

SUMMER 2018

# AlumNotes

Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, Inc. • Volume 44, Number 3



# Reunion



Dear Alumnae/i,

Summer is in full swing and we trust that you've had some time to relax and enjoy the months of June, July, and August.

We've closed the doors on another Reunion, and have our class coordinators, volunteers, board, and staff to thank for making the day such a great success. Over 250 alumni and their families re-connected with friends and shared moments from their Hunter years during the General Assembly. Lunch, which was served in the high school's cafeteria, was enjoyed by all, and the Class of 2013 took their plates outdoors to eat in the courtyard. The weather remained perfect throughout the afternoon and the Annual Joe Kubat Softball Game in Central Park proceeded with ease, as did the tour of the Central Park Conservancy Conservatory Gardens. Also, alumnae had a chance to walk through the corridors of their "old" school building, Thomas Hunter Hall, at Lexington Avenue and 68th Street.

The Programs Committee has continued to organize engaging events for the alumni community. In May, alumni were invited to a private tour of exhibits at the Museum of the City of New York, led by **Katie Uva '06**. She guided our group through *Beyond Suffrage: A Century of New York Women in Politics* and *King in New York*. Uva led us through a collection of photographs, costumes, and related historic objects that told of the many ways New York City's history of activism significantly influenced the political discourse of our nation. In July we also organized a trip to *Frozen the Broadway Musical* with music by **Robert Lopez '93** and Kristen Anderson-Lopez.

To begin FY19, we will be taking a trip to Storm King Art Center in New Windsor, New York, on September 21. Storm King is an internationally known destination for visitors to see site-specific artworks in nature, and has an extensive collection of monumental sculptural works, photographs, and earthworks on its 500-acre grounds. Our group will be given an hour-long guided tour by Storm King's curator **Nora Lawrence '97**. Look for an announcement soon about our annual Autumn Reception in October.

Other alumni activities include the October screening of a new film title, *306 Hollywood*, written and directed by **Jonathan Bogarín '96** and his sister **Elan Bogarín '00**. We will also have tickets to the new Broadway musical *The Prom* in November, which is co-produced by **Jane Dubin '74**. We hope you will be able to join us for some or all of these events. They are a great way to learn about what alumni are up to and are an enjoyable way to meet new people.

Finally, I want to thank all our donors for their generous support over the past year. Because of you, we have been able to provide grants to academic departments, support initiatives that help students cope with the pressures of high school, and help raise awareness of diversity issues at the school. We are especially grateful to three very generous alumnae who had the foresight to leave bequests to us in their estate plans last year. (You can learn more about them in our next issue of *AlumNotes*.) These unrestricted gifts help offset the operating costs of the Association and mean that more of your funds will go directly to helping the teachers and students at Hunter.

Thank you again.

Elyse Reissman  
Executive Director

AlumNotes is published by the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, Inc.  
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Bowdoin College 1  
Brown University 4  
Bryn Mawr College 2  
California Institute of the Arts 1  
University of California, Berkeley 1  
University of California, Los Angeles 2  
Carleton College 1  
Carnegie Mellon University 1  
University of Chicago 10

Clark University 1  
Columbia University 12  
University of Connecticut 1  
Cornell University 12  
CUNY Baruch College 2  
CUNY Brooklyn College 2  
CUNY Lehman College 1  
CUNY Hunter College 4  
Dartmouth College 2  
Duke University 2  
The University of Edinburgh 1  
Emory University 3  
The George Washington University 1  
Georgetown University 2  
Georgia Institute of Technology 2

Harvard University 8  
Harvey Mudd College 1  
Haverford College 2  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 1  
Jacobs School of Music 1  
Johns Hopkins University 1  
The Juilliard School 1  
Kenyon College 2  
Lafayette College 1  
Lawrence University 1  
Lehigh University 1  
Loyola University New Orleans 1  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology 4  
University of Miami 1  
University of Michigan 4



New England Conservatory of Music 1  
 The New School 1  
 New York University 11  
 The University of North Carolina  
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 Northeastern University 1  
 Northwestern University 2  
 Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences 2  
 The Ohio State University 1  
 University of Pennsylvania 5  
 Pepperdine University 1  
 University of Pittsburgh 2  
 Pomona College 1  
 Princeton University 3  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 2

Rice University 2  
 University of Rochester 1  
 Sarah Lawrence College 1  
 Skidmore College 2  
 University of Southern California 3  
 University of St Andrews 1  
 St. John's University 1  
 St. Lawrence University 1  
 Stanford University 4  
 SUNY at Albany 2  
 SUNY at Binghamton 12  
 SUNY at Stony Brook 2  
 SUNY College at Oswego 1  
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 Wellesley College 1  
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# A Fabulous Sendoff!

AUDREY MAURER '51, PH.D.

On the day of the Summer solstice – Thursday, June 21 – a sizeable group of alumni, faculty, and parents gathered at the Hunter College eighth floor terrace to send their well wishes on to two HCHS retirees, **Audrey Maurer '51, Ph.D.**, Chair of the Foreign Languages department; and Art Department faculty member David Towber.

The two retiring teachers held a long track record of service to the school. Maurer, who instructed students in French and Latin, taught at the High School for 39 years. Towber, who guided his pupils in a range of artistic techniques from printmaking to computer-based graphic design, taught at Hunter High for 31 years. Each of them had significant life experiences abroad. Maurer taught English in Senegal for 20 years before returning to the United States, and Towber studied printmaking in France and taught in Israel before settling again in New York.

Their impact at the school was strongly felt. Alumnus **Morris Ingemanson '05** studied Latin with Maurer and stated that, in class, she shared "...truths that you needed to hear to become a better person." Ingemanson went on to major in Latin in college and, as a practicing attorney, credits his studies in the language with providing a deeper understanding of legal terms. **Cecile Kuznitz '85** took French with Maurer for many years while at HCHS. She recalled her class trip to France, as part of her language studies, where she and her classmates went to Normandy and Paris.

Retired HCHS Math teacher Richard Klutch, an alumnus of

HCES '53 and of Hunter College '69 returned to the school to share in the celebration. In his recollection of Maurer, he said that "she was wonderfully good at whatever she set her mind to."

Language department colleague Pamela Lewis, who retired in 2015 after teaching at HCHS for 26 years, remembers Maurer as a won-

derful colleague and friend. Lewis, who taught French and German, admired "the breadth and depth of her knowledge about French, about Latin... and how urbane and global her outlook was. She had the respect and affection of everyone in the department." Tom Scott, who has been at the school for nearly 20 years and teaches eighth- and tenth-grade science, echoed Lewis' sentiments.



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Art Department Chair Julie Reifer talked of how Towber had made his

mark on the HCHS Art Department by teaching all of the courses in the school's required art sequence. She also noted that he was "an early adapter of technology, encouraging [the art department] to transition from projecting slides and move into the digital age." He was instrumental in developing the department's digital course offer-

ings, including computer imaging and design, animation, and 3D design and printing. She added that "it's his wicked sense of humor that we'll miss most of all." Towber, who served as the school's yearbook advisor and Term Advisor for the Class of 1998, was also Chapter Chair of the Professional Staff Congress union for the Campus Schools for over 20 years. During his time as union representative, he was arrested for a civil disobedience protest by the

union. Towber is also the parent of two HCHS alums, **Sara Towber '95** and **Michal TOWBER Prywes '98**.

Dr. Tony Fisher told of a moment he shared in conversation with Maurer. "I'm not really retiring from Hunter," she said. "I am retiring from New York City. And if Hunter ever moves to Hawaii, I'll come back."

Math faculty Hal Weinstein remembered an amusing exchange that took place on a school trip to the Soviet Union in 1988. He had wanted to get a Russian Army belt and buckle, and traded his Swatch for it on the street. When Weinstein was worried that it would be confiscated at customs, Maurer offered to carry it for him as she had been to the Soviet Union a number of times. While at customs, both Weinstein and Maurer had their luggage searched. When a female Russian customs officer came across the army belt, her instinct was to confiscate it. She and Maurer engaged in what Weinstein called a "staring contest," which Maurer won! The army belt and buckle is still among Weinstein's possessions today.

Others in attendance at the retirement party were HCHSAA board member **Eli Adler '03** and former PTA President Judy Weinstein, parent of **Sam Mellins '15**. Weinstein read a statement from her son, written in French, which thanked Maurer for the opportunity to read classic literature in French, and to become familiar with the works of Voltaire and other texts in the language.



DAVID TOWBER



## A New Chapter

David Towber has taught art at HCHS for 31 years. On the eve of his retirement, in June of 2018, he talks about his journey to become a practicing artist and how his craft has evolved to embrace digital art, graphic design, and website design.

**AN: What led you to become a teacher?**

DT: I was in France and, while living there, was having a lot of problems with my work permit. I had an opportunity to take some courses at the École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts in Paris which automatically got me a temporary visa as a student. Some of the courses that were available were in education, and I was quite interested in them. I also took some art courses that dealt with printing, and that became the area that I was interested in working in as well as teaching.

**AN: How did you choose your subject of expertise?**

DT: [After my time in Paris] I came back to New York and worked in a print workshop on my own prints as well as doing things for other people. Before this, I actually was a color field painter from my studies at Hunter College. I lived in a very small apartment and couldn't do the huge paintings that I had become used to. Then, I moved to Israel for five years, between 1976 and 1981. While there, I worked in an art center and was their printmaking teacher.

**AN: What do you feel inspired your students? What will you miss the most about them?**

DT: The Arts curriculum at Hunter is pretty open and free, so that students could work in a lot of different media and areas that would appeal to them. Students could take art every single year in high school. They could continue in whatever they found interesting and liked; so, that was very inspirational for them.

[Overall] they're great students, they're very curious... and bring a lot of things into the classroom that a teacher can use. You learn just as much from them as they learn from you, if not more. A lot of alumni, after they graduated, came back and told me that they went into the arts, and were intent on becoming artists. Teaching as an adjunct professor at several colleges, I found that Hunter students always did superior work and carried things further than some of the students that I teach at the college level.

**AN: Are you retiring from professional teaching entirely? Or will you continue to teach at certain universities?**

DT: I am still teaching college courses at Pace University and Montclair State University.

**AN: What will you miss the most about the school?**

DT: The people I worked with. I had a lot of good friends in the high school area as well as the elemen-

tary school. In the art department, I got along very well with a lot of the music teachers, as the art and music departments were combined. If you go back far enough, in my first year or so at the school I taught [some] music classes. I was also the Chapter Chair representing the Professional Staff Congress (PSC) union in the building for almost 20 years. The union represents teachers in the high school as well as the elementary school, so I got to know everyone in the building in that capacity as well.

