

SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

# Archived News

2010-2011

# News articles from 2010-2011

## Table of Contents

Dr. Anne Camp '78 and Rebecca Kline '06 profiled by <i>The New Haven Independent</i> for their work in diabetes prevention.....	11
J.J. Abrams '88 .....	11
Literature faculty member Maria Negroni appointed by Argentine government to represent country in literary exchange.....	12
Philosophy faculty member Roy Brand named head of art-site in Jerusalem by Bezalel Academy .....	13
Skye Van Saun MFA '06 named Director of the Delaware Valley Poetry Festival .....	14
Alumna Julianna Margulies praises SLC on <i>Late Show with David Letterman</i> .....	14
Six Degrees of Sarah Lawrence at The Emmys	15
Approaching post-college life "with a gusto often lacking in other elite collegians," students discuss their SLC educations with the <i>Bronxville Patch</i> .....	16
Janet Rosenwald Becker '52 and Bernard Becker donate nearly \$2 million to create an endowed scholarship fund for African American students .....	17
Award-winning Guatemalan leader Dr. Marta Julia Ruiz to speak at SLC on October 6 .....	19
Jenna Esposito '00.....	20
Jason Shrier '09.....	20
Harvard professor and <i>New Yorker</i> staff writer Louis Menand discusses "What every college graduate needs to know," September 29 at 5:30 pm in Donnelly Lecture Hall .....	20
Newly Tenured Faculty: Tristana Rorandelli, Italian .....	21
Annie Novak '05.....	22
Striking the critical balance between global urbanization and sustainability: A talk by Joel Towers, October 4.....	23
Acclaimed Indian dancer/choreographer Mallika Sarabhai to perform at SLC on October 9 .....	24
Sarah Morris '13 named Tennis Player of the Week by the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference.....	25
J.J. Abrams '88 appears in White House TEACH Campaign to discuss his most influential teacher: "Before Joe Papaleo, I was a guy who wrote. But after Joe, I was a writer." .....	25
Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills .....	25
<i>The New York Times</i> profiles the worldwide missions of Peter Taft '94 and his search-and-rescue dog Cassius.....	25
Julian de Wette '75.....	26
Richard Morais '81 to read from his acclaimed novel <i>The Hundred-Foot Journey</i> on October 29 .....	27
Solidarity Vigil on 10/20 to remember 13 young people from around the country lost to suicide resulting from bullying and homophobia .....	28
Clay McLeod Chapman '00 and Hanna Cheek '01 .....	28
John Doucet, PHG Certificate Program .....	28
Pam Tanowitz MFA '98, Anne Lentz '98 and Rashaun Mitchell '00 honored with New York Dance and Performance ("Bessie") Award .....	29
Temple Grandin: Thinking Like a Cow, and Succeeding.....	30
Author and professor Gary C. Jacobson to lecture on "Barack Obama and the 2010 Elections," October 26 at 5:30 p.m. in Heimbold.....	32
Gloria Lau '76 named interim CEO at YWCA	32
Volleyball player Jillian Richardson '14 named Rookie of the Week by Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference.....	32
Anna Johnson '91 founds Cadence Theatre Company in a quest to tell meaningful stories .	33
Lisa Anderson '72 named president of American University in Cairo .....	33
President Karen Lawrence, a James Joyce scholar, to discuss the life and works of Joyce on November 3 at 2 p.m. ....	33

David Adjmi '93 and L.B. Thompson '97 among the ten recipients of the 2010 Whiting Writers' Awards .....	34	Sarah Buccheri '98 .....	48
Former trustee Ira H. Fuchs receives Educause's 2010 Leadership Award for "providing visionary, game-changing leadership in higher ed IT" .....	35	Thriving in a Failed Paradigm: Global and Local Food Systems.....	49
Jahla Seppanen '14 discusses the broadening experiences of campus diversity and life near NYC in <i>The Santa Fe New Mexican</i> .....	35	Writing Faculty Member Scott Snyder.....	50
Juniors Nikhil Wadhvani and Hannah Steinberg: Pre-med, and learning by helping .....	36	A Journey Around the World—and Across the Street.....	51
Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, explains why "Not Every Playing Field Should Be Level" on huffingtonpost.com.....	37	Indian Star Unites Art and Activism .....	52
Don't try this at home: Students film cooking show in dorm room, prepare chicken with a coffee maker.....	37	Animator Bill Plympton to screen and discuss his work on November 15 at 7 p.m. ....	54
Are the Liberal Arts Dying? .....	38	Max Mallory '11 named Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference Basketball Player of the Week.....	54
Guatemalan Doctor Empowers Indigenous Women.....	39	SLC parent and award-winning screenwriter, producer, and director Pen Densham shares his thoughts on the value of a Sarah Lawrence education.....	54
The Ultimate Block Party .....	40	Juniors Meghan Roguschka and Amanda Ota report on their work establishing a community garden in India.....	55
Alice Walker '65 dedicates new book of poems to Sarah Lawrence College .....	42	Huffington Post reveals <i>The Truth About Sarah Lawrence</i> .....	56
Booth Ferris donation advances science program.....	43	Suzie Elliot Bearce '13 named Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week.....	56
Students create cooking show in dorm room....	44	Anneke Hansen '02 .....	56
Sarah Lawrence College and world mourn actress Jill Clayburgh '66.....	44	Understanding the Tea Party .....	57
"Thriving in a Failed Paradigm: Global and Local Food Systems," a talk by Claire Pentecost, November 8.....	44	<i>New York Times</i> education writer's blog <i>The Choice</i> notes the 15% rise in early decision applications to SLC along with other highly selective schools .....	58
Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills.....	44	<i>New York Times</i> profiles Dr. W. Ian Lipkin '74 who has pioneered the use of genes in identifying viruses that cause infectious diseases .....	58
<i>The New York Times</i> lauds the services of Yonkers Public Schools' new college centers, which include writing clinics taught by SLC graduate students.....	45	Catie Griffin '11 named Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week.....	58
<i>The Washington Post</i> profiles Adam Tenner '90 in its "What it Takes: Conversations with Achievers" section .....	45	<i>The Selby</i> features a photo spread on Annie Novak '05 and her work with Brooklyn's Eagle Street Rooftop Farm .....	59
SLC receives Blavatnik Family Foundation grant for Innovation in Arts and Technology.....	46	Bill Plympton's Bizarre Cartoons .....	60
Chelsea Wright '11 wins prestigious Presser Music Scholar Award .....	47	Joan Micklin Silver '56 .....	62
Lucy Baker MFA '08.....	48	Rally to Restore Sanity: A Student's Perspective.....	63
Nora Sarvetnick '78 .....	48	Suzanne Wright '98 .....	65

Jahla Seppanen '14 shares her thoughts on taking academic risks and trying new things with <i>The Santa Fe New Mexican</i> .....	65	Alice Hill '87 .....	75
Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, extols the virtues of play in natural settings on huffingtonpost.com .....	65	Dr. Brad Popovich MS '78 appointed Chief Scientific Officer of Genome British Columbia	75
15th Semi-Annual Science and Mathematics Poster Session, December 9 at 6 p.m. ....	66	Writing faculty member Scott Snyder .....	75
Concerts and performances highlight December calendar of events .....	66	Dr. Nancy Bennett '73, associate vice president of University of Rochester Medical Center, finalist for Athena Award .....	75
David Lindsay-Abaire '92 nominated for Film Independent Spirit Award for screen adaptation of his play <i>Rabbit Hole</i> .....	66	Zoe A. Fisher '13 featured in <i>New York Times</i> slideshow on Earth-friendly clothing .....	76
Volleyball, soccer, and tennis coaches earn end of year accolades .....	67	President Karen Lawrence pens <i>Huffington Post</i> blog entry titled, "The Cost of College: Weighing Expense With Value" .....	76
<i>Books Never Die</i> , a short film by Evan Humphris '14, to be shown at 360/365 Film Festival.....	68	SLC study abroad program in Cuba celebrates 10 years; history faculty member Matilde Zimmermann honored .....	77
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the 120-year history of Army-Navy football on CNN.com .....	68	Columbia University Provost Claude Steele to speak on stereotyping in higher education, January 18 at 5 p.m. ....	78
Swim team mentors local group of swimmers training for the Special Olympics .....	68	Farmer-activist Annie Novak '05 to deliver "Food, Land, Sustainability" lecture, January 20 at 7 p.m. ....	78
<i>Twin Cities Daily Planet</i> profiles award-winning photographer Alec Soth '92 .....	69	Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills reflects on President Obama's Tucson memorial speech in <i>Dissent</i> .....	78
Alumna Julianna Margulies nominated for Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards	69	<i>The New York Observer</i> profiles Sarah Lawrence "senior" Peter J. Wade and his experience as a student in the Center for Continuing Education	78
Fall Sports Victories .....	70	Carly Weis '05 .....	79
President Lawrence announces major gift from trustee Nancie Cooper MFA '04 and her husband Steve .....	71	Larisa Oleynik '04 .....	79
White House names Brooke Anderson '86 Chief of Staff and Counselor for the National Security Staff .....	71	Graduate Writing Program celebrates the legacy of former faculty member Grace Paley with screening of documentary <i>Grace Paley: Collected Shorts</i> .....	79
James Freedland '02 and Christina Harvey '02 appointed to senior staff positions by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman .....	71	Dr. Pan Guang, expert on Jews in China, to lecture on campus February 15 .....	80
<i>Sarah Lawrence</i> magazine wins Gold in 2011 CASE Accolades Awards; read the online version of the latest issue .....	72	Alumna Joelle Sander's "Color as Refuge" Oil Paintings Exhibited at Sarah Lawrence .....	81
SLC's electronic music equipment influences first album from Andy Butler '00 .....	72	Executive Producer and 1971 alumnus Jon Avnet's <i>Black Swan</i> nominated for Best Picture Oscar .....	82
President Lawrence and Vice President Tom Blum featured in CNBC video on the value of a Sarah Lawrence education .....	73	Leading film scholar David Bordwell to speak on campus on February 3 .....	83
\$5 Million Gift to Sarah Lawrence is Among the Largest in College's History .....	74	<i>Yale Medicine</i> profiles Dr. Clarion Johnson '72, global medical director at ExxonMobil .....	84

Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills highlights SLC's practice of written evaluations as a method to counteract grade inflation .....	84	President Karen Lawrence's <i>Who's Afraid of James Joyce?</i> favorably reviewed by <i>The Times Literary Supplement</i> .....	96
<i>Good Wife</i> star and alumna Julianna Margulies wins second consecutive Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Actress in a Drama Series .....	84	Former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel '81 elected mayor of Chicago .....	96
Buzz surrounds <i>The Evolution of Bruno Littlemore</i> , the debut novel from Benjamin Hale '06 .....	85	Brianna Leone '11 .....	97
Laura Weil, director, Health Advocacy Graduate Program, weighs in on Internet health care searches in <i>The New York Times</i> .....	85	Guest post from President Lawrence in <i>Washington Post</i> blog explores "the cost of getting higher education into shape" .....	97
Literature professor Nicolaus Mills .....	85	Trustee John Hill and wife Marilyn Wood Hill named Senior Advisors to mentor South Carolina's Liberty Fellow .....	97
Photographer Priscilla Rattazzi '77 profiled by <i>Palm Beach Daily News</i> .....	86	Jon Avnet '71 .....	98
Newton and Helen Mayer Harrison, leaders of the eco-art movement, to speak on campus February 14 .....	87	Head volleyball coach Matt Cribbin named to American Volleyball Coaches Association's "Thirty Under 30" list .....	98
<i>Marin Independent Journal</i> reviews debut album from alums' indie-pop band Big Tree .....	88	President Lawrence blogs about the benefits of studying abroad in Cuba on <a href="http://huffingtonpost.com">huffingtonpost.com</a> .....	98
Arianna Huffington to deliver commencement address to Class of 2011 .....	89	13th Annual Women's History Conference to explore body politics .....	99
How to Confound a Stereotype .....	90	Politics faculty member Elke Zuern discusses what Egypt can learn from South Africa in <i>Insana Quotient</i> interview .....	100
<i>Good People</i> , the new Broadway play by David Lindsay-Abaire '92, favorably reviewed by <i>The New York Times</i> .....	91	Anthropology faculty member Robert Desjarlais' new book on chess praised by <i>Foreword Reviews</i> .....	100
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills appears on CNN to discuss the parallels between Egypt's revolution and the U.S. Civil Rights Movement .....	91	Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills critiques speech by Defense Secretary in <i>The Guardian</i> .....	100
Mara Farrell '77 wins Martha Washington Woman of History Award for work in the field of Hudson Valley history .....	91	Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses post-traumatic stress disorder on CNN.com .....	101
Women's swim team wins end of year tournament .....	92	Politics faculty member Sam Abrams writes on informal social networks and voter turnout in <i>The British Journal of Political Science</i> .....	101
The Dick Butkus Society .....	93	Dance program director Sara Rudner graces cover of <i>Dance Teacher</i> magazine .....	101
Dean Jerrilynn Dodds receives Albert C. Outler book prize from the American Society of Church History .....	94	News outlets cite Sarah Lawrence College as instrumental in the beginning of Women's History Month .....	102
Richard Morais '81, author of <i>The Hundred-Foot Journey</i> , featured in Australia's <i>Sun Herald</i> .....	94	Noted journalists Cokie and Steve Roberts visit campus to discuss "A Nation of Immigrants: Past, Present and Future" .....	102
Dean Jerrilynn Dodds receives Albert C. Outler book prize from the American Society of Church History .....	95	David Grimm '97 .....	102
Rashaun Mitchell '00 lauded by <i>New York Times</i> dance critic Alastair Macaulay .....	96		

Holly Robinson-Peete '86, Alice Walker '65, and Sanaa Hamri '86 nominated for NAACP Image Awards; Peete to co-host ceremony.....	103	Associate dean of financial aid and admission Heather McDonnell shares insights in AP article .....	114
<i>The Weekly Standard</i> reviews <i>Disconnect: The Breakdown of Representation in American Politics</i> , co-written by Politics faculty member Sam Abrams.....	103	Adventures in Filmmaking.....	115
Lucinda Childs '62 reflects on the influence of Merce Cunningham in <i>The Los Angeles Times</i> .....	103	Renowned Neuroscientist Dr. Bruce McEwen to speak at Sarah Lawrence as part of Brain Awareness Week .....	117
Writing Institute student Neil Selinger publishes memoir .....	104	WWI exhibit “Winds and Words of War: Posters and Prints from the San Antonio Public Library” on display at Sarah Lawrence College .....	118
<i>The New York Times</i> remembers Sam Chwat '74, speech therapist to the stars.....	104	Fifteen student athletes named to inaugural Hudson Valley Athletic Conference All-Academic Team.....	119
Open Mic, Friendly Ears.....	105	Politics faculty member Sam Abrams conducts survey of Jewish leaders in America on the recent events in Egypt .....	120
Pre-med student Nadia Rahman '14 featured on NBC Nightly News.....	107	<i>Westchester Magazine</i> profiles President Lawrence .....	120
Nonfiction Theatre Group Trains SLC Students.....	108	Kioka Williams '13 awarded 2011 Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship .....	121
The Green Heart.....	110	Enrico Wey '04 and Theatre faculty member Tom Lee bring puppetry skills to Lincoln Center Theatre production of <i>War Horse</i> .....	122
Photography faculty member Michael Vahrenwald.....	111	SLC wins major awards for new Admission materials .....	123
Poetry faculty member Rachel Griffiths featured in <i>O, The Oprah Magazine</i> .....	111	President Lawrence discusses what’s behind the price of a Sarah Lawrence education in <i>Inside Higher Ed</i> .....	124
Mathematics faculty member Dan King named Governor of Mathematical Association of America's Metro NY Chapter .....	111	Literature faculty member Joe Lauinger's new play <i>Michael Archangel</i> wins Fulton Theatre's Discovery Project .....	124
Religion faculty member Glenn Dynner featured in next episode of NBC's <i>Who Do You Think You Are?</i> .....	112	President Karen Lawrence lends expertise to James Joyce panel.....	124
Trustee Myra R. Drucker '68 receives <i>Institutional Investor</i> magazine's "Investor Lifetime Achievement Award" .....	112	Meghan Roguschka '12 awarded prestigious Udall Scholarship .....	125
Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout to read on campus April 6.....	112	Annual Mayfair carnival to be held on April 30; proceeds benefit student scholarships .....	126
Caroline Lieber MS '80, director of the Human Genetics graduate program, discusses at-home genetic tests in <i>U.S. News and World Report</i> .	112	Helen Whitney '65 debuts <i>Forgiveness: A Time to Love and a Time to Hate</i> on PBS .....	127
Max Mallory '11 discusses the value of a liberal arts education in an AOL Finance/Wallet Pop article.....	113	Michelle Fox MS '79 featured in <i>Los Angeles Times</i> article on the role of genetic counselors.....	127
Men's tennis team defeats St. Joseph's 8-1 .....	113	Michelle Huber '12 recalls her time in Havana in <i>New York Times</i> article on study abroad programs in Cuba .....	127
Choreographer Juliette Mapp '93 channels Gertrude Stein in <i>The Making of Americans</i> ...	113		

Nell Minow '74 discusses "passionate curiosity" in <i>New York Times</i> article on the habits of effective leaders .....	128	Katie Arnold-Ratliff MFA '08 publishes debut novel, declared "writer to watch" by <i>Booklist</i>	137
Alumni members of Big Tree tour in van that runs on vegetable oil; explain eco-friendly music to MTV.....	128	Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills examines Obama's stance on Libyan intervention in <i>The Guardian</i> .....	138
New book by Anthropology faculty member Robert Desjarlais reviewed in <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i> .....	128	Spy Class, Decades Later, Becomes a Play....	139
Elana Bell '99, MFA '08 receives Walt Whitman Award from Academy of American Poets.....	129	Biology faculty member Leah Olson quoted in <i>Hartford Courant</i> article on healthy eating ....	140
Jithendra Seneviratne '12 to appear in Shakespeare on the Sound production of <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> .....	129	Arianna Huffington to deliver commencement keynote address on May 20 .....	140
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses affirmative action in higher education in <i>The Guardian</i> .....	129	Literature faculty member Fredric Smoler '75 examines European reaction to the killing of Osama bin Laden in <i>Dissent</i> .....	140
Matt Matros MFA '04 defends Internet poker	130	Russell Cohen '12 brings Brain Awareness Week to Sarah Lawrence .....	141
Writing faculty member Jo Ann Beard pens debut novel.....	130	Film History faculty member Malcolm Turvey's new book reviewed by <i>The Architect's Newspaper</i> .....	143
<i>Christian Science Monitor</i> blog praises Sarah Lawrence and its no SAT-ACT policy .....	130	Rahm Emanuel '81 sworn in as Chicago's new mayor.....	143
Actress Jane Alexander '61 to receive Eleanor Roosevelt "Following in Her Footsteps" Award.....	130	Trevor Wallace '13 awarded Meredith Fonda Russell International Fieldwork Fellowship....	144
Writing faculty member Mary Morris publishes crossword-themed essay in <i>The Atlantic</i> .....	131	Ani Adishian '95 turns passion for gardening into career as landscape contractor.....	145
Three alumni awarded prestigious Guggenheim Fellowships .....	132	Arianna Huffington: Sarah Lawrence "one of the great colleges in America" .....	145
Artist Gwendolyn Cardente '97 praises study abroad program in Florence .....	133	Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills traces the issue of deficit reduction in <i>The Guardian</i>	145
Incoming student Bayan Baker '15 recalls family's journey from Croatia to America .....	133	Maggie Murphy '11 awarded prestigious Fulbright Teaching Assistantship; will teach English in Argentina.....	146
Film History faculty member Malcolm Turvey awarded prestigious research fellowship .....	134	SLC to pilot student voter registration initiative .....	147
Attorney, author, and filmmaker Tonya Lewis Lee '88 raises awareness about infant mortality.....	135	J.J. Abrams '88 produces two new shows for television's fall season .....	149
Sarah Lawrence dominates Tony award nominations.....	135	Students place second in worldwide "Rise Pakistan" competition.....	150
Upcoming exhibit commemorates the Freedom Riders of 1961 .....	136	<i>Vogue</i> profiles author and historian Amanda Foreman '91 .....	151
Photos by Jennifer Pinkowski '98 featured in Forbes.com blog.....	137	Media outlets cover Commencement 2011 and keynote address by Arianna Huffington.....	151
Ansel Elkins '07 wins "Discovery" <i>Boston Review</i> Poetry Contest .....	137	Recent grads talk about the future and how SLC has prepared them for what's ahead.....	151
		Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills praises author Christopher Hitchens in <i>The Guardian</i>	152

<i>The New York Times</i> profiles filmmaker J.J. Abrams '88 .....	152	Art History faculty emeritus Philip Gould discusses imprisoned Chinese artist Ai Weiwei.....	161
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills examines the relationships between American presidents and Israeli prime ministers in <i>World Policy</i> blog .....	152	Writing faculty member Jo Ann Beard's new book <i>In Zanesville</i> earning rave reviews .....	162
Politics faculty member Sam Abrams cited in <i>Economist</i> article on Israel's role in American politics.....	153	Video Games and the Future of Fiction .....	163
Richard Morais '81 reviews Dean Jerrilynn Dodds' award-winning book in <i>The Huffington Post</i> .....	153	Work in Progress: Eileen Cheng, History faculty .....	164
Battle of the Bands Debuts at SLC .....	154	Work in Progress: Kristin Sands .....	165
Three alumnae awarded Citations for Achievement during Reunion weekend .....	155	Work in Progress: Leah Olson .....	166
SLC's Child Development Institute and Groundwork Hudson Valley to host "Pop-Up Adventure Playground" .....	157	Work in Progress: Malcolm Turvey .....	167
<i>Poetry Northwest</i> pays tribute to Pulitzer Prize-winner Carolyn Kizer '45 .....	158	Work in Progress: Mary LaChapelle.....	168
Jake Szczpek '07 featured in reimagining of Stravinsky's "Histoire du Soldat".....	158	Work in Progress: Nicolaus Mills, Literature faculty .....	169
Ann Patchett '85 publishes new novel, reflects on SLC teachers who "changed [her] life" .....	158	Work in Progress: Roland Dollinger, German faculty .....	170
Daniel Horowitz '13 presents documentary film on comic book culture.....	159	Music faculty member Matt Wilson named Drummer of the Year by Jazz Journalists Association .....	171
Dancers Jon Kinzel MFA '09 and Neil Greenberg '08 featured in revival of <i>Beau Regard</i> .....	159	Rebecca Keith '07, Mira Ptacin '09, and Alex Dimitrov '09 featured in <i>Daily News</i> article on MFA graduates .....	171
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills looks at the history of NYC's High Line on CNN.com .....	159	Author Dani Shapiro '83 remembers the late Esther Broner of the writing faculty.....	171
Health Advocacy faculty member Laura Weil MA '94 quoted in <i>Parade</i> article on advocacy in today's health care system.....	160	Kaia Zimmerman '14 to travel through New England exclusively by bicycle to raise awareness of fossil fuel consumption.....	172
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills looks at commencement from a teacher's point of view in <i>Huffington Post</i> .....	160	Newly Tenured Faculty: Jeffrey McDaniel ....	173
Health Advocacy faculty member Laura Weil MA '94 selected by NRC as patients' rights advocate on medical use of isotopes .....	160	Lauren Busser '12 recalls freeing experience of dressing up as <i>Harry Potter</i> character in the <i>Hartford Courant</i> .....	174
SLC's summer programs featured in article on the benefits of going back to school when looking to meet people.....	161	Play by Theatre faculty member Lucy Thurber to be showcased alongside works by Sam Shepard, David Mamet.....	174
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills praises "political courage" of Senators McCain and Graham on CNN.com .....	161	Ohio Theatre to re-open as Ohio West under the direction of Theatre faculty member Robert Lyons .....	174
		Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills likens battle over debt ceiling to a battle over the American dream on CNN.com .....	175
		Vice Chair of the Board Mark Goodman '83 publishes new book titled <i>Defending Corporations and Individuals in Government Investigations</i> .....	175



