

# AlumNotes

HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION, INC

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## DUES ARE DUE!

If you haven't yet replied to our recent dues letter and you are not current with your dues, we ask that you please pay now by using the form on the back page and the enclosed envelope. Your dues expiration date is printed above your name and address on the back page (MM/YY). You may also pay online using MC or VISA at [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org).

Dues support the production of *AlumNotes*, the website, and the online alumni directory, as well as various social events held throughout the year. The Alumnae/i Association is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and dues and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. HCHSAA is also eligible for matching gifts from many employers—so please check with your company's HR office.

## HCHSAA TOTE BAGS AVAILABLE NOW!

Just in—HCHSAA's new canvas, zip-top tote bag! A full-color photo of the tote can be viewed under the "Alum Store" button on our website—[www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org) (please note that the tote is a lighter purple than the tee-shirt and apron). The tote bag and other merchandise (tee-shirt, apron, or coffee mug) can be ordered using the form on the back page. The purchase prices include shipping and handling and sales tax, if applicable. If you pay premium dues of \$85 you can pick one item of merchandise as a gift (two mugs if choosing that option).



## WELCOME CLASS OF 2008 ALUMS!

With this issue of *AlumNotes*, HCHSAA is pleased to welcome 193 members of the class of 2008 to the Alumnae/i Association. We're glad to have you join us and we wish you all the best with your future endeavors.

*AlumNotes* is published several times each year in an effort to keep alums informed about each other as well as our *alma mater*. HCHSAA also maintains a website—[www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org)—and sends communications via bulk email. (Any alum wishing to join the email listserv should drop a note to [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com).) HCHSAA also sponsors several social events each year, including the annual General Reunion in early June, the Autumn Reception at the High School, as well as theater parties, museum tours, etc. The Association also strives to support our *alma mater* financially. HCHSAA have given more than \$100,000 to the High School in each of the past four years.

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

## GALA HIGHLIGHTS SPRING EVENTS



HCHSAA 2007–2008 Board members at Spring Gala at The '21' Club

A varied selection of alum events was held last spring beginning in April with two special tours of a new exhibition at MoMA and a theater party to see class of '98 member Lin-Manuel Miranda's Broadway show *In the Heights* and ending in June with the General Reunion at the High School. In between were Young Alums and Social/Networking ("older" young alums) events and the Alumnae/i Association's first-ever gala fundraiser, a part of the *Our Foundation, Our Legacy* campaign for HCHS.

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

With much sadness, I report the recent loss of our friend, fellow Board member, and past president of the Alumnae/i Association, Ruth KAUFMAN Davis '56. Ruth passed away following a courageous 11-year struggle with breast cancer. Many of you will remember her as the emcee of several of our past reunions and other events. I, along with four other Alumnae/i Association members, was honored to attend her funeral in early August and hear her eulogized by family members, friends, and co-workers.

As a 48-year employee of the NYC Board of Education, Ruth gave tirelessly of herself—first to her students and later to the many young teachers she mentored as a Speech Supervisor. Six years ago, in the midst of her health battles, she joined the HCHSAA Board of Directors. She was a valued colleague and a constant cheerleader for the Association and HCHS.

Ruth's approach to life can serve as a lesson to us all—she believed education never ended (she earned two Master's degrees as well as a number of other teaching certifications), she believed teachers could make a difference in the lives of their students, and she believed in the value of her Hunter High education. She was also someone who didn't easily give up—as her stepson remarked, "She was given six months to live 20 times!" She continued to work full-time until just last May, and in the past few years, completely renovated her house, took dancing lessons, and studied Spanish!

I came away from Ruth's service feeling a renewed commitment to service—in my case, for my service to our Alumnae/i Association. I and the other 14 volunteer members of the AA's Board of Directors spend many hours meeting and working on AA matters and we all contribute financially to the Association. My wish is that all my fellow alums find similar worthy "causes" in their lives—and hopefully the Alumnae/i Association will be one of them!

To honor Ruth's commitment to education and specifically to HCHS, the HCHSAA Board of Directors recently made a contribution of \$25,000 in Ruth's memory to the High School. These funds helped pay for auditorium renovations completed over this past summer. We regret that Ruth will not be there to welcome alums to the beautifully renovated space at the next HCHSAA General Reunion.

On a lighter note, we are planning a number of social events in the coming months and hope many of you will be able to participate in one or more of them. Since I have become involved with the Alumnae/i Association, I have so enjoyed meeting fellow Hunterites from a wide span of graduating classes—it's nice to go to an event and be surrounded by people with whom you can always be assured of having an intelligent conversation!

Since some of our events are announced only via email, please make sure you are a member of our listserv by dropping us a line at [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com).

Cordially,

Purvi Sevak '91

## AlumNotes

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Note from the Editor:* In our Spring issue we published a letter from Rebecca LEVITAN Lister '29 asking if she might be our oldest alum at the age of 95. We subsequently heard from Mary Schulman '25 who turned 100 in November 2007. Other alums called to tell us about Amelie SPIEGEL Rothschild '23 and Ethel GARFUNKEL Berl, Jan. '23, who are both a couple of years past the 100-year mark! All three of these ladies live in the NYC area.

To the Editor:

I cherish my connections with the wonderful women of Hunter more every year. The school is extraordinary and shaped the lives of myself, my mother (Elsie Rosenberg '27), and my dad, Max Serbin, who taught instrumental music at Hunter for several years in the 1960s. "Sing to our school, forever may she stand. Forever sheltering those who love and serve her well." Much love to all.

**Sarah Maria Jones (a/k/a Lisa Serbin '64)**

To the Editor:

I was moved when I read about Mme. Brodin's legacy gift to Hunter High in the last issue of *AlumNotes*. I remember her as a gifted teacher as well as a sensitive and kind person.

**Claudette Heisler Caplin '57**

To the Editor:

The last issue of *AlumNotes* was quite fine. How generous the Whitman family has been!

The website I put together in memory of Ruth Lilienthal, who taught at Hunter from 1930–1962, has been reformatted and expanded. Fifty-two alums contributed their memories. The address is: [www.chrhodes.com](http://www.chrhodes.com).

**Carolyn HODGSON Rhodes '43**

## HCHS REUNION 2008



Class of '03 members, plus Coach Randolph, enjoy the General Reunion

Each June, the Alumnae/i Association sponsors a general reunion at Hunter High School, which was held this year on June 8, and where alums from classes of the 1930s through the 2000s were welcomed. Most milestone classes (those ending in 3 or 8) also planned class-only parties.

The best part of the general reunion always comes at the general assembly, when representatives from each class talk about their unique Hunter experiences—and this year was no exception. AA president Purvi Sevak '91 opened the program by introducing her 3 1/2-year-old daughter, who has lately made her think about the importance of excellent educational opportunities. She added that looking out at all the faces in the auditorium reminds her of what a special place Hunter was and is. Reviewing the AA's activities, Purvi reported on a busy and fruitful year—a number of social events were held, including the annual Autumn Reception, a theater party, alum tours of MoMA, several happy hours, and HCHSAA's first-ever Gala, in honor of Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61, retired Chair of the HS

Science Department. The Spring Gala raised more than \$40,000 and the AA donated more than \$110,000 to the High School. These moneys were used to renovate one entire computer lab, support fine and performing arts, purchase consumables for the Science department, and purchase textbooks and curricular materials for all departments. Acting principal Sonya Mosco seconded Purvi's assessment of the past year and expressed deep appreciation for all the support the school has received from alumni. She remarked that it truly demonstrates that once you have belonged to Hunter, you always belong! She added that she has spent 21 years at Hunter and still loves to hear stories from alums about how Hunter has affected them.

Speaking first, for the class of January '43, Sara SPIRO Portnoy joked that her classmates had told her she should say that they've "endured." While that is true, Sara added that in her opinion, they've "flourished." They were a close group in high school and still delight to see each other and take pride in each other. The class produced doctors, lawyers, and teachers

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# SPRING EVENTS

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## Spring Gala Fundraiser Honors Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61, Retired Chair, HCHS Science Department

Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61 was the honoree at the May 15th Spring Gala, held at The '21' Club. More than \$40,000 was raised (after expenses)—from 22 sponsors who donated between \$1,000–\$5,000 each, individual ticket purchases, and a number of donors who were unable to attend but still wanted to show their support for Marge and the AA.

Marge, who graduated from HCHS in 1961 and then earned her B.A. from Connecticut College and M.S.Ed. from the Univ. of Pennsylvania, taught at Hunter for 41 years, including her last 11 as Chair of the Science Department. She retired in June 2007, but continues to serve as a long-standing member of the Alumnae/i Association's Board of Directors.

The Honorary Chair and keynote speaker for the evening was Susan LEVINE Fuhrman, a classmate of Marge's from elementary school in the Bronx as well as HCHS. Susan is currently the president of Columbia University's Teachers College. Susan congratulated Marge on being honored and recalled that when they were at Hunter together in the late 1950s and early '60s, the careers open to women were mostly in education and the secretarial pool, but Hunter encouraged and taught them that they could be almost anything. Then and for decades earlier, Hunter had produced doctors and lawyers, as well as educators. And the educators it produced were incredible women—like Mina Rees, from the class of 1919, who was the first woman president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was instrumental in founding CUNY's Graduate Division and then served as its president from 1969–1972; Belle Zeller '21, who



*Clockwise from above:* Marge Goldsmith with Susan Fuhrman; alumni enjoying the Gala; (left to right) PTA President Jim Essey, Acting HCHS Principal Sonya Mosco, and Acting Director of the Campus Schools Randy Collins



was the first president of CUNY's Professional Staff Congress; Blanche DAVIS Blank '40, former acting president of Hunter College; Jennifer Raab '73, current Hunter College president; Augusta SOUZA Kappner '62, past president of Bank Street College; Elena Kagan '77, the first woman dean of Harvard Law School; and Susan's new colleague at Columbia, Dr. Linda Fried '66, who is the new dean of the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. Susan concluded that for all her years of teaching, mentoring, and befriending legions of Hunter students, Marge is truly deserving of being honored.

In introductory remarks, HCHSAA president Purvi Sevak remarked that when choosing The '21' Club as the venue for the Gala, the AA Board members thought that as a formerly all-girl school, it would be fun to crash an historic bastion of male power! She also

recognized some special guests who were present, including Jennifer Raab '73, the president of Hunter College; Randy Collins, the Acting Director of the Campus Schools and Principal of Hunter Elementary; Sonya Mosco, a 20-plus year veteran of Hunter High and the Acting Principal of Hunter High; four former AA board presidents—Peggy BETZ Perrin '55, Joan Rosenthal '72, Mimi Eng '84, and Ruth KAUFMAN Davis '56; and nearly all of the current Board members as well as a number of past members. There were also a number of current and past faculty members of the High School present, including: Laurence Borten, Tobie Brandriss, Eve Eisenstadt, Robert Goodman, Betty Kleinfeld, Anastasia Nicholas, Lois Refkin, Audrey Maurer '51, Joanne Roque '92, and Bobbi Brickman-Bremmer '76; as well as the current PTA president, Jim Essey, and the incoming co-president, Julia Whitehead.

Speaking after the event, Marge stated: “It was a beautiful evening and I was honored that Susan LEVINE Fuhrman was honorary chair and introduced me with some very kind, eloquent, and generous words. I was very happy that my classmates Pat Williams and Helene WILLIAMS Spierman were also present. The guests included friends, family, many teachers, and former students. It was fun to see those “kids” (now successful adults), dressed up in a wonderful space (and not in the high school cafeteria)! There were wonderful reminiscences, photos, and memories, but the best part is the \$40,000+ which was raised for the school—they need and deserve every dollar.” She added: “I have been so busy in retirement that I don’t know how I had time to work! But I am grateful for the opportunity to have spent so many years at the school with those remarkable students and faculty.”

Adam E. Cohen '97, who won the Westinghouse Science Talent Search (now Intel) competition in 1997 and currently teaches at Harvard, contributed a tribute to the evening's program since he was not able to attend in person. He thanked Marge as well as the entire Science Department faculty for making HCHS “one of the most intellectually stimulating places on the planet.”

## Alum MoMA Tours



MoMA tour participants

On a Sunday and Thursday in early April, Museum of Modern Art curatorial assistant Nora Lawrence '97 led private tours of the exhibit “Color Chart:

Reinventing Color, 1950 to Today.” This was the first major exhibition devoted to the pivotal transformation which occurred midway through the 20th century, when long-held convictions regarding the spiritual truth or scientific validity of particular colors gave way to an excitement about color as a mass-produced and standardized commercial product. The exhibit featured work by some forty artists ranging from Ellsworth Kelly and Gerhard Richter to Sherrie Levine and Damien Hirst. The tours were followed by lunch at Café 2 and both the exhibit and the socializing with fellow alums were enjoyed by all in attendance.

## In the Heights Theater Party



Lin-Manuel Miranda '98 with Anastasia Nicholas after *In the Heights* performance

We are grateful to the High School PTA for including alums in their April 13 theater party to see *In the Heights* on Broadway. More than 450 Hunterites, including alums, current students, parents, and faculty members attended the matinee performance of the show created by and starring Lin-Manuel Miranda '98 (the AA organized a viewing of the show in January 2007, when it was playing off-Broadway). After the show, Lin returned to the stage for a Q&A and took great delight in recognizing among the audience members his college admissions advisor, Sonya Mosco, his second grade Hunter Elementary teacher, Marie Rhone, his science teacher, Anastasia Nicholas, and his music teacher, Campbelle Austin. He jokingly told the audience he was as nervous about this performance in front of his Hunter family

as he'd been on opening night! Lin also talked about the evolution of the show, which he started writing in college when he was just 19. It was the play he'd always wanted to see—a show about Hispanic people that didn't depict them as gang members or murderers (as in *West Side Story* or *Capeman*). After graduating from Wesleyan, he started working with Thomas Kail, the director of the show, and eventually wrote six different musicals called *In the Heights*, with 60 songs inserted and cut as the show evolved. It was workshopped in the basement of a drama bookshop and he initially played the lead character, Usnavi, only until a “real” actor could be found. Then in 2005, he attended the O'Neill summer workshop for writers and added four more songs and cut two. The show opened off-Broadway in early 2007 and made the move to Broadway in early 2008. Answering a question about whether non-New Yorkers like the show, Lin replied that they seem to, adding that the story of wanting your kids to do better is pretty universal. He acknowledged, however, that they don't seem to get the 1/9 subway joke (in a song where one character says she used to think Washington Heights was “at the top of the world, when the world was just a subway map, and the 1 slash 9 climbed a dotted line to my place,” her love interest sings back to her “there's no 9 train now.”). Lin added that he is looking forward to the High School's Musical Rep performance of his show in the future.

## Young Alums and Social/Networking Group Events

On the Friday before the general reunion, two social events took place: Young Alums partied at O'Flanagan's on First Ave. and the Social/Networking Group (known affectionately as the “older” young alums—those in their 30s and 40s) gathered in the High School library. Please email our office to be included in future event announcements for either of these groups.

# HCHS REUNION 2008

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among other careers, but they've come to believe that parenting is equally important to career achievements and should be more of a priority for everyone.

