

Spring
2016

AlumNotes

HUNTER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION, INC. • VOLUME 42, NUMBER 1



The Innovation Issue

PAGE 6

Letter From the Co-presidents

Dear Fellow Hunter Graduate,

As 2016 unfolds, it is important to reflect on the accomplishments and challenges of the past year. While 2015 was a year of wonderful opportunities for alumnae/i to come together, unfortunately for other alumnae/i, we are still divided by geography, interests, and time. The board of the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association continues to seek more effective ways to reach alumnae/i wherever you may be and to serve Hunter College High School students.

This February, we kicked off the year's programming with a sold-out event at the Museum of Chinese in America. In April, with the presidential election only months away, we featured an exciting event that we hope is familiar—"Decision 2016." In May, we will present another fascinating author talk at the high school, followed by the annual milestone reunion events in June. We thank our partnering alumnae/i for donating their time and talent to our events.

The HCHSAA continues its collaboration with the high school to focus on diversity efforts in the student body and alumnae/i. As in past years, the HCHSAA continues to provide support for various projects, programs and needs at the high school. With your continued support, we hope to be able to maintain our traditional efforts to support the high school students and alumnae/i and to better serve both communities in the upcoming year.

Please visit www.hchsaa.org to sign up and stay in touch with us. If you are on Facebook, please join us on the "Official Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association" at: www.facebook.com/officialhchsaa.

We look forward to your support and to seeing you at events in the upcoming year.

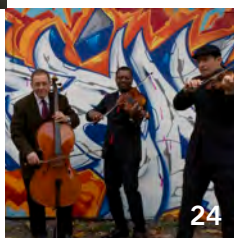
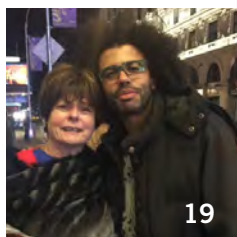
Sincerely,



Matthias Li '95
Co-president



Angela Liang '91
Co-president



ALUMNOTES SPRING 2016

Table of Contents

The School

Social Studies Program: The Holocaust	3
Student and Club News	4
Hunter's Antique Heirloom	5

The Alums

Innovation: Hunter Grads Build a Better World.	7
Our Oldest Alumna	13
Alum Updates	14
InMemoriam	16

The Alumnae/i Association

HCHSAA Events.	18
ESPI Diversity Initiative	21
Reunion 2016 News.	23
Letter to the Editor	25
HCHSAA At Work	26
AlumCorner	27
Upcoming Events / Mission Statement	28

AlumNotes



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Living History

Top: (L-R) Lily KLEBANOFF Blake '60, Hertha STRIKER Gorlick, Jan. '49, Joan KENT Finkelstein '54, Claire Kudera (Faculty). Middle Left: (L-R) Eva BRUST Cooper '52, Laurie KLEIN Katzman '49, Lisa GOLDIN Rabinowicz '59, Betty Kleinfeld (retired HCHS Social Studies Chair). Middle Right: (L-R) Eve WEINBERG Kronik, Jan. '49, Elinor KATTEN Goldberg '48. Bottom left: The Holocaust Lesson: Students learn firsthand from alumnae "survivors." Bottom right: (L-R) Lindsey Storlasky (faculty), Evelyn Konrad, Jan. '46, Frances Zynstein '60, Eve KANNER Kugler, Jan. '49.



Social Studies Program at HCHS

Seeking Refuge: Studies of the Holocaust

In early October 2015, the tenth grade Social Studies classes, under the direction department chair **Irving Kagan '82**, former Social Studies chair, Betty Kleinfeld and faculty member Lindsey Stolarsky, hosted fourteen Hunter alumnae Holocaust survivors for an experiential learning program called "Seeking Refuge." The purpose of the program was to allow students to hear firsthand from survivors about their experiences during the Holocaust and how their attendance at Hunter affected their lives afterward.

Among the honorees present were: **Susan LAUBHEIM Berlin '46**, **Eve WEINBERG Kronik, Jan. '49**, **Evelyn Konrad, Jan. '46**, **Elinor KATTEN Goldberg '48**, **Hertha STRIKER Gorklick, Jan. '49**, **Eve KANNER Kugler, Jan. '49**, **Laurie KLEIN Katzmann '49**, **Eva HAUSER Sperling '49**, **Eva BRUST Cooper '52**, **Edith TENNENBAUM Shapiro '52**, **Joan KENT Finklestein '54**, **Lisa GOLDIN Rabinowicz '59**, **Lily KLEBANOFF Blake '60**, **Frances ZYNSTEIN Oz '60**.

The program was funded by a grant from **Eleanor ULLMAN Light, Jan. '49** and organized by Betty Kleinfeld, Lindsey Stolarsky and Francesca Bacon (HCCS alumni and event coordinator). Also, on hand to greet the honored guests were Principal Tony Fisher, Assistant Principal Lisa Siegmann, Dean Ketchum, Director of Campus Schools, **Mildred Speiser Jan. '49**, Elyse Reissman,

Executive Director of HCHSAA, members of the HCHS Jewish Cultural Awareness Club, student grandchildren of survivors and parent volunteers.

Special guest speaker and "Distinguished HCHS Graduate 1999" **Helen Epstein '65** gave a moving and powerful keynote presentation. A world-renowned expert on the Holocaust and its lasting effects, Helen is the author of six widely translated books including *Children of the Holocaust*, one of the first books to examine the inter-generational transmission of trauma, and the memoir *Where She Came From: A Daughter's Search for Her Mother's History*. Both were named *New York Times* Notable Books of the Year.

Moderated panel discussions and students' Q&A followed as the honorees detailed the horrors of Kristallnacht, Nazi arrests, expulsion, concentration camps, the brutal loss of loved ones, dramatic escapes, and finding refuge in America. The final question for the panelists was: *What role did Hunter play in your life as you reflect back on that period after all these years?*

To hear their answers, watch the program videos to be posted on our website in May.

Student News



Budding Artists

American Math Competition took place in February

The goal of the American Math Competition is to inspire interest in mathematics through the excitement of “solving challenging problems in a timed multiple-choice format.” Students from grades 9-12 take a seventy-five-minute exam utilizing algebraic and calculus formulas. Winners were awarded “Certificates of Distinction” for the highest scores.

HCHS “Mathletes” Top “Elite” Private Schools

Hunter “Mathletes” prepared for the 2016 *MathCounts* competition by spending a day at Stuyvesant High School and competing in a borough-wide contest consisting of six rounds of math problems. The HCHS Team won this round and moved to the finals in March where they won again! Valerie Y (#1) and Charles Z (#2) were the top two outstanding mathletes. Of the top sixteen places, HCHS students garnered seven spots. The only other school in the top rankings with more than one student was NYC Lab School with two students who placed in the top sixteen. Of the top twelve *Mathcounts* team, Hunter won the prize by placing first. NYC Lab School came in sec-



Math Counts: Hunter Students Prepare

ond. More than half way down the list were Dalton (8), Brearley (10), Spence (11), and Trevor (12). Dalton and Spence students did not rank in the top sixteen. Just as a comparison, Dalton’s tuition for this upcoming year is an astonishing \$44,460. <http://mathm.org/2016results.html>

Understanding U.S. Fiscal Monetary Policies

Hunter students who engage in the “Federal Reserve Challenge” study macroeconomics and the role of fiscal monetary policy in the U.S. economy. Students read Federal Reserve Reports, and articles from *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Economist* and *The New York Times* to analyze data and trends. After determining the most critical economic indicators, the Challenge Team reveals their findings in a Federal Reserve Economic Data Graph otherwise known as F.R.E.D. The program began in February and continues with several rounds through April. Three members of the HCHS team will present a final 25-minute summation to a panel of economists and judges.

Hunter Students Win the Regional National Science Bowl® Competition

The U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz announced that a team of students from Hunter College Middle School won their regional competition for the 2016 National Science Bowl® (NSB) and advanced to the National Finals in Washington, D.C. in April.

The National Science Bowl® is a premier academic competition and prepares American students for future success in research and engineering. Over 14 thousand middle school (and high school) students from across the U.S. compete in the fast-paced question-and-answer format where they solve technical problems and answer questions on a range of science disciplines including biology, chemistry, earth and space science, physics and math. The U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Science manages the NSB Finals competition.

African American Cultural Society
Hunter Organization of Latin Americans
Asian Cultural Society

South Asian Youth Alliance
Jewish Cultural Awareness Club
Mixed Race and Multicultural Club

MULTI-CULTURAL NIGHT

3.11.16

ACTIVITIES:

Guest Speaker: Tamara Waye

Fashion Show with SAYA

Singing & Dancing with AACCS & ACS

Spoken Word & Poetry with GSA, ACS & TCB

Videos and Interviews with Feminist Future, HOLA & JCAC

Korean Pitch Pot Games with HAKYO

Easter Egg Decorating with EEC

Cookie Decorating with M & M's

FREE FOOD

6-8 PM AUDITORIUM

MULTICULTURAL NIGHT 2016

Join us in celebrating the different identities in our Hunter community! Parents, teachers, and students are welcome.

Enjoy pierogies, dumplings, mac & cheese, kimbap, samosas, dulce de leche, rainbow cakes, and more!

Participate in our photo projects to raise awareness about diversity!

Feminist Future
Gender and Sexuality Alliance
Hunter American Korean Youth Organization

Advocating Cultural Ties
Eastern European Club
The Coloring Book

Project Diversity

HCHS Diversity Group presented a multi-cultural event.

A Symbol of Hunter's Illustrious Past from Limoges, France

The following article was submitted to the Alumnae/i Association by HCHS Assistant Principal, Grades 10-12, Lisa Siegmann. It is written by HCHS parent, Eve M. Kahn, who is also the Antiques Columnist for The New York Times.

"In Ms. [Lisa] Siegmann's spare time, she has rescued archives and artifacts from HCHS's illustrious past that turn up in crannies around the building. Her most recently saved object is an enigmatic porcelain bowl, a testament to Hunter students' diligence and generosity and the administration's educational vision more than a century ago.

The restoration of the antique, which measures more than a foot in diameter and is set on a matching platter, was completed this summer. In 1902, Hunter students (all girls, at the time) painted the pieces with the date alongside leaves, grapes, flowers, dozens of gilded signatures, the initials JH and a motto, "Do justice and honor to the nature of the child." The porcelain's markings show that it was made in Limoges, France, at the Tressemann & Vogt factory. The company's New York distributorship would likely have imported the bowl and platter as white, unglazed blanks; painting on that kind of porous china was considered an elite pastime for educated women in late Victorian times. But why does it refer to honoring "the nature of the child"?

It all goes back to **Thomas Hunter** (1831-1915), an Irish immigrant, who founded what is now HCHS in 1869 as part of a "female normal" school—the standard term at the time for an institution that trained teachers. He and his wife Annie had four children, including a daughter, Jenny, who trained at her father's school (class of 1881)—Hunter College still gives scholarships in her honor. In 1887, she founded her own Manhattan school for kindergarten teachers. The curriculum was progressive and cutting edge; even the basic idea of enrolling small children in classrooms and nurturing their creativity was novel, at a time when a lifetime of labor after only a few years of education was the typical fate of the offspring of many American workers.

In 1901, one of the lecturers brought in by Jenny's alumnae association was the Canadian author, poet and education reformer **James**

Laughlin Hughes (1846-1935). The title of his talk was, yes, "Do justice and honor to the nature of the child." The large initials on the bowl, JH, suggest that the piece was made as a thank-you gift for Hughes. But given its laborious execution and lavishness, it was more likely a tribute for Jenny, marking the 15th anniversary of her school.

