

SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

Archived News

2009-2010

News articles from 2009-2010

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Jane Alexander '61

Date: Nov 2, 2009

In the News

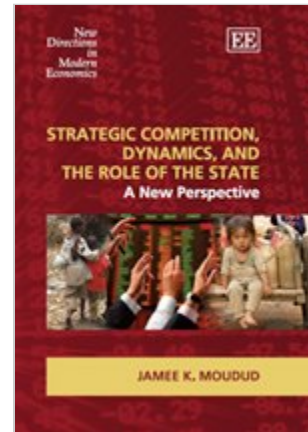
The education and career of Jane Alexander '61 are profiled in an article on [examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com/x-5590-Acting-Examiner~y2009m10d29-Jane-Alexander) » [<http://www.examiner.com/x-5590-Acting-Examiner~y2009m10d29-Jane-Alexander>].

New Book by Economics Faculty Member Jamee Moudud Calls into Question Neoliberal Theory and Policies

Date: Aug 25, 2010

News Release History and the Social Sciences Economics Faculty

Jamee K. Moudud, a member of the economics faculty at Sarah Lawrence College, “has taken a novel approach to the study of macrodynamics,” says Cyrus Bina, an editor of the *Journal of Critical Studies on Business and Society*, about Moudud’s newly published book, *Strategic Competition, Dynamics and the Role of the State: A New Perspective* (2010 Edward Elgar Press, New Directions in Modern Economics series). “Here turbulence and crisis are deemed inseparable from the dynamics of capitalist economies and the last three decades of neoliberal policies are eloquently called into question,” he writes about Moudud’s work. As Professor Anwar Shaikh of the New School University writes in his foreword, Moudud’s book rejects the false dichotomy between perfect and imperfect markets (a common feature of conventional analyses) so as to ground his analytical framework in the way that real-world markets actually behave.



Called a timely, refreshing, and challenging book by Jesus Felipe of the Asian Development Bank, it has also won praise from others writing in the field, including Gary Mongiovi, co-editor of the *Review of Political Economy*, who writes that the book is “that rarest of things—both a useful teaching tool and an original contribution in its own right.”

Alumni Awards Represent High Level of Achievement and Service

Date: Jun 14, 2010

News Release

Achievement and service awards were bestowed upon five Sarah Lawrence College alumnae/i, one posthumously, at its annual reunion on June 5, 2010, on the College's Bronxville campus. The awards represent exceptional accomplishment on the part of the College's graduates and this year's winners are an unusually diverse group in terms of background and achievement.

A graduate from the class of 1950, **Gladys Chang Hardy** served in leadership positions at the National Institute of Education, the U.S. Department of Education, National Public Radio, and the Ford Foundation following her early career work for acclaimed journalist Edward R. Murrow. Throughout her career, Hardy has pursued equity for minorities and women in education and the arts. Among those who provided her with her inspiration were two of Sarah Lawrence's most celebrated faculty members, Helen Merrell Lynd and Joseph Campbell, as well as the intrepid president of the College during the McCarthy era, Harold Taylor.



Barbara Lamont Gelobter saved her New Orleans firm by moving it to nearby Lafayette after Hurricane Katrina left 39 of her 40 employees homeless. As founder, president and COO of New Orleans Teleport, Inc., cited by Diversity.com as one of the top 500 businesses in America, this 1960 graduate of the College was familiar with the need to change and adapt to meet the challenges before her. As a student, Barbara helped pay her way through Sarah Lawrence as a professional jazz vocalist, continuing in the entertainment world until she moved into journalism, writing and reporting for the venerable Walter Cronkite and then running Nigeria's national television network until a coup d'état put an end to that career. She credits Sarah Lawrence with giving her the tools to successfully pursue her numerous interests.



Greatly admired for his works of art, especially his large steel sculptures that reside in museums, galleries, and private collections throughout the world and are highly sought by collectors, France-based artist **Jedd Novatt '80**, credits the education he received at Sarah Lawrence, both formal and informal, for contributing to his success—citing his teachers, as well as lessons learned about succeeding in the art world. Among praisers of Novatt is the director of the Butler Institute of American Art who said that... “his compositions challenge longstanding visual concepts and provide us with interesting new approaches, both formally and conceptually.” Novatt's primary motif, “Chaos”, involves constructions of cube-like forms. Whether the works are created in steel or bronze, the configuration of elements “seems to teeter as if on the point of collapse.” One critic noted: “Novatt searches to capture an instant of equilibrium in unstable and fragile situations, similar to our existential condition, but also to the particular moment that we are living.”



Olivia “Vicki” Churchill Ford '60 MSED '87 embodies the epitome of community service, contributing her time and resources for the benefit of children and youth and the overall well being of the communities in which she lives. Her personal goal, “to empower people to do things they don’t think they’re capable of doing,” resonates with those who have benefitted from her generosity in supporting and advancing education, the arts, and the environment. Sarah Lawrence, she says, provided her the impetus for being a lifelong learner, her enthusiasm for problem-solving, and her energy for improving educational opportunities for others.



As the first female staff counsel of the New York Civil Liberties Union, the late **Eve Cary '65**, was among the pioneers of the women’s movement in the 1970’s to forge new ground. Deeply engaged in the social and political issues of her time, she argued and won many groundbreaking cases in the state and federal appellate courts of New York, not only for women’s rights but also First Amendment and criminal cases. Her career took off soon after graduating from Sarah Lawrence when she conducted the first in-depth study of the sociology and street practices of New York City police officers. Her research, interviewing, and editing formed the basis for *Police Power*, the leading treatment of the subject at that time.

History faculty member Fawaz Gerges named inaugural director of The London School of Economics and Political Science's Middle East Centre

Date: May 26, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Politics History Religion Faculty

National media outlets, including [Scottrade.com](http://research.scottrade.com/public/markets/news/news.asp?docKey=100-144p3627-1§ion=headlines) » [<http://research.scottrade.com/public/markets/news/news.asp?docKey=100-144p3627-1§ion=headlines>], report on The London School of Economics and Political Science's launch of The Middle East Centre, a multidisciplinary research center focused on modern Middle Eastern cultures, societies, economics, and international relations. Fawaz Gerges, holder of SLC's Christian A. Johnson Chair in International Affairs and Middle Eastern Studies, will serve as the Centre's inaugural director, collaborating with Middle Eastern universities, scholars, civil society, and policy makers in speaking to a global audience about the region's strengths and challenges.

Zoe Alexander '13 designs and produces first-ever plantable high-fashion coat in Biomimicry Project

Date: May 17, 2010

Buzz Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Students

In an independent project for environmental studies faculty member [Charles Zerner's](http://www.slc.edu/undergraduate/study/history-social-sciences/environmental-studies/faculty.html#faculty-216) » [<http://www.slc.edu/undergraduate/study/history-social-sciences/environmental-studies/faculty.html#faculty-216>] "[Strategies of Visibility: Arts of Environmental Resistance and Creativity](http://www.slc.edu/undergraduate/study/history-social-sciences/environmental-studies/courses.html#course-4158) » [<http://www.slc.edu/undergraduate/study/history-social-sciences/environmental-studies/courses.html#course-4158>]" class, first-year student Zoe Alexander designed and produced the first-ever plantable high-fashion coat in her Biomimicry Project. The project grew out of Alexander's desire to focus on how the aesthetic consumer industry of fashion may be made more sustainable. Learn more about the project at [Zoe's site](http://cargocollective.com/ZOEALEXANDERPROJECT) » [<http://cargocollective.com/ZOEALEXANDERPROJECT>].

Award-Winning Actress Julianna Margulies Tells Graduates: “This Education is a Gift You Will Be Unwrapping for the Rest of Your Life”

Date: May 21, 2010

News Release Alums SLC

Award-winning actress Julianna Margulies delivered the Commencement address to the Sarah Lawrence class of 2010 Friday, May 21, on the College’s southern Westchester County campus.

Margulies, a Sarah Lawrence alumna who recently won “best actress” Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards for her role in the CBS series *The Good Wife*, addressed some 340 graduating seniors and 120 graduate students receiving their master’s degrees.



Preparing to write the speech, Margulies met with a group of soon-to-be Sarah Lawrence graduates to listen to their thoughts about the future. “Part of this ‘listening’ was to prepare for this speech and part of it, selfishly, was for my two-year old son—because he has such a big stake in the actions of your generation,” she said. “I was curious to learn about the people paving the way for him. And after all my listening, I have concluded, at least here at Sarah Lawrence, our future is looking very bright, and my son and his generation are in very good hands.”

Margulies reminisced about her college days, finding common ground with the graduates in the audience. Referring to her conference work, or regular one-on-one sessions with her professors, she talked about the independent study papers she had written that have stayed with her to this day. “I didn’t have a textbook thrown at me, and a teacher telling me to ‘memorize it.’ They said, ‘Question it. Challenge it. Debate it. Think about it’...It was in our one-on-one sessions where I developed my own love affairs with authors like Flannery O’Connor.”

Describing an assignment in a literature course where she was asked to rewrite one of O’Connor’s short stories from another character’s point of view, Margulies said: “Only at Sarah Lawrence do your professors encourage, and do students have the audacity, to rewrite literary giants.”

“There is not a day that goes by that I do not call on my formal education,” said Margulies, who was cast in her first play at the College. “It was here where I was told if I wanted to be an actor I need to learn about art. And I needed to learn history. Learn science. Learn French. And so much more.”

“Sarah Lawrence” she told the newly-minted graduates, “has given you a foundation and the tools to think for yourself—which is the most important asset you’ll ever have in life. You already have everything you need to make it in this world. If you believe this degree is somehow an end of study or the step across the finish line, you’re missing the point. This education is a gift that you will be unwrapping for the rest of your life.”

Relating a personal story about turning down \$27 million to continue playing Nurse Hathaway on the popular, award-winning television series *ER*, Margulies came to the crux of her address. “I want to share a personal story—one of those times that tested my Sarah Lawrence foundation and values...and I am sharing it with you solely in the hopes it will inspire you to stay true to your heart.” Margulies explained that at the end of her contract she felt it was time to go; she wanted to return to New York, to act in a play, to do an independent film, but was confronted with a consensus of opinion around her that she should choose to stay in L.A. for such a large sum of money. In her quest to come to a decision she came across a line in a book, “I realized my mission in life was to learn more, not earn more,” which she took to heart.

The popular actress, who went on to land a lucrative role in CBS' *The Good Wife*, was not negating the benefits of making money and explained that while she hoped the graduates before her would have prosperous and thriving careers, she advised: "You will more likely find that pot of gold if you follow your passion, are driven to succeed, and open to learning more as you go."

College's "Yonkers Scholar" to pursue study of Muslim women, participate in Muslim-Jewish dialogues

Date: May 14, 2010

News Release Humanities Religion Students

Sarah Lawrence College has announced that Scheherazad Al-Salamin will be the Class of 2014's Yonkers Scholar. She will come to the College this fall after graduating from the Andalusia School, a private school on Walnut Street in Yonkers that combines academics and the study of Islam.

Al-Salamin, who was home-schooled until eighth-grade, is among 10 students in the school's first graduating class. Al-Salamin, a Palestinian-American, was born in North Carolina, raised in New York, and moved to Yonkers in 2002.

She was accepted into all ten schools to which she applied. It came down to Barnard College at Columbia and Sarah Lawrence. She chose Sarah Lawrence, based on its small classes and close relationships between students and faculty. She was also drawn to the conference-seminar system, which requires independent study called conference projects.

"At Sarah Lawrence there is an opportunity to focus more intensely on the subjects that you are passionate about and want to pursue at a deeper level. You can pursue what interests you," she says.

She plans to focus on Muslim women and the hijab—the head-covering required under certain Muslim customs—as one of her first conference projects.

Al-Salamin wears the hijab, which she believes symbolizes feminism, rather than oppression, as some western feminists have suggested.

"It empowers women," she says. "The reason we wear it is because Muslim women want to be appreciated for their intellect rather than their external beauty.

She also looks forward to becoming part of the Sarah Lawrence community.

"I felt that Sarah Lawrence was more personal, and having grown up in such a small school, I wanted a college experience where you can know everybody and everybody can know you," she says. "My personality flourishes in a community like that."

In high school, she was yearbook editor and editor of the student newsletter. After school, she works at the Elm Street Neighborhood Center. She started there as a volunteer, and is now employed as an office assistant, working with young children and organizing after-school field trips.

Al-Salamin, who will commute from her home on the Yonkers waterfront, says she plans to ride with the Sarah Lawrence equestrian team. During summer vacations in Pennsylvania, where her family had horses, she rode in jumping competitions. She looks forward to getting back in the saddle this fall.

"I haven't been on a horse for a while," she says. "I stopped when we moved to New York. I wanted to concentrate on my studies."

She also wants to participate in Jewish-Muslim dialogue, as she has done with groups of teens and adults that have met at her home.

"I've been in these discussions since ninth grade," she says. "It helps when both sides understand the other's frustration and pain."

It will be part of Al-Salamin's involvement in a campus she feels will welcome her.

Sarah Lawrence College appoints new Vice President for Finance and Operations

Date: May 1, 2010

News Release Administration

Sarah Lawrence College is proud to announce that Joseph Giovannelli has assumed the position of Vice President for Finance and Operations. In a dual role, Giovannelli will serve as the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer as well as have executive responsibility in Operations including facilities, capital projects, public safety, purchasing and auxiliary services. Giovannelli comes to Sarah Lawrence from New York University (NYU), where he served for the last nine years as the Associate Dean for Administration and Finance at NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development. Prior to his post at NYU, Giovannelli was the Vice President for Finance at Molloy College and before that, he was the Vice President for Finance and Administration at the Medical and Health Research Association of New York.



"You want to be nowhere else while she's dancing." *NY Times* gives rave review of dance faculty Sara Rudner's performance in *Necessary Weather*

Date: May 17, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Dance](#) [Dance](#) [Faculty](#)

Sara Rudner, the director of the dance program, received a glowing *New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/15/arts/dance/15weather.html?ref=dance>] review for her recent *Necessary Weather* performance at the Baryshnikov Arts Center. "It is still easy to believe Ms. Rudner is the greatest dancer in the world. You want to be nowhere else while she's dancing," writes reviewer Alastair Macaulay.

Board member Joan Cannady Countryman '62 delivered the keynote address at Bowdoin College's 205th Commencement

Date: Jun 4, 2010

[Announcement](#) [Administration](#) [Alums](#)

Alumna and Board of Trustees member Joan Cannady Countryman '62 delivered the [commencement address](#) » [<http://www.bowdoin.edu/news/archives/1bowdoincampus/007430.shtml>] at Bowdoin College's 205th Commencement.

Students' community work, campus bike-share program win "Greenie" Awards

Date: Apr 30, 2010

News Release Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies SLC Students Staff

Sarah Lawrence College's bike share program, spearheaded by director of facilities Maureen Gallagher, and the work of students at the Buena Vista Community Gardens, led by Lisa Chodorkoff '10, were among the 27 winners of the City of Yonkers Green Policy Task Force's 2010 "Greenie" awards. The awards were:

The College Student Do Something About It Award

Lisa Chodorkoff of the Sarah Lawrence College Enviro-Earth Club

What do you get when you mix dirt, community and Sarah Lawrence College students? Visit the Buena Vista Community Gardens to see for yourself. This group of students and Enviro-Earth Club members make weekly pilgrimages to the Buena Vista Community Gardens to teach hands-on environmental science and garden ecology to Yonkers kids, ages 5-18. They also offer environmentally friendly craft and writing workshops in the Riverfront Library every Saturday.

Transportation Award

Sarah Lawrence College (Maureen Gallagher)

SLC recently rolled out a bike-share program, fixing up six abandoned bicycles and placing them in a designated rack in front of the library for students, faculty, and staff to use to get around campus, pedal into town, or just to get some exercise. Bikes can be checked out at the main library as easily as checking out a book. Use of the bicycle is free for up to six hours; after that, riders will be charged 25 cents per hour or a full-day rate of six dollars. Every bike comes with a lock, and users are encouraged to be diligent about securing bikes so that the community can keep pedaling. [Learn more about the bike-share program»](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/Free-Rides.html) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/Free-Rides.html>]

Student and Faculty Prizes

Date: Jun 21, 2010

[Feature Story](#) [Faculty](#) [Students](#) [SLC](#)

The following is a list of prizes given by Sarah Lawrence College in conjunction with Commencement 2010.

The Geraldine Putman Clark Prize for Visual Arts
Sarah R. Muehlbauer '10

The Edward Cogan Prize for Mathematics and Science
Zachary Donovan '10

The Lucy Grealy Prize for Poetry
Emma Furman '10

The Lori Hertzberg Prize for Creativity
Muriel Leung '10

The Stanley and Evelyn Lipkin Prize for Playwriting
Teresa Carson MFA '10
Eric Dufault '10
Angela Santillo MFA '10
Honorable Mention:
Devon Mattys MFA '10
Emily Zemba '10

The Stanley and Evelyn Lipkin Prize for Poetry
Molly Goldman '10

The Lipkin Family Prize for Human Genetics
Christina Bond MS '10

The Moser-Marsh Annual Fellowship in the Visual Arts and Visual Culture
Naomi Edmondson '11
Carla Chantica Lerner '11

The Presser Foundation Award for Music
Chelsea Wright '11

The Nancy Lynn Schwartz Prize for Fiction
First Place: Sri Naomi Melati Bishop '10
Second Place: Anthony Assande '11

The Andrea Klein Willison Prize for Poetry
Clementine Breslin '10

The Robert L. Zimmerman Prize for Excellence in Philosophy
Peter Libbey '10

The Lipkin Family Prize for Inspirational Teaching
Martin Goldray

Quelling Career Anxiety

Date: Jun 22, 2010

Feature Story Staff Students Alums

By Frederic Richter '10

Lump in throat. Difficulty swallowing. Slight nausea. These were merely a few of the physical feelings I had when thinking of that dreaded “G” word: graduation.

I hoped to pursue a graduate degree in filmmaking—I love screenwriting and have a keen interest in film production—but it was April, and I hadn’t been accepted to any film schools. I had received a slew of rejections, one waitlist and an acceptance to a certificate program.

To make matters worse, filmmaking, like most creative fields, is fiercely competitive, and few are lucky enough to get stable jobs or paychecks, even with a graduate degree.

What other options did I have? With concentrations in film, writing, and history, as well as a strong journalism background, I knew there should be a plethora of easier or more lucrative alternatives, though I wasn’t sure what they were. And the idea of spending an aimless post-graduation year living at home with my parents sent me into a panic.

So I attended a two-part program sponsored by the Offices of Career Counseling and Alumnae/i Relations, designed to help graduating seniors transition into the world of work.

The 45-year plan

The facilitator, career-counseling veteran Dede Bartlett, announced that she would help us “cover our options” in the current job market. After all, she said, we’ll be working until 2055, when, if we are “very good,” we will be eligible to retire. She continued to stir the nausea of the audience by noting that we entered SLC at a time when the world was completely different and jobs were easier to get. “Those days are gone forever and not coming back,” she said. Then she noted that certain locations are not good for job growth, including Los Angeles, the capital of the film world.

However, Bartlett urged us not to panic. Organizations are hiring, she said, and we should consider growth areas like the federal government, the armed forces, health care, biotech, technology, and education. “These are the employers of choice... Try to see yourself working in one of these areas,” she suggested.

But where would this leave me, someone attempting to pursue a career in the fine arts? Bartlett explained her number one career tip: be flexible. “Consider taking the job that pays the bills ... but keep your dream and keep working at the job that will help you get to that dream.”

Raisin Bran and Job Interviews

Bartlett had plenty of advice on how to get that job. Brandishing a small box of Raisin Bran like a talent show prize, Bartlett explained that as job seekers, we are like boxes of cereal: there are a lot of us, so we need to use our packaging to entice the consumer (an employer or graduate school) to pull us from the shelf.

An important part of this packaging is the interview itself, and the ability to portray your strengths in a condensed, confident manner. Bartlett stressed the need to articulate how our skills and talents mesh with available opportunities. She pointed out that most SLC students have strong writing and “coping” skills, which are far more important than our chosen undergraduate disciplines.

Bartlett herself studied French literature at Vassar, another liberal arts college, and earned a master's degree in American history, yet she eventually worked for Exxon and Altria, two corporate powerhouses, for 25 years.

Post-Graduation Options

“Whatever your concentration is, your career won’t be a straight line. On average you’ll have 7 to 10 jobs in your lifetime,” Bartlett said. But they don’t have to start right away. Bartlett listed three ulcer-inducing options for the first year after college: work, travel, or graduate school. If you take a job right after graduation, she said, it boosts your career and allows you to start repaying your debts. On the other hand, this may be the only time when you would have the flexibility to really travel. Graduate school is a significant investment in your career, but Bartlett warned about massive debt accumulation. For would-be travelers, Bartlett was encouraging, but suggested you travel with a purpose and defined time period, as well as a reentry strategy.

Homework and Beyond

At the end of the first session, we each received a career folder and a multi-pronged homework assignment: get a business card, draft a strategic post-graduation plan, and establish a “board of directors.” This board, Bartlett explained, is the group of people who can help you with career advice (i.e., not your friends). My board consists of the people who were always there for me: my writing, history, screenwriting, and literature teachers, as well as an employer. These are the individuals I have turned to for advice about jobs, graduate school, and internships.

If I didn’t get into graduate school, my strategic plan was to attend UCLA’s certificate program, intern with a film distribution company, work as a freelance writer, and reapply to graduate school.

As for a business card, given my numerous different skills and talents, I ordered two different ones, to match my two (okay, three) resumes, for screenwriting, journalism, and history. These tools, coupled with my support network, will hopefully allow me and other liberal arts majors to appear professional as we network, interview, impress, and land jobs.

Good Call

I was attempting to exorcise some of my plentiful anxiety at the gym when my cell phone rang. It was a blocked number—a telemarketer perhaps? Yet I answered.

“Hi, this is Karin Tucker from the AFI Conservatory”—the film school I had been waitlisted at. “Well, I think this news will brighten your day...”

I had been accepted to graduate school, which solved my dilemma about what to do with the next year. My strategic plan could wait.

Of course, I’m still a fledgling screenwriter hoping to enter an already difficult job market in a very challenging field. But I know one thing: the rigorously creative academic life of SLC helped prepare me for whatever is coming.

Frederic Richter '10 is spending the summer polishing several screenplays, submitting to festivals, and doing freelance writing. He will of course find time for his friends and swimming. This fall he will attend the conservatory at the American Film Institute as a screenwriting fellow in Los Angeles, CA.

Author and Nashville resident Ann Patchett '85 reflects on the Southeast's recent floods in a *New York Times* op-ed

Date: May 5, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

In an Op-Ed to *The New York Times* » [[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/05/opinion/05Patchett.html?scp=2&sq=ann patchett&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/05/opinion/05Patchett.html?scp=2&sq=ann%20patchett&st=cse)], author and Nashville resident Ann Patchett '85 reflects on her current and past experiences with flooding in the Southeast.

Film Exploring Connection between Nature and Learning Airing Across the Country in honor of Earth Day

Date: Apr 23, 2010

News Release History and the Social Sciences Humanities Psychology Child Development CDI
Faculty SLC Administration

Public television stations across the nation are airing the film, *When Learning Comes Naturally* » [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cdi/learning/When_Learning_Comes_Naturally.html], produced by Jonathan Diamond Associates in association with Sarah Lawrence College's [Child Development Institute](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cdi/index.html) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cdi/index.html>] (CDI), in April and into May in honor of Earth Day. The program profiles the efforts of four schools and a community nature center in New York, New Jersey, and California to introduce children to the natural world and to encourage them—through play, classroom activities, exploration and their own creative work—to make a lasting connection to the environment.

CDI director Rachel Grob says the film comes at a time when many children are losing touch with the natural world as they hunker down in front of TV or computer screens. “There’s a growing recognition that children really require a strong connection with nature, both to promote creative learning and to develop deep affection for the environment—an affection which children must have for the natural world before they come to understand it and take responsibility for it,” she says. “We need to find more ways to nurture that relationship and find more opportunities to introduce children to the natural world.”

The Child Development Institute has embarked on an outreach campaign to distribute the film at conferences and through community groups. Any school or educational organization interested in viewing the film should contact the Institute at cdi@slc.edu » [<mailto:cdi@slc.edu>].

Says Grob: “We need to foster the natural love that children have for the environment, and help them develop—artistically, creatively, and intellectually—around the sparks that ignite when you take kids outdoors.”

Following is a partial schedule:

KAWBDT2	4/22/2010	7:30 PM	Prime Time	Minneapolis	Brainerd	MN
KAWEDT24	4/22/2010	7:30 PM	Prime Time	Minneapolis	Bemidji	MN
KAWBDT	4/22/2010	7:30 PM	Prime Time	Minneapolis	Brainerd	MN
KAWEDT	4/22/2010	7:30 PM	Prime Time	Minneapolis	Bemidji	MN
KTWUDT34	4/22/2010	8:30 AM	Mid Morning	Topeka	Topeka	KS
KTWUDT34	4/22/2010	3:30 PM	Mid Afternoon	Topeka	Topeka	KS
KQEDDT3	4/24/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	San Francisco	San Francisco	CA

KAWBDT	24/25/2010	6:30 PM	Early Fringe	Minneapolis	Brainerd	MN
KAWEDT	24/25/2010	6:30 PM	Early Fringe	Minneapolis	Bemidji	MN
KAWBDT	4/25/2010	6:30 PM	Early Fringe	Minneapolis	Brainerd	MN
KAWEDT	4/25/2010	6:30 PM	Early Fringe	Minneapolis	Bemidji	MN
KTXTDT	4/25/2010	2:30 PM	Mid Afternoon	Lubbock	Lubbock	TX
WPTODT	3/5/2010	11:30 PM	Late Night	Cincinnati	Oxford	OH
WLAEDT	3/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	New Orleans	New Orleans	LA
KLTS	2/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Shreveport	Shreveport	LA
LPB2	5/2/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	LA
WLPBDT	2/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	LA
KLPBDT	2/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Lafayette, LA	Lafayette	LA
KLTM	2/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Monroe-El Dorado	Monroe	LA
KLTL	2/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Lake Charles	Lake Charles	LA
KLPADT	2/5/2010	7:00 AM	Early Morning	Alexandria, LA	Alexandria	LA
WLAEDT	3/5/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	New Orleans	New Orleans	LA
KLTS	2/5/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Shreveport	Shreveport	LA
LPB2	5/3/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	LA
WLPBDT	2/5/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	LA
KLPBDT	2/5/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Lafayette, LA	Lafayette	LA

KLTMDT2	5/3/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Monroe-El Dorado	Monroe	LA
KLTLDT2	5/3/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Lake Charles	Lake Charles	LA
KLPADT2	5/3/2010	3:00 PM	Mid Afternoon	Alexandria, LA	Alexandria	LA
WLAEDT3	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	New Orleans	New Orleans	LA
KLTSdT2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Shreveport	Shreveport	LA
LPB2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	LA
WLPBDT2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	LA
KLPBDT2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Lafayette, LA	Lafayette	LA
KLTMDT2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Monroe-El Dorado	Monroe	LA
KLTLDT2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Lake Charles	Lake Charles	LA
KLPADT2	5/4/2010	10:00 AM	Mid Morning	Alexandria, LA	Alexandria	LA
WPTODT3	5/5/2010	3:30 AM	Overnight	Cincinnati	Oxford	OH
WPTODT3	5/8/2010	11:30 PM	Late Night	Cincinnati	Oxford	OH

SLC Rowers to Compete in England's Henley Women's Regatta

Date: Jun 14, 2010

News Release Students

Five rowers from the Sarah Lawrence College crew team are participating in the prestigious Henley Women's Regatta in England June 18–20 for the first time in the history of the SLC rowing program. The highly competitive regatta is the largest all female regatta in the world. Rowing for Sarah Lawrence are Chantal Gil '10, bow, of Swampscott, MA; Zeiland Powell '10, 2 seat, of Bellevue, PA; Emmy Herland '11, 3 seat, of Seattle, WA; Baxter Townsend '12, stroke, of Greenport, NY; and Amy Garrison '10, coxswain, of Denver, CO.

"I am so proud of our rowers" says Carolyn Miles, SLC crew coach. "These young women are joining crews from all over the world as well as elite US college rowing teams to compete at the Women's Henley regatta. We're a small school with a mighty team."

The SLC women have been rowing together throughout the spring all over the Northeast, including such regattas as the Murphy Cup, the Knecht Cup, New York State Collegiate Rowing Championships, and the Dad Vail Regatta. "Earning a bid to race at Henley is an incredible honor for this team and our athletic program. We are thrilled to have this opportunity and look forward to representing the College on the international rowing scene" says Miles.



David Lindsay-Abaire '92

Date: May 27, 2010

In the News

Pulitzer-winning author David Lindsay-Abaire '92 discusses his life and his work with the *Omaha World Herald* » [<http://www.omaha.com/article/20100525/LIVING/705259967>] as he prepares to be the honored playwright at this year's Great Plains Theatre Conference.

Tessa Corthell '07

Date: May 27, 2010

In the News Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Alums

The Times-Picayune reports Tessa Corthell '07 has been appointed the new director of the Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter, where she will direct rescue and adoption programs in an effort to reduce rates of euthanasia.

Undercovers, the latest series from writer-producer-director J.J. Abrams '88, picked up by NBC for fall season

Date: May 5, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Theatre Writing Visual Arts Writing Theatre Alums

Undercovers, a new drama series co-created, co-written, produced, and directed by J.J. Abrams '88, has been picked up by NBC for next season, as reported by *Entertainment Weekly* » [<http://ausiellofiles.ew.com/2010/05/03/nbc-picks-up-jj-abrams-undercovers/>] and *The Hollywood Reporter* » [[http://livefeed.hollywoodreporter.com/2010/05/nbc-abrams-undercovers-.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+live_feed+\(The+Hollywood+Reporter++Live+Feed\)&utm_content=Twitter](http://livefeed.hollywoodreporter.com/2010/05/nbc-abrams-undercovers-.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+live_feed+(The+Hollywood+Reporter++Live+Feed)&utm_content=Twitter)]. The show is the first pick-up by the network for the coming year.

Pam Tanowitz MFA '98 and Anne Lentz '98

Date: May 26, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance

In *The New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/22/arts/dance/22wanderer.html?ref=dance>], Alastair Macaulay offers a favorable review of *The Wanderer Fantasy*, choreographed by Pam Tanowitz MFA '98 and featuring Anne Lentz '98. Of the performance, Mr. Macaulay says, "*The Wanderer Fantasy* etches movement in the memory."

Sarah Lawrence College

Date: May 24, 2010

In the News Alums Students SLC

Sarah Lawrence College's 82nd Spring Commencement, which featured a keynote address by actress and alumna Julianna Margulies, was covered by a number of local media outlets. WCBS-TV's [Entertainment Wrap](http://wcbstv.com/video/?id=142157@wcbstv.com) » [<http://wcbstv.com/video/?id=142157@wcbstv.com>] reported on what it called a "star-packed event" in light of the fact that actress Anne Hathaway was in attendance to watch her brother Thomas, co-president of the senior class, address his fellow graduates. In addition to a story on [My Hometown Bronxville](http://www.myhometownbronxville.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1799:actress-juliana-margulies-of-qerq-and-qthe-good-wifeq-send-off-sarah-lawrences-biggest-graduating-class-ever&catid=2:adultedu&Itemid=2) » [http://www.myhometownbronxville.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1799:actress-juliana-margulies-of-qerq-and-qthe-good-wifeq-send-off-sarah-lawrences-biggest-graduating-class-ever&catid=2:adultedu&Itemid=2], Commencement was featured in a *Journal News* article titled [Sarah Lawrence Graduates Record Class](http://www.lohud.com/article/20105220322) » [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20105220322>]; the newspaper also posted an [online photo gallery](http://jukebox.lohud.com/photos/refers/index.php?galleryyear=2010&tag1=SLAW&town=COLL&sport=grad2010§ion=GRADUATION) » [<http://jukebox.lohud.com/photos/refers/index.php?galleryyear=2010&tag1=SLAW&town=COLL&sport=grad2010§ion=GRADUATION>] from the day. And News 12 Westchester covered commencement with a feature titled [Sarah Lawrence Grads Optimistic About Future](http://news12.com/articleDetail.jsp?articleId=251962&position=1&news_type=news) » [http://news12.com/articleDetail.jsp?articleId=251962&position=1&news_type=news].

Alec Soth '92

Date: Apr 30, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Photography Alums

"Continental Picture Show," a video series in the online Opinion section of *The New York Times* » [<http://video.nytimes.com/video/playlist/opinion/continental-picture-show/1247467506928/index.html>], photographer Alec Soth '92 focuses on his travels around America. The first installment of the series, titled *Ash Wednesday, New Orleans*, examined cycles of sin and redemption in the aftermath of Mardi Gras. The second and current installment, *Iowa Bird Story*, follows Soth's quest to take a worthy photograph for a 114-year-old Iowan.

Variety profiles director Sanaa Hamri '96 in advance of her latest motion picture release

Date: Apr 26, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Filmmaking Alums

Variety » [<http://www.variety.com/article/VR1118018226.html?categoryid=28&cs=1>] profiles Sanaa Hamri '96, director of the upcoming feature film *Just Wright*, which it calls "the rare contemporary romantic comedy with an artistic sense of textures and shadows playing off thoughtful character development."

Celebrating Oxford

Date: May 5, 2010

[Feature Story](#) [Alums](#) [Administration](#) [Students](#) [SLC](#)

The connections run deep between Oxford University and Sarah Lawrence College.

The college's seminar-conference system, which since the late 1920s has combined independent student research and individual faculty supervision, draws heavily from Oxford's renowned tutorial tradition.

For the past quarter-century, that relationship has blossomed through the Sarah Lawrence at Oxford program, which brings up to 30 American students—including several from other US colleges—to the university's Wadham College for a year of study, and welcomes a half-dozen Wadham students to its Westchester County campus for three weeks each spring.

This year, Sarah Lawrence and Oxford celebrated the program's 25th anniversary at a gathering at the Heimbold Visual Arts Center. In attendance were several Wadham officials, Sarah Lawrence alumnae/i who had studied in Oxford, and students set to travel there in September. They also toasted the 400th anniversary of Wadham's founding by the widow of Nicholas Wadham, a Somerset landowner who won permission from King James I to set up the school.

"I'm not sure how we did it," said Sir Neil Chalmers, warden of Wadham College, who told those gathered at the event: "For the first 375 years, we managed without you."

He said that the Sarah Lawrence program has provided an international flavor to one of Oxford's biggest colleges, known for its informal atmosphere and high academic standards. Many Sarah Lawrence students come with an artistic sensibility that enlivens the Oxford dormitory scene.

"You enrich our community with your perspective and creativity," he said.

Karen Lawrence, president of Sarah Lawrence College, who visited the Oxford campus in the fall, said the exchange program provides a stimulating opportunity for top students. "It's rich, demanding and exciting," she said.

Chalmers noted that the students who come to Wadham do well under the Oxford tutorial system because they are accustomed to a one-on-one relationship with a faculty member through Sarah Lawrence's conference and donning system. However, students and faculty acknowledge that the Oxford experience differs markedly in its approach.

At Wadham College, students take no courses. Instead, they choose a broad academic field, such as history or English Literature, and are assigned two tutors for each of three eight-week terms. Students meet weekly for an hour with each tutor. They provide a reading list of several books and articles on a particular topic in that field. By week's end, the student must produce essays of between 3,000 and 5,000 words on each topic, which they read to the tutor, and then discuss in a spirited exchange.

The tutor may challenge the essay's assumptions, and the student is expected to defend his or her point of view, based on primary and secondary sources. Students rarely hand in their essays—the exchange between student and tutor is what's important.

"It's like a baptism by fire," said Ashlinn Romagnoli, '10, who attended the Oxford program in 2008-09. "The relationship with the tutor can be nerve-racking, but it's quite fulfilling. Now I really know how to write under pressure."

Standards are high for those Sarah Lawrence students who apply to study at Oxford for a year. They need to have a Grade Point Average of at least 3.5. In September, 23 Sarah Lawrence students and five students from Reed College, Swarthmore College and Tufts University will begin the fall term at Oxford.

Andrew Wilkenson, a Wadham student who came to Sarah Lawrence in the spring of 2010, says it didn't take him long to see the different relationship between faculty and student in the U.S.

"At Sarah Lawrence, there's an interest in the student's feeling and opinions," says Wilkenson, who took classes here in American literature of the 1920s, and the business of theatre. "At Oxford, there is more concern over a dispassionate analysis of the material."

Ray Ockenden, who teaches German language and literature at Wadham, recalls his own exchange experience at Sarah Lawrence several years ago, when he came to teach for a semester. Instead of focusing solely on German romanticism, as his work did in Oxford to prepare students for their exams, his class here explored romanticism on a broader scale—from Ovid and French classical dramas to the novel of American novelist William Faulkner.

The class sometimes veered off in directions he hadn't planned.

"It's so much more student-driven at Sarah Lawrence," says Ockenden. "The students could go where they wanted to go."

The relationship between the schools remains vibrant. One year after several Sarah Lawrence students joined a Wadham crew team that rowed on the River Thames, they asked if they could form a team at Sarah Lawrence. The Gryphons women's and men's team have been rowing since then in such major regattas as the Head of the Charles in Cambridge and the Head of the Connecticut in Middletown, Ct.

By attending Oxford for the entire year, students have the opportunity to experience the intensity of its three eight-week terms, and the extended leisure time between the terms for travel around the United Kingdom or to continental Europe. Each term at Oxford has its own feel. They arrive in late September for the Michaelmas term, when the well-tended Wadham gardens are still in bloom, and Oxford's gold and grey stone glints in the afternoon sun. The Hilary Term goes from January through early March in the dark of winter. Following the spring break, which can be at least a month, the Trinity Term runs from April through June, when students may find time to go punting on the River Thames in shallow-bottomed boats.

Sarah Lawrence students thrive at Wadham. Diana Bruk, '10, found her academic voice at Oxford, where she studied English Literature and Russian. For one tutor, she read the 1920s Russian novel, *The Foundation Pit*, by Andrei Platanov, which explored the struggle between individuals and the state in the collectivized Soviet society. Her essay was so incisive it was later published in winter 2009 edition of *The Birch*, a journal of Eastern European and Eurasian culture.

While at Oxford, she found her niche in the Oxford University Conservative Association, one of the academic community's social clubs, which held foreign policy debates, as well as balls and dinners in London. She's considering returning to Oxford to study for her master's degree in English Literature.

"My whole life began in Oxford," she says.

Students who become involved in the Oxford community outside of the classroom return with especially fond memories of their time overseas. Amy LaBurda, '07, who studied at Wadham in 2005-06 enjoyed living and studying on the 400-year-old campus. She studied literature with a tutor from another of Oxford's colleges, and she joined the Wadham Chapel Choir.

"You have to be proactive and reach out," she says. "And when you do, it can be quite rewarding."

President Karen Lawrence publishes latest book

Date: May 10, 2010

News Brief Administration

President Karen Lawrence has just published *Techniques for Living*, a study of author Christine Brooke-Rose (Ohio State University Press). The book—a labor of love during its 15 years of development—concludes with an interview Lawrence conducted with Brooke-Rose at the novelist's home in the south of France.

Office of Career Counseling wins first place award for Best Practices in Career Development at conference of Metro NY Career Planning Officer

Date: Jun 4, 2010

News Brief Staff

The Office of Career Counseling recently won first place in the Alva C. Cooper Awards for Best Practices in Career Development at a meeting of the Metropolitan New York College Career Planning Officers Association.

Alumnus Allan Manings

Date: May 18, 2010

In the News Alums

Publications nationwide, including *Variety* » [<http://www.variety.com/article/VR1118019514.html?categoryId=14&cs=1>], report on the death of alumnus Allan Manings, the co-creator of the television series *One Day at a Time* (1975-84) and one of the first male students to enroll at Sarah Lawrence as part of the GI Bill.

Women's History program director Priscilla Murolo '80 discusses the impact of the birth control pill 50 years after its approval by the FDA

Date: May 6, 2010

In the News History Womens History Alums Faculty

In an Agence France Presse article titled "50 years on, the pill still changes lives," picked up by media outlets worldwide including *The Independent* » [<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/50-years-on-the-pill-still-changes-lives-1964627.html>] (UK), Priscilla Murolo '80, Director of the Women's History graduate program » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/index.html>], discusses the impact the birth control pill has had on women since its approval by the US Food and Drug Administration.

Hip Hop Feminism

Date: Apr 9, 2010

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Womens History SLC Staff

Carmen Ashhurst decided it was time to leave the music business when one of the acts she managed tried to communicate with her using a sawed-off shotgun. When she was president of Def Jam Recordings, the hip hop record company, Ashhurst's life was threatened more than once. While the gun-toting musician was on his way to her office, she found herself debating whether calling the police would be bad for publicity. Eventually Ashhurst realized that she wasn't comfortable with risking her life for her company's street cred.



Now a major gifts officer at Sarah Lawrence, Ashhurst recently gave the keynote address at the 12th Annual Women's History Conference, "The Message is in the Music: Hip Hop Feminism, Riot Grrrl, Latina Music, and More." Ashhurst spent nine years at Def Jam beginning in 1988, during what many critics consider the golden age of hip hop, which lasted from the late 1980s through the early '90s. During that time, Ashhurst said, hip hop was a rising form of expression for a diverse community that included a variety of artists, from rappers with activist messages to those making lighthearted party music. But, according to Ashhurst, as the music became commercialized and production companies pushed profits, sex and violence came to dominate the industry, which made it difficult for rappers who didn't fit the mold to produce their music.

Female entrepreneurs played a vital role in popularizing hip hop, Ashhurst maintained—which is ironic, since the genre is now often equated with misogyny and the commodification of women. "Even with all these progressive women—black and white—running things in the beginning, hip hop music and culture managed to devolve into materialism, misogyny, and in my view, profound racial self-hatred," she said. Her words set the stage for many of the panel discussions during the two-day conference by framing the struggle that women in the music business often face.

Despite the limitations on the business side of the equation, music can still provide an arena for feminist activism and political expression. Conference presenters explored the various ways in which music influences women's lives, self-perception, and societal roles, as well as how feminists have used music to present their political messages. Participants from across the United States and as far away as England and South Africa engaged in discussions analyzing the interplay of Latina music, hip hop, and movements such as riot grrrl with modern feminism.

Ashhurst's talk had moments of hope as well. Though it is often difficult for musicians with activist messages to reach the mainstream, the Internet offers a new level of accessibility, she said. "It's a more personalized, underground, home-based experience. With music you buy online, downloads, and file swapping, there is much less public involvement with the purchase of your music. ... The music business has yet to acclimate itself, and that's the struggle they're facing right now."

By bypassing physical music stores and distributors, both listeners and musicians have more autonomy, something that Ashhurst believes could empower musicians with socially conscious messages. Transforming the way that music is purchased and promoted through the Internet might allow hip hop artists to reclaim their images and create music that lives up to its potential to be progressive, while managing to reach a wider audience. If so, she said, perhaps there is another "golden age" of hip hop on the horizon.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

Dan Hurlin '79

Date: May 14, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Alums Faculty

The Times Union » [<http://www.timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=928210&category=ARTS>] of Albany, NY, profiles theatre faculty member Dan Hurlin '79 and his play *Disfarmer*, which uses puppets to tell the story of American portrait photographer Mike Disfarmer.

Actress and this year's commencement speaker Julianna Margulies '89 profiled by *W Magazine*

Date: Apr 22, 2010

In the News Theatre Alums

Julianna Margulies '89, star of CBS's *The Good Wife* and the 2010 commencement speaker at SLC, is profiled in the May issue of *W Magazine* » [http://www.wmagazine.com/celebrities/2010/05/julianna_margulies].