**AN: What was most fulfilling about your time at the school as a teacher?**

DT: I got to work with great kids and fellow faculty. Since I was at the high school for so many years, I had students who I taught from seventh grade on until they graduated, who have come back and have been extremely successful. I find it really great to know that I taught some of those people. In the last few years, at Parent Teacher Conferences, parents of seventh-graders would come to me and say, "You know, you taught me!" I've been at Hunter for so long that there's another generation coming through.

**AN: What do you most look forward to in your retirement? How do you anticipate spending your time?**

DT: I'd like to be able to do a lot more of my personal work. I've still kept my hand in drawing and printmaking. As the graphic arts, technology, and computer person at Hunter for the advanced courses, I do a lot of work on my own in website design [and other aspects of digital art]. I'm hoping to push some more of my work into different shows around the country... there's an animation that I've been working on for several years that I'm getting ready to finish.

Also, I have four grandchildren who I spend a lot of time with; and I'd like to travel!

**AN: Any place that's top on your list?**

DT: Probably Paris. And then the rest of the world. But Paris would be first. I haven't been to Paris for about 20 years.

**AN: What is your favorite museum?**

DT: Tate Modern in London is inspiring. The types of exhibitions they have fit the building.

THE MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

## HCHS Community Activism in the March for Our Lives

HCHS students participated in the March for Our Lives demonstrating against gun violence and school shootings on March 24, 2018. A student walkout was held at the high school on March 14 for 17 minutes, commemorating the 17 lives lost in the February 14 school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

We thank Jodi Clyde-Rozos, Mosaic Co-Chair for the photo from the March for Our Lives and HCHS Social Studies Chair **Irving Kagan '82** for the photo from the student walkout.



HCHS STUDENT WALKOUT



## Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

### YOUNG MUSICIANS COMPETITION WINNERS!

Upon his arrival at HCHS in 1992, Music faculty member Michael Stratechuk began what would become another tradition of success at the school. In his first year of teaching at the high school, he entered an ensemble in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Young Musicians Competition. Since then, Stratechuk has entered up to three ensembles to the annual competition every year, resulting in the selection of at least one ensemble selected to perform in each of the past 21 out of 26 years.

The Young Musicians Competition usually accepts over 50 entries from high school student ensembles in the Tri-State Area, including from the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, New Jersey, and Connecticut. In 2018, entrants were also accepted nationally, from Ohio, and internationally, from South Korea. Groups are selected via audio/video submission due in early February. Eight competition winners are chosen to

perform at Lincoln Center each May.

This year's winning ensemble, composed of three graduating seniors – **Olivia Damato '18** on violin, **Helen Lu '18** on viola, and **Ria Modak '18** on guitar – and two juniors – **Yuki K. '19** on violin and **Zaul T. '19** on cello – was formed at the beginning of the school year. All students were selected by audition, and some of the members had worked together in other configurations in prior years. In addition, the bowed string members are all part of the HCHS Chamber Orchestra. The work they performed, a Quintet for String Quartet and Guitar by Cuban-born composer Leo Brouwer, was composed in 1957 and was chosen following the selection of the ensemble members.

To hear this ensemble's performance, as well as ensembles from prior years, visit <https://www.hunterschools.org/page/high-school/academics/art--music>.



BRIAN HUANG '18

## Distinctions in STEM

### SIEMENS COMPETITION FINALIST

HCHS Senior **Brian Huang '18** was selected as a 2017 Finalist in the Siemens Competition for Math, Science, and Technology (formerly the Siemens Westinghouse Competition). His research topic, "On Sufficient Conditions for Trapped Surfaces in Spherically Symmetric Spacetimes" "...examined new geometrical conditions under which a spacetime – the fusion of time and three dimensional space – with spherical symmetry may form a trapped surface, an indicator of evolution into a black hole."

Huang, who was the first HCHS National Finalist in the Siemens Competition, was mentored by Dr. Marcus Khuri of Stony Brook University and received a \$25,000 college scholarship for the project.

Huang comes from a family involved in mathematics research. His father, a mathematics Ph.D., installed a whiteboard in the family's living room that was used for numerous family experiments.

2017 was the final year of the Siemens Competition, which was

held from 1999 to 2017. During its run, the competition was the nation's premier science research competition for high school students, and promoted excellence through encouraging students to take on individual or team research projects.

### SECOND PLACE WINNER AT THE JUNIOR SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM

**Brendon Choy '18** was a second place finisher in Chemistry at the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium Nationals. His research project was titled "Cutting-Off Cancer: Design Analysis and Synthesis of Novel Vascular Disrupting Agent." **Helen Lu '18** also represented the New York City region at the national competition with an entry in Biology.

The JSHS competition is sponsored by the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force and promotes original research in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. It is among the most recognized programs for high school students to develop and present their research.



MICHAEL STRATECHUK AND ENSEMBLE PERFORMERS RIA MODAK '18, OLIVIA DAMATO '18, ZAUL T. '19, HELEN LU '18, AND YUKI K. '19



## An Open House to Encourage Diversity at Hunter

PAMELA ROACH '71, JODI CLYDE-ROZOS, ALEX B. '19, CHEYENNE W. '19, ISABELLA SLOVES '18, MARIA STAACK '18, DELANEY MOORE '18, SOJO TRAVIS '15, ANDY MCCORD

A large number of families and their children attended the school's Diversity Open House in May. The day began with breakfast and a chance for parents and their children to meet and ask questions of current HCHS students, faculty, and board members. The goal of the open house is to increase the number of potential applicants to the school from Black and Latino communities across the city.

Young children were taken on a tour of the school and engaged in activities by current HCHS students. During that time, a panel of members of the HCHS Board, the Parent Teacher Association, and The Exam Schools Partnership Initiative (ESPI), as well as current and former students, held a discussion that informed parents about the school, its curriculum, and extracurricular activities. Moderator **Pamela Roach '71** posed a series of questions to current students at the school and informed those who attended that her aunt, HCHS

alumna **Marie ROACH Pittman '41**, by attending the school, was led to "a course of success that her immigrant parents never could have imagined."

Juniors **Alex B.** and **Cheyenne W.** mentioned that there were strong opportunities for younger and older students to bond at the seventh-grade field trip, Spirit Day at Bear Mountain, and at the Junior/Senior football game. The African American Cultural Society was identified as a source of support for Black students, as is HOLA, Hunter's Organization of Latin Americans, for Latino students.

**Isabella Sloves '18** cited the Writing Center as being instrumental in providing assistance with composing papers for her English class. For **Delaney Moore '18**, the Mock Court and Debate team were of central interest in her studies at the school. During the course of Moore's activities on the Debate team, she worked with a law firm to help her craft arguments for both

prosecution and defense.

Jodi Clyde-Rozos, of the Parent Teacher Association and Mosaic Co-Chair, indicated that the school effectively supports students in trying to figure out what their interests are. ESPI Board member Andy McCord said that HCHS prepares students well for college, and that "even the poets take calculus." He mentioned ESPI and PASSNYC (PASSNYC was founded by HCES, HCHS, and Hunter College alumnus **Ryan Baxter '08**) as organizations that help students prepare to sit for the HCHS admissions exam.

Lisa Siegmann, Acting Director of Hunter College Campus Schools, answered parents' questions about the entrance exam and also informed parents about the small class size in the high school grades.

HCHS faculty member Amelia Betancourt translated the proceedings into Spanish. The event concluded with the children being reunited with their parents.

## Hunter College Campus Schools' Mosaic Committee Celebrates Diversity in the Arts!

In April, HCCS' Mosaic Committee presented its third Diversity in the Arts evening, open to the HCHS alumni community as well as to current students and their families.

Featured was a performance by the Core Ensemble, who presented *Ain't I a Woman!* The music theater work highlighted the lives and times of four prominent African-American women: abolitionist Sojourner Truth, novelist and anthropologist Zora Neale Hurston, folk artist Clementine Hunter, and civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer. The score was inspired by the stirring spirituals of the Deep South, the vibrant sounds of the Jazz Age,

and concert music by African-American composers including Diane Monroe. The performance starred singer/actress Shayla Simmons and pianist Byron Sean. The evening concluded with an interlude of Classical Indian song and dance with the Shubanjali School of Performing arts and Sambhav Raga. Together, these two arts education organizations performed Bharatanatyam Dance and Indian Carnatic singing. The artists included Shobana Raghavan, Suba Parmar, Roopa and Deepa, Ravi Srinivasan (on violin), Murali Balachandran (on mridangam), and Venkatakrisnan Sathiyamoorthy (on Ghatam).

### ALUMNI FUNDING IN ACTION



## Tango Comes to Hunter for Visiting Artist Day

In April, the high school held the latest in its visiting artist series, when guest artists come to the school for a full day of music instruction and performance. This year's featured artist was bassist Pedro Giraudo and his Tango

Ensemble. The day began with a Master class and combined open rehearsal led by Giraudo and his ensemble for the HCHS Senior String Ensemble.

Giraudo, who hails from Cordoba, Argentina, is known as a highly versatile bassist, composer, and arranger, performing in a wide variety of musical projects through his own Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra, his Pedro Giraudo Tango Ensembles, and as a member of numerous other musical collectives. His ensemble members are from North America, South America, and Europe and have performed internationally.

Two 40-minute performances were held as part of the Visiting Artist Day. The first featured Pedro Giraudo and his ensemble, while the second included Hunter's Senior String Ensemble performing alongside Giraudo and his ensemble. The performances were open to the HCHS alumni community.

Ongoing support for this series is made possible through a generous grant from the HCHSAA.

CORE ENSEMBLE





# ALUMNI NEWS

## A PULITZER PRIZE AWARDED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

**Julia Moskin '85**, Dining section reporter at *The New York Times*, is among the 2018 recipients of the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. The *Times* received the Pulitzer award for its work investigating sexual harassment. Moskin reported about restaurateur Ken Friedman and chef Mario Batali, and the numerous allegations of sexual harassment leveled against Friedman by his former staff. She worked with over 20 sources on and off the record. The award was shared by *The New Yorker* and several other reporters, including Ronan Farrow.

## MARTHA HODES ICY '76 RECEIVES TWO PRESTIGIOUS FELLOWSHIPS TO WRITE BOOK

**Martha Hodes**, Professor of History at New York University, has been awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship and a fellowship at the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library. The two fellowships will fund Hodes' time away from NYU to write her fourth book, exploring history and memory through a 1970 airplane hijacking, in which she was a 12-year-old passenger held hos-

tage in the Jordan desert for a week — and missed the first week of seventh grade at Hunter! The book is under contract with HarperCollins.

## LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA '98 HONORED WITH AWARDS FROM ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION AND EUGENE O'NEILL THEATER CENTER

Actors' Equity Association, the labor union for professional actors and stage managers has named **Lin-Manuel Miranda** the recipient of the 2018 Rosetta LeNoire Award for conceiving *Hamilton*. Presented by Actors' Equity's National Equal Employment Opportunity Committee (EEO), this award honors an individual, theater, or producing organization that has made significant strides in the hiring or promotion of people of color, women, and actors with disabilities by diverse and inclusive casting.

