

# AlumNotes

HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION, INC

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## WELCOME ALUMS OF 2005!

**W**ith this issue of *AlumNotes*, we warmly welcome 172 members of the class of 2005 to our Association.

We publish this newsletter three to four times each year in an effort to keep our alums informed about each other as well as our alma mater. We also maintain a website ([hchsaa.org](http://hchsaa.org)) and have bulk email capabilities to get news to you in a timely manner (so please, send us your email address by dropping us a line at [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com)). We sponsor several get-togethers during the year—our largest is the annual Reunion each June. We request that all alums pay annual dues to help support our activities, though we waive dues for current year grads.

Please keep us informed of your whereabouts so you can continue to receive our mailings—you can call, email, or snail-mail us with your news and/or address changes.

### HCHSAA EVENTS: DATES TO REMEMBER

*Alum Reception at HCHS*

Wednesday, November 2, 2005

6:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

*2006 General Reunion*

Sunday, June 6, 2006

## MILESTONE CLASS GIFTS CONTINUE UPWARD TREND

**Class of '85 Donates \$40,000, 1970 Gives \$20,000 and Class of '65 More than \$11,500**

**F**or the second year in a row, milestone classes have demonstrated an unprecedented level of giving to their class gifts. Whereas in years past, total donations to class gifts ranged from \$12,000–\$18,000, gifts in 2004 and 2005 totaled \$97,000 and \$93,000, respectively.

This year's largest gift comes from the class of 1985, which raised \$40,000. In memory of their favorite teachers, especially Jane Lewis, they have earmarked their gift for professional development at the High School. Two classmates (who wish to remain anonymous) presented a challenge grant of \$15,000 to the class. Scores of other class members donated amounts varying from \$25 to \$5,000. The main way the class reconnected and encouraged participation was by utilizing a Yahoo! egroup (an online communication

tool for posting email messages, conducting polls, and uploading photos and files). More than 140 class members belong to the group and 3,000 messages have been posted since January. Discussions were so lively and varied that the class spun off at least two other groups—one on parenting and another for book discussion.

Aileen Leventon spearheaded the fundraising efforts of the class of 1970 which raised \$20,000.

The class of 1965 also had a robust fundraising effort, encouraged by their lively listserv which was begun by class coordinator Deborah ROSENFELD Landes. They have raised more than \$11,500 and will discuss an earmark over the summer months.

For more on Reunion, please turn to page 6.

## DUES DRIVE TO KICK OFF SHORTLY

**I**n September, our office will be contacting all alums who are not current with their dues—so why not save us the postage and renew your membership now? You can check when your dues expire by looking at the date printed above your name and address on the back page—and if it's 08/05 or earlier, it's time to renew (or if your dues are expiring in the next few months, you can pay early and we'll extend them from the date of expiration). The back page contains a schedule of dues and can be used as a cover sheet for sending your payment—and we've included a reply envelope in this issue for your convenience in responding.

Dues support the operation of our office—including production of *AlumNotes*, maintenance of our website, and our various social events throughout the year. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, dues and donations to the Alumnae/i Assn. are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. We are also eligible for matching donations from many employers—so please check with your company.

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to the summer edition of *AlumNotes*! I hope everyone had a wonderful July 4th holiday and is staying cool. (Wasn't spring nice? Oh, you missed that week?)

We had a successful Reunion 2005 in June with more than 325 alums in attendance, including a 1929 graduate, Fromma EPSTEIN Wellman, who attended with her daughter, a member of the milestone class of 1960. I continue to be amazed at how enthusiastic alums from all classes are about Hunter. I even randomly bumped into a classmate that I had not seen in more than 20 years, who is now living in Bangkok and happened to be passing through the neighborhood! The best part was that we picked up the conversation right away, I suspect because of the special bond we share that is our Hunter experience. There was such a buzz of joy and excitement in the air that it took a few minutes for everyone to settle down at the beginning of the general assembly (and that's after they were seated!). Milestone class gifts continue to increase, this year totaling nearly \$93,000, including \$40,000 from the class of '85, \$20,000 from the class of '70 and more than \$11,500 from the class of '65! Thanks to all those who gave to their class gifts!

On the subject of giving, donations to our annual fund were more than \$64,000 in our fiscal year ending June 30, 2005. I applaud everyone's generosity and thank you all for being so supportive! Thanks to your giving, we were able to give almost \$130,000 to Hunter this year, including \$4,000 in scholarships.

We have had a very full and successful year as a Board, starting with our Fall reception at the High School, our involvement in the search for a new director of the campus schools/principal of the High School which brought us Dr. John Mucciolo, Winter Brunch, a Young Alums event the Friday before Reunion, Reunion itself and, of course, our Fundraising Feasibility Study. Thank you all for participating with us; we look forward to bringing you more next year—including more events and opportunities to connect to Hunter and to fellow alums.

Before I wrap up, I wanted to give you a brief update on our Feasibility Study. It is now substantially complete, and a sub-committee of the Board will be meeting over the summer to decide on next steps based on the findings. Stay tuned.

Finally, a note of appreciation and much thanks to those Board members who are leaving us: Harriet WHITMAN Aufses, Jan. '44, Nicole Morgenstern '75, Marianne Tomecek '69, Judy CHIN Wong '88 and Tai Wong '88. We could not have done it without you this year! And we would like to extend a warm welcome to our incoming Board members: Errol Bakal '99, Amy Farber '71, Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61, Susan Spector '64, Maiko Tomizawa '92, and Betty Walker, June '50.

Enjoy the rest of the summer; we look forward to communicating with you again later in the year. In the meantime, please feel free to check out our website: [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org).

Cordially,

Mimi Eng '84

P.S. As highlighted on the front page, we will soon kick off our annual dues drive. Please take a moment to check your dues expiration date above your name and address on the back page—and if you're not current (or nearing expiration), please take a moment to send in your payment. Thank you!

## AlumNotes

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By Nina HABIB Spencer '90

Any writer whose audience is more than 20 million is considered seriously successful. If you're a novelist, it means you're a Stephen King or a J.K. Rowling. If you write for television, it means you're someone like Adam Horowitz, writer and producer of ABC's phenomenally popular series *Lost*. "The show's success is mind-blowing and very humbling," says the 32-year-old, who, despite his age, has been writing for the small (and big) screen for almost 10 years. If he had any doubt about the show's impact, it was erased this past February at the Museum of Television's annual Paley Television Festival in Los Angeles. His show was honored not only by his peers, but also by throngs of *Lost* fans, many of whom had camped out, *Revenge of the Sith*-style, beforehand. "It was like a rock concert," says Adam, sounding more than a little incredulous. He truly has hit the big time.

For television writers, it's summertime, but the living ain't easy. The season premiere for *Lost* is scheduled for September 21, and Adam and the show's six other writers (including his writing partner and college buddy Edward Kitsis) recently finished the outline of the first episode and started shooting in Hawaii in July. Adam flies to Hawaii wearing two hats—writer and producer (very common in television)—and oversees everything from casting and wardrobe to makeup, talks with the actors about the script, and makes last minute edits.

The best advice Adam ever got came from an agent: "Always write, whether you get paid for it or not." Adam considers himself very fortunate to get paid to write, something he had always hoped might be his life's work. And he and his fellow writers are constantly writing, always coming up

with story ideas for *Lost*. "One of the advantages of having a large cast is that you can have a lot of stories even though you can't have a diversity of locations [since the characters are marooned on an island after a plane crash]," says Adam. *Lost*'s broad and diverse cast of characters also enables the writers to observe how actors play off one another and to change story lines based on real human interactions. Says Adam: "If you watch the pilot for *Lost*, Claire, the pregnant woman, and Charlie, the rock star, have no scenes together. But we discovered watching them on the set that these two had great chemistry." The writers wrote a budding romance between the two and it is now one of the most popular plot lines.

But before Adam was writing adventure psycho-dramas, he specialized in the kind of programming that required him to summon memories of Hunter High on a daily basis—the young adult one-hour drama. Adam has played matchmaker, twisted friendships, destroyed reputations, saved geeks, and dethroned prom queens in *Popular*, *One Tree Hill* and *Felicity* on the WB network, and on *Life as We Know It* on ABC. Leila Gerstein, also HCHS Class of 1990 and a close friend, wrote on *Life as We Know It* with Adam, making that show perhaps the most Hunter-influenced in TV history. "For a while there, I was more popular with teenage girls than I ever was in high school," he says of his previous audience. Together with Kitsis, Adam brought to the small screen the painful awkwardness of high school, but also its joys and freedoms—shared experiences that anyone young or old can instantly identify with. "I was thinking about Hunter every day," he says, naming his fictional teachers Morello, Weinstein and Aboody, after some of his favorite Hunter instructors.