Alida ROGNONI Mesrop remarked that she and her classmates from June '48 cannot believe it's possible that 60 years have gone by since they graduated from Hunter—in their hearts, they still wear their Hunter berets! She recalled that during her first year at Hunter as a 9th grader, President Roosevelt died and V-E Day occurred. Several classmates were Holocaust survivors and one came to the U.S. on one of the last ships to leave Hong Kong before the Japanese occupied it. She also remembers the birth of Israel and the seeds being planted for the formation of the United Nations. She and her classmates knew they were privileged to attend Hunter—their teachers were incredible and NYC was their oyster.

From the class of January '53, Susan ROSENO Fahrenholtz reported that her class was smaller than most because it was the last January graduating class. However, this just allowed her classmates to know each other well—and those friendships have stayed with them more than their Latin or Geometry lessons. The historical period during which they attended Hunter included Joe McCarthy's anti-communist activities, publication of Simone de Beauvoir's 1949 treatise *The Second Sex* (a detailed analysis of women's oppression and a foundational tract of contemporary feminism) and the *Kinsey Reports* (books on human sexual behavior), and an active folk song culture (e.g. Woody Guthrie). It was also a time when there was no birth control pill, the polio vaccine was not yet available, the voting age was 21, and Macy's paid 65 cents an hour to its clerks. Her generation may be known as the "silent generation" but Susan thinks they are much more active now than in their youth because they no longer have

to worry about their careers, fashion, or whether they occasionally forget a word!

In lieu of a speaker, the class of '58 chose to give a rousing performance of their class song as well as *Sarah Maria Jones* (a song about the prototypical Hunter student "who has Hunter in her bones").

Sharon Drager and Jane Solomon spoke for the class of '63. They were happy to present their class gift in memory of two of their favorite teachers, Barbara Keyser and Jack McNeil.

Susan MAJORS Battley from the class of '68 reported that her class had toured the 68th Street building where they attended Hunter (now used by the College) and it was a real trip down memory lane—including some traumatic memories of the gym outfits they were forced to wear! The class of '68 was the last to have a 9th grade entry point; Susan also recalled the release of The Beatles song *Hey Jude*, and the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. The message she and her classmates received from Hunter was that academic achievement for women was "ok." They also received a message about the importance of service which should continue to resound—"to whom much is given, much is expected."

Diane Janoff '73 recalled that Bernie Miller had been the head of the school when her class attended Hunter. They spent most of their years in two floors of an office building near Grand Central and she recalled playing volleyball on her knees during gym class in a low-ceilinged, double-size classroom. During their tenure at Hunter, her class was involved in anti-war demonstrations as well as campaigns for student rights and to keep Hunter from being closed down.

Marge Kolb '78 explained that her class had less than 50 graduates due to a change in policy which occurred at the High School,

when instead of encouraging many students to graduate after only five years, as had been the norm for many years in the '70s decade, the administration returned to encouraging a full six years of attendance. As a result, the class of '78 is mostly made up of early grads of '79 and a few straggler ICYers from the class of '77. Both groups tend to celebrate with their main classes of either 1977 or 1979 and thus no reunion was held this year. Marge has been the AA's office manager for more than 10 years and in that time has come to know many, many alums from all graduating classes. Although her official class (1979) was the last all-girl class and she recognized that many from that year and prior mourn the loss of the single-sex aspect of the school, she was happy to assure older alums that the younger, co-ed classes still have high-achieving women. She has observed the closeness of the co-ed classes over the years and is struck over and over again by how nice they all are. She also attested to hearing male alums from the early '80s tell how Hunter made them into feminists!

Brian Scott spoke for the class of '83, saying that he can't imagine another school where alums maintain the closeness that he has seen among his classmates—his wife's high school reunion was nothing like Hunter's. He said it was amazing that from the randomness of a bunch of kids from all over NYC taking the entrance exam comes the cohesiveness of the alumni body. In closing, Brian asked all alums to consider donating to their class gifts so future generations can benefit from the same quality of education we all received.

Tai Wong and Ben Macklowe from the class of '88 reported that their class had a fun weekend of activities, including a picnic in Central Park and a party at a classmate's East Village apartment, which was attended by about half the class. Classmates traveled from as far as Portland, OR, Switzerland, Amsterdam, and India to attend the reunion.



Tai credited Hunter with providing him with one of the best educations in the world, for free, and added that he'd also met his wife there. He joined the AA's Board of Directors as a way of giving back to Hunter and was involved in crafting the *Our Foundation, Our Legacy* major fundraising drive, to which he encouraged all alums to contribute. Ben added that their class's tenure at Hunter was also during a historic time—the Cold War was coming to an end, the Berlin Wall fell, AIDS was just being recognized—so it was a time of great hope and great fear. He seconded Tai's call for donations to support the school and was proud to announce that his class has garnered contributions and pledges totaling nearly \$300,000!

Dave Chisholm spoke for the class of '98. About eight of his classmates were in attendance and they had enjoyed walking around the school—Dave even noted that the same desks and chairs are in Mr. Goodman's old science classroom.

Allison Klufeld '03 reported that a group from her class had gotten together the night before at a bar. They are just five years out of high school and so are still exploring their potential. She promised they will start donating to the High School once they are actually earning money!

The following reports were submitted by the class coordinators for each milestone class:

**June 1948—Class Coordinators: Alida ROGNONI Mesrop, Miriam KOSTINER Roschelle, Barbara Janes, Anne KELLY Azzaretti, Rosalind WEISS Rothman-Immerman, Florence WEBER Klein, Ethel SCHMID Matin**

For the class of June '48, it was 60 years and still going strong! Reunion weekend more than lived up to expectations—classmates came from California, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Florida, Delaware and, of course, the greater New York metropolitan area. It's a distinguished group among whom are a retired New York State judge, educators, writers, scientists—women who began to make their marks long before “equality for

women” was even mentioned. A full schedule of activities—from Friday night through Sunday—kept everyone busy—and talking. Friday night saw us at Via Brasil for a kick-off dinner. We had 23 on hand—19 of whom were classmates and the other four were husbands who continue to marvel at the passion of the “Hunter ladies” for their school and for the superb education they received. On Saturday, we gathered for brunch at the Hunter College faculty dining room. Seventeen classmates and two husbands helped us celebrate. We started before 11 a.m. and ended close to 3 p.m., and you would think four hours would have provided sufficient “catch up” time—but it didn't. We continued our conversations as some of us went on a tour of “our” HCHS—which is now Thomas Hunter Hall and is an integral part of the College (at 68th & Lexington)—it's really different than it was! Even the gym—which is now used primarily for dance classes—was hard to recognize. The old adage “you can't go home again” may well be true in this case. The Sunday event at HCHS sponsored by the Alumnae/i Association was a highlight—and our class was well represented. Listening to class spokespersons talk about highlights and memories of their lives at Hunter High School is always moving. Our class remembered a time when, for example, Israel became a reality, when we moved from war to peace. It was a time of hope and great expectations, and also, for us, a time without boys to distract us as we faced continuous educational challenges. We loved it, and oh, how we studied! Lunch was terrific—nothing like what was offered at the high school cafeteria which made its debut during our senior year there—and a fitting climax to a terrific weekend. A big thank you to everyone for coming and to those who made this possible. See you in five years! Meanwhile, we continue to have “unofficial” reunions on a regular basis.

**1958—Class Coordinators: Gail GRANGE Berson, Harriet HALPERIN Gershon, Emily WALTERS Mikulewicz**

The Class of '58 met on Saturday evening at the home of one of our classmates. The

50 of us in attendance on Saturday evening ate, drank, talked (about both the past and the present), took photos, sang our Senior Song and joined in singing, along with a CV, many of the ditties from our Senior Sing. It was amazing how many of us remembered many of the words.

On Sunday, again about 50 of us, with some different individuals, met at the new high school building, and talked and reflected some more. We were very impressed with the career paths many of us had and continue to be on. Among the occupations we represented were medicine, professing on many topics, including music and anthropology, entrepreneurship, lawyers and judges, teachers, therapists, publishers, writers, and scientists. Very impressive for our era.

At the general assembly we sang our Senior Song for one and all, and after the luncheon we visited OUR school on Lexington Ave and 68th Street. We were mightily impressed that a second elevator had been added to the building. We then ended our gala weekend by going to a classmate's place in the village for wine and cheese and more conversation. We plan to continue these get-togethers on an informal basis. We decided to make our class gift donations in memory of those classmates who are no longer with us.

**1968—Class Coordinators: Diane Chavan, Lynn SILVERSTEIN Najman, Miggie Warms**

The 40th reunion of the Class of '68 was hot, hot, hot in every way! The New York area experienced an unusual heat wave for early June, but this did not deter 58 “glowing” members of our class from gathering for a celebratory evening in the outdoor garden space of East of Eighth restaurant in Chelsea. We had classmates come from as far away as Washington State and Germany to reconnect and to update each other on work, family, and everything in between. It is amazing how wonderful and vital everyone looked, and the chatter continued non-stop throughout the evening. The reunion party was preceded by a tour of the “old”

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HCHS building at 68th and Lexington. Those who opted to take this walk down memory lane actually got to ride the elevator to the 6th floor (this was never allowed when we were students!). Much was still familiar, including areas of the basement where our lockers were located.

Attendance at the official Sunday reunion at HCHS was decreased by at least one (co-class coordinator Miggie Warms) due to the parking problems caused by the Puerto Rican Day parade—no parking spaces within many blocks of the high school in any direction. We are told that HCHS Alumnae/i Association Board Member Susan MAJORS Battley gave an excellent speech on behalf of our class at the Sunday reunion and, thanks to her fundraising efforts, [and her personally financed “matching fund” of \$4,000] and to the money left over from our Saturday night party due to the relative teetotaling propensities [who knew?] of the attendees, which we donated to the Association, our class gift amounted to well over \$10,000. Not too shabby for what is probably one of the smallest HCHS classes with only 128 grads. Our tiny size was due to the

fact that the school did not plan far enough ahead when discontinuing 9th and 10th grade admissions, so our 7th grade class was sized to anticipate the influx of two or three 10th grade classes which never materialized. Due to the small size of our class, our reunions routinely welcome those who attended the early years with us, but transferred to other schools prior to graduation. Our 40th reunion was no exception, and included one classmate who actually dropped out to attend the “two year SP” (special progress) class in her local junior high and then passed the test to re-enter HCHS in the 10th grade as part of the Class of ’67—the very last class with entering 10th graders. All in all, our 2008 reunion weekend was every bit as satisfying as we had hoped it would be.

#### 1973—Class Coordinator: Diane Janoff

We had a great reunion, filled with high energy catching-up and laughter. Months before, I had created an e-group where we began reminiscing. The night before, six of us met at Café Greco on the Upper East Side for dinner. About 20 of us made it to reunion, sharing pictures of children, taking group pictures of the gang, and generally being affectionate. Folks hail from diverse fields, including: corporate, medical, legal, financial, publishing, libraries, education, art and design, and community organizing. We are also proud to have raised more than \$1,000 for the school. If you couldn't make it but want to stay in touch with members of your class, the yahoo group link is: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hchs\\_class\\_of\\_1973/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hchs_class_of_1973/).

#### 1983—Class Coordinators: Jonathan Arak, Guy Doherty, Matt Blumenfeld

The class of 1983 met up at Black Pearl (a great space that other classes should consider using—courtesy of Judy Miller) where we partied hearty till about 3 a.m. (we still have some gumption left after all these years!). There were 88 class members present, plus about 12 spouses/partners, and everyone enjoyed the food, drink, and camaraderie. We had alums come in from as far away as Alaska. Some enjoyed

a pre-party gathering courtesy of Miriam Messinger, prior to arriving to the restaurant. A good time was had by all.

#### 1988—Class Coordinator: Jill Slater

The 20th year reunion drew '88ers from all over the world, including but not limited to the Netherlands, South Africa, Switzerland, San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New Jersey. There were more than 100 guests in all. Some classmates chose to submit their loved ones, as well, to stories of 9th grade crushes, the dividing lines of 'smart math' and 'not-as-smart math,' the 7th grade Olympiad, etc. etc. etc. It was these significant others who really threw off those '88ers who viewed the flickr photos in lieu of attending the event in person. They worried that they had lost the ability to recognize their own classmates!

We gathered at Sandi Dubowski's apartment in the East Village, the setting of our 10th year reunion. Unfortunately, this time, the evening's temperature hovered in the upper 90s. The red wine and the cheese platters were a hard sell, but cold beer and iced cocktails were at a premium. While melting into a large puddle seemed a very real possibility, the talking didn't stop, and the laughter at old gossip (or new gossip!) lasted long into the night. The first alum arrived at a bit past 8 p.m. and the last one left after 3 a.m. Even those who had their doubts about coming couldn't pull themselves away!

Halfway through the evening, many of us found slight relief from the heat by hanging out on the sidewalk of Bleecker Street. Someone thought it would be a good idea to do a group shot of all the Hunter Elementary veterans. It was a great photo with over 20 faces smiling from ear to ear. That was one of the more emotional moments of the evening. While so much has transpired in the nearly 30 intervening years, the common memories and formative bonds were palpable to all in their midst. The mood among the class was just as intense. It's too bad so many couldn't join us, and it's too bad that we come

## HCHSAA Website

Our web address is [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org). Highlights of our site include archives of past issues of *AlumNotes* (under the “AlumNotes” button) and a list of Distinguished Graduates (under the “About HCHSAA” button). Certain pages are password-protected with our common password: purple (all lower case). You can also pay your dues and make donations online with the link to our payment center.



together so seldom. When we do manage it, however, the room is always abuzz with an irresistible intensity—we celebrate our diversity of pursuit and background, and our fortune to have enjoyed the best public education this country has to offer.

**1998—Class Coordinator: Daniel Gonen**

The Class of 1998 celebrated its ten-year reunion with a reception at the Zipper Factory Tavern in Midtown. Counting alums and their guests, we had well over 100 people in attendance. An open bar certainly helped to put people in a festive mood, but since our class never had an official 5-year reunion, people were happy enough just to see each other and reconnect with classmates. Like many other Hunter classes, we '98ers have tended to cluster in certain professions. It seems that just about everyone is either a doctor, lawyer, teacher, or Tony-award-winning star of the Broadway stage (Lin-Manuel Miranda). Our class also appears to be entering the “settling down” phase of life, as there was much discussion about marriages, engagements, and even a few “junior '98ers” who have recently arrived or are on their way. By the end of the night, the euphoria of the occasion gave way to some sadness about the fact that our next class reunion was five long years away! (But you can join the class's Facebook group to keep connected: Hunter College High School '98—10 Year Reunion!!)

**2003—Class Coordinator: Bryan Tsu**

The Class of 2003 celebrated our 5th reunion with a Saturday night event at Pat O'Brien's Bar on 88th and 2nd Ave. More than 50 of us attended and we talked, danced, and partied through the night. There was much catching-up to accomplish, as most of us are just one year out of college and exploring an array of career paths and grad school programs, and making “real life” decisions for the first time. Everyone was really excited to share their recent experiences with good

friends, and especially encouraging was that everyone stayed through the night, despite the fact that the bar was not prepared for a steaming NYC night where temperatures hovered around 90° with high humidity. Surprisingly, and to our delight, our old friend and favorite, Mr. Randolph, even made a celebrity appearance (it was his birthday!). A number of us made it to the general reunion the following morning, and had a great time listening to other classes share memories and life experiences. Walking around, we were shocked and impressed by the SmartBoards in classrooms, the new computer lab and weight room, and the overall level of development and changes. We even encountered a few students roaming the hallways filming in preparation for the Hunter Young Filmmaker's Festival!