In April 2018, Miranda was presented with the 18th Monte Cristo Award from The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. The award is given annually to a prominent theater artist whose work has had an extraordinary impact on American theater. Miranda's first professional production, *In the Heights*, was staged in 2005 at the O'Neill's National Music Theater Conference. Last year, the Miranda Family Fund gave back to the O'Neill Theater by providing scholarships for artists of color to attend the O'Neill's



MARTHA HODES ICY '76



LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA '98

National Theater Institute. The Institute's credit-earning theater intensives are taught by industry professionals and master teachers, training actors, singers, directors, and others to produce, write, direct, and act in their own work, creating their own path in the industry.

Past recipients of the Monte Cristo Award include actors Judith Light, Meryl Streep, Michael Douglas, Nathan Lane, Christopher Plummer, James Earl Jones, Jason Robards Jr., Zoe Caldwell, Brian Dennehy, and Karl Malden; playwrights August Wilson, Wendy Wasserstein, Edward Albee, and Neil Simon; directors Harold Prince and George C. Wolfe; and Arthur and Barbara Gelb.

### INDUCTEE INTO THE WASHINGTON LIFE SCIENCE HALL OF FAME

**Denise Galloway '66, Ph.D.**, was one of two researchers from the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center inducted into the Washington Life Science Hall of Fame in 2018. The Hall of Fame program, which recognizes the work of preeminent scientists, was founded in 2016. Known for her groundbreaking studies in cancer research, Galloway is director of the Hutchinson Cancer Research Center's Pathogen-Associated Malignancies Integrated Research Center. She has spent her career investigating cancer-causing viruses and, through her research,

DENISE GALLOWAY '66, PH.D.



has created a cancer-preventive vaccine and identified lifesaving clinical tests. Her efforts have involved the development of the HPV vaccine, which provided a cure for the cervical cancer-causing human pap-

illomavirus. Implementation of this vaccine has dramatically reduced the instances of cervical cancer, and has nearly eliminated the disease in Australia. Galloway also studies Merkel cell polyomavirus, which can cause Merkel cell carcinoma, a rare skin cancer.

### ALUMNA LEADS AN INTIMATE MUSEUM TOUR

The HCHSAA extends its thanks to museum educator **Katie Uva '06** for leading a fascinating discussion about the exhibits at the Museum of the City of New York. In May, Uva gave the alums who had assembled an intimate, hour-long, participatory tour of the shows *King in New York*



KATIE UVA '06

and *Beyond Suffrage: A Century of New York Women in Politics*. In her talk, she shared with the group details of the lives of pivotal figures in the Civil and Women's Rights movements and the important role that New York City played in establishing those movements.

### AN ACHIEVEMENT OF DOCTORAL STUDIES

In May, **Michael Nevradakis '02** completed his doctoral studies, receiving his Ph.D. in Media Studies from The University of Texas at Austin. His dissertation, titled "From the Polis to Facebook: Social Media and the Development of

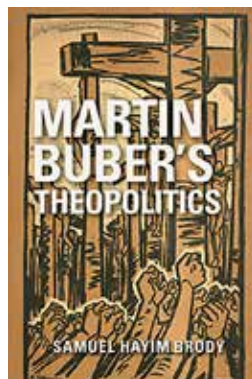
a New Greek Public Sphere," was based on a long-term research project in Greece and examined social media's impact on the public sphere, civil society, and public discourse in Greece during the years of the country's economic crisis. During this multi-year study, Nevradakis received fellowships and funding from the U.S. Fulbright Foundation, the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation, the Erasmus+ Exchange Program, the Greek State Scholarships Foundation, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Furthermore, in February Nevradakis was awarded the prestigious Dissertation Fellowship by the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, one of 12 such

fellowships awarded nationwide, for the completion of his research and dissertation.

### A TRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDING OF ISRAEL

**Israela (Ella Gorin) Meyerstein '66** is pleased to announce the publication of her new book, *Miracle Nation: Seventy Stories about the Spirit of Israel* in honor of Israel's 70th birthday. The book is an inspiring anthology of true stories about Israel's birth, immigrant roots, and contemporary society. It highlights extraordinary Israelis who strive to improve the lives of Jews and Arabs, apply technology to third-world problems, and seek peaceful coexistence with neighbors, in keeping with Israel's founding ideals. *Miracle Nation* offers pride-inducing stories to all ages about Israel's caring, can-do, and hopeful spirit. Available on Amazon, [www.mazopub.com](http://www.mazopub.com), [www.miracle-nation.com](http://www.miracle-nation.com), and from the author.

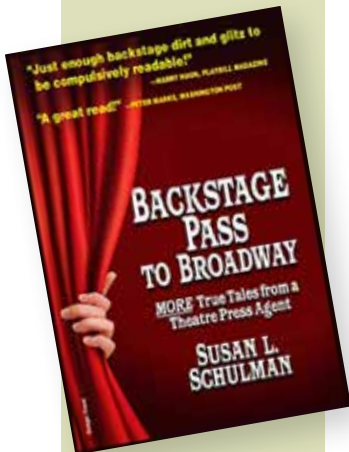
### AN ANALYSIS OF RELIGION AND POLITICS



**Samuel Hayim Brody '01** recently published a book, *Martin Buber's Theopolitics* (Indiana University Press, 2018), on the works of philosopher Martin Buber, who is known as one of the most prominent Jewish thinkers of the 20th century. Born in Austria, Buber was the editor of *Die Welt*, a weekly







## PUBLICIST SHARES INTIMATE BROADWAY MEMORIES

Goodreads Press has published the second edition of a popular memoir written by **Susan L. Schulman '62** (and HCES '56), *Backstage Pass to Broadway: More True Tales of a Theatre Press Agent* (2018). Schulman pulls back the curtain to show what really goes on during the creation of a Broadway show, and includes tales of working with such legends as Bob Fosse, David Merrick, George C. Scott, Mary Martin, and Lauren Bacall. The first edition of *Backstage Pass to Broadway* (Goodreads Press, 2013) was one of Amazon's 100 best-selling theater books.

publication that centered on the Zionist movement, and wrote about "the relationships between religion and politics, biblical interpretation, anarchists, communists, and Nazism." Later in life, he moved to Israel and wrote extensively about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Buber was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature 10 times, and the Nobel Peace Prize seven times.

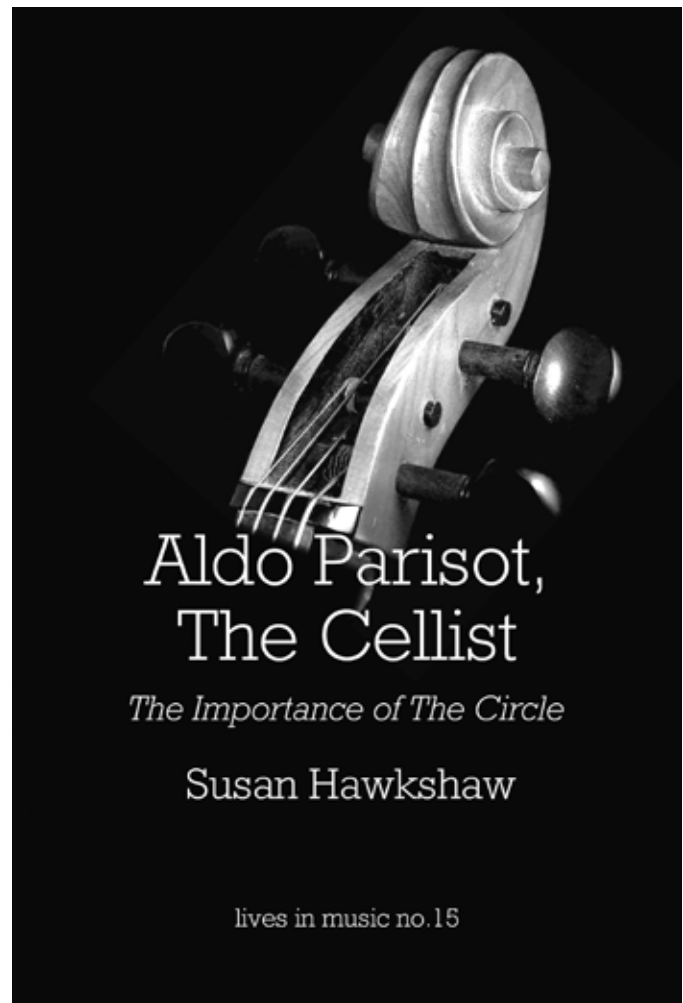
## AWARD TO A LESBIAN AUTHOR

**Mecca Jamilah Sullivan '99, Ph.D.**, has been named one of two recipients of the Judith A. Markowitz



**MECCA JAMILAH SULLIVAN '99, PH.D.**,

Award for Emerging LGBTQ Writers. The award, which comes with a \$1,000 cash prize, is bestowed upon writers by Lambda Literary, a nonprofit organization that is a significant voice in promoting LGBTQ literature. Sullivan, whose published work to date includes the short story collection *Blue Talk and Love* (Riverdale Avenue Books, 2015), strongly believes that literature holds the power "to make the lives of queer people, black people, and women more livable." Sullivan, who also works as a community organizer, has had her short stories published in *Calaloo*, *Feminist Studies*, *Best New Writing*, *American Fiction*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *TriQuarterly*, *Narrative Northeast*,



*Kweli*, and *All About Skin: Short Fiction by Award-Winning Women Writers of Color*. Her volume of short stories, *Blue Talk and Love*, was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Lesbian Fiction and the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction. Sullivan is Assistant Professor of English at Bryn Mawr College and is currently completing her first novel.

## BIOGRAPHY OF A CELEBRATED CELLIST

**Susan TESTA Hawkshaw '64** has written a biography of renowned Brazilian cellist Aldo Parisot. Her book, *Aldo Parisot, The Cellist: The Importance of the Circle* (Pendragon Press, 2018), includes extensive interviews with Parisot

as well as contributions from established colleagues that give a first-hand explanation of his performing and teaching style. The book takes a chronological and complete approach, focusing on his extraordinary solo career, and is based on newspaper and magazine articles, reviews, and concert programs from all over the world. Encounters with famous contemporaries such as Janos Starker, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Paul Hindemith, and Dave Brubeck are found throughout the book. A separate chapter describes Parisot's career as an abstract painter working in a sometimes whimsical style with vibrant color. Hawkshaw is among the faculty teaching music at the University of New Haven and Albertus Magnus College, both in New Haven, CT.

# THE ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION



ANNA KOVNER

## Board Member Spotlight

Anna Kovner is a Vice President in the Financial Intermediation function of Research and Statistics at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. She received her Ph.D. in Business Economics from Harvard University, her MBA with high distinction as a Baker Scholar from Harvard Business School, and her AB in Economics magna cum laude from Princeton University. In addition to her professional endeavors, Kovner actively follows education research as well as research related to the New York City region.