And since viewers expect their TV characters to be a bit more articulate than their

real-life counterparts, six years at a school for the gifted helped the writing process. "Hunter is unique—not at all like other American high schools. It's smaller and everyone gets to know each other really well. Developmentally, you could observe so much," says Adam. Though sometimes, Hunter proved a little too unique. "I once went in to pitch a story to a producer that came from a conversation I remember having at Hunter. The guy said 'High school kids don't talk like that!' and I was like, 'They did at my high school!'"

His years at Hunter provided Adam with more than just ideas for plots, of course. He credits his teachers and Hunter's intellectual community with nearly every success he's had. "TV writing is about having a point of view and knowing how to think," he explains, "and my time in the writing room on *Lost* or any other show is about debate, if nothing else. You're constantly making an argument about why something should happen a certain way. It's like an ongoing English class. And at Hunter, I was made to feel what I said had some importance. I was never told to shut up and listen."

Adam traces his interest in drama back to eighth grade in Parker Baratta's English class. "He talked about *Julius Caesar* in a way that just made Shakespeare click for me," he says. But it became apparent soon thereafter that acting was not his calling.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## ALUM PROFILE: ADAM HOROWITZ '90

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"I did Brick Prison [theater group] senior year with Thisbe Nissen and Leila Gerstein [Thisbe is now a novelist, and Leila continues to write for TV] and it taught me I didn't want to act. It's so hard to do well. I wanted to create the situations." And so, he did.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin in 1994, he set out for LA with "zero connections" and started sending out resumes and cold calling production companies. He landed a job as a production assistant on the campy horror show *Tales from the Crypt*, which involved delivering tapes, getting coffee, and absorbing whatever he could from the experience. Then, with no backup source of income and no definite career plans, he quit so he could work full-time on a film script with Kitsis. And, like a good Hollywood ending, his major risk paid off. Someone read the script, liked it, and passed it around town. It landed Adam an agent who then found a production company to option it. *Wild About Nothing*, a comedic tale of heart-break from the male perspective, has yet to be produced, but it served an extremely important purpose. It launched Adam's career.

His first job on a series was as staff writer on the short-lived and very expensive 1998 ABC series *Fantasy Island*, a remake of the 1970s hit. From there, Adam moved over to the WB network, working on various young adult dramas and producing and writing on *Birds of Prey* and *Black Sash*, two adventure drama series. In 2004, Adam sold a script for an original romantic comedy television movie about a Jewish-Catholic wedding, based on his experiences earlier that year when he married his wife Erin. *Confessions of an American Bride* aired in

**Adam's favorite shows (besides *Lost*):** *The Sopranos*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and any Yankee game

**How he feels about unscripted reality TV:** "The same way I imagine the native Americans felt when the Europeans started arriving."

**Adam's secret to writing for television:** Make your storyline both "surprising and inevitable."

**What he misses most about NYC:** his parents and the Yankees

May of this year and starred Shannon Elizabeth. And concurrent to his work on *Lost*, Adam sold a pitch for and was hired to write the script for a 20th Century Fox feature motion picture entitled *80 Million to One* about a high school kid who wins the lottery. If all goes well, look for this one in theaters in the not-too-distant future.

*Lost's* success may have a lot to do with Adam and the other writers on the show. But he knows that to the public, the actors—especially Matthew Fox—are the stars. Adam stays quite happily out of the public eye. For the near future, at least, there will be no *Us Weekly* scoops about where Adam and his wife Erin were seen having dinner (unless he does something really wild). Adam is thoroughly enjoying the show's popularity, and plans on staying for a while—with projects on the side, of course. "Before, when I would tell people what I did for a living and describe some of the shows I worked on, no one knew any of them," he says. "Now I never have to explain anything."

## ANNUAL FUND TOPS \$64,000

The 2004–2005 Annual Fund kicked off with a letter sent to all alums late last autumn. In the last issue of *AlumNotes*, we published names of donors who gave \$100 or more. Listed below are names of donors from whom we received contributions after April 22. Please note that donations to milestone class gifts are not included in this list.

### \$1,000

Vizhier Corpuz Mooney '85  
Michael Thaddeus '84

### \$200–\$249

Elvira HAND Doman '51  
Barbara Blaho Doonan '54

### \$100–\$199

Marina Angel '61  
Adrienne Anderson Barnhart '53 (retired faculty)  
Hilary Blumberg '82  
Sara Corello '82  
Shelagh Corporon '77  
Benjamin Delfin '90  
Sabrina Ellis '77  
Jeffrey Frank '83  
Harriet Starolitz Fruim, Jan. '41  
Elizabeth Genovese '73  
Carol D. Karp '74  
Marian Berliss Katzenstein '34  
Lillian E. Kraemer '57  
Anna Law '84  
Marilyn Lee '67  
Margaret Broderick Moser '55  
Andrew Obus '99  
Kenrick Ou '93  
Christopher Park '97  
Barbara Shulgasser Parker '72  
Miriam Kostiner Roschelle '48  
Jane Schwartz Schultz '49  
Martha Manley Skrivaneck '40  
Helene Williams Spierman '61  
Rachel Tritt '86

## PUBLISHED!

Kip Zegers, who will begin his 22nd year teaching in the HCHS English Department this fall, has just published his seventh book of poetry, *Walt's Last Stand* (FootHills Publishing). The poems in this book are a *vade mecum* for English teachers and would-be English teachers. They come from Zeger's initiation to teaching high school students. The hand-sewn book is 76 pages and can be purchased for \$15 + \$1.25 shipping and handling. To order online, go to <http://foothillspublishing.com/id106.htm> or by mail, send your order to: Foothills Publishing, PO Box 68, Kanona, NY 14856.

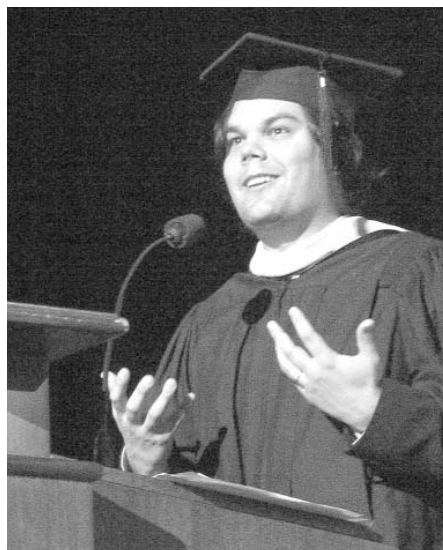


## CLASS OF '05 COMMENCEMENT

**"N**ever be afraid to ask for help" was the advice to Hunter High graduates from Bobby Lopez '93, at graduation ceremonies held on Thursday, June 23 at Hunter College's Assembly Hall. Lopez, the Tony-award-winning co-creator of the Broadway musical *Avenue Q*, accepted his Distinguished Alum award—the first male graduate of the High School to be so honored—and gave the keynote address. He related that when the award was first announced, he received an email from a friend from Hunter who thought it was more impressive than any other award he had received; Lopez agreed with his friend's assessment.

In addressing the 2005 graduates, Lopez recalled that when he was a high school student, his class was told that they could all make their dreams come true. What he wishes someone had told him was that you can't make them come true all by yourself—you need to connect with and mobilize the people around you. Back then, he thought if he didn't do something by himself, it was cheating. After college, he was knocked on his rear end by the "real world" and discovered that unlike his teachers, his bosses were not there for him; they were there for themselves. When he joined a musical theater workshop, he was approached by a fellow student who asked to work with him, and thus began a partnership that led to *Avenue Q* and the attendant success which continues today. As *Avenue Q* grew from a showcase to a Broadway production, more helpers and collaborators joined the production than Lopez could count. Lopez stressed that success can lead to elation, wealth, etc., but happiness comes from love—when you love those around you and they love you back.

The graduation also featured a salutation by Rachel Kagan (niece of 2003 Distinguished Alum Elena Kagan '77) who remarked that class members had to write a draft of their proposed salutation in order to compete to give the address; her father remarked that this process was "so Hunter." Kagan added that "Hunterizing" a problem is to presume that



Distinguished Alum Bobby Lopez '93

everything can be more complicated than it seems. The advantage of this attitude is that Hunter students learn to think in gray and to reflect and consider all aspects of a situation. Their teachers never let them skate by and their peers always challenge them.