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: May 26, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills, who teaches American studies, writes about the cooperation between the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats who have formed a coalition government in the United Kingdom on the *World Policy Institute's Web site* » [<http://www.worldpolicy.org/>]; Mills contrasts the political cooperation they are exhibiting through humor to what he says is “missing these days in American political life: a sense of proportion and gentleness.” Also, in an opinion piece in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* » [<http://chronicle.com/article/Richard-Blumenthal-Liberal/65662/>], Mills writes about the liberal guilt he feels motivated Richard Blumenthal, Connecticut's Attorney General and Democratic contender for Senate, and Joseph J. Ellis, author and college professor, to lie about their military experience during the Vietnam era.

Model United Nations: Setting the Bar for Years to Come

Date: May 20, 2010

Feature Story Humanities Politics

by Maggie Shapiro '11, Photography Editor, *The Phoenix*

"We really want to set the stage for the next century of development regarding nuclear technologies," said Rob Winslow '12, speaking from the center of a long banquet table in a Times Square Marriot Marquis conference room. Winslow was one of eleven delegates representing Sarah Lawrence College in this year's National Model United Nations (NMUN) conference. Nine out of the 11 delegates represented Lebanon, and the remaining represented China in the Security Council. This was SLC's second year attending the world's largest college-level Model United Nations conference: NMUN-NY.

The MUN conferences are a simulation of the diplomacy mediated by the UN, where students are encouraged to work cooperatively together to foster a stronger international community. A delegation at the conference either represents a Member State, Observer State, or NGO affiliated with the UN. These delegations work together to draft and propose resolution papers on some of the world's most pressing international issues. Over 20 different committees sat in session throughout the week, discussing topics such as: a 10-year review of the implementations of the UN's Millennium Development Goals, economic development to combat poverty in the occupied Palestinian territories, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

As many as 4,500 students from 300 colleges and universities on five different continents attend the conference. All delegates dressed in the required business attire, and the only conversation that could be heard was between delegates debating their proposed resolution papers in the "proper diplomatic language."

Since the conference so closely mimics the UN, the atmosphere was naturally nothing less than chaotic. The conference room buzzed with hundreds of people scrambling from one end of the room to the other, while deciphering the differences in the procedure of how to properly run the forums as well as the caucuses. "It has given me a more realistic vision about what the UN actually does. It is exactly what you might or might not envision it to be; it is just people talking. The procedure and decorum one encounters are just a matter of formality. It comes down to just a bunch of delegates in a room, people standing on chairs, people waving their placards, people huddled around one or two computers. And this is how they do it. It has opened my eyes as to why the UN takes so long to get things accomplished," Zeynep Goksel '11 said.

Unlike last year's limited prep time, Goksel and Serena Wuennenberg '11, the club's founding Co-Chairs, had all year to prepare, knowing they would be attending in the spring. The club's chairs approached the Student Activities Subcommittee (SAS), in early February asking for the funding they needed to register for the conference. Subsequently the MUN club had major issues getting the appropriate funding to attend this year's conferences. The financial problems at Sarah Lawrence are no secret, but in situations like that, they became blatantly apparent.

"The barriers we had to overcome were huge, and it seems like something we shouldn't have had to deal with. I hope in the future Sarah Lawrence takes into account what it means to have a club like NMUN, and the kind of networking that can happen nationwide and worldwide if you have students participating in these kinds of conferences. This could be a way of opening up job opportunities. It's so eye opening and so important to be a part of this conference. And it's an honor. It's just such a shame that we had to fight so hard to get there," Goksel said adamantly. Despite the struggle to allocate funding the club expressed its thanks towards the members of Senate. "Without the support of individuals on Senate we wouldn't have been able to attend the conference and accomplish as much as we did," said Wuennenberg.

In addition to the numerous perks MUN presents, the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA) holds an Opportunity Fair during the conference. This boasted 20 different graduate schools' representatives, coupled with representatives from NGO and international organizations, offering information about jobs and internships. The fair is strategically set up during the conference, because employers and graduate schools look for intellectual, well spoken, and curious students such as the ones in attendance at the NMUN-NY conference.

The College's participation in this year's conference solidified our standing as a school populated by globally-conscious students. "Sarah Lawrence prides itself on the fact that we excel at writing, public speaking, logic, and academia. And this is the perfect place to put that to use," Nour Rayes '13 said. Considering the recent drop in applications to Sarah Lawrence this surely seems like an advantageous way in which to reaffirm the college's reputation and increase the number of applicants.

For the second time in two years, the Sarah Lawrence delegation won the Honorable Mention award, furthering the school's reputation in the eyes of the NCCA. This bodes well for future conferences, because it increases the chances for Sarah Lawrence to be asked back in the following years. Additionally, it also places Sarah Lawrence in a position that is more likely to be assigned to a country that is a part of the UN's big five, or one of the more controversial countries.

Besides the obvious benefits it presents to the college, MUN is also a perfect outlet for those students who are interested in a career in politics or diplomacy. For instance, the officials who organize the conference are directly affiliated with the UN. Then, once the conference is over, the secretary general of NMUN-NY reports the outcome to the general assembly of the UN, presenting the resolutions, ideas, and position papers that the student delegates created. The work put forth at NMUN does not simply end with the conclusion of the conference. Rather, it becomes a part of a significant dialogue that can make a difference within international diplomacy, or on a smaller scale deepen the understanding of the complicated modern world that the young students inhabit.

Reprinted from The Phoenix, Sarah Lawrence College's student-run newspaper

Jing Min Chia '13 and Jake Schneider '10

Date: May 10, 2010

In the News Students

Jing Min Chia '13 and Jake Schneider '10, along with other students, recently volunteered their time at the community garden at the Marsh Memorial Sanctuary in Mount Kisco, as reported by the [Chappaqua-Mount Kisco Patch](http://chappaqua.patch.com/articles/community-graden-at-marsh-sanctuary-starts-planting-receiving-plot-requests) » [<http://chappaqua.patch.com/articles/community-graden-at-marsh-sanctuary-starts-planting-receiving-plot-requests>].

On the road with Girlyman: *Slate* profiles the band founded by Nate Borofsky '97, Doris Muramatsu '96, and Ty Greenstein '96

Date: Apr 26, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Music Alums

In an in-depth profile, [Slate](http://www.slate.com/id/2250888/pagenum/all/) » [<http://www.slate.com/id/2250888/pagenum/all/>] goes on the road with Girlyman, the folk rock band founded by alums Nate Borofsky '97, Doris Muramatsu '96, and Ty Greenstein '96. Interviews with each band member are also available on [Slate's site](http://www.slate.com/id/2250888/sidebar/2251512/) » [<http://www.slate.com/id/2250888/sidebar/2251512/>].

"The Botanist Hacker:" Stephen Smith '03 combines biology and computer science with revolutionary results

Date: Mar 24, 2010

Buzz Science and Mathematics Computer Science Biology Alums

The March issue of [The Scientist](http://www.the-scientist.com/2010/3/1/64/1/) » [<http://www.the-scientist.com/2010/3/1/64/1/>] profiles Stephen Smith '03, calling him the "Botanist Hacker" for the ways in which he combines his skills in biology and computer science—ways previously unimagined by scientists. Smith received the Ed Cogan Prize for science and mathematics upon graduating from SLC, and went on to earn his PhD at Yale.

Student delegation earns Honorable Mention at the National Model United Nations Conference for second straight year

Date: Apr 30, 2010

Announcement History and the Social Sciences Politics Students

Zeynep Goksel '11, SLC Model U.N Club chair, reports that the Sarah Lawrence delegation of 11 won an Honorable Mention at the National Model United Nations (<http://www.nmun.org>) Conference for the second consecutive year, competing with 4500 students, about half from colleges and universities abroad. Sarah Lawrence's winning delegation represented Lebanon in the General Assembly. Two students represented China on the Security Council.

"Colleges, students embrace 'green' spirit:" Warren Green and SLC featured prominently in *Journal News* article on sustainability

Date: Apr 22, 2010

In the News SLC Administration Students

The Earth Day issue of *The Journal News* » [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20104220377>] features an article titled "Colleges, students embrace 'green' spirit," which reports on the steps the College has taken, and continues to take, to promote and increase sustainability on campus. The sustainable house Warren Green and its residents are a prominent piece of the article.

The New York Times cites Julianna Margulies' *The Good Wife* as a new stomping ground for top theatre talent, including fellow alumna Tovah Feldshuh

Date: May 20, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

In an article titled "On TV, a New Refuge for Stage Actors," *The New York Times* » [[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/20/arts/20wife.html?scp=1&sq=julianna margulies&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/20/arts/20wife.html?scp=1&sq=julianna%20margulies&st=cse)] discusses how the CBS television series *The Good Wife*, starring alumna Julianna Margulies, has come to frequently feature "top-tier New York theater talent," including alumna Tovah Feldshuh, in its first season.

Scott Lehrer '77 nominated for a Best Sound Design Tony Award for his work on *A View from the Bridge*

Date: May 10, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

[BroadwayWorld.com](http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/2010_Tony_Award_Nominations_Announced_Updating_LIVE_20100504) » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/2010_Tony_Award_Nominations_Announced_Updating_LIVE_20100504] reports that Scott Lehrer '77 has been nominated for a Tony Award (Best Sound Design of a Play) for his work on *A View from the Bridge*.

Vanity Fair profiles Amanda Burden '76, calls her "arguably the most influential figure in New York City government, next to Mayor Bloomberg"

Date: Apr 6, 2010

[In the News](#) [Environmental Studies](#) [Alums](#)

The May issue of *Vanity Fair* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3195&site=21757] profiles director of city planning Amanda Burden '76, calling her "arguably the most influential figure in New York City government, next to Mayor Bloomberg."

New York Times reporter William K. Rashbaum '83 covers the attempted car bombing in Times Square

Date: May 6, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Politics](#) [Writing](#) [Alums](#)

New York Times reporter William K. Rashbaum '83 has been covering the attempted car bombing in Times Square, New York City; a collection of his up-to-date articles is available on [NYTimes.com](http://topics.nytimes.com/topics/reference/timestopics/people/r/william_k_rashbaum/index.html?inline=nyt-per) » [http://topics.nytimes.com/topics/reference/timestopics/people/r/william_k_rashbaum/index.html?inline=nyt-per].

The New Yorker cites dance program director Sara Rudner as “a widely loved dancer” in reviewing her *Necessary Weather* collaboration

Date: May 10, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Faculty

In *The New Yorker* » [http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/notebook/2010/05/10/100510gonb_GOAT_notebook_acocella], Sara Rudner, director of the dance program, is regarded as a “widely loved dancer” in a review of *Necessary Weather*, choreographed by Dana Reitz. Rudner and Reitz will perform *Necessary Weather* at the Baryshnikov Arts Center (NYC) from May 13-15.

Sophie Auster '10 talks albums, movies, modeling, and graduation with *The Times of London* and *Nylon* magazine

Date: Apr 6, 2010

In the News Humanities Creative and Performing Arts Art History Visual Arts Writing Students

Sophie Auster '10 talks to *The Times of London* » [http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/celebrity/article7081322.ece] and *Nylon* » [<http://www.nylonmag.com/?section=article&parid=4431>] magazine about the major events happening in her life: a new movie, a new album, a new modeling campaign... and her upcoming graduation from SLC.

Huffington Post names SLC a "Top 10 Hipster College"

Date: Apr 12, 2010

In the News SLC

The Huffington Post » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/04/09/top-10-hipster-schools_n_531852.html#s79336] recently named Sarah Lawrence a "Top 10 Hipster College," citing the school for having "long been a bastion for political activists."

Why I Dance: Rashuan Mitchell '00 shares his story with *Dance Magazine*

Date: Mar 31, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

In *Dance Magazine* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3189&site=21757], Rashuan Mitchell '00, who The New York Times' chief dance critic Alastair Macaulay called "the most riveting dancer in the Merce Cunningham Danc Company," shares his story in a piece titled *Why I Dance*.

Sarah Lawrence College Awarded Mellon Grant to Expand Environmental Studies and Foster "Green" Careers

Date: Mar 11, 2010

News Release Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Economics Chemistry SLC

President Karen Lawrence today announced an innovative planning program to expand and strengthen environmental initiatives across the curriculum, including preparing students for a new generation of “green careers.” Assisted by a planning grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the selective College will sponsor a series of programs on campus and a long-term planning process designed to build cutting-edge, environmental offerings based on its historic strengths in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

“Our goal is to offer broadly interdisciplinary studies in an emerging field and to foster innovative and meaningful career paths for our students,” said Lawrence. “Recent graduates have already made significant strides in the new world of ‘green’ careers, and we know that current and future students are asking for additional academic offerings in this burgeoning field. Just as important, by strengthening our academic offerings, the work we do with community partners—such as the nearby Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture—can offer increasingly valuable, and career-enhancing, field opportunities for our students.”

One major objective of the planning grant is to better integrate the College’s already rich offerings that touch on environmental economics, global warming and environmental chemistry, the environment and the arts, and the environment in policy and development. It’s anticipated that the collaboration and shared research involved in this alignment will also generate entirely new constellations. Topics suggested include sustainability and architecture, and environmental writing. Specific curricular choices will be developed in four symposia to be held in the coming year—Food and Agriculture, Sustainable Building and Design, Writing Environment, and Arts and the Environment. Coordinating the planning are faculty members Charles Zerner, Barbara B. and Bertram J. Cohn Professor of Environmental Studies, and Marilyn Power, professor of economics, along with Dean of the College Jerrilynn Dodds.

You can't judge a book with no cover: MFA writing student Bindu Wiles makes a case for book covers in *The New York Times*

Date: Apr 5, 2010

In the News Writing Students

Bindu Wiles, an MFA student in the graduate nonfiction writing program, comments on the value and importance of book covers and their absence from e-book readers in an article featured in *The New York Times* [» \[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/31/books/31covers.html?scp=1&sq=bindu+wiles&st=cse \]](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/31/books/31covers.html?scp=1&sq=bindu+wiles&st=cse) and several other nationwide media outlets.

Film on Campus

Date: Apr 30, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Filmmaking Students SLC

Film events have been plentiful on campus this semester. Here's a recap of some of the major events that have taken place recently.

Making Movies at SLC

At the Bronxville Cinema in April, a crowd of almost 200 laughed heartily at the Sarah Lawrence-specific jokes in "We Are Zombies, So Are You," by Kyle Chu. The final movie in the Student Film Festival told the story of an unwitting first-year who arrives on campus and discovers that all the other students are zombies.

Nick Colia '11, president of the Student Filmmaker Coalition, said the film community has grown in leaps and bounds since he first arrived at Sarah Lawrence.

This was the first year the film festival was held off campus. Showing more than a dozen short films, the festival screening was open to students and the public alike. The films, which ranged from documentary shorts to animation, were selected by a jury of 30 students and faculty from diverse academic fields. (In previous years, they were chosen exclusively by the Student Filmmaker Coalition.) "The goal was to open things up and bring in a bigger variety of opinions," said Colia.

Experimental Filmmaker Ken Jacobs

Ken Jacobs, a groundbreaking, avant-garde artist who has been experimenting with film for more than 50 years, visited campus in February to show some of his work and discuss his techniques with students and faculty.

Jacobs was at the forefront of the underground film movement of the 1950s and '60s and continues to make films today. Retrospectives of his work have been shown at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the American Museum of the Moving Picture, and The American Center in Paris, among others. He also co-founded the film department at Binghamton University, where he taught until 2003.

Film History faculty member Malcolm Turvey said that Jacobs was invited to campus in part because "he has survived totally outside the film industry (both independent and mainstream). I wanted students to see that this is possible."

As an artist, Jacobs' goal is to explode cinema. He uses film less as a vehicle for storytelling and more as a tool to try to change the way that people look at the world. His techniques include a variety of moving-image media, from modern digital technology to hand-manipulated projectors that don't even use film.

During his talk, Jacobs explained the basic premise behind his work: "I think that art must confuse you; you have to go through a period of confusion and then surmount it. It's not necessary to understand it, but it must somehow be absorbed."

Jacob's visit was sponsored by the Spencer Barnett Memorial Fund, which honors the memory of a Sarah Lawrence student and passionate devotee of experimental film who passed away in 2008.

Bruno Barreto Film Series

Also in February, the College hosted a film series and discussion with Bruno Barreto, the Academy-award nominated director from Brazil. (Barreto's son, Gabriel, is a student at Sarah Lawrence; he studies film history with Gilberto Perez, who arranged the series.)

Barreto's work is much more story-based and traditional than the avant-garde Jacobs. Barreto's movies range from comedies like *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands* to social commentary and political thriller such as *Four Days in September*, a film that depicts the true story of the kidnapping of an American ambassador in Brazil.

Despite a snowstorm on the day in February when he was to speak to students, the turnout was high and the question-and-answer session lively at the Heimbold Visual Arts Center.

Fielding questions about his career and his directorial techniques, Barreto said that many things weren't necessarily planned. "The secret to improvisation is preparation. When I'm really prepared, then I'm ready to improvise. It sounds like a paradox, but believe me, it really works. When you have a very solid starting point, then you can relax, explore, and play," Barreto said--advice that seemed applicable well beyond the world of filmmaking.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

Alumna Tovah Feldshuh

Date: Apr 28, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Alums

San Diego News » [<http://www.sdn.com/sandiego/2010-04-25/things-to-do/actress-tovah-feldshuh-takes-%E2%80%98golda%E2%80%99s-balcony%E2%80%99-to-old-globe>] profiles alumna Tovah Feldshuh, who will reprise her role in *Golda's Balcony*, the longest running one-woman show in Broadway history, in performances at the Old Globe in San Diego, CA from April 28-30.

Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the epidemic of online belittling in a *Wall Street Journal* article titled, "Surviving the Age of Humiliation"

Date: May 5, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In a *Wall Street Journal* » [<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703612804575222580214035638.html>] article by Jeffrey Zaslow titled "Surviving the Age of Humiliation," Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills shares his thoughts on the epidemic of online belittling and how it has "helped create 'a culture of humiliation.'"

The SLC Connection: Four women with ties to SLC celebrate the fifth anniversary of their poetry press

Date: Apr 26, 2010

In the News Writing CCE Alums Staff

The Journal News » [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20100425/NEWS02/4250325/Small-poetry-press-takes-root-in-Chappaqua>] reports on the fifth anniversary of Toadlily Press, a small poetry publisher located in Chappaqua, New York. Toadlily was started by four women with SLC connections: Meredith Trede MFA '95, Jennifer Wallace MFA '98, Myrna Goodman, who took courses at the Writing Institute, and former SLC staff member Maxine Silverman.

"This Progress," These Teachers

Date: Mar 31, 2010

Feature Story Faculty

Three Sarah Lawrence teachers recently experienced the Guggenheim Museum—not as visitors, but as part of the art. Roy Brand (philosophy), Danny Kaiser (literature), and Fred Smoler (literature) participated in “This Progress,” an exhibit by British-German artist Tino Sehgal that ran for six weeks and was part of the Guggenheim’s 50th anniversary celebration.

To prepare for the show, all other artwork was removed from the building’s spiraling rotunda. For the first time in the Guggenheim’s history, there was not a painting to be seen. Instead, a visitor approaching the ramp would be greeted by a child who asked, “What is progress?” After a short conversation, the child would pass the visitor to a teenaged guide, who continued the dialogue while ascending the ramp.

Roy Brand was one of the third guides, and though his role required him to disappear after only a brief interaction, he said he was “surprised by the level of intimacy that could emerge in a few minutes of conversation with random visitors to the Guggenheim.” Once the visitor reached the end of the path, the final (and oldest) interpreter ended the extemporaneous conversation by saying, “The piece is called ‘This Progress.’”

During the final week of the exhibit, Tino Sehgal visited Sarah Lawrence for a round-table discussion with the College’s trio of volunteers. In an overflowing lecture hall, students questioned Sehgal about his piece, his intentions, and his philosophy.

Sehgal explained that he is more interested in art as a shared experience than as an object. The conversations about progress were an integral part of the exhibit, he said. The guides were given specific instructions on eliciting unique responses, and they were trained never to repeat previous discussions.

As visitors poured into the museum on crowded Saturdays, the process could be exhausting, the participants reported. Despite the crowds and the occasional difficult visitor who would try to control the conversation or sabotage the piece, the volunteers enjoyed their experiences overall. “The best part was meeting, however briefly, interesting and lively people from all over the world, as well as meeting some college students who were fun to argue with,” said Kaiser.

Smoler agreed that the conversations were the best part and explained that despite the constructed nature of the piece, most of the discussions with visitors felt authentic and genuine.

This intimacy through dialogue was precisely what Sehgal hoped to create. He said that he chose the theme of progress because the idea of striving is deeply ingrained in Western culture. “Each of us is always thinking, what is the next step, where am I going?” Sehgal said. For the approximately 100,000 people who visited the exhibit, as well as the 300-plus participants, such reflections were transformed, briefly, into art.

—Sophia Kelley MFA ’10

SLC celebrates the 400th anniversary of Wadham College, Oxford...and the 25th anniversary of the Sarah Lawrence at Oxford year-long study abroad program

Date: Apr 21, 2010

News Brief SLC Students

Sir Neil Chalmers, the warden of Wadham College, Oxford University, spoke recently at a reception in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center celebrating the 400th anniversary of Wadham College's founding, and the 25th anniversary of the Sarah Lawrence at Oxford year-long study abroad program.

"I'm not sure how we did it," said Sir Chalmers. "For the first 375 years, we managed without you." He went on to say that the Sarah Lawrence program, which sends up to 25 students each year for the full-year program, has provided an international flavor to one of Oxford's biggest colleges, known for its informal atmosphere and high academic standards. "You enrich our community with your perspective and creativity," he said.

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner to address theatre students this week

Date: Apr 12, 2010

Announcement SLC

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner to address theatre students this week

Cornelia Read '85

Date: Apr 26, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Alums

The Californian » [<http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20100423/LIFESTYLE/4230324/1024>] reviews *Invisible Boy*, the latest novel by Cornelia Read '85.

Upcoming Event | Nuclear Flashblindness: The Trinity Site in American Public Memory; April 12 at 7 p.m.

Date: Apr 9, 2010

Announcement History and the Social Sciences Science and Mathematics STS Environmental Studies Anthropology Sociology

Join us for the latest installment of the Environmental Studies/Science, Technology and Society Colloquium Series. Dr. Joseph Masco, University of Chicago Associate Professor of Anthropology and of the Social Sciences in the College, explores the relationship between nuclear weapons, landscape, and public memory via the visual record of the first nuclear explosion in New Mexico in 1945. Click for more event information.

Sarah Lawrence Student Film Festival

Date: Apr 15, 2010

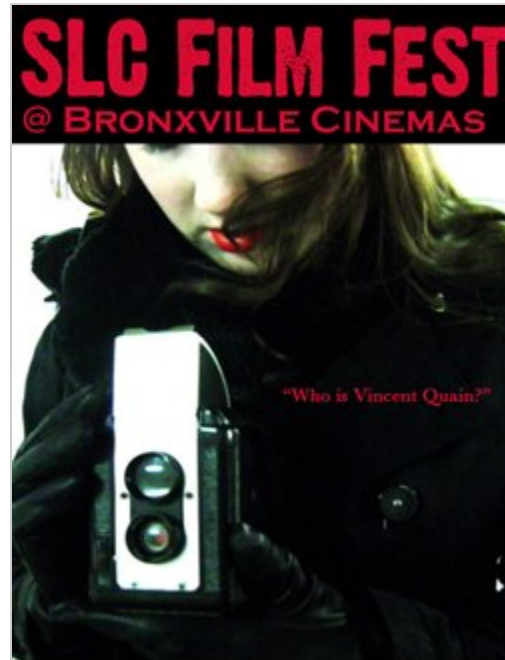
News Release Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Visual Arts Students

The 4th Annual Sarah Lawrence Student Film Festival will be held for the first time at a commercial movie theatre, The Bronxville Cinemas, on April 22, 2010.

The Festival features 22 films (commercials, previews, and shorts) by 16 student filmmakers, starring more than 50 actors. The films were all made in the last year by students or alumnae/i, and were selected for the festival by a jury of students, staff, and faculty. The diverse lineup of film genres includes comedy, romance, thriller, and documentary.

The festival will be held at Bronxville Cinemas on April 22 at 7 p.m. Seating is very limited; please contact College Events for details and information at (914) 395-2412 or e-mail collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu>].

Below is a list of all the students involved in the film festival.



Filmmakers

Aaron Edwards '10
Lucian Johnston '10
Nick Colia '11
Caleb Lowrey
Eliot Routh '12
Oliver Hensel-Brown '11
Brian Donegan '10
Rafael Gamboa '10
Rafael Gamboa '10
Eitan Yoav '12
Peter Osterweil '12
Neil Murphy '10
Sydney Buchan '10
Douglas McGinness
Emily Cowles '10
Douglas McGinness '10
Kyle Chu '10

Starring

Ada Defriez
Alex Irwin
Alex Shifman

Alyssa Mansala
Annie Soga
Beata Harjm
Ben Bokaer
Beth Koscianski
Beth Slutzky
Carla Lerna
Carlie Bentley
Carolin Dithrich
Cohlie Brocato
Crystal Gehr
Douglas McGinness
Dylan Hawkinson
Dylan Levers
Dylan Morgan
Eitan Yoav
Eliot Routh
Emily Cowles
Emily Hogrefe-Ribeiro
Emma Wiseman
Erin Adams
Fernando Rivera
Gordon Landenberger
Jack Plowe
John Webley
Juliana Shadlen
Justin Perkins
Katie O
Kevin Brouder
Kim Sullivan
Kyle Curry
Lucian Johnston
Mario Paniagua
Marni Bressler
Michael Donatich
Molly Moody
Muriel Leung
Neil Murphy
Nick Colia
Peter Osterweil
Rowan Magee
Samantha Lust
Sarah Bordelon
Sarah Campell
Sarah Lewis
Sasah Passero
Shay Roman
Sofia Voltin
Sydney Buchan
Tamarah Balazs
Tom Hathaway
Xaq Rothman

Meredith Monk '64

Date: Apr 15, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Alums](#)

[Rhizome](#) » [<http://rhizome.org/editorial/3445>], an online archive of new media, interviews Isla Leaver-Yap, the curator of *The Voice Is A Language*, a film and performance program revolving around the work of Meredith Monk '64.

Kara Walker-Tome '90

Date: Apr 21, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Alums](#)

[Examiner.com](#) » [<http://www.examiner.com/x-17674-West-Palm-Beach-Fine-Arts-Examiner%7ey2010m4d16-Showtel-8-at-Hotel-Biba-evokes-memories-of-Yayoi-Kasama>] writes about the Eighth Annual Showtel, an exhibition created and curated by Kara Walker-Tome '90 to showcase cutting-edge installation art by emerging artists. Showtel 8 is at Hotel Biba in West Palm Beach, FL.

Give us the Ballot Party to feature film screening, poetry reading, meet and greet with state senator, April 24

Date: Apr 23, 2010

[Announcement](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Filmmaking](#) [Faculty](#) [Students](#)

Give us the Ballot Party to feature film screening, poetry reading, meet and greet with state senator, April 24

The French Connection: President Sarkozy's Higher Education Advisor Visits SLC

Date: Apr 27, 2010

Feature Story SLC Administration

Dr. Bernard Belloc, advisor on Higher Education and Research to President Nicolas Sarkozy of France, recently toured the Sarah Lawrence campus and was the guest of SLC President Karen Lawrence as she hosted a faculty and student reception in his honor. The occasion marked the second meeting of Dr. Belloc and President Lawrence, who were introduced recently in France by Francois-Henri Briard, a prominent French lawyer and a member of Sarah Lawrence's Board of Trustees. In that meeting, Dr. Belloc and President Lawrence discussed educational reform in France as well as possible alliances and joint ventures both on the SLC campus and with selected higher education institutions in France.



Prior to his current appointment, Dr. Belloc served as President of the Université Toulouse 1 Sciences Sociales from 1998-2003 and has led a variety of international missions on behalf of the University of Toulouse and French higher education organizations, including acting as the Science and Technology advisor for the French embassy in China.

Dr. Belloc's activities in higher education administration include terms as President of the French Council of University Presidents (2000-2002) and participation on the Executive Committee of the European University Association (2001-2002). He is currently a member of the French National Universities Council, the French Council for International Cooperation, and the Eiffel Committee, which advises the French government on the recruitment of foreign students. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Université Toulouse, where he is currently a Professor of Economics.

Largest Free Poetry Festival in New York Brings “Radical Truths” to Participants at Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Mar 24, 2010

News Release Writing Writing Students SLC

The seventh Annual Sarah Lawrence College Poetry Festival, with a working theme of “Radical Truths,” will be held April 15 to 18 on the College’s campus in Yonkers, NY, near the village of Bronxville. Entirely student-run, it is the largest free poetry festival in the state. All readings and events are open to the public. For more information please call (914) 395 2412 or email collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu>].

Featuring more than fifty readers, including celebrated and emerging poets as well as faculty and student poets, the festival also includes panels, a craft talk, an open mic, book signings and receptions. Among the well known poets expected to read at this year’s festival are: Frank Bidart, Jericho Brown, Tina Chang, Shira Erlichman, Sarah Gambito, Kate Knapp Johnson, Matthea Harvey, Marie Howe, Zachary Schomburg, Mark Strand and G.C. Waldrep.

“It’s like poetry boot camp,” says faculty poet Jeffrey McDaniel, who has advised the student organizing committee since the festival’s inception in 2004. “There is poetry all day, then a night of poetry.” McDaniel noted that some people might think they only want to see the celebrated poets, not the student readers. But, says McDaniel, “There’s something pure about a young writer, a kind of exuberance and passion that is infectious... and inspirational.

Poet and SLC faculty member Kate Knapp Johnson commented that “poems are truth-bearing and soul-making and I rejoice because so many others at the festival share in this certainty of expression.” And with pure pleasure she noted that the festival is “downright fattening.”

“I arrive Friday afternoon and attend reading after reading through Sunday, leaving reluctantly and rich with poems – the likes of chocolate, cheesecake, crème brûlée. I wobble away from this festival fat with language and passion for poetry.”

Special events include a celebration of the winners of the Campbell Corner Poetry Prize, a nationwide prize encouraging writing with strong visionary and philosophical commitment on Thursday, April 15; on Friday evening four young poets from area high schools will read their poems as the conclusion of a public school initiative, and on Sunday evening a reception will be held for the launch of Sarah Lawrence College’s literary journal *Lumina*.

Co-directors of the 2010 festival are graduate students Shannon Hardwick, Aldina Vazao Kennedy and Victoria McCoy. The organizing committee includes both graduate and undergraduate students.

Writing faculty member Scott Snyder launches *American Vampire* comic book with help from Stephen King

Date: Mar 31, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Entertainment Weekly » [<http://shelf-life.ew.com/2010/03/17/american-vampire-stephen-king/>] reviews *American Vampire*, a "very smart" new comic book series created by writing faculty member Scott Snyder. Snyder enlisted the help of writer Stephen King for an issue of the book, which *EW* applauds for adding "new twists on the vampire genre."

Marcia Levy, Early Childhood Center Teacher

Date: Apr 14, 2010

In the News ECC SLC

In a *Scholastic* » [<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=1498>] article about parents and teachers working together, Marcia Levy, a teacher at the Early Childhood Center, recommends an open door policy where parents can talk to teachers and look at current projects.

Cadillac Records screening and discussion with screenwriter and director Darnell Martin '86, April 9 at 5 p.m. in Heimbold

Date: Apr 5, 2010

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Visual Arts SLC Faculty Alums

Cadillac Records screening and discussion with screenwriter and director Darnell Martin '86, Friday 4/9

Pam Tanowitz MFA '98 is the recipient of one of ten unrestricted \$25,000 grants from the Foundation of Contemporary Arts

Date: Apr 1, 2010

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Dance Alums

Pam Tanowitz MFA '98 is the recipient of one of ten unrestricted \$25,000 grants from the Foundation of Contemporary Arts

Ann Patchett '85 discusses the influence of former faculty member Allan Gurganus '72

Date: Apr 12, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums Faculty

In an interview with *The Columbus Dispatch* » [<http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/arts/stories/2010/04/11/author-isnt-afraid-to-reach.html?sid=101>], author Ann Patchett '85 discusses the influence of former faculty member Allan Gurganus '72 on her writing.

Artist-as-curator: Juliette Mapp '93 participates in Danspace Project

Date: Apr 12, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

A *New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/11/arts/dance/11platform.html?emc=eta1>] article titled *Choreographers Are Becoming Curators, Too* explores Platforms 2010, a series of artist-as-curator programs conceived by Danspace Project executive director Judy Hussie-Taylor. The series is comprised of platforms conceived by four chosen choreographers, including Juliette Mapp '93; her "particularly poignant" piece *Back to New York City* is discussed in detail.

Filmmaking faculty member Damani Baker '96 discusses his new documentary on Bill Withers

Date: Mar 9, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Visual Arts Alums Faculty

Filmmaking faculty member Damani Baker '96 is co-director of *Still Bill*, a documentary about singer-songwriter Bill Withers ("Ain't No Sunshine", "Lean on Me"), which *The New Yorker* » [http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/musical/2010/03/08/100308crmu_music_frerejones] describes as "an unshowy, confident attempt to render the personality of a man who wrote so well and then walked away..." Baker recently discussed the documentary on NPR's "All Thing Considered." [Read a transcript of the discussion](#) » [<http://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=124322664>].

SLC's gender-neutral housing covered by *Los Angeles Times*

Date: Mar 18, 2010

In the News SLC Students

Sarah Lawrence is one of several colleges and universities including Cornell, Dartmouth, Stanford, Wesleyan, Haverford, and the University of Michigan that have made gender-neutral housing available to students. An *L.A. Times* » [<http://articles.latimes.com/2010/mar/15/local/la-me-dorm-gender15-2010mar15>] story covers this trend in college housing.

Sarah Hreyo '12 among winners of AspiringDocs.org video contest

Date: Feb 25, 2010

In the News Science and Mathematics Pre-med Students

Sarah Hreyo '12, who aspires to be a pediatrician, has been named one of the winners of the [AspiringDocs.org](http://www.aspiringdocs.org) » [http://www.aspiringdocs.org/site/c.lulUL9MUJtE/b.5810155/k.25E5/2009_Video_Contest_Winners.htm] video contest as reported by the [Association of American Medical Colleges \(AAMC\)](http://www.aamc.org/newsroom/pressrel/2010/100222a.htm) » [<http://www.aamc.org/newsroom/pressrel/2010/100222a.htm>]. Her winning video can be seen on the [AAMC's YouTube Channel](http://www.youtube.com/user/AAMCvideo#p/c/BD01B6746A73CD8B/19/ZRmUtp9xSXk) » [<http://www.youtube.com/user/AAMCvideo#p/c/BD01B6746A73CD8B/19/ZRmUtp9xSXk>].

Michelle Wildgen MFA '02

Date: Apr 8, 2010

In the News Writing Alums

In an interview with [Examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com) » [<http://www.examiner.com/x-19497-Madison-Books-Examiner%7ey2010m4d5-Interview-with-Madison-author-Michelle-Wildgen>], author Michelle Wildgen MFA '02 says pursuing an MFA at Sarah Lawrence connected her with “teachers and fellow writers who are still a great source of support and feedback.”

William Schuman, Pulitzer Prize winner and former faculty member, profiled by *The New York Times*

Date: Apr 6, 2010

[In the News](#) [Music](#) [Faculty](#)

[The New York Times »](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/01/arts/music/01schuman.html?scp=1&sq=william schuman&st=cse) [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/01/arts/music/01schuman.html?scp=1&sq=william schuman&st=cse>] profiles the career of Pulitzer Prize winning composer and former Sarah Lawrence faculty member William Schuman, whose centennial is being celebrated this year.

Alumna Julianna Margulies, star of *The Good Wife*, to deliver commencement address

Date: Feb 18, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Award-winning actress and alumna Julianna Margulies will deliver the Commencement address to the Sarah Lawrence class of 2010 on Friday, May 21, at 10 a.m. on the College's southern Westchester campus.

Margulies, who recently won "best actress" Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards for her role in the CBS series *The Good Wife*, will address some 335 graduating seniors and 130 graduate students receiving their master's degrees.

"We are delighted that Julianna will return to the College, which nurtured the intelligence, craft, and discipline she brings to her profession," said Sarah Lawrence College President Karen Lawrence.

Margulies, who will star opposite Andy Garcia in a new film, *City Island*, that will be released March 19, played an active role in Sarah Lawrence theater productions. After college she went on to work in movies, television, and the theatre—ranging from films such as *Evelyn* with Pierce Brosnan, and *Paradise Road* with Glenn Close, to television projects such as *The Mists of Avalon*, *The Grid*, and *The Sopranos*, to stage performances including *The Vagina Monologues*, Kate Robin's *Intrigue With Faye*, Jon Robin Baitz's *Ten Unknowns*, and the Broadway production of *Festen*, among numerous others. Her recent SAG award is her seventh in that acclaimed competition. Earlier in her career, she received an Emmy Award for her role as Nurse Carol Hathaway in the NBC series *ER*.



Sarah Lawrence College is a co-educational liberal arts college, founded in 1926, with a distinctive system of education. It is known for having one of the lowest student/faculty ratios in the country. At the core of the system are small classes, regular one-on-one student-faculty conferences, cross-disciplinary approaches, and the integration of the creative arts within the curriculum. In addition to the 1,200-student undergraduate program, the College has eight master's programs and a center for adults returning to school to complete their bachelor's degrees.

Dance program director Sara Rudner to be honored by LaMama in June

Date: Mar 22, 2010

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Faculty

Dance program director Sara Rudner to be honored by LaMama during the organization's Dance Festival in June.

Ann Patchett '85 to judge NPR's Three-Minute Fiction contest

Date: Mar 29, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

Ann Patchett '85 will be judging Round Four of NPR's Three-Minute Fiction short story contest. The winner of this round will get signed copies of *Truth and Beauty: A Friendship* and *What now?*, which was based on her commencement speech to the Class of 2006 at SLC. [Listen to the NPR interview and learn more about the contest.](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=125237510) » [<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=125237510>]

Writing faculty member Tina Chang is Brooklyn's new poet laureate

Date: Mar 22, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Faculty

[The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/21/nyregion/21poet.html?emc=eta1) » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/21/nyregion/21poet.html?emc=eta1>] profiles Tina Chang, a member of the writing faculty and Brooklyn's new poet laureate.

Trustee Mentors

Date: Mar 31, 2010

Feature Story

The transition from college life to a meaningful career can be tough. But thanks to a new pilot program at SLC, 20 graduating students now have a guide.

The program pairs seniors with members of the Board of Trustees for one-on-one mentoring, Sarah Lawrence style. Over the course of the year, the pairs talk regularly, discussing everything from how to find a job to life after graduation.

The official program, which is sponsored by the offices of Career Counseling and Alumnae/i Relations, ends in May, but most of the pairs say that their relationships will last much longer. Here's a look at what both students and mentors are getting out of it.

Making Plans: Nancie and Jess

Name: Nancie Cooper MFA '04

Profession: Retired management consultant

Why do you like being a mentor? "On the board we spend so much time talking about the students; it's wonderful to be able to put some faces to all that planning. Jess is a wonderful storyteller, and she's very good with children, drawing them out. I really enjoy spending time with her."

Name: Jess Goodwin '10

Concentrations: Theatre and education

Why do you like being a mentee? "I like having somebody who I can talk to about the practical things. I love my teachers and they've been incredibly supportive, but it isn't always fair to ask them specific things like how to get a job."

Best advice received: "What I like about Nancie is that she gives very clear goals, like 'I want you to do these three things this month.'"

Friendly Advice: Mark and Frederic

Name: Mark Goodman '83

Profession: Lawyer

Why do you like being a mentor? "I love Frederic's enthusiasm, his intelligence, and his sense of limitless possibility. Spending time with him reminds me of the way the world looked when I was leaving college and trying to figure out what would come next. I fully expect to keep in touch with Frederic as he moves on from Sarah Lawrence. Ending our relationship at graduation would seem very artificial."

Name: Frederic Richter '10

Concentrations: Writing, history, and film

Why do you like being a mentee? "It gives students the opportunity to meet the trustees, who are so integral to the running of the school. Little things that would normally go way below their radar, like prices at the



Pub, come into their awareness from conversations with students.”

Best advice received: “Mark told me that if I don’t think law school is right for me, it’s not. He gave me reassuring advice that I’m not insane to pursue film. It’s nice to have a friend, someone who’s concerned about you but who’s not a student.”

Building a Network: Paula and Lindsey

Name: Paula Rudnick ’72

Profession: Retired television producer

Why do you like being a mentor? “I think it’s really helpful for students to have a network once they graduate and enter the professional world. It is very gratifying to help someone who is just starting out.”

Name: Lindsey Kempton ’10

Concentrations: Film and writing

Why do you like being a mentee? “I really enjoy being able to connect with someone who went to Sarah Lawrence and who can take the experience from here and apply it to the film industry.”

Best advice received: “She told me that it takes two years to get your foot in the door, so I should look at my first jobs in the industry as the equivalent of going to an entertainment grad school. This advice has really helped me frame my perspective going into the job market.”



Fresh Perspectives: Rona and Jennifer

Name: Rona Carr ’74

Profession: Principal and founder of Austin International Group

Why do you like being a mentor? “I’m on the facilities committee of the Board of Trustees, and it’s been many years since I’ve looked at campus from a student’s perspective. Listening to Jennifer talk about what she’s doing helped me look more closely at the physical aspects of the campus and the quality of the social life.”

Name: Jennifer Wong ’10

Concentrations: Japanese and literature

Why do you like being a mentee? “I’ve always been interested in how people got to where they are. I want to hear what it’s like, life after SLC—both the bumps in the road and the fortuitous accidents.”

Best advice received? “I didn’t really sign up for the mentoring program seeking advice. I signed up wanting to know someone who graduated from SLC and is happy about where they are and what they’ve done. As a graduating senior, that’s the most reassuring thing you can hear.”

Reports from the Field: Health Advocacy team blogs from Mossville, Louisiana, as they aid residents of this "toxic town"

Date: Mar 22, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Humanities](#) [Health Advocacy](#)

Faculty member Rebecca O. Johnson and eight students from the [Health Advocacy graduate program](#) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/public-health-advocacy/index.html>] are blogging this week from Mossville, Louisiana, where they are helping Mossville Environmental Action Now (MEAN) assess the health care needs of a community made ill by toxins emitted by refineries and chemical processing plants. Follow the students' [Mossville Dispatches](#) » [<http://mossvilledispatches.blogspot.com/>] blog and Rebecca's [Urban Ecology](#) » [<http://urbanecology.blogspot.com/>] blog for reports from the field.

Annette Cravens '45 displays art collection in Buffalo, New York

Date: Mar 31, 2010

[In the News](#) [Alums](#)

[The Buffalo News](#) » [<http://www.buffalonews.com/2010/03/30/1003423/cravens-copious-art-collection.html>] profiles "Craven's World: the Human Aesthetic," the copious art collection of Annette Cravens '45, which consist of over 1,100 handmade items in a display of historical artifacts.

Trustee Joan Cannady Countryman '62 to Receive Honorary Degree from Bowdoin College

Date: Mar 16, 2010

[Announcement](#) [Alums](#)

Trustee Joan Cannady Countryman '62 to Receive Honorary Degree from Bowdoin College

Merle Rosenblatt Goldman Chair in Asian Studies Announced at Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Mar 11, 2010

[News Release](#) [Humanities](#) [Asian Studies](#) [Faculty](#) [Alums](#) [Donors](#)

A new academic chair in Asian Studies, with a focus on modern Chinese history, has been established with a \$1,500,000 gift from Marshall I. Goldman in honor of his wife, alumna and former trustee of the College Merle Rosenblatt Goldman '53. The announcement was made by College President Karen Lawrence on March 4 at a celebratory lecture.