As expected, our classmates and friends are already accomplishing great things all over the world. Many are on their way to becoming doctors (Sabrina Gmuca, Simon Hong, Sarah Kimble, Davida Kornreich, and Nikhil Kumta) and lawyers. Several are already in Ph.D. programs (Diana Athonvarangkul, Nathan Kaplan, Steven Kim, and Hana Lee) and other grad programs [Ariel Jeong (Tokyo U, Psychology), Anne Marie Rooney (MFA in Writing), and Daniel Stoltz (Princeton, History)]. Others are involved with not-for-profit work [Conrad Legendy (in Afghanistan) and Alison Klurfield (Community Help)], and a number are in education [Greg Friedman (teaching English in Costa Rica and shortly, in Spain) and Jenny Tsai (teaching Math and Science special-ed)]. Rebecca Corwin is in Tel Aviv, Carlos Hernandez is composing and performing with his band Ava Luna, Mike GW is writing for *The Nation*, Maeve Montalvo is a wedding planner in NY, Lila Neugenbauer is producing a play in CA, Sean Colenso-Semple is in Thailand, and Tina Wong went to Beijing to write for *Forbes* on the Olympics!

## Have You Joined the HCHSAA Online Alum Directory?

In June 2007, HCHSAA launched an online alum directory—a tool to enable alums to network with classmates and other alums—an integral part of our effort to keep alums connected and to build a stronger Hunter community. Access to the directory is limited to members of our alum community and will not be provided to any outside vendors. Since we first invited alums to register, more than 2,400 of you have done so. If you're one who hasn't, what are you waiting for? Just send an email to our office at [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com) to request your individual access code.

Once you register as a member of the community, you can verify and update your directory entry: home and business contact information, college degrees, spouse/partner name, and children's names. You also have the option to choose which parts of your listing are viewable by other alums (or you can block your entire listing). The directory can be accessed from the link on the main page of our website: [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org) (but once again, if you don't have the original email from us, please contact us for your access code).

# ALUMS VISIT WITH HCHS STUDENTS FOR SENIOR SYMPOSIUM

A new tradition for seniors at HCHS, the Senior Symposium had its second installment last June. 23 alums from a variety of professions met with students in morning and afternoon panel discussions, with an alumni luncheon squeezed in between. Panelists were grouped under the umbrellas of Journalism, Finance, Medicine, and Public Service & Education. Lisa Siegmann, Assistant Principal, and Chris Rogutsky, Chair of the Counseling Department, have been the driving forces behind this gathering both years it has been in existence (with a little assistance from the AA!).

Alums in attendance were Jonathan Arak '83, who is involved in theater as well as SAT/GMAT tutoring; Charles Arday '87, founder of Juno, currently with D.E. Shaw, and also involved in publishing; Matt Blumenfeld '83, fund-raising consultant mainly working with non-profits; Jeremy Bogaisky '91, editor for Forbes.com; Sewell Chan '94, *New York Times* staff reporter and bureau chief of the City Room blog; Ben Dattner '88, organizational psychologist; Sandi Dubowski '88, movie director/producer; Michael Goldwasser '89, record producer/composer/musician; Amie Gross '71, architect; Kate Heddings '89, senior food editor at *Food & Wine* magazine; Susan G. Kaplan, M.D. '70, board certified in urology and medical acupuncture; Kyla Kupferstein '92, educational consultant for non-profit programs and students; Ann Kurinskas '73, managing director at JPMorgan Chase; Theresa Yin Michna '64, teacher, copyeditor, and former staff member of the U.S. Mission to U.N. Organizations in Vienna, Austria; Brett Peiser '86, former H.S. history teacher, now co-founder of a non-profit running/opening 12 charter schools in Brooklyn; Ethan Robey, Ph.D. '86, Assistant Professor of the History of Decorative Arts and Design

Studies at Parsons/The New School; Elizabeth Saenger, Ph.D. '72, clinical psychologist and currently a member of the Dept. of Psychiatry at Columbia University; Andrew Siff '86, on-air general assignment reporter for News Channel 4 in NYC; Amy Sohn '91, novelist, non-fiction author, and former contributing editor at *New York* magazine; Niki Stanley '95, Senior HR Manager at a digital media company called Eyeblaster; Ian Trontz '88, assignment editor for the *New York Times* metro desk; Judy Wong '88, VP of Talent Acquisition and Development for Related Companies; and Tai Wong '88, foreign exchange trader at UBS, Lehman, and Barclay's.

Alums were asked what they'd wished they had known back in high school. One alum offered the advice that you need to know what your priorities are for what you want out of your career—high income, intellectual credibility, travel, living abroad, etc. Another opined that he wished he'd known about engineering—he always took traditional classes—and he recommended that college students, who are in the freest part of their lives, take a wide variety of classes in any subject that interests them. A third alum urged students to look for differences between themselves and the rest of the world and try to put themselves in a position where there's some discomfort—e.g. if you're liberal, get to know some conservatives; if you're from the city, make friends with people from the country or small towns; if you're religious, talk to some agnostics or atheists. These interactions will help you develop problem-solving skills. Another often-cited recommendation was to find a mentor in your field who seems



Elizabeth Saenger, Ph.D. '72 and Susan G. Kaplan, M.D. '70

happy with his/her career and find out how they got to that place. This should begin in college, but especially if you go to graduate school, where you must attach yourself to certain key advisors. Students should also make use of the HCHS alumni network as there are many alums teaching at top colleges. Other alums urged students not to let others tell you no (including yourself). Don't ever fail to apply for something because you think you're underqualified—coming from Hunter, you can quickly learn anything you need to know.

Speaking about the advantages vs. disadvantages of coming out of Hunter, alums cited the structure of Hunter and the top-notch knowledge imparted by faculty which aid graduates in being academically prepared for the challenges of college. Writing and public speaking are skills that all students should continue to work on as they are needed across many fields of endeavor. As a small community, students coming out of Hunter need to work on widening their circle—this will help them develop contacts down the road.

The students seemed to really appreciate and enjoy their visits with alums, but the alums seemed to enjoy the day even more!

# CLASS OF 2008 COMMENCEMENT

Commencement exercises for the 193 members of the class of 2008 were held at Hunter College Assembly Hall on the evening of June 26. There were a number of notable speakers, including this year's recipient of the Distinguished Graduate award—Lin-Manuel Miranda '98, creator and star of the Broadway show *In the Heights*—as well as Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, and Hunter College President Jennifer Raab '73. As always, the addresses and performances of the students were memorable and ranged from a piano, cello, and violin trio to the Graduating Chorus' performance of *Alma Mater*, to readings, the salutation, and the class speech. (Stringer joked that he enjoyed senior Unikora Yang's salutation—she spoke about Werner Heisenberg's uncertainty principle of quantum theory and quoted from John Donne—and that he had even understood most of it!).

Acting principal Sonya Mosco welcomed everyone and thanked President Raab for her support of the Campus Schools. President Raab in turn thanked Ms. Mosco for her service as acting principal. Raab spoke of her pride in her own Hunter diploma and remembered fondly the time she spent at HCHS in the early 1970s—though much of it was in two floors of an office building near Grand Central. She recalled her orientation session upon first arriving at Hunter—when she realized she wasn't the only whiz kid in the room anymore! She stressed, however, that the mark of a great institution is not who it accepts, but who it sends out into the world. In speaking of this year's Distinguished Graduate, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Raab remarked that he joins the small group of HCHS alums to have won TONY awards and she joked that while she also grew up in Washington Heights, she doesn't remember it being as hip as it's currently portrayed in his Broadway show.



Principal Mosco with a graduating student

In Principal Mosco's introduction of the Distinguished Graduate, she explained the recipient is chosen each year by the faculty, which demonstrates how much they appreciate the accomplishments of former students. Lin's show won three TONY awards this year, including Best Musical, and also won numerous awards when it played off-Broadway in 2007. Lin is not only a graduate of the High School, but also of Hunter Elementary, and after college, he returned to teach at the High School. In fact, the two classes of 7th grade students he taught (from classes 7-2 and 7-5), are among this year's graduates.

Lin stated that he never felt he was the brightest kid at Hunter Elementary, but he was always able to make up songs and make kids laugh. In 6th grade he became involved in Hunter theater, because he realized "girls would have to pretend to love him!" He also recalled underperforming in some of his classes (including Spanish, much to his father's chagrin since he'd grown up speaking Spanish at home!) because he was always writing songs in his notebook at the back of the classroom. He fondly credited his high school English teacher, Dr. Rembert Herbert, with convincing him he was a good writer. Dr. Herbert also pushed him to audition for Brick (the student theater group) in 8th grade. Later, Lin put together a doo-wop group with some friends and recalled that they all got \$50 fines after trying to perform

in a subway station. They were supposed to perform at their graduation, but got cut by then-principal Dr. Miserandino, due to "time constraints." Lin proceeded to call his group's members up to the stage and they performed the song he'd originally written for his own graduation.

The Class Speech was given by Ben Samuels-Kalow who remarked that although it is not easy to sum up the past six years on behalf of his classmates, he would use what he'd learned at Hunter: Science has taught them that order is rare, Social Studies that it is easier to go to war than negotiate, while their personal lives have taught them to procrastinate. He challenged his classmates to sometimes dare to be inefficient, though not ineffective. He expects they will all succeed because they are smart and well-prepared, but felt they will only exceed expectations if they are willing to fail once in a while.

Grade advisor Rebecca Hollander congratulated and recognized the class for its kindness, graciousness, creativity, and love. She has observed over the years that members of this class always supported each other in a very rare and special way. While some faculty members have congratulated her on the class's character, she always contends that they arrived at Hunter that way. Principal Mosco added that it has been an honor to come to a place every day where there is honesty, integrity, fun, and the best and brightest students and faculty. It is truly a joyful experience. She asked the class of '08 to remember that while the next steps in life are their responsibility, they will never be alone. In addition to family, they are tied to each other and to Hunter by traditions, celebrations, and excellence.

*Ed.'s Note: To see a complete list of HCHS Distinguished Graduates, please visit [www.hchsaa.org](http://www.hchsaa.org). Click on "About HCHSAA" and then "Distinguished Graduates."*



# PERSONNEL CHANGES AT THE CAMPUS SCHOOLS

*The following letter was received from Hunter College President Jennifer Raab '73 in late July:*

After a national search, Dr. Eileen Coppola has been named Principal of Hunter College High School. A former New York City history teacher, Dr. Coppola earned her B.A. from Wesleyan University, her M.A. from Columbia University Teachers College, and her Ed.D. and Ed.M. degrees from the Urban Superintendents Program at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education, which intensively trains candidates to lead schools and school districts. Her time there included service as a leader in the Boston and Philadelphia School Districts, where her work focused on equity and systemic reform. Her dissertation, later published as the book *Powering Up: Learning to Teach Well with Technology*, analyzed the organizational conditions for professional learning at a successful high school that used technology for teaching and learning. She received a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Academy of Education and the Spencer Foundation to study how accountability systems affect the way teachers, administrators, and students think about the purpose of schooling.

Most recently, Dr. Coppola has been serving as Associate Director for Research at the Center for Education and as a Lecturer in Education at Rice University in Houston, TX. The Center provides intensive, subject-based professional development for teachers and conducts research on the impact of educational policy on classrooms and students, using that research to influence policymaking and educational practice. Dr. Coppola also taught Philosophy of Education, Urban Education, and Policy Studies to graduates and undergraduates preparing to become teachers. With her broad background and national reputation in educational policy, research, and reform, Dr. Coppola brings to HCHS a wealth of leadership experience and intellectual rigor.

We would like to thank the chair of the HCHS principal search committee, Acting Hunter College Campus Schools' Director & Elementary School Principal Randy Collins, along with the committee members who worked diligently to identify and inter-

view candidates from across the country. These committee members were: Foreign Language teacher Jose Diaz, Librarian Eugene Lim, Counseling Chair Chris Rogutsky, Social Studies teacher Giovanna Termini, Hunter College Provost Office Senior Advisor Nicole Vartanian, English teacher Kip Zegers, and parents George Bingham, Ahna Bogyo, and Nancy Yuen.

We are delighted also to announce that Ms. Sonya Mosco, who was the acting principal of the high school since January 2007, will assume a new position as the Deputy Director of the Hunter College Campus Schools. Throughout the course of her 20-year tenure at HCCS, Ms. Mosco has contributed to every aspect of life at the school—via her stalwart administrative leadership, rich constituent relationships, and unconditional dedication to students. As Deputy Director, she will have the opportunity to utilize her intimate knowledge of the school community to envision and implement K–12 initiatives, focus on student engagement, work with parent and external bodies, and serve as a member of the senior leadership team. In this capacity, Ms. Mosco's vast experience at both the elementary and high schools will help us imagine new ways of streamlining the K–12 experience for students in every grade at HCCS. Before beginning her position as Deputy Director, Ms. Mosco will enjoy a sabbatical during the upcoming school year.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that after ably serving in an acting capacity for the past two years, Mr. Randy Collins has been officially named the Principal of Hunter College Elementary School. In accordance with CUNY bylaws, a search waiver was granted for this appointment at the Elementary School to designate Mr. Collins as Principal. He will remain as the Acting Director of the Campus Schools. As many of you are aware, Mr. Collins brings to HCHS an extensive background in gifted education and elementary school leadership. Immediately prior to joining us, he was Head of School at the Davidson Day School (PreK–12) in North Carolina, and previously served in a number of leadership roles for the Oteora Central School District in upstate New York, including Director of

Elementary Education, Elementary School Principal, and District Director of Gifted Education.

We also are pleased to let you know that Dr. Razel Solow has been selected as the new Director of the Institute for Gifted Education at Hunter College. Initiated in 2001, the Institute has built upon Hunter's long record of work in gifted education, creating a nexus for programs, activities, services, and institutions pertaining to gifted education and development. A fundamental dimension of the mission and vision of the Institute from its inception has been to support and collaborate with HCCS to help develop the schools as models for gifted education in New York City and beyond. To this end, Dr. Solow's responsibilities will include cultivating Hunter's role in gifted education throughout the city, overseeing the School of Education's advanced certification program for gifted and talented educators, and working with HCCS to conduct research and consult on matters of gifted education. Dr. Solow holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology (Gifted) from the University of Virginia and has taught at public and private elementary and secondary schools, conducted staff trainings, developed seminars for gifted students, and specialized in parent advising. Her leadership experience includes work as president of Guiding Gifted Children, a parent resource and support group, as an Editorial Board member of *Parenting for High Potential*, and as Chair of the Parent/Community Division of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC). She most recently served as the Director of Research for the "Program for the Exceptionally Gifted," an early college entrance program for young women who wish to begin their studies in advance of their peers, at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia, and is also the founder of School-Wise, which provides gifted education consulting services for families and schools.