New poetry collection by Writing faculty member Thomas Sayers Ellis reviewed by <i>New York Journal of Books</i> .....	175	Someone's There for You.....	186
Alumna Julianna Margulies receives second straight Emmy nod for role in <i>The Good Wife</i>	176	In <i>The New York Times</i> , Susan Bell MFA '01 shares her experience of self-publishing her first book, <i>When the Getting Was Good</i> .....	187
Dance program director Sara Rudner participating in San Diego's Malashock Dance Summer Intensive .....	176	<i>Dance Magazine</i> profiles Laurel Tentindo '01, a member of the Trisha Brown Dance Company.....	187
Yvonne Sangudi '10 talks about life as an NBC page in an <i>E! News</i> segment .....	176	Writing faculty member Kevin Pilkington won the 2011 New York Book Festival Award in Poetry for his collection <i>In the Eyes of a Dog</i>	187
Jessica DePetro MS' 07 leads field as Staten Island's only genetic counselor specializing in cancer .....	177	SLC acs Princeton Review's 2012 rankings including #1 for "Class Discussions Encouraged" and top 20 for "Professors Get High Marks," "Professors Accessible," "Best Classroom Experience," and "Best Theatre Program" .....	188
Philosophy faculty member Roy Brand, director of Yaffo 23 gallery, discusses cultural revitalization of Jerusalem in <i>Jewish Exponent</i> .....	177	<i>The Washington Post</i> interviews writing faculty member Thomas Sayers Ellis about his new exhibit, "(Un)Lock It: The Percussive People in the Go-Go Pocket" .....	188
Genetics Without Borders.....	178	In a <i>WestFair Online</i> profile, President Karen Lawrence discusses how SLC is preparing liberal arts students for careers that didn't exist 10 years.....	188
Alessandro King '09 play wins 2011 Trustus Playwrights Festival, debuts at Trustus Theatre .....	180	<i>CartoonBrew</i> reports <i>Bleu</i> , a short cartoon created by Mike Bentz '14, won an award at the recent Animation Block Party 2011, the premier animation festival of the East Coast .....	189
New book by Amanda Foreman '91 reviewed in <i>The New Yorker</i> .....	180	<i>The Norwalk Citizen</i> reports music faculty member Jonathan Yates has been named the new musical director/conductor at the Norwalk Symphony Orchestra .....	189
SLC parent Diane Lim Rogers writes about the long-term value of investing in a college education .....	180	<i>Backstage</i> profiles Katharine Houghton '65, currently starring in "The Pretty Trap" and well known for her role as Joanna Drayton in the film "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" .....	189
Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses debt ceiling debate in CNN opinion piece .....	181	<i>Bloomberg BusinessWeek</i> and <i>Washington Post</i> profile Mayor of Chicago Rahm Emanuel '81	190
Writing faculty member Kevin Pilkington receives New York Book Festival Award .....	181	Ninalee Craig '50, subject of <i>An American Girl in Italy</i> , celebrates photo's 60th anniversary.....	190
Meet Our Newly Tenured Faculty: James Marshall, Computer Science.....	182	Cris Villonco '06 "star performer" in <i>Noli Me Tangere the Musical</i> .....	190
<i>The New York Times</i> reviews <i>Conquistadora</i> , the new book by Esmeralda Santiago MFA '92, about the life of a plantation mistress .....	184	Literature professor Nicolaus Mills discusses the history lessons of Woody Allen's <i>Midnight in Paris</i> .....	190
<i>The Queens Ledger</i> profiles activist Jen Waller '09, who discovered her work interest while at Sarah Lawrence.....	184	<i>The Wag Magazine</i> profiles Annie Novak '05, co-founder of Eagle Street Rooftop Farm .....	191
In a Letter to the Editor in <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> , President Karen Lawrence dismisses the notion that tenure decisions are based solely on research and publication, rather than on classroom teaching.....	184		
Sloane Tanen '92 talks to <i>The Santa Barbara Independent</i> about working with director John Hughes when she was a teenager.....	185		

Psychology faculty member Jan Drucker explains brain-boosting activities for young children in *Parents* magazine..... 191

Brian Morton '78, director of the graduate writing program in fiction, offers advice to prospective students in *Poets and Writers* ..... 191

Writing faculty member Cathy Park Hong talks to *The Paris Review* about new book..... 192

A post-storm update from President Lawrence, 8/28/11 ..... 192

Brian Morton '78, Director of the Graduate Writing Program in Fiction, pens *New York Times* op-ed on wrongly-cited quotations in pop culture ..... 192

Students talk to *Bronxville Patch* about their opening weekend experiences with Hurricane Irene..... 192

Dr. W. Ian Lipkin '74 lends healthy dose of reality to upcoming movie *Contagion* ..... 193

## Dr. Anne Camp '78 and Rebecca Kline '06 profiled by *The New Haven Independent* for their work in diabetes prevention

Date: Sep 8, 2010

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Alums](#)

*The New Haven Independent* » [ [http://www.newhavenindependent.org/index.php/archives/entry/fair\\_haven\\_garden/](http://www.newhavenindependent.org/index.php/archives/entry/fair_haven_garden/) ] profiles Dr. Anne Camp '78 and Rebecca Kline '06 and their work at the Fair Haven Community Health Center (FHCHC). Dr. Camp runs the center's groundbreaking diabetes prevention program, which uses exercise and education to tackle high rates of diabetes in the neighborhood, and Kline runs a garden that is key to program.

## J.J. Abrams '88

Date: Sep 8, 2010

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

In its Fall TV Preview, *The Journal News* highlights J.J. Abrams '88 as one of "Four To Watch" this upcoming season. Abrams is the creator of the new NBC show *Undercovers*.

# Literature faculty member Maria Negroni appointed by Argentine government to represent country in literary exchange

Date: Sep 8, 2010

News Brief Humanities Literature Faculty

Maria Negroni, Literature faculty member and award-winning Argentine author, has been chosen, along with four others, to represent Argentina in a project called Rayuela » [ <http://www.goethe.de/ins/ar/lp/prj/ray/deindex.htm> ]—a literary exchange with five German-speaking authors, co-sponsored by the German and Argentine governments and the Goethe Institute in Buenos Aires. The group of authors will participate in conferences, readings, and lectures throughout Germany during the month of September, culminating at the Frankfurt International Book Fair, which is dedicated to Argentina this year.

## Philosophy faculty member Roy Brand named head of art-site in Jerusalem by Bezalel Academy

Date: Sep 8, 2010

### News Brief

Philosophy faculty member Roy Brand is spending the current year as Director and Chief Curator of Yaffo 23, an art-site in downtown Jerusalem that is part of Israel's [Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design](http://www.bezalel.ac.il/en/events/item/?id=661) » [ <http://www.bezalel.ac.il/en/events/item/?id=661> ], considered one of the world's most prestigious academies of art and design.

## Skye Van Saun MFA '06 named Director of the Delaware Valley Poetry Festival

Date: Sep 8, 2010

[Announcement](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Alums](#)

Skye Van Saun MFA '06 named Director of the Delaware Valley Poetry Festival.

## Alumna Julianna Margulies praises SLC on *Late Show with David Letterman*

Date: Sep 9, 2010

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

Alumna Julianna Margulies appeared on the September 8 episode of *Late Show with David Letterman*. In her segment, she spoke about her Sarah Lawrence education and her nervewracking return to campus as the 2010 Commencement speaker, remarking that the previous year's speaker, White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel '81, was a tough act to follow. View [Julianna Margulies' \*Late Show\* interview](#) » [ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72BdpYcCwBw> ], her [2010 Commencement address](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/commencement/archives/2010/julianna-margulies.html> ], and [Rahm Emanuel's 2009 Commencement address](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/commencement/archives/2009/rahm-emanuel.html> ].

# Six Degrees of Sarah Lawrence at The Emmys

Date: Sep 9, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Alums

Sarah Lawrence College alumna **Kyra Sedgwick** won her first Emmy Award for her lead role as Deputy Chief Brenda Johnson in the hit TNT show *The Closer*. Sedgwick edged out fellow alumna **Julianna Margulies '89**, who was nominated for her role in CBS's *The Good Wife*. The show also received a nomination for Outstanding Drama Series.

Showtime's *Nurse Jackie*, which was nominated for Outstanding Comedy Series, co-stars **Merrit Wever '02**, who plays impressionable nursing student Zoey Barlow.

Producers **Joshua Maurer '86** and **Alixandre Witlin-Mauer '87**, along with their production company City Entertainment, received nine Emmy nominations for their Lifetime Television biopic, *Georgia O'Keefe*.

Also this year, *Lost*, originally created by **J.J. Abrams '88**, received multiple nominations in the following categories for a Drama Series: Outstanding Drama, Outstanding Lead Actor, Outstanding Supporting Actor, Outstanding Director, and Outstanding Writing.

Congratulations to all our outstanding alums!

## Approaching post-college life "with a gusto often lacking in other elite collegians," students discuss their SLC educations with the *Bronxville Patch*

Date: Sep 10, 2010

[In the News](#) [Painting](#) [Printmaking](#) [Art History](#) [Womens History](#) [Students](#) [SLC](#)

In the *Bronxville Patch* » [ <http://bronxville.patch.com/articles/sarah-lawrence-upperclassman-reflect-on-their-final-college-years#c> ], students Amelia Woodside '11, Katherine Graham '11, Hans Kulla-Mader '12, Lauren Miller '11, and Elizabeth Koscianski '12 discuss the Sarah Lawrence pedagogy and how the “conference-style, heavily interpersonal education” they receive will uniquely prepare them for life and work after graduation. The students, reports writer Ahmed Mori, "feel so prepared by the school, they approach post-college life with a sort of gusto often lacking in other elite collegians."



# Sarah Lawrence College announces \$2 million Horncrest gift to support African American Scholarships

Date: Sep 15, 2010

News Release SLC Alums

The economic downturn has affected the ability of many families to pay college tuition; among the hardest hit are African Americans. Recognizing the immediacy of the need, Janet Rosenwald Becker and her husband Bernard Becker have donated close to \$2 million to Sarah Lawrence College to create an endowed scholarship fund for African American students. In making the gift, Bernard Becker said: "We knew we were going to support this institution in our will. But we also saw that the need is now. So, we decided not to wait."

Giving educational support to African Americans has run in this family. Janet Becker is the granddaughter of Julius Rosenwald, who, in 1912 as president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, was approached by Booker T. Washington with an idea that would result in the building of more than 5,000 schools in 15 states, for the children and grandchildren of slaves. For his role in creating a foundation that provided seed grants for these schools, Rosenwald was called the "most influential philanthropic force that came to the aid of Negroes at that time." Becker's father, Lessing Rosenwald, continued in his father's footsteps as chairman of the board of trustees of the Julius Rosenwald Fund from the time of his father's death in 1932 until 1948 when the fund was terminated.

A 1952 alumna of the College, Janet Becker has remained an active participant in the Sarah Lawrence community, receiving an award for service to the College in 2002. Her earlier gift-giving over the course of 30 years focused on expendable scholarship aid for African American students.

"The support Janet Becker and her husband, Bernard, have given to Sarah Lawrence over the years is exemplary," said Karen Lawrence, president of the College. "The purpose of this gift meets one of our greatest needs—ensuring the diversity of our student population—and it comes at a time when it is needed most."