A few of the signatures on the porcelain surface can be traced to particular professionals. **Edythe M. Bostwick** did in fact become a school-teacher; directories list her as principal of the Shaw Memorial kindergarten, at 61 Henry Street on the Lower East Side. The school was founded in tribute to **Robert Gould Shaw** (1837-1863), a Massachusetts abolitionist who was killed in the Civil War while leading a pioneering regiment of African-American soldiers. **Edythe Bostwick** and many of the other Hunter students who inscribed the bowl, including **Helen Renwick**, **Mabelle Hurlburt**, **Maude Averill**, **Caroline Everett** and **Harriet Thayer**, were probably from prominent, established New York families. A few signers—the sisters **Ella and Amy Heidelberg**, for instance—were likely immigrants or the children of immigrants; then, as now, Hunter was open to those who worked hard and passed the entry test rather than only to those who knew anyone influential.

No one knows how the bowl and platter ended up damaged at the back of the auditorium, where Ms. Siegmann found the set years ago. Did Hughes accept the gift and then graciously return it to be displayed at the school? Or was it deemed too fragile to ship to Canada in the first place? Or was it in fact meant for Jenny, and her proteges saved it for decades in the various facilities of her school (which closed in the 1930s) and the high school and college named after her father?

The painted china, after undergoing restoration last year has returned to its usual perch, atop a cabinet in Ms. Siegmann's office. There



it has witnessed countless moments of student adversity and triumph and parent and faculty consultation. Its delicate foliage and fruit trimmed in gold, painted by progressive young educators in tribute to reformers who inspired them, bring a lasting whiff of spring to the interior of the Brick Prison.

*-Written and researched by **Eve M. Kahn**, the Antiques columnist for The New York Times since 2008. But she is proudest of her title as mom of **Alina Kulman HCHS '17**.*

Postscript: While the bowl has not been officially appraised, Ms. Kahn observed that she has "seen punchbowls like [this] with matching charger (meaning platter) sell for as much as \$5,000--and that's without a date, all those signatures and the motto in gold and of course without a priceless provenance back-story..." The cost of the restoration totalled \$925. If you would like to contribute to the cost of restoration, please email giving@hchsaa.org and note "antique heirloom." This Hunter heirloom will be permanently displayed at HCHS in time for the 2016 Reunion.



Florence ROSENFELD Howe, Jan. '46

Innovation: Hunter Grads Build a Better World

by Monika Mitchell

The inspiration for this topic came directly from individual Hunter alumni and their strides towards social change. While this list is in no way comprehensive, the hope is that it will inspire discussions within the community regarding the influence a Hunter education has on innovation. One of our featured alumni explained it this way, “Hunter didn’t teach me so much what I could do, but rather it taught me that there wasn’t anything that I could not do.” That sentiment echoed through the generations. One alumna who graduated in 1951 described her experience as a Hunter graduate in a gender-restricted world, “We believed that we [women] could do or be anything we wished.”

Following the HCHSAA performance of *Hamilton* at the Public Theater, **Lin-Manuel Miranda ’98** credited his eighth grade English teacher, **Dr. Rembert Herbert**, for sparking the inspiration and encouragement that ultimately led to his success as a writer. From these conversations, a pattern particular to Hunter graduates began emerging. If nothing else, a Hunter education seemed to instill in its pupils the freedom to innovate and the confidence to pursue that goal.

To begin this exploration, it seems appropriate to define “innovation.” Webster describes it as doing “something in a new way: to have new ideas about how something can be done.” From that jumping off point, the interviews and research that followed found a through-line that bound these achievements together. These individuals put their talents and expertise toward solving a critical social problem. Having been encouraged to think for themselves from a young and impressionable age and developing the skills to address any challenge (academic or otherwise), they share a common bond of “social good.” Each of them strives to improve the quality of life for those around them. Also, notable among them is a marked determination to remain undaunted in the face of opposition. In fact, opposition seemed to make these individuals even more resolute toward accomplishing their mission.

We begin with a graduate from 1946 who was one of the forces of change behind the women’s rights movement from the 1970s. We move through the decades to a millennial graduate and third-generation alumna whose grandmother broke through the glass ceiling

decades before her birth. The innovation areas explored run the gamut from science, medicine, publishing, the arts, to everything in between. The goal is to show that “innovation” is not a new thing nor is it restricted to technology (as is often assumed in today’s world), but rather a continuous effort for social change of each subsequent generation.

There is so much more to write, however, we are limited by word count in these pages. We invite you to read their stories and explore their contributions further. Beyond that, we invite all of you to share your stories of innovation for social good. We know that many more of you exist than the few we have summarized here. Your contributions will be published in future issues.

Through our early exploration of Hunter innovators, a definable characteristic was revealed. Beyond their achievements, these individuals have applied their early training toward building a better world. We hope that you are as inspired by these individuals as we are.

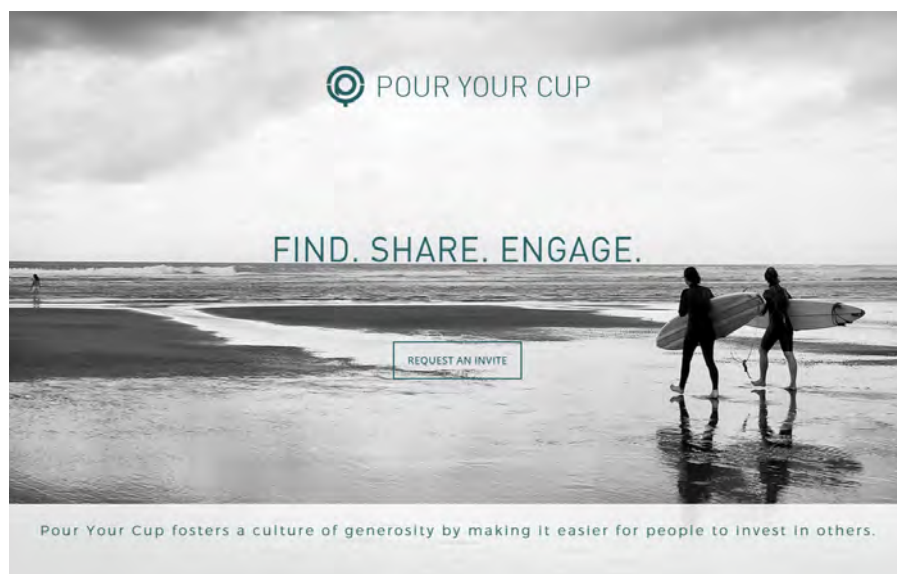
Postscript:

(To send us your stories for consideration, email us at: mmitchell@hchsaa.org. Subject: “Innovation”)

Special Thanks to all of you who contacted us for inclusion and to Florence ROSENFELD Howe, Molly Wenig Rubenstein, Raymond Tsao, and Deanna Fei for donating their time to our interviews.

“It is not so much improving the world that inspires me as it is improving the lives of individual people.”

—Molly Wenig Rubenstein ’05





Publishing Women Writers

FLORENCE ROSENFELD HOWE JAN '46

One of the most remarkable things about Florence Howe is her candor. If you want a direct answer, ask a direct question. When queried on whether her Hunter education influenced her success as publisher of the Feminist Press, she answered, “No, it did not.” The Feminist Press, which was founded in Florence Howe’s living room in November 1970, has grown to become one of the most influential (and certainly the oldest) imprints focused on women writers. In its work, the ground-breaking publishing company, since 1985 located at the City University of New York, has also published books that amplify feminist perspectives and advance women’s rights through the past 45 years, during which as Gail Collins has asserted, “everything changed” for women.

Perhaps surprising to modern ears, women writers were rarely published in Ms. Howe’s youth and were also completely ignored by academics. Her favorite professor at Hunter College, Hoxie Neale Fairchild, thought she should not “waste her time” reading women writers. “They aren’t any good,” he declared simply. She added, “I thought he was right. And so I never read women writers.” Women professors teaching the modern period, “might have a woman or two—like Virginia Woolf, for example—on the supplementary reading list, but they were not “required reading.”

Ms. Howe didn’t think further about women writers until 1969 when students at Goucher College (an all-women’s college until 1986) asked why there were no women writers on her eighteenth-century reading list. Ms. Howe replied that she did not “know of any.” The question spurred her curiosity and she began to consider the idea of publishing small biographies of women under the rubric of “The Feminist Press.” Joined by local women in Baltimore eager to have feminist books for their children, and some scholars already at work on biographies, the Press was announced through the kinds of rapid underground

transmission of news in those days before the internet.

Canadian friends sent children’s books from China. A southern lawyer said she was working on a biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. And the esteemed writer, Tillie Olsen, sent a tattered copy of a novella she had first read as a teenager in Omaha, Nebraska, and told Ms. Howe not to read it at night.

As Ms. Howe tell it, “When I read *Life in the Iron Mills* by Rebecca Harding Davis (published first in the *Atlantic* in 1961), I knew at once that if this had been ‘lost,’ then it was likely that many fine works by women had also been ‘lost.’ As my eyes opened, Elaine Hedges, a professor at Towson State University, gave me *The Yellow Wall-Paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Tillie came up with *Daughter of Earth* by Agnes Smedley. Within a couple of years all three were in print, and continue—40 years later—still to supply English, history, and women’s studies classrooms.”

What was “nothing but a project to start with” became a lifelong passion for Howe and helped give voice to many hundreds of writers in this country and Europe, hundreds more in India and more than four hundred in Africa. “I left the directorship just as the Feminist Press went onto the internet. But I am still on the Board of Directors and I enjoy proof-reading the fine fiction—sometimes by CUNY writers—the Press continues to publish.”

To read more about the Feminist Press, see the memoir called *A Life in Motion* by Florence Howe, or go to www.feministpress.org.



A Culture of Generosity

RAYMOND TSAO '84

Ray Tsao is a “serial entrepreneur,” an individual that continuously starts new businesses --as opposed to staying with one business over the long-term. Examples of

serial entrepreneurs include Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Square and Twitter, or Zappos founder, Tony Hsieh, who sold his first company “LinkExchange” to Microsoft. After a two-year stint at one startup, and then fifteen years at the next, Ray is trying his hand at a third. A simple google search of his name pulls up multiple rounds of funding that his companies received over the years.

But to meet Ray Tsao is to be struck by his grace and humility. His heartfelt mission is to create a way for people to freely share knowledge, exchange skills, and connect with one another for social good. Two years ago at an HCHS milestone reunion, he chatted with another alum, Elizabeth Lee '05, about creating a mentorship network for alumni. The result of that conversation is a new platform that Ray and his Atlanta team developed called Pour Your Cup - a public benefit company and an online community with a mission of “fostering a culture of generosity.” The platform is based on “the notion that people want to help one another.” Users find, share and engage with others “because you never know how the next connection you make will change someone’s life, maybe even your own.”

Considering whether his Hunter education influenced his entrepreneurial path, Ray mused, “This may sound a little strange, but I don’t think Hunter prepared me for anything in particular to do, but it gave me the sense that there wasn’t anything out there that I couldn’t do. For better or worse, that ignorance has allowed me to try things I might not otherwise have.”

When asked why he wants to devote his talents to building a better world through a platform like *Pour Your Cup*, Ray replied thoughtfully, “If we’re lucky, at some point in our lives, we realize that we didn’t do it all by ourselves. Someone else helped us in some small or large way, and it changed the trajectory of our lives. And by the time we realize it, that person is either long gone or there isn’t any practical way to repay them sufficiently. So really the only thing to do is to pay it forward. And if we’re going to help someone else, the biggest bang for our buck is to help them through the thing that we’re really good at and love to do. I like tinkering with things and getting them off the ground. So here I am.”

Postscript: Ray is currently working with the HCHSAA to adapt PYC to an alumni mentorship platform.



Amplifying African-American Voices

CHRIS JACKSON '89

In 2008, *Publisher's Weekly* described Spiegel & Grau's executive editor, Chris Jackson as "on a crusade to change the way people think about the world." The article reported that "Jackson believes in the power of the black literary tradition." Mr. Jackson stated, "I bring a black literary perspective to everything I do."