Roderick MacFarquhar, Leroy B. Williams Professor of History and Political Science at Harvard University and a leader in the field of modern Chinese politics, specializing in Mao Zedong's thought and policies, delivered the lecture and spoke of his long, collegial association with Goldman, praising her for her leadership in the field.

Speaking to an audience of faculty, students, staff, and friends, Lawrence said: "I know you are as thrilled as I am that this chair is being endowed on our campus at this particular point in world history. We are all well aware that among college students and throughout society the demand for knowledge and sophisticated analysis of the history, economy, politics, and culture of China have become increasingly important."

Lawrence spoke of Goldman's extraordinary accomplishments as a scholar, teacher, writer, editor, and human rights advocate, and noted that the chair has been endowed in the discipline she first chose as a Sarah Lawrence sophomore and has pursued with passion and brilliance ever since. She earned her PhD in History and Far Eastern Languages at Harvard in 1964. The first appointment to the Merle Rosenblatt Goldman Chair in Asian Studies will be made for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Nurse Jackie actress Merritt Wever '02 profiled by *Los Angeles Times*

Date: Feb 18, 2010

In the News

The Los Angeles Times » [<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2010/02/merritt-wever-from-nurse-jackie-to-postpostfeminism.html>] profiles actress Merritt Wever '02, who plays one of the leads opposite Annette Bening in the stage production, *The Female of the Species*, “a farcical look at '60s feminist ideology and its present-day fall-out.”

3rd Annual Folk Festival April 2-3; Big Tree, Emily Elbert, and more to perform

Date: Mar 25, 2010

Announcement Students SLC

3rd Annual Folk Festival April 2-3; Big Tree, Emily Elbert, and more to perform

Visual Arts faculty member Dawn Clements is a participating artist in the Whitney Biennial

Date: Mar 26, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Faculty

Visual Arts faculty member Dawn Clements is a participating artist in the 2010 [Whitney Biennial](http://www.whitney.org/Exhibitions/2010Biennial/DawnClements) » [<http://www.whitney.org/Exhibitions/2010Biennial/DawnClements>], which runs through May 30.

Gloria Norris '77

Date: Mar 26, 2010

In the News

The March issue of *Vanity Fair* » [<http://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/features/2010/03/raging-bull-201003?currentPage=1>] reflects on the making of *Raging Bull*, including the role played by Gloria Norris '77 in the writing and re-writing of the screenplay. Norris had earlier worked with another Sarah Lawrence alumnus, filmmaker Brian DePalma '77.

Elizabeth Catherine Wright '65, granddaughter of Frank Lloyd Wright, Publishes New Book

Date: Mar 18, 2010

In the News Alums

On Maryland's [Gazette.net](http://www.gazette.net) » [http://www.gazette.net/stories/03172010/entemon115911_32560.php], Elizabeth Catherine Wright '65, granddaughter of Frank Lloyd Wright, shares her parents' Depression-era love letters in her new book, *Dear Bob, Dear Betty: Love and Marriage During the Great Depression*.

Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, advises readers in an article on healthcare

Date: Mar 24, 2010

In the News Health Advocacy Administration Faculty

On [Bankrate.com](http://www.bankrate.com) » [<http://www.bankrate.com/finance/insurance/7-questions-to-lower-health-care-costs-1.aspx>], Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, advises patients to ask hospitals about a financial assistance program to help pay for medical bills.

Alumna Elizabeth Eslami Discusses Debut Novel, Life as an Iranian-American Author with The Bend Bulletin

Date: Feb 22, 2010

In the News Alums

The [Bend Bulletin](http://www.bendbulletin.com) » [http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100220/NEWS0107/2200312/1041&nav_category=] reviews *Bone Worship*, the debut novel of alumna Elizabeth Eslami.

Amanda Ross '88

Date: Mar 2, 2010

In the News Alums

[The Sag Harbor Express](http://sagharboronline.com) » [<http://sagharboronline.com/sagharborexpress/page-1/a-therapeutic-ride-6785>] profiles the Center for Therapeutic Riding of the East End (CTREE), an organization founded by Amanda Ross '88 to help children with special needs develop their physical, emotional, social, sensory, and cognitive skills through horseback riding.

Around the Round Table with Barbara Walters: The Incomparable Interviewer Answers the Questions

Date: Feb 11, 2010

Feature Story Alums

An intimate glimpse of the doyenne of broadcast journalism belonged to 400 students, faculty, staff, and friends of Sarah Lawrence College, packing Reisinger Concert Hall on a Friday evening in late January for a Q & A: Around the Round Table with Barbara Walters. One of the College's most fascinating alumnae/i, Walters has generously and graciously been involved with the College: she returned to SLC earlier in the decade as 2001 Commencement Speaker; in 2004 her \$1 million donation enabled the College's new visual arts center to include a handsome gallery, and in 2006 she celebrated with her friend since their days as undergraduates, Joan Marks, in the naming of the Human Genetics graduate program.

Questions were posed to Walters by faculty members Rachel Cohen, writing, and Nicolaus Mills, literature, and member of the senior class, Jane Claire Quigley, and focused on Walters' groundbreaking work in television, coming of age with the rise of the medium, forging new avenues for women, and becoming one of the country's most respected and admired journalists. But questions near and dear to the College's heart about how Sarah Lawrence helped prepare her for her formidable career were also on tap.



SLC ingrained in her far more than academic knowledge, she said, joking that if she had taken the right courses, she "could have made something of my life." But it was the environment, friendships and relationships at SLC that helped to form her as a person.

"I felt when I was here I learned nothing," Walters remarked. Thinking that she wanted to be an actress, she said that there were many courses she had missed. "I didn't take a philosophy course, I didn't take a language course, I didn't take a science class. I could list all the things I didn't take." But while researching her book, *Audition: A Memoir*, she read her transcript, saw her reading list and what she had studied and was amazed, she said, by how much she did learn. What she realized, being at Sarah Lawrence in what was essentially a non-competitive environment, "was absolutely wonderful."

Walters explained that she was very competitive, but the atmosphere at SLC allowed her freedom. "I wasn't afraid of looking stupid and I wasn't afraid of asking questions that really interested me," she said. Walters noted that what makes a person's character is what they accomplish and that she sees now how much SLC nourished her.

Addressing the students as a mentor would, she stressed the importance of being unafraid: "Start on the ground floor. Don't be afraid to get your foot in the door. You're very smart, smarter than almost anyone in this country, going to this school."

The occasion to interview the consummate interviewer gave the audience insight into the personal thoughts behind the very public personality.

When asked how she succeeded in broadcast journalism, coming out of a women's school at a time when journalism was a man's world, she related a bit of her personal history. Walters had to work, she said, mentioning that her very successful father had lost everything and that she had a sister whom she needed to support. "There's nothing like having to work to make you work your way up," she said. Also, "Make yourself invaluable.... Find a way to make it work for you." Walters said that when she went to ABC as a co-anchor, she was a failure. "So I started all over again, became a sort of general reporter... that's when I did some of my best interviews."

One of the most important things she learned at SLC was homework and research. "I know there are interviewers who don't read the book. But I have to know more than the person being interviewed," she said.

Walters stated that she feels that in a political interview, there's a no "holds barred," situation, with the journalist free to go anywhere. But she also said that she seeks to achieve a level of comfort with the interviewee. In an interview with Vladimir Putin, after realizing that a relationship had been established, she asked him, famously, if he was responsible for any assassinations. There are certainly times and matters where, "You don't ask. Sometimes people go too far."

She also thrives in more personal interviews, finding that the best way to establish a close connection is to ask someone about their childhood. Nothing creates the same connection as an early childhood story, she noted. Her most uncomfortable moment during an interview may have been, "Worrying how to ask Boris Yeltsin if he drinks too much." Her most unresponsive guest was Warren Beatty, and she cited Yasir Arafat and Third World dictators as the most devious.

Responding to a question about the "new journalism," Walters expressed concern about the ways in which many young people get their news: that in blogs and through media where news is delivered as entertainment, such as the *Daily Show*, people are not getting enough in-depth information; that there are too many opinions; and that it is too easy to digest. Walters, who said she watches the *Daily Show*, also reads the *Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and *New York Post* daily.

Barbara Walters didn't have a trajectory for her career, which she characterized as one of hard work with successes and failures. And she encouraged the audience: "It's not how you start but how you finish," she said as she wrapped up her own interview. The reward of her life, she said, is that maybe, just maybe, she has made a difference in the lives of the people she has interviewed, or the people she has helped to educate. With obvious affection for her alma mater she concluded "It's the spirit of the school, the sensitivity of the school, the nourishment of the school, that you will take with you the rest of your lives."

—Frederic Richter '10 and Judith Schwartzstein

SLC Dean's Book Named One of the Best by Times Literary Supplement

Date: Dec 22, 2009

News Release Humanities History and the Social Sciences Art History Religion Faculty Administration

The Times Literary Supplement has named a book co-authored by Dean of the College and art historian Jerrilynn D. Dodds a 2009 “best book of the year.” According to reviewer Marina Warner, *The Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture* (Yale University Press) “creates a composite close-up of a part of Spain usually associated with rock-solid Catholic oppression and authority, and shows how the communities lived with and even thrived on religious and cultural entanglements: *convivencia* is the term at issue, explored here subtly and richly by three authors Jerrilynn D. Dodds, Maria Rosa Menocal, and Abigail Krasner Balbale, who each bring a different expertise to bear.”

Molière's Masterpiece Tartuffe to be Performed with a New Ending

Date: Feb 22, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Students Faculty

A new ending to Molière's seventeenth century masterpiece, *Tartuffe*, will be presented at Sarah Lawrence College March 4 to 6 in the Suzanne Werner Wright Theatre. OBIE award-winning playwright and member of the College's theatre faculty, Amlin Gray, has made the new ending part of his recent translation of the play, which, like Molière's original, is written in rhyming verse. "It's highly speculative, very presumptuous, and great fun," says Gray.

The play will be performed by Sarah Lawrence students, and is directed by theatre program director John Dillon. Admission is free and open to the public but tickets are limited. Please call (914) 395 2412 for reservations. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. on March 4 and 6 and at 8:30 p.m. on March 5.

Historians have long pondered the ending of the classic comedy, which was censored for several years by King Louis XIV, after its controversial premiere in 1664. Scholars have long wondered how Molière's earlier version differed from the published play that has survived for more than three centuries. No copies of the three-act 1664 version, performed in Versailles, have ever surfaced.

Some historians believe Molière rewrote the ending to please the King, who had bowed to criticism from powerful clerics in Paris and the city's upper crust. The play was presented once in 1667, ordered shut down, and then presented again in 1669. It is the 1669 version, which was expanded to five acts, that has stood the test of time.

"Amlin has reconstructed what he thinks might have been in the original text," says Dillon. "This production both honors the masterpiece and attempts to create something that no American audience has ever seen."

"I've adored the play whenever I'd read it, but when it goes into the fifth act, it's not about anything that the play is about," Gray says. "It's straight melodrama and it's brilliantly effective. But I just don't think that ending is part of Molière's original intent."

Gray, who has translated plays from Greek, Spanish, and German, says this is the first play he has translated from French. He won an OBIE in 1981 for his play, *How I Got That Story*, which was set in Viet Nam.

Literature Faculty Member Danny Kaiser Serves as Guide in Show by Artist Tino Sehgal

Date: Mar 18, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

Literature faculty member Danny Kaiser was one of the “interpreters” in a show at the Guggenheim Museum by artist Tino Sehgal, and comments in *The New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/13/arts/design/13progress.html?scp=1&sq=sarah lawrence college kaiser&st=cse>] about the viewers with whom he interacted.

12th Annual Women's History Month Conference

Date: Feb 22, 2010

News Release History and the Social Sciences Humanities Womens History SLC

The Message is in the Music: Hip Hop Feminism, Riot Grrrl, Latina Music, and More

A conference exploring the ways in which young feminists have defined and expressed politics through music and musical cultures and communities will be held at Sarah Lawrence College on Friday, March 5, and Saturday, March 6, in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center. The conference is free and open to the public. For more information please call (914) 395 2412 or e-mail collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu>].

Sponsored by the Women's History Program, the conference will examine the power of music as a soundtrack and means of communication for activism and address questions such as: How does music reflect areas of agreement and conflict among different groups of feminists? How have movements like Riot Grrrl and Hip Hop feminism attracted young women to feminist activism? And how do young feminists' uses of music compare with those of earlier generations? While multiple generations of feminists have used music in these ways, it has played especially vital roles for those born since the 1970s. Carmen Ashhurst, former president of Def Jam and Rush Communications, will be the keynote speaker.



To learn more, [visit the Conference Web site](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference/index.html) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference/index.html>].

Acclaimed Filmmakers Ken Jacobs and Bruno Barreto Present Screenings and Talks

Date: Feb 17, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Film History Visual Arts

Films and accompanying talks by two highly acclaimed filmmakers will be presented at Sarah Lawrence College the week of February 22. All programs are free and open to the public and will be held in the Donnelley Film Theatre in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center.

On Monday, February 22, at 6.30 p.m. the legendary experimental filmmaker, Ken Jacobs, will screen recent short videos, as well as footage of a Nervous Magic Lantern performance with John Zorn, the avant-garde composer and musician. Jacobs is one of the most distinguished and well-known experimental filmmakers in the United States. In addition to making numerous canonical avant-garde films, he has been at the forefront of exploring the possibilities of other moving image media, such as digital video, and incorporating these media into live performances. He has also created unique film projection systems, such as *The Nervous System*, a double-analysis projector that derives 3-D from standard 2-D film most often using archival and other found footage. Jacobs was a former painting student of abstract artist Hans Hoffman and an influential teacher of Art Spiegelman (known for his work *Maus*). A reception will follow.



Four films by the renowned Brazilian film director Bruno Barreto will be shown over three days beginning on Tuesday, February 23. The screenings will culminate with a talk by the director on Thursday, February 25. Barreto was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1955 and started making movies at the age of fifteen. At twenty-one he made his first international hit, *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands* (1976, with Sonia Braga), a comedy that will be the opening film of the series. It will be followed by the political thriller *Four Days in September* (1997, with Alan Arkin), the comedy *Bossa Nova* (2000, with Amy Irving), and Barreto's most recent work, *Last Stop 174* (2008, based on the true story of a bus hijacking in Rio de Janeiro). The film-viewing and talk schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, February 23 at 1:30 p.m.: *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands*
- Tuesday, February 23 at 3:35 p.m.: *Four Days in September*
- Wednesday, February 24 at 7 p.m.: *Bossa Nova*
- Thursday, February 25 at 3:35 p.m.: *Last Stop 174*
- Thursday, February 25 at 5:30 p.m.: Bruno Barreto Talk

College hosts Symposium on the Black Power Movement

Date: Feb 12, 2010

News Release Humanities History Africana Studies Faculty SLC

New studies that challenge the old narratives of Civil Rights and Black Power will be discussed in-depth at a week-long International Black Power Studies Symposium at Sarah Lawrence College from Monday, February 15 through Saturday, February 20.

The program will feature more than 50 authors, experts, and scholars from around the country and as far as Japan and the Caribbean. Groundbreaking work by leading historians and awards for pioneers in their fields will be featured during the week.

The Symposium will present discussions and lectures on a range of topics including three groundbreaking books: *From Toussaint to Tupac: the Black International Since the Age of Revolution*, richly documented in the recent scholarship that aims to fashion a new paradigm, edited by Michael West; Hasan Kwame Jeffries' powerful narrative, *Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama's Black Belt* on the history of the Lowndes County Freedom Organization and the transformation of Civil Rights into Black Power; and *Want to Start a Revolution? Radical Women in the Black Freedom Struggle*, a rethinking of Rosa Parks, as well as of a range of women leaders who enriched the strategy and leadership in the Black Revolt: locally, nationally and internationally, edited by Jeanne Theoharis, Komozi Woodard and Dayo Gore.

Awards named for historic leaders of African and African-American freedom movements, created to honor pioneering scholars and activists whose work has advanced the civil rights and black power movements, will be given to:

- Jim Haughton, founder of the Harlem Fight Back organization that brought together Black, Latino and White women and men for the dignity of labor, will receive the Hubert Harrison Award, named for the "Black Socrates" of the Harlem Renaissance in the early 20th century.
- Elombe Brath, graphic artist and political leader, saluted by such figures as South Africa's Nelson Mandela, will receive the Patrice Lumumba (hero of Congolese independence in central Africa in the early 1960s) Award. A film by Harlem filmmaker and Sarah Lawrence College film faculty member Rico Speight will be shown.
- Kwaanza founder Maulana Karenga, professor at California State University at Long Beach, who, by founding the African-American holiday, developed a ritual of social cohesion in the midst of the turbulent 1960s, encouraging African American identity and culture in the throes of a black cultural crisis, will receive the Marcus Garvey Award, named for the Jamaican leader who built one of the largest international movements of the 20th century.
- Sam Anderson, a Harlem educator, will receive the Malcolm X Award for his work in founding Africana Studies at Sarah Lawrence College in the 1960s. Considered to be a "renaissance man," Anderson is a poet, mathematician, author and educator.
- Chikwenye Okonjo Ogunyemi, a master teacher of African Literature, who helped establish Africana Studies at Sarah Lawrence, will receive the Ngugi Wa Thiong'o Award, named for the renowned novelist and theorist of post-colonial literature.

Symposium session highlights include:

- The founder of Kwanzaa, Maulana Karenga, will explain the Los Angeles 1966 origins of the holiday. (Wednesday, February 17)
- A discussion of the white Milwaukee Catholic Priest, Father Groppi, and a Cambridge, Maryland middle aged mother, Gloria Richardson who led young Black Power groups in the 1960s. (Tuesday, February 16)

- The story of how Black Power unfolded on the Campus of Columbia University and how it emerged in the Caribbean and in Africa in 1968 (Friday, February 19 and Saturday, February 20)
- The story of the Black Arts Renaissance that built more than 800 theaters in the USA. (Saturday, February 20.)
- Maulana Karenga on “The Life & Legacy of Malcolm X” (February 18)
- Michael Simanga on “Detroit Black Arts and Black Power: Identity & Struggle” (February 20)
- Hasan Jeffries on “Bloody Lowndes and the Roots of Black Power” (February 19)
- Scot Brown on “The Black Congress and Roots of the Los Angeles Black Power Movement” (February 19)
- Guest poets, to be featured for an evening of poetry on Friday, February 19, include Sonia Sanchez and Michael Simanga.

The program is organized by Sarah Lawrence College History faculty member, Komozi Woodard. For more information, visit the [symposium site »](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/events/symposium/index.html) [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/events/symposium/index.html>] or call (914) 395 2412.

Theatre faculty member Dan Hurlin Awarded USA Fellowship

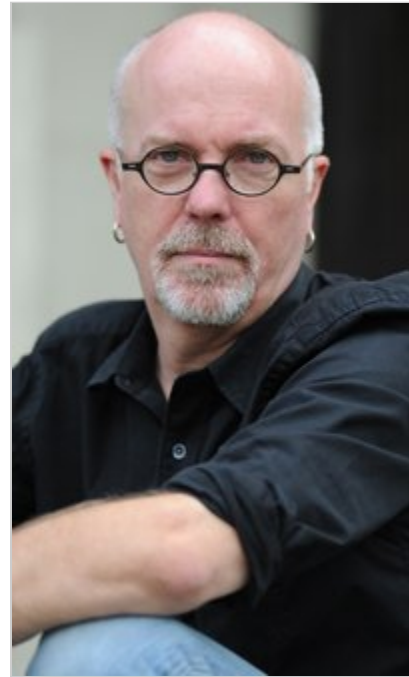
Date: Dec 17, 2009

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums Faculty

Theatre Faculty member Dan Hurlin '79 has been awarded a [United States Artists' Fellowship](http://www.unitedstatesartists.org/Public2/USAFellows/2009Fellows/index.cfm) » [<http://www.unitedstatesartists.org/Public2/USAFellows/2009Fellows/index.cfm>]. He is one of 50 Fellows named by the national grant-making and advocacy organization and will receive a \$50,000 unrestricted grant. The USA Fellows for 2009 hail from 18 states and range in age from 28 to 82. Chosen for the caliber and impact of their work, they include contemporary experimenters and traditional practitioners.

Through a rigorous evaluation process, panels of experts in the arts selected the winning artists from among 348 nominated applicants from 45 states. USA Fellowships are awarded to artists of all career stages who demonstrate artistic excellence, unique artistic vision, and significant contributions to their fields.

"We're thrilled for Dan," said John Dillon, director of the College's Theatre program. "He typifies what's best about the arts faculty here: Exemplary artists who are passionate about teaching." Dillon noted that Hurlin is also a long-time member of the dance faculty. "His interdisciplinary reach is something we enthusiastically embrace."



While They Meet in Copenhagen... Sarah Lawrence College Announces Results of Living Sustainably

Date: Dec 15, 2009

News Release Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Students SLC

As leaders deliberate at the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Sarah Lawrence College is pleased to announce the results of an analysis of its first energy efficient residence hall: a ninety-one percent savings in energy from the previous year and a sixty-eight percent cost savings.* The impressive reduction in energy use and carbon emissions is attributed to the energy efficient retrofitting of a residence hall and the sustainable practices used by the students.

Two years ago a group of Sarah Lawrence students petitioned the administration for a residence that was environmentally sound. With a number of private homes converted to residence halls as part of the College's housing stock, an agreement was reached that included the retrofitting of one of these houses and a pact that the residents would live as sustainably as their surroundings would allow.

What was "Warren House" was renamed "Warren Green" and in early September of 2008, thirteen students moved into the house that was now well insulated, displayed solar panels on the roof for producing hot water, retrofitting to include a forced air system tempered by high efficiency electric heat pumps for heating and cooling, all new low-water devices, a rain catchment system for watering the newly dug vegetable garden, and a kitchen boasting the most energy efficient appliances manufactured. All at a cost just under \$150,000

For their part, the students agreed to share the shopping and cooking to minimize trips to the market and use of energy to produce their food, hung up their laundry to dry whenever possible, insured that all devices were unplugged when not in use, and put limits on themselves for water use.

"The students' sustainable practices were a major factor in the energy savings realized," said Micheal Rengers, Vice President of Operations, who oversaw the conversion of the house and is in regular contact with the students. "Despite the fact that we converted to electric heat, the electricity used in 08-09 was less than the electricity used the previous year when the house was heated by gas," he said. Rengers attributes that drop in good part to the elimination of mini refrigerators. "Mini fridges are a huge drain on electricity," he said, "and they are unfortunately very prevalent on college campuses."

The residents of Warren Green, now in its second year, are selected by a sub-committee of the College-wide sustainability committee. With many more students wishing to live together sustainably than Warren Green can accommodate, members of the committee are investigating the possibility of converting a second house.

Health Advocacy graduate students to assist residents of toxic town

Date: Mar 9, 2010

News Release Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Health Advocacy Students

Eight Sarah Lawrence College graduate students are assisting the residents of Mossville, LA, suffering illnesses—in highly disproportionate numbers to the general population—from the effects of air and ground water pollution.

Mossville is situated in an area with an extraordinary concentration of toxic petrochemical factories: 53 industrial factories, of which more than forty are within a 10-mile radius and 13 within a half mile of the residential community.

Though signs that residents of the relatively poor city of 700 families were absorbing the toxins and becoming sick have been clear for over 15 years, the residents' efforts to seek solutions to their problems through a grassroots organization, Mossville Environmental Action Now (M.E.A.N.), are only now being addressed by the EPA. A recent [CNN story](http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/02/26/toxic.town.mossville.epa/index.html?iref=allsearch) » [<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/02/26/toxic.town.mossville.epa/index.html?iref=allsearch>] details the situation.

Under the direction of Rebecca O. Johnson, a member of the graduate faculty in the Health Advocacy Program, who consulted with M.E.A.N. after the devastation of Hurricane Rita, the Health Advocacy graduate students are creating a comprehensive participatory community health needs assessment. They will also develop a concept paper for the establishment of a free health clinic that will provide toxicological evaluations and address residents' health issues related to air and water pollution, ignored by existing health facilities that are funded by the corporations that have created the environmental contamination.

From March 19-27, the Health Advocacy students will return to Mossville for the third time to continue their fieldwork activities, which include surveying the residents' reported health issues and needs, and creating an overall environmental scan of factors that have caused and continue to contribute to the current situation.

Between visits, when they are back at the College, the students are analyzing the data and working on the collaborative concept paper they will present at the end of the semester. The students' work is providing M.E.A.N. with its first set of comprehensive and impartial empirical data showing the lack of access to health care, the poor quality treatment for the complex conditions many people suffer, and the unwillingness of the local health care system to fully investigate the cause of illnesses among the residents. The concept paper for the health clinic will serve as a platform for advocating its establishment.

Radial Courses

Date: Nov 30, 2009

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums Students

Sarah Lawrence student dancers will present *Radial Courses*, a 1976 masterpiece by Lucinda Childs, post-modern choreographer and Sarah Lawrence College graduate, December 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bessie Schonberg Dance Theatre. The piece is a product of Childs' exploration of issues of time and space through movement and sound and the students had an opportunity to study the dance with Ms. Childs, who has been the Viola Farber Artist-in-Residence this fall. For reservations please call (914) 395-2433.

"The detail in this dance is extraordinary. It's very pure. It's very complex. It's systematic and it's quite compelling," says Sara Rudner, director of the Sarah Lawrence Dance Program.

The performance is sponsored in part by a National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces: Dance College Component Grant. Keith Sabado, a well-known modern dancer who was a member of the Linda Childs Dance Company, is the rehearsal director and dance master for the project.

The student dancers are Ilona Bito, Nicholas Feder, Teresa Fellion, Sarah Fiske, Patrick Gallagher, Kay Ottinger, Aya Sato, and Mercedes Searer.



SLC Faculty Members Lauded by Their Peers

Date: Dec 10, 2009

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Humanities History and the Social Sciences Geography
Dance Literature Russian Theatre Dance Theatre Faculty

Members of the Sarah Lawrence College faculty have been recognized by their peers recently with prestigious awards for their work.

Director of the Dance program **Sara Rudner** received the 2009 *Dance Magazine* award stating that "...simply put, Sara Rudner is one of the greatest dancers of her generation."

Theatre program director **John Dillon** was featured as one of the "50 at 50" at the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society gala celebration of the union's 50th anniversary along with such luminaries as Hal Prince and Peter Brook.

The Milton Society of America awarded Literature faculty member **William Shullenberger** the James Holly Hanford Award for Best Book on Milton in 2008 for *Lady in the Labyrinth: Milton's "Comus" as Initiation* (Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 2008)

The Association of American Geographers has announced that Geography faculty member **Joshua Muldavin** has been selected to receive the organization's Award for Media Achievement in the spring of 2010.

Melissa Frazier, who teaches Russian Language and Literature, is the most recent faculty member to be honored with a prestigious award. Recipient of a Fulbright fellowship, she will take up residence next spring at Urals State University in Ekaterinburg, Russia.

Yonkers High School Students Recognized for Writing on Global Matters at Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Nov 11, 2009

News Release Humanities Creative and Performing Arts Writing SLC High School

Twenty-three Yonkers high school students will have an opportunity to read from their original writing at an awards program at Sarah Lawrence College at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 16. The students are being recognized for their Fulbright Association-sponsored participation in a week-long writing workshop held at the College in July. The awards program takes place during International Education Week.

To win places in the workshop, students in the six Yonkers public high schools, as well as Sacred Heart High School in Yonkers, submitted written pieces on themes of diversity, conflict resolution, and global issues. The week at Sarah Lawrence brought them together with other students from the New York metropolitan area, South Carolina, Missouri and California to spend an intensive week writing, discussing their work with their teachers and peers, and learning theatre techniques to help them find their voices.

"Finding one's voice is key to improving one's ability to write," said Alexandra Soiseth, workshop coordinator. "Good writing is essential to communicating about the things that matter."

During the week-long program, the students were addressed by six Fulbright Scholars studying in the U.S. from different countries around the world.

Addressing the students at the event on November 16 in the Donnelley Lecture Hall of the Heimbold Visual Arts Center on campus will be Montserrat Contreras Robles, choreographer and performer and a Fulbright Scholar in 2006 from Mexico. Robles is a graduate of the dance conservatory at the National Fine Arts Institute of Mexico, ESMD CONCULTA-INBA and obtained her BFA in modern dance from the University of the Americas in Puebla, Mexico. She received her MA in Performance Studies from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. As a choreographer and performer, Robles has developed dance projects in her home country of Mexico as well as in Argentina, Belgium, Germany, England, and the United States. She is currently working with renowned artist (and Sarah Lawrence College alumna) Meredith Monk.

The November 16 awards program recognizes the work of the 23 students from Yonkers, along with their teachers.

The following students will be recognized:

Gorton High School: Desireé Khan, Gifty G. Addo, Priscilla Piña

Lincoln High School: Ingrid Morales, Michelle Del Rosario

Palisades Preparatory School: Paola Hidalgo, Kaitlynn Marrero, Ashley Vera, Felicia Lugo

Roosevelt High School: Tiffany Bailey, Samantha Schechter, Ashlee Delgado

Saunders Trades and Technical High School: Naajidah Correll, Jeanette Ortiz-Torres, Harmony Thompson, Chloé Jones

Sacred Heart: Amanda Alegria, Joshua Steinberg, Nicholas Berrios

Yonkers International Baccalaureate High School: Jamihla Fergus, Rik Nikko Marata, Monique Rose, Nimmi Varghese

For more information about the [High School Writers Workshop](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/ce/summer/writers-workshop/index.html) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/ce/summer/writers-workshop/index.html>] or about the November 16 event please call (914) 395-2412.

The Tournées Film Festival at Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Oct 8, 2009

[News Release](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Film History](#) [Visual Arts](#) [SLC](#)

Sarah Lawrence College presents The Tournées Film Festival, a selection of contemporary French films, to be screened in 35mm format in the Donnelley Film Theatre, Heimbold Visual Arts Center, Thursdays, October 22 through November 19 at 7 p.m. The screenings are free and open to the public. For more information please call (914) 395-2412 or view the [event calendar](http://www.slc.edu/news-events/events/calendar_event_detail.html?eid=4520). » [http://www.slc.edu/news-events/events/calendar_event_detail.html?eid=4520]

“This is an easy way for Americans to get a look at this important cultural phenomenon in France,” says Jeffrey Leichman, faculty member in modern languages and literatures.

The festival, a French-American Cultural Exchange program, is supported by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and the Centre National de la Cinématographie.

The films range from director Catherine Breillat’s look at infidelity within the French aristocracy to a collection of shorts by six leading French graphic artists who turn their personal terrors into animated reality. This fall’s films are:

October 22

Entre les murs (The Class)

Winner of the 2009 Palm D’Or at the Cannes Film Festival, this film offers a deeper look at an ethnically diverse Parisian junior high school. Director Laurent Cantet focuses on teacher-parent relationships as well as the educators themselves as they seek to inspire their students while simultaneously addressing issues of race and assimilation.

October 29

Frantz Fanon: Sa vie, son combat, son travail (Frantz Fanon: His Life, His Struggle, His Work)

Cheikh Djemai details the life of Frantz Fanon, a psychiatrist in the 1950s who became the voice for the Algerian revolution. His writings on racism and oppression in Africa have become classics, placing him in the forefront of 20th century thought on race and revolution.

November 5

Peur(s) du noir (Fear(s) of the dark)

All animated in stark black and white, these short films plunge into the world of human fear as described by six French authors. A teenage boy meets the wrong girl, a man does not find the safe haven he hoped for in an abandoned house, and much more. Don’t go alone!

November 12

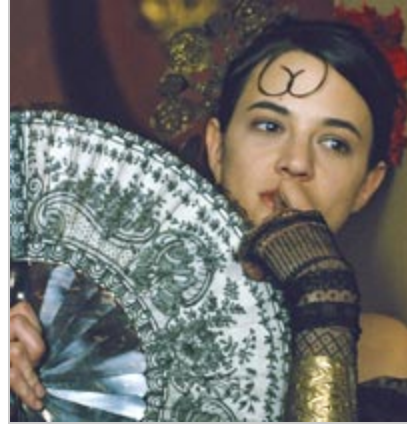
Une vieille maîtresse (The Last Mistress)

Contemporary director Catherine Breillat sets her story in 19th century France and examines the ramifications of a married man's obsession with a flamenco dancer who provides the passion and emotional connection lacking in his marriage.

November 19

Un Secret (A Secret)

In post World War II Paris, the son of a Jewish couple uncovers a dark family secret from the time of the Nazi invasion. Directed by Claude Miller, this film illuminates one family's story of tragedy and repression; the difficult choices made to survive the war, and the future consequences of those choices.



Book Co-Edited by Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills on American Withdrawal from Iraq

Date: Sep 11, 2009

News Release Humanities Literature Faculty

With changes in American troop movements underway in Iraq in preparation for large-scale reductions in forces expected following the January elections there, attention must be focused on *how* America leave Iraq, assuming the importance our invasion did in 2003.

Nicolaus Mills, co-editor of *Getting Out: Comparative Perspectives for Leaving Iraq*, recently published by University of Pennsylvania Press, says that while there is much talk about just and unjust wars, governments rarely talk about “getting out” from an occupied country except with regard to protecting their troops.

“In the case of Iraq, we have a commitment to what we leave behind and how we do that,” says Mills. “Historically we have planned for victory but not for defeat.”

Mills and his co-editor, Michael Walzer from the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, believe their book, which reviews a series of historical cases from Britain in India to America in Korea and Japan, can serve to help guide the Obama administration as it extricates the U.S. from Iraq.

“We hope the book will be seen as putting our departure from Iraq in moral perspective,” says Mills, who also contributed a chapter in *Getting Out* on the run-up to the war in Iraq. “It is crucial that the U.S. understand and address the moral as well as political principles that must govern withdrawal if we are not to repeat the mistakes made by the British in India, the French in Algeria and Americans in Vietnam.” These principles include technical support for Iraq, safety for those who have worked to support the American occupation and measures to guard against “ethnic cleansing,” he says.

Mills states that with respect to Iraq the United States should concern itself with how many of its troops should be left behind and whether an international force can contribute to stabilizing Iraq. Exit histories from Korea, Vietnam, the Philippines and other nations, and how these histories can be applied in Iraq, comprise the book’s chapters. Literature faculty member Fred Smoler authored the chapter on Korea.

Mills is the author of *Better Self, Their Last Battle: The Fight for the National World War II Memorial, Like a Holy Crusade: Mississippi 1964, The Crowd in American Literature*, and *American and English Fiction in the Nineteenth Century*; editor of *Debating Affirmative Action, Arguing Immigration, Culture in an Age of Money, Busing USA, The New Journalism*, and *The New Killing Fields*; contributor to *The Boston Globe, The New York Times, Chicago Tribune, San Francisco Chronicle, Newsday, The Nation, Yale Review, National Law Journal*, and *The Guardian*. He is an editorial board member, *Dissent* magazine and recipient of fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, American Council of Learned Societies, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Co-author Michael Walzer, a leading political theorist from the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, is a philosopher of society, politics, and ethics. He has written on a wide range of topics, including just and unjust wars, nationalism, ethnicity, economic justice, criticism, radicalism, tolerance, and political obligation. He is editor-in-chief of the liberal magazine *Dissent* and a contributing editor to *The New Republic*.

Note: A panel discussion, including Fred Smoler, on the topic of getting out of Iraq and Afghanistan, held in conjunction with the publication of the book, will take place at The New School, 66 W. 12th Street, Wollman Hall, 5th Floor on Thursday, September 17 at 7 p.m. sponsored by NYU’s Cultural Reporting & Criticism Program and *Dissent* magazine.

Chantal Gil '10 Brings Home Medals from the Maccabiah Games

Date: Jul 24, 2009

News Release Students

Chantal Gil '10, a member of the Sarah Lawrence crew team who joined the Israeli National Rowing team this year following her junior year abroad in Israel, won a Silver and Bronze Medal at the 18th Maccabiah Games, which took place in Israel from July-12-23. The Maccabiah Games are the third largest sporting event in the world with more than 8,000 Jewish athletes competing from over 60 countries.

Gil and her rowing partner Chen Oshri of Ramat Gan, Israel won the Silver medal in the Women's pair with an all time personal best time of 8:04. Gil and Oshri won the Bronze medal in the Women's quad race.

Never having rowed before coming to Sarah Lawrence, Gil began her rowing career as a first-year student on the College's crew team. "Chantal is a talented athlete with an incredible work ethic," said rowing coach Carolyn Miles.

President Karen Lawrence elected to Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) Board of Trustees

Date: Jul 17, 2009

News Release Administration

Sarah Lawrence College President Karen Lawrence has been elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) for 2009-2010. CICU's mission is to develop consensus among its 100+ members and to advance higher education public policy at the state and federal level. The Commission serves as the formal organizational liaison with the New York State Board of Regents, the State Commissioner of Education, and the chancellors of the State University (SUNY) and City University (CUNY) for the state's private colleges and universities. Its Board represents executive-level participation from colleges and universities in every region of New York State.

In addition to this important role at the state level, President Lawrence is active within the higher education community at the national level. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on its Higher Education Working Group on Global Issues. She is also a member of the Women's Leadership Network, the American Council of Education Commission on Advancement of Racial and Ethnic Equity, and the Presidents' Leadership Coalition. Her dedication to sustainable policies and practices has led her to become a signatory of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.



A widely respected literature scholar and teacher, Dr. Lawrence has a special interest in James Joyce and has held leadership positions in national and international professional organizations, including presidencies of the International James Joyce Foundation and the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature. She has written or edited five books on literature and has published widely in leading academic journals.

Teach-In on Haiti

Date: Feb 8, 2010

Video Humanities History and the Social Sciences Economics Psychology Literature History Faculty

In the aftermath of the January 12, 2010 earthquake in Haiti, SLC faculty, staff and students have struggled for a way to make sense of the tragedy and respond to the ongoing humanitarian crisis. While images of profound grief and suffering have been prominent in the news, an analysis of Haiti's history, the vibrancy of its culture and the importance of its political struggles have not been discussed as much. Please join us for a Teach-In on Haiti with four SLC faculty members who will provide historical, political, economic and social analysis on the current situation.

Speakers: Alwin A.D. Jones (Literature), Matilde Zimmermann (History) , Gina Philogene (Psychology) and Jamee Moudud (Economics).

Moderated by: Mary Dillard (History)

Original event date: Monday, February 1, 2010 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/oAr5zMDKOsw?list=PLJ3M6ig5bcKVyXio1RYacp12aaZz41atj>]

Marleise Brosnan MA '09

Date: Mar 4, 2010

In the News Humanities Health Advocacy Alums

In a *New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/04/business/04JOBS.html>] article about new careers for older professionals, Marleise Brosnan MA '09 discusses the role she played as a corporate human relations executive, advocating for an ill employee, which led her to pursue a master's degree in SLC's graduate Health Advocacy Program.

Porochista Khakpour '00

Date: Mar 4, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

In a cover story for *Poets & Writers* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3147&site=21757], Porochista Khakpour '00 sits down with award-winning novelist Danzy Senna "to dish for a few hours on our favorite topics: race, ethnicity, difficult fathers, and nonfiction versus fiction." Khakpour met Senna as a senior at Sarah Lawrence while taking Senna's fiction workshop class.

Sara Wilford, director of the Art of Teaching graduate program

Date: Mar 2, 2010

In the News Humanities Art of Teaching Faculty

In a *Scholastic* » [<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=621>] article titled *Creating Closeness*, Sara Wilford, director of the Art of Teaching graduate program, details six ways parents can nurture their child's relationship with books and words and build a solid foundation of literacy.

Beverly Emmons '65

Date: Feb 17, 2010

In the News Alums

Live Design » [http://livedesignonline.com/news/beverly_emmons_revisits_dance_011020/], a journal for live entertainment professionals, profiles the work of Beverly Emmons '65 in lighting the remake of *Dance*, originally choreographed by Lucinda Childs '62 in 1979.

Sarah Lawrence College Senior Chantal Gil named to Israeli National Rowing Team

Date: Jun 30, 2009

News Release Students

Chantal Gil '10, a member of the Sarah Lawrence crew team, was selected to join the Israeli National Rowing Team to compete at the 18th Maccabiah Games in Israel, July 12-23. The Maccabiah Games in Israel is the third largest sporting event in the world with over 8,000 Jewish athletes competing from over 60 countries.

Taking her junior year abroad at Tel Aviv University and University of Haifa, Gil trained at the Daniel Rowing Center in Tel Aviv and has been a member of the Israel National Team, competing this past year for the Hapoel Tel Aviv Rowing team. During her first and sophomore years at Sarah Lawrence where she returns in the fall, Gil took part in the team's successful events. In her first year, her boat won second place in the New York State Regatta and as a member of the varsity rowing team in her sophomore year, she competed in the Head of the Charles Regatta in Cambridge.

"Chantal is a talented athlete with an incredible work ethic. Chantal was a walk-on member of our rowing team her first year at Sarah Lawrence even though she had never rowed before. I wish her all the best in the Maccabiah games and know she will represent both Israel and Sarah Lawrence well," said rowing coach Carolyn Miles upon hearing of Gil's selection.

Literature Discussion: Ilja Wachs on the 19th Century Novel

Date: Jan 13, 2010

Video Humanities Writing Literature Writing Faculty

Acclaimed Sarah Lawrence College faculty member Ilja Wachs commences this new series of talks on literature with his discussion of the 19th Century novel.

Ilja Wachs has taught at Sarah Lawrence College since 1965 and served as the Dean of the College from 1980 to 1985. He has a special interest in nineteenth-century European and English fiction, with an emphasis on psychological and sociological relationships as revealed in works of Dickens, Tolstoy, Dostoevski, Balzac, Stendhal, James, Flaubert, and others.

Sponsored by the Graduate Studies Writing Program

Original event date: Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 1:30 pm

Location: Slonim Living Room

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/hhv5sQzlJho>]

Dani Shapiro '83

Date: Feb 8, 2010

In the News Alums

Time Magazine » [<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1960282,00.html>] reviews *Devotion*, the new memoir by Dani Shapiro '83, in which she explores the meaning of faith and religion. Shapiro also appeared on the *Today Show* » [<http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/vp/35257490#35257490>] to discuss the book.

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Feb 8, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In an opinion article in *Newsday* » [http://mobile.newsday.com/inf/infomo;JSESSIONID=26A8BE169BD8F421D2B5.1355?site=newsday&view=page6&feed:a=newsday_10min&feed:c=opinion&feed:], Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills provides evidence that J.D. Salinger might not have thought so harshly of his ability to teach college students, as he suggested in an interview with the editor of the *New Yorker* in 1951, had he known that the Sarah Lawrence students and professor who heard and observed him thought just the opposite.

Christina Thela '10

Date: Feb 3, 2010

In the News Students

Christina Thela '10 talks about her internship at the City Council President's office in Yonkers, NY, with the local publication, *Home News & Times* » [http://images.burlesluceluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3116&site=21757].

Julianna Margulies '89

Date: Jan 25, 2010

In the News Alums

Julianna Margulies '89 won "Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Drama Series" for *The Good Wife* at the 16th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards on January 23, 2010, as reported by news outlets nationwide, including *NYTimes.com* » [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/25/movies/25arts-FAMILIARWINS_BRF.html] » [http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/tv/2010/01/17/2010-01-17_titanic_victory_james_cameron_avatar_.html#ixzz0d4DEEfz7]. This is her seventh nomination and third win from the Screen Actors Guild.