Until 2008, the Beckers had planned to leave this new, single-sum gift as a bequest. However, in establishing this endowed fund at this time, through the family's Horncrest Foundation, the Beckers acknowledged that the benefits of such a gift were greatly needed as so many Americans struggle with the harsh realities of the "great recession."

"Janet and Bernard recognized that the turn in the economy was going to have a seriously negative effect on just the population they want to help and that more good would come of their gift if they endowed a scholarship fund now, than leaving it until after they're gone," said Lawrence Blau, Horncrest Foundation's financial manager.

Janet Becker points to the schools her grandfather built as her inspiration. His is a story that came close to being forgotten, the buildings falling into disrepair, their original purpose becoming obsolete as American public education was integrated. Fortunately, through a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation with grants from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Fund, a number of those schools are being restored as landmarks and re-purposed as community facilities.

"I can think of no better way to honor the groundbreaking work my grandfather did to insure that the descendents of American slaves would have access to education, than to help provide the kind of support that is needed by that cohort of college students in 2010," said Becker. Nearly 100 years since the first of the Rosenwald schools was founded, a large percentage of African American college students are denied access to their colleges of choice for lack of adequate financial support.

A smaller, but significant part of the Horncrest gift to Sarah Lawrence is funding for the College's Community Partnerships program, which matches student interest in community service and advocacy with local community needs.

# Guatemalan Leader and Recipient of Americans for UNFPA Award for the Health and Dignity of Women to Speak at Sarah Lawrence College, October 6

Date: Sep 20, 2010

## News Release

Dr. Marta Julia Ruiz, an indigenous Guatemalan physician who has generated a power shift in indigenous Guatemalan communities by facilitating the pursuit of education, economic opportunity, and vital health information for girls, will speak at Sarah Lawrence College on Wednesday, October 6 at 12:45 p.m. in the Donnelly Lecture Hall, Heimbold Visual Arts Center.

A 2010 recipient of an Americans for UNFPA Award for the Health and Dignity of Women, to be awarded in New York City on October 7, Dr. Ruiz is the founder of a program, *Abriendo Oportunidades*, or *Opening Doors*, which cultivates new generations of informed, well connected women leaders, through a network of girl-led support systems, focusing in rural areas where girls are unlikely to attend school past age 12. In Guatemala, and many countries around the world, access to education is a privilege, not a right. Many girls are denied education, as household and family responsibilities take precedence.



In 2007, UNFPA support made it possible for Dr. Ruiz to expand *Abriendo Oportunidades*, which now has a presence in 34 communities, and targets girls ages 8 to 18. Older girls run the programs, earn paid internships, and ultimately assume responsibility for the Safe Spaces where girls gather. Younger girls access mentorship and positive reinforcement for delaying marriage and children until they have completed their education. The program's culminating economic component is key to ensuring support from girls' families.

Dr. Ruiz once ran the Population Council in Guatemala, where she still works as a consultant. She has achieved remarkable heights as an indigenous woman and medical doctor specializing in public health. She turned her focus to adolescent girls after seeing adult patients struggle with limited education and resources, and almost no information about their reproductive health.

Americans for UNFPA builds moral, political, and financial support within the United States for the work of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, which provides women's health care and promotes the rights of women in 150 countries. It is the largest multilateral source of such assistance.

## Jenna Esposito '00

Date: Sep 20, 2010

Buzz

Jenna Esposito '00 was featured in the *Daily News* » [ [http://www.nydailynews.com/video/index.html?eCode=JjaDJ5OgfLUoFJNfs3dP372drde\\_H92p&dCode=pmYThxMTpqcaGXkqF0foXo5c1PEggUmN](http://www.nydailynews.com/video/index.html?eCode=JjaDJ5OgfLUoFJNfs3dP372drde_H92p&dCode=pmYThxMTpqcaGXkqF0foXo5c1PEggUmN) ] on September 19, as she prepares to record a local merchant's love song at Little Italy's San Gennaro festival—and record it for her next album.

## Jason Shrier '09

Date: Sep 21, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Economics Alums

In an interview with the *Daily News* » [ [http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/movies/2010/09/19/2010-09-19\\_supporting\\_actor\\_jason\\_shrier\\_plays\\_many\\_roles\\_behind\\_the\\_scenes\\_at\\_new\\_york\\_fil.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/movies/2010/09/19/2010-09-19_supporting_actor_jason_shrier_plays_many_roles_behind_the_scenes_at_new_york_fil.html) ], Jason Shrier '09 discusses his many roles working at the Film Society of Lincoln Center, which organizes the annual New York Film Festival.

## Harvard professor and *New Yorker* staff writer Louis Menand discusses “What every college graduate needs to know,” September 29 at 5:30 pm in Donnelly Lecture Hall

Date: Sep 22, 2010

Announcement Writing Writing

Harvard professor and *New Yorker* staff writer Louis Menand discusses “What every college graduate needs to know,” September 29 at 5:30 pm in Donnelly Lecture Hall

# Newly Tenured Faculty: Tristana Rorandelli, Italian

Date: Sep 28, 2010

Feature Story Humanities Italian Faculty

## Discipline

Italian

## Courses Taught

Beginning and Intermediate Italian; “Depictions of Family Relations and Italian Society in Postwar Italian Women’s Writings”

## Favorite region in Italy

Tuscany, where I grew up. I still spend my summers there on my mother's farm in the hills outside Florence.

## Best place in New York City for Italian food

Arthur Avenue in the Bronx, where you can still find specialty stores, imported goods from Italy, and artisanal Italian food.

## Favorite thing in your office

The thank-you cards I have received over the years from my students.

## Best thing about the Sarah Lawrence campus

It is small and peaceful, an oasis of green with beautiful buildings, but still close to NYC.

## Vices

A nice home-cooked meal and a good glass of red wine.

## What do you love about teaching at Sarah Lawrence?

The flexibility we have as teachers and the love of learning I see in my students. It often happens that the students become interested in a particular author whose works we are reading in class. I do not feel bound to the syllabus, and this allows me to branch out and explore that author’s work in greater depth, thus both nurturing and taking inspiration from the students’ interests.

## How are your own research and interests reflected in the courses you teach?

In “Fascism, World War II and the Resistance in Twentieth-Century Italian Narrative and Cinema,” we read Fascist propaganda, watched newsreels from that era, and looked at how Italian authors and film directors—both pro- and anti-Fascist—responded to the regime’s propaganda and portrayed that period in literature and cinema. The course gave students a multi-faceted view of this historical period in Italy.

Another time, I worked with a graduate student on an independent study that involved translating contemporary Italian poetry into English. I work on translations in my free time, so it was great fun for me. She picked a variety of contemporary Italian poets and we spent a lot of time talking about specific words and how to render these Italian words into English. I could give her the Italian perspective of what the nuance of a specific word meant and she had to come up with a very good rendering of it in English. It was very stimulating for both of us.



# Annie Novak '05

Date: Sep 29, 2010

[Buzz](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Environmental Studies](#) [Alums](#)

Annie Novak '05, co-founder of the Eagle Street Rooftop Farm in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, is featured in a [New York](#) » [ <http://nymag.com/restaurants/features/68297/> ] magazine slideshow titled "What an Urban Farmer Looks Like."

# Striking the Critical Balance between Global Urbanization and Sustainability: A Talk by Joel Towers, October 4

Date: Sep 29, 2010

## News Release

Joel Towers, Dean, Parsons The New School for Design, and a partner in the office of SR+T Architects, will present "Climate for Change," the first in the distinguished speakers Environmental Studies/Science Technology and Society Colloquium series "The Arts in a Time of Environmental Crises: Interventions and Provocations." The talk will take place on Monday, October 4, at 5 p.m. in the Alice Ilchman Science Center Room 103.

"At its best, design is anticipatory of future challenges, constraints, and needs, and transformative of the public imaginary," says Towers. "Perhaps the most important and determinative factor impacting future design contexts is the clear need to broadly advance ecological resilience in a landscape of increasing urbanization. Without a firm and comprehensive grasp of the ecological questions we must ask we will not succeed in striking a critical balance between global urbanization and sustainability."

Towers holds a Masters Degree in Architecture from Columbia University and has served on the faculties of both City College and Columbia. He was the project director for The Hannover Principles: Design for Sustainability in the office of William McDonough Architects prior to co-founding SR+T Architects in 1992 with Karla Rothstein. SR+T's work has been published in journals and books including *Casabella* and *Architecture Magazine*.



Future lectures in the Environmental Studies/Science Technology and Society Colloquium series are:

November 8  
Claire Pentecost

February 14  
Helen Mayer Harrison & Newton Harrison

February 28  
Kay Westhaus

March 5  
Dr. Paul Outka

April 4  
Jessica Beckett

# Acclaimed Indian Dancer/Choreographer Mallika Sarabhai Performs at SLC

Date: Sep 29, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Parents

The Sarah Lawrence College Dance Program presents Sampradayam, cutting edge choreography set to ancient, devotional songs from India. Choreographed and danced by the acclaimed Mallika Sarabhai with the Darpana Dance Troupe, Sampradayam is a salute to the "joie de vivre" of the Bhajans, a mainstay of devotional music in Hinduism.

As part of a U.S. Tour, Sampradayam will be performed on Saturday, October 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Suzanne Werner Wright Performing Arts Center on the campus of Sarah Lawrence College. A dance workshop taught by members of the Darpana Dance Troupe will take place on Sunday, October 10, at 11:30 a.m. in the MacCracken dance studio followed by a lecture titled *Arts for Social Change* by Mallika Sarabhai at 2:30 p.m. in the Donnelley Lecture Hall, Heimbold Visual Arts Center.

All three events are free and open to the public. Tickets for the performance may be reserved by contacting the Sarah Lawrence dance office at (914) 395-2433. The workshop and lecture are open to the public as well, but do not require reservations.





## Sarah Morris '13 named Tennis Player of the Week by the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference

Date: Sep 29, 2010

Announcement Students

Sarah Morris '13 named Tennis Player of the Week by the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference

J.J. Abrams '88 appears in White House TEACH Campaign to discuss his most influential teacher: “Before Joe Papaleo, I was a guy who wrote. But after Joe, I was a writer.”

Date: Oct 7, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Literature Filmmaking Writing Faculty Alums

Film and television mogul J.J. Abrams '88 appears in the White House's new TEACH campaign, a series of videos in which prominent Americans share stories about the teacher or teachers that inspired them most. Abrams credits Joseph Papaleo '49, Literature and Writing Faculty Emeritus (1960-1992), with transforming him from "a guy who writes" into "a writer." [Watch the video»](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pmZ4_I_mgo) [ [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pmZ4\\_I\\_mgo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pmZ4_I_mgo) ]

## Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Oct 7, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In [The Guardian](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2010/oct/02/healthcare-usdomesticpolicy#history-link-box) » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2010/oct/02/healthcare-usdomesticpolicy#history-link-box> ], Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills asks the question, "Where is today's FDR or Bevan?" in regard to the Democrats' quiet stance on the Obama administration's healthcare act.

*The New York Times* profiles the worldwide missions of Peter Taft '94 and his search-and-rescue dog Cassius

Date: Oct 8, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Alums

[The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/07/fashion/07Gimlet.html?_r=1&ref=fashion) » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/07/fashion/07Gimlet.html?\\_r=1&ref=fashion](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/07/fashion/07Gimlet.html?_r=1&ref=fashion) ] profiles Peter Taft '94 and his search-and-rescue dog Cassius and the work they do, including search and rescues

after the January earthquake in Haiti, in Sri Lanka following the 2004 tsunami, and in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. For his excellence as a live-find animal, the American Kennel Club just bestowed on Cassius its Humane Fund Award for Canine Excellence.

## Julian de Wette '75

Date: Oct 12, 2010

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

*Times Live* (Johannesburg) reviews the novel *A Case of Knives* by Julian de Wette '75, calling it a “most extraordinary book” written by a “most extraordinary writer.”