**AN: Why were you inspired to apply for HCHSAA Board membership?**

AK: My son, Zachary Meisel, was admitted to the seventh grade, and I thought that the Board would be a great way to get more involved with Hunter.

**AN: What aspects of your career do you feel prepared you to sit on the HCHSAA Board?**

AK: I work in research at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, so that helps me bring a quantitative perspective to questions faced by the Board.

**AN: What aspects of your education at HCHS do you feel prepared you for Board membership?**

AK: HCHS taught me to be a creative thinker and to assert my opinions. Speaking up for what I believe to be the right answer was completely drilled into me, from Mr. Boyle's Social Studies class (he was also my son's social studies teacher!), to BC Calc, to Model UN.

**AN: What can you share with other HCHS alumni to encourage them to apply for Board membership?**

AK: I have enjoyed giving back to this wonderful place. We are allocating grant committee funds to buy an ice machine, because there was otherwise no ice if you get hurt in gym class. Sometimes it's disheartening to see just how much

nothing has changed — but it is also rewarding to know that I can help to give back.

**AN: What do you feel is the most important contribution you've made?**

AK: I have been on the Board for less than a year, but I am most excited about the work we have just started to try to get the school to think about how to improve diversity. I am hoping to help make use of public data on ethnicity and state test scores to help the school target areas with high-performing, diverse students who are not currently signing up to take the Hunter test. I hope that we will find a number of ways to get the alumni community involved to help with this.

**AN: What has been your greatest satisfaction serving on the Board? What is the biggest challenge?**

AK: My greatest satisfaction on the Board has been seeing the high quality and dedication of all the Board members who are working so hard to help our alma mater. The biggest challenge is that there is never enough money to do all the things we want to do.

**AN: Do you serve on the Board of other schools or organizations?**

AK: I serve on the education committee of the Guggenheim Museum, where I work on Learning Through Art, the museum's program that serves New York City public schools.

## Grants to the School

In fiscal year 2018 the Alumnae/i Association provided \$111,400 in grants to the high school for the following programs and services:

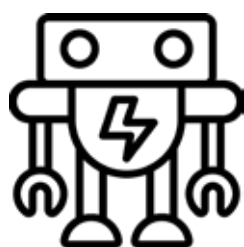
### Science

To purchase a high luminosity LCD projector for the Physics class in room 207 that will replace an old, broken one



### Health and Physical Education

To purchase a new Coldstat Ice Machine for K-12 students who are injured. For use in the classroom, for athletics, theater, after school and weekend activities



### Robotics

Funds for technologies, raw materials and tournament costs to compete in FIRST Robotics Competitions

### Art and Music

To replace one of two broken ceramic kilns for advanced studio art classes, originally installed in 1972



Continuing support for the Visiting Artists Series

### English, Communications and Theatre

New Elfa shelving and materials to organize the prop/costume closet



### Administration

A new Peer Leadership Program for ninth-graders that provides social and emotional growth and support, consisting of groups of 12 or 13 students who meet monthly with a preselected, fully trained group of three senior Peer Leaders and a faculty advisor. A wide range of topics are covered including coping with stress and anxiety and how to make good, healthy decisions in new and challenging social situations

To provide funds to increase the number of hours for the High School Psychology Consultant, as the number of students in need of these services has increased

To provide funds to participate in the Freedom Institute's Hallways Program, which includes extensive professional development for the entire faculty and specialized training for the Health teachers, administrators and Counseling Department; parent workshops focused on the work done with their children on both consent and decision-making; bystander/consent workshops for 10th-graders; and social-emotional assessments and sets of esteem/decision-making workshops for ninth-graders



Funds to send faculty and students to National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference/Student Diversity Leadership Conference; New York State Association of Independent Schools Diversity Conference; and New York City Diversity Awareness Initiative for Students

### Mathematics

Four class sets (120) of TI-Nspire CX CAS calculators







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REUNION 2018

# Generations of Reflection, Generations of Achievement





At Reunion 2018, several generations of alums were welcomed back to the high school to share in a day filled with memories. Alumni returned to New York from destinations far and wide, from across the country and around the globe.

In the morning, alums came together with their specific classes to reflect upon their days at the school, to think back to their time as adolescents in the surrounding world, and to catch up on changes in their lives. From the Class of 1958, **Carol GRUNWALD Corcoran**, who came from Delaware, recalled her two favorite songs while at Hunter as “Earth Angel” by The Four Seasons along with (of course!) the well-known Hunter standard, “Sarah Maria Jones.” **Mona SANDLER Sobel '68**, visiting from San Diego, described her six years at Hunter as a “...very political and social time. It was the perfect storm.”

Alumni entered the auditorium where they were welcomed by a performance from the school Jazz Ensemble, which played John Coltrane’s “My Favorite Things.” Events proceeded with the General Assembly, where milestone classes had an opportunity to voice what was most important about their days at Hunter. Common to all groups of alumni was a deep sense of appreciation for having attended Hunter High, and how the school prepared them well to step into adulthood.

The day concluded with lunch and the Annual Joe Kubat Softball game, a tour of the Central Park Conservancy Conservatory Garden, and tours of Thomas Hunter Hall. Following are excerpts from the General Assembly. To see the speeches alumni gave in full, visit our YouTube channel, <https://bit.ly/2NU5mdm>.

## January 1943

### CLASS COORDINATOR: SHIRLEY "BILLIE" WILLINGER BRAMHALL

"[On my first day at Hunter], a young woman approached me and said, 'My name is **Connie HOMNICK (Kanarek)**, and I'm going to be the first woman president of the United States.' She gave me an introduction for the first time in my life to something I learned was the Women's Movement."

## June 1943

### CLASS SPEAKER: MAVIS THOMPSON-BLAIZE

"Hunter was such a milestone in my education and... Dr. Lilienthal encouraged me when I told her that I wanted to do medicine. She said, 'Go for it'... My kids went to private school but didn't get the education that I got."

## January 1948

### CLASS COORDINATORS: ROSE KNOPF AND HELEN SCHWARTZMAN KURZBAN

"We have those teachers at Hunter to thank for inspiring us to be independent enough to pursue interesting, rich lives in an era that still encouraged married women with children to be 'stay at home moms!' " – Rose Knopf

"I, a first generation American, daughter of East European immigrants... whose father was an illegal... am very grateful to have had the opportunity and privilege to attend the finest high school in the City of New York. It changed my life for the better" – Helen SCHWARTZMAN Kurzban

### CLASS PARTY

"On the Friday night before Reunion, **Helen SCHWARTZMAN Kurzban** and **Rose Knopf** were invited to a lovely dinner by Judi Karp, the daughter of **Lita KOWALSKY Karp**. Knopf, Kurzban, and Karp had kept in touch, but hadn't seen one another for several years.

"While we didn't have an opportunity to have a separate meeting with the four other classmates who came to the reunion, we did have breakfast and lunch with them, and had a wonderful time sharing fond memories of other classmates as we thumbed through our Annals, looking at photos, relating stories about our experiences at school, and filling each other in on our lives 'after Hunter'.

"We were all thankful, and felt very lucky to be able to attend our 70th Milestone Reunion!"

## June 1948

### CLASS COORDINATORS: FLORENCE WEBER KLEIN, ETHEL SCHMID MATIN, ROSALIND WEISS ROTHMAN

"Our Ethnic Backgrounds: There are too many to specifically name countries or origins, but we had at least eight or nine Holocaust Survivors... [and] there was one member of our class who everyone agreed would be the first woman president of the United States. It was then that we discovered that she was not born here!" – Rosalind WEISS Rothman



*Class of January 1953*



*Class of January 1953*



## January 1953

### CLASS COORDINATORS: IRMA JAFFE BECKER, RACHEL LEE LAWRENCE

"We are in touch with 52 women. We are spread out. One lives in Israel and one in Panama... Our alum in Panama put it this way: 'I consider it a privilege and a lifelong blessing to have been educated at Hunter High and to have interacted with all of you. We were special, our school was special, and it will always occupy a place of honor in my life.' " – Irma JAFFE Becker

### CLASS PARTY

"The class of January 1953 had a 65th reunion celebration lunch on Sunday, June 3. It was supposed to be held at the Redeye Grill. That restaurant had a fire in the middle of May and is not scheduled to reopen until September. Fortunately, the Redeye Grill is part of a group, and we were able to switch to Bond 45 on West 46th Street. That worked out very well. Twenty-three women attended. One came from Chicago, three from Florida, and one from DC. Eight husbands joined us. Food was plentiful, service great, but memories and feelings were the important parts of the day. The day was smiles and hugs and catching up."

## 1958

### CLASS COORDINATOR: GAIL GRANGE BERSON

"If you spoke Spanish like I spoke Spanish. Hoy. Vey. Oh, what a mess." – Senior Sing

### CLASS PARTY

"Our reunion celebrations began on Friday evening, when we had a superb family-style meal at Han Dynasty on West 85th St.

"On Saturday, we met at the high school, pleased that we recognized many of our classmates before we had to read their name tags. The General Assembly started out well, with wonderful speeches from milestone classes that came before us. We loved presenting the audience with some of the songs from our Senior Sing, with Nancy Kaye once again accompanying us on the piano.

"Our disappointment in the assembly was that once the milestone classes were co-ed, all of the speakers were male. We wondered what happened to the strong females that we were, and that had been articulated so well by some of the earlier speakers. We wonder what the faculty is doing in their

"I can't hablo like Juan or Pablo, all this I must confess ... Don Quixote's a mensch. I'll never pass this Spanish class. Why did I not take French?"

CLASS OF '58 SENIOR SING



*Class of 1958*



Class of 1963



Class of 1968

"...during our journey through Hunter, Robert F. Kennedy told us:

'Some men see things as they are, and ask why. I dream of things that never were, and ask why not.'

We were not the men; we were the girls becoming women and we were dreaming and asking why not."

- BARBARA SCALES '68

classrooms to encourage their female students to learn how to speak up and not let the male voices dominate.

"On Sunday, there was an all-day brunch at the home of **Gail GRANGE Berson**, where we reminisced, expressed our views of life now and for the future, ate and drank, and talked some more.

"We are planning to have casual gatherings before we attend our next milestone reunion in 2023."