Please join us in congratulating Eileen, Sonya, Randy, and Razel on these well-deserved appointments. We hope you share our enthusiasm for the extraordinary opportunity that this leadership team brings to the Campus Schools for the years to come.

## SIX STUDENTS AWARDED HCHSAA SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, the Alumnae/i Association awards \$1,000 each to the recipients of the Thomas Hunter Prize and the Mildred Busch Award. The winners are selected by the High School's Honors and Awards Committee and the checks are presented at the Honors and Awards Ceremony held each June at the High School. The students chosen this year were: Sandra Fong, Muntazim Mukit, and Bonita Robinson for the Thomas Hunter Prize and Zarek Brot-Goldberg, Zachary Elliott, and Yale Soll for the Mildred Busch Award.

## FORMER HCHS TEACHER PENS NOVEL

Anisha Lakhani, who taught English at HCHS during the 1998–1999 school year, and then went on to teach for a number of years at Dalton, has just published the novel *Schooled*, which follows a seventh grade teacher at fictional Langdon Hall School. The story slides between chick-lit banter and a more thoughtful tone that questions the NYC private school system and the children who are corrupted by it. In an interview with the *NY Post's* "Page Six Magazine," Anisha stated she got the lucky break to cover a teacher's maternity leave at Hunter for one year, just after she graduated from college. She added: "Hunter is an idyllic place to teach. It is a meritocracy, full of students who really want to be there every day."

## FUNNY STORIES FROM HUNTER FACULTY MEMBERS

Stephen Young '86, who joined Hunter's Math faculty just over a year ago, recently related the following story which he heard after joining the staff: "HCHS offers Honors Math and Extended Honors Math (the latter being the more challenging course). A few years ago, a teacher thought the abbreviations for these two classes referred to H(ard) and E(asy) and taught his classes accordingly, in effect reversing the curriculums! Surprisingly, the students placed in the Honors class attempted to rise to the challenge of the more difficult material."

The following remark was published on a blog relating funny teacher quotes: "HCHS Math Teacher: 'Does everyone get why I can just get rid of the 8 in this equation? Because I'm just looking for an answer (takes a deep sigh)...Aren't we all?'"

## HCHS HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS SOUGHT

Hunter alums who survived the Holocaust or were refugees from Europe during the Nazi era have a very special story to share. The HCHS Social Studies Department would like to host these women at a special event this Fall. Alums are invited to 10th grade classes studying 20th Century History to discuss their and their family's experiences in the 1930s and 1940s. There will be a special luncheon as well to discuss their early lives in New York and at Hunter. The Social Studies Department would like to thank Eleanor Light '49 for her generous gift to HCHS to support special programs on Holocaust studies.

**Date:** November 12, 2008, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (with luncheon at 11:20 a.m. and the day's schedule ending with afternoon classes at 3:30 p.m.)

**Place:** Hunter College High School,  
71 East 94th St., New York City

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Social Studies Department Chair, Betty Kleinfeld, at 212-860-1280 or by email to: [bkleinfe@hccs.hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:bkleinfe@hccs.hunter.cuny.edu).

If you would like to share your story in writing and add to the archive of the Hunter High Survivors website, please visit <http://freespace.virgin.net/er.kugler/hchs/> or email Eve Kanner Kugler, Jan. '49 at [eva.kanner@virgin.net](mailto:eva.kanner@virgin.net)

The Social Studies department would also like to invite alums who are historians, political scientists, human rights activists, etc. to discuss their work with students in classes or assemblies at future dates. Please contact Betty Kleinfeld at Hunter (contact info. as above).

## Alums Online: Social Networking

There are now groups for HCHS alums on the networking sites Facebook and Linked In. You can also see whether your class has its own online egroup by clicking the "Find Alums—Class Websites & Egroups" button on our website: [hchsaa.org](http://hchsaa.org). The password for protected pages is: purple (all lower case).

# 2007–2008 HONOR ROLL OF GIVING

The Alumnae/i Association's Board of Directors would like to express its heartfelt gratitude to all those individuals who donated to the Alumnae/i Association or to the Hunter College Foundation (in support of either the AA fund or the High School's endowment fund). Contributions to HCHSAA's 2007–2008 Annual Giving drive totaled \$77,000. This list recognizes all donors who gave \$100 or more between the dates of July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008—whether through Annual Giving, milestone class gifts, memorial funds, Spring Gala support, the *Our Foundation*, *Our Legacy* campaign, or other gifts. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions.

## \$35,000+

Sr. Beryl F. Herdt '50

## \$25,000+

Hausner/Whitman/Aufses Family  
in honor of Stowe Whitman  
Hausner '40 (Gabriel Hausner, Hon.  
Phyllis Whitman Beck '45, Arthur  
and Harriet Whitman Aufses, and  
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Whitman)  
Anonymous

## \$10,000+

Randy Altschuler '89  
Robert Cohen '83  
Janine Craane '77  
Raymond Falci '82  
Barbara Gerber-Krasner '58  
Matt Sirovich '83  
Juanita Lee Tam '83

## \$5,000+

Peggy Blumenthal '63  
Peter Clateman '86  
Benjamin Macklowe '88  
Tracey Greene Riese '74  
Joan D. Rosenthal '72

## \$3,000+

Miriam Burstein '41 (*retired faculty*)  
John Edwards '88  
Marjorie Landsberg Goldsmith '61  
Mark Kondracki '90  
Parents of Jeremiah Lane '97  
Betsy Lampert Minkin '73  
Betty Walker '50

## \$2,500–\$2,999

HCHS PTA  
Hester Klein Diamond, Jan. '46  
Hunter College Foundation  
John Marks '83  
Tai Wong '88 and Judy (Chin) Wong '88

## \$2,000–\$2,499

Susan Majors Battley '68  
Matt Blumenfeld '83  
Elena Kagan '77  
Emily Klein '90  
Vizhier Corpuz Mooney '85  
Sara Spiro Portnoy, Jan. '43  
Tiana Wimmer '75  
Kimberly Martin Zywicki '85

## \$1,500–\$1,999

Jason Criss '92  
Benjamin Dattner '88  
Barbara Krumsiek '70  
Margreth Deissenberger Schmitt '61

## \$1,000–\$1,499

Leonard and Judith Ackerman  
Amy Farber '71  
Elizabeth Chow Foo '88  
David Kerpen '94  
Elbrun Russell-French Kimmelman '62  
Ivan Kolodny '88  
Victoria Monk Kristy '59  
Naomi Conn Liebler '62  
Adam Lowe '85  
Anna Cacace Morello, Jan. '53  
(*retired faculty*)  
Arlene Goldstein Oppenheim, Jan. '48  
Jennifer J. Raab '73  
Emily Rosenberg, M.D. '71  
Purvi Sevak '91  
Mona Sandler Sobel '68  
Anita Springer '72  
Kelly Stevens '87  
Jean Tom '80  
Joan Karle Varner '60  
Judith Segal Zabar, Jan. '50  
Anonymous '94

## \$750–\$999

Errol Bakal '99  
Nancy Vochis Gabriel, June '43  
(*in memory of Mildred Busch*)  
David Isaacson '97  
Marguerite Liao Williams '91

## \$500–\$749

Eli Adler '03  
Halina Korman Alter '70  
Rhoda Ratner Barr, Jan. '48  
Warren Chang '88  
Adam E. Cohen '97  
Edith Cooper '79  
Sara Corello '82  
Mimi Eng '84  
Sarah Friedman '88  
Erica Greenbaum Gerson '96  
Lesia Rader Giberson '74  
Ruth Greenstein '62  
Lock See Yu Jahnes '80  
Rosalind Perlow Kaplan '57  
Rhonda Karlin '77  
Kris Kasden Kershaw '58  
Anna Kovner '92

Anne Krantz '68  
Eugene and Eleanor LaSota  
Mary A. Lee '90  
Aileen Leventon '70  
Judy Lewent '66  
Angela Liang '91  
Jessica Liberman '89 and  
Keith Wilcox '89  
Eric Lichtenstein '86  
Lily Lin '88  
Robert Lopez '93  
Michelle Mart '82  
Neda Michels '44  
Roberta J. Morris '67  
Cynthia Nixon '84  
Cheryl Rubin '75  
Rosemarie Salerni '60  
Bernice Schoket '73  
Jeffrey Schor '82  
Sharon Selinger '73  
Brenda Sirovich '81  
Nicholas T. Skipitaris '82  
Amy Solas '77  
Charles and Brenda Solomon  
Jane Solomon '63  
Donna Soohoo '82  
Judith Klein Steinman (*retired faculty*)  
Alex Wein '88  
Erin Williams '84  
Marie Winfield '94  
Timur Kaya Yontar '87  
Anonymous '97

## \$250–499

I. Elaine Allen '66  
Rita Altcheck Angel '56  
Varun Bedi '88  
Sheri Berenbaum '67  
Bobbi Brickman-Bremmer '76  
(*former faculty*)  
Diane Brenner '61  
Rhoda Wiesenbergs Brownstein '43  
Naomi Reice Buchwald '61  
Susan Bulavinetz '73  
Margaret Chan '75  
Sewell Chan '94  
Steven Chulik '85  
Philip Chung '93  
Ruth Kaufman Davis '56  
Elvira Hand Doman, Ph.D. '51  
Paulette Bernd Erde '71  
Susan Cohen Esquilin, Ph.D. '63  
Adrienne Fabrizio '68  
Joan Fabry '70  
Veronica Farje '88  
Rebecca Marklin Fine '77  
Yakira Hagalili Frank '39

Elizabeth Freedman '88  
Jennifer Freeman '72  
Barbara Friedman '71  
Susan Levine Fuhrman '61  
Judith Farber Gelfand '67  
Susan Glass '83  
Marcia Goldensher '68  
Rafael Gonzalez '88  
Suzanne Solomon Gossett '59  
Caroline Ross Grossman '93  
Gabriella Gruder-Poni '93  
Caroline Harris '71  
Gabriel Herrmann '94  
Renee Pennington Hirshfield '68  
Amy Ho '98  
Susan A. Horowitz '83  
Gayle Dranch Insler '68  
Feygele Jacobs '77  
Diane E. Janoff '73  
Jane A. Rothenberg Jewel '60  
Benita Tall Kaplan '48  
Susan E. Katz-Serby M.D. '68  
Stacey Dulberg Kole '79  
Lillian E. Kraemer '57  
Andrea Krantz '80  
Claudia Krefetz '77  
Barbara Mayer Lambert '64  
Sherman Lau '87  
Mary Chu Lee-Brody '79  
Gladys Krum Li '59  
Diane Lobody '68  
Stephanie Ng Lowry '80 (*in memory  
of Jonathan Weiss '80*)  
Mary Rufo Marshall, Jan. '50  
Geoffrey McGhee '88  
Barbara R. Miller '62  
Anne Simon Moffat '65  
Amanda Edelbaum Moszkowski '85  
Susan Mukasey  
Lynn Silverstein Najman '68  
Margaret Haim Nanni '63  
Anastasia Nicholas (*retired faculty*)  
Lisa Nocera '83  
Andrew Obus '99  
Jason Ourman '91  
Despina Ploussios Patsoulakis, Jan. '52  
Rachel Kenyon Perkel '83  
Margaret (Peggy) Betz Perrin '55  
Steffi Poss  
Laverne Lane Prager '52  
Dagny Prieto '93  
Dina Pruzansky '88  
Lois Refkin (*HCHS faculty*)  
Rose Wiesen Reiss '60  
Etta Milbauer Rosen '68  
Matthew Rosenthal '84  
Corinne Schiff '85



Carol Rosenfield Schneebaum, M.D. '54  
 Amy Seplin '81  
 Diane M. Diemer Snyder '72  
 Edmund Wong Soong '82  
 Judith T. Stone  
 Indraneel Sur '95  
 Priscilla Rassin Toomey '63  
 Dale Olsen Tritschler '83  
 Anne Hermanowski Vosatka '82  
 Simeon Roth Wallis '93  
 Ettie Ward '68  
 Judith Ruskin Wasserman '60  
 Judith Weisman, M.D. '69  
 Patricia Anne Williams '61  
 Myrna Macquarrie Wojtek '59  
 Betty Wong '76  
 Anonymous '68 (2)  
 Anonymous '90 (2)  
 Anonymous '99

#### **\$100-\$249**

Marilyn Abraham '68  
 Lisa Ader '74  
 Rikki Ades '89  
 Gloria Goodman Adler '47  
 Anita DuBrul Altman '63  
 Constance Anderton '80 (*in memory of Jonathan Weiss '80*)  
 Marina Angel '61  
 Jonathan Alan Arak '83  
 Joseph Auffermann '98  
 Christine Bader '89  
 Lori Capaldo Ballen '77  
 Amy Barad '82  
 Evalyn Gutman Basloe '58  
 Judith B. Bass '69  
 Ruth Friedman Basuk, Jan. '44  
 Eric Beckman '83  
 Linda Grossman Beins '67  
 Michele Winter Benerofe '67  
 Harriet Polansky Beneroff, Jan. '48  
 Shirley A. Cyrus Bennett, Jan. '46  
 Nora Bensahel '89  
 Judy Berger '63  
 Margaret Adlersberg Berger, Jan. '49  
 Charlotte Wagner Berman, June '48  
 Robin Bernstein '74  
 Jeanette Isenberg Bersh '60  
 Gail Grange Berson '58  
 Sandra Sulli Bertolotti '68  
 Arlene Reimer Bessenoff '68  
 Elaine Schwide Blackman, Jan. '50  
 Diane Scollar Blum '63  
 Kathleen Brady Bonte '80  
 Gilmer Borbo '93  
 Louise Lambert Braver '57  
 Christine D. Bremer '69  
 Francine DeMayo Brennan '48  
 Maura Brennan '68  
 Marjorie Denker Bresler, Jan. '43  
 Elaine Brooks Brichta '50  
 Naomi Reice Buchwald '61  
 Valerie A. Bunda '60  
 Vivian Pat Burke, Jan. '49  
 Anita Schwartz Campanella '42  
 Sean Campbell '98  
 Claudette Heisler Caplin '57