Eight years later, his "black literary perspective" has evolved with the publication of several acclaimed volumes of the African-American experience. One of Mr. Jackson's authors, Ta-Nehisi Coates, recently won the 2015 National Book Award for Nonfiction and the MacArthur Fellowship ("Genius Award") for the publication of *Between the World and Me*. The memoir, which has been compared to James Baldwin's 1963 masterpiece, *The Fire Next Time*, was written as a letter by the author to his son explaining the realities of "being black" in America. Jackson, Coates' editor and friend, was a key player in the book's development and publication.

Journalist Vinson Cunningham writes in *The New York Times* that Jackson, one of the few black editors in a predominantly white industry, "is transmitting ideas from writers on the margins to the mainstream readers who need to hear them." Jackson explains, "The great tradition of black art is the ability--unlike American art in general--to tell the truth." He names that truth--racism, "the great American poison, the thing that poisoned American consciousness and behavior..." Cunningham calls it a "rejection of American purity." Jackson reveals that black culture was "formed around a necessary resistance to this fundamental lie. That's its obligation. And this is the power that black art has." Chris Jackson's

crusade has led him to become a dynamic force in bringing the African-American truth to light--one book at a time.

To read more, visit *The New York Times Magazine* feature written by Vinson Cunningham, "How Chris Jackson is Building a Black Literary Movement" (February 2016).

(We were not able to contact Mr. Jackson before publication.)



Healthcare and the Value of a Life

DEANNA FEI '95

What would a mother do if someone referred to her child as a "distressed baby" and insinuated that her child's life was not worth saving? If that mother were Deanna Fei and the "someone" in question was Tim Armstrong, CEO of AOL, she might write a book. And so she did. *Girl in Glass* (Penguin 2015) is the story of Deanna's heroic efforts to save her child (Mila, age 4) and the corporate indifference and ridicule she was met with by a top executive at a multibillion-dollar global company.

In February 2014, at a Town Hall meeting for AOL employees, Armstrong announced cuts to the company's 401(k) retirement benefits. Going forward, contributions would be paid in a lump sum at the end of the year, in an apparent attempt to inhibit employees from leaving before then. When the plan was met with resistance, he blamed the policy change on two things, "unspecified Obamacare costs" and on "two distressed babies" of AOL employees that cost the company one million dollars each in healthcare.

Not only did his remark of "distressed babies" light up the Twitter-scape and internet chat rooms with discussions of the corporate "valuation" of a child's life, but it was also a breach of privacy laws and a source of further anguish for the parents of those newborns. Two of those parents were Deanna Fei and

her award-winning journalist husband, Peter S. Goodman, the former executive business editor of the Huffington Post.

Deanna and her husband soon found themselves in the middle of a firestorm, "outed" for trying to save their baby's life, allegedly, as Armstrong had claimed, at the expense of fellow employees. The heartache already experienced from months of infant intensive care were magnified by the humiliation of being singled out for their struggle in such a public way.

To put the "one-million-dollars" in perspective, Forbes reported that AOL's 2014 gross revenues were \$562.2 million, "while the net income grew by 66% year-over-year to \$59.6 million." Armstrong, whose net worth reportedly exceeds \$400 million, received \$12.1 million in compensation for 2012 (the same year Mila was born) according to *The Wall Street Journal*--nearly four times his previous year's compensation.

Never underestimate the ire of mother protecting her cub (or the determination of a Hunter gal in the face of adversity) --especially one with the exceptional writing talent of Ms. Fei. Deanna, an award-winning writer herself, struck back three days later with the only weapon she had, her words. "I take issue with how he [Armstrong] reduced my daughter to a 'distressed baby' who cost the company too much money...How he blamed the saving of her life for his decision to scale back employee benefits. How he exposed the most searing experience of our lives, one that my husband and I still struggle to discuss with anyone but each other, for no other purpose than an absurd justification for corporate cost-cutting."

Writing for *Slate* magazine, "My Baby and AOL's Bottom Line" went viral and resulted in forcing Armstrong to reinstate employee benefits and publicly apologize for his remarks. The experience detailed in *Girl in Glass* reaches beyond the author's personal trauma and shines a light on the economic value that we place on life itself--a discussion ripe for the political debate that continues about universal healthcare. Deanna explained that she wrote the book for her daughter Mila, now a happy toddler, who showed extreme courage in the face of adversity and for all the other parents who are currently fighting similar battles with no weapon of words of their own.

Postscript: Deanna Fei will be presenting a booktalk on her experience for the HCHSAA on May 19, 2016 at 6:30-9 pm at the Hunter College High School Library. See our website for more information.



Alleviating Global Poverty

MOLLY WENIG RUBENSTEIN '05

You may not know it from looking at her, but the dynamic and petite, Molly (Miriam) Rubenstein '05, embodies the strong feminist legacy of Hunter. A third-generation alumna, her grandmother, Mary MOERS Wenig '43, great-aunt Ellen MOERS Mayer PhD., '45, and sister Elizabeth "Liba" Wenig Rubenstein '01 preceded her.

Mary Moers broke a few glass ceilings on her way to becoming one of the first female members of the *Columbia Law Review*, a Wall Street attorney, and tenured professor of law at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut; she

devoted a good portion of her career to establishing equal marital property rights for women. She followed Ruth Bader Ginsberg as the second chair of the "Women in Law" section of the Association of American Law Schools. The influence of Mary (and her rabbi daughter Margaret Wenig) and their dedication to public service is reflected in Molly's belief "that devoting one's talents to making the world a better place is an important way to be truly satisfied in life. It's one of the things I was taught as a child that has held up well to my real-world experiences."

According to the *Jewish Women's Archive*, her great-aunt Ellen Moers Mayer, a writer, and thought-leader, was "deeply affected by the second wave of feminism." In her 1976 work, *Literary Women*, reviewing English, American, and French women writers from the 19th and 20th centuries, Ellen asserted that "women have particularly strong insights into issues of work, money, social justice, and the heroic," a sentiment that was considered radical and controversial in the 1970s.

Like her elders, the issues of equity in work, money, and social justice are part of Molly's journey. In her current role for the In-

ternational Development Innovation Network (IDIN), Molly supports the development of innovation centers in developing nations around the world. The goal of IDIN is to "empower a diverse network of innovators to design, develop, and disseminate technologies to improve the lives of people living in poverty." Explaining why technology innovation is an important tool to alleviate global poverty, Molly stated that "approaching our environment with creativity and curiosity rather than simply accepting the established patterns of technology and society that surround us is critical to our development and self-improvement, collectively and as individuals."

When I asked where her inspiration comes from, she said, "It is not so much improving the world that inspires me as it is improving the lives of individual people...I am a sucker for stories and for connection -- finding ways to help people accomplish what they set out to do is an extremely effective way of eliciting the former and fostering the latter." Like the women that blazed new trails before her, Molly Wenig Rubenstein is carving out her own path toward improving the quality of life for the world's poorest individuals.

CHANGE MAKERS

Tech Innovatison

MILDRED SPIEWAK DRESSSELHAUS PHD., JAN '48

An April 2015 article in the ISEE Spectrum calls Dr. Dresselhaus, "a visionary engineering researcher." The article goes on to assert that, "Whatever miracles emerge from Carbon Valley, its carbon-tech titans will surely think fondly upon their field's founding mother, Mildred Dresselhaus. This MIT professor of physics and engineering scale carbon sheets, lattices, wires, and switches. Future engineers will turn these things, fabricated from carbon-based materials such as graphene, into the systems that will carry computing into its next era."

Adoption Activism

BERNICE WORMAN HAUSER '49

Bernice Hauser has a long history of advocating for social justice through her tenure as a Director of Inter-Campus Activities and Life Skills teacher at Horace Mann. While she has been involved in environmental and community activism most of her adult life, one of her most enduring efforts is in the field of adoption. After discovering untruths and misinformation from the adoption agency where she and her husband adopted their two children, Hauser became an adoption activist. "There were no other secular places sponsoring many talks on adoption," Ms. Hauser said. In response, she founded and ran the Adoption Center at the 92nd Street Y for fifteen years, gave presentations at adoption conferences, and published many articles for adoption magazines. Through her work, she has become a renowned expert on the process of adoption providing critical support for parents and families.



Peace Prize

SUSAN GITELSON PHD., '58

In 1989, during the Middle East peace negotiations, Dr. Gitelson established the Gitelson Peace Prize at the Truman Research Center for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. As an international relations professor at Hebrew University and a member of the Truman Institute board, Dr. Gitelson established the

prize to “celebrate people who have made a significant contribution to peace.” Despite some diplomatic challenges, the first prize was awarded in Jerusalem in 1991 to the president of the European Parliament, the Hon. Simone Veil of France. The award continues today as the Truman Peace Prize. www.Dr-Susan.org.

Transforming Healthcare

LEONORE TIEFER, PHD., '61

Using her experience as a clinical psychologist, sexologist, and feminist activist to critique, resist and transform medical models of sexual health and dysfunction, Dr. Tiefer convened the New View Campaign in 1999. Her successful intergenerational campaign uses tactics both old (manifestos, scholarly publications, op-eds, protests, testimony, lobbying, conferences, and counter-conferences,) and new (art shows, websites, FaceBook, Twitter, online petitions, listservs, and interactive blogs). In 2013, she moved from focusing exclusively on the medicalization of sex to a larger perspective on overtreatment and overdiagnosis as co-organizer of the successful conference, *Selling Sickness: People Before Profits*. www.sellingsickness.com

Reproductive Health

BEVERLY WINIKOFF, MD '62

Dr. Winikoff founded Gynuity Health Projects in 2003, a research and technical assistance organization dedicated to “the idea that all people should have access to the fruits of medical science and technology development.” The critical goal of her organization is “to make reproductive health technologies more convenient, more acceptable, safer, and more widely accessible. Gynuity works globally to ensure that reproductive health technologies are widely available at reasonable cost, provided in the context of high-quality services, and offered in a way that recognizes the dignity and autonomy of the individual. Our efforts are focused particularly on resource-poor environments, underserved populations, and challenging subject matter.” The organization supports women in developing nations and offers them access to quality reproductive health services.



Prenatal Medicine

DIANA BIANCHI, MD '72

Prenatal treatments for Down Syndrome are in the very early stages of discovery. Until now, mothers were faced with the harrowing choice of terminating the pregnancy or awaiting delivery of a developmentally challenged child. One of the pioneering researchers in this field is the reproductive geneticist, Dr. Diana Bianchi. Studies conducted by Dr. Bianchi and her team are already showing that prenatal treatments can improve learning and memory for the unborn child. “We now can infer functional information about the developing brain in living fetuses,” Dr. Bianchi stated. Under the suggestion of her mentor, Leonard Herzenberg, PhD., whose child had Down Syndrome, Dr. Bianchi began her work with prenatal care while in medical school at Stanford University in the 1970s. Thirty years and countless research trials later, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reports that the doctor and her team are close to establishing an appropriate prenatal treatment to support in utero fetal development. In a presentation at the 2015 NIH Conference, Dr. Bianchi concluded, “The hope would be that treatment would improve brain growth so that there would be the opportunity for these cells to be rescued and the important normal connections could be made within the brain.”

The Future of Work

JOHANNA HEERMANN WISE '76

Before she gave birth to her second child, Johanna Wise couldn't imagine leaving the workforce. Once both children were born, however, she chose to stay at home and raise them. When her son and daughter were in their teens, Johanna reentered the job market. Her search proved to be more of a challenge than she had anticipated. “Hiring managers, HR personnel, and other decision makers seemed unable to see the valuable skills of a middle-aged woman who had always remained an active and con-

tributing member of society, and had simply not been paid for her most recent contributions,” she explained. After a series of futile interviews, Johanna felt she had “lost her edge” for the working world and enlisted the services of experts to help hone her interview skills, update her resume, and address the unique hurdles that job seekers face after long absences from the professional world. Upon hearing the laments of her peers experiencing similar struggles, Joanna created her first conference, now in its sixth year, *Connect, Work, Thrive*, as a roadmap for returning job seekers.