Hunter College President Jennifer Raab also addressed the graduates, telling them that the reason she sits in her position today is because she sat in their position when she graduated from Hunter High in 1973. She added that the mark of a great institution is not the students it accepts, but the graduates it sends out into the world. She asked graduates to return the Hunter gift by giving back to their school and to their city in the future.

The Class Speech was given in tandem by David Andersson and Claudine Brenner. They recalled that when their class started at Hunter in 1999, the war was in Kosovo, the subways still accepted tokens, there was no Starbucks near Hunter, and students could eat in the hallways! Their class has been through first dates, first kisses, last classes and last dances, and they leave knowing that they will take Hunter with them wherever they go. The heart of what makes Hunter unique is the people. The class of 2005 feels lucky to have shared the last six years together.

## FOUR STUDENTS AWARDED HCHSAA SCHOLARSHIPS

**E**ach year, the Alumnae/i Association awards \$1,000 scholarships to the winners of the Thomas Hunter Prize and the Mildred Busch Award. The winners are selected by the High School's Honors and Awards Committee and are presented at the Honors and Awards Ceremony, which was held this year on June 6 at the High School. The students honored this year were David Bauer, Wyatt Ford, Katherine Hoffmann, and David Nachman.

## HUNTER STUDENT SHINES IN SCIENCE

**E**leventh-grade HCHS student Aliza Malz was selected for the second time to participate in the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). The event this year, which hosted science stars from all over the world, was held in Phoenix, Arizona, in mid-May. Aliza's physics project was "A Novel Simulation of Gravitational Lensing." Aliza was awarded the following prizes at the competition: The AVASC Foundation Second Award for projects that display outstanding creativity, ingenuity and have the potential to alleviate the human condition or mark a substantive advance in the scientific field; the Intel Corporation Awards in Physics—Third Award; the Society of Exploration Geophysicists—Award of Merit; and the University of Oregon Scholarship Award.

Aliza also advanced to the final round of the Nobel Essay—Laureates of Tomorrow Contest. Her essay was entitled "The Struggle for Particle-Wise Duality."

## REUNION '05 RECONNECTS GRADUATES TO HCHS

**M**ore than 325 alums gathered at HCHS on Sunday, June 5th to celebrate their milestone reunions—from the 5-year class of 2000 to the 70-year class of 1935. Reconnecting with dear friends and classmates elicited both fond memories of Hunter High and a recognition of its overarching importance to all of our lives.

The day's program included a continental breakfast, individual class gatherings, a general assembly—with speakers from each milestone class—and a buffet luncheon. We were also pleased to welcome current and former faculty members, including Science Department Chair Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith (HCHS '61), Irving Kizner, Margaret "Peggy" BETZ Perrin (HCHS '55) and Francine Salzman.

The day's highlight was the all-class general assembly. The HCHSAA president, Mimi Eng '84, reported that the Association had donated an unprecedented amount to the High School in the past year—more than \$126,000—from alumni donations to the Annual Fund as well as to 2004 milestone class gifts. This giving reflects the continuing love and devotion of Hunter's alums. Eng introduced out-going Campus Schools' Director and High School Principal, Dr. David Laurenson, who spoke of improvements at Hunter, including the addition of a state-of-the-art language laboratory and upgrades to the library and computer labs as the result of ongoing donations by alums. He also spoke of the varied extracurricular activities available to students, including: 20 varsity sports teams (half of which are women's teams), five different drama productions mounted during the year (including *Into the Woods* by the Musical Rep group), a Junior and Senior Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble and Junior Jazz groups, two choirs and a Jazz Vocal group, five cultural clubs (for Jewish, Asian, South Asian, African American and Hispanic students), the two school newspapers (*What's What* and *The Observer*) and the yearbook (*Annals*) which now runs to

several hundred pages. Although Senior Sing and the Big Show are no more, the school has Spirit Day (which normally entails a trip to Bear Mountain), Carnival, and Prom, which is a highlight of the year for seniors, and once each quarter an Arts Day is held, when the school's performing groups put on a show for the rest of the school. Dr. Laurenson added that of course, the students had won a slew of awards in the school year just completed—too numerous to mention—but he highlighted that 30% of the senior class are National Merit finalists, which may be the highest percentage of any school in the country; two students shared the Gold Medal in the Scholastic Aptitude Writing Awards (a regional competition); 13 students were accepted to the NYC Science and Engineering Fair; 16 received the maximum score on the National Latin Exam; one had a perfect score on the new SAT exam; one won the Intel Science Talent Search; and two students were selected as Presidential Scholars (this is a rare honor, as only one student is selected from each state, with an additional 15 at-large selections; only four schools in the country had two students selected). The high school faculty also earned accolades as two had books published recently, two had plays performed outside the school, and one music teacher was commissioned to write a requiem for a Miami-based group. There were also five retirements this year: Carol Marsh from the Communications & Theater/English Department; Beverly Lenny, Counseling; David Tomes, Science; George Kanganis, Foreign Language; and Susan Meeker, the Social Studies Department Chair. With the exception of Mr. Tomes, the other four faculty members each served more than 25 years at Hunter. As he leaves Hunter, Dr. Laurenson expressed his best wishes for the school and thanked the students, faculty, and alumni, especially current president, Mimi Eng; past president, Joan Rosenthal; perennial reunion organizer, Marge Goldsmith; and Alumnae/i Association office manager, Marge Kolb.

The next part of the assembly program was an opportunity for representatives from each milestone class to speak. Although the class of 2000 didn't have an official class coordinator, they rallied to attend the Young Alums Happy Hour on the Friday evening of Reunion weekend (sponsored by the Young Alums Chapter of the Alumnae/i Assn.) and they had their own get-together on Saturday at the Alphabet City bar, Stay, with 40–50 class members in attendance. Approximately 24 class members were at the Sunday Reunion and a couple of young men spoke as representatives. They expressed how special Hunter had been and how lucky they felt to have attended. Their class members are doing very well in general with one currently studying in England and another producing album tracks for Christina Aguilera.

The class of 1995 was represented by co-coordinators Charles Choi and Anthony Accurso. Charles pointed out that at graduation, he and his classmates had spent one-third of their life at Hunter—200 psychological bombs in a tight space. Some call Hunter alums smart but weird, but he has a fierce, unwavering pride in Hunter and his classmates. The class celebrated its 10th reunion at a bar on the Lower East Side on the Friday of Reunion weekend with more than 50% of the class turning up. They have produced lots of doctors and lawyers, but also teachers, a writer for *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central, and an Assistant Manager of the Texas Rangers baseball club.

Class of 1990 coordinator Nina HABIB Spencer was the first woman to speak for a milestone class, which engendered loud applause from the predominantly female audience (a testament to Hunter's proud history as an all-girls institution prior to 1974). Nina recalled her class's first year at Hunter when it was expected that students would write an opera for their Music class, compose a 10-page paper with footnotes for Social Studies teacher Irving Steinfink, and read *Richard III* in English class! Quite a change



from the neighborhood public schools most had attended prior to Hunter. The class held its class-only reunion on June 25.

For the class of 1985, James Imanian was the speaker, and he announced that the class had a great party the night before, which was organized by Wendy Turchin and Marc Siry. Over half the class attended, with two members traveling in from Germany and Italy (the classmates currently living in Australia and New Zealand didn't make it, but are expected to attend the 25th!). Their class includes two Gulf War vets, doctors, teachers, psychologists and some who are in government service. Susan Earley, who helped coordinate the class gift, announced that \$40,000 had been raised and will be donated in honor of the school's teachers to a fund for professional development. The class particularly wants to remember Jane Lewis, a former Rockette, who taught Social Studies and knew how to enjoy a pint of Häagen-Dazs chocolate chocolate chip ice cream! Susan recounted how her class had actively discussed their memories of Hunter for months prior to the reunion on their Yahoo! egroup—which had led them to “put their money where their mouths were” to support the continuation of Hunter's programs for future students. Two incredibly generous class members donated \$15,000 as a challenge grant to the rest of the class—whose members then rallied to more than match the amount.