Patricia Ladin Carlin '58  
 Margo Rogers Carson '63  
 Tamara Rippner Casriel '51  
 Marni Centor '80  
 Molly Chafetz '02  
 Noel Chang '85  
 Melissa Penny Chase '71  
 Hogan Chen '00  
 Susan Chevlowe '77  
 Corinne Chin '80 (*in memory of Jonathan Weiss '80*)  
 Joo (Joseph) Choi '87  
 Diana Diel Choppin '83  
 Abi Cohen '97 (*in memory of Karen Tobier*)  
 Brian Cohen '82  
 Ellen R. Cohen '68  
 MaryAnn Adler Cohen '58  
 Ronnie Weiner Cohen '83  
 Rose Abramovitz Cohn '42  
 Janice Connell Conroy '58  
 Sophia Constantinides '01  
 Jason Cooper '92  
 Bernice Lubka Cornyetz '42  
 Shelagh Lutch Corporation '77  
 Judith Hodges Coryell '61  
 Helene Flicher Craner '59  
 Kathryn J. Crecelius '70  
 Joann Tomaszewicz Dale, M.D., '61  
 Jennifer David-Lang '87  
 Jo Katherine DiFazio D'Ambrosio '58  
 Jeanne DelCasino '70  
 Alice Kerman DeLucia '62  
 Tricia Ng Deraska '80  
 Raari Diamond '76  
 Daniel Distler '94  
 Melissa Rosse Dobbyn '76  
 Sharon Drager '63  
 Beth Levine Driks '75  
 Matthew Dusenberry '03  
 Anne Ebersman '85  
 Wendy Ader Edwards '68  
 Elizabeth Eich '58  
 Francine Abrams Eisen, Jan. '42  
 Sabrina Ellis '77  
 Sumin Eng '83  
 John Ephron '86  
 Susan Erda '64  
 Marilyn Fabbri '88  
 Sue R. Faerman, Ph.D. '72  
 Beth Seelig Fanucchi '64  
 Mary L. Fiore '57 (*retired faculty*)  
 Ross Firszenbaum '98  
 Geoffrey Fischer '96  
 Marian Cohen Fish '65  
 Saul Fisher '82  
 Ellen Flax '82  
 Carla Fagan Ford-Anderson '63  
 Dr. Betty L. Forest '42  
 Helen Finegold Friedman '63 (*retired faculty*)  
 Jean Weeks Friedman, Jan. '47  
 Esther M. Friesner '68  
 Harriet Starolitz Fruim, Jan. '41  
 Nancy Voichis Gabriel '43  
 M. Eileen Redden Gallagher '38  
 Lucy Garbus '77  
 Helen Schiemann Gardner '56

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 Purvi Sevak '91  
 Matthew Sirovich '83  
 Anita Springer '72 and Jim Lerner  
 Jean Tom, Ph.D. '80  
 Vote for Dave Kerpen '94, Candidate for City Council 2009  
 (davekerpen.com)

Elaine Marvin Garfield '49  
 Ross Garon '89 and Hong Anna Suh '89  
 Harriet Halperin Gershon '58  
 Lori Ginzberg '74  
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 Seth Goldman '00  
 Anne Marmo Goldsmith '55  
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 Charles Graybow '86  
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Glenn Greene '83  
 Dr. Irene Greif '65  
 Lillian Golub Griff '47  
 Karen Grinthal '72  
 Isabelle Jaffe Gross '54  
 Dillie Grunauer '50  
 Camille Wise Haberle, Jan. '52  
 Josephine Chen Habiby '70  
 Jeff Hakner '87  
 Joan Greenwald Halpern, Jan. '45  
 Lorraine Richardson Harper '39

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# 2007–2008 HONOR ROLL OF GIVING CONTINUED

Elizabeth Hastings '68  
Deborah Rosenfield Hensler '59  
Andrea Eck Henson '79  
Janice Herbert-Carter '73  
Diana Skaletzky Herman, Jan. '50  
Ruth Kahn Hochberg, Ph.D. '41  
Marjorie Halpern Holden, Jan. '44  
Laraine Balk Hope '73  
Joel Hornstein '88  
Micheline Fedyck Horstmeyer '67  
Eric Hsiung '82  
Kim Ann Huang '88  
Jane Hwang '94  
Leonora Lombardo Ianuzzi, Jan. '53  
Vanessa Ip '91  
Frances Liebgold Irizarry '58  
Evelyn Katz Isaac '57  
Darya Isham '00  
Linda Lax Jacobs '58  
Carolyn Strauss Jaffe '40  
Joan Geensburg Jagow, Jan. '48  
Barbara Brotman Janes '48  
Joanne Wu Jennings '88  
Rachel Gerstein Jarrett '91  
Nellie Jeon '98  
Claudia J. Justy '66  
Dr. Margery Kalb '76  
Peter Kang '88  
Susan G. Kaplan, M.D. '70  
Carol D. Karp '70  
Toni Braune Kasper '57  
Judith E. Katz '58  
Judith Katz '69  
Terry Kaye '88  
Alice Keane '83  
Kerry A. Kennedy '89  
Emma Owens Kerins '84  
Cecile Lichtman Klavens '56  
Dorie Klein '67  
Dawn Kleinman '83  
Barbara Klinger '77  
Alison Klurfeld '03  
Joseph Ko '92  
Marge Kolb '78  
Vishal Kotahwala '93  
Sarah Kovner '91  
Susan Kravit-Smith '76  
Gloria Gross Kreisman '49  
Mary Lynn Kreitzer '66  
Ann Folk Kurinkas '73  
Florence Catenaro Laitman, Jan. '42  
Stefanie Kessler Larson '68  
Barbara Forman Lasinski '58  
Serena Meyer LaVine '57  
Rachel Lawrence, Jan. '53 (*in honor of Elaine Crimmins Terris '52*)  
Susie Lebyrk-Chao '82  
Diana J. Lee '66  
Hannah Lee '77  
Linda Q. Lee '80  
Marilyn Lee '67  
Wilson Lee '88  
Grace Leight, Jan. '42  
Helen Rees Lessner '59  
Ruth Levi '75  
Joy Levien, Jan. '51

Corinne Levy '58  
Marilyn Levy, Jan. '39  
Gosia Lewandowska '00  
Linda Duberstein Lidor '68  
Janet Camp Lifshitz '64 (*in memory of Deborah Slotkin Orin '64*)  
Lynne Ligot '54  
Gladys Balbus Lipkin, Jan. '42  
Tak Liu '82  
Aaron (Rusty) Lloyd '88  
Anna Loengard '86  
Dee Siegelbaum Lord '68  
Seena Licht Lowe '47  
David Lyczkowski '95  
Phyllis Malamud '56  
Judith S. Mamber '73  
Linda Mann '57  
Douglas Mao '83  
Nedda Marus, Jan. '49  
Deborah Marx '73  
Jocelyn Maskow '76  
Ethel Schmid Matin '48  
Carmen Bell Matthew '49  
Ruth Traeger McCloud '63  
Lillian Christie McDermott '48  
Glen McDonnell '87  
Anne McDonough '96  
Esther Melamed '49  
Jean Ulitz Mensch '44  
Jeanette Biribauer Merkl '43  
Alida Rognoni Mesrop '48  
Marilyn Band Meyers '59  
Emily Walter Mikulewicz '58  
Elaine Sobel Mitchell '42  
Yehudit (Judy) Moch '73  
Maureen K. Molloy '49  
Anita Valente Mulé '55  
Leslie Murphy-Chutorian '70  
Gwyn Firth Murray '77  
Ruth Rosoff Nadel '30  
Sara Newland '00  
Michelle Fast Noris '85  
Audray Clements Noyes, Jan. '42  
Jane Weisbart Nusbaum '53  
Elissa Oberman '68  
Daniel Obus '02  
Marco Ortiz '88  
Boris B. Paulin '57  
Miriam Sandberg Pellman '47  
Dorothy Perko '54  
Judith Perlstein '68  
Julia Phelan '83  
Marina Picciotto '81  
Adam Powell '88  
Carolyn Derr Powell '58  
Jennifer Pressman '76  
Lois J. Radisch '68  
Alice Schwartz Radish '37  
Elaine Hanauer Ravich '66  
April Friedman Reeve '77  
Phyllis Reisner '51  
Carolyn Hodgson Rhodes '43  
Edythe Werner Rishin '41  
Miriam Kostiner Roschelle '48  
Esther H. Rose '71  
Stephanie Banks Ross '57

Deborah Rosenfield Hensler '59  
Inge Weinberg Rudman, Jan. '47  
Miriam Maltz Rudy '43  
Judith Sachs '64  
Elizabeth Saenger '73  
Laure Salerno '77  
Carole Fishkin Samet, Jan. '49  
Gloria Sammur '62  
Ann Fainberg Sapir '68  
Hilda Abrahams Satran '46  
Frimye Srulovitz Schaffer, Jan. '50  
Judith E. Schaeffer '70  
Geraldine Poppa Schechter '55  
Ronnie Schenkein '68  
Roslyn Abt Schindler '62  
Barbara Schlenoff '63  
Sarah Schneewind '82  
Susan Schoenfeld-Harrington '80  
Sara Robbins Schoenwetter '65  
Farimah Farhadi Schuerman '68  
Jane Schwartz Schultz '49  
Nadine Friedman Schultz '55  
Alex Schwed '02  
Brian Scott '83  
Frances Sharples '68  
Carol Johnson Shedd, Jan. '47  
Kristin Sheehan '91  
Bernard Sheng '96  
Samantha Shiells '03  
Claudine Friedman Siegel '52  
Rachelle Simon '83  
Beth Brown Skobel '64  
Denise Soffel '74  
Neal A. Sotsky M.D. '84  
Helen Charney Spear, Jan. '44  
Susan Spector '64  
Leigh Sprimont '88  
Doris Meth Srinivasan '51  
Jean R. Sternlight '75  
Dr. Julie I. Stone '74  
Barbara N. Cohen Stratyner '68  
Carol Kahn Strauss '62  
Andrew Strom '83  
Chen-Li Anthony Sung '90  
Lidia Szajko '77  
Diane H. Tabakman '69  
Leona Avery Tabell '60  
Debora Kreitzberg Tascher '68  
Jonathan Tepper '94  
Roshini Thayaparan '95  
Lenore Tiefer '61  
Diane Levine Umemoto '65  
Dr. Vera Vogelsang-Coombs '67  
Doris Meibach Wallace '62  
Joan Stern Wallenstein, Jan. '43  
Miggie Warms '68  
Irene Conrad Warshauer '59  
Maira Weigel '02  
Alex Wein '87  
Gillian Weiss '88  
Nanette Kass Wenger, M.D. '47  
Karen Maline West '78  
W. Marie Carter White '52  
Anna Loengard Wijnberg '86  
Regina Russo Wilmes '76  
Michele L. Winter '67

Carol Oppenheimer Wolinsky '65  
Christine Wong '95  
Ida Wong '76  
Rosanne Wyleczuk '74  
Joanne Schuster Wyman '65  
Elisabeth Wynn '73  
Elaine Postelneck Yamin '54  
Corinne Chin Yang '80 (*in memory of Jonathan Weiss '80*)  
Lizzie Yawitz '80  
Frederick Yee '93  
Judy Yeh '96  
Rose Wong Young '60  
Vera Lenchner Zolberg, Jan. '50  
Cathy Hutchings Zumoff '64  
Kaaren Zvonik '63  
Anonymous '40  
Anonymous '54  
Anonymous '55  
Anonymous '61  
Anonymous '65  
Anonymous '76 (2)  
Anonymous '82  
Anonymous '86  
Anonymous '88  
Anonymous '91  
Anonymous '93 (2)  
Anonymous '94  
Anonymous '96  
Anonymous '98  
Anonymous '02  
Anonymous '04

## Matching Gifts

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## HUNTERITES IN THE NEWS

**Karla TURKHEIMER Moskowitz '59** was appointed to the Appellate Division, First Department of the New York Judiciary on January 2, 2008 by then-Governor Eliot Spitzer. Moskowitz is the third woman in New York to be appointed to the Appellate Division, though since her appointment, Governor Paterson has appointed a fourth. Justice Moskowitz served as a trial judge for more than 25 years, most recently as a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York, New York County since 1992 and previously as Acting Justice since 1987. She is also a former President of the National Association of Women Judges, a position she held from 2001 to 2002.

**Barbara J. Krumsiek '70**, President & CEO of Calvert Investments, was the featured interview in the Fall 2008 issue of *GreenMoney Journal*, a magazine which reports on socially responsible investing. Calvert is an investment firm which offers a broad range of products, from expertly managed bond funds to the nation's largest array of socially responsible mutual funds. Read the interview online at: <http://www.greenmoneyjournal.com/article.mpl?newsletterid=45&articleid=618>.

Westinghouse/Intel Science Talent Search winners **Adam E. Cohen '97** and **David Bauer '05** were featured in an April 6, 2008 article in *The Daily News* entitled "Science Champs are Still Big Lab Rats." Cohen and Bauer are the only NYC residents to have won this prestigious national contest in the past 11 years. Cohen is currently an Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology and of Physics at Harvard. Bauer is a student at the Macaulay Honors College at City College. Last March, he was awarded the \$30,000 Harry S. Truman Scholarship. Truman Scholars are selected on the basis of leadership potential, intellectual ability, and commitment to a career in public service; the award is meant to pay for

graduate studies. Bauer spent last spring conducting DNA research at the University of Oxford and returned to City College this Fall.

**Lin-Manuel Miranda '98** won a 2008 TONY award in June, receiving the award for Best Original Score for the show he created and stars in, *In The Heights*. In his highly entertaining thank you speech, which can be viewed on YouTube (search "Lin-Manuel Miranda acceptance speech"), he recognized his high school English teacher, Dr. Herbert, for telling him he was a "writer." His show was nominated for 13 awards and also won in the categories of Best Musical, Best Choreography, and Best Orchestrations. [We know of two other alums who have also won TONYs: **Cynthia Nixon '84**, who won in 2006 for Best Actress in *Rabbit Hole* and **Bobby Lopez '93**, who won in 2004 for Best Original Score for *Avenue Q*, which also won Best Musical that year.]

**Sandra Fong '08** became the first HCHS alum that we're aware of to compete in the Olympic Games when she took part in the small-bore rifle competition at the Beijing Games. She placed 21st in Women's 50m 3-position rifle. In this event, competitors shoot from three positions—prone, kneeling, and standing—for more than two hours, attempting to hit dime-size targets from 50 meters away. Intense focus and stillness are keys to success and Sandra works hard to keep her heart rate as slow as possible—helped by long bouts of cardio exercise and avoidance of caffeine and sugar. Fong began shooting when her father, inspired by his two older daughters' swimming competitions, took up the sport again; he had previously competed in high school in California after emigrating from Hong Kong. Fong practices at a shooting club in New Jersey, since she is not old enough to practice at the shooting range in

Chelsea, which is much closer to her home! Competing has enabled her to travel to exotic locations; she even took her Chemistry SAT II test in Thailand while competing in the World Cup. Fong edged out her older sister, Abby, for a spot on the Olympic team and has joined her on Princeton's rifle team this semester. She was featured in an article in *The New York Times* Sports section on August 8, 2008, which included a photo of the two sisters meeting Olympic medalist Dara Torres at swimming camp 10 years ago. Fong was included in an NBC profile of three athletes going to the Olympics for the first time which can be accessed online at: <http://lxtv.com/myfirsttime/2008/08/09/my-1st-time-2008-summer-olympic-games-3/>. She was on the August 19 Brian Lehrer show on WNYC-radio, which can be streamed online at: <http://www.wnyc.org/shows/bl/episodes/2008/08/19/segments/106259>

## Don't Miss Out!

If you're not on our email list, you're not receiving invitations to great alum events like theater parties, happy hours, and other special events! Email is the only way we advertise Young Alums events as well as get-togethers of the Social/Networking Group (for alums in their 30s and 40s). We also send notification of events open to alums which take place at Hunter College or the High School, as well as other performances of interest (alum concerts, comedy shows, speaking engagements, etc.). Email is the best way to hear about the latest alum events! To be added to our email notification list, simply send an email to [hchsalums@yahoo.com](mailto:hchsalums@yahoo.com) with the subject line: "Add Me to Blast Email." You can opt out of email at any time by following the instructions in any bulk email you receive from us. We generally send email no more than once or twice per month and we never give your email address to outside parties.