Sarah Lawrence College Honors Five Distinguished Alumnae/i

Date: Jun 5, 2009

News Release Alums

Five Sarah Lawrence College [alumnae/i](http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=183) » [[http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=183](http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=328)] received citations for achievement and service at the [College's 2009 reunion](http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=328) » [<http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=328>]. Those honored for achievement are Stuart G. Hopps, MFA '69, heralded as one of Britain's leading choreographers; Nancy Press '69, co-founder of Child Aid, a nonprofit organization supporting disadvantaged children in Latin America; Jiway Tung '89 who created a residential training program in Indonesia called Karang Widya, Sanskrit for "The Learning Farm," to teach at-risk youth organic farming, entrepreneurship, computer proficiency, creative arts and important life skills; and Heather Winters '84 film producer and writer, best known as executive producer of Morgan Spurlock's highly acclaimed *Super Size Me*. Diana Chambers Leslie '69 is cited for more than 15 years of active service to the College.

Achievement

Stuart G. Hopps MFA '69

Stuart G. Hopps MFA '69 is one of Britain's most celebrated choreographers. In his distinguished 40-year career, he has choreographed for the Royal Shakespeare Company, the English National Opera, The Royal Opera, and The Royal National Theatre as well as New York's Metropolitan Opera and La Scala in Milan. His film credits include *Othello*, *A Knight's Tale*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *The Wicker Man*. He has worked extensively with director Kenneth Branagh, choreographing *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, and *Love's Labour's Lost*, among others. Most recently, Hopps completed work on *Nutcracker: The Untold Story*, starring John Turturro and Nathan Lane. At Sarah Lawrence, Hopps studied with Bessie Schönberg, whom he considers a powerful influence in his life. The recipient of an honorary Doctorate of Arts from City University in London, Hopps was nominated for this award by Susan G. Strausberg '62.



Nancy A. Press '69

A medical anthropologist and professor at Oregon Health & Science University, **Nancy Press '69** is co-founder of [Child Aid](http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/page.redir?target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.child-aid.org%2f&srcid=328&erid=0) » [<http://alum.slc.edu/NetCommunity/page.redir?target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.child-aid.org%2f&srcid=328&erid=0>], an organization that partners with talented, committed indigenous groups and individuals in Latin America to increase childhood literacy as a way to change society. Child Aid helps develop innovative and sustainable library, literacy, and education programs. Press and her husband, Rick Carroll, were moved to action upon seeing both the extreme poverty and extreme resilience of poor farmers in Oaxaca, Mexico in 1987. Begun with \$10,000 of their



own money—all they could then spare—Child Aid has grown into a nonprofit organization with a board of 17, program staffs in Mexico and Guatemala, and a yearly operating budget of more than \$1.5 million. Press was recently honored for her humanitarian efforts with the Stand on a Better World Award.

Jiway F. Tung '89

Jiway F. Tung '89 is the founder and director of The Learning Farm (TLF). At this live-in, life-skills training center, at-risk Indonesian youth learn to become healthy, productive participants in society by growing and selling organic produce. Developed with ongoing support from World Education, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Muslim Aid and a recent \$20,000 grant from Hard Rock International and World Hunger Year, TLF has expanded its reach into a local school for low income students and also offers training for local farmers. Prior to creating this remarkable program, Tung studied political science at Sarah Lawrence, earned his master's degree in sustainable international development at Brandeis University, organized immigrant workers in California, received an Amnesty International fellowship to research refugee issues on the Texas/Mexico border, and worked as a community organizer in the Bronx. As nominator Peter Ajemian '89 says of Tung, "Jiway is continually building community wherever he goes."



Heather M. Winters '84

Film producer and writer **Heather Winters '84** is co-executive producer of the film *Super Size Me*, which won the 2004 Sundance Film Festival's Best Director Award and was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Film. With her husband, Joe Morley, she is co-founder of the independent film production company, Studio-on-Hudson, which specializes in the production, financing, and representation of independent feature films and documentaries. The studio's award-winning work includes *Class Act*, a look at the decline of arts education in America's public schools, and the Sundance-winning *Anywhere, USA*, a highly original, tender, quirky, humorous look at life in America. Winters studied film and music at Sarah Lawrence, and her early work in film and television includes several animated children's series and MTV's *The Real World*. Susan Pinkwater MFA '84 nominated Winters for this honor.



Service

Diana Chambers Leslie '69

When **Diana Chambers Leslie '69** joined the Sarah Lawrence Board of Trustees in 1994, she brought years of experience as a consultant to nonprofit organizations. Her first assignment was to design and lead the College in a strategic planning process. Leslie then became chair of the Trustee Committee and for many years has focused on recruiting new trustees and strengthening the ways the board works. In June 2008, Leslie began her fifth term as vice chair of the board. Also an active fundraiser for the College, she established an endowed fund that underwrites student-initiated activities that foster community on campus. In nominating Leslie for this citation, Ellen Schloss Flamm '59 says: "Diana has always been interested in enhancing the social climate at the College, encouraging people to learn from and about one another."



Drew Snyder '08

Date: Feb 3, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Alums](#)

The *Fort Worth Weekly* » [http://www.fwweekly.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2393:san-diego-texas&catid=32:art&Itemid=47] profiles painter Drew Snyder '08, founder of Andrews Gallery, where he is also the resident artist.

Annual Science Lecture: Carl Safina

Date: Nov 18, 2009

Video Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Biology

The Annual Science Lecture: In the Same Net; Biodiversity, Ethics, and the Human Spirit

Carl Safina, Ph.D., President, Blue Ocean Institute

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Donnelley Lecture Hall in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center

Fisheries, coral reefs, forests, climate change, poverty, and peace: these are all facets of the same issue.

In a talk that is part autobiography, part science lecture, and part book-reading, scientist and author Carl Safina tells the story of his global journey from fisherman to scientist to the realization that the changing ocean reflects the challenges facing not just sea life but all of humankind.

Despite serious problems, recent good news indicates certain problems are being solved, with some recoveries underway.

Dr. Safina will also discuss how scientific findings have ethical implications, how religion and science are converging toward common cause on environmental matters, and how moral responses can add momentum toward solutions that are becoming increasingly crucial.

MacArthur Prize-winning scientist/author Dr. Carl Safina and Mercédès Lee created Blue Ocean Institute in 2003 as a unique voice of hope, guidance, and encouragement. Blue Ocean Institute is the only conservation organization that uses science, art, and literature to inspire a closer bond with nature, especially the sea.

Carl Safina is author of more than 100 articles and three books, including the award-winning *Song for the Blue Ocean*, *Eye of the Albatross*, and the most recent *Voyage of the Turtle*. His work has been profiled in the *New York Times*, on Nightline, and in the Bill Moyers television special "Earth on Edge." Safina is a recipient of the Pew Scholar's Award in Conservation and Environment, a World Wildlife Fund Senior Fellowship, the Lannan Literary Award for nonfiction, the John Burroughs Medal for literature, and a MacArthur Prize. Safina's scientific prowess, sense of adventure, and elegant descriptions of the mystery, magnificence, and importance of the sea and its creatures make him one of today's most important conservation voices.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/aYFO6HeGZN0>]

Julianna Margulies '89

Date: Jan 19, 2010

In the News Alums

Julianna Margulies '89 won a Golden Globe award for Best Actress in a Television Drama for "The Good Wife", as reported by news outlets nationwide, including the New York *Daily News* » [http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/tv/2010/01/17/2010-01-17_titanic_victory_james_cameron_avatar_.html#ixzz0d4DEEfz7]. When asked about » [<http://www.youtube.com/user/hfpavideo#p/u/18/5wwJxJqcvII>] the importance of winning the award, Margulies responded, "oh, it's awfully nice, I mean any actor who says they don't want to get one is lying...but it shouldn't be your goal, the goal should be good work and fulfillment in what you do."

Janice Simpson '72

Date: Jan 19, 2010

In the News Alums

Media Bistro » [http://www.mediabistro.com/fishbowlmy/revolving_door/w_brings_on_contributing_entertainment_editor_148996.asp] reports that Janice Simpson '72 has been named Contributing Entertainment Editor of *W Magazine*.

Beth Powning '71

Date: Jan 12, 2010

In the News Alums

The Telegraph Journal » [<http://telegraphjournal.canadaeast.com/salon/article/913547>] talks to Beth Powning '71 about her new historical novel, *The Sea Captain's Wife*. In the interview, Powning discusses how she uses theatre exercises she learned at SLC to inhabit her characters' headspaces.

The Devil Is in the Details: Current Health Care Reform Proposals

Date: Nov 23, 2009

Video Health Advocacy Faculty

Original event date: Monday, October 26, 2009 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Donnelley Lecture Hall in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center

Health, Science and Society Health Care Reform Series

Current Health Care Reform Proposals

We're hearing various terms and phrases in the health care debate. What do they mean? How legitimate are these concerns? Join us in Heimbold on October 26 for a panel discussion about Health Care Reform to learn about the proposals for changing our health care system.

Panelists:

- **Mark Hannay**, Director, Metropolitan New York Health Care for All Campaign, a coalition of community groups and labor unions advocating for fundamental health care reform
- **Rebecca Johnson**, member of the Health Advocacy faculty at Sarah Lawrence College and Founder and Executive Director of Cooperative Economics for Women
- **Mark Schlesinger**, member of the Health Advocacy faculty (Health Policy) at Sarah Lawrence College and a fellow of the Institution for Social and Policy Studies at Yale University

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/nrUkOXoKtTA?list=PLJ3M6ig5bcKUx3M-3UWLztOxuR6UiTQcZ>]

Human Genetics Faculty Member Robert Marion

Date: Jan 4, 2010

In the News Science and Mathematics Human Genetics Faculty

As reported by the *New York Nonprofit Press* » [<http://www.nynp.biz/index.php/nonprofit-events/1831-ujafederation-awards-recognize-work-in-disabilities-field>], Dr. Robert Marion, a member of the faculty of the Joan H. Marks Graduate Program in Human Genetics, was honored with the Zella Bronfman Butler Award award from the UJA-Federation of New York's Task Force on People With Disabilities for his commitment to enriching the lives of children and adults with physical, developmental, and learning disabilities.

Sara Rudner, Director of the Dance Program

Date: Jan 4, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Faculty

Dancing-on-View (Preview/Hindsight), by Sara Rudner, director of the dance program, was named among the best dance events of the decade in the *Village Voice* » [<http://www.villagevoice.com/2009-12-22/dance/the-decade-s-best-dance/>].

Laura Weil, Director of the Health Advocacy Graduate Program

Date: Dec 14, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Health Advocacy Faculty

In the *Philadelphia Inquirer* » [<http://www.philly.com/philly/business/79196557.html>], Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, advises people to be aware of potential conflicts when hiring a health advocate.

Mara Farrell '77

Date: Dec 10, 2009

In the News Alums

The December issue of *Hudson Valley Magazine* » [<http://www.hvmag.com/Hudson-Valley-Magazine/December-2009/People-to-Watch/index.php?cparticle=4&siarticle=3>] lists Mara Farrell '77 as one of the "People to Watch" for her work in preserving the Fishkill Supply Depot, a historic military site.

History Faculty Member Fawaz Gerges

Date: Dec 3, 2009

In the News History and the Social Sciences History Faculty

In a special commentary to [CNN](http://www.cnn.com/2009/OPINION/12/02/gerges.impossible.mission/) » [<http://www.cnn.com/2009/OPINION/12/02/gerges.impossible.mission/>], Fawaz Gerges, holder of The Christian A. Johnson Chair in International Affairs and Middle Eastern Studies, shares his opinion on President Obama's decision to deploy more troops to Afghanistan.

Brooke Anderson '86

Date: Dec 3, 2009

In the News Alums

[The White House](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-obama-announces-more-key-administration-posts-120209) » [<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-obama-announces-more-key-administration-posts-120209>] reports that President Obama will appoint Brooke Anderson '86 as the Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

Judy Wu: Dr. Mom Chung of the Fair-Haired Bastards: The Life of a Wartime Celebrity

Date: Oct 27, 2009

Video Womens History

Judy Wu, author of *Dr. Mom Chung of the Fair-Haired Bastards: The Life of a Wartime Celebrity* will discuss Margaret Jessie Chung (1889-1959), the first American-born Chinese female physician, and a pioneer not only in her professional career but also in her personal life. This talk, which will include a short digital narrative of Chung's life, examines her gender presentations and erotic subjectivity through photographs, diary entries, and "love" letters. It also explores how to historically investigate sexuality.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/U7Ydom8bSkc>]

Julianna Margulies '89

Date: Dec 3, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Broadway World » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/New_York_Stage_and_Film_Honors_Julianna_Margulies_Marc_Platt_1213_20091120] reports that Julianna Margulies '89 will be honored for her achievements in theater, film, and television at the 25th Anniversary New York Stage and Film (SAF) winter gala on December 13.

Michelle Wildgen MFA '02

Date: Nov 23, 2009

In the News Alums

The Daily Page (WI) » [<http://www.isthmus.com/isthmus/article.php?article=27488>] profiles Michelle Wildgen MFA '02 and her new novel *But Not for Long*.

Laura Weil, Director of the Health Advocacy Graduate Program

Date: Nov 23, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Health Advocacy Faculty

In a *MSNBC* » [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34019606/ns/health-health_care/] article, Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, comments on the “concierge” care model that many doctors are following today.

Yoko Ono

Date: Nov 23, 2009

In the News Alums

Alumna Yoko Ono is quoted in the *Journal News* » [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20091027/ENTERTAINMENT/910270310/1164/Lennon-s-art-shines-on>] regarding her experience at Sarah Lawrence, "It was kind of an exciting school... they encouraged us to be creative."

Matthew Klauber '03

Date: Nov 16, 2009

In the News Alums

In the *Korea Times* » [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinon/2009/11/160_55501.html], Matthew Klauber '03 writes about the political, economic, and social divide between North and South Korea.

Psychology Faculty Member Jan Drucker

Date: Nov 12, 2009

In the News History and the Social Sciences Psychology Faculty

In *The Bend Bulletin* » [http://bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20091106/NEWS0107/911060340/1001/NEWS01&nav_category=NEWS01], psychology faculty member Jan Drucker shares her tips on how parents can spend more quality time with their children in order to strengthen the parent-child bond.

Sara Rudner, Director of the Dance Program

Date: Nov 3, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Faculty

The New York Times » [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/02/arts/dance/02arts-DANCEAWARDDWI_BRF.html] reports that Sara Rudner, director of the dance program at Sarah Lawrence, is a winner of the 52nd *Dance Magazine* Awards for her contributions to dance.

Jane Alexander '61

Date: Nov 2, 2009

In the News Alums

The education and career of Jane Alexander '61 are profiled in an article on [examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com) » [<http://www.examiner.com/x-5590-Acting-Examiner~y2009m10d29-Jane-Alexander>].

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Oct 22, 2009

In the News

The Library Journal » [http://images.burriel.edu/image/21757A/21757A_3033&site=21757] reviews *Getting Out: Historical Perspectives on Leaving Iraq*, the latest book by literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills.

David Adjmi '95

Date: Oct 29, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Broadwayworld.com » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Norris_McCraney_and_David_Adjmi_Nab_Steinberg_Playwright_Awards_Ceremony_Held_1026_20091025] reports that David Adjmi '95 is one of three recipients of the Steinberg Playwright Awards for the “most gifted up-and-coming American playwrights.”

Meredith Monk '64

Date: Oct 29, 2009

In the News Alums

The Northport Journal » [http://images.burriel.edu/image/21757A/21757A_3035&site=21757] profiles the career of Meredith Monk '64, which includes a prestigious MacArthur “Genius” award, two Guggenheim Fellowships, a Grammy nomination, and other awards and distinguished accomplishments.

Alumnae Julianna Margulies '89 and Kyra Sedgwick

Date: Dec 16, 2009

In the News Alums

Alumnae Julianna Margulies '89 and Kyra Sedgwick are both nominated for a Golden Globe in the category Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Drama, as reported by the *Hollywood Foreign Press Association* » [<http://www.goldenglobes.org/news/id/159>].

Orientation 2009 Keynote

Date: Sep 9, 2009

Video Alums

Maiysha Simpson '97, a Grammy nominated recording artist and former model, graciously agreed to come back to SLC to offer insights to the Class of 2013 on making the most of their Sarah Lawrence experience now and in the future.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/17n8RpjJcO8>]

Robin Givens '84

Date: Oct 23, 2009

In the News Alums

Robin Givens '84 served as the keynote speaker, giving a speech about domestic violence at the 17th annual Rebuilding Lives Luncheon hosted by STAND! Against Domestic Violence, as reported by the *Danville Express* » [http://www.danvilleweekly.com/news/show_story.php?id=2226].

Nell Minow '74

Date: Oct 9, 2009

In the News Alums

The October 12 issue of *The New Yorker* » [http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/10/12/091012fa_fact_owen] features an article about CEO compensation, which highlights the work of Nell Minow '74, co-founder of the Corporate Library. The article's author, David Owen, calls Minow "one of the country's leading experts on the fiduciary obligations of executives and directors."

Alumna Tovah Feldshuh

Date: Oct 16, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Broadway World » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Acting_Favorite_Tovah_Feldshuh_Set_for_A_Series_of_Honors_in_Coming_Months_20091014] reports that alumna Tovah Feldshuh will be honored with several prestigious awards in the next few months, including the Friend of the Arts Award from Town Hall, an award from the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center, an award from The American and International Societies for Yad Vashem, Inc., an honorary doctorate from Yeshiva University, and the first Theatre Arts Award from the America Israel Cultural Foundation.

Margaret Loesser Robinson '02

Date: Oct 16, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Margaret Loesser Robinson '02 talks to *The Lancaster New Era* » [<http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/243486>] about her role as Margot Wendice in *Dial M For Murder*, opening November 8 at the Fulton Theater in New York City.

Writing Faculty Member Jeff McDaniel '90

Date: Oct 12, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Writing faculty member Jeff McDaniel '90 talks with *The Southeast Review* » [<http://southeastreview.org/2009/10/jeffrey-mcdaniel.html>] about his new book of poetry, *The Endarkenment*.

Joanna Kraus '59

Date: Oct 12, 2009

In the News SLC Alums

Joanna Kraus '59 writes in *The Contra Costa Times* » [http://www.contracostatimes.com/columns/ci_13508344] about her experience at her 50th reunion at Sarah Lawrence College.

Kaui Hart Hemming MFA '02

Date: Oct 6, 2009

In the News Alums

The Honolulu Star Bulletin » [http://www.starbulletin.com/features/20091004_no_place_like_home.html] reports that *The Descendants*, the debut novel of Kaui Hart Hemming MFA '02, will be made into a movie directed by Alexander Payne about the Hawaiian islands.

Center for Continuing Education - News

Date: Sep 24, 2009

In the News CCE SLC

In an *About.com* » [<http://adulthood.about.com/b/2009/09/22/go-back-to-school-sarahs-way.htm>] article, Deb Peterson highlights the small classes and supportive approach the Center for Continuing Education takes for adults returning to school at Sarah Lawrence College.

Marty McConnell MFA '01

Date: Oct 7, 2009

In the News Alums

Marty McConnell MFA '01 talks to Madison, Wisconsin's *The Daily Page* » [<http://www.thedailypage.com/daily/article.php?article=27090>] about her appearances on HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*, her definition of courage, and which of her works she would choose to perform for a state dinner hosted by President Obama.

Julianna Margulies '89

Date: Sep 21, 2009

In the News Alums

The Los Angeles Times » [<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-ca-goodwife20-2009sep20,0,7421773.story>] talks to Julianna Margulies '89, about her new show, *The Good Wife*, while on a break from shooting a scene on the campus of Sarah Lawrence College.

Matt Robinson '00

Date: Sep 15, 2009

In the News Alums

The Los Angeles Times » [<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-ca-lying13-2009sep13,0,6377828.story>] profiles *The Invention of Lying*, co-directed by Ricky Gervais and Matt Robinson '00. The movie, which opens on Oct. 2, stars Jennifer Garner, Louis C.K., Tina Fey, and Rob Lowe. Robinson's big break came, according to the *Times*, when he gave the first draft of the movie's script to veteran Hollywood producer Lynda Obst, the mother of his roommate at SLC.

William Frears '96

Date: Oct 6, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

William Frears '96 talks to *WWD Magazine* » [<http://www.wwd.com/lifestyle-news/eye/a-modest-man-interview-with-will-frears-2329803?justin=2329803>] about his new directorial play, *Still Life*. While at Sarah Lawrence, Frears took an acting class that gave him his first opportunity in theater directing, putting on Lee Blessing's *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music*.

Nicolaus Mills, Literature Faculty

Date: Sep 14, 2009

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In *The Huffington Post* » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/college-and-the-recession_b_281867.html], literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills writes about how higher education is responding to the recession.

Sam Lipschultz '09

Date: Sep 9, 2009

In the News Alums

Sam Lipschultz '09, who is active in the Real Food Challenge and worked for sustainable food practices while at Sarah Lawrence, was interviewed on *The Brian Lehrer Show* on *WNYC* » [<http://www.wnyc.org/shows/bl/episodes/2009/09/08/segments/140156>], New York's public radio station.

Human Genetics faculty member Siobhan Dolan

Date: Sep 1, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Human Genetics Faculty

Siobhan Dolan, faculty member in the Joan H. Marks Graduate Program in Human Genetics, commented on the questionable value of direct-to-consumer genetic tests in a *New York Times* » [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/01/health/01brod.html?_r=1&ref=science] personal health column by Jane Brody.

Translating Tartuffe

Date: Feb 5, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Faculty

In March, theatregoers at Sarah Lawrence's Suzanne Werner Wright Theatre will see OBIE Award-winning playwright Amlin Gray's recent translation and new ending to Moliere's masterpiece, *Tartuffe*. Like Moliere's original, Gray's translation is written in rhyming verse.

Historians have long pondered the ending of Moliere's classic comedy, which was censored for several years by King Louis XIV after its controversial premiere in 1664.

"Amlin has reconstructed what he thinks might have been in the original text," says John Dillon, director of the Sarah Lawrence theatre program. "What we are trying to create is a possible scenario before the church censorship occurred. This production both honors the masterpiece and attempts to create something that no American audience has ever seen."

"It's highly speculative, very presumptuous, and great fun," says Gray, a member of the College faculty. "It will be interesting. And I want to warn people that I'm going to take liberties."

Some historians believe Moliere rewrote the ending to please the King, who had bowed to criticism from powerful clerics in Paris and the city's upper crust. After a three-year hiatus, the play was presented only once in 1667, ordered shut down, and then presented again in 1669. It is the 1669 version, which was expanded to five acts, that has stood the test of time.

The play, running March 4–6, will be performed by Sarah Lawrence students and directed by Dillon, who says he looks forward to presenting Gray's adaptation. Scholars have long wondered how Moliere's earlier version differed from the published play that has survived for more than three centuries. No copies of the three-act 1664 version, performed in Versailles, have ever surfaced.

The play focuses on the action of *Tartuffe*, a man of great religious zeal who turns out to be a scheming hypocrite. He ingratiates himself with a wealthy family man named Orgon, played by Moliere in the 17th century. Orgon is taken in by Tartuffe's words, and plans to force his daughter to marry him. While Orgon's friends warn him about Tartuffe, he ignores their pleas. Not until Tartuffe is caught seducing Orgon's wife does he become aware of Tartuffe's true character. Tartuffe attempts to seize Orgon's property, and have him arrested.

The published play ends through the intervention of the King. In the final act, one of his messengers arrives to tell of the omniscience of the king, who sees into the hearts of his subjects. He knows Orgon is a good guy, and Tartuffe a con-man who is then arrested for his crimes.

"I've adored the play whenever I'd read it, but when it goes into the fifth act, it's not about anything that the play is about," Gray says. "It's straight melodrama and it's brilliantly effective. But I just don't think that ending is part of Moliere's original intent."

Gray, who has translated plays from Greek, Spanish, and German, says this is the first play he has translated from French. He won an OBIE in 1981 for his play, *How I Got That Story*, which was set in Vietnam.

Amlin Gray's *Tartuffe* will be presented Thursday and Saturday, March 4 and 6 at 7:30 p.m., and on Friday, March 5 at 8:30 p.m. The play is free and open to the public. Call (914) 395-2412 to reserve seats.

—David McKay Wilson

Originally published in the spring issue of InTouch » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/intouch/index.html>]

Life is a Cabaret

Date: Jan 11, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre

Three alumni returned to Sarah Lawrence this fall to help transform the Cannon Theatre into a seedy German club. Christopher Williams '99 provided original choreography for the student production of the musical *Cabaret*, while Nehemiah Luckett '04 was responsible for musical direction and David Moyer '04 took care of costume design. Theatre faculty member Allen Lang directed the show, which ran for three nights in December.

» [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/images/features/cabaret-04-640.jpg>] Christopher Williams said that being on campus as a professional reminded him of how he felt in his first choreography classes at the College. "In some ways it feels like I'm doing exactly what I did then—I'm working with a bunch of zealous students who are totally excited about what they're doing."

The main difference is that Williams is accustomed to working with professional dancers. He is an award-winning contemporary choreographer whose works have been performed at City Center, Dance New Amsterdam, and Dance Theater Workshop as well as in other cities, both nationally and internationally.

For the Sarah Lawrence production of *Cabaret*, Williams was working with actors instead. "Actors bring unique things to the table. Each character brings a nuance linked to their character's personality and those elements need to be connected to the movement," he explained.



Fitting the choreography to the piece was a unique experience because Williams is usually in charge of entire artistic productions. "It's quite different making movement materials for a musical. I have to dovetail my own ideas with something that already exists in its own prescribed world," Williams said.

Though music director Luckett has returned to campus to work on several student productions, *Cabaret* was a challenge because the nine-piece orchestra was one of the largest bands he has worked with at Sarah Lawrence. A music teacher and assistant music director at Asbury Methodist Church in Tuckahoe, Luckett said the amount of dancing in the campus production necessitated a different approach.

"I'm very exacting when it comes to dance numbers, because they require a level of specificity from the musicians. Dancers need to hit the same movement each time, so the music needs to be the same," he explained.

Luckett described the process of working on the show as a collaboration that worked in part due to shared experience: "David Moyer and I were in the same class. Christopher is older, but we have a common history because we know some of the same professors and took some of the same classes."

For the alumni, the best part of the production was working with Sarah Lawrence students. Williams became especially enthusiastic describing the process. "I saw them growing in leaps and bounds and experiencing things that I can remember learning: awareness about other people on stage, having to think about the effect of an ensemble, seeing oneself as part of a larger organic whole rather than as a solo entity.

"It's really a metaphor for life. Performers have to learn to make the power of their individuality shine in the more global picture." By returning to campus to help with the production, Williams provided an example of that metaphor in action.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

Two SLC Students Win Top Prize in Met-Sponsored Writing Contest

Date: Dec 22, 2009

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing

Sarah Lawrence students Elissa Hutson and Bianca Galvez, both juniors, both took novelist April Reynolds Mosolino's fiction-writing class last fall. They both have writer Melvin Bukiet as their "don," or faculty advisor. And both shared the top prize in the recent fiction writing contest held by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, which asked college students to write a short story in response to Robert Frank's photographs of Americans in the 1950s, "Looking In: Robert Frank's The Americans," a special exhibition that ran through January 3.

Neither Hutson nor Galvez knew that the other had entered the contest, organized by the College Group at the Met, which had 55 participants from around country. It was a cause for celebration in Mosolino's classroom.

"I was so excited when Bianca told me she had won," says Mosolino, who suggested in early October that her students enter the contest. "Then Elissa came in to tell me she'd won too. I couldn't believe it."

Christine Larusso, the museum's college marketing coordinator, says the entries were narrowed down to finalists by a committee, and then shipped to author Aimee Bender, without the writers' names or school affiliations. Says Larusso: "Good for Sarah Lawrence."

Hutson's story, *The Death of Jim Taylor* » [#jimtaylor], was inspired by Frank's photograph of three black men standing pensively by cars at a funeral in Helena, S. C. She told it from the point of view of a white man, who felt he couldn't be seen at the funeral of a black man in the segregated South of the 1950s. The story came to her after she visited the exhibit of Frank's photographs, which were taken in the mid-1950s on a cross-country trip.

"I was mesmerized by the photo," says Hutson. "It spoke to me, the painful look in one man's face, the dust, and the feel of the South in the 1950s. I went back home, kept thinking about those guys at the funeral, and came up the story of Jim Taylor."

Galvez's story, *Barbara Stanwyck It's Your Time to Shine!* » [#shine], was drawn from Frank's picture of a dreamy young woman, who was operating an elevator in a New York hotel. The story, written in one paragraph, is the woman's inner monologue about her life and the people she encountered in the elevator.

Galvez says she wrote her story on the evening it was due, and she sent it off by email a minute before the midnight deadline on Nov. 1.

"I was in a friend's room, and she was cheering me on," says Galvez. "I didn't have any time to revise, and sent it at 11:59."

Winning the contest brought both students to Symphony Space on Manhattan's upper West Side in mid-November to hear their stories read by professional actors as part of National Public Radio's *Selected Shorts* program. The segment is expected to be aired this spring on WNYC.

Hutson says she was stunned to hear actor Boyd Gaines read her story. She recalls that growing up in New Mexico, she listened to Gaines read stories by legendary American author Ernest Hemingway on audio tapes her mother played on her car's cassette deck. Now he was reading her work.

"It was an out-of-body experience hearing my words performed," recalls Hutson. "Boyd Gaines has a deep, manly, southern voice that was perfect for my piece. I loved the way he brought it all to life."

» [] The Death of Jim Taylor

by Elissa Hutson

Beneath mustard-colored cranes and dump trucks filled with dust, the earth opened itself up to the man torn in two. The workers said that the garbage truck had pinned the man down, splitting him in half. The man snapped like a boy's toy train set, his body bursting evenly, delicately to the ground.

That evening, the workers went home, told their wives and children about the accident. Suddenly the man's death became the total of his life. He became a fable in and of himself, not as an example of mortality, but of pure recklessness. He had not given enough attention to his surroundings, he had not grounded himself in his work, they said. "Had he been more careful around the machinery," they murmured over greasy chicken dinners or under hot pool-table lamps, to their sons or to their bartenders. "I always knew he was a careless old man, that poor son of a bitch." What the workers did not say, but simultaneously observed, was that his accident was somehow different than others they had seen. The nature of his death was in a way, gentler. He had come apart softly.

The paper said his name was Jim Taylor, but no one paid much attention.

He was black.

I could not stop thinking about the way he died. I was awake at night revisiting the accident I didn't see. I envisioned the men at the construction site shouting as they tried to turn off the garbage truck. The machine hovering over the man, pressing against his broken body with an unearthly force. The men, pounding boots to dirt, lifting him from beneath the truck, but he was already dead.

Late at night, I'd drive to the construction site and imagine the man on ordinary days. And I'd watch him, from my car-window, shoulders heavy against the sky, as he pulled back hard the truck's lever. Some nights I'd fall asleep in my Cadillac, and I'd wake up thinking that he was still there, hauling dust.

I wanted to go to the funeral, even though I had never met him. I knew I'd stick out. Me- white skin, white Cadillac- watching black skin, black suits listening to the cries of a preacher underneath the tender bosom of a sweltering St. Helena summer. I imagined the gravedigger, opening deep the taut, wet soil with a sense of urgency. But I knew not to go. The folks at work would say that was no place for a white man.

Sometimes I still think of Jim Taylor and the funeral that I never went to, and I imagine Jim Taylor in the casket—a wet fish on a cutting board, slipping into darkness.

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» [] Barbara Stanwyck It's Your Time to Shine!

by Bianca Galvez

It's one of those lousy days, squalls of hot rain the size of barnacles smacking the sidewalk, where the girls think it's too much of a chore to head out for hamburgers after work. If Frank Steinhoff were here, he'd slink his hand around my waist, reel me in and say they're just small, because he goes on like that. He's the only boy who I can stand to go on like that. I look straight ahead at the paneled walls fussed over and shining deep, corroded brass. The manager keeps running off on how I've got the loony bin look, but he knows no one's got the smarts to take a marvelous job like this. A couple step in, the old man with a stump of cigar pressed to his lips pushing his Misses over left, and the car doors rumble shut. I say the obligatory "Evenin' folks," pull the lever, and head for the sub-main floor. The Misses has a crisp pair of show tickets and the old man is plucking car keys like a set of dry matchsticks. It's not difficult to see that they're old money: camel hair topcoats, heavy silverware, the works. Frank Steinhoff has a family like that up on Bal Harbour, but, I've seen him on Biscayne wearing dungarees and creeping around his fellows: dingy, brutal, pretending they live in a dump. Nancy thinks he's funny-looking with those lopsided ears, the right lobe nicked along the coast when he swam out and slipped of the narrow shelf, but he's a real swimmer, sleek as a dolphin, with gusty man-arms snubbing the purling claws of sea. "It's those shrimp enchiladas, Boss," he says. He's a nice guy I tell you. Sure, I'd bring Frank home sometime, but every MiMo on the Miami shore has a corny bolt of roof shooting pas the driveway like greased lightning that he'd be bored in a minute. "Lady," the man says to me, "I said we're getting off at the lobby." I mumble an excuse and jockey the car up a floor. Some people can't relax. The late shows aren't starting and the only place open is a counter-and-booth restaurant that serves everything with tabasco sauce. A group of boys walk in with wet robes and dots of zinc salve on their noses. One of them is Frank's friend with the combed back ducktail, but he doesn't recognize me. He's got this yellow balloon on a wooden stick and lobs it in my hair. I tell him to knock it off, but he's just having a ball. "Barbara Stanwyck" he says to me, "it's your time to shine!" They get off on the fifth floor, knocking into each other, and it takes all I've got to keep from running off on how Frank'll slug him next time I see him. Really, these hams have nothing on Frank. I stand a little straighter and smile because I know what I'm talking about.

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X-Ray Specs

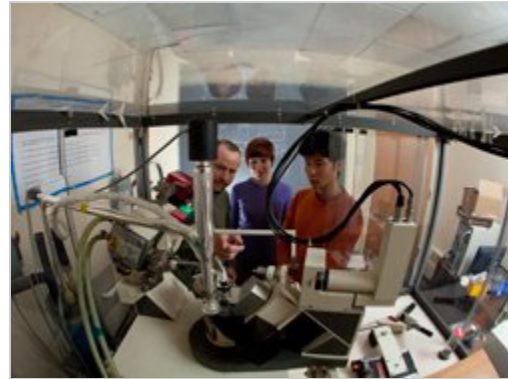
Date: Jan 4, 2010

Feature Story Science and Mathematics SLC

You're a scientist. You work with powders, crystals, and particles that are too tiny to be seen. How can you tell what they're made of?

If you're at Sarah Lawrence, you could use the x-ray diffractometer the College acquired over the summer. The machine shoots a beam of x-rays at a sample of the material, and records the pattern the rays make when they bounce off its surface. Since every substance diffracts x-rays differently, this pattern reveals the substance's molecular structure.

A similar device was used to discover the double-helix shape of DNA, says physics faculty member Scott Calvin.



But that's not all. The diffractometer can also be used to measure the size of particles that are narrower than a fine human hair. This semester, Calvin's students will crush common crystals (like sugar) into a powder and measure them using the machine

"You can crush something to nanoparticle size"—that's billionths of a meter—"using a mortar and pestle," Calvin says. "People have been creating nanoparticles since ancient times. We just haven't had a way to look at them until recently." Thanks to this new machine, SLC physics students now have a way to take a closer look.

—Suzanne Walters Gray MFA '04

College Year in Athens with Cameron Afzal

Date: Dec 15, 2009

[Feature Story](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Humanities](#) [Religion](#) [Sociology](#) [Politics](#) [History](#)

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/ex5sc0XB6SQ>]

The Geography of Faith: Paul, Christianity and the Greek City College Year in Athens, Summer 2009 Cameron Afzal

I was given the opportunity to teach last summer in Greece as part of the College Year in Athens Summer session. This was an exciting way to enrich my own teaching here at Sarah Lawrence, as well as having the occasion to meet and teach bright students from other institutions across the US. I taught a class called *Paul, Christianity and the Greek City*. It was intended to give the students an overview of the spread of Christianity into the Greco-Roman world from the Holy Land. To this end we studied the history, politics, religion, and sociology of the period focusing on Paul's "mission to the gentiles." We read Paul's letters with a view to understanding his theology as well as what would have made what he preached attractive to various sorts of people in the Greek City in the mid first century of the Common Era. This was an intensive course of study involving at least two hours of seminar a day, coupled with a visits to the most important archeological sites related to the Pauline corpus. We visited Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonica, Corinth and Athens as well as other important sites, such as Delphi and Vergina, which would help inform our understanding of the social realities of the time. This was an extremely successful course which will be taught again in the summer of 2010 on the College Year of Athens (CYA) summer program. Please do not hesitate to contact me at cafzal@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:cafzal@sarahlawrence.edu>] or visit the [CYA Web site](#) » [<http://www.cyathens.org/index.cfm?page=summercourses§ion=programs>], for further information.

2009 in Review

Date: Dec 23, 2009

Feature Story

Quite a year, 2009—marked by an economic recession, the start of a historic American presidency, and the deaths of beloved icons like Merce Cunningham, Michael Jackson, and Ted Kennedy, to name a few.

Here at Sarah Lawrence, the year was full of change, achievement, and endings that made room for new beginnings. Prestigious awards were bestowed on poets and dancers. Thoughtful current-events commentary was delivered on high-profile national news outlets. The achievements of alumnae/i and faculty alike were vaunted in the media. To all this we say, “Well done!” For the scoop on the latest and greatest of 2009, scroll on.



The Trophy Case

When it comes to accolades, this year there was no shortage of praise to go around. Members of the Sarah Lawrence community—students, staff, faculty, and alumnae/i—were recognized for a variety of achievements. For example:

Called “one of the greatest dancers of her generation,” faculty member **Sara Rudner** won the 2009 Dance Magazine Award » [<http://www.dancemagazine.com/issues/November-2009/The-2009-Dance-Magazine-Awards>] for her outstanding contributions to the world of dance. The magazine also credited her with revitalizing Sarah Lawrence’s dance program.



Matthea Harvey (poetry) received the \$100,000 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award from Claremont Graduate University, for her book “Modern Life.”

Maria Negroni (literature) received the top nonfiction award in Latin America for *Galeria Fantastica*, a book that examines the most important works of Latin American literature in the 20th century.

The Milton Society of America awarded Literature faculty member **William Shullenberger** the James Holly Hanford Award for Best Book on Milton » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/faculty-awards.html>] in 2008 for *Lady in the Labyrinth: Milton’s “Comus” as Initiation*.

The American Academy of Arts and Letters honored **Dennis Nurske** (writing) with the 2009 Academy Award in Literature » [http://www.artsandletters.org/press_releases/2009literature.php], to honor “exceptional accomplishment” in poetry.

Meanwhile, in the world of theatre, **Dan Hurlin** ’79 (theatre) was one of 50 fellows named by the United States Artists » [[#dan-hurlin](#)], a grant-making and advocacy organization. The recipient of a \$50,000 unrestricted grant, Hurlin was recognized for his original puppet theater, combining puppets with human actors in dance and drama.



Theatre program director **John Dillon** was featured as one of the “50 at 50” at the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society » [[#faculty-awards](#)] gala celebration of the union's 50th anniversary.

Melissa Frazier (Russian language and literature) received a Fulbright fellowship » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/faculty-awards.html>] and will spend the spring at Urals State University in Ekaterinburg, Russia.

Alumna **Tovah Feldshuh** received a slew of prestigious awards » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Acting_Favorite_Tovah_Feldshuh_Set_for_A_Series_of_Honors_in_Coming_Months_20091014] this year. Accolades include the Friend of the Arts Award from Town Hall, an award from the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center; an award from The American and International Societies for Yad Vashem, Inc.; an honorary doctorate from Yeshiva University; and the first Theatre Arts Award from the America Israel Cultural Foundation (coming in January). Congrats, Tovah!

This summer, rower extraordinaire **Chantal Gil** ’10 joined the Israeli national crew team » [[#Rowing-Abroad](#)] and earned silver and bronze medals at the Maccabiah Games, an annual, Olympics-style competition in Israel with more than 8,000 athletes. Gil also rows on the SLC crew team.

Closer to home, **Elissa Hutson '11** and **Bianca Galvez '11** won the Robert Frank writing contest at the Metropolitan Museum of Art » [#hutson-galvez] in December. Each wrote a story based on a photo in the exhibit *Looking In: Robert Frank's "The Americans."* Their stories will be performed on NPR this spring.



Rounding out the awards news, it appears that alumnae/i, students and faculty aren't the only ones who need to make some space on the: the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) awarded the College the Grand Gold Award » [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/magazine/_archived/voice/about/horn.html] for periodical design for the fall 2008 issue of *Sarah Lawrence* magazine. In addition, The Fund for Sarah Lawrence "thank you" video won gold and silver awards in the CASE district II competition.

Current Events

There were plenty of big issues to grapple with in 2009. Here are a few that the College took on:

In March, the 11th Annual Women's History Conference focused on "Gender and Power in the Muslim World » [#beyond-the-western-gaze]," with a keynote address from journalist **Mona Eltahawy**.



Leading advocates of health-care reform tackled the minutiae of health care reform » [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/Healthcare_Reform.html] with the Health, Science, and Society Health Care Reform series in the fall. As one might imagine, **Laura Weil**, director of the Graduate Program in Health Advocacy, kept a full dance card this year, discussing health care advocacy in articles appearing in *The New York Times*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and MSNBC.

MacArthur Prize-winning scientist and author **Carl Safina** waxed both poetic and scientific on the subject of climate change » [#safina] at the annual science lecture, *In the Same Net; Biodiversity, Ethics, and the Human Spirit*.



In October, the **economics faculty** held a teach-in about the economic crisis, explaining the fall of the credit and housing markets and the effects of the bailout packages.

Media veteran **Fawaz Gerges**, holder of The Christian A. Johnson Chair in International Affairs and Middle Eastern Studies, appeared on CNN, discussing the elections in Iran » [<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/meast/06/29/gerges.iran.sons/index.html>] and, most recently, Obama's decision to send more troops to Afghanistan » [<http://www.cnn.com/2009/OPINION/12/02/gerges.impossible.mission/>].

On Screen

No stranger to the spotlight, **JJ Abrams '88** directed the summer blockbuster *Star Trek* » [<http://movies.nytimes.com/2009/05/08/movies/08trek.html?scp=2&sq=star%20trek&st=cse>]. Abrams, the creator of popular TV shows such as *Felicity* and *Lost*, was profiled by *Entertainment Weekly* » [<http://popwatch.ew.com/2009/09/04/jj-abrams-lost-fringe/>] in September as part of the mag's retrospective on the people who have shaped television over the last 50 years.

Looks like it was also a full year for **Julianna Margulies '89**, who was recently honored at the 25th Anniversary New York Stage and Film (SAF) winter gala for her *lifetime achievements* » [<http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/>



New_York_Stage_and_Film_Honors_Julianna_Margulies_Marc_Platt_1213_20091120] in theatre, film, and television. Margulies stars in the new CBS hit show *The Good Wife* » [<http://articles.latimes.com/2009/sep/20/entertainment/ca-goodwife20>] (Westlands gets a cameo in episode 3, which contains a scene shot on campus).

In December, **Margulies** and fellow alum **Kyra Sedgewick** were nominated for the *Golden Globe award* » [<http://www.goldenglobes.org/news/id/159>] for Best Dramatic Performance by an Actress in a television series. Sedgewick is the lead in another hot show, TNT's *The Closer*.