The class of 1980, celebrating its 25th reunion, was represented by co-coordinators Cheryl KATZ Chiovetta, Nancy Lewin and Jean Tom. They recounted how they were

the first class at Hunter to which boys were admitted—they started with 18 in 7th grade and 12 graduated with them. Six of those 12 attended the class's party the night before, and all 12 were lauded by the women as being the “most incredible” people. Science teacher Lester Rubenstein, recently deceased, had been fondly discussed on the class's egroup, and it's their intention to collect the many memories to forward to his brother. Other favorite faculty members included Jack McNeil, Jane Lewis, Ira Marienhoff, and Marge Goldsmith. Cheryl applauded her classmates for being uniformly nice people who were accepting of each other no matter where they came from. They had fond memories of 466 Lex as well (an office building between 46th and 47th Streets where the school was temporarily located for several years in the 1970s)—and the attendant elevator lines for the trip up to the 13th and 14th floors. Not so fondly remembered were the severe budget crises to hit the school—necessitating students to bring in chalk and paper.

Deborah Kahn spoke for the class of 1975, which was represented by four or five class members at the Reunion. There had not been a big call to celebrate the class's 30th reunion, but they hope to do better in 2010. Deborah remarked that her class also had fond memories of 466 Lex, including such neighborhood favorites as Zum Zums and Lamston's.

Class coordinator Susan NEIDICH Gonen spoke for the class of 1970. They were the last class to graduate from the 68th Street building before Hunter College took it back and the high school moved temporarily to two

floors of the office building at 466 Lexington Ave. The class's main celebration was held on June 11; 70–75 classmates attended the luncheon.

Sarah ROBBINS Schoenwetter and Linda Sharpe were the representatives for the class of 1965 and related that 92 classmates had gathered the previous day, coming from coast to coast. The sentiment the class most wanted to express is that “although we leave Hunter, Hunter never leaves us.” Their class's time at Hunter began in the era of white gloves and ended in “free love”—its members lived the social change apparent in the audience today. They appreciated the benefits of single-sex education that they received at Hunter, and they have taken many journeys since 1965—such as becoming doctors, lawyers, teachers and ministers.

1960 class coordinator Jeanette ISENBERG Bersh informed the audience that her class was one of the largest, with 269 graduates. Forty-fifth reunion celebrants enjoyed a luncheon the previous day—and they all had a great time just talking to each other. One classmate remarked that they had all received a college education at Hunter and a high school education in college. About half of the class members are retired now, but nevertheless, they have managed to contribute about \$4,500 for their class gift. In closing, the members of the class rose and sang their senior song.

Speaking for the golden reunion class of 1955, Peggy BETZ Perrin (who also briefly taught English at the High School) related

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that the class had 71 members at their dinner the previous evening and almost that many at the general reunion. They had hoped that [former Phys. Ed.] teacher Jean Binnie would be in attendance, as she had been close to their class members, and she had planned to be, but at the last minute she was unable to attend—she nevertheless sent her regards to all.

The members of the class of '55 were born as the world went to war and attended Hunter in the post-WWII years—some of their classmates were concentration camp survivors with tattooed numbers on their arms. The year 1955 was momentous for other events besides their class's graduation—Albert Einstein and James Dean died, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus, Disneyland and the first McDonald's opened, the Brooklyn Dodgers won the World Series, and the first home microwave was marketed. In 1955, there were multiple morning and afternoon papers in NYC, the subway and the pay phones cost a nickel, and plastic, fast food and TV were in their infancy. Hunter, in those days, was the “castle” on 68th Street, with its attendant gargoyles—long since removed. The girls used the building from the basement to the 7th floor, and one of the only men in the school was Jimmy, the elevator operator. There were three entering classes—7th, 9th and 10th grade. Their class welcomed the first male principal and the first male teachers. Future New York State Poet Laureate Audre Lorde '51 and Metropolitan Opera singer Martina Arroyo, Jan. '53 were Big Sisters to their class, and Martina often sang at their assemblies. Hunter students enjoyed Senior Sing, the G.O. Carnival and the Faculty Show—where teachers mimicked the kids; a memorable spoof of *HMS Pinafore* included Bobby Keyser as Dead-Eye Dick and Ms. Scully as Buttercup.

Class members have said that it's hard to describe what Hunter meant to them—but some favorite things were its encouragement of their love of reading and the “big” discussions which were often held in class. At

Hunter, women gained courage, confidence and hope—and found a peer group they hadn't had at their neighborhood elementary schools. Hunter provided the opportunity to meet girls from all over the city with different ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds.

Now, class members have gone through marriage, raising kids, welcoming grandchildren and some have experienced widowhood; many have found that there is nothing like a Hunter friendship to sustain them through their lives.

Dorothy BURRY Simon spoke for the class of January '50 which had a small turnout at the Reunion, but hopes to do better in the future! Their class spread out far and wide after WW II, which made it harder to keep in touch over the years, but the friendships they had at Hunter were golden.

June ROSS Marks from the class of June '45 recalled that President Roosevelt died during the class's senior year. She recalled playing softball with classmates in Central Park. A member of the January '45 class was proud that at her class's 50th reunion in 1995, classmates didn't brag about their kids, but rather their own accomplishments—many were the first women to accomplish one thing or another in their professional lives. Another classmate remembered the shortage of men during their young womanhood—most were fighting in the war—and a favorite song of the time included the lyrics “They're either too young or too old.”

Marjorie CALDWOOD Parrish '40 was proud that six of her class members were present at the Reunion. She recalled that after the war, when she went to the Red Cross for help in finding a job, they refused to place her because she was overqualified for anything they had available. At Hunter, Mademoiselle Gibert taught them Christmas carols in French and at age 78, Marjorie was able to remember them when she served as a volunteer in Martinique. Arax Hogroian recalled that the school was housed in a building on

96th Street by the East River and then in an office building on 32nd Street where students were only allowed to use the freight elevator. When there was a mouse in the auditorium, their principal, Dr. Brown, dismissed their panic, telling the girls, “He's more afraid of you than you are of him.” Dr. Brown told them all that she considered them her daughters, but woe to the underperforming girl who got called to her office to be “invited” to leave Hunter. Joyce MAYERSOHN Pilsner stated that Hunter had been the most significant education experience she had in her life. Shirley HACK Hirschel told how she had met people from all over the city and how every day was special. Roslyn KIRSCHNER Fallick said that she received the best education for 13 cents a day (the price of her carfare and milk).

The final speaker was from the class of '35—Anna COHEN Rockowitz who was “thrilled” to be at Reunion. She recalled walking to school along Fifth Avenue to see the greenery, or along Park Avenue to see the Rolls Royces.

The program ended with a rousing singing of *Alma Mater*, led by Helene WILLIAMS Spierman '61, with Dr. Laurenson accompanying on the piano.

Following are the reports of the reunion activities of this year's milestone classes as submitted by those classes:

### 1990

Coordinator: Nina HABIB Spencer

Around 50 members of the class of 1990 gathered at Sugar lounge in Tribeca in late June to reminisce about the good times we had at Hunter when we were there in the 1980s. When photos were passed around showing classmates from 7th to 12th grades, it became clear that Hunter was indeed the place where we grew from children into young adults. And, perhaps not surprisingly, many people were still as we remembered them. A little taller, maybe, certainly better dressed and more self-assured, but the same in so many ways—though in the five years since



our 10th reunion, our circumstances have changed dramatically. Many of us have moved out of New York, or gotten married (sometimes to each other!), had children, found new careers, grown in our old ones, or left the rat race entirely—major changes that made this reunion a somewhat smaller affair than the last. But with 80s music blaring, drinks flowing, abundant munchies and *The Breakfast Club* playing on a screen on the other side of the room, we had a blast.

We are doctors, Wall Street types, chefs, music industry execs, lawyers, teachers, journalists, engineers, children's book authors, actors, librarians, stay-at-home moms, opera singers, soldiers, wheelers and dealers, smellers of roses, and everything in between. We are good at what we do, curious about the world, open-minded when we should be, and opinionated when we need to be and thankful to Hunter for giving us the tools to do it all.

Hope to see everyone, and I do mean everyone, at the 20th.

## 1980

Coordinators: Cheryl KATZ Chiovetta, Lisa Foy, Nancy Lewin, Jean Tom

The class of 1980 reunion festivities started with dinner Saturday at The Sweet-n-Tart Restaurant in Chinatown with 40 class members and 7 guests/family. It was a fun evening of connecting and reconnecting with old friends. A good portion of the dinner group went out for drinks afterwards, staying out until early next morning with one class member reliving the high school experience of having her parents call to find out where she was at 1:30 a.m.! On Sunday, 35 classmates and 20 family members came to the High School to see teachers and enjoy the assembly of reunion classes followed by brunch afterwards. The reunion concluded with a visit to the Central Park gardens.