## 1963

### CLASS SPEAKERS: ANITA ALTMAN AND PEGGY BLUMENTHAL

"An amazing thing about Hunter was the passion of our teachers. We all say that we got a better education here than we did in our universities. In university, we were taught by graduate students who never learned how to teach. Whereas at Hunter, we had amazing teachers who loved their subject and loved to teach." – Peggy Blumenthal

"I came from an environment where women had a secondary, if domineering, role in the family. ... When Cyril Woolcock, who was the principal, had us at orientation, he said, 'Mothers, if you do not intend to send your girls to college, don't send them here, because that's all we're preparing them for.' " – Anita Altman

## 1968

### CLASS COORDINATOR: MIGGIE WARMS

"Do you remember the state of the world outside our Castle walls. The war in Vietnam. Poverty. Social breakdown. Ghettoes going up in flames. The Civil Rights movement. Some of us protested. ... We clamored for the vote." – Barbara Scales

### CLASS PARTY

"The Class of '68 celebrated its 50th reunion with a Friday night open house at the Upper West Side apartment of one classmate, a Saturday night dinner for 60 classmates (plus four husbands) at an Italian restaurant on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, and a Sunday brunch for 47 classmates at a Greek restaurant, also on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. We have enjoyed viewing the photos taken of us (and of the other milestone classes) at the Saturday reunion at the school — photos that were linked to the HCHSAA newsletter that was emailed to us recently."



## 1973

### CLASS SPEAKER: LAURA LEWIS MANDELES

"[Seeing] the robot made me think: We were happy when we got a new hand-cranked pencil sharpener." – Laura LEWIS Mandeles



Class of 1973



## 1983

### CLASS COORDINATOR: MATTHEW BLUMENFELD

"As the first class to both begin and end our Hunter careers here at 94th and Park, I wish you all a hearty welcome to our building. ... Our Hunter was a marvelous and wondrous place, a refuge for many even as the city around us seemed sometimes like it was coming apart at the seams."

### CLASS PARTY

"On Saturday night, approximately 80 members of the Class of '83 gathered at Wined Up, a party space on Broadway and 21st Street. Classmates came from as far as the West Coast and Japan and enjoyed a fun evening of food, drink, and conversation. **Matt Blumenfeld** and **Jonathan Arak** spoke to the gathering about giving back to Hunter and also asked classmates to consider donating to the Exam Schools Partnership Initiative to help Hunter and other schools improve admissions from underserved communities. While there were plenty of aches and pains discussed, most class members have remained refreshingly young — at least in the eyes of our classmates! Reunion organizers included **Leon Stankowski**, **Michael Morrah**, **Guy Doherty**, **Kelly Washburn**, and **Doug Levine**."

## 1988

### CLASS COORDINATOR: JILL SLATER

"So, what's changed in a generation? For one thing, language. To millennials and centennials today there's a new dialogue that sounds almost like Latin to us Gen X'ers. ... So now I use 'I am going to Netflix and chill with Mom' when I want to gross out the kids." — Tai Wong

### CLASS PARTY

"We started, in 1982, with 210 kids. A little more than 80 percent of us stuck it out for six years and graduated. Nearly 60 percent of those graduates braved a marathon regroup in the basement of Spring Natural the evening of June 2. Approximately 25 percent of us thrived until 3 a.m. at which point we stood on the sidewalk of Kenmare Street to plot next steps both immediate and long-term.

" 'Where should we go now?'

" 'When can we do this again?'

" 'Are there any 24-hour diners in this neighborhood?'



*Class of 1983*

## REUNION RECAP

### Inaugural Black and Latino Meetup at Reunion

The 2018 Reunion marked the inaugural year of the Black and Latino Meetup and Oral History project. Alums of all ages and ethnicities were welcome to join HCHSAA board members **Pamela Roach '71** and **Jessica LEONARD Holmes '04** to share moments from their adolescence regarding students of color and to document the stories of Black and Latino students at Hunter.

Interviews were recorded on video and covered a range of topics. Among those interviewed were **Mavis THOMPSON-Blaize '43, M.D.**, who, at 95 years young, talked about her preparation for the Hunter test. As a student at PS 136 in Harlem, she was in the top of her class. An algebra teacher coached her for the Hunter exam and, consequently, her math scores on the test were very high. Thompson-Blaize was an avid reader and also passed the English portion of the exam. Upon arriving at Hunter, though, she "...found out that the hardest year that I ever spent in any school was that first year in Hunter High School."

When asked what the composition of her class was like, Thompson-Blaize said "...there might have been five girls of color in my class. I don't remember ever seeing an Asian person in my class. If anyone was Latino, I didn't know... [but] I didn't experience any segregation in high school... What I liked about Hunter High was that, when I decided in my senior year that I was going into medicine, my Biology teacher was 100 percent behind me."

Other interviewees included **Mildred Speiser, Jan. '49** who, when asked about the diversity of her classmates, described the Hunter community as follows: "[though the school was] largely Caucasian... I am simply saying we were color blind. [We] never talked about [race] because there was no reason to."

**Nazima Kadir '93, Ph.D.**, had recollections of Hunter that were primarily centered on class. In looking back on her time at the school, she stated, "I had no idea how incredibly culturally different Hunter would be compared to the environments I was used to. ... When I was [at Hunter] there wasn't a problem with racism. There was a huge problem, though, because there was no understanding of class. The dominant idea was that everyone was an Upper East Side kid." For Kadir, whose parents were Bangladeshi immigrants who lived in Flushing, Queens, "[there wasn't] any space to talk about those issues then."

Roach and Holmes are continuing to compile interviews for the Black and Latino Oral History project outside of Reunion. If you are interested in being interviewed for this project, contact [pamela@breakthroughgroup.com](mailto:pamela@breakthroughgroup.com).



"Is it a great movie because of the actors or because of the script?"

—ALEK LEV '93

"That's how I know it was a good party.

"So many '88ers traveled great distances to be together: South Korea, Switzerland, Northern and Southern California, Wisconsin, Chicago, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., New Jersey, and Inwood to name a few! They arranged child-care — some for the very first time — or brought kids along for the adventure! With a nine-hour playlist of 80s tunes and over 750 photos of our 12-year-old selves and onward, nostalgia was plentiful and willfully lapped up by everyone in the room.

"People were giddy to see one another. Love infused the room at every turn. Even the restaurant manager asked what sort of group this was that had such strong bonds. I explained to her that we were together for six intense years during a very formative time in our lives and those bonds don't easily erode."

## 1993

### CLASS COORDINATORS: ALEK LEV, DAVID KALEY

"It's actually my time in Hollywood that has given me the language to ask the question that has been gnawing at me for a while. What accounts for the success of Hunter graduates? Were they born this way, or did it happen in this building?"  
— Alek Lev

### CLASS PARTY

"The Class of '93 began their milestone weekend at The Commissioner, a bar for people with

much younger ears, in Park Slope. From the look of the first 10 attendees, we all struggled to remember when Hunter was an all-male school, but were relieved of that burden (and the general discomfort) when a few of our female graduates showed up.

"A decent turnout of about a dozen of us came to the General Assembly on Saturday morning. Once Alek Lev quoted a member of the Class of '48 in her discussion of 'oral sex,' we knew the weekend would be either a rousing success or a delightful disaster. Nothing in between.

"After the assembly, **Joel Viertel** and **Erica Litke** joined Alek on a tour of their elementary school landmarks and some high school classrooms. In one of the latter, they found their own — Erica's own, along with **Patty Beirne's** — calculus textbooks. (To whom it may concern: Before Hunter gets an atrium, materials from the 21st century, or even late 20th, might be a priority.)

"Saturday night saw (roughly) 110 attendees at the Big Party, ten of whom were very patient plus-ones. This included 27 members of the elementary school class of '87. We gathered in the back room of the Ukrainian National Home, behind their restaurant, and dined on a few hundred dumplings from Vanessa's Catering.

"The night ended in a few locations, with a group heading to Club 151 on Avenue C, another next door to Nublu, and a third contingent splitting off to St. Marks Karaoke. The karaoke code applies, but we can report that Bon Jovi occurred and Rachel Terrace blew the roof off the place."



*Class of 1993*



*Class of 1998*

If you are in the Class of '93 (or the elementary class of '87) and have not yet done so, please update your contact info at [www.hchs93.com/yourinfo](http://www.hchs93.com/yourinfo).

Editor's note: Please also update your contact information on the HCHSAA website, [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org).

## 1998

### CLASS COORDINATOR: AMY HO

"...Keep your hands up if one or more of your older siblings ruined things for you — because they never made curfew, you never got to go out. All of you with your hands still up know what it was like to be a part of the Class of '98. To be clear, I'm not going to spend my entire five minutes airing grievances about the Class of '97 but it felt like every Hunter tradition abruptly ended when our turn came around." — Lucien St. Gerard

### CLASS PARTY

"A small contingent of the class of '98 kicked off reunion festivities on Saturday morning at the all-class event at the high school. Led by eighth-grade tour guides, many of us revisited our old hallways and (now carpeted!) classrooms. We caught up with past teachers and coaches including Asumana 'Coach' Randolph, David Towber, Francine Salzman, Marjorie Goldsmith, Michael Stratechuk, Richard Klutch, and Satinder Jawanda. In the courtyard, many of us replicated exactly pictures taken 20 years ago. At the general assembly, we cheered on as **Lucien St. Gerard** delivered a memorable class speech, retelling in true 33rd-place-debate style our trials and tribulations following in the wake of previous classes.

"Saturday evening found over 130 classmates and their significant others reconnecting in Long Island City at the Marlene Yu Studio,

generously hosted by the parents of **Stephanie YU Lusk**. Wine and cheese, dinner, and dessert accompanied great conversation and silly photos. Our life-size mascot Chimp Daddy made an appearance, having been kindly excavated from an art classroom closet by **Danny San Germano** (now a teacher at the high school). Helping us brave the hottest day in June were a slideshow of photos from our Hunter years coordinated by **Andrew Gursky** with the contributions of too many classmates to mention and a '90s playlist assembled by **Amy Peltz** with the help of the total music recall of **Diana Elam**, **Juliet Arkin**, **Malancha Gupta**, and **Vandana Nagaraj**. The highly anticipated event was documented by **Lin-Manuel Miranda** in a live tweet and has sparked a very active thread on the class Facebook page.

"Thanks to everyone who joined us, and a special thanks to those who organized and supported the reunion efforts, especially the reunion committee of **Amy Ho**, **Amy Peltz**, **Evelyn KOW Chen**, **Jillian (Mojica) Elliot**, **Meaghan BOYLE Lynch**, and **Nellie (Jeon) Carr**. A shout out to the tech crew of **Andrew Gursky**, **Steven Ho**, and **Kenric Tam**. Finally, thank you to our families for joining us on this brief trip down memory lane. Hoping to see everyone again at our 25th — we may already have a planning committee that promises a DJ!"

## 2003

### CLASS COORDINATORS: ELI ADLER, ADRA GREENSTEIN

"...I was able to go out there and be really cool and join the Math Team and the Chess Team. ... It was nice that Hunter was inclusive for people to do all the nerdy stuff." — Eli Adler

"One very friendly senior helped me muddle through my singing [auditioning for Brick Prison]

"I'm going to do my best to adhere to the "Five B's" – Be Brief, Brother, Be Brief. Can all of the folks here from a milestone class, do me a favor and give yourself a round of applause for making it back home?"