Along with comedian Ricky Gervais (of *The Office* fame), **Matt Robinson '00** co-wrote and directed *The Invention of Lying* » [<http://articles.latimes.com/2009/sep/13/entertainment/ca-lying13>], a feature film starring Jennifer Garner, Louis C.K., Tina Fey, and Rob Lowe.

Sarah Lawrence continued to make its mark on pop culture, with mentions of the College on the small screen, including *The Conan O'Brien Show*, *Gossip Girl*, and *MSNBC's Hardball with Chris Matthews*.



In the New Yorker

To people of a certain literary bent, nothing says success like an article in the New Yorker. This year the magazine featured no shortage of Sarah Lawrence faculty members and alumnae/i on its storied pages. Writing faculty members, **Marie Howe** ([January 14](http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2008/01/14/080114po_poem_howe) » [http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2008/01/14/080114po_poem_howe]), **Dennis Nurske** ([April 20](http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2009/04/20/090420po_poem_nurske) » [http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2009/04/20/090420po_poem_nurske]), and **Vijay Seshadri** ([October 12](http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2009/10/12/091012po_poem_seshadri) » [http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2009/10/12/091012po_poem_seshadri])) all published poems in this venerable rag this year.



Leslie Morgenstein '89, president of Alloy Entertainment, was profiled in the [October 19](http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/10/19/091019fa_fact_mead) » [http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/10/19/091019fa_fact_mead] issue for having built an entertainment empire for teenage girls. (Some of his biggest hits include the *Gossip Girl* and *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* franchises.)

The work of **Nell Minow '74**, co-founder of the Corporate Library, was highlighted in an [October 12](http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/10/12/091012fa_fact_owen) » [http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/10/12/091012fa_fact_owen] article about CEO compensation. The article's author, David Owen, called Minow "one of the country's leading experts on the fiduciary obligations of executives and directors." (*The Washington Post* » [<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/06/26/AR2009062602539.html?sid=ST2009070202092>] profiled Minow's dual career in July—she also works as a movie critic.)

The White House and Beyond

On the November 20 episode of MSNBC's *Hardball* » [<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3036697/#34070559>], Chris Matthews jokingly asked if Sarah Lawrence College was the "key to the [Obama] administration," when the pros and cons of the types of institutions attended by his administrators were being discussed.

Modesty prevents us from speculating on the topic, but it's true that in January, **Rahm Emanuel '81** became President Obama's chief of staff. Despite the dramatic changes in his professional life, Emanuel returned to One Mead Way to deliver the 2009 [commencement address](#) » [[#rahm-emanuel](#)]. (The move was prompted by senior class co-president Neil Makhija '09, who interrupted Emanuel and Al Franken at the 2008 Democratic National Convention to invite Emanuel to speak on campus. Lucky for us, Emanuel responded in the affirmative.)



Emanuel isn't SLC's only in at the White House. Valerie Jarrett, a member of Obama's inner circle of advisers and assistant to the president for Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs, is the daughter of **Barbara Bowman '50**, a pioneer of early childhood education and co-founder of the famed Erikson Institute.

In other political news, President Obama named **Brooke Anderson '86** as the new deputy ambassador to the [United Nations](#) » [<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-obama-announces-more-key->

administration-posts-120209] in December. The post is the latest achievement in Anderson's impressive history of foreign policy experience, which included a stint as foreign policy/national security communications director for John Kerry's presidential campaign.

In Sustainability

As the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen came to a close, Sarah Lawrence had much cause to celebrate the ecological efforts of students and alumnae/i.

Annie Novak '05, co-founder of Rooftop Farms, played host to Martha Stewart » [<http://www.marthastewart.com/show/the-martha-stewart-show/the-brooklyn-show>] as part of a November 10 show about the sustainable food movement in Brooklyn. Novak also promoted rooftop gardens on CBS » [<http://wcbs.com/video/?id=131610@wcbs.dayport.com>] on August 19. As it turns out, her work got her noticed in other ways, too: the Huffington Post » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/10/13/hot-organic-farmers-pick_n_300414.html] nominated Novak as one of the "hottest" (read: sexiest) organic farmers around. Kudos to Novak for making the good food revolution sexy.



Back on campus, the results are in » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/living-sustainably.html>] for the energy-saving efforts of **Warren Green**, the College's first eco-friendly residence. Maybe it's not easy being green, but it sure is worth it: a year after renovating the building (with solar panels, an on-demand hot water heater, and other energy-saving measures), the College reported a 91% savings in energy and a 68% cost savings. Nice job, Warren Green!

This fall, ***When Learning Comes Naturally***, the latest film in the Child Development Institute's Learning Child series, premiered in September and aired on public television » [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cdi/learning/When_Learning_Comes_Naturally.html] stations across the country. The film explores the connection between nature and learning, as well as how to foster children's appreciation for the environment.

On Campus

Quality of life on campus went up significantly this year, with improved facilities, a new food service provider, and the arrival of a new dean.

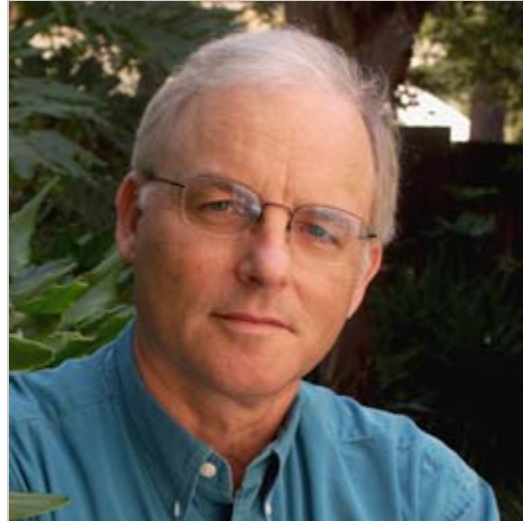
Taking that old adage "You are what you eat" seriously, Sarah Lawrence launched a new partnership with AVI Fresh, a food service provider which takes sustainably sourced foods and local economies into account when preparing their menus. To match the gastronomic upgrade, **Bates Dining Room** also received a top-to-bottom refurbishing » [[#Dining_Services](#)] and opened to returning students in the fall.

Marking the start of a new academic cycle, **Jerrilynn Dodds** assumed the role of Dean of the College in August. Prior to the new post, Professor Dodds was distinguished professor and senior faculty advisor to the provost for undergraduate education at the City College of New York, where she had previously been chairman of the department of architecture.

This year, the College hosted a variety of luminary thinkers whose ideas shape both the world and, thanks to their visits, intellectual life on campus.

The Graduate Reading Series featured bestselling novelist **Amy Bloom** and **Marilyn Nelson**, former poet laureate of the State of Connecticut, among others.

In March, author and journalist **Richard Louv** delivered the stirring 2009 Longfellow Lecture » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/longfellow.html>], entitled “Nature Deficit Disorder: The Movement to Connect Our Children, Ourselves, and Future Generations to the Natural World,” emphasizing the importance of outdoor play for children.



Renowned pediatrician **Dr. T. Berry Brazelton** joined Dr. Joshua Sparrow, psychiatrist and child development expert, to give a joint lecture on child development » [#brazelton] in May. In “Touchpoints: A Developmental and Relational Model for Working with Children and Families,” they explored how to prepare children to be academically successful in ways that nurture the whole child.

Amanda Foreman '91 returned to campus in April to discuss *The Duchess*, a film starring Keira Knightley » [http://news.google.com/news?oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&q=Keira+Knightley&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hl=en&ei=e-MvS9WpG9HRlAfi5aWeBw&sa=X&oi=news_group&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CBQQsQQwAA] that was based on Foreman’s award-winning and bestselling book *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire*. **Gabrielle Tana '85**, who produced the film, also participated in the discussion.

Speaking of homecomings, choreographer **Lucinda Childs '62** returned to campus as an artist-in-residence » [#lucinda-childs-radial-courses] in the fall, working with students on her masterpiece *Radial Courses* (1976), which was performed on campus in December.

The Sixth Annual Poetry Festival brought together some of the most spirited names in poetry, including **Mark Doty**, **Rita Dove**, and **Jorie Graham**. The three-day festival comprised craft talks, readings, panel discussions, and a “Graphic Poetry Champagne Reception.”

Here’s to a bright and prosperous 2010 for all!

Imagining Reform

Date: Nov 23, 2009

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Humanities Writing Writing Health Advocacy Faculty

In the midst of the contentious debate about health care reform, just about the last thing that comes to mind is poetry. But at an October panel discussion on health care, health advocacy faculty member Mark Schlesinger read a poem aloud then suggested that poetic, creative thinking could improve the entire health care system. “As part of the reform debate, we can use the tools of the poet” —like metaphor and analogy— “to help people learn how to think about health care beyond their own experience,” he said.

According to Schlesinger, one of the main constraints in the debate about health care is a failure of imagination on the part of policy makers and the American public. He argued that the public has lost the ability to imagine a right to health care or a functional system that could provide it.

The panel, part of the Health, Science, and Society Health Care Reform series, also included health advocacy faculty member Rebecca Johnson and Mark Hannay, director of the Metropolitan New York Health Care for All campaign. Johnson discussed the history of health care in the United States. She explained that in 1764, the citizens of Boston were faced with a smallpox epidemic. Though they knew about inoculation, it was expensive and required a hospital stay. Voters finally decided that everyone had the right to be inoculated, and that the poor would receive the treatment for free. Massachusetts retains this progressive stance on health care to this day, Johnson pointed out.

Mark Hannay focused on the details of the health care reform proposals being considered by Congress, explaining everything from the public health insurance option to inclusion of immigrants. Hannay emphasized that the current legislation would only be the beginning of an ongoing reform process—the first step toward helping people imagine a better system.

Schlesinger also reminded the audience that even if universal health care were to be implemented across the board, access problems would still persist unless creative solutions are found. Whatever changes are made, however, Schlesinger was confident they would be an improvement over the status quo: “If you put a single chimpanzee in a room with a computer, in a week, that single chimpanzee could write a health care reform bill that would do better than the existing health care system. There’s no way policy makers could actually make things work worse than what we have now—and certainly no way they could be any more inequitable.”

—Sophia Kelley MFA ’10

Room to Lounge

Date: Nov 19, 2009

Feature Story Students

Students in Hill House have more room to socialize since the opening of two new lounges in October. Previously, the pre-war apartment complex had no common areas for larger gatherings. But the two renovated apartments on the first floor now provide space to hang out, watch TV, have meetings, or study.

A committee of students chose the furnishings and paint colors for the rooms. The TV lounge is designed for relaxation and features comfortable couches and soothing blue walls. Students chose to paint the study lounge orange to help keep people awake and energized while working.



The lounges were partially funded by a gift from Trustee David Dull and his wife, Susan Shieldkret (parents of Katy '07), to support student community spaces.

Resident Assistant Michelle Huber '13 said the lounges have already seen plenty of use. "It's nice for the RAs, because we can have events there. We had an ice cream party, and this weekend there is going to be a pie-making contest," she said.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

Rahm Emanuel '81: Commencement Keynote Address

Date: May 29, 2009

[Video](#) [Parents](#) [SLC](#) [Students](#) [Alums](#)

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/C6-25Ocoibc>]

Introduction from President Karen Lawrence

Our keynote speaker today is someone whom the New York Times calls “arguably the second most powerful man in the country and already one of the highest-profile chiefs of staff in recent memory.” This is the Rahm Emanuel known to the American public: political activist, adviser to President Bill Clinton, investment banker, Illinois congressman, and a Congressional leader, before President Obama made him his first major appointment as White House Chief of Staff. But I’d also like to share with you a biography of him, à la Sarah Lawrence College.

Rahm chose to come for a liberal arts and sciences education at Sarah Lawrence over an offer to attend a prestigious performing arts academy. You have probably heard much about his interest in dance, but while he did perform at SLC in at least one show, most of his courses were in the social sciences, philosophy, and literature. In retrospect, these courses probably prepared him well for a career in politics, among them “Civil Liberties, Speech, and the Press,” “Economic Concepts and Ideas,” “Dewey, Heidegger & Wittgenstein,” and, last but not least, courses in “Animal Behavior” and “Early Childhood.”

Rahm made an impression on the faculty who taught him—some of whom continue to inspire Sarah Lawrence students today, like Jeff

Adams and Charlotte Doyle. Jeff Adams, a History faculty member and one of Rahm’s dons, recalled getting into philosophical discussions with his advisee and trying to explain the appeal of Ronald Reagan. Adams told *The New Yorker*, “I can remember his voice: ‘Mr. Adams, you can’t possibly believe that!’”

Rahm’s college friend at Sarah Lawrence and best man at his wedding described Rahm’s commitment to the public in the following way: The wedding facility on South Lake Shore in Chicago, he recalled, “was charmingly rundown in the way of heavily used public facilities—and that’s what mattered to Rahm very, very deeply, i.e., that it was a public facility. While part of the facility was being used to celebrate the most joyous event of his private life, the rest of it was being used for the normal weekend life of Chicago’s South Side. This has stuck with me ever since as emblematic of Rahm: however far he’s gone in his own life, he’s never left behind his commitment to the most basic, essential, and widely shared institutions of public life. He learned a lot of that from his mother, but a big hunk of it, too, from his alma mater.”

Rahm Emanuel has been an exemplar of what Sarah Lawrence graduates can accomplish. He is clearly an inspiration for students aspiring to leadership, including Neil Makhija, our senior class co-president. Showing admirable Sarah Lawrence moxie, Neil talked his way into the Democratic National Convention, based on his election work in Ohio. While at the DNC, he then talked his way into a special event with Rahm, stressing his Sarah Lawrence connection. Apparently, Neil broke into a conversation Rahm was having with Al Franken and



told him he was graduating this year and asked if Rahm would consider speaking at commencement. Rahm thought about it for a few minutes and said "If they invite me, I'll do it." We were delighted to invite him and are fortunate that despite the great changes in his life between then and now, he has kept his commitment to his alma mater.

Before he speaks, however, I am delighted to invite Rahm Emanuel to the podium to receive an honorary degree from Sarah Lawrence College, which, as many of you know, we only rarely confer. I'd like to ask Board Chair John Hill to assist me.

On behalf of the Trustees and the entire Sarah Lawrence community, I am pleased to confer on Rahm Emanuel the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa. With this degree, your alma mater proudly recognizes your distinguished public service and exceptional leadership and we consider your body of work to be more than significant enough for the awarding of this degree.

Rahm Emanuel's Prepared Remarks

Thank you very much. You've made one Jewish mother very happy in Chicago. She spent many a sleepless night wondering what would happen to her middle son—before, during, and after my time here. If my parents could have been here to listen to that introduction, my mother would be proud—and my father would be amazed.

President Lawrence, Chairman Hill and the Board of Trustees, members of the faculty, proud parents, family, friends, and, above all, the graduating class of 2009:

Congratulations!

I want to thank Sarah Lawrence, my alma mater, for bestowing this honorary degree. This is actually the second such degree I've received this year. Just last week, I was awarded an honorary degree for my contribution to the field of linguistics, particularly my work in four letter words.

It fills me with so many memories to be back here on this campus.

I remember the walks down the hill to Bates...and how the hill always seemed steeper on the walk back up.

I remember how small the campus seemed...until it came time to make that late-night walk from the Pub to the New Dorms. It's amazing how difficult and long a journey that could become.

I remember a lot I cannot share...in the company of your parents.

But most of all I remember the sense of anticipation—maybe with just a hint of nervousness—that I felt when I was in your position.

You've all come so far. You've taken on difficult assignments and passed tough exams. You've poured over course packets late into the night—and into the early morning. You worked hard—and you've also played hard. You've stumbled and gotten back up—occasionally as a consequence of the playing hard. And you also did your fair share of growing up.



As for your families, this is their day too. Because they've been on this journey with you: they've listened to you, placed their hopes in you—and wished you'd call more. And on behalf of all the parents here, allow me to say to these fine graduates:

Text messages do not suffice.

Just because you are holding a phone in your hand does not make it a replacement for a phone call home.

In all seriousness, having been in your shoes, I am excited for you.

This is an incredibly challenging moment for our country. As Chief of Staff, I am humbled—a quality that does not come naturally—by the incredible array of problems that President Obama confronts on a daily basis. Hard choices about our policies for automakers and financial markets, health care and energy, dangerous regions in the world and lost jobs here at home.

Our President has a pretty tough job. And the reality is—and this is the truth—he needs your help. I can think of no other time in our history in which an educated and engaged citizenry was needed more than it is right now.

Yes, it's true that you are leaving this campus at a time when our nation is facing tough problems and jobs are harder to come by than perhaps many of you had hoped.

But I am also excited for you. Because it is at moments like these when we need a new generation to offer new ideas and new energy to meet the challenges we face as a country. Because it is at moments like these when we prove what we are really worth. And I am excited for you because I know that you are ready.



Well, you look like you'll be ready after a good night's sleep.

And part of why you are ready is because you came here, to Sarah Lawrence, to earn a liberal arts education. And that is going to serve you so well. There are plenty of people out there who spent four years learning one subject or one trade. And there is a lot of merit to that.

But you spent four years learning how to approach any subject. You spent your time exploring a breadth of ideas and topics that will prepare you in ways you cannot even begin to appreciate yet.

For instance, I spent some time studying child psychology when I was at Sarah Lawrence. I had no idea how useful that would be—until I came to Washington and started working with members of Congress.

And so, on this beautiful day, before these eager, wide-eyed graduates, I wanted to share a few stories—and the lessons they've taught me when I've faced tough times, when I've stumbled, and when there has been the extremely rare occasion that I have made a mistake.

I want to start with a lesson that I learned the hard way.

When I was in high school, I was a pretty reckless guy. Let's just say I wasn't the staid and somber figure that stands before you.

I was working as a meat cutter, and I sliced my finger deeply. And being seventeen years old, despite what was a pretty bad cut, I decided to go swimming in Lake Michigan.

This turned out to be a mistake.

But in my defense, it was prom night.

I ended up in the hospital with five blood infections, two bone infections, gangrene and a 105-degree fever. For the first 96 hours, I battled between life and death. I was in the hospital for two months. Five of my roommates in intensive care died while I was there.

It was a terrible time for me, and worse for my parents, but to be honest, I'm glad I went through it. Because a funny thing happened: nearly losing my life made me want to live my life.

And so the first lesson I'd impart is this: don't be reckless with what you've been given. Take what you do, and how you live your life, seriously. It is that seriousness of purpose that I learned in that hospital bed—and I'm grateful for that lesson every day of my life. I knew from that day on that I wanted to make something of myself and make a difference in this world.

The second lesson I want to share with you is about learning from your failures.

I've been fortunate to have found success in my life. And I know most of you will be successful as well. But that success will depend upon what you do when you fail. Because you'll fail along the way, too.

1992 was a good year for me. I joined Bill Clinton's long-shot presidential race as his finance director.

He was talking about hope, he wasn't from Washington, and no one thought he could win.

Sound familiar?

I was named Assistant to the President for Political Affairs in the new administration. I was on top of the world—and in a pretty good job for someone just several years out of college.

But the truth, it may have—and I am not saying it did, but it may have—gone to my head just a little bit. I probably shot my mouth off a few too many times, and I probably picked a few too many fights. And before I knew it, my dream job was hanging by a thread.

I was demoted. And it felt terrible. Here I was, thinking that I had screwed up the biggest opportunity of my life. But I didn't give up. I didn't quit. I dug in and I dug deep.

Literally, I refused to leave. I just kept showing up for work.

But I did try to act with a little less bravado—and a lot more humility. I did my best to prove that I could work well with others.



And by the way, that's a work in progress. That's the second lesson: learn humility and wisdom when you stumble—because it will help you when you succeed. Being forced to come back from that failure is why I'm standing here today. You will have failures in your life. But it is what you do during those valleys that will determine the height of your peaks.

The final lesson I want to leave you with today is the importance of serving a cause bigger than yourself. Anyone would acknowledge that America has had a tough couple of years. But, in the long run, America will be known, not for what we've done over these last years, but for what we're about to do to come back.

But that will only be true if all of us do our part. I myself know that all too well. Just a few months ago, I was a Member of Congress—and I loved it. I was working on behalf of people I grew up with, fighting for causes I believed in, and I had big plans for myself in the House of Representatives. My family, meanwhile, was happy we were living in Chicago.

And then the President-elect called, with what he felt was a pretty bright idea.

My kids are too young to understand why I am uprooting their lives to answer that call. But I try to explain to them: sometimes you have to give up something you cherish, to be a part of achieving something even bigger. There is a greater good beyond the walls of your own ambition.

And I think your generation understands this better than mine did, and better than most have. In spite of what you've seen—or perhaps because of it—you know that apathy is simply not an option for you, and you're choosing citizenship over cynicism:

- Last year, 35,000 young people applied for only 4,000 slots in Teach for America.
- The Peace Corps had three applications for every one position.
- And AmeriCorps has had a 400 percent increase in applications in just the past four months.

A few weeks ago, President Obama signed into law a historic, bipartisan national service bill that will make it possible for young people to serve across America. It will create opportunities for hundreds of thousands of committed citizens to give back and make a difference by helping veterans, working in schools and hospitals, cleaning up the environment—and do their part to build a clean energy economy.

Whatever you do in life, I hope you will also serve however you can. You will be a better citizen for it. You will be a happier person for it. And this country will be stronger because of it.

Class of 2009—I know those lessons may sound pretty straightforward. But, trust me, they were gained through a lot of pain, and anguish, and soul-searching. And I hope you can learn from my mistakes, as you start this new chapter in your life.

Because if you have that seriousness of purpose, if you find wisdom in your failures, if you give yourself to a cause greater than yourself—then I know you will do great things.

I know from personal experience: the opportunities you've had on this campus are rare and extraordinary. Yes, that means it's hard to leave—but also that you're perfectly prepared to do so—to go out into this world and make a tremendous impact.

I remember when I graduated. I drove home, did two loads of laundry, and then I went out and got a job for a non-profit political organization in the heart of Chicago. It wasn't glamorous work. I had no idea where it would lead. But I left this place eager and excited to make my mark.

But my generation had nowhere near the same kind of chance that you all have. Because for all of the challenges of the moment we're in, there is a silver lining to graduating at a time like this. You not only have a great responsibility to serve your country, you have an extraordinary opportunity to change it.

And so I thank you. I congratulate you.

And I wish you good luck and Godspeed.

Walking the High Line

Date: Nov 12, 2009

Feature Story

New York City's newest park is elevated 30 feet above the city streets, on the tracks of a defunct rail line. On October 14, photography faculty member Joel Sternfeld led a small group of the College's closest supporters on a tour of the High Line park, starting at Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking District.

Sternfeld had photographed the High Line back when it was an abandoned structure overgrown with wild plants. He was one of a handful of people who had legal permission to explore the tracks, and his photos helped end the long battle between the preservationists and developers who fought over the fate of the High Line for two decades.



The High Line must be viewed through the lens of history, Sternfeld told the alumnae. In the 1840s, train tracks ran from the Port of New York, up 10th Avenue, and on to the rest of the country. But trains and pedestrians don't mix, and despite the efforts of the 10th Avenue Cowboys—who would ride in front of trains to shoo people off the tracks—so many people were killed that the street was nicknamed “Death Avenue.”

For safety reasons, the railway was elevated in the 1930s. The High Line threaded right through the center of the block, sometimes cutting right through warehouses for easy unloading of goods.

With the advent of trucks in the 1950s, use of the High Line declined, and in 1980 the last commercial train rolled down the tracks. (Apocryphally, Sternfeld reported, it pulled three cars full of frozen turkeys.)

And then the battle over the High Line began. The Chelsea Property Owners Association wanted to tear it down—no easy feat, since the 1.5 mile structure was constructed of enough steel to support two fully loaded trains simultaneously. Meanwhile, preservationists argued that the High Line should be used for transit or made into a park.



The fight dragged on for years. In 1999, Chelsea resident Joshua David MFA '92 found out about the controversy and decided to get involved, co-founding Friends of the High Line to advocate for preservation of the tracks and hiring Sternfeld to photograph them.

David joined Sternfeld's tour briefly and explained that *Walking the High Line*, the book of Sternfeld's photos, was published at a crucial moment, when the demolition of the High Line seemed near certain. Mayor Giuliani signed the demolition papers before he left office in 2002. But the public was galvanized by Sternfeld's photos, a raft of celebrities signed on to the cause, and Friends of the High Line took the decision to court—and won.

Mayor Bloomberg reversed the city's position, arguing that a park would increase property values, and therefore the tax revenues, from all the buildings nearby. He appointed Amanda Burden '76 chair of the New

York City Planning Commission (as a member of the commission under Giuliani, she was one of the High Line's earliest, most passionate champions). The city and Friends of the High Line formed a public/private partnership, and the High Line park opened in spring 2009.

It's a beautiful park. Sternfeld led the group of alumnae along the path, pausing to admire the views of the city and the Hudson River. Purple asters bloomed among saplings and grasses. The landscape was inspired by the plants that had colonized the abandoned tracks, Sternfeld explained; the designers tried to maintain that sense of wildness.

Sternfeld pointed out the park's whimsical elements: the lounge chairs on wheels that ride on the old rails, a window onto the traffic of 10th Avenue. His enthusiasm for the High Line—and for the organization that saved it—was unmistakable. “You think to get something done in New York City you need power. But our organization is not high powered. Everyone is *nice*. Intelligent thinking won the day. Intelligence and good manners and being considerate of people. The park is a monument to positive, intelligent thinking.”

The park ends at 20th Street, though the tracks go on. The section between 20th Street and 34th Street is under construction now and will open in 2010. The tracks then curve around the rail yard. The fate of that section of the High Line is, like the tracks themselves, still up in the air, though the city's recent move to begin acquiring that section of the High Line bode well for its future transformation.

—Suzanne Walters Gray MFA '04



Related Content

- [Joel Sternfeld](http://www.sundancechannel.com/digital-shorts/#!/series/22770235001/22907596001) » [<http://www.sundancechannel.com/digital-shorts/#!/series/22770235001/22907596001>], [Joshua David MFA '92](http://www.sundancechannel.com/digital-shorts/#!/series/22770235001/22907604001) » [<http://www.sundancechannel.com/digital-shorts/#!/series/22770235001/22907604001>], and [Amanda Burden '76](http://www.sundancechannel.com/digital-shorts/#!/series/22770235001/22909328001) » [<http://www.sundancechannel.com/digital-shorts/#!/series/22770235001/22909328001>] talk about the High Line in a series of videos by the Sundance Channel
- [Walking the High Line](http://www.amazon.com/Joel-Sternfeld-Walking-High-Line/dp/388243726X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1257976323&sr=1-1) » [http://www.amazon.com/Joel-Sternfeld-Walking-High-Line/dp/388243726X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1257976323&sr=1-1], Sternfeld's book, on Amazon.com
- The [High Line](http://www.thehighline.org/) » [<http://www.thehighline.org/>]'s Web site

Telling His Story: Student Helps WWII Veteran Tell His Tale

Date: Nov 9, 2009

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Students SLC

Personal essays can resonate with readers when writers reveal the truth about their life journeys. Writers benefit too as they unearth memories, distill them into words, and share their experiences with the world.

World War II veteran Marty Schwager, now 88, had such an experience a decade ago when trying his hand at writing through a program co-sponsored by Sarah Lawrence College and the SOS program of the JCY-Westchester Community Partners (Jewish Council of Yonkers).



“Writing that story was a catharsis for me,” says Schwager, who lives in the Jeffrey Park apartments in northeast Yonkers. “It really lifted a life burden from my shoulders. Somewhere in the back of my head I still tear up when I think about it.” The SOS program reduces isolation and enriches the lives older adults aging in place in their apartment buildings throughout Westchester in partnership with the Westchester County Department of Senior programs and Services.

The Sarah Lawrence community writers program continues to send students from its graduate writing program into the community to help young and old put their life-stories in writing. This fall, Sarah Lawrence graduate writing students are working with fledgling writers at Roosevelt High in Yonkers, the Westchester County jail in Valhalla, and senior citizen centers in White Plains and Mount Vernon.

“We work from the premise that everyone can write, and everyone has a story to tell,” says Alexandra Soiseth, assistant director of Sarah Lawrence’s writing program. “Our job is to help them find a way to tell it.”

Schwager’s essay detailed the brutality of war during the Battle of the Bulge near the end of World War II. He carried his disturbing memories for more than 50 years.

Working with Schwager in 1999 was Sarah Lawrence student Jessamyn Hope, whose short stories have appeared in literary magazines in the US and Canada. She remembers Schwager and the other senior citizens she worked with and how their determination to learn the art of writing has inspired her.

“They really worked hard to master it,” recalls Hope. “I learned from their stories, but I also learned a lesson that’s applicable to my future – that you never have an excuse to not be learning and growing as a person.”

Schwager’s story, which was published in the *Yonkers Jewish Chronicle*, encouraged him to develop his new-found craft. For several years, he interviewed Yonkers residents and wrote profiles of them for the *Chronicle*.

Free Rides

Date: Oct 30, 2009

Feature Story

The College rolled out a bike-share program earlier this month, placing six lime-green bicycles in a designated rack in front of the library. Students, faculty, and staff can now borrow a bike to get around on campus, to pedal into town, or just to get some exercise.

Maureen Gallagher, director of facilities, says the inspiration came from abandoned bicycles that had been left on campus. Why not take bikes that no one wanted and make them into something everyone could use? She rescued six abandoned bikes that were still in decent shape and had them fixed at a local shop, using non-salvageable bikes as sources for parts.



“So far the response has been amazing! Bikes are being borrowed constantly,” said Gallagher. Bikes can be checked out at the main library as easily as checking out a book. Use of the bicycle is free for up to six hours; after that, riders will be charged 25 cents per hour or a full-day rate of six dollars. Every bike comes with a lock, and users are encouraged to be diligent about securing bikes so that the community can keep pedaling.

Students can find full details about the program on MySLC under Campus Life.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

From Farm to Fork

Date: Oct 28, 2009

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Environmental Studies Students Administration SLC

As part of a larger effort to enrich environmental studies on campus, Sarah Lawrence College and Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture are embarking on a partnership to promote sustainable food practices and production. At a special event introducing the collaboration, President Karen Lawrence highlighted the potential benefits of such a partnership: it would not only help engage students with sustainability issues in ways in which a traditional curriculum cannot, but it would also strengthen the College's connections to the Westchester community.

Stone Barns is an 80-acre farm and education facility located just 15 miles from campus. At the October 13 event, Jill Isenbarger, executive director of the center, and three farm managers explained the facility's mission and practices. A four-season and pastured livestock farm, one of the goals of Stone Barns is to grow crops best suited to the local environment and to raise animals their pastures can support.

The farm operates primarily as an educational resource for the community. The center receives more than 100,000 visitors per year. It also partners with Blue Hill, the on-site restaurant that features the farm's products.

This year, a dozen students volunteered at the center's Harvest Fest and plan to volunteer for farm work days in the spring.. President Lawrence shared one student's feedback from the experience: "It was inspiring to feel connected to agriculture that takes place so close to campus. The farm work made me think more about what I put in my mouth."

A tasting of sustainable local foods from the Hudson Valley followed the talk. Samples included fresh cheese made from local goat's milk, apple cider, squash soup, and mini-burgers from sustainably raised cattle.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

The Omnivore's Dilemma

Date: Sep 30, 2009

Feature Story

After 35 years, Bates Common Dining hall has recently undergone a major overhaul. This summer the college welcomed a new food service provider and both Bates and the Pub have been totally remodeled. In addition to new décor, students now have an expanded variety of dining choices.

Rowing Abroad

Date: Sep 23, 2009

Feature Story Students

Returning to campus after a year abroad in Israel, Chantal Gil '10 had some uncommon advice for students going to other countries. "Try a sport. It's a great way to make friends and experience another culture—much better than just studying or partying."

Gil did more than just *try* a sport; she trained seriously in rowing and was asked to join the Israeli national crew team. By the time she left Israel she was one of the top-ranked rowers in the country, as well as a silver and bronze medal winner at the Maccabiah Games.

Her achievements in Israel are even more remarkable considering that before she decided to join the crew team at Sarah Lawrence during her first year here, Gil had never rowed before.

In high school she played soccer and ran track, excelling at the 100 meters. But at Sarah Lawrence, she decided to try something new. She joined the crew team because it was supposed to be a great workout—rowing utilizes all the major muscle groups—and she hoped to stay in shape and meet some friends. Gil had the strength and the discipline to be a good rower. She just needed to learn technique and gain confidence on the water.

When she traveled to Israel for her junior year abroad, Gil studied Hebrew and psychology at both Tel Aviv University and Haifa University. She also found a rowing center, where she worked out with members of the Israeli national team and their coaches. She also dreamed of participating in the Maccabiah Games.

The Maccabiah Games are held every four years and involve more than 8,000 Jewish athletes from around the world. When she first imagined participating, Gil thought she would try to join the US team. But one of the Israeli coaches at the center noticed her work ethic and mentioned how nice it would be if she could row for them. Gil told him that she had an Israeli passport—her father was born in Israel—and the coach handed her a training schedule that day.

The intense training didn't seem to faze this talented athlete. The team typically spent three hours on the water, six days a week, and most days they were required to do weight training as well. Since all the measurements were in kilos, Gil said she didn't even realize how much she was lifting. "When I got back to Sarah Lawrence, I found out I'd more than doubled my strength. At one of the weight machines I used to only pull 30 pounds, but now I can pull down 60 to 80."

Gil met her rowing partner, Chen Oshri, at the rowing center in Tel Aviv. The two friends won the silver medal in the women's pair and also rowed together in the quad race, where they helped their team win a bronze. Gil credits the pair's success to chemistry. "We were able to help each other out in many ways. She wanted to improve her English and I wanted to practice my Hebrew. She had just started rowing, too. Together we helped each other become more confident."



Back on campus, just three years after first picking up an oar, Gil is training with her fellow Gryphons and looking forward to a return trip to Israel. This October she'll race in the Israeli National Championships. "I always pictured myself as sporty," she says. "But after Israel, I consider myself an athlete."

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

Top Photo: Chantal Gil '10 (left) with her rowing partner, Chen Oshri

Future of Teaching: Meet Our Newly Tenured Faculty

Date: Sep 20, 2009

Feature Story Faculty

Scott Calvin

Discipline: Physics

Courses Taught: Analytical Dynamics; Astronomy; Electricity and Magnetism; Introduction to Electromagnetism, Light and Modern Physics (General Physics without Calculus); Introduction to Mechanics; Quantum Mechanics; Crazy Ideas in Physics and Rocket Science

Extracurricular activities: Gardening, writing short stories

Most recent book read: *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin



“I can’t think of another place where I would have been in the mainstream in terms of both teaching and research. There are places where I could have done the same amount of research, but not as much curriculum development. One of my colleagues started having students help him research the relationship between math, literature and culture for eventual inclusion into a textbook. Seeing that made me realize there is a broader definition of scholarship. There’s no textbook in my field, so I realized I could write one. The working title is *XAFS for Everyone*. XAFS stands for X-ray absorption fine structure.

“My research in XAFS is very collaborative. I tell people what things are made of. A typical collaboration with a chemist, for example, begins after they have tried to synthesize a new cancer treatment. They come to me and I try to verify that they have made what they think they’ve made.

“I like the idea of having students do things that are real and individual and then communicate their work to the world. At Sarah Lawrence we had plenty of opportunities for students to do individual work, but we didn’t have so many structures for communicating to the world. I thought, students are already doing the conference projects, they just need a forum to share them. So I started the Science Poster Sessions. First it was just for students from my classes, but now it has grown to involve all the sciences, as well as some psychology students and all of the students from the graduate program in human genetics. Now over 100 students participate. I would say it is one of the premier academic events on campus.”

Joshua Henkin

Discipline: Writing

Courses Taught: Graduate and Undergraduate Fiction Workshops; Craft of Fiction

Extracurricular activities: Spending time with his wife, kids, and their golden retriever; watching movies; playing racquetball

Most recent books read: *The Art of Time in Fiction* by Joan Silber; *Cost* by Roxana Robinson; *The Spare Room* by Helen Garner; and *Everything Ravaged, Everything Burned* by Wells Tower



"I take teaching very seriously. You don't do it if you don't like it. There are other ways to make a living. I try to write in the morning and get my writing done early. It's not a bad schedule in terms of finding time to write, but you have to be disciplined. I'm working on a new book right now, tentatively titled, *The World Without You*. I'm writing this book from multiple perspectives and I have to avoid letting the cart lead the horse. You don't want the story's themes to lead the story. A lot of these things come up frequently in my students' works and I can intercept them in my own writing because I've helped students work through them.

"One thing I've noticed among some of my grad students is a tendency to over-foreshadow. Flannery O'Connor said a great ending should feel inevitable and yet still surprise the reader. When the writing is under-confident, there can be too much popcorn along the trail and at the end you're not surprised. It's better for the reader not to notice the popcorn until the end."

» [] Matthea Harvey

Discipline: Writing

Courses taught: "Poetry and the Graphic Novel," "Expanding the Poetic Toolbox," graduate and undergraduate poetry workshops

Extracurricular activities: Photography, going to museums, hanging out with her cat, walking in Prospect Park, and watching tennis

Most recent book read: *Notes from No Man's Land* by Eula Biss



"What's lovely about Sarah Lawrence is you can teach classes about what you're interested in, in that moment. It's not a fossilized, static scenario where you've learned the subject matter and now you're teaching it; often you're learning along with the students.

"Sometimes we have too narrow vision of what a poem is and what it should do. If a student is only writing first-person poems about their personal experience, I'll suggest that they write a fable, a poem in the voice of Dick Cheney, or that they experiment with a hybrid form—an architecture poem or dance poem.

"I like people to feel a kind of flexibility. I want that for myself, and I want it for my students, so they feel like there isn't anything they can't write about. Whenever there's something I feel I could never write about, then I think, That's clearly an assignment for myself. I try to make myself as uncomfortable as possible."

Glenn Dynner

Discipline: Religion

Courses Taught: Jewish Spirituality and Culture; Kabbalah, Hasidism and Jewish Enlightenment; Modern Jewish History; The Holocaust; Jewish Life in Eastern Europe

Extracurricular activities: Writing songs and playing acoustic guitar and piano.

Most recent book read: *The Return of Martin Guerre*, a historical novel by Natalie Zemon Davis. Now he's working on *Moby Dick*.



"It turns out Sarah Lawrence is the most difficult place to teach in the world, because you're trying to have a two-hour conversation, not a lecture. When I first got here I consulted with senior faculty both inside and outside my department and got fantastic ideas on how to run things without running things. How to let people talk about what they read, but still guide the discussion. Religion and ethnic tension and genocide are conversations that are sometimes hard to control, and yet when students are tired toward the end of the semester you also want to try to provoke.

"I also got the sense from my mentors here that you could really make teaching important, central to your work. You can think about teaching not just in terms of how to present an idea, but how to explore the material along with students. I had to learn how to make teaching and research part of the same thing.

"It's very difficult to balance teaching and your own research and writing. Some very inspiring faculty members showed me that it could be done, that they could be part of the same process. Having these more experienced colleagues made all the difference."

Experimental Summer

Date: Aug 14, 2009

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Computer Science STS Faculty Students High School

What turns genes on? What is modular arithmetic? How do you program a robotic dog to sit? These were some of the questions eight Yonkers High School students investigated recently as part of the Summer Science Program. The teens worked side by side with Sarah Lawrence undergraduates and faculty in five labs on campus, conducting experiments in physics, molecular biology, developmental robotics, computer science, and organic chemistry.

The weeklong collaboration allowed the high school students the chance to pursue serious scientific study as part of a team and gave them their first glimpse of college life. But the teens weren't the only ones who benefited: Undergraduates were transformed into mentors by the process.

Sarah Lawrence students who participate in the Summer Science Program spend six to ten weeks on campus working intensively on a research project. This year, for the first time, the undergraduates also got to be teachers. "We were able to show leadership skills, take charge, and teach them. They got to mirror us. They could watch me do an experiment and then run it on their own," said Kady Goldlist '11.

Ansu Andrews was one of the Yonkers students who worked with Goldlist in the organic chemistry lab. She ran experiments that will help identify amino acids present in various marine animals. "I got to put into perspective what I learned last year about peptide bonds. Kady showed us how to draw them," Andrews explained.

Students in the robotics and computer science labs experienced firsthand the importance of attention to detail. Teena Alex and her partner spent the week programming a robotic dog to do tricks. "I never thought making a dog sit would be so difficult. You have to be really precise in telling it what to do. If you forget a parenthesis, it's not going to work," she said.

Biology faculty member Drew Cressman commended the high school students. "They didn't have a lot of experience in my particular field of science, but they were very impressive in their ability to pick things up quickly," said.

The Summer Science Program is in its eighth year, though this is only the second time high school students have been involved. Cressman piloted the program last year with three high school students. This summer, five faculty members participated, along with 14 Sarah Lawrence students.

From the enthusiasm evident on the day of the high school students' final presentations, the collaboration was a resounding success—even when the experiments didn't turn out as expected. Sometimes the robots didn't do what they were supposed to. In the molecular biology lab, proteins didn't act the way students had anticipated. But participants learned that those results are all part of the process and are valid scientific data.

While the students ate lunch outside the Alice Stone Ilchman Science Center on a bright July afternoon, there was only one common complaint: The week just seemed to go by too quickly.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

Go ahead, just try to make my health-care job obsolete

Date: Feb 17, 2009

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Humanities Health Advocacy

By Laura Weil

Op Ed published in *The Journal News*, February 17, 2009

President Barack Obama has signaled in a number of ways that health-care reform will be a priority of his administration, a development that is most urgently needed. Not even here, in the relatively wealthy Lower Hudson Valley, is our health-care system meeting our clinical, emotional or financial needs. The fact is, the United States spends more per capita for health care than any other developed country, yet we consistently measure far below most of them in the health of our citizens.

According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in excess of 6 percent more of our gross domestic product is spent on health care than in other developed countries—and we are truly an extreme outlier, not even close to the next-costliest health-care system. The Commonwealth Fund reports that our health system ranks one-third below the best country on measures of death from medical conditions considered "amenable to health care." Our infant mortality rate, the highest in the developed world, is a national shame. We rank 33rd on a United Nations list of neonatal death rates, with 6.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. A shocking number considering Iceland's top-ranking score of 2.9. In other words, citizens across the U.S. are dying from illnesses that could have been prevented or effectively treated with timely, high quality care.

One of the ways that we have been coping with this severe inadequacy has been the work of patient advocates, health-care professionals whose job it is to help patients manage their interactions with the health care system.

Recently, U.S. News and World Report cited the patient advocate as a "cutting edge career" for 2009. This prediction is an astounding development, clearly indicating that the catastrophic shortcomings of our system have finally reached the tipping point in public awareness.

U.S. News identified patient advocacy as a growth industry because it has become an unfortunate fact of life that sick, and often frightened, people need help navigating our fragmented and discontinuous health-care system. They need access to good and consistent primary care that keeps them out of emergency rooms. They need help fighting denials of care by our for-profit payer system. They need someone who can help them access information, identify clinical centers of excellence, and manage the complicated and often cryptic minutiae of medical bills and insurers' explanations of benefit. They need someone to talk to, someone knowledgeable who can be a consistently available contact and support as they plot an often frightening course through diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

Patient advocates provide this support. Sadly, such support rarely comes these days from family physicians—whose ability to spend time with patients is compromised by unrealistic insurance reimbursements and the resulting need to see more patients in less time, in order to underwrite the high costs of practicing medicine. Add to that our increasing reliance on complex medical technology, clinical micro-specialization, and the transfer of patient care away from the primary care physician to unknown and often geographically remote specialists. It's no wonder then that the demand for patient advocacy is expected to surge. Patient advocates, like myself, would love to see our profession disappear, made redundant by a rational system able to meet the needs of people seeking medical care, to keep people healthy and able to be contributing members of society, and which didn't impoverish patients—sometimes even those who have health insurance.