## ALUM ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Gloria JACOWER Arenson '53** is happy to announce the publication of her fifth book, *Procrastination Nation*. Arenson is a California-based psychotherapist, licensed hypnotherapist, and is trained in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Psychosynthesis. For more information on any of her books, please visit: [www.GloriaArenson.com](http://www.GloriaArenson.com).

**Judy ZAHLER Kronenfeld '60** is pleased to announce the publication of her new book, *Light Lowering in Diminished Sevenths*, winner of the 2007 Litchfield Review Book Prize in Poetry. In this generous collection of poems of memory and aging, Kronenfeld writes with that sensuous cherishing of the world savored only by those who sense how easy it is to lose. The book may be ordered from *The Litchfield Review* website: <http://litchfieldreview.com/> or from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

**Victoria SCHOCHET Lustbader '64** launched her second novel, *Stone Creek*, at a book party in Boston on June 4, to which Boston-area alums were invited. The story concerns childless, married Lily Spencer, 46, who falls for 30-something widower Danny Malloy and his five-year-old son in a Whartonesque marriage tale. *Publishers Weekly* says: "Piercingly personal descriptions of love, loss and desperate attempts to plug life's gaps give Lustbader's second novel its emotional edge."

**Mindy Heiferling '69** has written two cookbooks (*Russel Wright's Menu Cookbook: A Guide to Easier Entertaining* and *A Taste of Spring*) and has her own catering business in Manhattan. Her clients have included Cynthia Rowley, Stila Cosmetics, Martha Stewart Living, and the Calder Foundation. Her website is: [mindyheiferlingcatering.com](http://mindyheiferlingcatering.com) and she would love to work with fellow Hunterites on business and personal events of all types and sizes.

**Ellen Wallenstein '70** recently won a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in Photography for 2008 for her photos in the series "Opus for Anne: A Still Life." The photos were shown last October at the Henry Street Settlement. Her website is [www.ellenwallenstein.com](http://www.ellenwallenstein.com).

**Judith Matloff '76** recently published *Home Girl: Building a Dream House on a Lawless Block* (Random House). Her book is a memoir about settling down in NYC after 20 years abroad as a roaming correspondent and impulsively buying a "fixer-upper" in West Harlem. She finds that the house is a termite-infested wreck, a narcotics gang runs the street, and a manic addict threatens to take over the building. Thus begins an odyssey to win over the neighbors, and more. *Home Girl* is a funny memoir about community, home, and real estate.

**Robin Rosenberg, Ph.D. '76**, a clinical psychologist, edited and contributed to the anthology, *Psychology of Superheroes*, published by BenBellaBooks. For more information, you can visit her website: [DrRobinRosenberg.com](http://DrRobinRosenberg.com). Rosenberg also appeared in a History Channel segment about Batman, entitled "Batman Unmasked: The Psychology of the Dark Knight," which aired in July.

**Leslie HUNTER-Gadsden '77/'78ICY**, has written the article "Cultural Competency in Action: The Community Health Care Center Movement," included in the study titled *From Concern to Action: A Look at the Consumer Engagement to Advance Quality Health Care*, published in April 2008 by the Praxis Project, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C.

**Thunder Levin '81** has a new film out entitled *Mutant Vampire Zombies From the Hood* which had its world premiere at the San Francisco IndieFest in June. The film stars C. Thomas Howell, who many will remember from the 1982 movie,

*The Outsiders*. See the movie trailer and get more information at: [www.stormfrontfilms.com/restlessdead.htm](http://www.stormfrontfilms.com/restlessdead.htm)

**Kyle Baker '83** has published *Nat Turner*, a graphic novel which tells the story of the self-educated slave who sparked an uprising in Virginia which served as one of the opening salvos in the fight to end slavery. Baker uses stark black-and-white graphics to portray Turner and his band of rebel slaves. Baker won a Glyph Award in May for Best Artist for this book. Other recent books by Baker include *How to Draw Stupid and Other Essentials of Cartooning*, *The Bakers: Babies & Kittens*, and *Special Forces (#1, 2 & 3)*.

**Doug Mao '83** is happy to announce the publication of his new book, *Fateful Beauty: Aesthetic Environments, Juvenile Development, and Literature 1860–1960* (Princeton University Press, 2008). Taking up canonical literature in English but also texts from aesthetics, science, early psychology, social history, interior decoration, child-rearing advice, and other fields, the book traces part of the history of the idea that we're shaped continuously by stimuli we barely perceive. More information can be found at: [www.press.princeton.edu/tocs/8682.html](http://www.press.princeton.edu/tocs/8682.html). Mao and a co-editor previously published an essay collection called *Bad Modernisms* (Duke University Press, 2006); for more information, go to: [www.dukeupress.edu/books.php3?isbn=3797-5](http://www.dukeupress.edu/books.php3?isbn=3797-5). Mao is currently a Professor of English at Johns Hopkins University.

**Amanda Udis-Kessler '84** announces the publication of her new book, *Queer Inclusion in the United Methodist Church* (Routledge, 2008). The book draws on multiple theoretical perspectives and research methods to make sense of the struggle over lesbian/gay inclusion in the largest mainline Protestant denomination in the United States and to show how it may be connected to larger LGBT civil

rights issues. Udis-Kessler, a sociologist, has taught at a number of liberal arts colleges and universities and is now Director of Institutional Research and Planning at Colorado College. You can buy the book for \$76 at amazon.com; if you are interested but want the publisher to reprint it in paperback so it costs less, let Udis-Kessler know by writing her at amandaudiskessler@gmail.com.

**David Perrin '86**, a certified personal trainer, is holding children's rock climbing classes at The Manhattan Plaza climbing wall, 482 W. 43rd St. (10th Ave.) Contact him at davidperrin@hotmail.com or 917-887-3509.

**Sandi Dubowski '88** is the producer of the film *A Jihad for Love* which opened in Los Angeles on August 1. Check the website [www.ajihadforlove.com](http://www.ajihadforlove.com) for more information. (Dubowski previously directed and produced the award-winning *Trembling Before G-d*.)

**Amy Sohn '91** co-created a show a few years ago for Oxygen called *Avenue Amy*, which now has eight episodes posted on YouTube ([www.youtube.com/user/jkraftverk](http://www.youtube.com/user/jkraftverk)). Sohn describes the show as "That Girl" meets the Charles Schwab commercials (you'll know what she means when you see the type of animation used).

**Jennifer 8. Lee '94** has just published her first book, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles* (Twelve Books). The book takes readers around the world and to almost every American state in Lee's quest to understand Chinese food and the people who make it. Her journey took her to the hometown of General Tso (a military hero immortalized as much for crunchy chicken as his conquests), to find the surprising origins of the fortune cookie (it's not China), and to six continents in search of the world's greatest Chinese restaurant. For more information, visit the website: [www.fortunecookiechronicles.com](http://www.fortunecookiechronicles.com).

com. Lee also had her book excerpted in the March 2008 issue of *Reader's Digest* and she appeared on *The Colbert Report* on Comedy Central on March 4 ([www.comedycentral.com/colbertreport/videos.jhtml?videoId=163297](http://www.comedycentral.com/colbertreport/videos.jhtml?videoId=163297)).

**Elaine Daly '01**, of DCF Records, is promoting the hip-hop/rap artist Alvaderchy. Listen to his new single "Killa Kane" online at: [www.power1051fm.com/cccommon/artist\\_submission/player.html?art=181564](http://www.power1051fm.com/cccommon/artist_submission/player.html?art=181564)

**Daniel Carmeli '02** is currently in the process of starting an independent project to market environmentally friendly, socially conscious textiles and handicrafts made by skilled artisans in India. He plans to donate a significant part of the profits back to the communities for local development projects. He is also starting an online forum for people to discuss their thoughts, work, and experiences in sustainability around the world, with the goal of building a global sustainability network. Carmeli previously interned at The Equator Initiative in NYC, which helps grassroots communities around the world pursue sustainable solutions to their development problems in an effort to preserve biodiversity and improve livelihoods. After that, he set off for India and volunteered for NGOs, working in rural and remote villages and thus learning about the situation on the ground. You can contact Carmeli at [dan.carmeli@gmail.com](mailto:dan.carmeli@gmail.com).

*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.*

**Cynthia Ozick, Jan. '46** on the *Leonard Lopate Show* on WNYC-public radio on May 5. Ozick spoke about her new book of short stories, *Dictation: A Quartet...*

**Natalie Edgar, Jan. '50** at East End Books in East Hampton, NY on August 15 to talk about her new book *Club Without Walls: Selections from the Journals of Philip Pavia*. Pavia was an avant-garde artist; in the late '40s he was a founding member of The Club, a loose association of artists, writers, and other intellectuals in New York that included Willem de Kooning, Barnett Newman, Robert Motherwell, and Leo Castelli...

**Evelyn HAUSNER Lauder '54** on the pages of the September 2008 issue of *Vanity Fair*. She was named to the magazine's International Best-Dressed List ([www.vanityfair.com/style/features/2008/09/bestdressed\\_slideshow200809?slide=10](http://www.vanityfair.com/style/features/2008/09/bestdressed_slideshow200809?slide=10))...

**Frances Zynstein-Oz '60** being honored at the Israel Bond Breakfast on June 22. She was an honoree this year, representing the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale... **Laura Edlin '80** performing with the Old Mill Singers at the Ossining High School in early June. The group sang travel-themed music, with Edlin soloing on "I'm Just a Girl Who Can't Say No" from *Oklahoma!*...

**Kyle Baker '83** at the 2008 Comic Con in San Diego in July. He made a NYC appearance when he signed copies of his new graphic novel *Nat Turner* at the Greenwich Village Barnes & Noble on September 26... **Cynthia Nixon '84** on the May 2008 cover of *More* magazine.

In the accompanying article, she discusses her brush with breast cancer, her personal life, and turning 40 a couple of years ago. She also appears in a funny YouTube video (part of the Cubby Bernstein series) which was made to promote the TONY chances of *Xanadu*; watch it at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMRjcdIVFYk&feature=related>. Her movie, *Sex and the City*, opened on May 30, and

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## 1940s

**Dr. Muriel PASKIN Carrison '44**, Emerita Professor of Graduate Studies, California State University, celebrated her 80th birthday on the weekend of April 26–27. Celebrating with her were her husband, Dr. Harold Zemelman, four children, two step-children, their spouses, nine grandchildren, three grand-spouses, one great grandchild, and many friends. They all dined together at the Doubletree, San Pedro, California, on Saturday and on Sunday, children and grandchildren came to Muriel's home in Palos Verdes for a pool and pizza party where a splashingly good time was had by all. • **Devorah (Shirley) Kalekin-Fishman, Jan. '45** is a member of the education faculty at the University of Haifa in Israel and is also the Vice-President of Publications for the International Sociological Association and Editor of the *International Sociology Review of Books*.

## 1960s

**Helene WILLIAMS Spierman '61** writes with news from her class, including the amazing return of Madeline Rivera, who found the class after being missing for 47 years! Helene maintains a website for her class at <http://hunterhigh1961.homestead.com> with archival and current photos and other information about the class. **Madeline Rivera** writes to summarize the past 47 years: she enjoyed being one of 12 girls in the first women's class at RPI (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), but she didn't enjoy chemistry, so she switched to art and then computer programming. She loved living in Manhattan and made many trips to Europe, but by 1981 the pollution in the city and pipe, cigar, and cigarette smoke at work were making her ill. She moved to Tucson, AZ where she cared for her mother, who lost her memory, but never her sense of humor. Madeline joined the local non-smokers group, and in 1985 they defeated

the tobacco companies with the country's first successful citizen-sponsored smoke-free workplace initiative. It was David vs. Goliath, and it hooked her on activism. For the past 25 years, she's volunteered on the boards of several environmental health organizations which help formerly healthy people from all walks of life who have been disabled by pesticides and other everyday chemical exposures, and raise government and public awareness of least-toxic alternatives. She enjoys writing and designing brochures, a website, newsletter, etc. and has come full circle combining art, computers, and chemistry. Still a city girl at heart, she has fond memories of New York and the incredible education she received at Hunter.

**Leonore Tiefer** is working on a retirement manual by gathering expertise from various classmates. **Gale BRINN McCall** and her husband went to France and Spain this past summer. They also spent time geocoaching and on her website she has photos from their trip across the USA hitting about 14 states ([www.galemccall.net](http://www.galemccall.net)). **Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith** has had a wonderful first year of retirement (from the chairmanship of the Science Department at Hunter High). She misses Hunter life, her colleagues, the students and AP Bio, but she doesn't miss the hours of grading, preparation, and a life divided into 45 minute segments! Her activities with the Alumnae/i Association will keep her in touch. She writes: "It is a most extraordinary school and we all owe much in our lives to the education we received. At every reunion, at every event, former students are constantly remembering their times and teachers no matter what building they were in." Marge has kept busy seeing friends, and enjoying some classes, theatre, and concerts. Her tennis game has evolved from singles to doubles, but the most fun is spending more time with her granddaughter, Molly Lauren, who is 2 1/2. She and her husband recently bought a new apartment and she is excitedly planning a renovation

project, since the place, although right next door to her current building, is in vintage 1960s condition including the "state-of-the-art" kitchen formica used at that time. **Marilyn HERSEY DeWeese** is happily chasing after her 2 1/2 year old grandson, and lucky to travel more than she stays home. **Joan CHARLAT Murray** has just finished writing a book on the outstanding Canadian abstract artist Michael Adamson and is starting another one on the fun-loving Canadian artist Florence Vale. **Erica MENDELSON Eisinger** traveled to China last spring, starting in Beijing and seeing many, many Buddhist shrines around Datong and Taiyuan, and then Xi'an (the Terra Cotta Warriors were fantastic!), and then to Shanghai. She will be back teaching at Seton Hall and The New School next year. **Marge DEISSENBERGER Schmitt** cruised the Baltic in July followed by a visit to family in Germany. **Mary Ann SPAHN Mekeel** has joined Facebook and invites classmates to join and add her as a friend to view her profile, pictures, and events. **Barri LIMPUS Clark** has been studying WWII intensely. She's also been walking all over Los Angeles, along with a few others, not all of whom are homeless! **Susan WEXLER Hensel** will visit NYC and San Francisco this autumn from her home in Germany. At home, she spends time being "Granma," giving English lessons, and working the night shift at an excellent Drug Therapy Village nearby. She is planning to do more proofreading of college papers and dissertations that have to be handed in in English as well as more translation work. That way she can work more at home and hopefully have less driving to do as gas has gotten insanely expensive. **Debbie HOLLDAY Brown** is a Manhattanite after 33 years in the suburbs, having recently moved to an apartment on the Upper West Side. After she was widowed 18 months ago, she decided it was time for new beginnings. She's also had (and still does have) a tutoring business for the SATs and



college essays for the last seven years in Westchester, where she formerly taught high school English. She's now looking to pick up students in Manhattan. Jason Robert Brown, her younger son, had his show *13* open on Broadway in October at the Bernard Jacobs Theater. David, her older son, has two sons who can't wait to visit Grandma in the city and ride on a subway. **Rhoda ROTHENBERG Ferat** writes that her younger son, Joel, is getting married next June in Boston. He moved to Chicago recently to be with his fiancée and to attend graduate school in social work. Rhoda is thrilled he is joining her profession and notes that they are beginning to speak the same language and look forward to attending some conferences together. She also had a fabulous trip to China in the fall, where she "adopted" one of the tour guides as her "daughter." They keep in touch regularly and she calls Rhoda her "American Mom." **Peggy GARRISON Said** is working gratis for her son about 35 hours a week and enjoying it very much. They sell water and rent or sell coolers. She is learning about business management, invoicing, asking for money, bartering, advertising, etc. She doesn't have much free time, but spends it with friends or grandkids. **Sandy PINKER Herman** traveled to Charleston recently for the Spoleto Festival and then to South Africa at the end of August, spending a week in Cape Town, a few days in Jeffrey's Bay hunting seashells, and then to the game farms to hunt the "big five" (by camera only). She also visited Zambia and Victoria Falls. **Joyce GOODWIN McLaren** and her husband, Ron, celebrated Christmas in TX with their son, Keith, and his family and then spent Mother's Day with both sons at Keith's vacation home in Charleston, SC. They spent January in FL, where they attended the NYS Parkway Police reunion and made their 14th visit to Disney World. In April, they traveled with friends to Wilmington, NC and toured Screen Gem