We were all delighted to see a 50% turnout of the 12 boys in this first co-ed class in HCHS's history. The class of 1980 proudly raised nearly \$2,600 for the Alum association to support

HCHS activities. Each of our classmates looked like they walked off the pages of the yearbook, and we are proud of the many accomplishments of our classmates. We were all happy and delighted to see each other and hope to stay connected until our 30th reunion.

## 1970

Coordinator: Susan NEIDICH Gonen

The planning for the Centennial [the class of 1870 was the first Hunter High graduating class] Senior Class Reunion began late last summer when someone noticed an obituary for a classmate in *The New York Times*. It was decided that rather than to wait another five years to celebrate as we had been doing in the past only on the "0" year—we should celebrate with a bash every five years. With concerted effort, the Internet, and some Hunter ingenuity, we managed to locate addresses for almost all 180 of us. Our "totally missing" list has fewer than 10 names on it.

The Centennial Seniors celebrated with a wonderful buffet luncheon at Sal Anthony's Restaurant on Saturday, June 11. Seventy of us attended the gathering, with one classmate even flying in from Germany for the occasion. The afternoon went swiftly, with women renewing friendships, catching up with one another and just having a good time. A few attendees had been "lost" since graduation and their reappearance after 35 years was an extra special treat. We toasted the memory of our late classmates Kathryn Appel, Stephanie Hill, Michele Imberman and Susan Solomon. A feeling of warmth pervaded the afternoon air. A few of us were having so much fun that the party continued elsewhere until late that night.

Using the wonders of email, and digital photography, Esther Kresivo, who lives in Israel, created a wonderful "Then and Now" photographic book with senior pictures juxtaposed with recent photographs. A booklet containing "life journeys" of 115 classmates with all of the gathered contact information on the class was produced and distributed. Mainly through the efforts of Aileen Leventon, our

class generously raised more than \$20,000 for the High School.

## 1965

Coordinator: Deborah ROSENFELD Landes

On Saturday, June 4, 2005, much to our mutual astonishment, 92 members of the Class of '65 gathered at a restaurant on the west side of Manhattan. Several came from around the block, another from halfway around the world (Israel) and a good many from the West Coast. Most of us had not seen each other since we were 18 and, remarkably, now we were 58.

It started with an idea and a listserv in December 2004. After a few tentative responses, in time it grew to 120 members. Six months later there had been more than 3,600 postings, proving conclusively that we are still a verbal bunch. Since it is impossible (or inappropriate) to speak on behalf of the group, let me offer some of the mutual observations that were shared in posts to the list:

- The anticipation was palpable.
- After you talked to someone for a minute or two, they looked just like the girl from high school.
- Whatever was awkward at first rapidly dissolved into lively (and loud) conversation.
- Next time we'll reserve a place for a greater amount of time. Three hours was NOT enough!
- All of our fears and insecurities were pointless.
- "I wouldn't miss our 45th for all the world."
- "I made friends with someone I never even spoke to in high school."
- "Thank goodness we had name badges; I was afraid I wouldn't know anybody."
- "Thank goodness we had name badges; I was afraid nobody would know me."

One of our classmates went to great lengths to digitalize our Senior Sing, cleaning up the background noise (remember this was recorded on a vinyl LP) and made CDs for everyone. More than one classmate reported playing it

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## REUNION NEWS

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on the way home in their car and immediately bursting into tears. For a good many of us the emotions are too personal and too intense to share here. We had developed an intimacy on the Internet and a degree of honesty probably unthinkable as teenagers. We confessed to our mutual insecurities and the remarkably common belief that our acceptance to Hunter was a mistake. We all thought everyone else was smarter, better, richer, prettier, better dressed, more sophisticated. We imagined we were the only ones from dysfunctional homes, or with alternative life styles and sexual preferences. We feared that 40 years later everyone else was more accomplished and that others might not admire the choices we had made in our lives. We worried we hadn't lived up to our "potential" as "intellectually gifted" Hunter girls. Our fears were groundless; the joy of the occasion was the great equalizer.

The listserv still exists, although it is not as active these days. Our website is accessible at <http://www.mercy.edu/deborah/hunter>; others might find it interesting, along with the biographies and photos that are posted therein.

### 1960

Coordinator: Jeanette ISENBERG Bersh

The class of '60 came to reunion for a "time out" in our busy lives and to enjoy each other's company. We came for friendship and commiseration and most of all for laughs. We were the cusp generation between the repressive 50s and the liberated 60s. We made the 60s happen. We have the requisite doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, architects, computer designers, authors, entrepreneurs, and, even, coming from Hunter, artists, singers, photographers—and a mermaid (see her website at [themermaid.com](http://themermaid.com))! We make no distinction because we are friends. We are Renaissance women and we do it all. Some of us are changing careers even now. We were Martha Stewart if we wanted to be, way before Martha. We came to reunion to renew old friendships and make new ones. We mourned

our deceased classmates and tried to help each other as needed.

At our Saturday private luncheon at the College, we listened to the brief bios of each other's lives, sometimes hysterical with laughter, other times moved to tears, but without judgment. Many of us are retired. Some are facing personal health problems or those of loved ones or their loss. Still we attend reunion, if possible, as it gives us a few hours to relax, laugh at ourselves and remember the days when we were 12, 15 and 17 and then see ourselves in each other's eyes now. We even invited former classmates who left to go on to other high schools, and we felt no difference with them. There were 70 of us, we ran overtime as usual but had a great time in our lavender and white flower bedecked room.

The highlight of our reunion was our Sunday visit at the High School with retired faculty member Irving Kizner who regaled us with his behind-the-scenes stories about his early days as a Hunter teacher. The number of accolades for his influence on so many of our lives is astounding. Women came by from other classes to listen. Family members of our classmates also came by to say hello and give regards.

For the Class of '60, Reunion is an emotional experience. It made us all feel that we had a connection to something wonderful—a group of women who came together for a scholastic and social connection at 68th and Lexington many years ago and left the better for the experience in 1960. We are still friends today with even more in common.

### 1955

Coordinators: Eleanor Joyce, Eve MASTER Kaplan, Anita VALENTE Mule, Peggy BETZ Perrin, Ellie PRUGER Seepes, Anita COOPER Tsamaikis, Lenore ROMANELLI Valente  
We've come from the castle on Lexington and 68th Street with Jimmy the elevator man to the Brick Prison on Park and 94th Street with an automatic elevator.

We've experienced the surprise and sadness

of seeing some classmates for the first time in 50 years: "It's you!" "Why have we waited so long to get together?"

Our classes entered at 7th, 9th, and 10th grades, enriching our class population with fresh faces and new thoughts. [Today's students enter only at 7th grade.]

We were led by the first male principal and taught by the first male teachers. [Today's faculty is coeducational.]

We've moved from single-sex classes to coed classes. The comfort, reassurance, and female *joie de vivre* have been replaced—we deeply hope—by the best of all possible non-sexist environments.

We've made all the "passages" and heard all the "clicks." Like Hunter classes before and to come, we are doctors, lawyers, academics, entrepreneurs, scientists, engineers. And, when necessary, we've also done and do the simple daily work that puts food on the table and pays the rent.

Our lives are your lives, shaped and colored by the time, 50 years ago, when we graduated.

Our losses, separations, and divorces have been balanced by many rich long-term early and late marriages, second marriages, and relationships. We were socialized to negotiate and accommodate rather than switch. Some can still refer to husbands as the "light of their lives."

In the face of challenge and discrimination, we've managed to reinvent ourselves and succeed beyond expectations. What joy!

At reunion, you beheld us in "that time of year ... when yellow leaves, or none, or few do hang." And yet we are happy in our abilities, our education, our achievements and blessed in these friends of 50+ years with whom the conversation, however often or long interrupted, always begins in *medias res* and never ends.

Cherish your Hunter friends.

For all these things, we thank Hunter!

## ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Jean MOVERMAN Leonard, Jan. '44** has authored a children's book entitled *The Hat Lady*. It tells the story of her friend, Eileen Elkin, a volunteer at Halifax Hospital in Daytona Beach, Florida, who makes hats for recovering cancer patients who have lost their hair to chemotherapy. The book is illustrated by Eileen's daughter, Mollie. The hospital printed 2,000 copies of the book for patients and others interested in a story about cancer to share with youngsters.