—LUCIEN ST. GERARD '98



*Class of 1998*

# Class Gifts

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR CLASS COORDINATORS WHO ENCOURAGED ALUMNAE/I TO GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE HCHSAA IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL. THESE GIFTS WILL GO DIRECTLY TO PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS AT HUNTER. BELOW ARE THE RESULTS OF THEIR EFFORTS, LISTED BY MILESTONE CLASS YEAR.

CLASS	AMOUNT RAISED	# DONORS	TOTAL IN CLASS	% OF CLASS WHO GAVE
1943	\$760.00	9	32	28%
JAN. 1943	\$1,435.00	11	29	38%
1948	\$1,475.00	16	51	31%
JAN. 1948	\$765.00	9	50	18%
1953	\$1,880.00	11	89	12%
JAN. 1953	\$1,755.00	15	53	28%
1958	\$10,681.00	43	106	41%
1963	\$4,836.00	30	141	21%
1968	\$13,273.00	51	115	44%
1973	\$3,490.00	18	136	13%
1978	\$200.00	1	37	3%
1983	\$10,812.50	25	164	15%
1988	\$11,725.00	42	169	25%
1993	\$9,643.00	26	172	15%
1998	\$18,265.00	32	152	21%
2003	\$28,325.00	11	167	7%
2008	\$1,186.08	6	177	3%

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE

CLASS OF 2003  
MOST MONEY RAISED

CLASS OF 1968  
MOST DONORS & HIGHEST PERCENTAGE  
OF DONORS IN A SINGLE CLASS



and even cast me in his play. He became a hero of mine and a hero of everyone else's too, because that was **Lin-Manuel Miranda '98**. I now work professionally in entertainment [for *Saturday Night Live*]... [and] he believed that I could play a seventh-grader at a party." – Claire Friedman

### CLASS PARTY

"About 20 alumni showed up to Fawcner, a bar in Brooklyn. Some people went to the event at school earlier in the day. There were some alums who hadn't seen each other in 15 years and caught up, and survivors (who had gone to the elementary school) attended in strong numbers. We're looking forward to the 20th in five years."

### CLASS PARTY

"The Class of 2013 had a blast attending our first HCHS reunion! We loved catching up with administrators, teachers, and, of course, our former classmates. In the year since graduating college, we discovered that our classmates are already up to amazing things. **Jessie Frank** and **Lily Young** are applying to med school, **Zach Elkind** and **Leigh Taylor** are working in education, **Carolyn Kettig** and **Gabe Levine** are pursuing theater careers, while **Jon Merwin**, **Oriana Battifarano**, and **Hannah Loo** are all doing research in the sciences. The Class of 2013 also has a large contingent of software engineers, including **Edmund Qiu**, **Richard Zou**, **Alexander Golin**, and **Brian Yang**! We look forward to keeping in touch and seeing each other again soon."

"We rode from five boroughs to get to Hunter. Ride the 6 train 20 minutes from here and you're in District 12 in the Bronx. In seventh grade at Hunter, we read *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In District 12, fewer than 1 in 5 seventh graders can read on grade level. One in ten will go on to college. One."

—BEN SAMUELS-KALOW '08

## 2008

### CLASS COORDINATOR: DIANA MCKEAGE

"I'm in a room full of people who have won the lottery. ... What lottery did we win? When we were in sixth grade, or maybe when we were in preschool, we held a ticket to take a test, and everyone we ever met here won that same lottery." – Ben Samuels-Kalow

## 2013

### CLASS COORDINATOR: JENNA SHAPIRO

"Multiple generations of notable alumni gathered... to form a brain trust and finally disrupt capitalism." – Simon Bloch

*Class of 2013*



*Class of 2003*

# IN MEMORIAM

## Richard W. Peck

**Richard W. Peck\*** (1934-2018), award-winning author of historical and contemporary children's books and young adult novels, died May 23, 2018, after a long battle with cancer. Peck taught English at Hunter from the late 1960s until 1971, when he turned to writing full time.

Peck was born on April 5, 1934, in Decatur, Illinois. He lived in New York for nearly 50 years, but most of his novels were set in the Midwest. He was a prolific writer whose literary career spanned 45 years. It included 35 novels for children and young adults, four novels for adults, a compilation of short stories, a picture book, and two memoirs. His latest book, *The Best Man*, published in 2016, a story of small-town life, gay marriage, and everyday heroes, was named to 13 best-of-the-year lists and received a *Boston Globe-Horn Book Award* Honor.

In 2001, Peck won the John Newbery Medal, awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children, for his novel *A Year Down Yonder*. The book is set in the Illinois county where his father was born and features his most iconic character, Grandma Dowdel. In 1999, the prequel to *A Year Down Yonder*, titled *A Long Way From Chicago*, won the Newbery Honor Award. Two of his novels, *The River Between Us* and *A Long Way From Chicago*, were finalists for the National Book Award. In 2002, he received a National Humanities Medal from President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, the first ever to be awarded to a children's author.

Other accolades include an Edgar Allan Poe Award from the Mystery Writers of America, the Margaret A. Edwards Award for a significant and lasting contribution to young adult literature from the American Library Association, the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction, the Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers,

the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children's Book Award, the Jeremiah Ludington Memorial Award from the Educational Paperback Association, the 1990 Council of Teachers of English/ALAN Award for Outstanding Contributions to Young Adult Literature, and the 1991 Medallion from the University of Southern Mississippi for outstanding contributions to the field of children's literature. In 1977, Peck was named Illinois Author of the Year, and in 2002, he was awarded the *Chicago Tribune's* Prize for Young Adult Fiction for *Fair Weather*. Virtually every publication and association in the field of children's literature has recommended his books.

In 1999, Peck received an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree from DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana. And on May 12, 2018, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Literary Arts degree. He was an adjunct professor at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, in the School of Library and Information Sciences. A collection of his work is maintained at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Peck was an accomplished speaker who traveled extensively to promote his books and the importance of reading. He spoke at conferences, schools, and libraries in nearly every state, gave writing workshops, and visited classrooms to meet the students he wrote for. Many of the ideas for his novels were inspired by them.

Earlier in his life, Peck traveled the world as a port lecturer on cruise ships. His novel *Those Summer Girls I Never Met* was inspired by that experience. He also taught creative writing on a cruise ship that sailed between New York City and England. In the early 2000s, he was asked to accompany James Billington, head of the Library of Congress, to Moscow for the first

conference on children's literature to be held in Russia. Peck was invited by First Lady Laura Bush to be an author-in-residence at three National Book Festivals held in Washington, D.C.

Peck graduated from DePauw University in 1956 with a B.A. degree in English Literature. He spent his junior year studying at University of Exeter in England. He was drafted into the U.S. Army as an SPC4 in 1956 and served in Stuttgart, Germany, as a chaplain's assistant until 1958. Then, in 1959, Peck earned a master's degree in English from Southern Illinois University, where he was also a teaching assistant. He pursued further graduate work at Washington University in St. Louis. His teaching career began at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook, Illinois. After three years, he moved to New York City to teach English at Hunter College High School.

In 1971, he left teaching to pursue writing. In his memoir, *Anonymously Yours*, he describes that time: "I turned in my tenure, my hospitalization, my pension plan, and my attendance book, which was in fact the first work of fiction I ever wrote. I went home to write or die, sure I wouldn't teach again, convinced I couldn't do anything else. In those first quiet months, I learned that the only way you can write is by the light of the bridges burning behind you." In 1972, his first young adult novel, *Don't Look and It Won't Hurt*, was published. (That novel was later adapted into the film *Gas Food Lodging*.) Several of his other novels were adapted into television dramas, and many are available in audio versions. Some were also translated into other languages.

\*Adapted and sourced from *The State Journal-Register* (Springfield, Illinois) May 26-27, 2018



## Marie L. Rosso

Retired art teacher and former HCHS Art Department Chair **Marie L. Rosso\*** passed away on May 3, 2018. She was 89. Teaching at the school from the late 1950s through the 1980s, she was a wonderful friend and mentor to many.

A woman whose family described her as having an adventurous spirit, she traveled extensively.

She was born December 31, 1928, in Buffalo, New York, one of eight half brothers and sisters, whom she helped raise and put through college. She received an undergraduate degree at the State University at Buffalo and a master's in Studio Art from Ohio State University. She went on to become an art teacher at Hunter College Campus Schools.

A passionate educator, Rosso rose to head Hunter's Art and Music departments, a highlight of her career. She also loved cooking, especially with the renowned chef Pierre Franey and his wife Betty Franey.

In the 1960s, Rosso designed and helped build a house on a Three Mile Harbor estuary that became her summer residence. She also pursued several local business interests, at one time owning a marina, several cottages, and a tennis court on the estuary, off Gann Road.

Rosso loved going to the beach, sailing in a

boat she called *Carpe Diem*, and fishing, swimming, and clamming. She was an enthusiastic gardener and loved entertaining at her waterfront house.

After retiring, Rosso settled at Three Mile Harbor year-round and continued to develop her artistic gifts as a painter. She served as president of the East Hampton Artists Alliance and as an officer of the Springs Improvement Society.

**Marjorie LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61** considered her a dear friend, as Rosso welcomed her to the school when she began teaching. Goldsmith stated that Rosso *"always encouraged the talents of her students... [and] had an eye for those with 'hidden' talent and gave them confidence and platforms to showcase their artistic endeavors."*

*\*Excerpted from The East Hampton Star*



## Miriam LEVINE Bockman

**Miriam LEVINE Bockman '48\***, who was the only woman to head the New York County Democratic Committee and the first member of the party's reform wing to do so, died on June 25, 2018, at her home in Manhattan. She was 86.

The cause was complications of cancer, said John LoCicero, her friend and former fellow district leader.

Bockman was elected county Leader in late September 1977 as a political ally of Edward I. Koch when Koch defeated the incumbent, Abraham D. Beame, for the Democratic mayoral nomination before going on to win the office in the general election.

Her agenda as part of the party's reform wing was to get more committee members and voters to choose nominees for political, public and ju-

dicial seats rather than having those decisions made by a few bosses meeting in closed rooms.

But the party apparatus that she inherited from Frank G. Rossetti, a Beame supporter, was a shadow of the centuries-old Manhattan machine known as Tammany Hall, which had been ruled by illustrious figures such as Aaron Burr, Boss Tweed, and Carmine G. De Sapio, and whose icon was a feral tiger.

Instead, well before 1977, the job had degenerated into one akin to herding cats clamoring over an evaporating saucer of milk.

"One of the great challenges of the county leadership," Bockman was quoted as saying in *The New York Times* when she won the post, "is to show that the community of interests we share are much greater than the things that separate us."

But since the early 1960s, when De Sapio was toppled, Manhattan Democrats had been unable to reconcile the bitter ideological and personal conflicts that divided the established district clubs from their self-styled reform rivals, nor had fractious reformers been able to bridge divides among themselves.