Studios. This summer, they spent four weeks in NJ, NH, CT, and NY to attend three weddings and visit friends and relatives. **Michele LEVENBOOK Kohler** lives in England and writes that she "is trying to retire." Her husband, Chris, has retired and this year they spent a week skiing in Switzerland and two weeks driving around Germany and Austria in their convertible looking for alpine wild flowers. **Betty BERNECK Belina** lives in San Mateo and is still employed at the same San Francisco law firm where she has been since 1995, and where she hopes to remain until retirement, as secretary to the firm's General Counsel and to three other attorneys. She says that since she has no legal training whatsoever to draw on, the skills she finds herself using on a daily basis are her organizational and editing abilities (the latter, no doubt, nurtured in Hunter's English Department), plus the ability to juggle. **Susan GERBI McIlwain** is two years post-breast cancer surgery, chemo, and radiation therapy and is doing well. She's back at work at Brown University full-time where they are excited to have received funding from the Army and from the Susan Komen Foundation for their research on molecular mechanisms underlying the involvement of estrogen in gene amplification in breast cancer—obviously she has a personal interest in this topic! She has enjoyed several visits with classmate **Eloise Angiola** who moved to her area, having retired from the University of Alabama where she taught art history. **Carol ARNDT Wolfe** and her husband spent five days in London in April with their daughter who was supervising the junior year abroad students from UNC at the University of London. They were lucky to get to share her lovely two bedroom apartment on Bedford Square, around the corner from the British Museum (with the pound at \$2.00, it sure made a difference getting to stay for free!). They were able to visit a lot of favorite museums and then took, for the

first time, the Eurostar to Paris—from the center of one city to the center of another in a little over two hours in sheer comfort! They spent a pleasurable week in Paris and took classmate **Angela Vona** to a 6th Arr. dinner which they all enjoyed; and then met her again on their last day to see the Phoenician exhibit at the Institut du Monde Arabe. **Helene WILLIAMS Spierman** writes that last spring, in addition to doing accent reduction classes at Bronx-Lebanon at the crack of dawn and doing an Intermediate class at home, she took on what was supposed to be accent reduction for a Chinese family who'd only just arrived in the U.S. Since the four kids (ages 13, 14, 17, and 19) and a lady friend of the family (who has been here for 8 years or so) had totally different proficiencies in English, Helene actually ended up giving her first-ever ESL classes! She also did a Seder for a smaller crowd than usual: 14 at table. Then again, it felt like a marathon because she was also doing a "5 Centuries of Great Duets" singing program and "The Booby Trap," and preparing a new song cycle which partner, Len, had written and which they premiered at their annual Court St. Music Recital at home on June 7th. In May, Helene and her sister headed to Boston to hear a performance by students at the Berklee School of Music of a piece that their uncle, Walter Gross, had written for the Paul Whiteman Orchestra in 1938! It was great fun. Uncle Walter was a fine jazz pianist with a distinctive style, and he composed the music to "Tenderly." His Centennial is next year, and they met someone who is interested in putting together a Centennial CD of his piano performances. On May 9th, a photo of Helen's son, Ben Spierman, appeared in the Metro section of the *New York Times*, in conjunction with the Bronx Opera Company's double-bill of *The Impresario* and *Pagliacci* (The Clowns). He also directed *Madama Butterfly* in Asbury

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## CLASS NOTES

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Park, NJ at the end of July, with Anton Coppola conducting. In the spring, Helene was joined by classmate Lisa Harbatkin for the annual meeting of the National Committee to Re-Open the Rosenberg Case. It was a very exciting evening—you can find out about the meeting and the latest news at: [www.rosenbergtrial.org/cracttxt.html](http://www.rosenbergtrial.org/cracttxt.html). Helene will also be singing for the High Holidays at a synagogue in Park Slope. • **Heather Kaney '66** retired from a 36-year career in the human services field in June, 2007. She keeps busy with many activities, interests, and friendships to pursue and wonders how she ever had time to work! Most recently she has been focused on gaining permanent resident status and eventual dual citizenship in Canada. Her husband, who is a Canadian citizen, is sponsoring her. Heather finds it a bit unnerving to be “under the microscope” by a government agency, but also comical to have to document through narratives, photographs, and countless questionnaires that she and her husband are “truly” married after 18 years. She would be interested in swapping stories with any alums who have gone through the process.

### 1970s

**Katherine Levine '71** was elected a Judge to the Civil Court for the City of New York's 6th Judicial District, Kings County last November. • **Audrey Stewart '73** is living and working in Paris; she is currently a Commercial Engineer working on large accounts for ADT France. • **Robin Peress '74** is working full-time doing proofreading and copy editing at *The New York Times* and recently started writing articles for the website [www.HowStuffWorks.com](http://www.HowStuffWorks.com). • **Dorothy Brown '76** recently became a tenured professor of Law at Emory University. • **Kathi Schmidt '78** and her family, including three sons, recently relocated from Germany to the Washington, D.C. area

where her husband has been sent by his newspaper to be their Washington correspondent.

### 1980s

**George Gatling '84** is currently serving a 365-day tour in Baghdad as the Executive Officer to the Director of Strategic Communications for the Multi-National Forces in Iraq. George, a Major in the U.S. Army, is a 1989 graduate of the United States Military Academy (West Point). • **Theo Cheng '87** got married to Dr. Michelle Lee on April 12, 2008. Their wedding announcement appeared in *The New York Times* on April 13. Theo has been an associate at Proskauer Rose LLP, specializing in patent litigation work, since July 2007. In November 2007, he was the recipient of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's award for being one of the Best Lawyers Under 40; he was also appointed by then-Governor Eliot Spitzer to the New York State Commission on Increasing Diversity in the State Government Workforce in April, 2007.

### 1990s

**Nina HABIB Spencer '90** submits the following news for her class: “The Class of 1990 has been very busy lately, so let's get down to business! **Chen-Li (Anthony) Sung** married Amanda Erin Kreuger Budde (Smith '95) in Paris in June of 2007. They held their reception on the Battleship Missouri and are living the lush life in Honolulu. **Jake Hendrikson** and wife Sarah Hirzel welcomed their first baby, Sam, in May. Present at their wedding last June were **Jake Pine**, **Alex Shub**, **Jon Goldman**, **Jon Winawer**, **Neil Dorosin '89**, **Nick Miller '89**, and **Marya Gilborn '89**. **Alexandra Jacobs** reports that she, her husband, and daughter Josephine, 2, welcomed baby Seymour (“Sy”) in March. They've moved back to NYC from Los Angeles, and Alexandra is still happily

writing for *The New York Observer*, that wry pink publication. **Joe Lazauskas** is still an ironman, running marathons and half-marathons, while **Dr. Rebecca SCHWAGER Guest** moved back to the NYC area with her family just a few months ago. **Thisbe Nissen** and her sweetie (now husband) Jay are living on a gorgeous piece of land in Saugerties, NY. They are farming and writing. When she visits **Michelle Forman** she babysits for Michelle's “gloriously adorably delicious son, Gordon Flynn Herbert” and gets a tiny taste of what motherhood might be like. **Amy Bielefeld** was married on December 1, 2007 to Stephen Tenbroeke. In attendance were **Kinsey Dinan** and **Alyssa JANG Cho**, who said the blessing before dinner. Amy and her husband live in Park Slope and she is a Speech Language Pathologist at the Rose F. Kennedy Center in the Bronx. **Kinsey** had a baby boy, Sebastian, in February. Her older child, Evelyn, is now two. **Melinda LOPEZ Tavares** continues to be a very strong mom for her kids while managing her youngest son Joseph's severe heart disease. Two-year-old Joseph underwent his third open heart surgery in Boston on June 10th. Melinda appreciates everyone's warm wishes and prayers. **Ilana Ruskay-Kidd** is the Director of the Nursery School at the JCC in Manhattan and is also (somehow) balancing this job with taking care of her three kids: Gabriella, Emma, and Daniel, ages 10, 8, and 3. I, **Nina** had a great dinner with **Lori Hoepner**, **Jeb Harben**, and **Mark Kondraki** and his wife, Kim, a few months ago. Jeb is a lawyer for the NYS Attorney General and works here in NYC, and this summer, Lori started a Dr.PH. program in Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia. She, Jeb, and their adorable son, Aiden, are enjoying their huge, circa-1904 Victorian house in Brooklyn. Kim and Mark Kondraki live in historic Cranbury, NJ. Mark continues to commute to work at his audio recording studio in New York City—Outloud Audio

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## In Memoriam

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**Katherine CARNEVALE DiStasi '21** died in March, 2008, just four weeks shy of her 102nd birthday. She was a proud alumna of both Hunter High and Hunter College and after college, taught English in NYC for over 20 years. She moved with her husband, Anthony DiStasi, to Beverly Hills in 1951 and later to Santa Barbara. She was the mother of two daughters, grandmother of eleven, and great-grandmother of twelve.

**Lillian DONG Louie '38** died on August 31, 2006. She was a former teacher at P.S. 130 and according to the NYC Chinatown Reunion Newsletter, she was the first public school teacher in NYC of Chinese ancestry. She earned a Bachelor's degree from Hunter College, an M.S. from Columbia, and an MA from Teachers College, Columbia University. She was the founder of the Long Island Chinese Circle, Inc. and Chinese Center on Long Island.

**Dorothy FISHER Jahn '40** passed away peacefully on January 15, 2008, and leaves a legacy of love and generous care for her children. Dorothy was raised in Woodside, Queens and after Hunter High, earned her Bachelor's degree from Hunter College and her M.S. in Education from Hofstra. She was a social worker, debt counselor, and volunteer who touched many lives with positive guidance. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 45 years, Dale Miller Jahn, and son, Calvin Fisher Jahn. She is survived by three children and many grandchildren.

**Muriel LEVENTHAL Nussbaum '40** died on April 7, 2007. She had a long and successful career as an actress, director and writer and was a member of the Theatre Artists Workshop. Her husband, Ervin, who predeceased her, was a painter and sculptor whose works are in the

permanent collections of many museums. In 2002, Muriel presented her one-woman show *Van Gogh and Jo*.

**Prof. Muriel ROGOW Becker, Jan. '41** passed away on February 15, 2008. Her daughters J'nell Blakeley and Gail Becker wrote to say that she was truly passionate about her profession and many interests. Naomi CONN Liebler '62 wrote that Muriel was her colleague and friend at Montclair State University, where she taught as a member of the English Department and served as the long-time Teacher Education Adviser. "She was always a generous, warm, loving, helpful, constant presence for so many—her students adored her and there are whole generations of high school teachers in New Jersey who are in their profession because of her. Muriel was a Hunter Girl in the generation preceding mine and more than anything else, HCHS provided the strongest bond between us—not unlike the 'old school' bonds that we thought prep school kids must share. Muriel made a difference to so many, which is perhaps the best legacy of all among us Hunter alums. She will be missed but those she left behind will carry that difference with them and will do their best to pass it along."

**Francine SCHOENHOLTZ Parker '43** died on November 8, 2007. She was the director of the controversial anti-Vietnam War documentary film *FTA* (which stood for "Free the Army"—the name of a 1971 tour to entertain members of the military). The film was released in July 1972 to select theaters, but pulled from distribution in less than a week and has never subsequently been released on video or DVD, although in recent years it has been screened by the Directors Guild and at the International Documentary Film Festival in Amsterdam. A review on the website Film Threat remarks: "The

film's true power comes in the frank, often rude comments from the servicemen and women who openly question the purpose and planning of the American involvement in Vietnam. Most memorable here are the members of the U.S.S. Coral Sea, who presented a petition to their superiors demanding a halt to the bombing in Vietnam; African-American soldiers and marines who angrily decried racist attitudes among the white commanding officers at the U.S. military installations, usually with an upraised fist of the Black Power movement; women serving in the U.S. Air Force who talk unhappily about sexual harassment from their male counterparts; and soldiers who pointedly refer to the dictatorial government in South Vietnam which was being presented as the democracy which they were supposedly defending. The extraordinary air of dissent that rises out of *FTA* provides a rare glimpse into an unhappy and demoralized fighting force stuck in a war which they did not believe in." Francine was a graduate of Smith College and earned a master's degree at the Yale School of Drama. In the 1960s, she worked in television and produced a series of one-hour plays for PBS. She was also one of the first women to join the Directors Guild of America. For the past 18 years she was a professor of film directing at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. She is survived by her daughter, Amanda Lipkin, a brother, and two grandchildren.

**Barbara DAVIDSON Perlman, Jan. '48** died last year. She wrote for PBS and various soap operas, including *Ryan's Hope*, for which she won a Daytime Emmy award in 1984 for outstanding writing. She later changed careers and became a social worker.

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**Irja KARR Frenzen, June '49** died on July 24, 2008. Her classmate Esta EPSTEIN Pekow writes that she was a popular and well-liked member of the class.

**Leah WILLNER Cohen '51** died in December, 2007 in Canton, MA. Leah had retired the previous year from her law practice in Poughkeepsie, NY. She was an opera lover, a skilled gardener, and a very talented knitter, and is missed by her son, Daniel, daughter, Deborah Peckham, granddaughter, Haley, and many dear friends.

**Julia PARDO Terranera '54** passed away on January 14, 2008. Julie spent much of her young life in dance studios and performing in NYC. She especially favored Ballet and Flamenco dancing. She received a teaching degree from Queens College and as a freshman, met the love of her life, and husband of 50 years, Terry. In the early days, she was a foreign language teacher and remained within the boroughs of NYC. She brought four children into this world, and moved out to the suburbs on Long Island, where she lived until 1992. Her lifetime passion was Girl Scouts, beginning as a volunteer leader in 1969 and going on to work for the organization until her retirement in 1992. She and Terry then moved to Daytona Beach, and then Port Orange. She enjoyed cruising and Country Club activities, but it wasn't enough. She returned to Girl Scouts as a volunteer in the Citrus County Council and continued as a trainer across the nation. Her lifelong dream was to visit the four world centers of Girl Scouting: in Mexico, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and India, and not even cancer could prevent her from fulfilling this dream. In June 2007, she completed the trek with a visit to Sangam, India. She and Terry also embarked on a Mediterranean Cruise in September, 2007 to visit the birthplace of their ancestors. She will live forever in the

hearts of her survivors, especially Terry's. She is also survived by daughters Julie and Lisa, sons Bob and Chris, and nine grandchildren.