# Sarah Lawrence Alumnus Richard Morais to Read from his Acclaimed Novel *The Hundred-Foot Journey*, October 29

Date: Oct 12, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

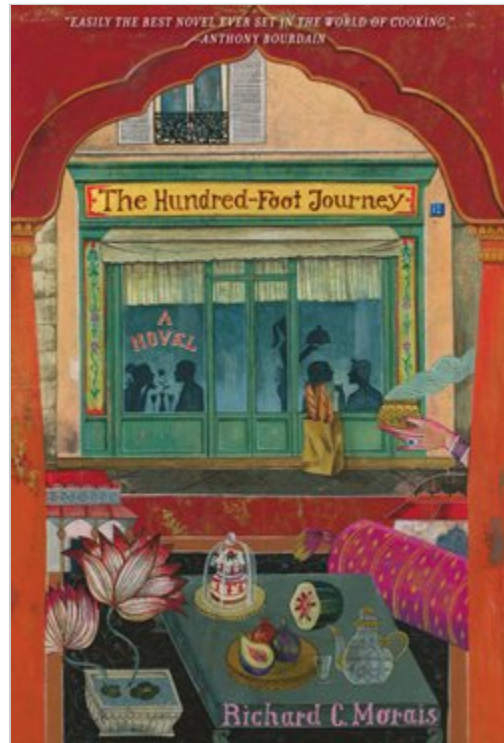
Richard C. Morais, author of *The Hundred-Foot Journey* (Scribner 2010), will read from his acclaimed first novel on Friday, October 29 at 6 p.m. in the Donnelley Theatre in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center, Sarah Lawrence College. Morais is a 1981 graduate of the College.

The event celebrates the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of the Sarah Lawrence College Library and is free and open to the public. A book signing and reception will follow Morais' reading. For further information and reservations, please call (914) 395-2412 or e-mail [colleegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:colleegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu) » [ <mailto:colleegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu> ].

*The Hundred-Foot Journey* has been critically acclaimed, receiving such endorsements this past summer as: *New York Times* "editors' choice"; NPR's "Literary Destination"; "favorite summer read" by *O*, *The Oprah Magazine*; one of the Amazon: Kindle editors' 10 best books of June.

Among the praise for *The Hundred-Foot Journey*:

- "...Easily the best novel ever set in the world of cooking—and absolutely thrilling from beginning to end..." Anthony Bourdain, author of *Kitchen Confidential*
- "...Morais, formerly a senior editor and foreign correspondent at *Forbes*, has done his research. The novel is seeded with delightful arcane..." *The New York Times*
- "Hilarious romp through life, love and the workings of a French kitchen." – *O Magazine*



Born in Portugal, Morais lived much of his life in Switzerland before attending Sarah Lawrence. Much of his career as a journalist was at *Forbes* magazine, including serving as European Bureau Chief from 1998-2003.

## About the Friends of the Sarah Lawrence College Library

Membership in the Friends of the Library group includes invitations to visiting authors' programs; members-only mini-courses taught by Sarah Lawrence faculty; borrowing privileges from the Library's holdings of 200,000 books; reference use of 1,000 English and foreign language periodicals; and a newsletter listing lectures, concerts and special events. Membership fees are used to provide the Sarah Lawrence College Library with significant funds for acquisitions and archival support, and are as follows: Basic/single: \$45; basic/couple: \$60; sponsor: \$100; benefactor: \$500; patron: \$1,000. For more information, visit the [Friends of the Library](http://www.sl.c.edu/library/friends.htm) » [ <http://www.sl.c.edu/library/friends.htm> ] page or contact [Susan Gleason](mailto:sgleason@sarahlawrence.edu) » [ <mailto:sgleason@sarahlawrence.edu> ] at (914) 395-2472.

## Solidarity Vigil on 10/20 to remember 13 young people from around the country lost to suicide resulting from bullying and homophobia

Date: Oct 19, 2010

Announcement SLC

Solidarity Vigil on 10/20 to remember 13 young people from around the country lost to suicide resulting from bullying and homophobia; community encouraged to wear purple in honor of Spirit Day

## Clay McLeod Chapman '00 and Hanna Cheek '01

Date: Oct 20, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Writing Theatre Writing Alums

*The Villager* » [ [http://www.thevillager.com/villager\\_389/october.html](http://www.thevillager.com/villager_389/october.html) ] reviews *The Pumpkin Pie Show: Amber Alert*, a show written by Clay McLeod Chapman '00 and starring Chapman and Hanna Cheek '01.

## John Doucet, PHG Certificate Program

Date: Oct 20, 2010

In the News Human Genetics SLC

After completing the Public Health Genetics certification program over the past year at Sarah Lawrence, John Doucet is profiled by *The Courier* » [ <http://www.houmatoday.com/article/20101019/ARTICLES/101019348/1026/news01?Title=Professor-certified-as-health-geneticist> ] on the occasion of becoming the first certified public health geneticist in the state of Louisiana.

## Pam Tanowitz MFA '98, Anne Lentz '98 and Rashaun Mitchell '00 honored with New York Dance and Performance ("Bessie") Award

Date: Oct 20, 2010

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

Choreographer Pam Tanowitz MFA '98 and dancers Anne Lentz '98 and Rashaun Mitchell '00 received a Bessie Award for their work in *Be in the Gray With Me*. Also known as the New York Dance and Performance Awards, the Bessies, named in honor of dancer and teacher Bessie Schonberg, acknowledge outstanding creative work by independent artists in the fields of dance and related performance in New York City.

# Temple Grandin: Thinking Like a Cow, and Succeeding

Date: Oct 21, 2010

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Science and Mathematics SLC

*A video of Temple Grandin's presentation at SLC is available below*

Temple Grandin stood in a feedlot with a herd of cattle. The animals were refusing to enter the gate to the veterinary facility, and no one could figure out why.

Grandin has autism, and she thinks in pictures rather than words—“kind of like Google for images,” she says. She processes information in the same way animals do, she says, and as a result she understands cattle the way few other people can.

Grandin noticed a big flag whipping in the wind near the gate, and saw that its rapid movements and high contrast were frightening the animals. Once the flag was removed, the problem was solved—saving the owner the cost of building a new facility. “Sometimes the simplest, most obvious thing is not what people see,” Grandin notes.

Grandin is widely regarded as the most famous person with autism today. On September 23, she spoke to an overflowing crowd at Sarah Lawrence, giving the annual Longfellow Lecture sponsored by the Child Development Institute. Though Grandin’s autism has posed significant challenges in both her personal and professional life, thinking in pictures and being hyper-aware of sight and sound has helped her become a top animal scientist.

She designed a curved corral that reduces animals’ anxiety as they are led to slaughter, and her humane designs are used to handle half the cattle in the US. A professor of animal science at Colorado State University, she also consults for firms like Burger King, Swift, and McDonald's. HBO recently released a biopic about her, in which Grandin was portrayed by Claire Danes; the film garnered a staggering 15 Emmy nominations and seven wins.

But Grandin is quick to defer admiration to those she credits for her success. “I cannot emphasize enough the importance of really good teachers,” she said, frequently reiterating the necessity of early intervention for autistic children.

Though the severity and symptoms of autism range broadly from child to child, Grandin’s problems were primarily related to her non-verbal thinking. She didn't talk until she was 3 ½ years old, communicating instead through screams of frustration and animal-like hums and peeps. Because the autistic brain processes information more slowly, shifting attention between two different things was also very difficult for her.

But mentors like her childhood nanny and high school science teacher recognized that the intensity of her fixations on certain subjects and activities could be used to motivate her to expand her interests. “There is resistance to change” in autistic children, Grandin said, “but you’ve got to do some pushing so they don’t stay stuck in a rut. The key is how much you push.”

The lessons she learned as a child on taking turns, sharing activities, and solving tactical problems also forced her to learn to engage with other people, instead of reverting into her autistic fixations and solitude. Her mother taught her invaluable—and non-negotiable—lessons in social decorum, she said. “Being eccentric and different is okay, but you can’t be a filthy, dirty slob,” Grandin joked.

It is imperative to help students with unique minds become successful, Grandin said, eliciting applause from the audience. She asserted that too much emphasis has been placed on autistic students’ deficits, and she challenged the audience to think about how to cultivate these students’ strengths so they could become contributing members of society.

And there are plenty of contributions to be made. People with autism are particularly good at solving practical problems, Grandin said, suggesting that they could be instrumental in addressing environmental challenges, such as the BP oil spill.

“We’ve got to figure out how to get different kinds of minds to work together. We *need* the different kinds of minds.” Grandin herself is a good example why.

—Katharine Reece MFA ’12

[ Embedded media <https://www.youtube.com/embed/6THc4Pc3LjY> ]

## Author and professor Gary C. Jacobson to lecture on "Barack Obama and the 2010 Elections," October 26 at 5:30 p.m. in Heimbold

Date: Oct 22, 2010

Announcement History and the Social Sciences Politics SLC

Author and professor Gary C. Jacobson to lecture on "Barack Obama and the 2010 Elections," October 26 at 5:30 p.m. in Heimbold

## Gloria Lau '76 named interim CEO at YWCA

Date: Oct 22, 2010

In the News Womens History Alums SLC

*Washington Business Journal* » [ [http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/quick\\_news/2010/10/ywca-usa-names-lau-interim-ceo.html](http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/quick_news/2010/10/ywca-usa-names-lau-interim-ceo.html) ] reports that Gloria Lau '76 has been named interim CEO at YWCA USA, founded in 1858 as the first association in the United States. The YWCA is "dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all," to quote its mission statement.

## Volleyball player Jillian Richardson '14 named Rookie of the Week by Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference

Date: Oct 22, 2010

Announcement Students SLC

Volleyball player Jillian Richardson '14 named Rookie of the Week by Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference.



## Anna Johnson '91 founds Cadence Theatre Company in a quest to tell meaningful stories

Date: Oct 27, 2010

[In the News](#) [Economics](#) [Theatre](#) [Dance](#) [Theatre](#) [Alums](#)

*The Richmond Times Dispatch* profiled the Cadence Theatre Company, founded by Anna Johnson '91. Johnson, in sharing the goal of the company, says that, "sharing stories that inspire and educate and help people maybe learn more about themselves is a great thing."

## Lisa Anderson '72 named president of American University in Cairo

Date: Oct 27, 2010

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

As reported in news outlets worldwide, Lisa Anderson '72 has been named the new president of American University in Cairo. Anderson has served as the university's provost since 2008 and will take office in December.

## President Karen Lawrence, a James Joyce scholar, to discuss the life and works of Joyce on November 3 at 2 p.m.

Date: Oct 28, 2010

[Announcement](#) [Humanities](#) [Writing](#) [Writing](#) [Administration](#) [Faculty](#)

President Karen Lawrence, a James Joyce scholar, to discuss the life and works of Joyce on November 3 at 2 p.m.

# Sarah Lawrence Graduates Receive \$50,000 Whiting Writers' Award

Date: Oct 28, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

Sarah Lawrence alumni David Adjmi '93 and L.B. Thompson '97 were each named one of the ten recipients of the 2010 Whiting Writers' Awards given by the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation to writers of exceptional talent and promise in their early careers.

David Adjmi's plays include *Stunning* (premiered at Lincoln Center Theater), *The Evildoers* (premiered at Yale Rep), *Marie Antoinette*, *Strange Attractors*, *Elective Affinities* (premiered at the Royal Shakespeare Company) and *Caligula*. His plays have earned him a Bush Artist's fellowship, and Jerome, McKnight, Cherry Lane Theatre, and Kesselring fellowships. Adjmi has also received the Helen Merrill Award, a Marian Seldes-Garson Kanin Award, a Lecomte du Nouy Award, and a Steinberg Playwright Award.

The Whiting selection committee saw in David Adjmi "a truly theatrical imagination. His plays come charging to life in front of a live audience. He does things with embodied language that few young playwrights even think to try. Wildly inventive feats of juxtaposition and wit drive these pieces as they scoff at the foolish consistencies of a too-too tidy dramaturgy."