We have gone off track, focusing health-care dollars on often unnecessary high-tech tests and interventions. Doctors don't get adequately reimbursed for listening to patients, for partnering with them to develop sensible preventive measures and realistic treatment choices. The lack of a fat checkbook or health insurance blocks

access to simple, effective, preventive primary care and forces the uninsured to use the most expensive venues for care: crowded emergency rooms where there's no possibility for continuity and follow-up. It's an upside down and unnecessarily costly system created by the fact that we just don't think access to health care should be a fundamental right for everyone. Our community hospitals are suffering financially because of this broken system, but worse—our neighbors are dying because of it.

Until these changes come to pass, I believe that demand for my services will keep growing.

Laura Weil, head of Sarah Lawrence College's master's degree program in health advocacy » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/public-health-advocacy/index.html>] , has been a patient advocate for 20 years. In 1980, Yonkers-based Sarah Lawrence established the nation's first and, to date, only master's program in health advocacy.

Beyond the Western Gaze

Date: Apr 8, 2009

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Humanities Religion Womens History

At the keynote address of the 2009 Women's History Conference, "Gender and Power in the Muslim World," journalist Mona Eltahawy thanked the organizers for providing a space where Muslim women could be considered for more than their headscarves and virginity. The award-winning writer set the tone for the event by sharing her personal journey as both a Muslim woman and a feminist.

Conference participants investigated stereotypes of men and women in the Muslim world, seeking to understand and challenge their construction. Topics ranged from the politics of women leading prayer to the representation of masculine identity in Iranian film.

The 11th annual conference coincided with Women's History Month and included scholars, journalists, students, and community members from across the United States, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Egypt, Singapore, Australia, and the United Arab Emirates. Men and women, both Muslim and non-Muslim attended the two-day event.

At a session on how Western media sensationalizes honor killings, scholar Leila Pazargadi revealed that at least two best-selling memoirs depicting the victimization of Muslim women are hoaxes. These falsifications of stories feed the stereotype that Muslim women need to be rescued by outsiders, she said.

Dr. Mahjabeen Hassan, a successful plastic surgeon, related her experiences as an immigrant who initially tried to assimilate to the culture of the United States, but then decided to wear a headscarf. She explained that when she chose to cover her head she felt a stronger connection to her faith: "I am carrying Islam on my shoulders. Hijab made me a better person." An intense but respectful discussion followed as women of differing opinions presented their own interpretations of Islam.

Juliane Hammer of the University of North Carolina stated, "The liberation of Muslim women has been a colonial trope. Muslim women therefore haven't been allowed to define their roles on their own terms." Throughout the conference, participants analyzed the power of the Western gaze, and while personal responses differed, everyone seemed to agree that Muslim women must be granted the right to make their own decisions about their culture and religious practices.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10
April 8, 2009

The Full Circle Lecture

Date: Apr 27, 2009

Video Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

A Conversation with Alumnae Tina Howe and Jane Alexander

Moderated by Ed Sherin, Sarah Lawrence College Theatre Faculty. Tina Howe '59 and Jane Alexander '61 discuss their work and collaboration, which began as students at Sarah Lawrence College. Jane Alexander recently appeared in Tina Howe's play *Chasing Manet* at Primary Stages in New York City.

[Embedded media https://www.youtube.com/embed/kAiMG_wPG4Y]

The New York Times highlights the work of Dr. Karen Adolph '86 in an article on scientists' use of eye-trackers in learning about how children look at the world

Date: Aug 19, 2010

Buzz History and the Social Sciences Psychology Alums

In an article about the use of eye-tracking devices in researching how children look at the world and learn to interact with it, *The New York Times* » [[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/17/science/17gaze.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=karen adolph&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/17/science/17gaze.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=karen%20adolph&st=cse)] highlights the work of Dr. Karen Adolph '86, a developmental psychologist at New York University.

Joan Scott MS '78

Date: Sep 7, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Human Genetics Alums

The Newsletter of the Genetics and Public Policy Center » [http://www.dnapolicy.org/news.release.php?action=detail&pressrelease_id=135] reports that Joan Scott MS '78 has been named the new Director of the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics Genetics and Public Policy Center.

Allan Gurganus '72

Date: Sep 8, 2009

In the News Alums

Former writing faculty Allan Gurganus '72 will be inducted into the Twin County Hall of Fame for his work as a novelist, as reported by the *Rocky Mount Telegram* » [<http://www.rockymounttelegram.com/news/community/hall-of-fame-announces-2009-inductees-816590.html>].

J.J. Abrams '88

Date: Sep 8, 2009

In the News Alums

J.J. Abrams '88, the creator of popular TV shows such as *Felicity* and *Lost*, is profiled by *Entertainment Weekly* » [<http://popwatch.ew.com/2009/09/04/jj-abrams-lost-fringe/>] as the magazine looks back at the people who have had a major role in shaping TV over the last 50 years.

Laura Weil, Director of the Health Advocacy Graduate Program

Date: Sep 8, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Health Advocacy Faculty

Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, comments in a *Belleville News Democrat* » [<http://www.bnd.com/news/local/story/911882.html>] article on health care for the uninsured.

Laura Weil, Director of the Health Advocacy Graduate Program

Date: Sep 11, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Health Advocacy Faculty

In *The New York Times* » [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/12/health/12patient.html?_r=1], Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, talks about the role and objectives of the health advocacy professional.

Writing Coordinator Carol Zoref

Date: Sep 14, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

On *Yahoo* » [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090911/ts_alt_afp/useducationobama;_ylt=A0wNdPdo6KxK_awA4oCs0NUE;_ylu=X3oDMTJlOXQyNzNmBGFzc2V0A2FmcC8yMDA5MDkxMS91c2], Writing coordinator Carol Zoref comments on papers purchased on the Internet by college students.

Music Faculty Daniel Wohl

Date: Sep 21, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Music Faculty

Music faculty member Daniel Wohl, talks to the *Hudson Valley Life* » [<http://www.hvlifeonline.com/articles/article.aspx?id=1294>] about Grammy Award winning musician Joan Tower, who has been a great inspiration to his career.

Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Sep 21, 2009

In the News SLC

In a *Los Angeles Times* » [<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-madden20-2009sep20,0,4225481.story>] op-ed series “Postcards from the Recession,” writer Kerry Madden mentions that her daughter is attending Sarah Lawrence College.

Former Faculty Member Peter Drucker

Date: Nov 3, 2009

In the News Economics Faculty

CNBC » [<http://www.cnbc.com/id/33592712>] reports on the Drucker centennial, which marks Peter Drucker’s 100th Birthday. Drucker was a former Sarah Lawrence economics faculty member and world-renowned writer, management consultant, and “father of modern management.”

Sarah Lawrence Integrates Environmental Studies in Sciences and Social Sciences with the Arts; Pedagogy Promotes Interdisciplinary Work

Date: Aug 26, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Science and Mathematics
Drawing Theatre Sculpture Art History Printmaking Writing Filmmaking Photography Dance
Painting Visual Arts Digital Imagery Faculty SLC

Sarah Lawrence College is developing an environmental studies program with an eye to turning out graduates prepared to contribute to the public conversation about a sustainable environmental future as writers, artists, advocates, and practitioners. Supported by a planning grant from the Mellon Foundation, the College is pursuing an agenda to build upon its interdisciplinary pedagogy to create a cadre of creative thinkers, analysts, and interpreters of the compelling environmental issues of the day.

“Sarah Lawrence’s historic strengths are in the arts,” says Charles Zerner, Barbara B. and Bertram Cohn Professor of Environmental Studies, who has focused many of his courses and a lecture series on environmental imagery and its consequences. “Our plan is to build a program that draws on these strengths in filmmaking, visual and performing arts, art and architectural history, and design, and integrates them with curricular offerings in the sciences and social sciences.

“There is a tremendous need for analytic and investigative environmental writing and artistic expression on contemporary problems, and there is need for writing and art that envision varied, sustainable, alternative environmental futures,” says Zerner. “The role of the arts in creating new visions of environmental value and new ways of imagining sustainable approaches to environmental problems cannot be underestimated.”

2010-2011 courses will span the social sciences, the sciences, literature, history, the arts and include such titles as *Cultures of Nature: Environmental Representations and their Consequences*, *Picturing Nature: Poetics and Politics of Environmental Imagery*, *Green Romanticism*, *Green Chemistry*, *Investigating the Environment: The Indian Point Project and Hunger and Excess: Histories, Politics and Cultures of Food*.

The environmental studies program has also created a speakers series that brings cutting edge architects, anthropologists, filmmakers, visual artists, photographers, activists, and writers on the environment to the campus. In the coming year the College will host, among others, Joel Towers, Associate Professor of Architecture at Parsons The New School for Design and Claire Pentecost, Associate Professor of Photography at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, an artist who engages a variety of media to interrogate the imaginative and institutional structures mediating relations with the natural world. “These lectures provide a richly provocative source of perspectives on environmental issues, complementing coursework” says Zerner.

The interdisciplinary foundation of this new, invigorated environmental studies program relies on the College’s unique pedagogy, which enables students to create their own educational programs and to pursue independent research, often at the level of graduate studies. Sarah Lawrence has long been recognized for the excellence of its creative writing and arts programs and writing across the disciplines. In 2000, for example, the College was named Liberal Arts College of the Year by TIME magazine/Princeton Review for excellence in writing across the curriculum. Over the last decade SLC has expanded its curricular offerings in the sciences, and environmental studies have become an important component of nearly all areas of study.

Chester Biscardi Goes to China

Date: Jul 27, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Music Faculty

This spring, composer and music faculty member Chester Biscardi traveled to Shanghai and Beijing, where he was a featured composer at the week-long Beijing Modern Music Festival ([view schedule »](http://chesterbiscardi.com/calendar.html) [<http://chesterbiscardi.com/calendar.html>]). In both cities, he presented lectures, taught workshops and master classes, and oversaw concerts of his work. But that was the easy part. He also ate cow stomach, inhaled vast quantities of smog, and experienced firsthand the noise, pomp, and bureaucracy of modern Chinese culture. Biscardi recorded his impressions in an honest and detailed journal, excerpted here.

Friday, May 14

4:50 p.m.
Shanghai, China

Arrived at Pudong International Airport at 1:30 p.m. and was met by two unbelievably nice and generous and fun graduate students: Su Xiao, a composition student of Jia Daqun, and Gaoyan “Nightingale” Xiazi, a musicologist specializing in Romantic and 20th-century Western music. Language/communication is “interesting” and good-natured, and we muddled through somehow. They brought me via an hour-long taxi ride through endless rows of modern high rises (of course, there are 17 million people here!) and intense and dense smog and rain past the Expo, which was hardly visible, and the Huangpu River, to the Donghu Hotel, No. 70 Donghu Road.



8:20 p.m.

First impressions. Went for a walk around the neighborhood, down Central Huaihai Road to tree-lined Hengshan Road. An attempt at Paris, but it doesn't quite make it. Dodging bikes and angry cars. Incense, the perfume of flowers, and exhaust all mingle together in a kind of stewed wetness. Dinner at The Dakota, a bar & bistro, across the street from the hotel. What a mix of things. English flying around everywhere. People seem to stand at attention in the few public places I witnessed today: guards at the airport, police at the top of the stairs of a subway station, the waiters in the restaurant.

Saturday, May 15

8:45 a.m.

Down to breakfast in the main, oldest villa guarded by lions in front of which is a fountain of muses. A huge spread, most of which turned my stomach! Boiled eggs in tea, various rice and noodle dishes with meats, and unidentifiable soups, etc. At least not this morning on a jetlagged stomach.

5 p.m.

I take back what I said about Paris. After resting, lunch (Western!), and working on my lecture for tomorrow, I took a very long walk to really see my extended neighborhood of the French Concession. This is just a small, small sector of Shanghai but it seems to go on forever and is full of riches—art galleries, gated mansions, and heritage sites. But you have to pass new construction of enormous—I mean enormous!—structures on sites where workers work 24 hours a day every day. Every chic store lines Huaihai and shoppers are everywhere. Nothing changes the fact that the air is heavy and full of dirt. It is hard to breathe. Everyone is coughing. Some wear masks. Some smoke cigarettes. Invigorating, amazing, enervating.

Monday, May 17

12:45 p.m.

A quick tour of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music with Xiao, a mix of old and then ultra-new buildings. There were almost life-size posters of my headshot all around campus! Unnerving and wild. Then met Linda, my translator, and a lot of other students. Linda's English is good, but it's going to be an interesting ride this afternoon from 2-4 p.m. when we try to get across what I'm trying to say. I'm already cutting huge areas of my lecture in my mind while I'm taking a brief rest. From lunch.



Finally met Jia Daqun, my host, the composer and Dean of the Graduate Study Programs (among a million other official government titles), at elementfresh, a neighborhood hangout. A dish with blood sausage and cow stomach, which he insisted I try: “You know that as a composer you need to be adventurous.” Oh, Lord. I got the cow stomach down but not by much.

Maybe we're spoiled in the West re: personal space and need for solitude. Xiao walks me to the bathroom and waits at the door. He comes all the way up to my room when he brings me back to the hotel. The first experience weird, the second nice in a way. I guess that's the way it is here.

9:10 p.m.

There were about 30 people at the lecture (“In Time’s Unfolding: Influence and Resonance”). Linda introduced me—they applauded—and translated for me. After a brief introduction about myself and my interest in music from the East, I analyzed and played *Tenzone*, *Mestiere*, *In Time’s Unfolding*, *Tartini* (which Beibei requested), *Piano Quintet*, and *Trasumanar* (which Xiao requested), and then sang “You’ve Been On My Mind” in my inimitable voice, coarser now for the Shanghai air.

In the midst of which I asked them to talk about themselves. At first they were shy and blushed, but then they couldn’t stop asking questions! They like minimalism, tonal music, and pop. They asked questions about orchestration, about the “vertical” aspect of music, do I actually feel colors and how do I translate them into music?

Afterward they stayed around asking more questions and made it clear that they loved the music: “The *Piano Quintet* moved me so much. When you had just the strings I felt such sadness, such loss.” This from Beibei, a violinist to whom I gave a copy of *Tartini*, and he went out and copied the quintet.

The lecture went on for 2-1/2 hours. At the end, one of the students who had been looking at me intensely said: "The white moons of your fingernails mean that you are very healthy." Is it so?

The master class was unlike any I've ever done. They had a video camera on non-stop and people were walking around photographing me from every angle. By 6 p.m. the jet-lag tiredness was almost unbearable, but there I was in front of another 30 faces waiting for something. And I think I gave them whatever it was that they were looking for, because there were smiles all around, laughs, another zillion questions.



I found the five students who presented me with their work to be diverse, very talented, and very accomplished. Although they say they like minimalism, tonal music, and pop, they presented scores that included trying to fit Chinese pentatonic scales with 12-tone Western chromaticism in a Webernesque-Bartokian mix.

I found myself encouraging them to break rules, using their imaginations in new ways to accomplish what conventional music does. They had so many questions about how to really evolve a piece, its form, should musical transitions coincide with visual ones? To which I replied by talking about Toru Takemitsu's scoring for *Ran*, for instance, as well as letting musical experiences overlap changes of scenes, etc. Finally, Xiao played me his award-winning *Brand II* that combines Western and Eastern instruments that was full of exciting, dance-like rhythms and almost Mideastern textures.

Tuesday, May 18

4:30 p.m.

I can't imagine asking any of my students to go pick up a guest at the airport and then take care of them every step of the way for the duration of their visit! Xiao and Nightingale were at my hotel at 9 a.m. to take me via subway to Expo 2010. What I have not known until today is that they have been paying for all of my meals out of their own pockets, including those on our trip to Suzhou. The Conservatory covers certain things but not that. It's humiliating to me, but it's what they expect to do. The real thing, however, is that both of them—and the others like Linda—are just naturally generous and open and willing to be there for you. I am deeply touched by all of this. And I visibly see that they exhaust themselves in doing everything with perfection and detail and all smiles. There is a real shift in me since yesterday about the Chinese and their culture as I begin to feel more comfortable here.

9:10 p.m.

Shanghai is complex. I can't believe how transformative this experience is beginning to be. In my mind previously: China on parade—authoritarianism gone amok. Today: a city more Western than the West. Even old folk walk around like this is what they expected their future to be.

Wednesday, May 19

8:30 a.m.

To the local Xiangyang Park earlier to see the folk doing Qi Gong. Not as choreographed as I had expected! Music and instructions coming from an old boom box cassette player. Lot of oldsters looking as though they're making up their own Gestalt movements. Well, they are. Only the Buddha could possibly guess their form.

Noon

Jia Daqun and I had a last meeting and tea (a sweet herbal tea for health, a box of which he gifted me). He is calm and soft-spoken and very warm. And very busy! I made the mistake of asking him the best way for me to make a quick visit to The Bund and Pudong and the financial center this afternoon. He immediately called Xiao—in spite of my protests (I really wanted to do something on my own at my own pace)—to accompany me not only to those places this afternoon but to take me all the way out to the airport tomorrow morning.

I told Daqun that it would be unthinkable for me to rely on my students to do even one of the many, many things that Xiao has done for me during this past week. American students don't know that kind of sense of respect. "In America, that's democracy, no? Here it's about family and brothers. We take care of each other. You were invited by the Division of Graduate Studies, and everyone is involved." His students engrave his works from his manuscript and do anything he asks of them. And he takes care of them in all ways: as mentor, friend, helping them get work.

Xiao met me with a pianist friend, Xiang "Cathy" Xiao Qin, a really lovely person. I'm moving between horrified and ecstatic from moment to moment, but when they arrived my unease abetted, and we immediately started having fun. The subway to The Bund. Past the Peace Hotel where Noel Coward wrote *Private Lives* in four days in 1930 when he had the flu. Then, finally, the famous view of Pudong with the Oriental Pearl TV Tower, Jinmao Tower, and the bottle-opener Shanghai World Financial Center. Impressive if you could see through the dense smog or whatever it is. Hot and stinky day. A ferry boat ride across the Huangpu River and a walk along the boardwalk to look back at The Bund. A million pictures later we head home.

Thursday, May 20

5:50 p.m.
Beijing

Xiao came to pick me up, as diligent and kind as ever, and when we arrived at Hongqiao International Airport via taxi (the driver of which saved our lives when some madman crossed four lanes to get to the off ramp—and we were in his path) he walked me all the way to the security point beyond which he couldn't enter. We hugged, and when I looked back he was still standing there looking at me. I felt truly sad.

On the China Southern Airlines flight (two hours to Beijing) I just kept thinking about why I dislike and am so resistant to Chinese culture—the saccharine music and in-your-face sweetness of graphics and yet the seeming indifference that shows in many people's faces. Protection? How do I let all of this go so that I can have a genuine experience rather than wanting to reject it and go "home"—to my place of comfort? Then the intensely green Yen (bird) mountains come into view before we land. I know that I'm someplace very different.

Two Beijing Central Conservatory of Music students pick me up: a composer, Li Shaosheng, and Liu Yitian, who is specializing in all things solfège. Shaosheng is



well dressed, wants to study in New York, and already has a pedigree (studies in Vienna, major performances worldwide, Tanglewood next summer, knows Boulez). He has a million questions right out of the parking garage, including what kind of music young Chinese composers should be writing.

He has a car, and it takes just under two hours to get into the center of the city! The sun is out. It's 92 degrees. We pull into the Merchantel Hotel, No.2 Xi Bian Men Wai Da Jie, Xi Cheng District, which must be a godzillian star hotel. It's brand new and right across from the Conservatory. It feels like I've gone from abject poverty to the gilded cage. Shaoshen hands me tickets for all events, an envelope with \$1,000 American in it, and they both bring me to my room where I want to live for the rest of my life! From pimply-faced Xiao (whom I adore) to well-groomed Shaoshen.

First impressions of Beijing: bigger than God; more modern than any city I've seen, even though we did pass a 17th-century Tibetan Lama Temple. Most of the past has been erased here.

10:30 p.m.

Yi Tian picks me up at 8 p.m. and we taxi to Hepingmen Quanjude Roast Duck Restaurant that is considered to have the best Peking Duck in Beijing. And it does. Even George Bush has eaten there and signed the wall! And why didn't I bring my camera? And we talk and laugh a lot. Out into the hot night and a stroll down to the Front Gate (Zhengyang Gate) and walk along the west side of Tiananmen Square all lit up (till 10 p.m. when the lights suddenly went off) past the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall. There has to be a better word than "imposing" to describe the whole area, let alone the Great Hall of the People.

Friday, May 21

10 p.m.

Yi Tian picked me up at 10 a.m. and we headed for the Forbidden City. There are 20 million people in Beijing and I think all of them were there today—in what became unbearably stifling heat. The Forbidden City goes on forever and one can't help seeing it now as a film set.

On the way back we went down the broadest and longest street in Beijing, the Dong Chang'an Jie, past new buildings that rivaled each other in breathtaking imaginative structure. It's impossible to stop to photograph anything in the insane traffic. Past the Beijing Hotel, the oldest Western hotel, from which the 1989 riots were photographed and videorecorded—photos and videos which have never been seen by the Chinese.



Saturday, May 22

2:15 p.m.

Aaron Kernis, Yi Tian, and I out instrument shopping. I bought a *sheng/sho*-like instrument called a *hulusi* (with an accompanying CD and beautiful leather case), a whistle called *xun*, and a small rhythm block called *muyu*. Around the corner to a *hutong* and more shopping and a visit to an indoor market where half a cow carcass was just lying on the floor with flies buzzing about. Then to Baiyun Temple (White Cloud), a Taoist

complex. The best meal so far at Qiaojiangnan. A colorful and utterly distinctive array of dishes: Muslin lamb chops with hot pepper and cumin; chicken with ginger and bamboo shoots and chilies (old Beijing style); potted bean curd with three different sauces; cold sesame chicken noodles; sweet yams with celery; and stuffed and fried sweet lotus root.

11:45 p.m.

The Chinese clearly know what they're doing in a big way. Push the government to the background somewhat—or seemingly so—and put the businessmen in front. The opening concert of the Festival took place tonight at the new National Centre for the Performing Arts that is possibly the most brilliant architecture I've ever seen. The "egg" is surrounded by a moat. You have to go in a tunnel under the water, which you see floating above, in order to get into a complex maze of wood and myriad textured marble floors that crisscross and envelop the concert hall.

The evening started with a select group invited to cocktails and a banquet in the Western Restaurant. The guest list included a few of us Americans and a host of famous businessmen, actors, and athletes. I sat between Gao Min, former two-time Olympic medalist in diving, and Luo Yan, a movie producer who lives in Hollywood and is now producing a \$50 million movie about the history of Shanghai and its opium roots, Hugh Jackman or Clive Barnes possible leads. Kelly Liu, a model and winner of the 2007 Miss International Beauty Pageant. Zhao Ruirui, the tallest Chinese person I've ever seen and champion volleyball player. David Li, the president of Greater China Region of UBS. Yuan Li, the famed actress from *Raise the Red Lantern*, who, of course, was stunningly beautiful—delicate and subdued in her demeanor, actually.

We were all introduced in Chinese and English. Place names were embroidered on our napkins along with engraved personal welcomes. During dinner people would just get up and walk around and talk to the other guests and then come back and continue eating—a Chinese custom to mix during dinner so that they can visit with everyone beyond their nearby dinner partners.

The concert was nationally televised. A woman came out and played the opening measures of Bach's *D minor toccata* on the organ with its vast array of pipes, and then the orchestra played several bars of the *Danse Sacrale* from the *Rite of Spring*, I guess to demonstrate the acoustics. Weird.

First Aaron's *Newly Dawn Sky*, beautifully performed. Then Ye Xiaogang's dynamic and exciting *Horizon*, followed by about 100 children from the far west of China singing two very nationalistic, hopeful songs. In-your-face stuff. A new commissioned work after intermission—Qin Wenchen's wandering, layered landscape for orchestra and electronics, *The Nature's Dialogue*—and the first movement of John Corigliano's *The Red Violin*, stunningly orchestrated and Samuel Barber-esque. So, they got in a Pulitzer Prize and an Academy Award. Corigliano is admired here by the students. They are really impressed by and need to put the "famous" forward. When I was introduced my honorific was that I am an American composer who has a PhD from Yale!

Sunday, May 23

9:30 p.m.

Breakfast with the group and then meeting up with Kit (Mitrapaap) Young (American pianist who played *Mestiere* years ago and I first met in Bangkok at the Festival in 2006) who took me to Zhongshan Park (Sun Yat Sen Park) next to Tiananmen Square. Beautiful rock sculptures, hundred year old trees, ponds, and thankful quiet. Long talks.



Subway—interesting to see an older one—back to the hotel and lunch in a café within the local music store. Off to my first visit to the Conservatory and rehearsals of the quintet and viola piece. I was surprised at the level of preparation, understanding, and technical/musical acuity. The violist especially, Kang Wenting, who happens to be a friend of Kit, is outstanding.

Monday, May 24

6:10 p.m.

This is surreal, actually, and if this doesn't change the way I live my life I don't know what it would take.

I got to the hall at 3 p.m. for my 3:50 p.m. talk at the International Forum on Culture, Fine Arts and Human Development. I wanted to give myself some time to acclimate to the event, the room, the cameras, the hordes of people. The room was full of whizzing computers and fanciful PowerPoint presentations. They changed the venue from the Great Hall of the People to the Conservatory. OK. I sit through one speech—in Chinese, of course (I was the only non-Chinese speaker on the program today)—and go out for a breath and bump into Hu Yongyan, the conductor, and then my translator, Ma (like “silence”, the space in between in Japanese). He tells me that they can't afford the simultaneous translation like they did yesterday for Aaron (whose topic was the history of the Pulitzer Prize). So, at a moment's notice I have to break the speech up into smaller groups so that he can translate appropriately.

OK. So, I sit through another speech. And then it was my turn. Oh, but it wasn't my turn. They decided to break for coffee and then immediately started setting up for the discussion of the panelists who had spoken before. But what about me? “After the discussion.” No apologies, explanations. Ye Xiaogang, the composer who runs the Festival and is overseeing the Forum, came in. I said that I needed to do other things this afternoon, find out about rehearsals that have not been set—no one gets back to me. He said perhaps I should do the speech tomorrow. I said, no. He, of course, has no idea how much I've suffered over deciding to do this, spending weeks and weeks writing it, and being nervous for forever about presenting it.

So, I agreed to stay and do it as the last speech after the discussion. But the discussion, slated for 45 minutes, was going on over an hour. When I asked when I'd go on, they asked me to cut the speech to 15 minutes—total! I said I'd do the entire speech (can you imagine cutting part of a poem, a novel, a piece of music?!) right after the discussion, but they said they had other speakers, too, and the audience demanded that the discussion continue. So, I said: “Let's just cut my speech.” “Come back tomorrow.” “No!” OK. Sorry.

Rude beyond belief. No apologies. I did get mad. Good for me, but “so what” for them. I'm going to live through this—become “stronger,” as they say. This is not a trip about enrichment of soul but perhaps a toughening of skin. Read the speech Biscardi had planned » [<http://chesterbiscardi.com/ComposerasAmbassador4-7-2010.pdf>]

Tuesday, May 25

4:30 p.m.

Today made up for the nightmare. Master Class—"In Time's Unfolding: Influence and Resonance." Yi Tian brought me over to the classroom where there were 70 students waiting for me; some came all the way from distant provinces. And there was one woman from France who said she heard my music in Paris. I had fun with them and made them laugh and feel at ease. Talk of my background and then about influence and resonance (non-musical and otherwise) and memory. Played and explained *Tenzone*, *Mestiere*, and *Piano Quintet*. They really responded.

The Master Class was supposed to be an hour long, but the students wanted to show me their music. One guy showed/played me a work using the resources of the Pierrot ensemble that had some unexpected, eerie "voices". A decent piece, but he cut off two climactic moments. When I asked him why, he said that it was written for a competition for works no longer than five minutes! Well, write an appropriately structured work for five minutes! A woman played an extended work for *sheng* and a newly invented *sheng* with two stringed areas and, therefore, two different tunings. As I was trying to pack up, students swarmed around me and asked for my card—I gave all that I had away—and wanted to copy my scores. I let some of them take them promising to return them at the concert tomorrow since I want to leave the scores with the Conservatory library.

Almost two hours into it Chen Yi called Shi Fuhong, the composer/theoretician and faculty member of the Conservatory who translated for me, to insist that I meet her in the lobby, where she sent me off with other Conservatory faculty and three Americans for an unbelievable and elegant dim sum (including an organic rice mix, who knew?) in a private dining room at Hongkong Tang Palace, a very posh place. I told the story about my experience yesterday, and, clearly, this is not an isolated experience! Then back to the Conservatory for a rehearsal of *Resisting Stillness* with a duo that plays it to perfection. Now a rest before a rehearsal with Luisa Sello of *Traverso*. I won't hear *Tartini* until the dress rehearsal tomorrow at noon.

I seem to change my pronouncements about how I feel about this experience every second. From yesterday's "I will never come back to China" to the fact that today has been "beautiful" because, in fact, I love to teach and interconnect with students and make music and all of that. That's what's important. Wherever. Can one have hope in the new generation of Chinese?

Interesting that after lunch the American 'cellist, Hamilton Cheifetz, remarked about the omnipresent watchfulness of the Chinese. If you're a white man in this society you are in many ways watched like Black Americans are in ours. I've seen that when I'm just wandering alone in the hotel or in a bathroom. Hotel workers have stopped me to ask what I'm looking for. Freedom and Democracy in America, even through these worst of times, is still an amazingly precious thing.

Wednesday, May 26

4:15 p.m.

A rampage of color and noise and silence and flashing cameras! I'm SO thankful that the two weeks ended up with the events of today. Got to the noon dress rehearsal to find out it had been changed to 12:30 p.m.. Should I be surprised since yesterday's *Tartini* rehearsal at 5 p.m. was cancelled, and I'm waiting for the two faculty members who will play that work—both just back from major tours—to arrive? They finally do. We work quickly. Then the quintet comes in. We do the same. And the viola piece. And I run over to another building to hear Luisa as she just finished Alfredo Casella's work and dives into mine, which she plays with abandon and passion and gorgeous sounds and lines. She said in the way of the introduction: "He likes to sing and give space to the music."

The faculty performers were the least prepared but still did a knockout job on *Tartini*. The pianist was a bit aggressive, as was Luisa's accompanist. It seems that Chinese pianists—at least the ones I've heard here so far—are either very aggressive or a bit timid. The guitar duo was breathtaking in its delicateness and shape and utter beauty. Wenting played the viola piece with such poise and sheer beauty that it took my breath away, too. The piano quintet was convincing although short of being a perfect performance. It didn't matter, because the emotional directness and line blew people away. Ah, and me, too. I am so thankful.

Johanna Dickson '06

Date: Sep 30, 2009

In the News Alums

In an article in *The New York Times* » [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/27/realestate/27hunt.html?_r=1] titled "The Hunt," Johanna Dickson '06 decides that a short commute to her job via train is the deciding factor in moving to an apartment on the Lower East Side.

Marie Howe, Writing Faculty

Date: Sep 30, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

"Rest is here. Safety is here. Nourishment is here": *The New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/25/books/25poetry.html>] quotes writing faculty member Marie Howe on her thoughts about the Poets House in Battery Park City, where she plans to take her students.

Elizabeth Goddard '72

Date: Sep 30, 2009

In the News Alums

Newport-now.com » [<http://www.newport-now.com/2009/09/17/newport-art-museum-announces-new-director/>] and *The New England Business Bulletin* » [<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009910010325#STS=g06zetpt.1b0d>] report that Elizabeth Goddard '72 has been appointed executive director of the Newport Art Museum

Sha Fagan, Director of Libraries/Academic Computing

Date: Sep 30, 2009

In the News Staff

Sha Fagan, Director of Libraries/Academic Computing, talks about the effects of technology on the library profession in a *Library Journal* » [<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6695133.html?q=sha+fagan>] article.

C. Bard Cole '91

Date: Oct 5, 2009

In the News Alums

The Memphis Flyer » [<http://www.memphisflyer.com/gyrobase/what-what/Content?oid=1650145&mode=print>] profiles C. Bard Cole '91 and reviews his new book , *This Is Where My Life Went Wrong*.

Former Writing Faculty Member Jean Valentine

Date: Oct 7, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

If a Person Visits Someone in a Dream, in Some Cultures the Dreamer Thanks Them, a poem by former writing faculty member Jean Valentine, appears on PBS' Web site for *The NewsHour* » [<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/art/blog/2009/10/weekly-poem-if-a-person-visits-someone-in-a-dream-in-some-cultures-the-dreamer-thanks-them.html>].

Lucinda Childs '62

Date: Oct 7, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Design Studies Dance Alums

Broadwayworld.com » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/The_Joyce_Theater_Welcomes_Back_Lucinda_Childs_Dance_In_DANCE_10611_20091005] reports that Lucinda Childs '62 will be performing *Largo* from October 6-11, her first appearance in New York City since 2002.

Judith Benkendorf MS '80

Date: Oct 9, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Human Genetics Alums

Judith Benkendorf MS '80, a graduate of the Joan H. Marks Graduate Program in Human Genetics, is profiled by the University of Cincinnati's *McMicken College of Arts & Sciences newsletter* » [<http://www.uc.edu/profiles/profile.asp?id=10640>]. After nearly three decades in the field of genetics, Benkendorf is currently the special assistant to the executive director of the American College of Medical Genetics.

Writing Faculty Member Vijay Seshadri

Date: Oct 9, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Writing faculty member Vijay Seshadri contributes a poem in the October 12 issue of *The New Yorker* » [http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2009/10/12/091012po_poem_seshadri].

The Bozeman Lecture

Date: Apr 7, 2009

Video History and the Social Sciences Politics History Asian Studies

"China Rising or Falling? What Does This Mean for Us?" by Gordon G. Chang

Gordon G. Chang is the author of *Nuclear Showdown: North Korea Takes On the World* (Random House, 2006) and *The Coming Collapse of China* (Random House, 2001). He now blogs at Commentary magazine's site, www.contentions.org » [<http://www.contentions.org>]. He lived and worked in China and Hong Kong for almost two decades, most recently in Shanghai, as Counsel to the American law firm Paul Weiss and earlier in Hong Kong as Partner in the international law firm Baker & McKenzie. His writings on China and North Korea have appeared in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, the Far Eastern Economic Review, the International Herald Tribune, Commentary, The Weekly Standard, Forbes, and Barron's.

Chang has spoken at universities and at The Brookings Institution, The Heritage Foundation, the Cato Institute, RAND, the American Enterprise Institute, the Council on Foreign Relations, and other institutions. He has given briefings to the National Intelligence Council, the Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department, and the Pentagon. He has also spoken before industry and investor groups including Bloomberg, Sanford Bernstein, and Credit Lyonnais Securities Asia. Chang has appeared before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission and has delivered to the Commission a report on the future of China's economy.

The Adda B. Bozeman Lecture in International Relations is sponsored by the Adda Bozeman Chair in International Relations.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/mkpBtO6xahU>]

Leslie Morgenstein '89

Date: Oct 15, 2009

In the News Alums

The New Yorker » [http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2009/10/19/091019fa_fact_mead] profiles Alloy Entertainment and its president, Leslie Morgenstein '89, who got his start right out of Sarah Lawrence, going to work for the head of a publishing company that marketed to teenage girls.

Alexandra Unthank '09

Date: Oct 16, 2009

In the News Alums

The New York Beacon » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3027&site=21757] profiles Alexandra Unthank '09, one of three women working as apprentices on the restoration of Eva Cockcroft's mural "Homage to Seurat: La Grande Jatte in Harlem."

Human Genetics Faculty Member Siobhan Dolan

Date: Oct 22, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Human Genetics Faculty

The California Press Democrat » [<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20091018/NEWS/910181001>] published a previous *New York Times* column by Jane Brody quoting Human Genetics faculty member Siobhan Dolan about the value of direct-to-consumer genetic tests.

Rebecca Seattle '10, Joanlie Shiah '08, and Res Miranda

Date: Oct 22, 2009

In the News Alums Students

The Goshen Independent » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3032&site=21757] reports Sarah Lawrence student Rebecca Seattle '10 and alumnus Joanlie Shiah '08 will be the opening act to a performance by Res Miranda, Sarah Lawrence's newly renamed gospel choir, at the Fall Concert Series at the Goshen Methodist Church.

"Easily the best novel ever set in the world of cooking:" *The Hundred Foot Journey* by Richard Morais '81 garnering buzz around the world

Date: Jul 20, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Alums

The Independent » [<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/food-and-drink/turn-the-page-to-join-a-culinary-journey-from-mumbai-to-paris-2030328.html>] (UK) » [<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/food-and-drink/turn-the-page-to-join-a-culinary-journey-from-mumbai-to-paris-2030328.html>] reports that *The Hundred Foot Journey*, a novel just published by Richard Morais '81, is "captivating foodies and chefs around the world," including author and chef Anthony Bourdain, who calls the book "easily the best novel ever set in the world of cooking." Morais discusses his new book on the July 28th episode of Public Radio's *The Diane Rehm Show* » [<http://thedianerehmshow.org/shows/2010-07-28/richard-morais-hundred-foot-journey>].

Writing Faculty Member Victoria Redel

Date: Oct 22, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

The Scarsdale Inquirer » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3031&site=21757] reports that writing faculty member Victoria Redel has been awarded with the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award by Scarsdale High School and the Scarsdale Alumni Association.

Alumna Sarah Danforth

Date: Oct 23, 2009

In the News Alums

Alumna Sarah Danforth talks to the *News Register of Oregon* » [<http://www.newsregister.com/article/41975-feeding+soul>] about her Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, and shares some recipes from her new cookbook titled *Amity Farmhouse Cookbook*.

Writing Faculty Member Stephen O'Connor

Date: Oct 29, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

In *The New York Times* » [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/28/books/28electric.html?_r=1], writing faculty member Stephen O'Connor hopes that a younger audience like "his students at Sarah Lawrence" will read Electric Literature, a new quarterly literary magazine that features his story Love in the second issue.

Katherine Pope '94

Date: Oct 29, 2009

In the News Alums

Elle Magazine » [<http://www.elle.com/Pop-Culture/Movies-TV-Music-Books/Katherine-Pope>] profiles the career of “rising TV star” Katherine Pope '94—a career that has included an internship at ABC News when she was a senior at Sarah Lawrence.

Jenna Esposito '00

Date: Nov 2, 2009

In the News Alums

Broadwayworld.com » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Jenna_Esposito_Sings_Connie_Francis_at_Metropolitan_Room_113_20091029] reports the release of *To Connie, Love Jenna*, the tribute CD by Jenna Esposito '00 to Connie Francis, one of best-selling female vocalists of the 20th Century.

Libby Emmons '97

Date: Nov 9, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

The New York Post » [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/brooklyn/your_weekly_newsbriefs_GyebFR04LMJvx4RNn1zL1M/1] reports that Libby Emmons '97 is the recipient of The Clubbed Thumb's \$15,000 Biennial Commission for her play *Zeropia*.

Rashaun Mitchell '00

Date: Nov 9, 2009

In the News Alums

Rashaun Mitchell '00 talks to *Time Out New York* » [<http://newyork.timeout.com/articles/dance/79703/rashaun-mitchell>] about the late Merce Cunningham, studying under the late Viola Farber during his time at Sarah Lawrence, and how dancing “saved him.”

Jane Alexander '61

Date: Nov 11, 2009

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Theater Mania » [http://www.theatermania.com/new-jersey/news/10-2009/jane-alexander-robert-cuccioli-gareth-saxe-to-star_22458.html] reports that Jane Alexander '61 will star in Thom Thomas' *A Moon to Dance By* at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, New Jersey from November 17–December 13. The play is directed by Alexander's husband and SLC theatre faculty member Edwin Sherin.

Eva Golinger '94

Date: Nov 12, 2009

In the News Alums

In a *Global Research* » [<http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=15951>] article that has been covered internationally, Eva Golinger '94 writes about the U.S. Air Force document that discusses the installation of a military base in Colombia.

Sara Rudner, Director of the Dance Program

Date: Nov 16, 2009

In the News Faculty

Sara Rudner, director of the dance program, is quoted in *Dance Teacher* » [http://images.burriellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3071&site=21757] magazine about the late Kermit Love, who was one of the theatre world's most original costume designers.

Deborah Moldow '70

Date: Nov 16, 2009

In the News Alums

The Journal News » [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20091116/NEWS02/911160323/-1/newsfront/Minister-s-focus-on-peace--lauded-by-U.N.>] reports that Deborah Moldow '70, a representative to the United Nations for the World Peace Prayer Society, is the recipient of the Spirit of the United Nations Award for her efforts to promote peace.

Stephanie Viola '00

Date: Nov 18, 2009

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

Stephanie Viola '00, co-owner of the Riot Group theater company along with fellow alumnae/i Adriano Shaplin '00 and Andrew Friedman '99, talks about the company, the people who inspire her, and advice she would give to teenage girls with the online magazine [247 Girl](http://www.247girl.co.nz/whatsnew/index_dynamic/article/12733) » [http://www.247girl.co.nz/whatsnew/index_dynamic/article/12733].

Music Faculty Member Carsten Schmidt

Date: Nov 19, 2009

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Music](#) [Faculty](#)

[The News Leader](http://www.newsleader.com/article/20091119/ENTERTAINMENT04/911190302/1040/ENTERTAINMENT) » [<http://www.newsleader.com/article/20091119/ENTERTAINMENT04/911190302/1040/ENTERTAINMENT>] reports that Music faculty member Carsten Schmidt will perform Bach's *Clavieruebung* on harpsichord as part of the Staunton Music Festival on November 21.

Rachael Solomon '09

Date: Nov 23, 2009

[In the News](#) [Alums](#)

[The Journal News](http://www.lohud.com/article/20091122/NEWS03/911220315/-1/SPORTS/New-program-coordinator-arrives-at-renowned-artist%E2%80%99s-birthplace-in-Nyack) » [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20091122/NEWS03/911220315/-1/SPORTS/New-program-coordinator-arrives-at-renowned-artist%E2%80%99s-birthplace-in-Nyack>] interviews Rachael Solomon '09 about her new position as Program Coordinator at the Hopper House Art Center, the house where famous artist Edward Hopper spent his childhood.

David Lindsay-Abaire '92

Date: Nov 23, 2009

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

[The Scarsdale Inquirer](http://images.burriellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3079&site=21757) » [http://images.burriellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3079&site=21757] reviews the production of *Rabbit Hole*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning play written by David Lindsay-Abaire '92, showing at Pace University's Woodward Hall Theatre in Briarcliff Manor, New York.

Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Nov 23, 2009

In the News SLC

On MSNBC's *Hardball with Chris Matthews* » [<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3036697/#34070559>], Matthews jokingly asks if Sarah Lawrence College is the “key to the [Obama] administration” when the pros and cons of the types of institutions attended by his administrators were being discussed.

Note: The Sarah Lawrence mention is at the 3:00 mark.

Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Nov 30, 2009

In the News SLC

Charis Wilson, model, muse and, for a time, wife of photographer Edward Wilson, died recently at the age of 95. She won a scholarship to Sarah Lawrence College but, impoverished by the Depression, her father refused to send her. Instead she worked as a secretary and then at a dress shop operated by her mother. The story was reported in the *Associated Press* » [http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j5eJDXtqGgKVUQZ7_TP6juYIkZBAD9C68FAO0] and numerous newspapers around the country.

SSSF Auction 2009

Date: Feb 20, 2009

Feature Story SLC Students

An Andrews parking pass, a "day of adoration," private Russian bedroom-talk lessons. These were some of the items on offer when the Students for Student Scholarship Fund held their 42nd Annual Auction on February 20.