Katherine Eyre '78: Front Row, 2nd from right

Women's Sports

KATHERINE EYRE '78

Katherine Eyre co-founded the women's ice hockey team at Saint Lawrence University, “amid much discouragement, ridicule, antagonism, lack of funding” and Katherine adds, “a host of other obstacles.” The enactment of the federal law, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 “prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs, including sports programs, by any school receiving federal financial assistance.” True to the Hunter legacy of women's empowerment, Katherine was the “right” athlete to attend SLU in 1979. In her first year, the team transitioned with her support from a “club” to a Division III program. Over the years, the women's team at SLU grew to become an NCAA Division I member in the Eastern College Athletic Conference. In October 2015, Katherine and another member of the founding team returned to Canton, NY to play in women's alumnae game along with SLU's current and highly-skilled female ice hockey players.

Animal Rights

ALISA KAPLAN '90

Alisa Kaplan challenged the exceptionally large number of euthanasia procedures of adoptable animals while volunteering at an animal shelter

in Evanston, Ohio. After the management had defended its practices, she researched the industry and confirmed that their methods violated accepted procedures. Alisa and her fellow volunteers brought the matter to the City Council. Ultimately, the council required the shelter to change its practices. When the organization refused, the city ended its 25-year contract. The shelter is currently managed by a new volunteer organization which has updated its methods and facilities. Euthanasia is now an uncommon occurrence. Alisa credits her Hunter education for her research skills and her “ability to put together a compelling case and prove the data was correct—a skill [she] realized was not to be taken for granted!”

The Sharing Economy

PERRY CHEN '91

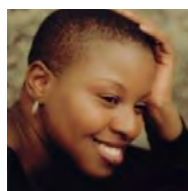
These days, “crowdfunding” is a household word – not in small part due to the enormous success of Kickstarter, cofounded in 2009 by artist and entrepreneur Perry Chen. The highly curated web-based platform connects artistic and creative projects with financial support from “backers” in exchange for rewards. While ArtistShare emerged a decade before Kickstarter, and Indiegogo launched a year before it, the success of Kickstarter may lay in its creative elitism. If the three founders found a project worthy, it accepted the project on its platform and let the “crowd” (general public) decide if it was worthy or not of fruition (a creative vetting policy that continues today). Chen calls the funding model a mix “between commerce and patronage.” He explains, “It’s not an investment, lending or a charity. It’s something else in the middle: a sustainable marketplace where people exchange goods for services or some other benefit and receive some value.” The result is a social movement of artists and creative minds collaborating to support each other – a shared economy model that has shaped the world in which we live.

(We were not able to contact Mr. Chen before publication.)

Liberating African-American Women

ANIKA GIBBONS '91

Anika Gibbons was one of the leaders in the emerging movement of “womanist theology.” *Cross Currents Journal* reports that “womanist



theology is an emergent voice of African-American Christian women in the United States. Employing Alice Walker’s definition of womanism from her text *In Search of Our Mothers’ Garden*, Black women in America are calling into question their suppressed role in the African-American church, the community, the family, and the larger society.”

Combining her passion for filmmaking and theology, Anika produced a film titled: *Journey to Liberation: The Legacy of Womanist Theology and Womanist Ethics*. The fifty-minute documentary explores the lives of the founding mothers of the movement and delves deeply into the evolution of their radical spirituality and scholarship. The founders discuss their life experiences, their road to black womanhood, and their continuing journey and growing significance as figures in African-American history. You can watch Anika Gibbons’s film by searching for the title on YouTube.



Retelling America’s Story

LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA '98

The rap musical, *Hamilton*, has been praised for many innovations, not the least of which is adapting America’s founding story to hip-hop. One of the unique and revolutionizing aspects of Lin-Manuel’s work, however, is how the musical transforms the story of America’s patrician past by emphasizing our multicultural and immigrant roots. The story of the “founding father without a father,” an impoverished, “bastard, orphan son of a whore,” who created the American financial system and rose to be a “hero and a scholar” had never been adapted to a pop-culture medium. Long the province of historians and academics, Hamilton’s brilliance lay in its accessibility to minorities and immigrants from every ethnic and socioeconomic background.

Capturing the isolation and loneliness of those left out of the system, the musical reveals, “Our Hamilton kept his guard up.

Inside he was longing for something to be part of.” Lin-Manuel’s lyrics remind us that anyone can “make it” in America, “By workin’ a lot harder; By bein’ a lot smarter; By bein a self-starter.” Aaron Burr’s advice to Alexander Hamilton seems to echo Lin’s experience as a Hunter alumnus. “Get your education, don’t forget from whence you came, and the world is gonna know your name.” For millions of Americans who felt forgotten or ignored, the universal theme of Hamilton’s rise to greatness against overwhelming odds has reignited the American Dream for generations to come.



Democratizing Art

ALEXANDER FABRY '05

When Alexander Fabry was a senior at Harvard, he was part of a design team that literally turned dirt into electricity that could power sub-Saharan Africa. Lebone Solutions, the bacteria-based lighting system, uses energy from metabolizing microbes in soil or manure to generate electricity currencies. Explained Alex, “The technology produces enough energy to power a cell phone or a radio—little commodities that are especially important in a place with no electricity.” The fuel cell could also produce enough to power LED lights.

Alex is now part of the core team at Artsy.com, a platform with the goal of democratizing the world of art collecting by “making the art world accessible to anyone with an internet connection.” He joined Artsy as a tiny start-up in 2011. The company has grown to become “one of the largest collections of contemporary art available online.” *Wired Magazine*, writes that Artsy exposes the novice collector “to a wide range of artists and artworks...most of them unknown and otherwise inaccessible to any but the most knowledgeable connoisseurs.”



"Uprising of 20,000" 1909 NYC

Is She Our *Oldest* Living Alumna?

Born on January 26, 1909, **Joanna TERKER Takaroff '25** was featured on her 107th birthday on CBS, Channel 6 News in Albany, NY. Her proud grandson, Michael Johnson, a videographer at the station, alerted us. We found a brief history of her life in her local community newsletter.

"After graduating from Hunter College in 1929, Johanna began teaching in the New York City school system. In 1938 she married a musician, Theodore Takaroff. Soon afterwards he was drafted and served in the army during World War II... The family moved to Schenectady in 1957 where Theodore was offered a position teaching music in the Schenectady Schools. A short time later, Johanna obtained a teaching position within the Draper School System where she continued to work until she retired at the age of 67. While Johanna became a widow twenty-four years ago, she is surrounded with love from her daughter Susan (Sonya), two grandchildren, Michael and Melissa and three great grandchildren."

To put Joanna's 107 years in perspective, here are a few facts about New York City life in 1909:

- The NAACP was formed.
- There was no federal income tax.
- Women did not have the right to vote.
- A stamp cost two cents. A quart of milk cost eight cents.
- "The Gibson Girl" image represented the "New Woman."
- Automobiles were powered by gasoline, electricity, or steam.
- Marconi and Braun won the Nobel Prize for developing the wireless telegraph.
- 20,000 Eastern European women protested garment center working conditions.

NEW YORK CITY, 1909

Alum Updates



Eleanor ULLMAN Light '49 has been selected for the PBS Makers video series showcasing women pioneers in their respective fields. Eleanor is given tribute as a “Researcher, Chemist, Engineer, Marketer, Entrepreneur, Explorer, Philanthropist.” The video, an initiative of AOL & PBS, is part of the extended documentary series, *Makers: Women Who Make America*. To watch, visit: www.azpbs.org/makers.



SCHOMBURG CENTER
FOR RESEARCH IN BLACK CULTURE
The New York Public Library



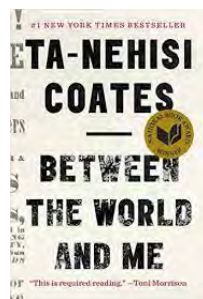
Carmen BELL Matthews '49, an active member of the Schomburg Center Library team for over two decades, was honored along with her team members as the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture was awarded the National Medal for Museum and Library Service in May 2015.

Meredith Trede '63 has published a new book of poetry called, *Tenement Threnody*. The highly praised collection of poems has received wonderful endorsements. Thomas Lux, the poetry chair at Georgia Institute of Technology writes, “As its title suggests, this is a book of laments, but it is also a

wonderful, unique book of great celebration. The poems and their speakers are so alive, so human, and their voices are captured perfectly in sonnet-sized forms. These are portraits and voices from a gone world. Sometimes, to go forward, we must go back. This is a terrific book.” www.meredithtrede.com

Johanna HEERMANN Wise '76 presented a full-day conference on March 31, 2016, at Microsoft Conference Center in Times Square, New York for mid-career professionals called, “Connect, Work, Thrive.” The program is geared towards women and men who have been out of the workforce for an extended period, mid-career professionals who are considering a career change, mothers (or fathers) who have taken a sabbatical to raise their children and anyone else looking to restart his or her career. Participants attend workshops for job skills assessments, resume writing, image consultations, interview coaching, job search tools and strategies, guidance on how to start your own business, and plenty of inspiration to get back into the game. For more information or to register, go to www.connectworkthrive.com

Jonathan Kirshner Ph.D '82, Professor of Political Economy at Cornell University has recently published an op-ed in the NY Daily News called, “Does America Have a Glass Jaw? Nothing Else Explains Donald Trump's Surge.” Excerpt follows: “*Trump is the inevitable but still horrifying extension to the absurdity of social-media narcissism — the strutting clown prince of our contemporary selfie-driven culture...*” To read the full article, search its title on Google.



Christopher Jackson '89 was featured in *The New York Times Magazine* this past February in an article titled, “How Chris Jackson Is Building a Black Literary Movement.” The article detailed the achievements of Mr. Jackson as executive editor of Spiegel & Grau, including his most recent success, *Between*

the World and Me, written by Ta-Nehisi Coates, winner of the National Book Award for Nonfiction. (See “Hunter Innovators” for more details on Mr. Jackson’s work.)

Ian Wright '90 knows firsthand that attending HCHS reunions matters! At his fifth Hunter reunion, he and his former classmate (and future wife) **Maria CARDONA Wright '90** reconnected. The couple lives in Brooklyn with their 13-year-old daughter Kayla and 10-year-old son, Jacob. Maria is a Registered Nurse at NYU Langone Medical Center and is currently completing her Nurse Practitioners master’s degree at Hunter College. Ian, an international education consultant with World Education Services, Inc. in lower Manhattan, and the former Director of International Admissions at LIU’s C.W. Post Campus was his class coordinator at his 25th reunion last June where he and his classmates raised over \$60,000 for their class gift. Maria and Ian are celebrating their 16th wedding anniversary this summer.



Judd Greenstein '97 composed a new opera about New York City planners, Robert Moses and Jane Jacobs, entitled *A Marvelous Order*. Directed by Joshua Frankel, the original work with libretto by Tracy K. Smith, winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, and choreography by Will Rawls premiered at the '62 Center of Performing Arts at Williams College in Williamstown, MA. On February 22, 2016, the opera was featured in a *New Yorker* article “Moses Figures.”



Lin-Manuel Miranda '98 has had quite a year as most of you already know. Since our last issue, *Hamilton* has opened on Broadway to unanimously rave reviews and accolades from all levels of society. In the

past several months, he has garnered the MacArthur Fellowship, a Grammy Award, the Kennedy Prize for Historical Drama, several Drama Desk Awards, the Obie, and that's the shortlist. While he is sure to win the Tony in June for his remarkable work, perhaps his greatest honor this year was being invited to read Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech "Beyond Vietnam" at Riverside Church in Harlem where King presented it in 1967.

Ever humble, Lin had organized an event two days before with alumni from Hunter's elementary school choir to pay tribute to their former music teacher. Said Lin, "We all sang this amazing song called 'Martin Luther King' in our elementary school assembly. It wasn't until we got out into the real world that we realized that no one else knew this song. And it turns out that our amazing elementary school music teacher, **Barbara Ames**, wrote the music and lyrics to the song." To right that wrong, Lin and fellow HCES alumni from 1988-2001, sang the beloved tune and posted it on YouTube to share it with the world.