L. B. Thompson's poetry chapbook *Tendered Notes: Poems of Love and Money* won the Center for Book Arts' annual chapbook competition in 2003. Her poems have appeared in *Fence*, *Pool*, *Lyric*, *The Women's Review of Books* and *The New Yorker*. She is a past recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award and her essay, "Torpor: Metaphors of Hibernation," appeared in *Prairie Schooner* in 2009. The Whiting selection committee said the following about Thompson's work: "This is poetry that could only *be* poetry—it has real wit as well as sensuousness. Ms. Thompson is a true visionary poet. So wild and strange and brilliant, this poetry is alive—filled with the sense of a part-human, part-Other intelligence, curious, questing. Also astonishing is the bright, clear gaze—like being in the presence of the oracle."

The Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation was established in 1963 by Flora E. Whiting. The Foundation created the Whiting Writers' Awards in 1985 under the direction of Gerald Freund, who organized and led the program until his death in 1997.

## Former trustee Ira H. Fuchs receives Educause’s 2010 Leadership Award for “providing visionary, game-changing leadership in higher ed IT”

Date: Oct 29, 2010

Announcement SLC

Former trustee Ira H. Fuchs receives Educause’s 2010 Leadership Award for “providing visionary, game-changing leadership in higher ed IT”

## Jahla Seppanen ’14 discusses the broadening experiences of campus diversity and life near NYC in *The Santa Fe New Mexican*

Date: Oct 29, 2010

In the News SLC Students

First year Jahla Seppanen ’14 contributes to *The Santa Fe New Mexican* » [ <http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Teen/College-101-Off-campus--it-s-a-whole-new-world> ] about her choice to attend Sarah Lawrence, emphasizing the College's proximity to NYC, its diverse student body, and “its size, the classes it offers, and its intensity.”

# Pre-Med, Learning by Helping

Date: Oct 29, 2010

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Chemistry Biology Students

Sarah Lawrence students Nikhil Wadhvani and Hannah Steinberg have their hearts set on becoming physicians. Volunteering each Saturday at the St. Anthony's Free Medical Clinic in the Bronx has helped strengthen their resolve.

On Saturdays during the school year, Dr. Robert Quintano, a Bronxville plastic surgeon, picks them up at 8:30 a.m. at the Sarah Lawrence campus and drives them to East 155th Street, where the clinic operates in a converted classroom. Sponsored by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, the clinic provides free care, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Steinberg, of Chattanooga, TN, began volunteering at St. Anthony's last year. "It's a great experience," says the Sarah Lawrence junior. "I'm learning valuable skills, and I really enjoy helping people. There are few things that make me happier."

Like all the volunteers, Quintano, who helped found the clinic in 1998, doesn't get paid for his Saturday mornings in the Bronx. The clinic offers immunizations, medical exams, asthma care, well-child visits, and anemia checks. According to the students, the patients seen at the medical clinic are among the thousands of New Yorkers who lack health insurance coverage.

The Sarah Lawrence students are given responsibility for initial contact with patients, many who begin lining up at 8 a.m. They take their blood pressure and pulse, find their height and weight, and conduct a vision test. After the intakes are completed, the students observe as the physicians conduct physical exams and take patient histories.

"It's fascinating to see what concerns them, and what doesn't concern them," Steinberg says. "It's a really good learning environment."

Wadhvani, of Berkeley, CA, says he enjoys interacting with the patients. "It's nice to sit down and talk with them," he says. "The doctors really need us. It helps them to do their jobs better."

Wadhvani, a junior, is taking organic chemistry this fall, and will study cell biology and biochemistry in the spring. He plans to take the Medical College Admission Test in May, with the possibility of starting medical school in 2012.

"There were times when I wasn't so sure I wanted to go to medical school," he says. "The free clinic has been a good environment to see what I'm comfortable doing. Working with patients has been great. Nothing compares to that satisfaction."

## Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, explains why "Not Every Playing Field Should Be Level" on huffingtonpost.com

Date: Nov 1, 2010

[In the News](#) [Child Development](#) [Administration](#) [Staff](#) [Alums](#) [Faculty](#)

In an article titled "Not Every Playing Field Should Be Level" on [huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-grob/not-every-playing-field-s_b_776897.html) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-grob/not-every-playing-field-s\\_b\\_776897.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-grob/not-every-playing-field-s_b_776897.html) ], Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and past director of the [Child Development Institute](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cdi/index.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cdi/index.html> ], discusses how the Blue Rock School in West Nyack, NY, has departed from the norm of homogenous play spaces by actively using the rugged, wooded land that surrounds the school.

## Don't try this at home: Students film cooking show in dorm room, prepare chicken with a coffee maker

Date: Nov 1, 2010

[Buzz](#) [Students](#)

Don't try this at home: Students film [cooking show](http://www.slashfood.com/videos-partner/dorm-room-cookoff-at-sarah-lawrences-284468860-61) » [ <http://www.slashfood.com/videos-partner/dorm-room-cookoff-at-sarah-lawrences-284468860-61> ] in dorm room, prepare chicken with a coffee maker.

# Are the Liberal Arts Dying?

Date: Nov 2, 2010

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Humanities SLC

The number of liberal arts majors has been decreasing for the past hundred years, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Louis Menand told SLC students in September. Of the 15 million students currently engaged in higher education, under half will choose to receive a degree in a liberal arts field. 22% of majors today are in business, with education and medicine being the next greatest draws—all pre-professional, or “deliberalized,” fields.



So what makes the liberal arts worth pursuing?

The serious historical, theoretical, and philosophical study integral to the liberal arts allows students to explain the “reasons behind present arrangements,” Menand said, and enables them to understand that those arrangements “are not inevitable.”

Menand outlined the history of the liberal arts, tracing their development from the “Big Bang of higher education” in the late 1800s through to the present day. He cited Charles William Eliot, a 19th-century president of Harvard, in stressing that liberal education was designed for those who enjoyed learning for its own sake.

But beyond learning, Menand said, the intellectual autonomy developed by the liberal arts’ training in disinterested study—in seeing beyond “present arrangements”—inspires in students “a certain type of empowerment” that can’t be taught anywhere else. He cited German sociologist Max Weber in suggesting that only the liberal arts could prevent a graduating class of “specialists without spirit.”

The implication was clear: the liberal arts’ rigorous mental training in impartial thought, critical analysis, and outside-the-box thinking are not only important for their own sake, they are ultimately portable to any field.

Menand himself remains an active agent in the field of educational innovation. His new book, *The Marketplace of Ideas*, discusses the future of higher education. A professor at Harvard, he also recently directed the effort to redesign Harvard’s system of general education requirements.

—Jess Unger ’13

# Guatemalan Doctor Empowers Indigenous Women

Date: Nov 2, 2010

Feature Story SLC

In Guatemala, many indigenous girls live in poverty, isolated by both language (they speak Mayan rather than Spanish) and by distance from urban areas. They usually leave school by age 12, and often marry soon after—adolescent marriage is a common practice among the traditional culture. As a result indigenous girls often have little or no time to consider other options for themselves and their lives.

Dr. Marta Julia Ruiz, an indigenous Guatemalan physician, wanted to change that. So in 2004 she started *Abriendo Oportunidades*, or Opening Doors, an educational and leadership program for girls and young women. In October, her work was honored at the United Nations: Ruiz was one of five honorees at the 2010 Awards for the Health and Dignity of Women, presented by Americans for UNFPA (the United Nations Family Planning Agency).



On October 6, Ruiz spoke about *Abriendo Oportunidades* at Sarah Lawrence. In 34 rural Guatemalan communities, the program has created safe, girls-only spaces where local teenagers can practice Spanish, learn about sexual health, and consider alternatives to early marriage and home life. These young women then reach out to younger girls, spreading the word. Participants in the program are introduced to careers outside of family-rearing and “develop their skills as leaders, earners, and organizers,” Ruiz said.

After a video and a brief overview of her work, Ruiz took questions from the audience. She spoke through a translator, although one brave student posed a question in quick, fluent Spanish. Ruiz explained that *Abriendo Oportunidades* has worked with about 3,500 indigenous girls all over rural Guatemala. The graduates become resources for their communities: they can speak Spanish, travel, use technology, and serve as role models for younger girls, ultimately contributing to the development of Guatemala as a country. As Ruiz said, “Every investment made for girls, in money or effort, always renders a reward.”

—Jess Unger '13

# The Ultimate Block Party

Date: Nov 2, 2010

Feature Story Child Development Health Advocacy CDI Staff Faculty Students

“This is brilliant,” a dad whispered to no one in particular as his two children bounded toward a refrigerator box draped with purple and green fabric. The box was surrounded by egg cartons, ribbons, buckets of paint, and thrift-store furniture. Children were romping and roaming through this “Pop-up Playground,” using the recycled materials—and their imaginations—to create colorful forts and castles, and, simply, to play.



This creative playground was one station of many at the Ultimate Block Party held in Central Park on October 3, where children and their families could explore an array of activities, including New York’s Largest Simon Says, a *Sesame Street* Sing-a-long, Costume Making, and a Lego Extravaganza.

Play is in serious danger of disappearing from children’s lives, many educators believe—yet it is essential to the way children learn. The organizers of Ultimate Block Party hope to educate parents, communities, and policy-makers about the value of play and the connections between play and learning.

Which is no small task at an event involving thousands of parents and children. To assess whether they were accomplishing their goals, the event’s organizers enlisted the help of research partners Rachel Grob and Mark Schlesinger. Schlesinger teaches in the health advocacy graduate program, and Grob is a consultant with and former director of the Childhood Development Institute at SLC.

The Child Development Institute “supports play as a central underpinning for healthy childhood development,” says Grob. “We also believe play is a child’s basic right.”

In addition to assessing the effectiveness of the day itself, Grob and Schlesinger wanted to study how parents and the public think about play. “We want to take a step back and understand what people’s assumptions and attitudes really are,” Grob said—so they designed a survey that incorporated both objectives.

Grob and Schlesinger enlisted the help of Kim Ferguson (faculty) and project coordinator Ashley Gephart MA ’10 to recruit Sarah Lawrence students—both undergraduate and graduate—to help conduct the survey. Before the event, the evaluation team trained 24 excited volunteers on how to approach parents. The students were encouraged to focus on parents who “look bored,” and invite them to answer the ten-minute questionnaire.

A few hours later, the students entered the park decked out in official T-shirts and armed with surveys. The atmosphere of fun was contagious: kids were jump roping, hoola-hooping, and blowing on kazoos. A man on stilts walked through the mass of families, nannies, children, and dogs, while Disney music blasted on huge speakers.

The students walked past drum circles and dancing troupes to their assigned stations. Along with basic inquiries about the activities the children had visited, they asked parents questions such as “Do you think that play and learning are connected?” and “Do you think that children who play are more likely to grow up to be successful adults?”

Parents were also asked to rank the relevancy of statements such as “Play is the right of every child,” “Play is practice for adult responsibilities,” and “Play reveals the inner self.”



The students conducted over 250 surveys during the event. The survey was possible “only because of the students’ skill and enthusiasm,” says Grob.

Grob, Schlesinger, and Gephart recently participated in a National Science Foundation debriefing about the Block Party, designed to assess whether this outreach strategy can be replicated elsewhere. Going forward, they will use the data collected in Central Park to design a larger-scale study focused on developing nuanced public awareness messages about play—and encouraging public policy makers to make play a central part of children’s lives.

—Katharine Reece MFA ’12

# Alice Walker '65 dedicates new book of poems to Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Nov 3, 2010

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

Alice Walker '65 dedicated her new book of poems, *Hard Times Require Furious Dancing*, to "Sarah Lawrence College & Mexico: place & land of my rebirth."

## Booth Ferris donation advances science program

Date: Nov 3, 2010

[News Release](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Chemistry](#) [Physics](#) [Biology](#) [Donors](#) [SLC](#)

The Booth Ferris Foundation has made a gift of \$125,000 to support the teaching of science at Sarah Lawrence College. The gift will provide for the purchase of science instrumentation and equipment that will expand the College's capacity to conduct research and teaching, including collaborative student-faculty research.