**Dr. Nanette KASS Wenger '47**, professor of medicine in the Division of Cardiology at the Emory University School of Medicine and chief of cardiology at Grady Memorial Hospital, is the recipient of the 2005 Atlanta Business Chronicle Health-Care Heroes Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes her lifetime of work in the area of cardiac disease in women. Wenger chaired the U.S. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Conference on Cardiovascular Health and Disease in Woman, was the first female president of the American Heart Association Georgia chapter, and has served as vice president and executive committee member of the American Heart Association.

**Ann RAIA Colaneri '57** has co-authored, with Cecelia Luschnig and Judith Lynn Sebesta, the newly published book, *The Worlds of Roman Woman: A Latin Reader* (Focus Publishing, 2005). The book is aimed at intermediate Latin students at the high school/college level, including AP students, and its theme is women in the ancient world. This reader provides assistance for the student and material which will encourage the shift from decoding words to critical reading for ideas and appreciation of language and style. Colaneri is an Associate Professor of Classics at the College of New Rochelle. Inquiries for purchase of the book can be made via email to [orders@pullins.com](mailto:orders@pullins.com) or by telephone to 800-848-7236.

**Judy ZAHLER Kronenfeld '60** announces the publication of her poetry chapbook, *Ghost Nurseries* (Finishing Line Press). The theme of the book is recovery—recalling, reclaiming, and cherishing all those selves and visions of the self and others, in youth and

in age especially, that time strips away. Kronenfeld teaches in the Department of Creative Writing at the University of California, Riverside and her poetry, fiction, and nonfiction have appeared in many journals as well as several anthologies. *Ghost Nurseries* can be ordered for \$16 at [www.finishinglinepress.com](http://www.finishinglinepress.com) or by mail to Finishing Line Press, PO Box 1626, Georgetown, KY 40324.

**Marina Angel '61** had her article, "The Modern University: Hierarchical, Bureaucratic Structures Replace Coarchical, Collegial Ones; Women Disappear from Tenure Track and Reemerge as Caregivers; Tenure Disappears or Becomes Unrecognizable," published in the *Akron Law Review*, No. 38.

**Dr. Dorie Klein '67** published an article entitled, "Incorporating a Public Health Approach in Drug Law: Lessons from Local Expansion of Treatment Capacity and Access under California's Proposition 36," in the December 2004 issue of *The Milbank Quarterly* (a publication of the New York Academy of Medicine). The article can be found online on The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website: [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org).

**Lynda LIEBERMAN Baker '69**, a strategic planning facilitator, is currently aiding Heifer International with projects in 50 countries, including sites in Asia and the South Pacific. Heifer International helps impoverished communities become self-reliant with gifts of livestock and agricultural training; it has committed \$1 million toward developing projects in the Tsunami-hit areas of Sumatra and Thailand. Baker's Austin, Texas company, MeetingSolution, helps individuals, groups, and organizations better understand their organizational problems, whether they are strategic, cultural or operational. For more information, visit [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) and [www.meetingsolution.com](http://www.meetingsolution.com).

**Claire Marcus '70** has received a Lackawanna County (Pennsylvania) Arts Council Grant. The award is funded by the new county assessment for arts and cultural development. Marcus will work with youth groups in Merli-Sarnoski Park near

Carbondale to create a sculpture inspired by the region's landscape. The work will be exhibited by Pennstar Bank before permanent installation at the Children's Advocacy Center at Community Medical Center in Scranton.

**Pola Rapaport '73** premiered her film, *Writer of O*, at the Film Forum on West Houston Street in NYC on May 4. It tells the story of Dominique Aury, a "mild-mannered" editor for France's prestigious Gallimard press, who in 1994 revealed her authorship of the 1954 bestseller, *Story of O*—an elegantly written S&M fantasy which she published under the pseudonym Pauline Reage. Rapaport's film explores Aury's inspiration, recreating the world of 1950s literary Paris and setting it against dramatic sequences that bring the infamous book to life. Aury and various French intellectuals expound on the thorny relationship between sexuality and power, submission and freedom, liberation and non-being.

**Lori Ginzberg '74** is happy to announce the publication of *Untidy Origins: A Story of Woman's Rights in Antebellum New York* (Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2005). In her book, Ginzberg, an associate professor of history and women's studies at Pennsylvania State University, weaves the radical local action of six women in rural upstate New York in 1846, who sat down and wrote a petition to their state's constitutional convention, demanding "equal, and civil and political rights with men," into the broader narrative of antebellum intellectual life and political identity. She brings new light to the story of woman's rights and of some women's sense of themselves as full members of the nation. Ginzberg is the author of two previous books, including: *Women and the Work of Benevolence: Morality, Politics, and Class in the Nineteenth-Century United States*.

**Gwyn Firth Murray '77** has co-founded an organization of legal professionals working in the area of open source software. Learn more at the website: [www.open-bar.org](http://www.open-bar.org).

**Alexandra MacAaron '80** announces the publication of her book, *The New Marketing Conversation: Creating and Strengthening*

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## HUNTERITES IN THE NEWS

**Eileen GRIFFITH Lee-Weaver, Jan. '50** was honored by the 369th Historical Society during this past Women's History Month (March 2005). Lee-Weaver is a graduate of Barnard College and did graduate work at Fordham University and CUNY. She co-founded and became executive director of "Operation Open City" of the New York Urban League, an anti-discrimination housing program, was the Tenant Representative Member of the Advisory Council to the Housing Court of New York City, past president of the Harlem Consumer Education Council, past member of the Harlem Public Service Science Center, active in the National Association of Blacks in Energy, Treasurer of the Harlem Interfaith Counseling Service, Co-founder and board member of the NW Bronx Coalition of Community Organizations, and worked with many committees having to do with equality and justice for African Americans. Lee-Weaver now lives in Nassau County where she has been appointed a Commissioner of the Nassau County Human Rights Commission. She has also been selected by Councilwoman Dorothy

Goosby to serve as chair of the Nassau County Committee to Honor African American Veterans of WW II, Korea and Viet Nam. She also served as political action chair for the Hempstead NAACP and vice-president of the Freeport NAACP, has been a literacy volunteer, and was appointed by Mayor Glacken to the Freeport Planning Board and Site Plan Review Board. Along with her husband, and other minority families, she sued Nassau County for its racially discriminatory tax assessment and won, which led to a major change in how property taxes are calculated.

**Dr. Betty LEVIN Sternberg '67** was featured in an April 18, 2005 *New York Times* article entitled "At the Front of the Fight Over No Child Left Behind—Connecticut Official Takes on Bush Law." Sternberg is Connecticut's commissioner of education and has emerged as a national leader in the fight against provisions of the 2001 federal No Child Left Behind law which require students to take annual proficiency tests—challenging the frequency of the tests and the limited exemptions provided for special education and English language learner students. In her view,

the state would glean little from additional testing and the money it would cost—some \$8 million—could be better spent in the classroom.

**Bobby Lopez '93** was featured in a June 22, 2005 article in *The New York Times* entitled "Student Who Made Good on *Avenue Q* Gives Back." The article detailed how Lopez had organized a benefit performance entitled *Avenue Q Swings* to raise funds for two new pianos for the Greenwich House Music School, where he had studied piano and sax as a child.

**Judd Greenstein '97** was profiled in the "Critic's Notebook" column of *The New Yorker* magazine's June 27, 2005 issue. Greenstein is a composer whose piece "Today and Everyday," written with September 11 in mind, was premiered in May by the New York Youth Symphony. Samples of Greenstein's music can be heard online at [juddgreenstein.com](http://juddgreenstein.com) and [nowensemble.org](http://nowensemble.org).

*Editor's Note: These items are based on news accounts sent in by alums or their classmates, or that the editors have come across.*

## Alum from Class of '38 Gets Our Emails—Do You?

HCHSAA now has the ability to send bulk email messages—allowing us to advertise upcoming events and inform alums of news more frequently than we can through *AlumNotes*. We recently heard from an alum of the class of '38—Shirley APPELL Chary Jennings—who tells us that getting messages from us makes her feel young again!

If you are not receiving our periodic email messages, please drop us an email to [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com) and we'll gladly add you to our distribution list—and don't worry, we don't share addresses with anyone who's not a fellow alum.