Amy Berkowitz '01 had her first book, *Tender Points*, published in 2015. It has been honored as a "Small Press Distribution Bestseller" and praised by essayist Maggie Nelson as "firm, high-stakes speech speaking truth to power, radiating beauty and fierceness from its inspiring insistence and persistence. The story is a narrative fractured by trauma. Named after the diagnostic criteria for fibromyalgia, the book-length lyric essay explores sexual violence, gendered illness, chronic pain, and patriarchy through the lenses of lived experience and pop culture." *Tender Points* was selected as a "Favorite Books of 2015" by Green Apple Books and included in Librairie D+Q's 2015 Picks.



Members of the Class of 2005 Reunite in Sicily

James Anthony '05 married Francesca Maz-zola whom he met while they were students at Stanford University. Fourteen former '05 classmates and one member of the Class of 2004 traveled to Catania, Sicily to join the wedding last summer. **Graham Majorhart '05** and **Alex Kohen '05** acted as groomsmen. The picture above (sent by Alex K.) is of the Hunter wedding party making the "0-5" hand sign.



Annabeth Bondor-Stone '05 has released her newest children's book, *Shivers! The Pirate Who's Back in Bunny Slippers* published by HarperCollins this past February. The book, co-written with Connor White, is an early chapter book about "Shivers, the scardey-est pirate to ever sail the Seven Seas! Ever since the day he was born, Shivers has been totally terrified of--well, EVERYTHING." Annabeth is the co-producer of Story Pirates, an arts education and media company that develops creative writing programs for children and a mentor with WriteGirl, an organization that empowers teen girls through creative writing. *For more information*, visit: www.shiversthepirate.com

MARTIN LUTHER KING

*music and lyrics by Barbara Ames
Former HCES faculty*

Martin Luther King
Was a man with a dream
And he took his dream
to the mountaintop, oh yeah
He soared to the sun
And he warmed everyone
The love he's sending down will never stop
He taught us, "We shall overcome,
Overcome it if we try."
He left us with his song half-sung
still ringing from the sky
Martin Luther King
Was a man with a dream
And he took his dream
to the mountaintop, oh yeah
He soared to the sun
And he warmed everyone
The love he's sending down will never stop
will never stop

In Memoriam

Marian BERLISS Katzenstein '34 died peacefully on May 14, 2015, at her home at Stratford Court in Boca Raton, FL, at age 98. Born in Chicago, Marian was a graduate of Teachers College, Columbia University and served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946 as a Lieutenant JG. Marian was active for many years in the National Council of Jewish Women, serving as president of the Greater Boston chapter, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, and Women in Community Service. Her husband Richard L. Katzenstein, an executive at Bethlehem Steel and General Dynamics to whom she was happily married for forty-four years, predeceased her in 1997. Marian was a member of Temple Beth El in Boca Raton. She was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Marian is survived by three generations of loving nieces and nephews (including Ranee KATZENSTEIN '72), all of whom greatly miss her.

Sylvia SOLENDER Shapiro '34 of Manhattan, passed away January 30, 2016 at the age of 98. Beloved wife of the late Louis A. Shapiro for fifty years, mother of Felice Shapiro Friedman, Nina Shapiro-Perl and Paul Shapiro, cherished grandmother and great-grandmother. A 1938 graduate of Oberlin College, she was also a teacher at the Westbury Friends School, and leader in community arts and library programs in Westbury and Royal Palm Beach, Florida. Sylvia was a person of extraordinary character and grace, and a source of inspiration to all who knew her. Contributions may be made to Metropolitan Jewish Health system, MJHS.org.

Rita PACKER Bleshman '37 died peacefully in her Great Neck, NY home on September 14, 2015 at the age of 94. After high school, she continued her education and graduated from Smith College in 1941, and Columbia's School of Social Work in 1943. Rita was engaged in many activities throughout her life and well into her later years. From arthritis exercise classes to a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, to adult education lectures, the Wii Crossword, music appreciation, foreign films, and her book club, Rita loved to learn. A friend stated that Rita "didn't want to be simply entertained. She wanted to be stimulated to think." Predeceased by her husband, Norman, Rita

is survived by her children Martha and Joseph, grandchildren Rachel and James, and her daughter-in-law Lucia Vassallo.

Hortense "Honey" DUNNER Kraemer '37, died November 24, 2015, in Abington, PA. Formerly of New York City and Springfield, NJ, she was the loving wife of the late Jerome W. Kraemer for six decades, the devoted mother of Lance and Michael, mother-in-law of Leslie and Ross, beloved grandmother of Adam, Brett and Jordan and great-grandmother of Alexandra, Aria, and Julian. She graduated from Hunter College in 1941 and was an accomplished artist. She lived a long and rewarding life, and will be missed by all who knew her.



Martha GREENHOUSE (Sasmor) '39 accepts the George Heller Gold Card for her service to the actor's union.

Martha GREENHOUSE Sasmor '39 passed away at the age of 91 after a long bout with Parkinson's Disease. Among her prized possessions was her 1939 Annals in which she was described as "Omaha's little actress – like the bubbles in a glass of champagne" and in the yearbook category "Thru the Crystal Globe," it read that Martha dreamed of "MGM." Martha did go on to a career in the theater, with supporting roles both on and off-Broadway, in summer stock, in movies, and in commercials. Eventually, Martha found her life's calling by working for the actors' unions. She received a Lifetime Achievement Award for being instrumental in the merger of the two actor unions, SAG, and AFTRA. She also received the George Heller Gold Card, the highest honor given by AFTRA for service to the union.

Martha was proud of the three generations of her family with Hunter connections – herself, daughter-in-law Sheila Krilov who teaches in the Mathematics Department,

and her grandson Jonathan Sasmor '03. The family has established the Martha Greenhouse Memorial Award, presented at Hunter's graduation "Honors and Awards" to a student with a passion for theater, a love of learning, and a commitment to social justice.

Wanda WOLSKI Berkley '44 passed away on October 8, 2015, at her home in Lockwood, New York. Wanda graduated Magna Cum Laude from Hunter College in June 1948, advanced to a master's degree, and led a productive life as an educator and librarian. Wanda was always proud of the education she received at the high school and the college.



Judith R. GREENSTEIN Hoffman '45 passed away in her sleep on October 31, 2015, in Santa Barbara, California. Judith lived most of her life in Westchester, New York and was a proud graduate of Hunter College. She leaves behind three children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Judith is pictured above at age 89 – three years before her death.



Miriam Kimmelman '66 of Battery Park City in New York, widow of Richard Washburn, born September 16, 1948, died on January 7, 2016. She is survived by her cousins:

Ruth Golan, Yehuda Yuval, Meira Yablunka, and Ora Zamir, all residing in Israel with their 11 children. Miriam was a founding member of the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) New York City Chapter, devoted to research, education and support for those affected by dystonia. Miriam met neurosurgical pioneer Irving S. Cooper MD, in November 1961 and underwent three brain surgeries between the ages 13 and 21 to alleviate her dystonic symptoms. She was a staunch advocate for dystonia research, providing financial support for DMRF and donating her brain to advance understanding of this rare disorder. Miriam worked for over forty years for New York State as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, helping people with disabilities to reach their potential.



Catherine TIRADO Pagan '72 passed away two days before Christmas, her favorite holiday, in December 2015. Friends claimed that her love of life and positive attitude were “infectious.” Her life was filled with laughter, friends, family, and

love. Her daughter Christina Pagan called her “the queen of costumes.” As a single mother, Catherine loved to craft them. Christina remembers, “As a kid, I never had a store-bought costume. They (if not entirely made by my mom) were re-purposed items that we already had or came from the thrift store. With some sewing, dyeing, and a little vision, she transformed me into a pumpkin, Cinderella’s fairy godmother, a gypsy, witch, skeleton and countless other creations.” Catherine graduated from Northwestern University in 1976. She loved to sing and took classes at the Old Town School of Folk Music joining a community of fellow music enthusiasts and developing a close group of friends who became known as “The Martini Girls.” A devoted mother, she leaves behind her daughter Christina (Nicholas Lopez) Pagan, her beloved sister Yvonne, Josephine (Jesse Crawford), Joseph Anthony (Ruby Jo), Paul Tirado, her mother Gloria, her best friend Sharon Rohn, extended family and friends. Catherine was predeceased by her father, Pablo Tirado and

her former husband and lifelong friend, Jose L. Pagan. To sign her online guestbook and view her MeM Video Tribute, go to www.DrakeandSonFuneralHome.com.



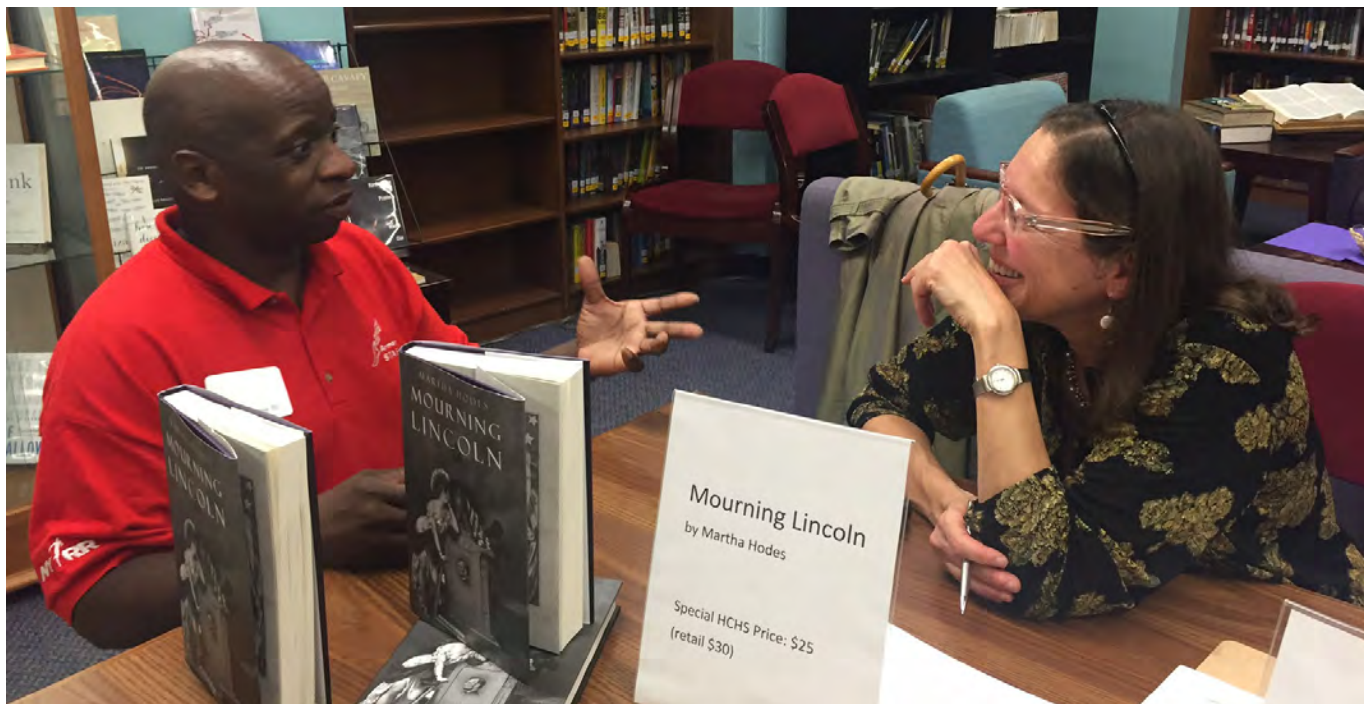
Anika Gibbons '91 passed away in December 2015 after a three-year battle with breast cancer. She enjoyed a dynamic career as a filmmaker and spiritual teacher. Anika began her film production career after receiving a BFA in screenwriting from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. While working at Spike Lee’s *40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks*, Anika learned the fundamentals of film, television, commercial, and music video production. After leaving *40 Mules*, she worked as an associate producer for HBO, New Line Cinema, Showtime, SyFy Channel, VH-1, Comedy Central and Oxygen Network. Anika moved on to theology and graduated from Union Theological Seminary in New York City with a Master of Arts degree. (See more about Anika in “Hunter Innovators.”)