While Sarah Lawrence has a strong reputation in the arts and humanities, it is equally proud of its rich science curriculum, which has always been considered an important part of a well-rounded, progressive education. The Booth Ferris gift is having an immediate, positive impact on the science program by allowing the increase in quality and quantity of research and lab-intensive work, and providing greater flexibility and new possibilities for course and curricular design.

Included in the new instrumentation and equipment are an inverted microscope for cell observation, enabling more detailed studies of changes in cell structure, characteristics, growth, and development; a nanodrop spectrophotometer which affords the analysis of DNA molecules; a UV spectrophotometer, essential for quantitative determination of chemical solutions and compounds; a drybox system which will allow students to work on producing new chemicals for the first time; an ICP-AES, used for the accurate detection and measurement of proportions of elements in the composition of compounds and materials; and a Nao "humanoid" robot, a state-of-the-art, interactive, programmable robot.

## Students create cooking show in dorm room

Date: Nov 3, 2010

Buzz Students

Don't try this at home: Students film [cooking show](http://www.slashfood.com/videos-partner/dorm-room-cookoff-at-sarah-lawrences-284468860-61) » [ <http://www.slashfood.com/videos-partner/dorm-room-cookoff-at-sarah-lawrences-284468860-61> ] in dorm room, prepare chicken with a coffee maker.

## Sarah Lawrence College and world mourn actress Jill Clayburgh '66

Date: Nov 6, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

Sarah Lawrence College mourns the loss of actress and alumna Jill Clayburgh '66. Media outlets around the world remembered the Oscar and Emmy nominated star of stage and screen, including [The Los Angeles Times](http://www.latimes.com/news/obituaries/la-me-jill-clayburgh-20101106,0,301290.story) » [ <http://www.latimes.com/news/obituaries/la-me-jill-clayburgh-20101106,0,301290.story> ] and [The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/06/arts/06clayburgh.html?ref=obituaries) » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/06/arts/06clayburgh.html?ref=obituaries> ]. For a look back at Clayburgh's career and her time at Sarah Lawrence, [read a piece](http://www.slc.edu/magazine/outcomes/feature_clayburgh-extra.php) » [ [http://www.slc.edu/magazine/outcomes/feature\\_clayburgh-extra.php](http://www.slc.edu/magazine/outcomes/feature_clayburgh-extra.php) ] from the Fall 2006 issue of *Sarah Lawrence* magazine.

## "Thriving in a Failed Paradigm: Global and Local Food Systems," a talk by Claire Pentecost, November 8

Date: Nov 8, 2010

Announcement History and the Social Sciences Science and Mathematics Creative and Performing Arts Photography Environmental Studies

"Thriving in a Failed Paradigm: Global and Local Food Systems," a talk by Claire Pentecost, November 8

## Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills

Date: Nov 8, 2010

Buzz Humanities Literature Faculty

In a [Huffington Post](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/higher-ed-bragging-rights_b_780323.html) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/higher-ed-bragging-rights\\_b\\_780323.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/higher-ed-bragging-rights_b_780323.html) ] piece titled "Higher Ed Bragging Rights," Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills points out that interviewing students for his class, a key component in the registration process at Sarah Lawrence, "can often tell me as much about the work they will do as their writing samples."

## *The New York Times* lauds the services of Yonkers Public Schools' new college centers, which include writing clinics taught by SLC graduate students

Date: Nov 8, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing SLC Students

In an article titled, "With New Resources, Urban Students Are Encouraged to Apply to College," *The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/06/nyregion/06metjournal.html?\\_r=2&scp=2&sq=sarah lawrence college&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/06/nyregion/06metjournal.html?_r=2&scp=2&sq=sarah%20lawrence%20college&st=cse) ] examines the six new college centers opened in Yonkers Public Schools since 2008. Funded by the nonprofit Yonkers Partners in Education, the centers provide students with on-site college advisers, scholarships for SAT prep classes, bus trips to colleges, and writing clinics taught by graduate students at Sarah Lawrence.

## *The Washington Post* profiles Adam Tenner '90 in its "What it Takes: Conversations with Achievers" section

Date: Nov 10, 2010

In the News Alums

*The Washington Post* » [ [http://views.washingtonpost.com/on-success/what-it-takes/2010/11/adam\\_tenner.html](http://views.washingtonpost.com/on-success/what-it-takes/2010/11/adam_tenner.html) ] profiles the work of AIDS educator Adam Tenner '90 in its "What It Takes: Conversations with Achievers" section, which highlights success stories of professionals in the Washington area.

# Blavatnik Family Foundation Grant for Innovation in Arts and Technology Awarded to Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Nov 10, 2010

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Science and Mathematics Computer Science Music  
Writing Theatre Filmmaking SLC Donors

Sarah Lawrence College has received a five year planning grant from The Blavatnik Family Foundation to initiate cross-disciplinary programs that integrate the arts and digital technology. The \$260,000 gift will support a plan to develop an innovative program for teaching and research, enabling the College to expand its arts programs to embrace digital arts and technology which branch out into computer science, filmmaking, creative writing, music, and stagecraft.

“This gift will allow us to build upon the work of our highly creative faculty,” said College President Karen Lawrence. “We are confident that students emerging from the programs we initiate as a result of this grant will be prepared to make groundbreaking contributions to the visual and performing arts, adding significantly and appropriately to the body of work of previous generations of renowned Sarah Lawrence alumni.”

Sarah Lawrence is distinctive in the way that the arts interact with the humanities, sciences and social sciences. Because the College has no separate departments or majors and a strong tradition of cross-disciplinary approaches to learning, Sarah Lawrence is the site of lively and important interactions between the arts and other disciplines, both in student work and in faculty research.

The Blavatnik Family Foundation has provided financial support to leading institutions of higher education around the world including major gifts to the University of Oxford, Harvard University and Tel Aviv University, as well as cultural organizations including the National Gallery of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the U.S. and the Tate and Royal Academy of the Arts in the U.K.

# Sarah Lawrence Senior Chelsea Wright wins prestigious Presser Music Scholar Award

Date: Nov 10, 2010

News Release Music Students

Sarah Lawrence College senior Chelsea Wright has been selected by the Music faculty at Sarah Lawrence College as the 2010-11 Presser Music Scholar. The Presser Music Scholar Award is given to an undergraduate student demonstrating excellence and outstanding promise for a distinguished career in the field of music.

Chelsea studied piano at the Idyllwild Arts Academy's summer program in California and at the Brevard Music Center Summer Institute in North Carolina. In addition to piano, she studied flute and voice at the Arizona School for the Arts and performed with the Phoenix Youth Symphony as well as with regional and all-state orchestras and choirs. At Sarah Lawrence, she has studied piano with Anthony de Mare and Bari Mort as well as harpsichord with Carsten Schmidt. She has performed chamber music under the direction of Sungrai Sohn and with the Baroque Ensemble under the direction of Carsten Schmidt.

"Along with other music faculty members, I have had the privilege of directing and teaching Chelsea. She is an extremely gifted and talented musician and is very deserving of the Presser Scholar Award," said Schmidt.

## Lucy Baker MFA '08

Date: Nov 10, 2010

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

[Bakery Boy Blog](#) » [ <http://bakeryboyblog.wordpress.com/2010/11/08/the-boozy-baker-a-spirited-cookbook-by-lucy-baker/> ] reviews *The Boozy Baker: 75 Recipes for Spirited Sweets*, the first cookbook written by Lucy Baker MFA '08. The blogger writes, "The Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing [Baker] earned at Sarah Lawrence College helps explain the pleasant storytelling nature of her cookbook."

## Nora Sarvetnick '78

Date: Nov 10, 2010

[In the News](#) [Physics](#) [Chemistry](#) [Biology](#) [Alums](#)

[Health News Digest](#) » [ [http://www.healthnewsdigest.com/news/Research\\_270/Dr\\_Sarvetnick\\_to\\_Lead\\_UNMC\\_s\\_Regenerative\\_Medicine\\_Efforts.shtml](http://www.healthnewsdigest.com/news/Research_270/Dr_Sarvetnick_to_Lead_UNMC_s_Regenerative_Medicine_Efforts.shtml) ] reports that Nora Sarvetnick '78 has been named director of the Nebraska Regenerative Medicine Project, which furthers studies in stem cell research.

## Sarah Buccheri '98

Date: Nov 10, 2010

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

[The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) » [ <http://www.jsonline.com/blogs/entertainment/106903738.html> ] reports that Sarah Buccheri '98 has been awarded the Mary L. Nohl Fellowship, the most prestigious local award for individual artists, in the emerging artists category.



# Thriving in a Failed Paradigm: Global and Local Food Systems

Date: Nov 5, 2010

News Release History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies

Claire Pentecost discusses her 12-year inquiry into global and local food systems in a talk titled: Thriving in a Failed Paradigm on Monday, November 8 at 5 p.m. in the Alice Ilchman Science Center, Room 103. In this context she will discuss the role of the artist as “Public Amateur”: a person who publicly performs learning in order to expand collective understanding of our very complex and risk-laden world. The lecture is part of the Environmental Studies/Science Technology and Society Colloquium series: The Arts in a Time of Environmental Crises: Interventions and Provocations.

Associate Professor in the Department of Photography at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Pentecost’s work engages a variety of strategies: collaboration, research, teaching, field work, writing, lecturing, drawing, installation and photography in an ongoing investigation and interrogation of the institutional structures that organize and order knowledge. Her Website, The Public Amateur, promotes people whose work crosses and disturbs the disciplinary boundaries that traditionally cleave to the authorized specialist.

## Writing Faculty Member Scott Snyder

Date: Nov 10, 2010

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

*Slash Film* » [ <http://www.slashfilm.com/2010/11/08/exclusive-7page-excerpt-stephen-kings-american-vampire-comic-book/> ] provides an exclusive sneak peak of *American Vampire*, a new comic book series created by writing faculty member Scott Snyder, with contributions from bestselling author Stephen King.

# A Journey Around the World—and Across the Street

Date: Nov 11, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

“There’s a 300 pound fat man inside me waiting to come out,” joked Richard Morais ’81 after reading a passage from *The Hundred Foot Journey*, his recently published novel about an Indian chef’s adventures learning to cook French cuisine. Morais read at Sarah Lawrence on October 29 at an event sponsored by the Friends of the Sarah Lawrence Library, which celebrates its 35th anniversary this year.

In the book, the Haji family moves from Mumbai to a village in the French Alps. The “hundred feet” in the title refers to the distance between the Indian restaurant they open and the French restaurant across the street. The main character crosses this cultural boundary and ultimately becomes a world-renowned chef.

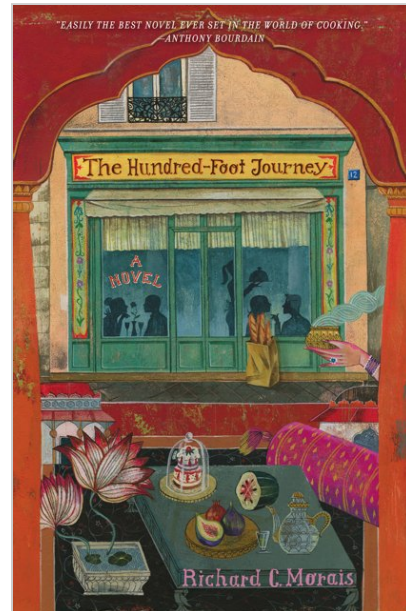
The distance between cultures is a subject in which Morais, an American born in Portugal and raised in Switzerland, is well versed. He came to the United States for the first time at the age of 16 to attend Sarah Lawrence—an education that continues to inform his imagination and sensibility, he says.