The festive, disco-themed night combined student performances, '70s-related trivia questions and lively bidding. Auction items were geared more toward students than in years past, and bids started at affordable prices of \$5 to \$10. All proceeds went towards student scholarships.

Photos by Dan Bretl '07

The Longfellow Lecture

Date: Mar 13, 2009

Video Psychology Art of Teaching Child Development CDI Donors

Nature-Deficit Disorder: The Movement to Connect Our Children, Ourselves, and Future Generations to the Natural World by Richard Louv

Richard Louv is an author and journalist focused on nature, family and community. His most recent book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*, has stimulated an international conversation about the future relationship between children and nature. He serves as chairman of the Children & Nature Network, an organization helping to build the international movement to connect children with nature. He also serves as honorary co-chair of The National Forum on Children and Nature. He is the recipient of the 2008 Audubon Medal. Past recipients have included Rachel Carson, E.O. Wilson, Robert Redford, and Jimmy Carter.

Rich has written for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and other publications. He has appeared on the "CBS Morning Show," "Good Morning America," the "Today Show," NPR's "Talk of the Nation," and many other programs. He speaks frequently to audiences in the United States and abroad. He has served as an adviser to the Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World award program and the National Scientific Council on the Developing Child. He is working on his eighth book. To learn more about Richard Louv and the Children & Nature Network, visit: <http://www.childrenandnature.org/> » [<http://www.childrenandnature.org/>], <http://richardlouv.com/> » [<http://richardlouv.com/>]

The Longfellow Lecture series, inaugurated in 1987, honors the memory of Cynthia Longfellow, '72, Harvard Ed.D. '79, who devoted her professional life to bettering the lives of young children. The lecture is funded by an endowment established by family and friends.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/S2II0aoOb0w>]

Nate Borofsky '97, Doris Muramatsu '96, and Ty Greenstein '96

Date: Dec 10, 2009

In the News Alums

» [<http://www.newsobserver.com/entertainment/music/story/222613.html>] *The News Observer* » [<http://www.newsobserver.com/entertainment/music/story/222613.html>] (NC) profiles *Girlyman*, a folk rock band consisting of Nate Borofsky '97, Doris Muramatsu '96, and Ty Greenstein '96.

Sarah Singleton '71

Date: Dec 10, 2009

In the News Alums

Sarah Singleton '71 will be appointed First Judicial District judge in Sante Fe, New Mexico, as reported by [The Sante Fe New Mexican](#) » [[http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Local News/Singleton-to-replace-Hall-on-1st-district-bench](http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Local%20News/Singleton-to-replace-Hall-on-1st-district-bench)].

"The Story Behind the Writer:" Jennifer Salt '65, co-writer of screenplay for *Eat, Pray, Love*, profiled by *The New York Times*

Date: Jul 23, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Theatre Writing Alums

The New York Times » [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/22/fashion/22salt.html?_r=1&ref=fashion&pagewanted=print] profiles the past and present careers of actress turned writer Jennifer Salt '65, selected by director Ryan Murphy to co-write the big screen adaptation of Elizabeth Gilbert's *Eat, Pray, Love*, which stars Julia Roberts. Salt's friends and classmates Jill Clayburgh '66 and Brian DePalma '64 are also mentioned in the article.

Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Dec 10, 2009

In the News SLC

The New York Post » [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/small_tuition_big_debt_for_public_rLzFyFZAv8kaTzmTyAHR0I] notes in an article titled "Small tuition, big

debt for public-college kids" that alumnae/i of Sarah Lawrence and other private colleges and universities graduate with lower student loan debt than graduates of public colleges and universities even though public institutions have much lower tuition costs.

Dean Jerrilynn Dodds, literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discuss planned New York mosque in separate op-eds on CNN.com, *Christian Science Monitor*

Date: Aug 25, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Administration Faculty

Dean Jerrilynn Dodds, author of *New York Masjid: the Mosques of New York Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture*, penned an op-ed on [CNN.com](http://www.cnn.com/2010/OPINION/08/04/dodds.mosques.new.york/index.html) » [<http://www.cnn.com/2010/OPINION/08/04/dodds.mosques.new.york/index.html>] about the proposed community center and mosque in lower Manhattan. Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills shared his thoughts on the same topic in an opinion piece for the *Christian Science Monitor* » [<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/Opinion/2010/0824/Sex-shop-and-strip-clubs-near-ground-zero-show-double-standard-over-Park51>].

Andrei Zolotov

Date: Dec 10, 2009

In the News Alums

Americans' serious attitude toward fire safety, experienced as an exchange student at Sarah Lawrence in 1990, was one of his first impressions of this country, writes Andrei Zolotov in an essay on the recent night club fire in Perm, in an online [news and information service](http://www.russiaprofile.org/page.php?pageid=Politics&articleid=a1260213854) » [<http://www.russiaprofile.org/page.php?pageid=Politics&articleid=a1260213854>] about Russia.

Laura Weil, Director of the Health Advocacy Graduate Program

Date: Dec 17, 2009

In the News Science and Mathematics Health Advocacy Faculty

On [Bankrate.com](http://www.bankrate.com/finance/insurance/6-questions-to-ask-a-health-advocate-1.aspx) » [<http://www.bankrate.com/finance/insurance/6-questions-to-ask-a-health-advocate-1.aspx>], Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program, advises patients what kind of questions to ask a health advocacy professional before selecting one.

NPR highlights Zoe Keating '93 in a feature on women musicians and their use of social media

Date: Aug 26, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Music Alums

NPR » [<http://www.npr.org/blogs/therecord/2010/08/19/129300878/women-musicians-use-social-media-to-craft-their-image>] profiles the growing use of social media by female musicians, and highlights Zoe Keating '93, calling her the “poster child for the independent woman artist.”

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Dec 11, 2009

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In a special commentary to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* » [<http://chronicle.com/article/Lean-Times-Are-Easier-for-L/49329/>], Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses how Sarah Lawrence maintains its core mission despite the current economic hardships colleges and universities are experiencing nationwide.

Julianna Margulies '89 graces the cover of *Redbook*, says SLC "opened my eyes to a whole new world"

Date: Aug 24, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

In the September issue of *Redbook* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3354&site=21757], Julianna Margulies '89 says she never thought about an acting career until she took a theatre course at SLC, which "opened my eyes to a whole new world."

Leslie Elias '76 and Vanessa Roe '77

Date: Jan 5, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

As reported by the *Litchfield County Times* » [http://countytimes.com/site/index.cfm?newsid=20397728&BRD=2303&PAG=461&dept_id=478976&rft=8], The Grumbling Gryphons, a theatrical troupe co-founded by Leslie Elias '76 and Vanessa Roe '77, celebrated its 30th anniversary with a special performance of “The Ghost Net: An Environmental Musical of the Sea.”

Holly Robinson Peete '86

Date: Jan 6, 2010

In the News Alums

Yahoo! » [<http://tv.yahoo.com/blog/celebrity-apprentice-whos-who-and-who-will-win--889>] reports that Holly Robinson Peete '86 will be one of the contestants on NBC's *Celebrity Apprentice*, set to air in March.

Julie Abraham, professor of LGBT Studies, appears on PBS's *History Detectives*

Date: Jul 27, 2010

In the News LGBT Faculty

Julie Abraham, professor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender studies, appeared on Season 8, Episode 6 of the PBS show *History Detectives*. The episode investigates *Diana: A Strange Autobiography*, a groundbreaking book published in 1939 and believed to be one of the first works of gay literature. Abraham wrote the introduction to a 1995 reprint of the book, and served as one of the expert "detectives" on this case. A video » [<http://video.pbs.org/video/1548482255/>] and transcript » [http://www-tc.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/static/media/transcripts/2011-05-25/806_diana.pdf] of the full episode are available on the PBS Web site » [http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/investigations/806_diana.html].

Theatre Faculty Member Christine Farrell

Date: Jan 12, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Faculty

Broadwayworld.com » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Ensemble_Studio_Theatres_PRINCESS_OF_WACO_Opens_Jan_11_20100111] reports on *Princes of Waco*, featuring theater faculty member Christine Farrell. The play opened January 11 at the Ensemble Studio Theatre in New York City.

Joshua David MFA '92, co-founder of Friends of the High Line, receives Jane Jacobs Medal for work that "creates new ways of seeing and understanding New York City"

Date: Jul 20, 2010

Buzz Alums

The New York Times » [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/20/arts/design/20arts-HIGHLINEFOUN_BRF.html?emc=eta1] reports that Joshua David MFA '92, co-founder of Friends of the

High Line, is a recipient of this year's Jane Jacobs Medal. Awarded since 2007 by the Rockefeller Foundation, the medal recognizes individuals whose work "creates new ways of seeing and understanding New York City." [Read a related story about Joshua and the High Line»](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/High_Line.html) » [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/archived/2009-2010/High_Line.html]

Lesley Gore '68

Date: Jan 12, 2010

[In the News](#) [Alums](#)

Lesley Gore '68 talks to *The Star Tribune* » [http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/music/80951892.html?elr=KArksD:aDyaEP:kD:aUnOiP3UiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUU] about the early stages of her career and the inspiration behind her songs.

SLC: One of the Nation's "Brainiest" Colleges...and Best Kept Secrets

Date: Aug 26, 2010

Feature Story

Joining nine other liberal arts colleges, Sarah Lawrence features as one of Unigo's "Top 10 Best Kept Secrets: Academic institutions that never get the fanfare, but still provide a superior educational experience." The others are Bard, Denison, Hampshire, Harvey Mudd, Kenyon, Knox, Ohio Wesleyan, Reed, and Wabash. The last two, as well as University of Chicago, Whitman, Swarthmore, Bennington, Pitzer, Hampshire and Grinnell, are also included along with Sarah Lawrence in Unigo's "Top 10 Brainiest Colleges" listing.

From Unigo's review of the school, based on numerous reviews written by students:

"Those who know Sarah Lawrence regard it as a top-tier liberal arts school with outstanding academics and a renowned writing program. And no matter what qualms students may have with the school, all can agree that the faculty, classes and intellectual environment really are superb.

"'Because all the academics are self-directed, people actually care about their work,' writes one sophomore, 'and not because of getting good grades (because we don't have grades!) but because of their personal curiosity and internal motivation.'"

"SLC's unique learning environment lets students design their own course of study by doing away with requirements, grades, tests, and majors (students have "concentrations" but graduate with a general liberal arts degree). The classroom setup is also non-traditional – with the exception of a few lecture classes, courses typically have fewer than 20 students and consist of roundtable discussions supplemented by one-on-one student-teacher conferences. Instead of exams, students are required to develop their own research-based projects, typically a 15-40 page paper, which are submitted at the end of the semester."

"Self-motivated and intellectually curious students thrive at SLC, but navigating the individually-catered academics can be overwhelming and takes some getting used to..."

"The conference system, in turn, is meant to foster close relationships with professors, helping students receive the guidance they need to fully realize their academic goals. 'You will never have a teacher at SLC who doesn't know your name. In fact, they'll know your name, your hometown, your email address, phone number, your favorite books, what you did last weekend, and maybe even your social security number,' says another sophomore."

"Sarah Lawrence is certainly not for everyone, but students who value intellectual stimulation above a traditional collegiate social life and have a clearly defined area of interest in the liberal arts are likely to find the extensive academic freedom rewarding. For the student who prefers to work independently, isn't afraid of a challenge, and yearns to be confronted with new and exciting ideas both inside and outside of the classroom, SLC will likely prove a great fit."

Nancy Bennett '73

Date: Jan 12, 2010

In the News Alums

Rochester Business Journal » [<http://www.rbj.net/article.asp?aID=181944>] reports that Nancy Bennett '73 has been selected as one of 22 finalists for the 2010 Athena Award, which recognizes women for their professional excellence, community service, and for actively helping women in their attainment of professional excellence and leadership skills.

One thing we love about her: Actress Larisa Oleynik '04 describes attending SLC as “best decision I’ve made”

Date: Jul 12, 2010

In the News SLC Alums

In a profile of Larisa Oleynik '04, [adailynewspaper.com](http://www.adailynewspaper.com) » [<http://www.adailynewspaper.com/larisa-oleynik-11502>] recounts how the *10 Things I Hate About You* actress regards her decision to attend SLC "the best decision I've made."

Alumnus Alex Carleton

Date: Jan 20, 2010

In the News Alums

Alumnus Alex Carleton, founder of fashion label Rogues Gallery, talks to *Cape Cod Times* » [<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100115/LIFE/1150305/-1/NEWS>] about his new role as L.L. Bean's Signature Creative Director.

The New York Times profiles Cedar House, a home in Brooklyn where "artistically inclined" alums create music and art

Date: Jul 20, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Alums

The New York Times features and article » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/18/realestate/18habi.html>] and slideshow » [<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2010/07/18/realestate/20100718-habitats.html?ref=realestate#1>] about Cedar House in Bushwick, Brooklyn, home to nine

"artistically inclined 20-somethings" who "use the premises to create hipper-than-thou music and art." Among the residents are Ben Shapiro '06, Danielle Rosa '06, Julia Norton '07, and former student Morgan Silver Greenberg.

Alumna Syreeta McFadden

Date: Jan 22, 2010

In the News Alums

Alumna Syreeta McFadden comments in a *New York Times* » [<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/19/us/19marriage.html>] article on a study by the Pew Foundation that finds an increasing number of women are marrying men who are less educated and earn less money than they do.

Jon Kinzel MFA '09

Date: Jan 28, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

Timeout New York » [<http://newyork.timeout.com/articles/dance/82302/jon-kinzel-responsible-ballet-and-what-we-need-is-a-bench-to-put-books-on-interview>] interviews Jon Kinzel MFA '09 about his new work , *Responsible Ballet and What We Need is a Bench to Put Books On*.

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Aug 26, 2010

In the News

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills, a frequent blogger on [HuffingtonPost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/in-praise-of-fairway_b_694440.html) » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/in-praise-of-fairway_b_694440.html], praises Fairway, a grocery store on Manhattan's Upper West Side, for its policy of having employees on hand specifically to improve a shopper's experience.

2009 Science Lecture "How I Killed Pluto and Why it Had it Coming"

Date: Apr 15, 2009

Video Science and Mathematics

"How I Killed Pluto and Why it Had it Coming" **by Dr. Michael E. Brown**

Pluto, called a planet for seventy-five years, is now dead, banished to the lowly status of "dwarf planet.". While astronomers argued about Pluto for most of the past decade, the final death blow came with the discovery of Eris -- an even larger body in the outer solar system. I'll discuss the story of the search for and the discovery of Eris and try to give a perspective on why the question of planethood for Pluto and for Eris matters and why, in the end, astronomers made the right decision to demote Pluto.

Dr. Micheal E. Brown is a professor of planetary astronomy at the California Institute of Technology and has been on the faculty there since 1996. He specializes in the discovery and study of bodies at the edge of the solar system. Among his numerous scientific accomplishments, he is best known for his discovery of Eris, the largest object found in the solar system in 150 years, and the object which led to the debate and eventual demotion of Pluto from a real planet to a dwarf planet. He has authored nearly 100 scientific papers, and his writing has appeared in such venues as the New York Times, Physics Today, and the World Book Science Year.

Dr. Brown received his AB from Princeton, MA and PhD from University of California, Berkeley. He has won several awards and honors for his scholarship, including the prestigious Urey Prize for best young planetary scientist from the American Astronomical Society's Division of Planetary Sciences; a Presidential Early Career Award; a Sloan Fellowship; and, of course, the one that started his career, an honorable mention in his fifth-grade science fair. He was also named one of Wired Online's Top Ten Sexiest Geeks in 2006, the mention of which never ceases to make his wife laugh.

[Embedded media https://www.youtube.com/embed/G4c9mrF7u_E]

Aryn Baker '95 authors *Time* magazine cover story on Afghani women

Date: Aug 12, 2010

Buzz Humanities Religion Alums Faculty

Aryn Baker '95 authored a recent *Time* magazine cover story » [<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2007238,00.html>] on Afghani women. A few years ago, Baker spoke to religion faculty member Kristen Sands' "Introduction to Muslim Thought and Cultures" class. Professor Sands summarized the talk about Baker's experiences as a foreign correspondent for *Time*:

"Ms. Baker, one of only three American correspondents stationed full-time in Afghanistan, described the difficulties of reporting from locations where wearing a burka and a flak jacket are basic security measures. Taking us beyond the dangers journalists face in Afghanistan and Northwestern Pakistan, however, Ms. Baker emphasized the way in which security for ordinary Afghanis and Pakistanis has become the issue trumping all other issues in these areas. The situation there has become one where power is determined by whomever has the most guns. Support for different political and religious groups necessarily flows towards whomever can provide the best security.

"When asked by a student what she considers her role to be as a journalist in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ms. Baker spoke honestly about the challenges she faces. While she very much wants to act as a witness to the difficulties of the people who live in these areas, at the same time she must keep in mind the interests of her readers, without whom there would be no money for what amounts to very expensive reporting. She also spoke of an increasing shift in readership from print to Internet news and blogs. While lengthy analytical articles are still being published, the trend is towards ever shorter pieces, a format which does not lend itself easily to the explanation and analysis of complex issues and situations.

"Finally, when asked how her Sarah Lawrence education had prepared her for journalism, Ms. Baker spoke of learning how to think independently, and how to ask one's own questions."

Cris Villonco '06

Date: Jan 28, 2010

In the News Alums

Cris Villonco '06 talks to *ABS-CBN News (Phillipines)* » [<http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/entertainment/01/27/10/remember-cris-villonco-shes-back>] about her role as Bernadette in Repertory Phillipines' recent production of *Romeo & Bernadette*.

Health Advocacy Faculty Member Rebecca O. Johnson

Date: Aug 26, 2010

Buzz Health Advocacy Faculty

Rebecca O. Johnson, a faculty member in the Health Advocacy graduate program, shares a story called "Carried Away" in *Obit Magazine* » [<http://www.obit-mag.com/articles/hurricane-katrina-carried-away>]. She wrote the piece in 2005 during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and shares it in recognition of the five year anniversary of the disaster.

Zoe Keating '93

Date: Feb 3, 2010

In the News Alums

Ansul Ashby of *The Virginia Informer* » [<http://media.www.vainformer.com/media/storage/paper1335/news/2010/02/03/MusicReviews/Something.To.Help.You.Study-3863190.shtml>] says that *Once Cello x 16*, the debut album of Zoe Keating '93, is a "testament both to her technological abilities and her musical talent."

Alumna and Commencement 2010 speaker Julianna Margulies garners Emmy nomination for outstanding actress in a drama series

Date: Jul 8, 2010

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Alums

Content required.

Camonghne Felix

Date: Jan 28, 2010

In the News Students

Camonghne Felix, who will enter Sarah Lawrence as a first-year student in the fall, read one of her poems as part of a Martin Luther King Jr. Day panel at the Brooklyn Museum, hosted by *WNYC* » [<http://www.wnyc.org/shows/bl/episodes/2010/01/18/segments/148372>]'s Brian Lehrer and broadcasted on his show. (Reading begins at 42:02)

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Aug 24, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In a *Newsday* » [<http://www.newsday.com/opinion/oped/opinion-it-s-time-for-a-pivot-on-affirmative-action-1.2227414>] article about the increased scrutiny of affirmative action programs at colleges and universities, literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills shares his opinion on the current state of the program and suggests ways to fulfill its original objective.

Karlin Mbah HAP '07 and Betti Weimersheimer HAP '00

Date: Jan 28, 2010

In the News Alums

On WYNC's *Brian Lehrer Show* » [<http://www.wnyc.org/shows/bl/episodes/2010/01/27/segments/149002>], Karlin Mbah HAP '07 and Betti Weimersheimer HAP '00, both of the FRIA (Friends and Relatives of the Institutionalized Aged), discuss national health care reform efforts.

Up Close with Psychology Faculty Kim Ferguson

Date: Feb 4, 2009

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Psychology Child Development Faculty

The AIDS pandemic in Africa has left countless babies without parents, consigning them to crowded orphanages with limited resources. Recent research has painted these institutions in a negative light, but Kim Ferguson (psychology) wanted to see for herself whether conditions in the orphanages were actually detrimental to children's health.

Ferguson was raised in Malawi, and in 2006 she returned to study the physical environments of two orphanages and gauge how they affected the cognitive and emotional development of the infants in their care. She collected data on 60 babies ages 6-30 months and evaluated the institutions on everything from basic safety and hygiene to the types of toys and books available. Were there enough windows? Did children have a soft space, such as a blanket, where they could retreat from the noise of the crowded facility?

She found that overall, the infants were doing reasonably well: All the children had recovered from malnutrition and their basic health needs were being met, though she did note some small developmental delays. In addition, the children appeared to have secure attachments to their caregivers. "Overall, the children had pretty good-quality care, especially given their situation," Ferguson says.

Based on her results, she made recommendations to the institutions about improvements they could make, some of which have already been implemented. Ferguson will return to Malawi this summer to meet with government groups and institutions about further improvements. Eventually, she hopes to conduct a longitudinal study that will follow the conditions in the orphanages over time.

by Sophia Kelley MFA '10
February 4, 2009

Photo credit: Kim Ferguson



High school guidance counselors rank Sarah Lawrence 28th among colleges that "offer the best undergraduate education" to students

Date: Aug 19, 2010

In the News SLC

Sarah Lawrence College was ranked 28th in a [survey of guidance counselors](http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges/sarah-lawrence-2813/rankings) » [<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges/sarah-lawrence-2813/rankings>] from America's Best High Schools, as determined by *U.S. News & World Report*. The survey asked counselors to pick which national liberal arts colleges they feel offer the best undergraduate education to their students. In rating schools on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the top score, the counselors gave Sarah Lawrence a rating of 4.2.

Huffington Post names Sarah Lawrence one of the "top non-traditional colleges"

Date: Jun 14, 2010

In the News SLC

In a [huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/05/20/the-top-non-traditional-c_n_584115.html#s92641) » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/05/20/the-top-non-traditional-c_n_584115.html#s92641] photo feature called "The Top Non-Traditional Colleges," Sarah Lawrence is lauded as one of 13 colleges "where an actual education is paramount, and obtaining that education is often a rigorous and inventive process ... they're places where students call the shots."

The Barbara Bray Ketchum Artist in Residence Concert

Date: Dec 15, 2008

Video Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Students

Discussion and Performance featuring Choreographer Donna Uchizono and SLC Students

SLC students present *Badlands of Montana*, a dance by choreographer Donna Uchizono, based on a work commissioned by Montana's Headwaters Dance Co.

Dancers: Meghan McCoy, Mandy Hackman, Layla Guest, Jeremy Pheiffer, Aston McCullough, Alexa Hazelton, Janet Werther. Reservation lists posted in the PAC lobby.

The Montana Suite is a multi-year project of Headwaters Dance Co., to capture the culture of Montana. One of four commissioned choreographers (Lar Lubovitch, Jane Comfort and John Jasperse), Uchizono created the fourth suite Montana Suite Part IV, completing a movement anthology of the complex state that will be toured nationally.

Montana Suite Part IV highlights the Southeastern corner of Montana, territory often called "Custer" or "Crow Country." A vast area of rocky badlands, winding rivers, spreading grasslands, coal mines and oil drills, it is home to ranchers, the Cheyenne and the Crow, a place where resource extraction and care for the environment are walking a delicate line.

Uchizono is the company founder, artistic director and choreographer of [Donna Uchizono Company](http://www.donnauchizono.org/) » [<http://www.donnauchizono.org/>]. A Guggenheim fellow, she is a widely respected and award-winning artist known for her "wit, spicy movement and original invention," who has been presented throughout the United States, Europe, South America and Japan for nearly twenty years.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/Z8s0wqIxV8c>]

Alice Walker '69

Date: Feb 1, 2010

In the News Alums

Alice Walker '69 recollects her friendship with the late Howard Zinn, which began at Spelman College where she was a student and he a professor in the early sixties, and how her transfer to Sarah Lawrence followed shortly after he left the Atlanta college, as reported by numerous outlets including the *Boston Globe* » [http://www.boston.com/ae/books/articles/2010/01/31/alice_walker_says_goodbye_to_her_friend_howard_zinn/].

World Series of Poker winner and author Matt Matros MFA '04 profiled by *Casino City Times*

Date: Jun 29, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

Casino City Times » [<http://www.casinocitytimes.com/news/article/matt-matros-wins-bracelets-writes-books-loves-wife-194176>] profiles poker player and author Matt Matros MFA '04. A regular winner in the World Series of Poker, the graduate of SLC's master's program in writing is the author of non-fiction book *The Making of a Poker Player*, and is currently working on a novel.

Holly Robinson Peete '86

Date: Jan 29, 2010

In the News Alums

TVGrapevine.com » [http://www.tvgrapevine.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6103:celebrity-apprentice-holly-robinson-peete&catid=161:celebrity-apprentice] profiles the career of actress, author, and philanthropist Holly Robinson Peete '86 a contestant in this season's *Celebrity Apprentice* set to air in March on NBC.

Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills defends *To Kill a Mockingbird* in Newsday.

Date: Jul 9, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills defends the popularity of *To Kill a Mockingbird*—read by legions of high school students—against those who think it a children's book. [Read the op-ed in Newsday »](http://www.newsday.com/opinion/oped/opinion-on-its-50th-birthday-a-defense-of-to-kill-a-mockingbird-1.2089525) [<http://www.newsday.com/opinion/oped/opinion-on-its-50th-birthday-a-defense-of-to-kill-a-mockingbird-1.2089525>].

Ilona Bito '10, Rowan Magee '10, Cory Antiel '08, Larissa Sheldon '10, and Cristina Jasen '06

Date: Aug 1, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

Alastair Macaulay of [The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/02/arts/dance/02collective.html?_r=1&ref=dance) » [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/02/arts/dance/02collective.html?_r=1&ref=dance] reviews "[90 Ways to Wake From Drowning](http://vimeo.com/10915939) » [<http://vimeo.com/10915939>]," the work of the A. O. Movement Collective, a group comprised of Sarah Lawrence graduates Ilona Bito '10, Rowan Magee '10, Cory Antiel '08, Larissa Sheldon '10, and Cristina Jasen '06.

Dance MFA Student Rebecca Moore

Date: Feb 3, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Students

In a Letter to the Editor to [Dance Magazine](http://images.burriellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3117&site=21757) » [http://images.burriellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3117&site=21757], current Dance MFA student Rebecca Moore shares insight on what she has learned under the tutelage of Sara Rudner, director of the dance program, as she congratulates her on her award of achievement from the magazine.

Students Get Political

Date: Nov 4, 2008

Feature Story Students

Many college students will vote for the first time today in what could be a record turnout of youth voters.

Since the beginning of the school year a series of events at Sarah Lawrence have been building awareness and anticipation about the 2008 presidential election.

The importance of the youth vote was highlighted at a September panel on vote suppression. The Obama campaign has made a massive effort to mobilize new voters, especially the younger generation, the panelists said, and young voters turned out in record-breaking numbers for the primaries and caucuses.

Despite their enthusiasm, students often face obstacles to casting ballots, explained Lorraine Minnite, a professor of political science at Barnard College. "Students are vulnerable. They may be new voters, they may not know where to go, they may not have the right ID, they might be easily frustrated or intimidated."

One of the main challenges students face is that the requirements on absentee voting vary from state to state. Some students must vote absentee, while others are allowed to register with their college address.

In order to help fellow classmates let their voices be heard, the SLC Democrats organized several successful voter-registration campaigns and helped clarify the different regulations. The student group also handed out absentee-ballot request forms, registered voters at the Pub, and set up a Web site where students could request forms.

The results of campaigns such as these are significant. In a story on student voter registration drives throughout the area, Westchester Channel 12 News reported that about 12,000 young voters cast a ballot in 2004. This year, in contrast, more than 55,000 young people have registered to vote.

The SLC Democrats also hosted successful debate-watching parties in Reisinger Auditorium.

Neil Makhija, co-chair of the group, described the response as "phenomenal." The auditorium was filled to capacity and even overflowing for some of the events, he said.

The students held bake sales at the debates, raising a total of \$2,000. The money was used to send volunteers to Ohio and Pennsylvania, where SLC students knocked on more than 800 doors and made hundreds of phone calls.

Continuing the political discussion on campus, the College held an election symposium on November 3. Four faculty members from across the disciplines discussed the intellectual and political stakes in the elections and their perspectives on the candidates and their campaigns.

Later this month New York Times columnist Bob Herbert will visit campus to give a talk about the outcome of the election and help shed light on the challenges facing the new president.

But today the SLC Democrats are in Pennsylvania for the final push in that swing state. Meanwhile, students on campus will share the excitement at a Community Election Watch sponsored by the Student Engagement Fund, gathering under the tent on Westlands Lawn to watch the results of this historic election on a big-screen TV.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10
November 4, 2008

The New York Times showcases the photography of Tara Israel '06

Date: Aug 16, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Photography](#) [Alums](#)

In an [article »](http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2010/08/15/nyregion/15HAMPTONS.html) [<http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2010/08/15/nyregion/15HAMPTONS.html>] and [slideshow »](http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2010/08/15/nyregion/15HAMPTONS-1.html) [<http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2010/08/15/nyregion/15HAMPTONS-1.html>] titled "The Other Hamptons, Born and Bred," *The New York Times* profiles the work of photographer and current student Tara Israel.

Wounded Colossus: The Threat to America As We've Known It

Date: Nov 18, 2008

Video History and the Social Sciences Politics Economics Donors

by **Bob Herbert**

Bob Herbert's highly regarded column on politics, urban affairs, and social trends has been appearing in *The New York Times* for 15 years. Over the course of a distinguished career before joining the Times, Mr. Herbert worked as a reporter, editor, and columnist for the *Newark Star-Ledger* and *The Daily News*, served as a national correspondent for NBC, and reported regularly on *The Today Show* and *NBC Nightly News* as well as for other television and radio outlets.

He is the author of *Promises Betrayed: Waking Up from the American Dream* (Times Books, 2005) and the recipient of numerous awards, including the Meyer Berger Award for coverage of New York City, the American Society of Newspaper Editors award for distinguished newspaper writing, and the Peter Kihss award of the New York Society of The Silurians for distinguished contribution to American journalism.

This event was sponsored by the Donald C. Samuel Fund for Economics and Politics.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/I-zdvRr2zEw>]

Poem by writing faculty member Matthea Harvey featured in *The New Yorker*

Date: Aug 16, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Writing](#) [Faculty](#)

Writing faculty member Matthea Harvey has a poem titled "The Straightforward Mermaid" featured in the August 16 issue of *The New Yorker* » [http://www.newyorker.com/fiction/poetry/2010/08/16/100816po_poem_harvey].

Brenda Finucane MS '85

Date: Aug 12, 2010

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Human Genetics](#) [Alums](#)

[Human Genetics](#) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/genetic-counseling/index.html>] graduate program alumna Brenda Finucane MS '85 is featured in an article in the *Delaware County Daily Times* » [<http://delcotimes.com/articles/2010/08/02/news/doc4c562f0131fa9604221155.txt>], which focuses on her role as a genetic counselor specializing in fragile X syndrome—and the recent news of a possible breakthrough in treatment of the disorder.

Dream Jobs in the Real World

Date: Jun 1, 2008

Feature Story

“What are you going to do after graduation?” This innocent question strikes fear into the hearts of many an undergraduate. That’s why, on a recent April morning, 10 Sarah Lawrence students gathered around the small, upholstered sound booth at Little Airplane Productions, the children’s television production company founded by Josh Selig ’86, and watched with amusement as a young man in a t-shirt performed the lively, high-pitched voice of an animated penguin. The penguin will appear in an upcoming episode of *The Wonder Pets!*, Selig’s animation series that’s currently the number-one show on the Nick Jr. network.

The voice-overs are recorded prior to the design of the character, the students discovered, in part because the voice performance helps inform the concept of the characters. The group learned about every aspect of producing an animated show—from script development and storyboarding to digital design and the final delivery of an episode—and asked questions like “How does one become an animator?” (Answer: “Study anatomy.”) Then the students sat down with Selig. Knowing just how anxiety-provoking the prospect of post-college life can be, he wasted no time in asking, “How can I help you?”



The visit to Little Airplane was part of a joint initiative between the Offices of Career Counseling and Alumnae/i Relations, designed to give students a hands-on look at the fruits of a Sarah Lawrence education and to demystify the career world. “The goal is to provide students from all class levels with insight on what it’s really like to make a living in a particular field,” says Angela Cherubini, director of career counseling.

A few weeks after the Little Airplane visit, another group of eager students visited *Daily News* music critic Jim Farber ’79 for an informative afternoon in the newspaper’s fluorescent-lit, windowless board room. Dressed casually in jeans and a black t-shirt, Farber, who has been at the newspaper for 18 years, began by asking students about their interests. Joe Lazauskas ’10 wasted no time in expressing what was on every student’s mind: “I want to know how to get a job in journalism.”

Farber smiled knowingly. “You work yourself into a job,” he advised, explaining how he got his first assignment by approaching a journalist outside of a Bob Dylan concert. “Writing is the kind of job where you have to hang your own shingle.”

Selig and Farber offered practical advice on how to succeed after Sarah Lawrence, and both recommended gaining experience through internships. “They really do lead to jobs,” Farber said.

Students were intrigued by how Farber and Selig had started on their career paths. Farber was so eager to begin working, he said, that he had a U-Haul meet him at his graduation ceremony. He added, “When I was your age, I would have done anything to succeed.”

Selig, who worked as a busboy, a bike messenger, and an office temp before receiving his breakthrough audition as a script writer for *Sesame Street*, told students, “My first two years out of Sarah Lawrence, I was furious, for the following reason: It seemed no one cared about the skits I’d worked so hard on as an undergraduate.”

He continued, “Sarah Lawrence prepares you to be an initiator. Once you know what market you want to be in, hunker down long enough to get some traction. And then all the things you’ve learned from Sarah Lawrence will come into play.”

Offering similar advice, Farber shared with students the key to his success: persistence. “If you are going to succeed at anything, you have to be willing to fail.”

Lazauskas said the time with Farber was illuminating. “Even though this isn’t my exact field”—he wants to write about sports—“writing is so broad that I can take what he said and apply it.”

Naomi Jimenez ’09, who attended the Little Airplane visit, hoped to make a contact for a future internship. Impressed with the tour and the general atmosphere, she said thoughtfully, “It seems like everyone’s family—this is definitely a good work environment.”

Courtney deKanter, associate director of alumnae/i relations, hopes that the program can be replicated around the country. “This a wonderful way for alumnae/i to connect—and in some cases, reconnect—with the College and with students.”

And when they do, they help increase the odds that when a Sarah Lawrence student is asked, “What are you going to do after graduation?” he or she can coolly reply, “Why, I’m starting my dream job, of course.”

—Suzanne Guillette MFA ’05
June 2008



If you are interested in hosting a site visit, please contact the Office of Alumnae/i Relations at (914) 395-2530 or alum@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:alum@sarahlawrence.edu>].

Black-Jewish Relations in America

Date: Oct 28, 2008

Video History and the Social Sciences Humanities Religion History Ethnic and Diasporic Studies

On October 28, 2008, Michael Alexander gave a presentation entitled "After Jolson Sang Swanee: What Jewish Minstrelsy Can Tell Us About Black-Jewish Relations". Michael Alexander teaches at UC Riverside and is author of *Jazz Age Jews*, winner of the Nation Jewish Book Award. He discusses how the relative absence of Jewish marginalization in America (in contrast to Europe) impacted the ways in which Jews related to African Americans, arguably the country's most marginalized group, during the early twentieth century.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/ooRQgpdVgx0>]

Poem by Writing faculty member Jeffrey McDaniel '90 featured on *The Writer's Almanac with Garrison Keillor*

Date: Jun 21, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Writing](#) [Alums](#) [Faculty](#)

Compulsively Allergic to the Truth, a poem by Writing faculty member Jeffrey McDaniel '90, was featured on the June 19th edition of the Public Radio show "The Writer's Almanac with Garrison Keillor." The poem can be read or listened to at [the show's Web site »](http://writersalmanac.publicradio.org/index.php?date=2010/06/19) [<http://writersalmanac.publicradio.org/index.php?date=2010/06/19>].

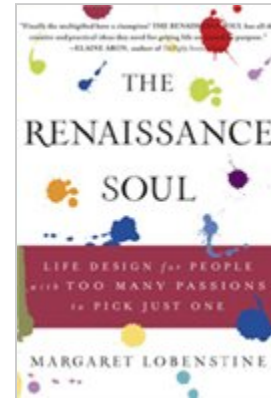
Careers for the Renaissance Soul

Date: Jun 3, 2009

Feature Story Students

"Do you feel a pang of jealousy when someone says, 'I've known exactly what I wanted to be since I was two years old?'" Margaret Lobenstine asked the students gathered in Slonim living room, sounding like a supportive, caring aunt.

The author of *The Renaissance Soul: Life Design for People with Too Many Passions to Pick Just One*, Lobenstine has been a teacher, an innkeeper, and an activist, and now works as a life coach. Her book describes the type of person who has too many passions to choose just one, and provides tips for how to be successful in a culture that often rewards people who stick with one interest for life. The multi-talented Sarah Lawrence students who attended the April event, which was sponsored by the Office of Career Counseling, responded immediately to the concept.



Lobenstine uses Mozart and Benjamin Franklin to exemplify the continuum of personality types. Mozart, who played the piano from the age of 3, represents the kind of driven personality that chooses a single, lifelong interest. At the opposite end of the spectrum, Benjamin Franklin—an inventor, journalist, and statesman—represents the Renaissance Soul. Corporate culture emphasizes success via the Mozart way, Lobenstine points out. "We don't have many role models for the alternative. How often do you hear, 'Oh that person is so successful, he has so many interests?'"

Anne Marie Damiani, associate director of career counseling, thinks Lobenstine's perspective is particularly valuable for Sarah Lawrence students. In her meetings with students, "One theme that kept surfacing was that they had so many interests and often felt confused or pressured to narrow their career selection," Damiani says.

The challenge for many people is how to maintain a wide variety of interests without becoming scattered. Lobenstine's advice for Renaissance Souls begins with a process of selecting four "focal points." These key interests may change over time, but they represent the passions to be pursued for now. The goal is to help provide a sense of possibility while satisfying the craving for variety.

Using this organizational principle, Lobenstine's book offers guidance for people in various life stages: how to choose and succeed in college, how to pursue careers that fit the Renaissance Soul personality, how to tweak an existing job to be more fulfilling, and how to change career paths entirely. Some people may be able to align their passions with paid work, she says, but for others that might not be the best approach.

Perhaps her most important piece of advice, especially in this challenging job market, is to avoid correlating identity with income and instead to place your identity with your passions.

The students absorbing this counsel all received free, signed copies of the book and had the opportunity to speak with Lobenstine about their individual challenges with balancing a variety of interests and talents. By the end of the evening students seemed relieved to have a new tool to use in career discussions with parents, as well as a new role model: Benjamin Franklin.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10
June 3, 2009

Interview with Sara Wilford, Director of the Art of Teaching Graduate Program

Date: Aug 11, 2010

Video History and the Social Sciences Psychology Child Development Art of Teaching ECC CDI Faculty

[Embedded media https://www.youtube.com/embed/oO_lG6ji4Fs]

Alumna Gail Eisen, former producer for *60 Minutes*, sits down with Sara Wilford, professor of psychology and Director of the Art of Teaching Graduate Program to talk about the importance of creative, unstructured play for children in pre-school and early grades. Discussing how play promotes self-confidence in children, Wilford comments emphatically in the brief interview: "...you can't *buy* that; and you can't *teach* that; and you can't *force* that – you can only *foster* that as a process.

Newly Tenured Faculty: Sarah Wilcox, Sociology

Date: Aug 3, 2010

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Sociology

Discipline

Sociology

Courses taught

“Thinking Gender,” “Health Policy/Health Activism,” “Theories and Methods of Media Analysis,” “Medical Technologies”

Worst job

Cleaning out the moth cage as a summer work-study student for a biology professor

Little-known fact

I have an identical twin sister.

Favorite thing in your office

My books, and the view of trees and sky outside my third-floor window

Technology you can’t live without

My tablet laptop

What do you love about Sarah Lawrence students?

“I think students choose Sarah Lawrence because they want to have a say in the direction of their education. I enjoy nurturing that sense of ownership in my students.



“I also love how much of themselves and their own experiences students bring to their work. I had one student, for instance, who did a conference project on chronic pain. She had experienced chronic pain herself, and wanted to examine how people have written about it in memoirs and how social scientists have researched experiences of chronic pain. Another student did her dissertation on the history and politics of the menstrual cup. It sounds like an off-the-wall topic, but it has a lot to do with marketing and how medical technologies become successful. The topic also interweaves questions about feminism and ideology that were very relevant to her.”

Why do you think students enjoy taking your classes?

“Because sociology involves social issues, there are a lot of different ways students can engage with the material. Some students choose more directly sociological approaches, like doing library research or interviews or ethnography, but I also encourage students to approach the material through other forms of expression like art and creative work. I have had students write a play or analyze films or write poetry for their conference project, and I think students appreciate that about my classes.”

Writing, Language, and the State

Date: Oct 14, 2008

Video Africana Studies Literature

Readings from *Wizard of the Crow* by Ngugi wa Thiong'o

Ngugi wa Thiong'o discusses his book *Wizard of the Crow*. Commencing in "our times" and set in the fictional "Free Republic of Aburiria," *Wizard of the Crow* dramatizes with corrosive humor and keenness of observation a battle for control of the souls of the Aburirian people. Fashioning the stories of the powerful and the ordinary into a dazzling mosaic, this magnificent novel reveals humanity in all its endlessly surprising complexity.

Ngugi wa Thiong'o is the author of, among other works, *Petals of Blood*, *Weep Not Child*, *The River Between*, *A Grain of Wheat*, *The Devil on the Cross*, and *Decolonising the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature*, now an essential text in post-colonial studies. As a Kenyan who has been grappling with the politics of language in colonialism and national liberation for over forty years, Ngugi writes in his native Gikuyu, translating his works into English himself. In exile now for more than twenty years, Kenyan novelist, playwright, poet and critic Ngugi wa Thiong'o has become one of the most widely read African writers. He is Director of the International Center for Writing and Translation at the University of California, Irvine.

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/ON73ojxbqWo>]

Jessica Flood '00

Date: Feb 3, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

The performance of Jessica Flood '00 in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* is lauded by the [Quad City Times](http://qctimes.com/entertainment/arts-and-theatre/theatre/article_d700de54-103b-11df-b90e-001cc4c03286.html) [http://qctimes.com/entertainment/arts-and-theatre/theatre/article_d700de54-103b-11df-b90e-001cc4c03286.html], which remarks that Flood “creates a memorable presence.”

Newly Tenured Faculty: Rachel Cohen, Writing

Date: Aug 3, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Writing

Discipline

Writing (nonfiction)

Courses Taught

Writing about the Arts, Graduate Workshop in Creative Nonfiction, The Craft of Creative Nonfiction

Favorite works of non-fiction

Fernando Pessoa's *Book of Disquiet*; Zbigniew Herbert's *Still Life with Bridle*; Samuel Coleridge's *Biographia Literaria*; *Sketch of the Past* and *Room of One's Own* by Virginia Woolf; Dostoevsky's *Memoirs from the House of the Dead*; and the essays of Michel de Montaigne.

Technology you can't live without

The fountain pen

Vices

Bourbon, Cheetos

First job

Working for Garry Trudeau on a *Doonesbury* CD-Rom. I got the job because I wrote my senior thesis on *Doonesbury*.

Worst job

Working in an Italian sandwich deli for three days until I was fired

Best trip

Going to Maine with my husband and not doing much

What do you love about Sarah Lawrence students?