The Alumnae/i Association has also been notified of the deaths of the following alumnae/i:

Mary BRENNER Schulman '25
Melissa Schachner '28
Beulah GOLDSTEIN Tannenbaum '33
Martha ADELMAN Levy '35
Frieda GRADMAN Getzler '38
Irene JAROSZ Geller '38
Jane WEISS Hochberger '41
Dorothy CAREY Miller '42
Dickie KESSLER Miller, Jan. '44
Phyllis ROSENFELD Zuckman '47
Deborah Dorfman '51
Janet NISBET Raitt '53
Rhoda MANDEL Greenberg '55
Keris LAKE Murray '55
Sonja BUTENHOFF Scott '56
Jane HEIDT Wengliensky '60
Ellen Schwartz '69
Diana Casper '74
Greg Kliot '81

“As a kid, I never had a store-bought costume. They (if not entirely made by my mom) were re-purposed items that we already had or came from the thrift store. With some sewing, dyeing, and a little vision, she transformed me into a pumpkin, Cinderella’s fairy godmother, a gypsy, witch, skeleton and countless other creations.”

—Christina Pagan, daughter of Catherine TIRADO Pagan '72



"Coach Dave" Crenshaw '81 and Dr. Martha Hodes '76 discuss U.S. racial history at the Autumn Reception.

AUTUMN RECEPTION: Author Talk with Martha Hodes, PhD. "Mourning Lincoln" Long List Finalist for the 2015 National Book Award for Nonfiction

Every American learns about the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln in grade school, yet the real experience for those alive at the time is the subject of Martha Hodes PhD., '76 remarkable book, *Mourning Lincoln*. Drawn from letters, newspapers, and archival sources, Dr. Hodes recreates the days, weeks and months following Lincoln's death to reveal a nation in mourning. It may be difficult to guess what post-Civil War America would have been like had Lincoln lived, yet Hodes details "the moment of intense strife immediately after the assassination left out of the story that resonates today."

Lincoln's job was unfinished at the time of his demise, and his sudden loss changed the course of history. The Emancipation Proclamation was only two years old and the end of the Civil War only days old when Lincoln died. The anxiety and fear held by African-Americans and abolitionists regarding black freedom were acute. "Will I have to be a slave again?" a six-year-old child asked. Another former slave lamented, "For our best friend has passed away, even our trees are crying

tears." One woman wrote, "North and South are weeping together" and another claimed, "Everyone is feeling the same. I never knew so universal a feeling," yet another group joined "our grief with that of the World." While these sentiments were voiced by many, Dr. Hodes writes, "others responded to the assassination with gratitude and glee."

Dr. Hodes' new work is inspired by her experiences following September 11, 2001, and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Her book paints a complex and many-layered picture of the conflicting and powerful paths of race and freedom we still struggle with as a nation today. As she spoke to the assembled alumnae/i in Hunter's auditorium in October, Dr. Hodes stated that the assassination of President Lincoln was "the first shot in the war on black freedom and black equality." With the presidency of North Carolina native, Andrew Johnson, the establishment of "black codes" designed to limit black freedom, and ultimately Jim Crow, Dr. Hodes asserts that despite the century and a half that has passed since Lincoln's

death, the meaning and purpose of the Civil War is still not resolved.

Martha Hodes '76 is a professor of history at New York University, with a focus on the history of race and race relations in America. She holds degrees from Bowdoin College, Harvard University, and Princeton University and has taught as a Visiting Professor at Princeton University and as a Fulbright Scholar in Germany. Other books by Dr. Hodes include, *The Sea Captain's Wife: A True Story of Love, Race, and War in the Nineteenth Century* (W. W. Norton, 2006), and *White Women, Black Men: Illicit Sex in the Nineteenth-Century South* (Yale University Press, 1997).

Mourning Lincoln (Yale University Press, 2015) was selected as a 2015 National Book Award Long List Finalist. We thank Dr. Hodes for presenting her work as our honored guest at the HCHSAA Autumn Reception on October 28, 2015. Despite the heavy rains, we had a large turnout for the reception. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this annual community event.

Hamilton Fundraiser is a Success!

Hamilton, created by **Lin-Manuel Miranda '98**, is undeniably the “hottest ticket” of the season with sold-out performances through next fall. Current resale prices range from \$500 to over \$2,000. With the assistance of HCHSAA board member **Judd Kessler '00**, the Program Committee, and Lin's producers, the Alumnae/i Association was able to purchase a few hundred tickets for our annual fundraiser for the day and evening performances.

The matinee performance starred understudy Javier Munoz in the title role. The evening featured Lin himself with a shout-out to his enthusiastic Hunter fans. Thank you to Lin-Manuel, Judd Kessler and the Committee: **Marge LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61**, **Florence ROSENFELD Howe, Jan. '46**, **Susan Spector '64**, **Claudia Justy '66**, **Hannah Lipman '89**, **Christine Jung '01** and all those who purchased tickets for making it a huge success!

If you were not able to attend these performances, the humble star often entertains fans outside the Richard Rodgers Theater at 5:55



*Sandi Charton '71 with
cast member Daveed Diggs
("Thomas Jefferson")*

pm. For hints on when he will appear street-wise, follow **@lin_manuel** on Twitter and look

for hashtag #ham4ham. For out-of-towners, check out YouTube for clips.

Celebrating Chinese New Year in New York's Chinatown



(L) Nancy YAO Maasbach '90; (R) Marjorie LANDSBERG Goldsmith '61

Chinese New Year was celebrated in a special way this year by the Alumnae/i Association with a private tour of the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) in New York City's Chinatown district. The tour was conducted by alumna and MOCA president, **Nancy YAO Maasbach '90**. World-renowned architect, Maya Lin, designed the stunning museum building from a 14,000 square foot former machine shop.

Christine Jung '01 reported, “During the tour, Nancy stated that Maya Lin designed each of the ‘Journey Wall’ tiles near the entrance of the Museum.” The tiles represent individual sponsors. The wall reads, “Give a gift of your family's story. Honor your family's legacy by securing a Journey Wall tile today.”

Last summer, MOCA hosted twenty summer interns—many of whom were unaware of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and the history of racism against Asian Americans. The MOCA exhibits presented a comprehensive view of Chinese-American history, including the Exclusion Act, the internment of Asian-Americans at

Angel Island during the Second World War, the contribution and sacrifice that Chinese-American immigrants made building U.S. railroads, and the development of San Francisco's Chinatown in the face of discrimination.

The tour by Ms. Massbach included three exhibits:

- “With a Single Step: Stories in the Making of America”
- “Chinese Style: Rediscovering the Architecture of Poy Gum Lee, 1923-1968”
- “SUB URBANISMS: Casino Urbanization, Chinatowns, and the Contested American Landscape.”

After the program, the alumnae/i celebrated the start of the Year of the Monkey with a Cantonese Dim Sum banquet at the elegant Red Egg Restaurant across from the street from the museum.

*Special Thanks to **Nancy YAO Maasbach**, and HCHSAA board members **Marjorie LANDSBERG Goldsmith** and **Christine Jung** for organizing this event.*

TEDx HunterCCS – October 3, 2015

WWW.TEDXHUNTERCCS.ORG



TEDxHunterCCS is presented by Hunter College Campus Schools in cooperation with HCHSAA. For videos, more photos, and program information, visit www.tedxhunterccs.org

Top row(L-R): Josselyne Herman-Saccio '79, Fred McIntosh '87, Jonathan Kirshner '82, Noah Kaminsky '09. Middle row (L-R): Judith Sachs '64, Raymond Tsao '84, Stephen Young '86 (co-host), Kelly Washburn '83 (co-organizer), Lucas Katz '16, Co-Host, HCHS Graduating Senior/Class Comedian. Bottom Row (L-R): Lisa Siegmann, HCHS Asst Principal, Francesca Bacon, HCCS & TEDxHunter Producer, also HCHS parent.

Honor Roll Update

Our 2015 Honor Roll of Giving, which was printed in the last issue of *AlumNotes*, omitted the names of several generous donors who made gifts to the **Hunter College Foundation** for the high school. We are pleased to recognize their generosity here:

\$100,000-\$150,000

E. Mildred Speiser, Jan. '49
Adam E. Cohen '97
Matthew Sirovich '83

\$15,000-\$25,000

Dr. Sidney Offit
Esther Friesner-Stutzman '68

\$1,000-\$2,499

Charles C. Blackwell, in memory of Ann J ICHA Blackwell '48

\$500-\$999

Rachel KENYON Perkel '83

We also thank these generous donors whose gifts were omitted in that publication:

Ruth KEVESS Cohen '74 M.D.
Ari Jaffe, MD, PC
Dale Sang '89

DIVERSITY INITIATIVE:

New Program Aims to Broaden Talent Pool for NYC Exam Schools: Introducing the Exam Schools Partnership Initiative



by Andy McCord (HCHS Parent)
and Pamela Roach '71

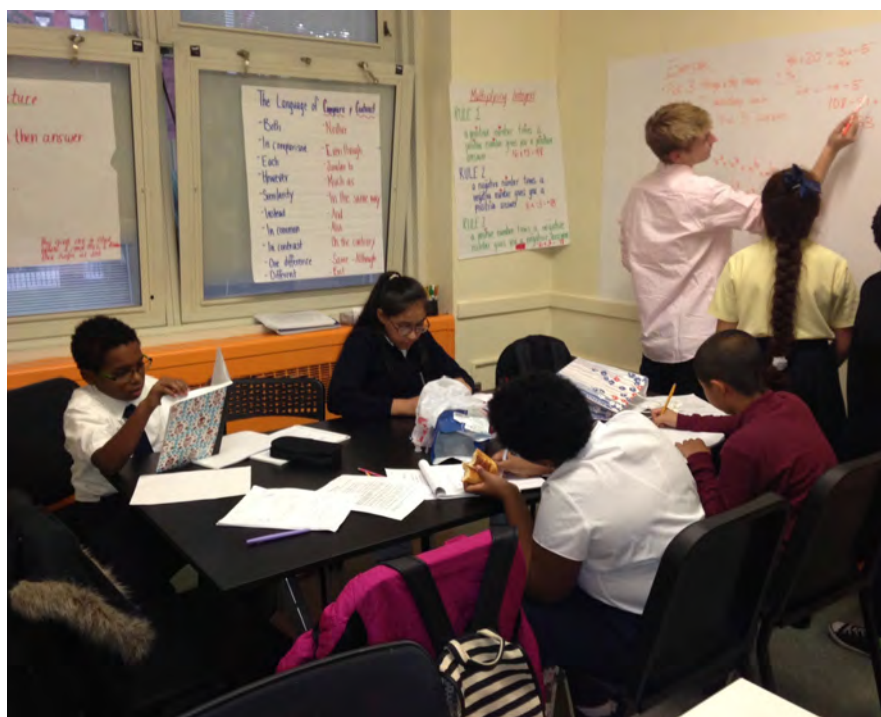
Among the throngs at the Hunter College High School admissions test on January 8, 2016, were seven 6th graders who prepared for the exam with a new not-for-profit program called the Exam Schools Placement Initiative or ESPI. The program was organized by HCHS alumni and parents and aims to address racial and economic imbalances at Hunter and other selective public schools in New York City.

Dubbed the “pilot program scholars,” these students were the first to join ESPI and received about one hundred and twenty hours of enrichment and test preparation at no cost. All of them had the fifth grade records that Hunter requires to sit for the entrance exam. Four of the students live in zip codes that currently have no Hunter students.