Bockman announced her resignation in 1981, a casualty of a less disciplined style of politics in which she had been unable to command loyalty by delivering patronage, as party bosses had traditionally done.

Miriam Levine was born on October 25, 1931, in Corona, Queens. Her father was a postal worker. Her parents were instrumental in establishing a local branch of the Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association. She graduated from Hunter College in Manhattan.

It was after she joined the Village Independent Democrats that she met and later married Eugene J. Bockman, who had worked his way up through the Civil Service ranks and was named commissioner of information and research under Mayor Koch. Her husband died in 1999.

The Greenwich Village district — where Bockman was a co-leader with LoCicero, Koch's campaign manager — was a hotbed of liberal politics.

"We have been called hair shirts and pains in various parts of the anatomy," Bockman once said.

Prior to becoming county Leader, she was an advertising vice president for the weekly newspaper *The Villager*, then worked on the Koch mayoral campaign early in 1977 until being elected to the party leadership post. In 1986, Koch appointed her a salaried commissioner of the Board of Standards and Appeals, which hears challenges to zoning and other rulings.

*\*Excerpted from The New York Times*





## Bernadine TAUB Morris

**Bernadine TAUB Morris, Jan. '41\***, who demystified women's fashion for decades as a *New York Times* critic, died on January 12, 2018 in the Bronx. She was 92.

Her death, at a nursing home, was confirmed by her daughter.

Morris began her career as what she described as "either the cheap dress editor or corset editor" of *Women's Wear Daily*, the trade newspaper.

In 1963, on her 38th birthday, she got a job with, and through, *The New York Times* — answering a help-wanted advertisement in the newspaper for a fashion reporter.

More than 4,000 bylines later, she retired as the newspaper's chief fashion writer in 1995 after advancing fashion coverage to a stand-alone *Styles of The Times* section, begun in 1992, from what had quaintly been called "Women's News." Several of her articles appeared on the newspaper's front page.

Morris won the Medal of the City of Paris in 1985 and an award from the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 1987. But she never overstated the impact of her criticism.

"The theater critic of *The New York Times* I do believe wields power," she was quoted as saying in Nicholas Coleridge's book *The Fashion Conspiracy* (1988). "But not the fashion editor. It's too diffuse. The most I can do, if I'm really enthusiastic, is get a buyer to go see the collection."

Many designers might have disagreed. They hung on her every printed word as she roamed through Europe and the United States, sometimes covering four fashion shows per day for two weeks and also choosing the illustrations (by Antonio Lopez and Maning Obregon, among others) and photographs (by Don Hogan

Charles, Bill Cunningham and others) that would accompany her articles and reviews.

In a 2003 review of Michael Gross' "Genuine Authentic: The Real Life of Ralph Lauren" on the fashion website lookonline.com, she recalled that in 1970, Bloomingdale's opened its Polo Shop, which featured Ralph Lauren's radical four-inch-wide ties. It was the first time the store had sponsored a name designer in its men's department. "Marvin Traub, the head of Bloomingdale's, had invited me to his office to see the revolutionary work of a new menswear designer, which was entirely different from what conservative, traditional-minded men were wearing," she wrote. "The ties were an instant success."

Her fashion reviews rarely equivocated.

In 1982, when Chanel tinkered with its classic suit, Morris concluded: "Quiet, unassuming clothes have been transformed into fairly arrogant styles. The Chanel look has been vulgarized."

"But," she added, "not everyone is troubled by it."

She described Norman Norell as "the dean of American fashion designers" and championed Claire McCardell's comfortable sportswear, the wearable elegance of Calvin Klein's women's styles and the collections of Geoffrey Beene, Halston and Donna Karan, among others.

Morris was something of a trendsetter herself — she wore patterned stockings before they were fashionable — but she typically favored practical, unpretentious sportswear.

She wrote several books, including *The Fashion Makers* (1978) and *Scaasi: A Cut Above* (1996).

Bernadine Taub was born on June 10, 1925, in Harlem. She graduated from Hunter College in 1945 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. While working at *Millinery Research*, a fashion weekly, she earned a master's in English from New York University.

Before joining *The New York Times*, she worked at the magazine *Fashion Trades* and at *The New York Journal-American*.

Morris gravitated to fashion coverage because it was among the relatively few reporting specialties that welcomed women.

She married Jesse Morris, a businessman who had sold locomotives and became the director of financial services at the American Natural Soda Ash Corporation. He died in 2011. In addition to their daughter, she is survived by their son, a brother, and two granddaughters.

\*Excerpted from *The New York Times*

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### WE HAVE ALSO BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE PASSING OF:

Esther ROGOFF Taus,  
Jan. '31, Ph.D.

Adele SCHWEITZER  
Lindholm '39, died  
2/16/2017

Charlotte WHITE  
Spearman, Jan. '42

Elizabeth SUNDHEIMER  
Rosenstein, Jan. '43, died  
10/2/2016

Carole SKOLNICK  
Frankel '46, died  
5/7/2018

Joan McGILCHRIST  
Jackson '48, died  
7/10/2013

Reverend Ann GILLIAM  
DuBois Hare '50

Colette RAUNER  
Bartholomew '51

Norma SOLOMON  
Cooper, Jan. '53, died  
November 2015

Catherine MARTUCCI  
Murgolo, Jan. '53, died  
October 2016

Harriet FAIN Berger '60,  
died 11/18/2017

Chris Rodinos '71, died  
2014

Anthony Tabile Roque  
'99, died 11/4/2017

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**Benamina ABEL-BEY Hillery, Jan. '40** was born at the beginning of the Roaring 20s, on June 27, 1920. She was the youngest daughter of 13 siblings born in Ehrhardt, in Bamberg County, South Carolina. Her mother and father had



met during a trade fair in Chicago. Along the way, her father became a member of the Moorish Science Temple, a new Islamic group founded in 1912, and he changed his last name from Abel to Abel-Bey. During the Depression, Hillery and her siblings moved North; most of them settled in Brooklyn.

Hillery, also known as Dollie, was pretty as a doll when she was a little girl. She was bright and brilliant, one of the earliest "colored" females to graduate from Hunter College in the 1940s. She had famous classmates, such as Shirley Chisholm and Bess Myerson. Hillery wanted to go on to become a lawyer, then a politician, then even the president, so she could put things right. Instead, she met Edgar Hillery, with whom she fell in love and got married. They decided to start their family and she became a teacher. During her marriage, she earned several master's degrees in education.

She kept her passion for politics all through her life. In her late 80s, she cast her vote to help elect Barack Obama, the first Black president of the United States. One of her favorite heroes was Nelson Mandela; she kept a large framed picture of him above her bed. She

was always an activist and wrote crucial letters to Civil Rights and women's liberation groups.

Hillery had a passion for teaching as well as an adventurous spirit. She taught elementary school and wore many different hats throughout the years, such as Science Coordinator and ESL teacher; she served as Assistant Principal, District Coordinator, and also was a prominent union member. She traveled the world from Hawaii to China, had friends from all over; she loved learning and experiencing different cultures.

Although we mourn her loss, Hillery's legacy still lives on. She leaves behind her three children, her son-in-law and daughter-in-law, six grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

**Rita FLANZIK Powell, Jan. '42**, age 91, died on April 29, 2017, in Clear Lake, Texas. She was born



in Brooklyn, New York, on July 26, 1925. She received her B.A. in Home Economics in 1946 from Hunter College.

Powell taught high school home economics in Albuquerque and in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the late 1940s. She taught fifth and sixth grades in Bowie, Maryland, public schools for 19 years, from 1966 to 1985.

She was predeceased by her husband of 45 years, Carl Powell.

She is survived by her three children and five grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, consider honoring her with a donation to Galveston Baykeeper.

**Carol Rae WISEMAN Peterson '44**, 90, of Sunnyvale, California, born in Riverdale, the Bronx, passed away on April 3, 2018. Peterson graduated from Cornell University in 1948. She was a high school En-



glish teacher in New York City and Stamford, Connecticut, until 1957. She later co-founded the Fairfield Subscription Agency, which she ran for forty years until retiring in 2008.

She is survived by her two daughters, a son, a brother, five grandchildren, and two stepsons.

Peterson loved playing tennis, beginning at Cornell's tennis program and playing regularly until she was 85. She was a lifelong learner and treasured her adult education history and music classes. She volunteered for many years at the American Cancer Society's shop in Sunnyvale, and also was committed to bringing meals to the homebound.

Peterson and her husband were longtime members of Sunnyvale's Senior Center where they were twice-weekly regulars at the evening ballroom dancing group. They ushered at the Mountain View Center of the Performing Arts, as well as the DeAnza Center Performing Arts Center.

Those who wish may donate in her name to the Second Harvest Food Bank, San Jose, California.

**Dorothy GWON Kahn '48** died on January 21, 2018, in Delaware, Ohio, at the age of 89. She was born on July 19, 1928, in Boston. The family moved back to China in 1937, and returned to the United States in 1941, settling in New York City.

Kahn graduated from Hunter College and then earned her master's degree in Social Work from Case Western Reserve College in Cleveland, where she met her husband. Her family moved to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1970, where she worked as a foster care caseworker for the County Children and Youth Services before retiring.

When her husband died in 2004, Kahn sold the house and moved into an apartment in Austin Manor on the campus of Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. There she enjoyed taking classes, attending performances, managing the building's exercise and movie programs, participating in Great Decisions, playing Scrabble, and babysitting her grandson.

Kahn was predeceased by her husband, brothers, and sister. She is survived by her brother and three sons, three daughters-in-law, seven grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

**Gretchen FIELSTRA Bouwsma '48** died September 30, 2017. Married 64 years to her husband, they met as students at the University of Michigan. They sang together in the choir at the newly built Christian Reformed Chapel in Ann Arbor and were the first couple married there. Their brood grew to a total of seven children. As her youngest grew out of diapers, her involvement in local political issues, especially Civil Rights, grew. Bouwsma participated in People against Racism, Model

Cities, the YWCA, and the Woman's Guild of the Urban League. She went back to college, getting a graduate degree from Aquinas in Urban Planning. She was Housing Planner for West Michigan Regional Planning Commission, was Executive Director for West Michigan Gleaners, and oversaw the area's 1990 Census. She is survived by her seven children.

**Gloria Evangeline HOOPER-Rasberry '49** passed away May 7, 2018, at her home in Syracuse, New York. After completing her undergraduate studies, Hooper-Rasberry traveled to France under a Fulbright Grant. Upon her return to



the U.S., Gloria completed graduate study at Hunter College in Romance Language Education and Columbia University in Linguistics, and received her Ph.D. from UMAss Amherst in French.

She married and had four children. After moving to Syracuse, Hooper-Rasberry accepted a position at Syracuse University where she designed and developed the university's English Language Institute, becoming its first Director. She also designed and developed SU's World Language Program and served as its Director.