## ALUMS SEEN & HEARD...

**Russell Hershow '80**, who plays violin for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, performing as part of the symphony's east coast tour from May 10–16 in Washington D.C., Philadelphia, and NYC...**Kyle Baker '83** at the Mocca (Museum Of Comic and Cartoon Art) Arts Festival on June 11–12 in NYC, autographing copies of his books, *Plastic Man* and *Kyle Baker Cartoonist Vols. 1&2*, doing sketches, and discussing his upcoming *Nat Turner*. Baker was also a presenter at the Harvey Awards ceremony, which was held at the arts festival where he won a Special Award for Humor in Comics for *Plastic Man* (DC Comics)...**Cynthia Nixon '84** at the Alliance for Quality Education's Party for Action on May 11 at The Tank in NYC, an event to thank volunteers working on providing access to quality education to NYC's public school children...**Aaron Retica '84** having his article about growing up in Stuyvesant Town published in the "Lives"

column of the May 15th *New York Times Sunday Magazine*...**Josselyne Herman '85** appearing in a commercial for Roadrunner...**Marvin Young '85** (a/k/a rapper Young MC) having his 1989 song *Bust a Move* used in a recent Old Navy commercial for tunics...**Amy Sohn '91**, author and columnist for *New York Magazine*, participating in a panel discussion and reading on "Chick Lit," love, marriage, and relationships in the 21st century and Jewish women's point of view through the lens of fact and fiction at The JCC in Manhattan on June 21...**Sara Clemence '92** on *The Fabulous Life* on VH-1 on July 11, talking about celebrity vacation homes...**Wyatt Ford '05** having his letter to the editor published in the June 22 edition of *The New York Times*. He opined that home-schooled children should not be eligible to participate in public school activities, such as sports, since their parents had chosen not to enroll them in school.



## 1940s

**Evelyn Konrad, Jan. '46** graduated from Cardozo School of Law on June 7, 2005. She had a varied and successful career before that, as a Managing and Marketing Consultant, a Business Journalist who had articles published in *Fortune*, a brief stint as an Economics Correspondent for *NBC Nightly News* and *Today*, author of business books and one novel (the latter published in hard and soft cover in the U.S., Great Britain, and German-speaking countries), writer of dramas for network TV, CEO of two of the most unsuccessful dot-coms in the late 1990s, etc. She is also the mother of four lovely adults (two daughters and two sons), and has a granddaughter (at Trinity!) and a grandson just 9 months old in San Diego. Evelyn went to Stanford for her BA and MA, both of which she received in 1949! • **Helen MISSIRES Lorenz '46** was recently made a Knight of the Order of the Palmes Academiques—awarded by the French Government to honor someone who has made a significant contribution to the spread of the French language and culture. On May 20, the Cultural Attache in Houston traveled to Dallas to present her with the award. Helen writes that it was at Hunter that she was turned on to languages in the classes of Miss Garlatti, Mlle la Bruyere, Dr. Rothschild, and Marie Bierne (Latin) and she wishes to thank the institution that steered her in the right direction.

## 1960s

**Rosemary Hoffman '61** was recently promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. • **Holly Gunner '62** was married on June 5, 2005, in Waltham, MA, to her long-time partner Anne Chalmers, who is Art Director of Cookbooks and Guides at Houghton Mifflin in Boston. Both English majors, Anne and Holly wrote their own wedding ceremony. In welcoming their 150 guests at the start of the ritual, Holly said, "It's one thing to evolve a private commitment to a person, and quite another to stand before your community in the light

of day to sanctify and affirm that commitment, both spiritually and legally." Holly, an ACLU Mass. Board member and Foundation Trustee, is one of a small, core group of people directing the strategy and operations of the MassEquality coalition of social justice and civil rights organizations, which were formed to obtain and preserve equal access to civil marriage rights and obligations in Massachusetts. In this work, Holly has drawn on what she learned while earning an MBA in 1981 at Harvard Business School and during her subsequent management consulting career. *The New York Times* announcement of Holly's and Anne's wedding prompted many welcome emails with good wishes from HCHS classmates. • **Miriam Kimmelman '66** and **Dvora (Dorothy) Burstyn '66** finally had a reunion in Haifa, Israel when Miriam was visiting family there. Dvora works as a nurse at Rambam Hospital's ICU. Miriam's family was surprised to learn that the pair have known each other since 7th grade, haven't seen one another since the 20th reunion when the class of '66 was shushed, and still managed to talk nonstop for almost two hours. You just can't keep the class of '66 quiet.

## 1970s

**Judy Goldsmith '78/'79** has been promoted to (full) Professor of Computer Science at the University of Kentucky.

## 1980s

**Gail Schechter '80** received a BridgeBuilder award on April 30th from the Justice & Peace Commission of the Chicago Province of the Society of the Divine Word. Gail, who works for the Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs, was honored for her tireless work and energetic vision in bringing together diverse groups and peoples in the mission to create inclusive housing in Chicago's northern suburbs. • **Joseph Chan '82** recently married Dr. Maithao Li at the Chapel at Columbia University. In attendance were **John Lee '82**, **Chun Mak '82**, **Sai Choy '82**, **Henry Cheng a/k/a Henry**

**Tom '82**, and **Frances Lee '81**. • **Allon Percus '87** and his wife Karen Meyer-Roux are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Alexander Meyer Percus, on October 15, 2004, in Los Angeles. Alex is an utter delight, and doesn't stop smiling and laughing. • **Adam Smith '88** was recently divorced and has moved back to San Francisco. Exhibitions of his art work in 2005 consist of group shows in NYC, Tokyo and Boston and there will be more. He will also be participating in fundraisers in LA and East Hampton, NY. Adam's work appeared briefly on the final episode of *The Bachelor* on May 16. He also golfs a lot. You can check out Adam's work on his website: [adamsmithart.com](http://adamsmithart.com). • **Bouqui KYA-HILL Stautmeister '88** remarried in 2003 and is living abroad in Switzerland; she would love to hear from alums in Europe via email to [mail@bouqui.com](mailto:mail@bouqui.com). Before giving birth to Eric Jaden on February 8, 2005, she was editor-in-chief of *The Sulzer Technical Review (STR)*, a corporate customer publication, where she continues as a consultant.

## 1990s

**Elizabeth Gonzalez '91** graduated from medical school on May 29, 2005, receiving her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degrees. She began residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital in June.

## 2000s

**Joshua Geltzer '01** graduated summa cum laude from Princeton in May 2005 and has received a Marshall Scholarship that will enable him to spend the next two years studying international relations at King's College London. He remains close friends with many Hunter students from '00 and '01. • **Daniel Leeds '01** graduated from MIT with a B.S. in electrical engineering/computer science and will be continuing on for his M.Eng.

*You can contribute your news to Class Notes by writing or emailing the Alumnae/i Association office.*

## In Memoriam

**Frances Haidt '40** passed away on May 7, 2005, at her home in Chelsea. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Lory RENGANSESCI Ricci '42** passed away in Riccione, Italy on May 27, 2005. She worked in Rome for NBC News for many years as an interpreter and secretary to the head of the news bureau. She is survived by two sons and a daughter and several grandchildren.

**Noemi BETTER Gelb '53** passed away on March 7, 2005. She had been living in Mashpee, MA. She is survived by her husband, Allen Gelb.

**Lila PEARY Visich '55** died recently of liver cancer. She had been married and divorced from classmate Dolores Visich's brother, and the two women remained close friends. Lila lived in upstate NY

where she raised Keeshound dogs and ran a landscaping business.

**Judy Gruber '67** died on June 1, 2005, after a 20-month battle with brain cancer. She was a University of California, Berkeley, political science professor and former chair, known for her research on bureaucracy and regional governance, as well as for her pioneering leadership on work/life policies at UC Berkeley. She was remembered by her department chair for making the department and Berkeley a better place and for being universally adored by her students for her dedication and commitment. She published a book, *Controlling Bureaucracies: Dilemmas in Democratic Governance*, in 1987 and had an article included in the Spring 2005 issue of the *Journal of the American Planning Association*. After Hunter, Gruber graduated magna cum laude from Cornell and then earned her

doctorate in political science, with distinction, from Yale; her doctoral dissertation won her the American Political Science Association's Leonard D. White Award for the best dissertation in the general field of public administration. She is survived by her husband, Joseph Houska, her sons, David and Aaron, and her father, Irving Gruber. Her classmates request that memorial donations in her honor be made to the HCHS Alumnae/i Association.

