale Area School District. Thoms is survived by her husband, Walter, and two sisters.

#### 1964

Barbara Bailey Clark, 76, of Brunswick, Maine, died April 3, 2019. She volunteered with the Peace Corps in Ethiopia for two years and taught high school mathematics, retiring in 1991. Clark is survived by a granddaughter.

**Dennis R. Daluge**, 74, of Chapel Hill, N.C., died Nov. 19, 2017.

Marilyn A. Tokheim, 76, died April 30, 2019. She ran a farm, raised cattle and chickens, and operated a bed and breakfast. Tokheim is survived by a daughter, a son, a grandson, two brothers, and her former husband, David Farver.

#### 1965

Arthur C. "Chris" Denne, 77, died May 9, 2019. He served with the U.S. Air Force during and after the Vietnam War, retiring as a colonel after 26 years of service. Denne then spent 10 years as chief of the Bonito Volunteer Fire Department in New Mexico. He is survived by a daughter, two sons, six grandchildren, and a sister.

#### 1967

Alan E. Holmstrom, 73, died May 6, 2019. He worked as a foreman with Erie/LTV and volunteered with the Biwabik, Minn., Fire Department. Holmstrom is survived by his wife, Patricia, three daughters, eight grandchildren, and two sisters.

Mary Johnson Leaf, 75, of Rice Lake, Wis., died April 1, 2019. She worked as a registered nurse at Rusk County Hospital in Ladysmith, Wis., and Rice Lake Convalescent Center, and also taught CNA classes at WITC. Leaf is survived by her husband, Willard, a daughter, two sons, eight grandchildren, and a sister.

#### 1974

Richard H. Ford, 67, died March 14, 2019, in Santa Barbara, Calif. He worked in financial services for 35 years, including 28 years with PlanMember Services in Carpinteria, Calif. Ford was inducted into Macalester's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003.

## **//** OTHER LOSSES

Macalester trustee emeritus **Robert B. Binswanger**, 88, died March 16, 2019, in Hanover, N.H. During a six-decade career in education, Binswanger taught and coached at Deerfield Academy, headed the Experimental Schools Program at the U.S. Department of Education, and served among the first training officers with the Peace Corps. He also worked at Harvard's Graduate School of Education, the University of Maine, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Boston Latin Academy, Hampton University, and Dartmouth College. He is survived by three sons, five grandchildren, and two brothers.

Bruce Gawtry, an immigration specialist with Macalester's International Student Programs, died March 17, 2019. Prior to joining Macalester's staff in 2007, Gawtry worked for U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Naturalization Services as a supervisor at the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport. He drafted F-1 student visa regulations for the Federal Register and received two lifetime achievement awards from NAFSA: Association of International Educators for his work inside and outside the government. The director of the Department of Homeland Security's student and exchange visitor program once referred to Gawtry as "the Godfather of student visas." Gawtry and his wife, Janice, had six children.

He is survived by his wife, Kimberly, a daughter, a son, and two brothers.

**Dana Forest**, 67, of Circle Pines, Minn., died July 2, 2018.

#### 1979

Kevin Krier, 64, died April 10, 2019, in San Francisco. After acting in regional theater, Krier moved to New York City and began a career in fashion. He worked as market editor for Esquire magazine, associate fashion director with the Men's Fashion Association, and director of special events for Anne Taylor Davis Communications before launching his own special-events production company in 1987. Kevin Krier and Associates opened offices internationally and produced fashion shows and special events for such clients as Giorgio Armani, Tommy Hilfiger, Kenneth Cole, Gucci, Yves St. Laurent, and Tom Ford. Krier also produced the Council of Fashion Designers Awards for several years and oversaw numerous charity events. He is survived by his mother, two sisters, and two brothers.

#### 1991

Todd A. Dohrwardt, 50, of Phoenix, Ariz., died March 30, 2019. During a career in sales and marketing, he worked for Cleaver Investor, Move 'N Store, Metropolitan Supply, Total Training Network, and Peak Performers Network. Dohrwardt is survived by his spouse, Chris, his mother, and a brother.

# SONG OF THE SUMMER



We'll never know how many warm-weather jam sessions have happened in front of Old Main over the years, but we'd love to hear your guesses about who's lounging on the lawn in this photo.

Send us the details: archives@macalester.edu or 651-696-6901.



# WE DID IT! THANK YOU

We reached our \$5 million campaign goal for the Macalester Fund!
That's 7 percent more than last year.

We couldn't have had our record-breaking year without you.

When we all come together, we're able to continue offering a truly outstanding education.

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