**Ruth KAUFMAN Davis '56** died on August 5, 2008, after a valiant 11-year battle with breast cancer. Her passing was peaceful and occurred at home, within weeks of a family celebration of her 70th birthday. She held two Master's degrees as well as a number of certifications and had worked for the NYC Board of Education for 48 years, most recently as a Speech Supervisor. She was dedicated to the teachers she supervised as well as her students, often paying them special attention—making home visits, buying them books, and taking them on special outings. Her approach to life was best captured by one of her sons, who asked how many of the attendees at her funeral expected her to sit up and give her opinion of how the service should be conducted! Ruth had also just completed six years of service to the HCHS Alumnae/i Association Board of Directors, including one year as co-president, and had coordinated her class's 50th reunion in 2006. She is survived by sons Neil, Andrew, and Philip; grandchildren Joshua, Ashley, Madeline and Jacqueline; and sisters Anne (HCHS '66) and Eleanor. She was predeceased by her husband David.

**Rosalie COLETTA Okurowski '57** (Hunter College '60) died peacefully in her sleep on September 18, 2007, from cardiac arrest after a series of illnesses. After graduating from Hunter College with a B.A. in Education, Rosalie married Frank Okurowski and moved to Massachusetts. She taught elementary school in the Newton, MA school system, while earning a Masters in Education from Boston University ('63). She always reminisced about her years at Hunter High with reverence. Rosalie had a daughter and son, and eventually the family built a house and moved to Concord, MA where Rosalie ran several businesses from home and participated in

community affairs, including town committees, Girl Scouts, and the Concord Women's Club, of which she was president. The family traveled extensively all over the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. She and her husband also enjoyed several tours of European countries, including her ancestral home of Italy. She is survived by her husband, son, daughter, and three grandchildren.

**Margaret "Peggy" JONES DeLaCour '62** died on February 18, 2008, after a sudden illness on board a cruise ship returning from a trip to Antarctica. Peggy grew up in Bedford-Stuyvesant and after HCHS earned a degree in History from the University of Pennsylvania; she later attended Columbia University as a graduate student in Chinese Studies, and received her M.A. in Public Administration from NYU in 1984. In her long career, she served in a number of senior level positions in NYC government—at the Department of Environmental Protection, the NYC Water Board, and the Brooklyn Borough President's Office. She also served on a number of non-profit boards including The Junior League, Colony South Brooklyn, Grace Church School, and Planting Fields Arboretum of Oyster Bay. She will be missed by all and remembered for her devotion to family and friends. She is survived by her husband, Willis, and children, Dirk, Russell, and Sophie.

**Dr. Melinda Stern '68** died on February 27, 2007 from breast cancer. She was the daughter of Holocaust survivors and after Hunter, attended the University of Chicago, University Autnoma de Guadalajara, and Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. She was an astute and compassionate pediatrician, and friends and family knew her as affectionate, funny, outspoken, and wise. She loved crosswords, the Beatles, and good food. She is survived by her husband, Lon Dubey, children, Jared and Mara, a brother and sister and numerous other family members and friends.



**Melissa ROSSE Dobbryn '76 ('77 ICY)** died on July 8, 2008 from complications of ovarian cancer and leukemia after a nine-year battle. She graduated from Cornell University in 1981, *magna cum laude*, and Fordham University School of Law in 1985, where she won the National Moot Court trial competition. After law school, she was associated with the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkin, Wharton and Garrison in New York City, until the birth of her first child, Amanda. She later worked as a partner on a part-time basis with the intellectual property law firm of Grimes & Battersby in Stamford, until she was diagnosed with her illness in 1999. She then became interested in holistic health and became a yoga teacher. A member of National Charity League and Young Women's League in New Canaan, Melissa was actively involved in educational issues, particularly in the area of gifted education. In addition to her mother, father, and husband, Colm, she is survived by two children, Amanda and James. Some of her classmates have established a fund in her name for the purchase of books for the High School library—to make a donation, please use the form on the back page and indicate “Melissa Dobbryn memorial fund” on your check.

**Dr. Ahamindra Jain '81** died of cancer on May 10, 2008. After earning an S.B. at MIT and Ph.D. at Harvard, he taught at Berkeley before moving over to Harvard, where he was a lecturer and director of undergraduate laboratories in the Chemistry Department. His students remember him as someone who cared deeply about them and who brought passion, intensity, and incredible knowledge to the table in his teaching. He is survived by his parents, his wife, and two young children. Some of his classmates have obtained information about contributing to an education fund for his children; for more information please check the class's egroup: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hchs1981/>.

**Muhammad Eltantawy '01** died on June 21, 2008. His classmates, organized by Daniel Leeds and Faraaz Shah, held a memorial gathering for him in Central Park on August 10, 2008 and Daniel wrote in to us with the following: “Classmates and other friends from Hunter gathered recently to remember Muhammad. He was a remarkable human being with deep convictions, extraordinary talent, and a great heart. Regularly seen at Hunter dressed in clothing reminiscent of 17th to 19th century Europe, he spread his passion for classical literature and music. He composed his own work, from sonnets to operas, starting during his first years at Hunter. Muhammad remained modest about his own talents. He was deeply caring about his friends and family. The strong, warm aura he created and carried leave lasting lessons and memories.”

**David Harris, Jr. '04** died on July 31, 2008 when, while hiking in the North Oregon Neah-Kah-Nie Mountain on a popular majestic trail, he was struck by a fallen tree limb. David graduated from Hunter Elementary and then from Hunter High in 2004 and had just graduated from Wesleyan in the class of 2008 with a major in government. He spent the fall semester of his senior year studying in India and returned to Wesleyan to complete his degree. During his time at Wesleyan, David was involved in volunteering with the Traverse Square tutoring program and enjoyed playing and learning music. A memorial service was held for David in NYC on August 14, 2008.

The Alumnae/i Association has also been advised of the deaths of the following alums: **Marie ZULYEVITS Balich '22**, **Hattie RAUNHEIM Dreyfus '21**, **Jeannette DOERNBERG Sahlein '23**, **Elsa HERZOG Voss '24**, **Rose WEINSTEIN Ravid '25**, **Dorothy PEARLSTEIN Zuckerman '29**, **Elaine ISAACSON Gordon '35**, **Shirley Appell CHARY Jennings, Jan. '38**, **Harriet GREENHUT Churgel '38**,

**Phyllis NAMAN Neuberger '38**, **Angelina BUONAMASSA Marx, Jan. '43**, and **Bernice MALAT Polivy, Jan. '44**.

**Former HCHS English teacher Parker Baratta, 75**, of Brooklyn, NY, passed away on June 11, 2008. He was the devoted, loving husband of Rory MAYER Baratta (HCHS '70), father of Kate Mitchell, father-in-law of Guy Mitchell, and grandfather of Caroline and Nora Mitchell. Between 1968 and 1992, he taught literature to generations of appreciative students at Hunter College High School. Thereafter, he taught as an adjunct faculty member at Baruch College. Before he became a teacher, he performed professionally as a jazz drummer. Father Richard Trezza officiated at a traditional Latin Requiem Mass on June 17, at the Church of St. Agnes in NYC, which was attended by many former students and faculty members from HCHS. Contributions in Mr. Baratta's memory can be made to: Transplant Programs of Mount Sinai Medical Center's Office of Development, One Gustave L. Levy Place, Box 1049, New York, NY 10029.

The following description of the funeral was provided by Debbie Rothman '73:

“Following the formal ceremony, three speakers delivered personal reminiscences of Mr. Baratta. David Greenwald '86 recalled a class he had taken with Mr. Baratta in 1985, a memorable Shakespeare course imbued with Mr. Baratta's principles and values as well as the highest level of scholarship. He also spoke of the privilege of sharing Mr. Baratta's entertaining and enlightening company and conversation over the years since his graduation. Next, Guy Mitchell, Mr. Baratta's son-in-law, read the words of Parker's daughter Kate in which she described the close relationship she'd had with her father from early childhood through adulthood and the myriad ways in which he had shown his deep love and concern for her well-being. The final speaker was Edythe Menscher, a rabbi

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## In Memoriam

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and a close friend of Rory MAYER Baratta '70. She spoke both of Mr. Baratta's devotion as a husband and of his quest for spiritual truth and comfort. A reception followed at a nearby Italian restaurant, during which Mr. Baratta's family, friends, former students, and colleagues shared reminiscences. The funeral and reception were well attended by members of the Hunter High School community including former faculty and staff members Susan Meeker (Social Studies), Marge Goldsmith (Science), Elaine Sarfati (Nurse), Richard Friedman (Counseling), and Janice Warner (English). Current faculty members attended as well, including Audrey Maurer (ICY Coordinator, formerly Foreign Language), Kip Zegers (English), and Eve Eisenstadt (Chair, Art & Music). Students from his first year of teaching (among whom I am proud to include myself) up until his last year, and those in between, also abounded. Mr. Baratta was my English teacher during my eighth grade and senior years. I have always considered him instrumental in the forming of my mind and in my choice of teaching, and the teaching of English in particular, as a vocation. It was evident from this well-attended event and the heartfelt praises and reminiscences shared both in the formal presentations and in conversation that he deeply enriched the minds and lives of so many people who came to know him in and out of the classroom—in whose memories his words and ideas and dynamic personality will live on."

**Gloria Gittelman Kagan**, who taught at Hunter Elementary from the early '70s through the early '90s, and was the mother of HCHS alums Elena Kagan '77 and Irving Kagan '82 (a current HCHS Social Studies teacher), passed away on July 11, following a stroke. She is survived by Elena and Irving as well as son Marc and two grandchildren.

## CLASS NOTES

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—where he composes music and produces audio for TV, film, audio books, and other media. The Kondrakis recently met up with **Aimee SPITZ Hartmann**, who is the Director of the Mobile Clinic Outreach Program for the ASPCA. They've all been working together to support animal causes for some time. Opera singer **Serena Benedetti** gave a recital at Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall with her mother last November, which was sold out and very well received in the *New York Sun*. Her daughter, Katina Pantazopoulos, is one-and-a-half. **Justine Fontinell** and her husband, Tom Becker, just welcomed their first child, Hank Atticus Becker, while **Abigail Hornstein** and hubby Seth welcomed their second child, Esther Sarah Hornstein Bittker, in June. And who could forget the fantastic performance of **Randy Eng** on *Jeopardy!* a couple of months ago? After flat-out crushing the opposition on the first day, a second win was just out of reach on day two, though I know everyone who tuned in will agree that Randy was hands-down the superior player. Hunter has served Randy well. And as for me, **Nina HABIB Spencer**, my hubby Parke and I welcomed our third child, Teddy, last September. The two older kids, Jack, 6 and Athena, 3 are thrilled to finally have the pet they always wanted. I've also started a public relations business—my first client was the AeroBalloon in Central Park this summer. To all my other classmates: Don't be shy! Send me your updates: [habibspencer@verizon.net](mailto:habibspencer@verizon.net). • **Orna Kleiman '94** sends congratulations to classmate **Craig Lomita** on completing his grueling residency in Orthopedics. Craig started a fellowship in hand surgery in July. • **Sean Moundas '99** recently moved to Towson, MD where he is working on his dissertation, interning at the Towson University Counseling Center, and teaching one class.

## 2000s

**Jordana Kremnitzer '00** and husband Juan Sanchez welcomed their third child, Yael, on December 26, 2007. Yael was delivered at home by midwife Karen Jefferson, who is the mother of **Carlos Hernandez '03** and **Elisa Hernandez '13**. Also in attendance at the birth was **Adrienne Ford '99** whose friendship is priceless. • On July 4, 2008, while he was playing in the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas, **Eli Adler '03** won the World Series of Poker Rock Paper Scissors Championship! The tournament cost \$500 to enter and had 36 competitors. From the \$18K prize pool, \$3k was donated to the Prevent Cancer Foundation, while Eli was awarded a prize of \$10,000. He beat the most famous player, Master Rosh, the defending champ, Phil Gordon, as well as Thomas Wahlroos, Melissa Hayden, and Paul Wasicka (who won over \$6 million in the 2006 WSOP). The WSOPRPS won't be televised this year as it was in 2006 when Annie Duke won, but it will be mentioned on ESPN during WSOP coverage. Eli was on the feature table of the World Series of Poker on Day 2, so he will be seen when it airs in September. Eli attended Hunter from K–12th grade and earned his undergrad degree from the University of Virginia where he majored in Economics and Psychology, and minored in Math. He currently works at a hedge fund in Philadelphia, at one point with another 2003 graduate **Samson Benen**. • **Zoia Alexanian '04** was awarded a post-graduate scholarship by Williams College to continue her education in England this year. She will pursue a master's in English studies: culture and criticism at St. Catherine's College at Oxford; she was a chemistry and English double-major at Williams. • **Jayne Kubat '04** graduated from Bucknell University in May and will attend veterinary school at Cornell.

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

## INVITATION TO ALBANY-AREA ALUMS

The Capital District Hunter College Alumni Assn. would like to invite Hunter High graduates in the Albany, NY-area to join their group. They meet three times a year for luncheon and an interesting lecture program. The most recent meeting was held on October 26 at the Clarion Hotel in Albany. Anyone who is interested can contact Rona Wilson at 518-465-7763 or Phyllis Goldberg Ross at tzipililith@hotmail.com for additional information.

## NETWORKING FOR ALUMS OF COLOR

Fred McIntosh '87 is looking for alums of color who would be interested in networking—either via an online egroupp or at face-to-face networking events in NYC. If you're interested in such a group, please join the new egroupp: hchsalumniofcolor@yahooogroups.com.

### ALUMS SEEN & HEARD...

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coincidentally, *The New York Times* review was written by fellow alum, **Manohla Dargis '79!**...**Nicole Roux '92** performing with her band Love Child at the Red Star bar in Brooklyn in early June. Her website is: <http://www.nicolerue.com/...Ashok Bhalla '94> as “Dylan”—the afternoon drive time host of CBS Radio's Fresh 102.7/ NYC. Bhalla was previously known as Dead Air Dave for seven years on K-Rock (92.3) during the Howard Stern era...**Dave Kerpen '94** at his May 29 fundraiser at Mezzo Mezzo in Astoria in support of his 2009 New York City Council run. Kerpen is running for the spot in northeast Queens that is being vacated by David Weprin...**Jennifer 8. Lee '94** on *The Today Show* on August 14. Lee joined Al Roker in Beijing to talk about “Chinese” foods that really aren't Chinese in origin. The video can be launched from: <http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26195698...Comedian Steve Hofstetter '97> on *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* on September 19. Visit his myspace page, website ([stevehofstetter.com](http://stevehofstetter.com)), or see him live at various NYC and other venues.

## AlumnaGrams

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*Special note to chapter leaders: If you have any news or notices of meetings or get-togethers that you'd like us to publish, please contact the AA office by December 31.*

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