"My students work extremely hard and they possess an intellectual inquiry that is hard to find in other institutions. The variety of the students' projects and their energy for researching and revising is also a great stimulant for me. It makes me wide-ranging in my thinking. I like to keep up in lots of different fields for my own intellectual work, and it is very satisfying when that is also useful to the students. When they read about, say, William Blake, or the medieval guild system, and I also know something about it and can help them—that keeps me lively.

"I also love the experience of being a don. My class of 12 donnees just graduated and it was wonderful to be in close company with them through such an intense period of intellectual growth. It was exciting to see the many things my students wanted to do after graduating—gallery work, graduate school, filmmaking, art, traveling, and studying Spanish. Because I mostly teach graduate students who are working on nonfiction writing as their profession, it was a delight to see how many different potential career paths my donnees chose."

Why do you think students enjoy taking your classes?

"I think what I offer as a writing teacher is a serious commitment to the long tradition of nonfiction writing. I find a delight in the zany manifestations of the essay as it is coming out in the contemporary world, and at the same time, I am connected to earlier works from other times. I think that is a nice combination for students to experience.



“It’s a Wild West time for nonfiction right now because a lot of what used to belong to fiction and poetry and other genres has migrated into nonfiction. Nonfiction writers are being very inventive and crossing lots of boundaries, and as a result, the essay is turning up in unexpected places. Personal writing and writing from the vivid present seems to really call to students right now, and seeing what they come up with is a pleasure.”

UpScale/DownScale: New Dorm Designs for Mead Way

Date: Jun 16, 2009

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Sculpture Visual Arts

"Problems By Design : Contemporary Architecture" Advanced Architecture Seminar with Joseph Forte

With the support of Micheal Rengers, Director of Operations, and Tishan Hsu of the Visual Arts Department, students were given access to resources and information on the program, site and specifications of the proposed new structure: a dormitory on a sloping site facing the houses on Mead Way. The choice of site was conditioned by infrastructural needs, rebuilding a steam pipe that heats the pre-extant dorms, like Titsworth, and the demands for more singles, doing away with the triples that awkwardly housed students on campus. Four design teams were formed and were asked to function like architectural firms, dividing tasks according to interests and skills. Each team composed an image bank of sources and inspirations, a site analysis, and a graphic design and 3-D model. Each design included 90 dorm rooms, classrooms, faculty offices, and public space and should have an unexpected component that could act as a signifying element. Preliminary presentations were done in the first weeks of April. Presented here are the four final designs.

Two challenges were immediately apparent to all the design teams: the steep slope of the site and the question of context. The steep grade of the hill precluded monolithic solutions and placed a premium on inflecting the designs toward the slope. This was achieved in two ways: through an emphasis on circulation and by arranging the mass of the structures in discrete units along the hill. In both cases, designers had to think about the question of connection: how the user might make a path between functions and structures, how the site limited certain simple solutions like axuality and insisted on forms reflecting the broken terrain.

Given these factors, each team sought how best to achieve a unified effect. Preliminary compositions ranged from staggered high Modern white blocks (Balin, Castriota, Foster, and Nichols) terraced elegant postmodern hybrids (Fahrner, Tackett, Morris), tongue in cheek, yet carefully planned, approximations of 60's European Rationalism (Barnevik-McKeige, Hezel, and LaSalle) and a monumental neo-classical combination of a nomadic yurt and the Pantheon in Rome (Greiche, Hempel, and Lange,)—a University of Virginia on Mead Way.

It was clear that Polshek Partnerships's Heimbold Visual Arts Center designed by Susan T. Rodriguez had transformed the architectural context for all subsequent Sarah Lawrence structures. The mock Tudor of the original 1920's campus gives way to a 21 century situated modernism: inspired by the phenomenological method of establishing the aesthetic experience of place, sited by sensitive diagrammatic analysis of the whole campus realized in the internal and external composition, combining the vocabulary of the modernist architecture with an integrated use of man made and natural materials. And like the LEED certified green Heimbold, all designs expressed the need for sustainable practice. Mead Way itself was a crucial element in the final designs, acting as a vector for movement, a barrier for breaching, a composition for emulation or a backyard for play. In short these student designers demonstrate how the creative and intellectual, the free play and contextual discipline of the Sarah Lawrence method can be effectively used to develop imaginative solutions to complex architectural problems.

—Joseph Forte
June 16, 2009

Parent of 2010 graduate shares praise for commencement ceremony, quality of a Sarah Lawrence education

Date: Jun 9, 2010

News Brief SLC Parents

Dr. Richard Metzger, parent of a member of the Class of 2010, shared these thoughts on Commencement and Sarah Lawrence College with President Karen Lawrence in a recent note:

"My son graduated this year. As you can imagine, I have seen my share of commencements but I have never enjoyed one as much as this. Your history of SLC made the education my son had received even more exciting. I knew much of the philosophy, hope that I have even used some of it myself. But there was such an energy to the students' enthusiasm for what they have received that I was moved to ask why my students don't share that zest. Oh, I know all of the rhetorical answers, but there is something more at your college. As a small college alum, I value that shared experience, the intimate learning, the excellence of the personal. Sarah Lawrence does something else. You give courage and wisdom, things that are generally preserved for the older folks."

"Figures in a Western Landscape:" *New York Times* slideshow highlights the work of photographer Jesse Chehak '02

Date: Jul 30, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Photography](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Faculty](#) [Alums](#)

In an article and slideshow titled "Figures in a Western Landscape," *The New York Times* » [<http://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/07/30/showcase-194/>] profiles the work of photographer Jesse Chehak '02, who studied under the direction of Visual Arts faculty member Joel Sternfeld.

SLC's "Angel" Fund launched by generous gift of Bronxville couple

Date: Jul 27, 2009

Feature Story SLC

College Board of Trustees Chair John Hill and his wife, long-time Sarah Lawrence supporter Marilynn Wood Hill, of Bronxville, took the lead to create a special fund, dubbed the 'Angel' Fund, to support students whose families face new financial hardship, jeopardizing their ability to continue their studies at the College. The \$500,000 lead gift has generated another \$250,000 from other donors to date. The goal is \$1 million.

"Because of donors like the Hills, we are able to live up to our mission of providing access and support for a range of students," said College President Karen Lawrence. "Ensuring that our students can continue in these difficult times is a tremendous gift from our Board and supporters."



In making their gift to the College, John and Marilynn Hill noted the contributions of faculty and staff, which include a salary freeze and adjustments to benefits. The College is instituting a number of measures to contain expenses without compromising the integrity of its distinctive approach to education—one of the lowest student-to-faculty ratios in the country and one-on-one conferences with teachers, integral to nearly every course for every student.

Consuming Kids: Thomas H. Wright Lecture 2009

Date: Jul 20, 2009

Video Humanities Psychology Child Development CDI SLC

The Thomas H. Wright Lecture, inaugurated in 1995, honors Thomas H. Wright's dedication to Sarah Lawrence and his long service on the Board of Trustees. An endowment, established by the Leon Lowenstein Foundation, funds the lecture.

Consuming Kids: 2009 Thomas H. Wright Lecture

Susan Linn, EdD

[Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/XpBcpAtlDaA>]

Monday, July 13, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Susan Linn, psychologist, writer, award-winning producer, and puppeteer, is Associate Director of the Media Center of Judge Baker Children's Center; Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; and co-founder and director of the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood. She has written extensively about the effects of media and commercial marketing on children. Her book, *Consuming Kids*, was praised in publications as diverse as *The Wall Street Journal* and *Mother Jones*. Combining her skills as a writer and performer with her role as a child therapist, Dr. Linn has written and appeared in a number of video programs designed to help children cope with issues ranging from mental illness to death and loss. She was recently awarded the American Psychological Association's Presidential Citation for her work on behalf of children.



Dr. Linn lectures extensively on the impact of marketing to children and on the importance of creative play, both nationally and internationally. She has carried her advocacy to such media venues such as *Good Morning America*, *Today*, *Sixty Minutes*, *Dateline*, and the acclaimed documentary *The Corporation*. She has lectured about the impact of commercialism on children in throughout the USA and in Canada, Europe, Asia and South America.

[Read more about Dr. Linn»](http://www.jbcc.harvard.edu/about/faculty/s_linn.htm) » [http://www.jbcc.harvard.edu/about/faculty/s_linn.htm]

The Thomas H. Wright Lecture, funded by the Leon Lowenstein Foundation and individual contributors, honors Thomas H. Wright's dedication to Sarah Lawrence College and his long service on the Board of Trustees.

Sandra Mayta '14

Date: Jul 30, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Psychology Students

In the *Aurora Sentinel* » [http://www.aurorasentinel.com/articles/2010/07/29/news/metro_aurora/doc4c51e82972027572172106.txt], incoming student Sandra Mayta '14, a recipient of the American Cancer Society scholarship, discusses her goal of becoming a psychologist and the life experiences that have led her to this career path.

Literature faculty member Nick Mills writes about Supreme Court nominee Elana Kagan and former Justice Thurgood Marshall in *Dissent*

Date: Jul 27, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In *Dissent* » [<http://www.dissentmagazine.org/atw.php?id=217>], literature faculty member Nick Mills writes about Supreme Court nominee Elana Kagan, the Senate hearings held to approve her nomination, and the unusual attacks on former justice Thurgood Marshall that occurred during those hearings.

Writing Faculty Member Tina Chang

Date: Feb 4, 2010

In the News

Broadwayworld.com » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Tina_Chang_Named_Poet_Laureate_of_Brooklyn_20100203] reports that Writing faculty member Tina Chang has been named the poet laureate of Brooklyn.

Wall Street Journal and *New York Times* review tribute to Merce Cunningham, featuring Lucinda Childs '62 and Jon Kinzel MFA '09

Date: Jul 30, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

The Wall Street Journal » [<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703977004575393443532887942.html?KEYWORDS=pia+catton>] and *The New York Times* » [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/28/arts/dance/28merce.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=kinzel&st=cse]

covered the July 26th performance of "We Give Ourselves Away at Every Moment: An EVENT for Merce," a tribute to legendary choreographer Merce Cunningham on the one year anniversary of his death. The performance featured the work of five choreographers, including Lucinda Childs '62 and Jon Kinzel MFA '09.

Maria Finn MFA '95

Date: Feb 8, 2010

In the News Alums

Maria Finn MFA '95 talks to the *Marin Independent Journal* » [http://www.marinij.com/lifestyles/ci_14328931] about her new book *Hold Me Tight & Tango Me Home*, recounting how she turned to tango for comfort after her divorce.

Meet Our Newly Tenured Faculty: Dennis Nurkse, Writing

Date: Jul 26, 2010

Feature Story

Creative and Performing Arts

Writing

Writing

Faculty

Discipline

Writing (poetry)

Courses

First-Year Studies: Explorations in the Poetic Voice,
Western and Non-Western, Traditional and Experimental

Favorite poet

Among thousands, Federico Garcia Lorca

Favorite thing in your office

Pen and paper

Technology you can't live without

Mint dental floss

Best trip

To Bolivia, to collect life histories of street children

Worst job

Pulling the heads off shrimp on a conveyor belt in
Iceland

Best event at SLC

The annual, student-run Poetry Festival

What do you love about teaching at Sarah Lawrence?

The students here view their education as their own artistic creation rather than something they are consuming. At many schools, students use "office hours" to talk to professors about grades. My students come in and say, What was Elizabeth Bishop trying to do in this poem? It makes this a very exciting place to be.

I'm also amazed at the level of student work, and the way students integrate personal information into their writing. I had one student who wrote a whole crown of sonnets—14 sonnets where the last line of one sonnet begins the first line of the next. They were very contemporary, with a jazz context and a speaking voice that shifted from poem to poem. It was a very personal piece of work and a very novel way of producing a series of poems.

What do you hope to teach your students?

To me, the perfect poem is not necessarily an interesting poem. I'm interested in what other teachers might consider mistakes—I think the weaknesses of the poem might be its most original characteristics. So I don't want students to focus too much on writing perfect poems. I want students to read voraciously, expand their knowledge of poetry, and feel confident in sharing their poetry with other people. I also want to help students develop a humanistic writing process, where writing—even if it is about something painful or horrible—is the part of your life that you most look forward to.



Psychology Faculty Member Jan Drucker

Date: Feb 12, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Psychology Faculty

In response to a cover story in *New York Magazine* » [<http://nymag.com/nymag/letters/63664/>] about admission testing for kindergarten, Psychology faculty member Jan Drucker suggests that a diversified group of children, with different talents and interests, benefits all members of a classroom.

"A 'tell your grandchildren someday' event:" Members of the rowing team return from Henley Women's Regatta in England

Date: Jun 28, 2010

In the News Students Alums Staff

WickedLocal.com » [http://www.wickedlocal.com/swampscott/sports/adult_leagues/x1143333766/Swampscott-s-Gil-finishes-collegiate-career-at-Henley-Regatta-in-England], a Massachusetts news service, reports on the trip to England's Henley Women's Regatta by Swampscott, MA resident Chantal Gil '10 and four other members of the Sarah Lawrence rowing team.

Barbara Kolsun '71

Date: Feb 12, 2010

In the News Alums

Whom You Know » [<http://www.whomyouknow.com/2010/02/movers-and-shakers-barbara-kolsun.html>], a popular blog that covers important people in Manhattan, profiles the career of Barbara Kolsun '71.

Psychology faculty member Jan Drucker

Date: Jul 23, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Psychology Child Development Art of Teaching CDI
ECC Faculty

In a *Parenting* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3319&site=21757] magazine article, Psychology faculty member Jan Drucker talks about the benefits of co-ed play dates for children in kindergarten and first grade.

Meredith Monk '64

Date: Feb 18, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Music](#) [Alums](#)

The career of Meredith Monk, who became a prominent name in the arts after studying music and dance at Sarah Lawrence College in the '60s, has been documented in a film titled *Inner Voice*. It was reviewed by the *The Phoenix of Boston* » [<http://thephoenix.com/Boston/movies/97247-meredith-monk-inner-voice/>].

Allison Whorton '10 receives fellowship to prestigious Berkeley Repertory Theatre

Date: Jul 16, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

[Broadwayworld.com](#) » [http://sanfrancisco.broadwayworld.com/article/Berkeley_Rep_Awards_15_Fellowships_For_Upcoming_Season_20100714] reports that Allison Whorton '10 has received one of 15 fellowships to the prestigious Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Every year, young leaders from across America learn their craft alongside accomplished professionals at the Tony Award-winning nonprofit organization.

The Child Development Institute Presents "Consuming Kids: Reclaiming Childhood from Media Moguls and Corporate Marketers"

Date: Jul 7, 2009

News Release Humanities Psychology Child Development CDI SLC

Susan Linn, EdD, a psychologist, writer, award-winning producer, and puppeteer, will deliver the 2009 Thomas H. Wright lecture, presented by Sarah Lawrence College's Child Development Institute, on Monday, July 13 at 4:30 p.m. in the Donnelley Theatre of the Heimbold Visual Arts Center. Linn is associate director of the Media Center, Judge Baker Children's Center in Boston, instructor in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and co-founder and director of the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood. The lecture is free and open to the public. For further information please call (914) 395 2412.

Writing extensively about the effects of media and commercial marketing on children, Dr. Linn has authored an acclaimed book on the subject. *Consuming Kids* has been praised in publications as diverse as *The Wall Street Journal* and *Mother Jones*. Her most recent book, *The Case for Make Believe: Saving Play in a Commercialized World*, addresses a related and equally important topic.

Combining her skills as a writer and performer with her role as a child therapist, Dr. Linn has written and appeared in a number of video programs designed to help children cope with issues ranging from mental illness to death and loss. She was recently awarded the American Psychological Association's Presidential Citation for her work on behalf of children.

Dr. Linn speaks both nationally and internationally on the impact of marketing to children and on the importance of creative play. She has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *Today*, *Sixty Minutes*, *Dateline*, and in the acclaimed documentary *The Corporation*. She has lectured about the impact of commercialism on children throughout the USA and in Canada, Europe, Asia, and South America.

Emma Duncan '12

Date: Jul 23, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Students

In a *New Times* » [<http://www.newtimeslo.com/art/4724/my-business-is-to-sing/>] profile, Emma Duncan '12 credits her theatre classes at Sarah Lawrence with giving her better insight into her role in a revival of William Luce's *The Belle of Amherst*.

Cara Phillips '07

Date: Jul 20, 2010

Buzz Alums

Newsweek » [<http://www.newsweek.com/2010/07/19/six-ugly-secrets-of-the-cosmetics-counter.html>] photo editor Cara Phillips '07, a former makeup artist, shares six secret tactics used by beauty-counter makeover artists to get customers to spend hundreds of dollars cosmetics and beauty products.

Brooke Ciardelli '87

Date: Feb 18, 2010

In the News Alums

Broadwayworld.com » [http://vermont.broadwayworld.com/article/Northern_Stage_Premieres_DAMASCUS_21737_20100217] reports *Damascus*, directed by Brooke Ciardelli '87, will be showing from February 17 through March 7 at the Briggs Opera House in White River Junction, VT.

Kashmir: Survival in a Long War A Talk by Author Justine Hardy

Date: Sep 21, 2009

News Release

Author and journalist Justine Hardy will discuss her new book, a work of memoir as well as journalistic reporting, about a family in the war-torn region of Kashmir between India and Pakistan on Thursday, September 24 at 5:15 in Titsworth Lecture Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

IN THE VALLEY OF MIST: Kashmir: One Family in a Changing World (Free Press; June 9, 2009) explains the violence in the Kashmir Valley, one of the most beautiful areas in the world, and long the subject of a fierce territorial dispute, as it affects the lives of the Dars, a Kashmiri family whom Hardy has known throughout the conflict. Having visited Kashmir as a child, she returned there in 1989 as a journalist and became enmeshed in the lives of the people, experiencing conflict alongside them.

The story of the Dars (not their real name) is representative of countless others in the Kashmir region. Hardy describes how life has changed in Kashmir under fundamentalism: the attacks on female education, the systematic rape of women during crackdowns and house-to-house raids, the rigid dress codes imposed on women and even children. And she depicts starkly the lives of those Kashmiris living in refugee camps, despairing of ever being able to return home. But she also offers tales of hope—including, counter intuitively, the effect the earthquake in 2005 had on bringing people from opposite sides of the conflict together. Finally, she will discuss Kashmir's possible future, a conclusion she has developed after two decades of reporting and heavy activism in the region. She writes, "They are not stories about big men, political bullies, or military giants, but they are about those who were there before the fighting began, and who will still be there if it ever ends. This is about the survival of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances. It is a story that is relevant far beyond the valley setting, and the conflict within Islam."

Meet Our Newly Tenured Faculty: Emily Katz Anhalt, Greek and Latin

Date: Jul 19, 2010

Feature Story Humanities Greek Latin Faculty

Discipline

Greek » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/undergraduate/humanities/languages/greek/index.html>]
and Latin » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/undergraduate/humanities/languages/latin/index.html>]

Courses

Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Greek and Latin; literature courses including “The Age of Augustus and the Greeks” and “The History of History”

Claim to fame

Won the *New Yorker* cartoon caption contest

Favorite historical figure

Socrates

Favorite thing in your office

The students who come in and share their brilliant ideas with me.

Technology you can't live without

Number 2 pencil

Best trip

To Venice and Rome with my family in 2004

Worst job

Dartmouth College campus police parking guard

What do you love about teaching at Sarah Lawrence?

Education here is a collaborative process. Students have to find out what they are excited about. When my students are devising their conference projects, I tell them the topic they choose should be the thing that gets them out of bed in the morning.

And they are very creative. I had one student who did a conference project looking at gender and sexuality in fifth-century Greek vase painting and comparing that to modern clothing advertisements. Another student examined the wartime rhetoric recorded by Thucydides, the fifth-century historian, and compared these speeches to the wartime speeches of Presidents Lincoln, Roosevelt, and George W. Bush. I love it when students can take lessons from the ancient world and translate them for modern times.

How do you connect with students and make sure they are engaged in the material you teach?

My goals are to help students discover how they love to use their minds and to give them the tools to think with. I think college students are at a stage in their lives when they are drawn to the big questions; they really want to understand what it means to be a human being.



I try to draw that curiosity out by being inventive in my classes. We do some role-playing, which my students love. We usually have a "conversation in the underworld," where students take on the roles of various fictional characters or historical/mythical figures, and discuss the implications of what they've read—for then and for now. I've had classes do a pre-war Congress where we tried to avert the Peloponnesian War. We also put Cicero on trial for his execution of the Catilinarian conspirators. I think students like that I try to get them to engage with the material and engage with each other and they are usually very receptive to that.

Alumna Tovah Feldshuh

Date: Feb 22, 2010

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

The Broadway Beauty Pageant, the annual benefit event of New York's Ali Forney Center, which provides support and shelter to the LGBT community, will be hosted by alumna Tovah Feldshuh, as reported by [Broadwayworld.com](http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Broadwayworld.com) » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Tovah_Feldshuh_To_Host_THE_BROADWAY_BEAUTY_PEAGENT_419_20100218].

Meet Our Newly Tenured Faculty: Fred Strype, Filmmaking

Date: Jul 19, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Filmmaking Faculty

Discipline

Filmmaking » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/undergraduate/arts/visual-arts/index.html>]

Courses

Narrative Structural Analysis in Screenwriting, Writing and Rewriting the Feature-Length Screenplay, The Art and Craft of Film-Telling, The Voice of the Filmmaker

Favorite screenplays

Shawshank Redemption by Frank Darabont, *Thelma & Louise* by Callie Khouri, and *The Hurt Locker* by Mark Boal

Favorite thing in your office

Besides the picture of my daughters, Shayna and Melissa, the bronze typewriter statue awarded me by the Austin Film Festival for a screenplay I wrote.

Technology you can't live without

iPhone and MacBook Pro

Books on your nightstand

The Writer's Journey by Chris Vogler, *In the Blink of an Eye* by Walter Murch, and *The Poet* by Michael Connelly

Vices

Nachos, mocha lattes, and craft-brewed beer

What do you love about Sarah Lawrence students?

I'm always amazed at how much I learn from my students and how they help me see art in a new way. Students at Sarah Lawrence are uniquely wired; they like to push limits and question everything. In their intrepid exploration, they wind up doing things that should not work, but do.

It happens all the time in class: A student breaks a rule that the screenwriting/filmmaking "gurus" say is hard and fast, but instead of ruining the work, it enhances it. For example, it is usually considered death for a script to start with a talky scene that takes place in one location and goes on and on. One of my students wrote such a scene, which was 12 pages long. It shouldn't have worked, but it was so well constructed, so perfectly paced, and the characterizations so strong and true that we became completely lost in the film. In these situations I have to say to myself, "I've been telling students that tactic doesn't work, but in this case it does. How is that possible?" And we get to reevaluate the established rules and principles and really examine the creative process.

What do you love about teaching at Sarah Lawrence?

The seminar/conference model affords me the opportunity to talk very specifically with students about their work—I get to actually see the connection of the creator with the created. I'm sure it can be intimidating for students to have someone that far inside their creativity, but obviously it works, and it becomes liberating for



students because we develop a strong sense of mutual trust. Navigating the seas of my students' creativity also triggers thoughts in my brain about my own work. We form a symbiotic relationship, where my students and I learn from one another.

Sarah Lawrence College Crew Team to participate in the Hudson Quadricentennial Celebration

Date: Sep 30, 2009

News Release SLC Students

As part of a yearlong Yonkers celebration of the Quadcentennial of Henry Hudson's voyage up the Hudson River, Sarah Lawrence College's men's and women's crew team will row two, 4-oared Whitehall gig boats, the type of boat used in a lavish 300th anniversary celebration regatta in Yonkers in 1909. The boats will launch from the Yonkers Rowing and Paddling Club on Alexander Street at 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 3, rowing south past the Yonkers Pier. Sunny weather is predicted for Saturday.

One hundred years ago, the State of New York commemorated the 300th anniversary of the discovery of the Hudson River by Henry Hudson with a series of boat races and events to celebrate the discoveries. The 1909 celebration was a catalyst for scenic, natural, and historic preservation.

Read a 1909 article from *The New York Times archives* » [http://query.nytimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?_r=1&res=9C03E5DD143EE033A25750C0A9669D946897D6CF] covering the Yonkers regatta that year.

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Feb 23, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In *Dissent* » [<http://www.dissentmagazine.org/online.php?id=335>], literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses Tiger Woods' treatment in the press and the challenges he faces.

Sarah Lawrence College appoints new Dean of Student Affairs

Date: Jun 1, 2010

News Release Administration

Sarah Lawrence College is proud to announce that Paige Crandall, Ed.D, has assumed the position of Dean of Student Affairs. Crandall will lead the development of student programs, implement community standards and oversee the following offices: Residence Life, Student Activities, Diversity and Campus Engagement, Career Services, and Community Partnerships. Crandall comes to Sarah Lawrence from the University of Florida, Gainesville, where she had served as interim dean of students since August 2008. Prior to the University of Florida, Crandall worked in student affairs work at Florida State University, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and the University of Pittsburgh. Before she was tapped to serve as the interim dean at the University of Florida, Paige served as the associate dean of students from 2005-2008.



Sarah Lawrence Participates in Project on Depression in College Students; Significant Results Realized

Date: Oct 6, 2009

News Release SLC

“Unrecognized and untreated depression is currently the most common serious public health problem in college students,” states the National College Depression Partnership (NCDP), a public health initiative in which Sarah Lawrence College is taking part.

Utilizing a model developed by the NCDP for screening students both in primary care as well as counseling, connecting them with services, and tracking their progress, the College’s health services, under the direction of director Nance Roy, is finding both a significant number of cases that would have gone undetected, and success in ameliorating the students’ conditions. As noted by the NCDP, “effective collaborative depression care relieves suffering, improves readiness to learn, and promotes student retention and success”.

“The initial goal of the project is to engage primary care in the identification, detection and treatment of depression in college students,” said Roy. “Research has demonstrated that the majority of college students are much more likely to access medical services at their college than counseling services. As such, students who are struggling with depression and other mental health issues often go undetected and untreated, and as recent tragedies on college campuses have shown, most students who commit suicide have never accessed services at their college counseling center.”

The National College Health Assessment, the American College Health Association’s annual student survey, stated that the percentage of college students who reported receiving a diagnosis of clinical depression increased from 10% in 2000 to 16% in 2005. In a population of nearly 18 million students, as many as 2.35 million college students may experience significant depression during their college years. In addition to concerns for students’ health, the impact of depression on the students’ quality of life is substantial and can impair both their interpersonal and academic functioning. Students suffering from depression often have difficulty getting to class, completing assignments, and engaging in campus life. If left unidentified and untreated, it sometimes leads to students having to take a medical leave from college, explained Roy.

During the last academic year, more than half the student body at Sarah Lawrence College was screened through this project. Eighteen percent of students who were struggling with serious depression, students who may not otherwise have contacted mental health services, were identified and referred to mental health services through primary care.

The project has been particularly successful with two demographic groups that have been of concern to Roy: men and students of color, groups that historically have been less likely to seek mental health services.

Given the efficacy of the project, Sarah Lawrence College Health Services will continue to enhance their efforts in the identification and treatment of students grappling with depression. Funding for Sarah Lawrence’s participation has been provided by the Englehard Foundation, which helped to sponsor the project that includes 20 selected colleges and universities and is coordinated by Henry Chung, M.D. and Michael Klien, Ph. D. of New York University.

For more information about the project and Sarah Lawrence’s participation in it, please contact Dr. Nance Roy, Director of Health Services at (914) 395-2350.

Staff Member Antoinette Klatzky

Date: Jul 16, 2010

In the News Staff

Community Partnerships staff member Antoinette Klatzky has been asked by noted fashion designer Eileen Fisher to direct that company's first ever summer leadership institute to assist young women with self-confidence, as reported by *The Rivertowns Enterprise* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3311&site=21757].

Dean Jerri Dodds pens CNN.com op-ed on planned New York mosque

Date: Aug 5, 2010

Announcement Humanities Art History Faculty Administration

Content required.

Expert on Afghanistan to Present Bozeman Lecture

Date: Oct 8, 2009

News Release History and the Social Sciences Humanities SLC

"Understanding Afghanistan," the topic of Sarah Lawrence College's Bozeman Lecture to be held Monday, October 12 at 5:30 p.m. in Titsworth Lecture Hall, will be presented by Dr. Charles Norchi, Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Marine Law Institute at the University of Maine, a former member of the Sarah Lawrence history faculty, and co-editor of *Afghanistan: Essential Field Guide to Humanitarian and Conflict Zones*. The lecture is free and open to the public.

"The conflict in Afghanistan looms as one of the most pressing foreign policy issues confronting the United States," said history faculty member Jefferson Adams. "This talk will attempt to provide a broader context essential to weighing the various controversies that have arisen. Charles's knowledge of the country is formidable, dating from his initial visit following the Soviet withdrawal. He has continued to serve in important advisory positions involving Afghan policy and constitutional structure."

In addition to his extensive experience in Afghanistan, Norchi has consulted with more than two dozen countries, primarily on behalf of International Organizations and United Nations agencies. He has recently done work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. For more information contact (914) 395-2412 or collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu>].

Alumna Barbara Walters - News

Date: Feb 15, 2010

In the News Alums

Alumna Barbara Walters talks to Caryn McBride of the *Fairfield County Business Journal* » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3146&site=21757] about her career and the state of journalism today.
» [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3146&site=21757]

Health Advocacy Graduate Student Susan Kingsbury

Date: Jul 7, 2010

In the News

New Hampshire's *Keene Sentinel* » [http://www.sentinelsource.com/community/community_news/monadnock-profile-just-call-her-life-s-ultimate-fighter/article_2a6402e4-eb84-54b0-aa17-645fda883375.html] profiles Health Advocacy graduate student Susan Kingsbury, discussing the many twists and turns in her life that were the impetus for enrolling in the program and pursuing a career as a health advocate.

“The Devil is in the Details”: A Panel and Discussion of Health Care Reform, October 26

Date: Oct 20, 2009

News Release Science and Mathematics Politics Biology Chemistry Public Policy SLC

Health care reform and the details of proposals being put forth in Congress will be discussed by a panel of experts on October 26 at 6 p.m. at Sarah Lawrence College. Sponsored by the Health, Science and Society faculty group, it is the first in a series of programs on the topic of health care reform and the implications for health, science and society in the U.S. Free and open to the public, the presentation and discussion will take place in the Donnelley Lecture Hall, Heimbold Visual Arts Center, on the College's campus.

“Public option, comparative effectiveness research, rationing, cuts in Medicare, pre-existing conditions, insurance exchanges, insurance mandates, forty-five million uninsured Americans, health care for all, tort reform, unsustainable costs. We're hearing the language of the health care reform debates but what does it all actually mean for you and your family?” asks Laura Weil, director of the Health Advocacy graduate program. Titled “The Devil is in the Details,” Weil says the panel will examine the terms that have taken center stage in health care reform discussion and debate.

The panelists will share their insights and take questions from the audience. Participating in the program are: **Mark Hannay**, Director, Metropolitan New York Health Care for All Campaign, a coalition of community groups and labor unions advocating for fundamental health care reform; **Rebecca O. Johnson**, Health Advocacy Program faculty, and Founder and Executive Director of Cooperative Economics for Women; **Mark Schlesinger**, Health Advocacy Program faculty, and Professor of Health Policy and a fellow of the Institution for Social and Policy Studies at Yale University.

For further information and directions please call (914) 395 2412 or e-mail collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu
» [<mailto:collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu>]

Alumna Kyra Sedgwick

Date: Jun 29, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Alums

[More magazine »](#) [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3289&site=21757] profiles alumna Kyra Sedgwick, star of the TNT series *The Closer*, which starts its sixth season in July.

Ryan Page '13 invited to perform at the American Dance Festival

Date: Jun 28, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Students

Ryan Page '13 has been invited to perform at the American Dance Festival in North Carolina in July. He will be the lead soloist in Rosie Herrera's critically acclaimed *Various Stages of Drowning: A Cabaret*. Says Ryan, "Rosie encouraged me to explore and refine performative intersections between different artistic mediums, such as dance, theater, and film. She created the time for each dancer to critically engage with his or her own artistic ability, which remained a permeating concept during my first year in the SLC dance program. Negotiating the future with tradition, the expressive with the formal, the literal with the abstract, and most importantly, the humility to discover equal opportunity in all things, have found a place in my evolution as a Sarah Lawrence dance student thus far." [Learn more about the American Dance Festival »](#) [<http://www.americandancefestival.org/performances/ADFatDuke/RosieHerrera.html>]

Kristen Dillman '11

Date: Mar 4, 2010

In the News Students

In an op-ed in *The »* [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20100220/OPINION/2200309/Cell-phone-users-don%5C-t-realize-there-are-others-on-the-train>] *Journal News »* [<http://www.lohud.com/article/20100220/OPINION/2200309/Cell-phone-users-don%5C-t-realize-there-are-others-on-the-train>], Kristen Dillman '11 shares her thoughts about a train ride she endured while sitting next to a "cell-phone offender."

Sarah Lawrence College's Distinctive Pedagogy has Served, and will Serve, Veterans Well

Date: Oct 23, 2009

News Release CCE SLC

Sarah Lawrence College is participating in the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program, one component of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2007, making it financially possible for veterans, and their qualifying dependents, to attend private colleges and universities.

In 1946, Sarah Lawrence College opened its doors to veterans of World War II, launching its first co-educational experiment, and delivering its distinctive approach to education to 40 men and four women vets. The College became officially co-educational in 1968.

“In opening its doors to World War II veterans, Sarah Lawrence was responding to a social need,” said SLC president Karen Lawrence. “The need to educate our veterans and their dependents is as compelling today as it was then and we wish to contribute as much now to the lives of these new veterans as the College was able to do over six decades ago.”

In June 2000, at a 50th reunion of Sarah Lawrence’s class of World War II veterans, the late writer and professor of comparative literature, Joseph Papaleo, told *The Journal News* that for him and his fellow veterans, a Sarah Lawrence education was “the beginning of the permission to reinvent yourself.”

“I can imagine many war veterans might find the opportunity to reinvent themselves very appealing,” said Lawrence.

Sarah Lawrence College’s pedagogy focuses on the academic interests of the individual student. This requires the unparalleled faculty attention to each student’s educational program that the College offers. The system includes seminars with a faculty-guided, independent study component; a faculty “don” who helps guide the student through his or her years at the College; freedom for the student, with faculty advisement, to create his or her own educational program; and in-depth written evaluations by all teachers.

While incoming students do need to be motivated to learn, proficient as writers, and able to work independently, the close student-faculty contact insures that they receive the support they need, academically as well as outside the classroom. This can be especially important for students who are returning to school after an absence for reasons such as military service.

“The work is rigorous and challenging,” said Lawrence. “The result is that Sarah Lawrence College students develop the analytical skills and critical thinking employers seek, and they are well equipped upon graduation to face a work environment that changes rapidly, requiring mental agility and adaptability.”

Veterans and/or their dependents are encouraged to contact the Sarah Lawrence Office of [Admission](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/admission/index.html) » [<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/admission/index.html>] to discuss the College’s distinctive approach to education: (914) 395 2510 or slcadmit@sarahlawrence.edu » [<mailto:slcadmit@sarahlawrence.edu>].



Exploring the relationship between mind and body: *Dance Magazine* profiles Erin Reck MFA '08

Date: Jul 7, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Faculty Alums

"Your Body: Memory Builders," an article in the July issue of *Dance Magazine* » [<http://www.dancemagazine.com/issues/July-2010/Your-Body-Memory-Builders>], features the work of Erin Reck MFA '08 and other dancers who are "on the forefront of understanding the interplay between learning, memory, and the relationship between mind and body." The article discusses how Reck's work with Sara Rudner, director of the dance program, "inspired her to try to bring the relationship between the brain and creative movement into her own work."

Jenna Esposito '00

Date: Mar 5, 2010

In the News Alums

[Broadwayworld.com](http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Patsys_Presents_Jenna_Esposito_at_Feinsteins_at_Loews_Regency_322_20100304) » [http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/Patsys_Presents_Jenna_Esposito_at_Feinsteins_at_Loews_Regency_322_20100304] reports that Jenna Esposito '00 will be performing *That's Amore*, paying tribute to the patrons of Patsy's Italian Restaurant over the years, which included Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, and Dean Martin, in a one-night only performance on March 22 at Feinstein's in New York.

John Jasperse '85

Date: Jun 16, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Alums

In his preview of the new John Jasperse '85 production, "Truth, Revised Histories, Wishful Thinking, and Flat Out Lies," being performed at the Joyce Theatre on June 17 and 18, *New York Times* » [<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9F04E6DA1739F930A25755C0A9669D8B63>] critic Jack Anderson refers to the choreographer as a "brainy one—yet often a witty one."

"A historical first:" President Karen Lawrence among 76 college presidents to meet with federal policymakers on issues of higher education

Date: Jun 9, 2010

In the News Administration SLC

Karen Lawrence was among 76 presidents of public and private universities in New York State who met with Education Secretary Arne Duncan, Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer (D-New York) and Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) on issues ranging from teacher training to making tuition more affordable. *The Journal News*

» [<http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/lohud/access/>

2053657051.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&type=current&date=Jun+9%2C+2010&author=Brian+Tumulty&pub=The+Journal+N

] reports on the meeting, which it calls "a historical first."

Dr. T. Berry Brazelton “America’s Pediatrician” to Speak at Sarah Lawrence College on May 8

Date: May 1, 2009

News Release Child Development CDI

Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, noted pediatrician, author and nationally recognized expert on young children and Dr. Joshua Sparrow, child, adolescent and general psychiatrist, author and child development expert, will speak at Sarah Lawrence College on Friday, May 8 at 9 a.m. During their presentation entitled “Touchpoints: A Developmental and Relational Model for Working With Children and Families,” Dr. Brazelton and Dr. Sparrow will discuss the issue of preparing children to be successful academically, in ways that respect and nurture the whole child.

The event, which coincides with Westchester’s Child Care Provider Appreciation Day, is being sponsored by the Child Care Council of Westchester, The Guidance Center, and Sarah Lawrence College. The lecture will be held in the Reisinger Concert Hall and will be followed by a book signing. This event is open to all parties interested in early childhood concerns (professionals, providers, parents) and costs \$25 per person. Register by e-mail: agelles@tgcny.org or call 914-636-4440, ext 240. On site registration begins at 8:30 a.m. A continental breakfast will be provided.

Dr. Brazelton’s concept of “Touchpoints” reaches out to early childhood educators, early interventionists, as well as health care and social service providers. It is a proven way of understanding and participating in early childhood and family development. This approach empowers early childhood professionals and parents to discover new ways of working with children, guiding them through children’s predictable crises (touchpoints).

“Child care experts in the County are becoming increasingly concerned about the intrusion of heavy academics into early childhood environments—in part because of pressures on schools and parental anxiety about their children’s well-being,” says Child Care Council Executive Director Kathy Halas. “Many parents, out of concern for their children and relentless exposure to marketing pressure, are asking child care programs to utilize dittos and rote memorization, assign homework, and issue report cards, often at the expense of more appropriate and effective approaches to early learning. We encourage everyone who has a child or a role in caring for children to come hear Dr. Brazelton and Dr. Sparrow speak about what it takes to prepare the whole child for school success.”

“At The Guidance Center we are passionate about teaching and supporting early childhood social/emotional learning because it is so important in laying a vital foundation for children and families,” says Amy Gelles, Executive Director of The Guidance Center.

This event, part of the Westchester Child Care Provider Appreciation Day designated by Westchester County Executive Andy Spano, recognizes the work of Westchester County child care providers, which benefits Westchester’s economy.

Dr. Brazelton is renowned as the author of the best selling Touchpoints books, a weekly New York Times Syndicate column, “Families Today” and as the host of the Emmy-winning cable television program What Every Baby Knows that ran for twelve years. He has been described as “America’s most celebrated and influential baby doctor since Benjamin Spock.” Dr. Sparrow’s work with the Brazelton Touchpoints Center has included consultation on child development and parenting to the Harlem Children’s Zone and to American Indian Early Head Start Programs.

Title

Created: Aug 14, 2009

News Release

Black Enterprise reports that Sanaa Hamri '96 is the leader in box office receipts among black female directors

Date: Jun 9, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Alums

Black Enterprise » [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3277&site=21757] reports that Sanaa Hamri '96 is the leader in box office receipts among black female directors, having grossed \$44 million worldwide for her 2008 movie *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2*.

Jessica Kane MFA '06

Date: Mar 8, 2010

In the News

The Post Star » [http://www.poststar.com/lifestyles/article_2baa3ad8-28db-11df-b91a-001cc4c002e0.html] of Glen Falls, New York, profiles Jessica Kane MFA '06 and her CD *Straining to Parallel Park in an Empty Field: A Series of Interruptions on the Way to Getting Somewhere*, a collection of her personal thoughts.

Literature faculty member Maria Negroni reads her work at the Cité Universitaire in Paris

Date: Jun 21, 2010

[News Brief](#) [Humanities](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

Considered one of the greatest voices of contemporary Argentine poetry, Literature faculty member Maria Negroni recently read from her work at the Cité Universitaire in Paris. Her work is open to the exploration of several artistic imaginary landscapes such as the Gothic, the Scandinavian sagas, the literature of travel, mythology, and also the tango.

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Mar 9, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

On [Huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/new-york-head-case_b_489821.html) » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/new-york-head-case_b_489821.html], literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the possible repeal of a ban on mixed martial arts in New York state, despite the sport's violent nature.

On the Set with Maiysha Simpson '97

Date: Aug 15, 2008

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Music Faculty Alums

Maiysha Simpson '97 filmed the music video for her new progressive soul single "Wanna Be" at the Heimbold Visual Arts Center in July. It was an SLC family affair—the video was directed by film faculty member Damani Baker '96 and staffed by several alumnae/i. The album, *This Much is True*, was released on August 26. Below, a "making-of" look at the video shoot in pictures.

Wanna see "Wanna Be"? Visit www.maiysha.com » [<http://www.maiysha.com/>] to watch the video!

"One of the most influential living photographers:" Cara Phillips '07 discusses the impact of faculty member Joel Sternfeld on her career as an artist

Date: Jun 14, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Photography

In an interview with [NYArtsMagazine.com](http://www.nyartsmagazine.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=575572:meeting-femme-fatales-&catid=447:conversations) » [http://www.nyartsmagazine.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=575572:meeting-femme-fatales-&catid=447:conversations], Cara Phillips '07 discusses the influence of faculty member Joel Sternfeld, whom she calls "one of the most influential living photographers," on her career as an artist and a photographer.

Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Jun 9, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

On [HuffingtonPost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/college-and-the-new-anim_b_603400.html) » [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/college-and-the-new-anim_b_603400.html], literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses pet-friendly campuses, a recruitment strategy he calls "symptomatic of a growing trend—the willingness of colleges to view their students as customers who need to be continually wooed."

Fashion designer Gaby Basora '94 named one of *Crain's* Top Entrepreneurs of 2010

Date: Jun 4, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Humanities Literature Writing Alums

Gaby Basora '94, fashion designer and founder of the highly touted label Tucker by Gaby Basora, has been named one of "*Crain's* 2010 Top Entrepreneurs," and is profiled on [Crains.com](http://mycrains.crainnewyork.com/small_business_awards/profiles/2010/216) » [http://mycrains.crainnewyork.com/small_business_awards/profiles/2010/216].

Alumna Julianna Margulies tops CNN list of celebrities who spoke at college commencements this spring

Date: Jun 4, 2010

In the News Alums SLC

Alumna Julianna Margulies tops a list of 10 celebrities who spoke at college commencements this spring on a [CNN/EW.com](http://www.ew.com/ew/gallery/0,,20310286_20390523_20791045,00.html) » [http://www.ew.com/ew/gallery/0,,20310286_20390523_20791045,00.html] feature.