Recruitment for the ESPI program focused on racially isolated and low-income schools in Manhattan’s School Districts 3 through 7 and District 7 in the South Bronx. These schools were contacted (and visited) by Hunter parents and alumnae/i volunteers, including former students.

“It was surreal and wonderful,” said **Vizhier CORPUS Mooney '85** after visiting P.S. 152 on Nagle Avenue in Inwood. Mooney, who now lives in Los Angeles, said she made the journey back to her elementary school while on a trip to New York. Vizhier explained, “At Hunter, I experienced first hand how a school can alter one’s life trajectory. I feel strongly that keeping Hunter the best that it can be involves not only academics but a diversity of student perspectives as well.”

In the recruitment process, ESPI connected with thirty public schools. Once Hunter’s cutoff scores were announced on September 14, thirty-five students were verified that met the cutoffs. Educators were asked to forward



ESPI students prep for HCHS admission test.

nomination letters to the families of these students.

The ESPI scholars each took four three-hour practice exams, developed by **Aidan O'Connor '11** and ESPI board members **Jonathan Arak '83** and Akil Bello. The program was hosted by the Manhattan Church of Christ, whose generous donation of the space was facilitated by Hunter elementary school parent and church minister Carl Garrison.

Incorporated in 2014, the ESPI project has been a two-year effort conceived with the critical guidance of **Kyla Kupferstein-Torres '92**, Hunter’s former Director of Outreach and Admissions. More than a hundred people were consulted—in areas ranging from the DOE Chancellor’s office to university-based

research centers to Prep for Prep and other organizations focused on independent school diversity to college admissions offices.

Crucial interest and encouragement were received from the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, John Rose, the Dean of Diversity at Hunter College, and **Ryan Baxter**, a 2008 Hunter graduate who founded PASS/NYC as a clearing house for information and data to improve access to New York’s best public schools. ESPI board member Elba Montalvo, founder and former CEO of the Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, provided a model of how to organize an effective, and cost-effective, community-oriented not-for-profit organization.

Alex Manzo, a current Hunter Elementary

School parent and ESPI board member who led the creation of ESPI along with high school parent Andy McCord, commented, "The formation of ESPI was a real partnership, as the name says, of alumnae/i, parents, and community leaders who understand the critical importance of making Hunter, and the other Exam Schools in New York, more accessible to highly talented but underrepresented students of color."

This February and March, ESPI conducted the enrichment and preparation program for current fifth graders, leading up to the New York State tests. Three classes of ten students were selected based on prior test scores, report card and attendance records and recommendations from educators and community members.

The fifth graders are being instructed in Common Core materials by Bell Curves, an organization founded by ESPI board member Akil Bello to overcome the differential impacts of standardized testing on various underserved groups. Additionally, they will participate in field trips and demonstrations of extracurricular activities, including debate and robotics, that accepted students can look forward to after joining Hunter and other schools.

The programs will continue through the summer when the focus will be on more broadly based enrichment and will include a writers' workshop designed by Writopia Lab. Next fall, all ESPI students whose spring state test scores meet the Hunter cutoffs will be among those given intensive prep for the Hunter test next January. We hope to field two classes of up to 10 students each for that program and to expand outreach and recruitment further in the Bronx.

Beginning in summer 2017, we will also offer enrichment and test preparation for students who plan to take the Specialized High School Admissions Test, which is the basis for admission to iconic schools, including Stuyvesant High School, Bronx High School of Science and Brooklyn Technical High School.

Initial funding for the program has come from individual Hunter alumnae/i and non-Hunter benefactors. ESPI has been invited to apply for a grant from a corporate funding committee this spring and will also respond to a private foundation's call for modest multi-year funding requests.



To keep up with ESPI's programs, please visit www.espi.nyc. To volunteer or apply to be an intern, email info@espi.nyc. Interns are especially needed to help with the 2016 four-week summer program. Other areas where help is needed include grading of homework, chaperoning and hosting of field trips, development of math- and STEM-focused enrichment programs and introductions to schools and community-based organizations that can help ESPI's outreach to highly qualified students and their families.

HOW ESPI IS FUNDED: The full program costs about \$2,000 per student for prep and exam materials, field trips, and meals. Currently, it is funded privately by the founding members and welcomes contributions to keep the program going. If you would like to volunteer as a chaperone for events or to make a tax-deductible contribution, contact ESPI directly: info@espi.nyc - 212.729.8881 - www.espi.nyc

Reunion2016

Reconnect | Reminisce | Relive

Schedule

JUNE 4, 2016

MILESTONE REUNIONS

Hunter College High School
71 East 94 St, NYC

Doors open at 9:00am

(Please note: Doors will not open before 9:00am due to set up activities.)

9:00-10:45am

Check-in, Continental Breakfast, and individual class meet-ups.

10:00-10:45am

Tours of the high school, (Optional, meet at Library entrance).

11:00am -12:45pm

All-class General Assembly: Auditorium

12:45-2:30pm

Buffet Lunch: Cafeteria

Admission includes breakfast, tours, and the General Assembly.

Members: \$35

Non-members: \$45

Seniors (pre-1972): \$40

Prices increase May 13

ADDITIONAL REUNION WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

June 4, 1:30pm

9th Annual Joe Kubat Softball Game and Picnic in Central Park, Great Lawn-Softball Field 5 (enter on East 86th street). Free, registration required.

June 4, 2:00pm

Annual Meeting of Members, HS auditorium. (Dues-paying members only)

June 4, 3:00pm and 4:00pm

Tours of Thomas Hunter Hall ("old high school"), 68th and Lexington, Free. Space is limited. Advance registration required.

2016 MILESTONE CLASS COORDINATORS

(Graduate years ending in "1" or "6")

1946 Jane THOMSON MacColl
1951 Irene GINZBERG Rosenthal
1951/JAN Risa ROSENBLUM Stabin
1951/JAN Joy Levien
1956 Lucille NELSON Richards
1956 Phyllis MALAMUD Clark
1956 Sheila GREEN Goodman
1961 Helene WILLIAMS Spierman
1966 Helene BLACKMAN Herman
1966 Frances Stern
1966 Deborah SCHOR Gardner
1966 Claudia Justy
1971 Beth Berenbaum
1971 Corinne Kahn
1971 Kathy KRASNY Ryan
1976 Margo FRIEDMAN Kizel

1976 Rise Hochman
1981 Karen Schwartz
1981 Mark Lang
1986 Brian Chavez
1991 Ellen Kackmann
1991 Kristin Sheehan
1991 Kristina Boylan
2011 Diana Li
2011 Yi Tong
2011 Christine Yuan

Please note: Years 1996, 2001, and 2006 do not have coordinators
For contact information: check our online directory or email/call reunion@hchsaa.org / T 212-772-4079



Friday, June 3, 8:00pm

Fiddler on the Roof
Broadway Theater

For Ticket information go to our website

Sunday, June 5, 2:00pm.

Fiddler on the Roof
Broadway Theater

For Ticket information go to our website

For Observant Jewish Alumnae/i

Please check our website or contact our office for information on Shabbat Services, Shabbat dinner options, hotel accommodations & activities within walking distance from the high school. Request an "Observant Jewish" packet.

Visiting Out-of-Town Alumnae/i:

Please check our website or call our office for general information on accommodations and activities over the reunion weekend.

Discounted Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel Wales (Madison Ave at 93 St)

Contact: 866-925-3746 /

www.hotelwalesnyc.com

Use reservation code is 187614.

Rate offer expires on May 2, 2016. Book for any nights from June 2-6

Rates: Queen/Double Beds: \$229. Carnegie King Suite: \$309.

MILESTONE CLASS GIFT

During your Milestone Year, your class may choose to make a special gift to the HCH-SAA for the school. That gift, along with other contributions you make during the fiscal year (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) are automatically added to your collective class gift. The school counts on us to fill the gaps in their budget. To make your gift, visit www.hchsaa.org or use the form on the back page.

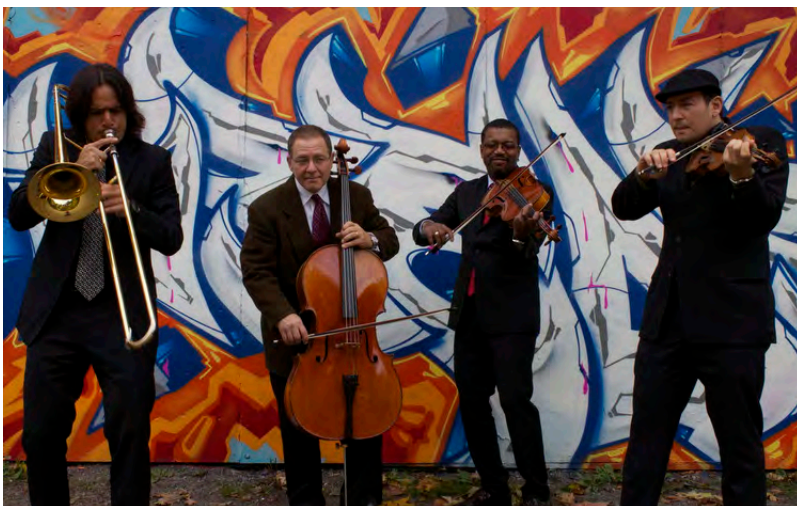
Thank you for your support!

HCHSAA Supports Spring 2016 “Visiting Artist Series”

Julie S. Reifer, Chair, HCHS Department of Art and Music reports:

Thanks to a generous grant from our Alumnae/I Association, the HCHS Art and Music Department hosted what we hope will be the first in an ongoing visiting artist series. In February, we welcomed the **Sweet Plantain String Quartet**, for the first two sessions of a four visit residency at Hunter. In master classes and workshops with the HCHS String Ensemble, they discussed their unique style of playing, which makes use of special techniques and improvisation derived from traditional Latin American, African, Jazz and Hip Hop traditions. In addition, ensemble director Michael Stratechuk has facilitated a variety of possibilities for more individualized instruction or sectional coaching, and created opportunities for these professional musicians to share their expertise on particular aspects of both individual and ensemble playing.

This series culminated with a final performance by the **Sweet Plantain String Quartet** on Tuesday, March 15th as part of our Arts Day program. One highlight of the program was Sweet Plantain sharing the stage with a select group of student musicians, performing a piece from Sweet Plantain's repertoire - a great opportunity for students to play along-



Sweet Plantain String Quartet performs for HCHSAA “Visiting Artist Series”

side professionals. In this piece the students had the opportunity to improvise and be featured as soloists.

On Wednesday, April 13th, we held a campus-wide choral music experience, organized by music faculty Micheline Beaudry and Robert Randall, with guest clinician Paul Hallsted. Student members of both Senior and Junior Choruses, as well the ES 5th grade chorus directed by Darren Leander,

learned a number of pieces in preparation for this event. It was a day of shared learning, listening and performing under the direction of accomplished choral conductor Paul Hallsted. The students rehearsed together in the auditorium for approximately three hours, shared a group lunch where the high school and elementary students visited and bonded, and concluded the day with a combined performance.

Call For New Board Members

The HCHS Alumnae/i Association is looking for alumnae/i who have business, fundraising, marketing and communications skills to serve on our volunteer Board of Directors for the term beginning in September 2016. If you are in the New York City area, have any of these skills and would like to be considered for board service, please read more about the position on our website at www.hchsaa.org and submit your letter of interest and resumé by April 15, 2016 to governance@hchsaa.org.


The Association needs board members who feel strongly about giving back to the school. Accepting this commit-


ment requires quality time to attend board meetings and actively participate in committee work throughout the year. Board terms are three years; you may serve up to two consecutive terms and then serve again after a one year hiatus.

The Association is now implementing recommendations made in its strategic plan to encourage more alumnae/i to become active members, increase contributions so that we may continue to fund school projects that enrich the experience of all HCHS students, and provide meaningful networking experiences for all alumnae/i.