Hooper-Rasberry served various community agencies: Manlius Pebble Hill School, Salvation Army, Aurora of Central New York, Community Foundation of Central New York, International Center of Syracuse, and Alliance of Communities Serving Syracuse.

Undergirding her prodigious

activities in studies, family, work, and community involvement has been an abiding faith in humankind, creation, and its Creator.

**Sheila WEISS Haber '50** died on January 3, 2017, at the age of 83 with her husband at her side. She passed away after a long bout with Parkinson's disease and left behind, in addition to her husband, two beloved children and five grandchildren.

Haber attended the City College of New York where she met her future husband when she was a freshman and he was a senior studying Civil Engineering. After finishing her sophomore year at 19, she and Bernie decided to get married as he was entering the Air Force as a Lieutenant. They traveled throughout the United States and returned to New York



to raise a family. While raising her family, Haber continued her education at night at Hunter College. She received her bachelor's degree in Arts with honors in 1962, followed by her master's degree in Linguistics. During the 1970s and early 1980s, she taught English Writing at St. John's University, becoming the Deputy Director of the department. After St. John's, she became a writing consultant for many New York companies teaching writing skills especially to the staff of engineering companies like her husband's, where he was

the managing partner.

While she was consulting, from the 1980s to 2010, she devoted much of her time and educational expertise to the Public Education Association (PEA) as a Trustee and Vice President. PEA was the prime association monitoring and critiquing the New York City public educational system.

In 1981, Haber and her husband bought an apartment in Paris to allow them to make frequent visits to the city where their daughter was educated and worked for 13 years. They traveled regularly to most corners of the world and celebrated their 64th year of a loving marriage.

**Sheila ADELMAN Abrams '54** died at home in Schooley's Mountain, New Jersey, on August 16, 2017, after a brief time in home hospice care.

Abrams earned the first of several degrees, a B.A. in Philosophy from the City College of New York. Over the years, she won a fellowship to get an M.A. in Philosophy, and later an MLS from Pratt University (now Pratt Institute). She also studied education at St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia.

She married her husband in 1958 and the two traveled in Europe for a while before settling in Brooklyn. The couple had two children. Eventually, Sheila and her husband moved their family to the Philadelphia suburbs, during which Abrams was president of the Main Line chapter of the National Organization for Women, and a vocal advocate promoting the Equal Rights Amendment. She also worked at and went to St. Joseph's College part-time as she was raising her kids. Literacy, feminism, and dogs were the most important things to her throughout her entire life.

In 1977, the family moved back to the metropolitan New York area, settling 90 miles west of the city in Morris County, New Jersey, and fulfilled her dream of owning

a historic house. Abrams began working for a local newspaper, eventually becoming editor of one publication, and entertainment editor for the company. She won numerous awards from various agricultural groups, civic groups, and most significantly, the New Jersey Press Association. She was well-known and loved in performing arts circles in New Jersey, and widely considered by the smaller companies to be the true local authority on the arts.

Abrams served on various boards and in local organizations, and was elected to the local high school board of education. She and her husband served active roles in local pet rescue organizations, and enjoyed equestrian sports.

Abrams found her passion at the local library, where she became the president of the Friends of the Washington Township (Morris County) Library, as well as a member of the Long Valley Women's Club. She enjoyed British television, good mystery novels, and her dog Oreo. She also, despite fundamental agnosticism, reestablished a spiritual connection to Judaism via a friendship with Rabbi Yakov Schustermann and his wife, who run the local Chabad.

She is survived by her daughter and her son-in-law, two granddaughters, two nephews, many cousins, and numerous dear friends.

**Rose M. Kipp '63**, of Newark, Delaware, passed away on Friday, June 15, 2018, at the age of 72.





Kipp was born October 22, 1945, in the Bronx. She earned her bachelor's degree at Hunter College and master's degree from Delaware State University. Her early career was dedicated to social work, including being a group home parent for girls and boys at the Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Home (Bronx) and then Co-Executive Director for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Morris County, New Jersey.

Following a move to Delaware, Kipp continued her career at Delaware Technical Community College where she served as Chair of Workforce Training prior to retirement. In retirement, her dedication to education continued as she joined the Delaware Center for Distance Adult Learning (DCDAL) in the role of ABE Coordinator/GED Instructor. She was named the 2011 Delaware Adult Educator of the Year by the Delaware Association for Adult & Community Education (DAACE). Her past accomplishments included serving as the Vice-President of Denville, New Jersey's Board of Education, and as a DAACE board member.

Kipp enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. She was an avid reader, shopper, and enjoyed The New York Times crossword puzzles.

She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Alan J. Kipp, two daughters, brother, grandchildren, niece, nephews, and close friends. She was preceded in death by her two sisters, brother-in-law, and son-in-law.

In her memory, a scholarship has been created to support adult learners. Donations can be sent to: DCDAL, 160 Greentree Drive, Suite 104, Dover, DE 19904.

## Rabbi Aaron D. Panken

**Rabbi Aaron D. Panken '81, Ph.D.**, died tragically in a plane crash on May 5, 2018. He served as the 12th President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Rabbi Panken led the four-campus international institution of higher learning and seminary for Reform Judaism. HUC-JIR's campuses in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, and New York provide the academic and professional training programs for the Reform Movement's rabbis, cantors, educators, and nonprofit management professionals, and offer graduate programs for scholars of all faiths. HUC-JIR's 4,000 active alumni serve the Reform Movement's 1.5 million members and nearly 900 congregations, representing the largest Jewish denomination in North America, and the growing Progressive Movement in Israel and around the world.

Rabbi Panken was elected HUC-JIR President by the Board of Governors on July 31, 2013. His appointment was effective on January 1, 2014, and he was installed on June 8, 2014, in Cincinnati. Ordained by HUC-JIR in New York in 1991, Rabbi Panken previously served as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives (2007-2010), Dean of the New York Campus (1998-2007), and Dean of Students (1996-1998). He joined the HUC-JIR faculty in 1995, and taught Rabbinic and Second Temple Literature, with research interests in the historical development of legal concepts and terms, narrative development, and development of holiday observances. His publications included *The Rhetoric of Innovation* (University Press of America, 2005), which explored legal change in Rabbinic texts, the newly published, co-edited *Engaging Torah: Modern Perspectives on the Hebrew Bible*, and articles in leading academic journals and scholarly volumes.

An ardent supporter of Reform Judaism in Israel, Rabbi Panken said, "As the only North American seminary with a full campus and programs in Israel, we are uniquely positioned to influence both Israeli and North American society, and to ensure that the relationship between these two great centers of Jewish life continues and thrives. We will work hard to improve the understanding and integration of Reform Jews worldwide with our Jewish State and with all our global partners."

An alumnus of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship, Rabbi Panken earned his doctorate in Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New

York University. He was on the faculty for the Wexner Foundation and the Editorial Board of *Reform Judaism* magazine, and served on the Rabbinical Placement Commission, the Birthright Education Committee, the CCAR Ethics Committee, and in a variety of other leadership roles within the Reform Movement and the greater Jewish community. He lectured widely at academic conferences and synagogues throughout North America and as visiting faculty at universities in Australia and China. Prior to teaching at the College-Institute, he served as a congregational rabbi at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in New York City and as a rabbinical intern at Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, New York. Rabbi



Panken was a native of New York City who graduated from Johns Hopkins University's Electrical Engineering program, and he was a certificated commercial pilot and sailor.

He is survived by his wife, his children, his parents Beverly and Peter, and his sister, Rabbi Melinda Panken of Congregation Shaari Emeth in Manalapan, New Jersey.

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To pay your dues, register for reunion, make a donation, or purchase merchandise by credit card go to our website and click on **DONATE**. To pay by check, complete the form below and mail this page with your check payable to HCHSAA in the enclosed envelope. Donors who give \$125 or more a year (excluding dues) will be recognized in the *AlumNotes* annual Honor Roll of Giving. To make address corrections please use this form, login to our online directory, or email us at [info@hchsaa.org](mailto:info@hchsaa.org). Please review the reverse side of this form to ensure that your mailing address is correct.

## MEMBERSHIP

Dues support services for alumni including publication of *AlumNotes*, Reunion, Programs, HUNTERConnects, and Networking Events.

CIRCLE ONE

Levels	Benefits	1 Year	5 Year
<b>BASIC</b>	Annual subscription to <i>AlumNotes</i> . Discounted admission to Reunion and other programs throughout the year. Eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting of Members.	\$45	\$225
<b>DUAL</b>	Same benefits as above for two family members at the same address	\$75	\$375
<b>SENIOR</b>	Same benefits as above for the class of 1974 and earlier	\$30	\$150
<b>JUNIOR</b>	Same benefits as above for the class of 2014–2017	\$35	\$185
<b>NEW GRADS</b>	Same benefits as Basic for the class of 2018	FREE!	\$140
<b>PREMIUM</b>	Same benefits as above plus your choice of a free gift (below, exclusions apply)	\$100	\$500

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Gifts to the 2018-19 Annual Fund support Hunter College High School extracurricular activities and academic departments. Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law, and, if this is your Milestone Reunion year, will be counted towards your class gift. Please check one:

☐ \$75   ☐ \$125   ☐ \$250   ☐ \$500   ☐ \$1,000   ☐ Other Amount \_\_\_\_\_   ☐ This is a Class Gift

## BEQUESTS

The HCHSAA Legacy Society recognizes and honors those alumnae/i who have made a commitment to the future of the Alumnae/i Association and Hunter High by including us in their estate plans. You may become a member of The Legacy Society by making a gift to the HCHSAA in your will or trust or by naming the Association as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. To learn more, go to [www.hchsaa.mylegacygift.org](http://www.hchsaa.mylegacygift.org) or call us at 212-650-3349.

☐ I have designated a gift to the HCHSAA in my estate plan.   ☐ Please contact me to discuss my gift.

## MERCHANDISE

Cost includes postage and handling. Please circle size for tee-shirt(s)

Quan.	Item	Color (circle)	Cost	Size (circle)	Subtotal
	Adult T Shirt	Purple / Grey	\$10 (Youth) / \$15	Youth / Sm (34-36) / M (38-40) / L (42-44) / XL / 2X	\$
	"Woman" T Shirt	Yellow / Grey (text)	\$25	Sm (34-36) / M (38-40) / XL	\$
	Canvas Zip Tote		\$35 / \$45	Sm / L (large not available as a member benefit)	\$
	Water Bottle		\$30		\$
	T Shirt Bear		\$20		\$
	Sweater Bear		\$30		\$
	Baseball Cap		\$30		\$

☐ THIS IS MY FREE PREMIUM MEMBER BENEFIT –or– MERCHANDISE SUBTOTAL \$

☐ My check is enclosed. –or– ☐ Charge to my (circle one) AMEX MC VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

YEAR

PREFERRED EMAIL



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