The Alumnae/i Association also has been advised of the passing of the following individuals: **Ethel HARLOW Mulcahy '31**, **Eleanor TOMLINSON Sawyer '33**, **Anne CONNORTON Moukad, Jan. '34**, **Rosalind JOSEPH Kantrowitz '34**, **Dellora HOWARD Hercules '36**, **Janet Nemerofsky '37**, **Grace Failla Maltese '39**, **Marian CARTON Gulack, Jan. '42**, and **Susan Omansky '56**.

## ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

*Relationships Between Buyers and Sellers* (Thomson Texere, 2005), which she co-authored with Donna Baier Stein. The book helps improve the reader's ability to develop and execute strategy that integrates online and offline media—from print to video and electronic, emphasizing principles related to direct marketing. MacAaron is Executive Vice President, COO, and Executive Creative Director of Direct Results/SourceLink, has won dozens of advertising industry awards, has taught at several universities, frequently lectures for various New England associations, and is the Vice President of the New England Direct Marketing Association.

**Nick Confessore '94** won a 2004 Livingston Award for National Reporting for the best examples of excellence in journalism by professionals under the age of 35. The \$10,000

awards—for local, national and international reporting—are the largest, all-media, general reporting prizes of their kind in American journalism. Confessore won in the category of national reporting for his article, "GI Woes," published in the March 2003 issue of *The Washington Monthly* (the article can be accessed online at: [www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2003/0303.confessore.html](http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2003/0303.confessore.html)). Confessore relocated back to NYC from Washington, DC in December 2004 and has joined *The New York Times*, where classmates Sewell Chan and Jennifer 8 Lee are colleagues.

*You can have your announcement published by writing or emailing the Alumnae/i office. Authors are encouraged to donate a copy of their published books to the High School library, where they will be placed in a special area with other books by alums. The address to which to send your books is: Hunter College High School Library, 71 E. 94th Street, New York, NY 10128-0798. Enclose a brief note to advise the librarian that you are an alum.*

## AlumnaGrams

### DO YOU HAVE A MESSAGE TO SEND?

Send your 135-character AlumnaGram to thousands of Hunterites for just \$10. Add another \$10 for more than 135 characters; a maximum of 270 characters total is allowed. To send an AlumnaGram, please send your name, address, daytime telephone number, check made payable to HCHS Alumnae/i Association, Inc., and, of course, your message, to: HCHS Alumnae/i Association, Inc., Hunter College, Box 373, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY!

## HCHSAA Website

Our web address is [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org). Highlights of our site include archives of past issues of *AlumNotes* and an alum email directory. Certain pages are password-protected with our common password: *purple* (all lower case).

# YOUNG ALUMS GET "HAPPY" IN NYC



About 100 alums from classes of the '90s and early '00s gathered at Tonic in Times Square on the first Friday in June for a Happy Hour sponsored by the Alumnae/i Association's newly revitalized Young Alums Chapter. HCHSAA board members Marguerite LIAO Williams '91 and Kari CHIN Chachkes '87 did the initial meet and greet, but the party pretty much ran itself as alums from a diverse group of classes enjoyed an evening of socializing. Additional photos from the event (courtesy of Vincent Gong '90) can be viewed on our website (hchsaa.org). New HCHSAA board member, Errol Bakal '99, is working on plans for future Young Alums events, but you won't hear about them unless you sign up for email notices from our office. Simply email us at hchsyalums@yahoo.com and ask to be added to our notification list. See ya soon!

## CHAPTER COORDINATORS

### New England Region & Greater Boston

Nancy Weissman '76  
617-439-0110, nweissman@aya.yale.edu

### Northern New England

Dorothy ALTMAN Solomon '57, 603-447-1199

### Southern Connecticut

Melissa ROSSE Dobbryn '77  
203-324-2828, rosse@gandb.com

### Northern Westchester (NY)

Marie Ciaiola '45, 914-276-0159

### Hudson Valley (NY)

Deborah I. Dorwitt '77, 914-562-0457

### Ithaca/Rochester (NY)

Barbara STAMM Nosanchuk '57  
964 Cayuga Heights Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850  
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### Washington, DC Region

Deanna GORKIN Okrent '60  
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### Southern Florida

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### Chicago Area

Andrea BOCKMAN Stack '72  
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### Texas

Gail LEINKRAM Folloder '69  
ladygail@houston.rr.com

### Southern California

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### San Francisco Area

Caverlee Cary '73  
cari@uclink3@berkeley.edu

Marcia Feitel '73  
marcia\_feitel@hotmail.com

Jane Resnick '73  
janeresnick@attbi.com

### Israel

Lorell FELDSTEIN Blass '45  
Agron Street, Jerusalem  
lorell@netvision.net.il

### Young Alums (classes of '90-'02)

Errol Bakal '99, theerrol@hotmail.com  
Kari CHIN Chachkes '87  
kchachkes@mestel.com

*Note to chapter leaders: If you have any news or notices of meetings or get-togethers that you'd like us to publish, please let us know by September 15.*

## MILESTONE CLASS REUNION COORDINATORS

### 2006 Reunion: Sunday, June 6, 2006

If you are a member of a milestone class (year ending in 1 or 6) and you don't see a coordinator listed for your class and would like to volunteer, please call 212-772-4079 or email hchsyalums@yahoo.com.

**1956:** Ruth KAUFMAN Davis,  
davisrk@flash.net

**1961:** Helene WILLIAMS Spierman,  
helenespierman@optonline.net

**1981:** Lauren BUXBAUM Kacir, 313  
Gulfstream Drive, Georgetown, TX 78626,  
512-869-1232, ellerbie63@aol.com

**1991:** Purvi Sevak and Marguerite LIAO Williams are looking for classmates who are interested in helping to plan the Class of '91 reunion. Please contact Purvi or Marguerite to volunteer or if you have any ideas! Purvi Sevak, psevak@hunter.cuny.edu, 212-772-5404; Marguerite LIAO Williams, mhlw1991@yahoo.com, 212-854-9505.

**1996:** Elizabeth Hook, (w) 212-275-6768, (c) 917-612-8560, elizabeth.hook@turner.com; Judy Seltzer, 2546 East 13th Street Apt. D5, Brooklyn, NY 11235, (h) 718-646-4339, (c) 347-831-3674, judyrvic@yahoo.com

## Preserve the Future & Join a Special Group

Not everyone can make a large gift to benefit HCHS during their lifetime, but you can help future students by remembering the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association in your will. Your legacy can mean a brighter future for our alma mater. By including the HCHS Alumnae/i Association in your will or estate plans, you will help continue the special enrichment projects that we fund at HCHS. If you have already included HCHSAA in your will, thank you! If you'd like to include us, please use the designation: "Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, Inc., a New York not-for-profit corporation."

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New York, NY 10021

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you are responding to any of the items listed below, please send us this entire page (an envelope has been included for your convenience). Jot down your news for Class Notes and make any necessary changes or corrections to your name and address in the area above. Please also provide the following information:

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you do not want your name and address given out to other alums or members of the HCHS community.

**DUES** (Your dues expiration date (MONTH/YEAR) is printed above your name on the mailing panel, above.)

- ☐ Classes of '01 and earlier \$30  
☐ Classes of '02-'04 \$15  
☐ Class of '05 FREE  
☐ Senior/Fixed Income \$20

- ☐ Premium Membership—\$75  
Includes choice of one: T-shirt / 2 mugs / Teddy Bear / Apron  
Please indicate choice and size, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_  
(The value of your gift will decrease the amount of your tax-deductible contribution;  
you may also choose to give your entire contribution to HCHSAA.)

**ANNUAL GIVING 2005–2006** (Donors who give \$100 or more will be recognized in a future *AlumNotes*.)

- ☐ **DONATION AMOUNT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please indicate if you'd like your contribution earmarked for a specific area.  
☐ Enclosed is my **EMPLOYER'S MATCHING GIFT** form.

**MERCHANDISE** (includes postage & handling and NYS sales tax)

- ☐ Adult's T-shirt \$21  
Circle choice: S(34-36) M(38-40) L(42-44) XL (46-48) XXL(50-52)
- ☐ Child's T-shirt \$15  
Circle choice: XS(2T-4T) M(10-12)
- ☐ Coffee Mug \$11
- ☐ Teddy Bear \$24  
Circle choice: Dark Brown Midnight Blue Gray
- ☐ Apron \$20



**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Make check payable to: HCHS Alumnae/i Association., Inc.)

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