THE ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION GETS SOCIAL

 [Facebook.com/groups/officialhchsaa/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/officialhchsaa/)

 [Linkedin.com/groups/66075](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/66075)

 [@hunterchsalums](https://twitter.com/hunterchsalums)

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Support Your Alma Mater

IS THIS YOUR MILESTONE REUNION YEAR?

Milestone Class Gifts are an important part of the HCHSAA's fundraising for the school. Public funds only pay for basic necessities, such as heat, electricity, textbooks, and teacher salaries. Everything else comes from private contributions. The HCHSAA provides scholarships, fellowships, student mentorship and counseling, and serves as a resource for the school by sponsoring educational, scientific, literary, and cultural programs in cooperation with the faculty and administration.

Your milestone reunion year is a great time to make a gift. Any contribution made during this year is counted towards your Class Gift. You can donate by filling out the payment form at the back of this issue, or visiting the Support the Association page on our website.

BECOME A MEMBER

The Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association serves more than 13,000 alums around the globe. Membership dues support alumni services enable us to maintain our website and online Alumnae/i Directory, produce three issues of *AlumNotes* annually, and present free and low-cost events such as the annual Autumn Reception, Reunion weekend, and author events. Your membership in the Alumnae/i Association makes you part of the HCHSAA community and strengthens your ties to other alums and friends — and your ties to the school.

MEMBERSHIP WITH BENEFITS

AlumNotes Subscription
Access to Alumnae/i Directory
Access to "Members" Portal
Discounts on Events, Programs, & Reunion
Advance notice for events and programs
Access to Mentorship and Intern Platform (coming soon)
Opportunities to announce events, services, and products

Basic \$40 / Seniors (1972 & earlier) \$25
Junior (2011-15) \$25/ New Grads (2016)
Free / Premium \$90
See last page or join us online. www.hchsaa.org

LETTER TO EDITOR

Thanks for inviting comments in the Summer/Fall 2015 Alum Notes. As a West Coast alum from the girls-only years who has attended a couple of reunions, I was interested to read what happened at June's reunion.

Hunter's having "gone co-ed," while still frankly regretted by many of us, is indeed water long under the bridge. No one should make men and boys feel unwelcome. Yet I notice when women and men appear to be contributing unequally, whether in public speaking or in donations. Therefore, I think it would be great for the alums to urge the school to incorporate a feminist legacy in its mission and curriculum. It's a wonderful opportunity to promote and monitor gender equality in a mixed-gender environment. It would be nice to do this while we pre-1980 alums are still around!

I think there's an even greater social injustice going on. All alums should express support for the black and Latino alums' efforts to expand diversity at the school. Perhaps funds could be set up for low-income students who need assistance to realize their dreams. And alums should hold school administrators' feet to the fire to enroll more black and Latino students. As much as gender, race matters in what seems to be a struggle for Hunter's soul. I hope Hunter will turn away from the model of a school where all parents pay for pre-admission tutoring, where all students aim for elite private colleges, and where all alums revere those who can donate large amounts.

I will be pleased if you make this email public.

Dorie Klein, '67

(Email your comments and letters to the editor, Monika Mitchell at: mmitchell@hchsaa.org)

RESPONSE: LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Dorie: Thank you for your insightful response to our WINTER 2015 editor's note. Regarding support for Black and Latino alums, we currently have two programs. The first is our Black and Latino Diversity Group open to black and Latino alumni. (See page 26.) The group organizes events of interest and networking opportunities. The exciting initiative detailed in this issue addresses the diversity admissions challenges (see page 21). The Exam Schools Placement Initiative (or ESPI) is a prep test and mentoring program for students of color as well as low-income and immigrant children. The platform is organized, supported, and managed by alumnae/i and high school parents. ESPI is open to all alumni and others interested in supporting the program. Contact: info@espi.nyc for more information.

Please email letters to the editor to: mmitchell@hchsaa.org

Your Alumnae/i Association at Work

PEOPLE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!

Please update your contact information.

The HCHSAA Online Directory strives to be *the* database of *everyone* who has ever graduated from Hunter. It is only viewable by Hunter alums who register on our site (www.hchsaa.org).

If you haven't checked out your directory profile in a while, the summer is a good time to make sure that your information is

correct. Providing us with up-to-date contact information saves us time and money spent processing returned mail. Your professional information helps us to learn more about who you are so we can tap into our network and design programs of interest to the community.

If you are hesitant to share your contact information with everyone, there's even a way for you to mark your record (or just parts of

it) "private." While all alums can access the directory, only dues-paid members can view the professional and educational information you provide. So while you are on the site, be sure to check on the status of your membership so you can search for classmates, and create your own professional Hunter network.

Any questions, please contact:
info@hchsaa.org or 212-772-4079

REGIONAL GROUP FACEBOOK AND GOOGLE GROUPS

Join one of the seven Alumnae/i Association's private Facebook and Google Groups to find out what's happening locally. To request admission to any of the current groups, visit the links listed below:

Boston Area:

www.facebook.com/groups/283937741753318/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-boston-area-alums

California State:

www.facebook.com/groups/477177519069786/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-california

Northern New England:

www.facebook.com/groups/477177519069786/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-northern-new-england-alums

Southern New England:

www.facebook.com/groups/250370518458268/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-southern-new-england-alums

Upper New York State:

www.facebook.com/groups/1476103089284000/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-upstate-new-york

Westchester, NY:

www.facebook.com/groups/265824743575976/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-westchester-county-chapter

Europe:

www.facebook.com/groups/581752648545000/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-europe-alum-chapter

AFFINITY GROUPS

Aside from our geographical chapters, all alums are invited to join

HCHSAA LGBTQ* Alum group, organized by **Sem Moundas '99**.

Their mission is to promote dialogue, sharing of LGBTQ+ related news, and social connections among alumni who identify as LGBTQ+. Reflections on what was it like to be out or not out at while at Hunter are also encouraged. You can join the conversation here:

www.facebook.com/groups/500696296714210/
groups.google.com/d/forum/hchsaa-lgbtq

HCHSAA Black and Latino Alums, organized by **Pamela Roach '71** and **Jessica Leonard '04**.

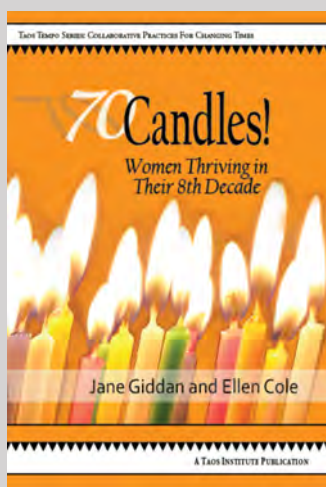
The purpose of this group is two-fold. First, it serves the community of Black and Latino Hunter graduates, creating a space for conversation and networking both online and in person. Second, it advocates for initiatives committed to increasing the number of Black and Latino students at the school through recruitment, development, and successful completion of their HCHS degrees. Additionally, the group is organized to fundraise for and develop diversity programs, scholarships, mentoring opportunities, and other activities identified to support Black and Latino students of the school. The goal is to ensure that Hunter remains a place where New York City students from every economic, social, and ethnic background can flourish.

You can join us here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/746727192052261/>

If you would like to start an affinity group, please email Monika Mitchell or Mabel Bermejo, your membership coordinators at: info@hchsaa.org.

“SEVENTY IS OLD. THAT IS A GOOD THING.”



“It is time for a new view of 70 year-old women, in particular, and aging, in general; a new image needs to be created...”

*Seventy is old. That is a good thing.
We can say it with pride... We know from the research literature that our more positive perception will increase both the years we have to live and the quality of those years.”*

—Excepted from: 70 Candles! Women Thriving in Their 8th Decade, Taoist Institute, 2016

Jane Giddan '58 and former classmate Ellen Cole met each other as freshman in 1955 at HCHS. They have been best friends ever since.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

To register for any of the events listed below, visit www.hchsaa.org

MAY 19, 2016

Girl in Glass

Author Talk With Deanna Fei '95

6:00 - 8:30 pm

HCHS LIBRARY

Donation: \$10 Members/ \$15 Nonmembers

Reservations Suggested - www.hchsaa.org or

Call: 212-772-4079

JUNE 3-5, 2016

Reunion 2016 Weekend

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

June 3 & 5, 2016; Friday @8 pm, Sunday @2 pm

Open to ALL Alumnae/i.

MILESTONE REUNION – HCHS

June 4, 2016; 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

(See page 23 for more information)

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Hunter College High School Alumnae/i Association, Inc. is:

To organize the alumnae and alumni of the School to further the School's activities;

To provide financial support to the School in the form of endowment funds and other funding for the libraries, laboratories, theater, dance, music, art and academic programs, athletic and computer facilities, and other programs and facilities of the School;

To establish scholarships, fellowships, and other student aid programs;

To serve as a resource for students of the School to enhance their education;

To sponsor educational, scientific, literary, and cultural programs in cooperation with the School;

To serve as an advocate for our School within the larger community; and

To create and sustain a social and professional network for alumnae/i of the School to accomplish these goals.



If you wish to only receive your future copies of AlumNotes electronically, check this box ☐

PAYMENT FORM

To pay your dues, register for reunion, make a donation, or purchase merchandise by credit card go to our website www.hchsaa.org and click on "Make a Gift." To pay by check, complete the form below and mail this entire page with your check payable to HCHSAA in the enclosed envelope. Donors who give \$100 or more a year (excluding dues) will be recognized in *AlumNotes* annual Honor Roll of Giving. To make address corrections please use this form, login to our online directory and make the change, or email info@hchsaa.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Levels	Benefits	circle one	
		1 Year	5 Year
BASIC	Annual subscription to <i>AlumNotes</i> . Discounted admission to Reunion General Assembly and other programs throughout the year. Access to Members Portal and Jobs Board at www.hchsaa.org . Eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting of Members.	\$40	\$200
SENIOR	Same benefits as above for the class of 1972 and earlier	\$25	\$125
JUNIOR	Same benefits as above for the class of 2012-2015	\$25	N/A
PREMIUM	Same benefits as above plus your choice of a free gift (<i>below</i>)	\$90	\$450
NEW GRADS	Same benefits as <i>Basic</i> for the class of 2016	FREE!	N/A

SUBTOTAL DUES \$ _____

CONTRIBUTIONS

Gifts to the 2015-16 Annual Fund support Hunter High School programs, activities and academic departments.

Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law, and, if this is your Milestone Reunion year, will be counted towards your class gift.

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

SUBTOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS \$ _____

REUNION—GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Early Registration payments
must be received by May 15

Early Registration

Members \$35 pp x _____ Adults (s)
Non-Members \$45 pp x _____ Adults (s)
Seniors \$40 pp x _____ Adults (s)

General Registration (after May 15)

Members \$40 pp x _____ Adults (s) \$ _____
Non-Members \$50 pp x _____ Adults (s) \$ _____
Seniors \$45 pp x _____ Adults (s) \$ _____

SUBTOTAL REGISTRATION \$ _____

MERCHANDISE

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

Quan.	Item	Color (circle)	Cost	Size (circle)				Subtotal
	Adult T Shirt	Purple / Grey	\$22	Sm (34-36)	M (38-40)	L (42-44)	XL 2X	\$
	Coffee Mug	Purple / White	\$12	2 for \$20				\$
	Canvas Zip Tote		\$24					\$
	Water Bottle		\$10					\$
	Teddy Bears		\$20					\$
	Baseball Cap		\$30					
	Onesie (12 mos.)		(inquire)					

THIS IS MY *FREE* PREMIUM BENEFIT -or- SUBTOTAL MERCHANDISE \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

☐ My check is enclosed. -or- ☐ Charge to my (circle one) AMEX MC VISA _____ Exp Date: _____ CVV: _____

NAME

YEAR OF GRADUATION

Please print name as it should appear in Honor Roll of Giving (if different)

EMAIL ADDRESS

HOME PHONE

WORK PHONE

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