He graduated in 1981, straight into a recession. With \$100 in his pocket, he moved to Brooklyn (an unfashionable destination at the time), determined to pursue a career in acting, his first love. He quickly realized, however, that he needed to take the first job offered to him, which happened to be in the business world.

A few years later, he landed a job as a writer for *Forbes* magazine, where he stayed for 25 successful years. He traveled to many countries—including India—on assignment, which laid the groundwork for his novel.

“This book is about how to find your calling, and what to do when that calling is at odds with your family and culture,” Morais said. His advice to seekers: “Be open to the world. Let it show you the way.”

—Katharine Reece MFA ’12



# Indian Star Unites Art and Activism

Date: Nov 11, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Parents Students

Last year, internationally celebrated dancer and choreographer Mallika Sarabhai ran for Parliament in Gujarat, India, opposing a right-wing candidate. “Obama said, ‘Yes, we can.’ I say, ‘Now, we must,’” she declared. Her fans were unsurprised by her candidacy: it was right in line with her unconventional career, which has encompassed dance, film theatre, television, activism, and more—all of which she does in the name of communicating truth.



In October, Sarabhai and the Darpana Performing Group, which she founded, spent the weekend at Sarah Lawrence. (Sarabhai’s daughter Anahita is a junior at the College and dances with the troupe.) The group performed Sampradayam, a tribute to the joie de vivre of devotional songs from the Bhajan tradition, and taught a dance workshop for students. Sarabhai also gave a talk on Art and Social Change, explaining her approach to art and activism.

As the daughter of Mrinalini Sarabhai, the renowned Indian classical dancer who established the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, and Vikram Sarabhai, one of India’s leading space scientists, Sarabhai grew up in the public eye. Educated at Darpana (which she now directs) and at Shreya, India’s first Montessori school, she acted in her first film, an Indian New Wave flick, when she was 15 years old.

Though dance was certainly in her genes, Sarabhai resisted a career in the field, in part because she’d grown up with a firsthand view of the less-than-glamorous moments in her mother’s career, including the long hours she put in daily. Instead, Sarabhai went to college and earned a doctorate in organizational behavior. It wasn’t until the end of a “lousy love affair” that she woke up and knew, without a doubt, that she was meant to dance.

“You can’t do Indian classical dance until you’ve had two lousy love affairs,” Sarabhai says with a smile.

In the Sixties, Sarabhai watched as contemporary dance took on a more political tenor. Sarabhai embraced the idea that the arts could catalyze change—whether social, personal, or political.

“Art can mirror life,” she says, “and show people what they might not necessarily want to see.”

Sarabhai spent several decades performing in film and theatre. In 1989, she turned to choreography, and has created more than 40 dance and performance works covering issues like human rights, violence, and women’s issues. *Sita’s Daughters* addresses the negative feelings that can accompany the birth of females in Indian society and sometimes result in feticide. *V for...* explored the idea that all human beings have the capacity for violence, incorporating quotes from perpetrators and peacemakers alike. The show was performed in 40 US cities in the late 1990s.

Though Sarabhai has achieved much success abroad (the French government made her a Chevalier Des Arts et Des Lettres for her contributions to the arts), her work is largely dedicated to improving Indian society.

For example, Darpana’s theater outreach program travels to underprivileged areas and trains community members to become “actor/activists,” who perform educational shows for their communities on everything from the importance of hygiene to HIV prevention to reducing the maternal mortality rate.

But Sarabhai realized that “no amount of entertaining performances could reach the same number of people as television,” so she developed “television for change,” directing numerous shows that provide role models who are both positive and entertaining. On one talk show, she sought out the opinions of average citizens, in an effort to increase social awareness.

“Seventy percent of India goes to bed hungry every night,” she notes, adding, “This is a country in need of a conscience.”

In her bid for Parliament, Sarabhai was herself trying to be a positive role model for political candidates, and engaged with thousands of voters, many of whom live on the margins of society. Though she did not win the election, Sarabhai succeeded in setting an example of a clean and fair campaign, capturing the spirit of “by the people and for the people.”

“The idea is to empower people to make better lives,” says Sarabhai, “for themselves, the environment, everyone.”

—Suzanne Guillette MFA '05

## Animator Bill Plympton to screen and discuss his work on November 15 at 7 p.m.

Date: Nov 12, 2010

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts

The Spencer Barnett Experimental Film Forum presents animator Bill Plympton on Monday, 11/15, at 7 p.m. in Heimbold. Plympton will be screening and discussing his work and a short reception will follow. Free and open to the public.

## Max Mallory '11 named Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference Basketball Player of the Week

Date: Nov 12, 2010

Announcement Students

Max Mallory '11 named the Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference Basketball Player of the Week

## SLC parent and award-winning screenwriter, producer, and director Pen Densham shares his thoughts on the value of a Sarah Lawrence education

Date: Nov 12, 2010

Announcement Filmmaking SLC Parents Students

SLC parent and award-winning screenwriter, producer, and director Pen Densham shares his thoughts on the value of a Sarah Lawrence education.

# Juniors Meghan Roguschka and Amanda Ota report on their work establishing a community garden in India

Date: Nov 16, 2010

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Students

With the help of a Davis grant, Amanda Ota and I traveled to India this summer to establish a community garden in the state of Madhya Pradesh. In 2009, MP was recognized by The World Hunger Index as the hungriest state in the world, and it was emphasized in the report that a possible nostrum for this problem was empowering women in the region by providing the tools and education necessary to fight malnutrition and hunger that threatens their families. Amanda and I traveled to India to facilitate early participation in a community centered project, with the hope that by teaching healthy dietary habits and sustainable gardening techniques, we would be providing the education, support, and supplies necessary for such empowerment to occur.

I should admit that neither of us had ever been on an intensive humanitarian trip before. We knew that our summer would be filled with physical and mental challenges, but we never imagined that our trip would be as forcefully connective as it was. As much time as we spent researching India, poring over books and articles and recipes and culture grams, nothing could have prepared us for the reality of what it was to live and bond with an entirely foreign population.

We were infatuated by a community of people who will likely never escape the struggle that is survival, but who positively glowed with smiles and love and humor; with life. I think we needed to be walked all over by the 'differentness' of another culture before we could understand how lucky we are to have been born where and how and when we were. Our attempts to assimilate, to be Indian, entertained the village we grew to love, and I realize it was because they appreciated that we were trying. They loved us for just being there, and we loved them for dealing with us, and really that's all that will ever matter.

–Meghan Roguschka

## Huffington Post reveals *The Truth About Sarah Lawrence*

Date: Nov 16, 2010

[In the News](#) [Staff](#) [Administration](#) [SLC](#)

In a [Huffington Post](#) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/leah-finnegan/the-truth-about-sarah-law\\_b\\_783660.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/leah-finnegan/the-truth-about-sarah-law_b_783660.html) ] article titled *The Truth about Sarah Lawrence*, President Karen Lawrence and Vice President Thomas Blum get to the heart of what differentiates a Sarah Lawrence education, speaking to the “intensive 1:1 instruction” that is the hallmark of the school’s pedagogy.

## Suzie Elliot Bearce '13 named Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week

Date: Nov 18, 2010

[Announcement](#) [Students](#)

Suzie Elliot Bearce '13 named Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week

## Anneke Hansen '02

Date: Nov 19, 2010

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

[The New York Times](#) » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/19/arts/dance/19hansen.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/19/arts/dance/19hansen.html?_r=2) ] reviews “look at them long and long,” choreographed by Anneke Hansen '02. Her work is described as “choreography that doesn’t shy from detail, but burrows deeply into spatial and rhythmic concepts.”



# Understanding the Tea Party

Date: Nov 19, 2010

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Politics Students

On November 2, Americans elected 45 Tea Party candidates to Congress. It was the culmination of months of angry protests, “Don’t Tread on Me” flags, and Sarah Palin endorsements. Lately, the question that everybody has been asking Kate Zernike is, Just who are these people?

Two days after the election that put the Tea Party on the map, the journalist and author of *Boiling Mad: Inside Tea Party America* came to Sarah Lawrence to answer that very question.

Her answer, which threatened to leave liberals apoplectic: “The Tea Party is just us.” On election day, 40 percent of Americans claimed to support this emergent group.



Why? Tea Party candidates successfully addressed the issue that was critical to every American in 2010: the economy. Their message of tight belts, balanced budgets, and reduced spending rang true with many Americans knocked off their feet by sweeping layoffs, shuttered businesses, and defaulted mortgages. Locally organized Tea Parties became a means for the disempowered to express their frustration with the slow recovery of the American economy under President Obama.

The Tea Party was also a coalition, Zernike explained. It united young political activists and older heads of household, rigid ideologues and pragmatic problem-solvers, those outraged by Obama’s policy expansions and those frustrated with over-spending despite their own reliance on government programs.

One student asked, “I’ve heard so much about big money flowing to support these causes. Is the Tea Party really grassroots?” Zernike conceded that media engines like Fox News made the Tea Party a sensation, and that wealthy conservative groups such as Dick Armey’s FreedomWorks, Americans for Prosperity, and the Koch Brothers had helped organize the many local Tea Parties on a national level.

But the Tea Party was nonetheless a grassroots movement, Zernike argued—the broad base of frustrated voters and activists just didn’t exist before 2010. If Dick Armey and the Koch Brothers had been around for decades, why hadn’t the Tea Party been around for that long, too? The recession, and the economic frustrations that came with it, sparked the national brushfire that gave those donors and experts a grassroots movement to support.

After an hour of speaking and answering questions in the library’s Pillow Room, Zernike talked with a small group of politics students over coffee and cookies. Zernike predicted that there are ideological struggles looming within the movement’s coalition. Faced with the challenges of governance, Tea Party winners in Congress will have to reconcile their ideals with political reality—massive budget cuts and other measures don’t happen quickly. Even so, she said, the Tea Party will likely be a force to watch for years to come.

—Jess Unger ’13

*New York Times* education writer's blog *The Choice* notes the 15% rise in early decision applications to SLC along with other highly selective schools

Date: Nov 23, 2010

In the News SLC

*New York Times* education writer Jacques Steinberg's blog *The Choice* [noted](http://thechoice.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/18/ed/) » [ <http://thechoice.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/18/ed/> ] the 15% rise in early decision applications to Sarah Lawrence along with other highly selective schools.

*New York Times* profiles Dr. W. Ian Lipkin '74 who has pioneered the use of genes in identifying viruses that cause infectious diseases

Date: Nov 23, 2010

Buzz Science and Mathematics Pre-med Biology Chemistry Alums

"There isn't anybody any better at this than Ian Lipkin," (SLC class of '74) said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, in an [article in the \*New York Times\*](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/23/science/23prof.html) » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/23/science/23prof.html> ]. Lipkin is credited with identifying over 400 viruses in the last decade by looking for their genes, something that had never been done before.

Catie Griffin '11 named Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week

Date: Nov 29, 2010

Announcement

Catie Griffin '11 named Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week

## *The Selby* features a photo spread on Annie Novak '05 and her work with Brooklyn's Eagle Street Rooftop Farm

Date: Dec 1, 2010

[Buzz](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Environmental Studies](#) [Alums](#)

Annie Novak '05, co-founder and farmer of [Eagle Street Rooftop Farm](http://rooftopfarms.org/) » [ <http://rooftopfarms.org/> ] in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, is featured in a photo spread in *The Selby* » [ [http://theselby.com/7\\_21\\_10\\_AnnieEagleSt/](http://theselby.com/7_21_10_AnnieEagleSt/) ].

# Bill Plympton's Bizarre Cartoons

Date: Dec 1, 2010

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Visual Arts Drawing

“There was a choice between being an alcoholic drug addict or a cartoonist, and I chose being a cartoonist,” Bill Plympton said, referring to his youth in Portland, Oregon, where the cloudy, rainy weather tends to limit one’s recreational options.

And Plympton became not just a cartoonist, but a very famous one. On November 15, he screened a number of his award-winning animated films for a packed crowd at Sarah Lawrence College.

Plympton’s cartoons have appeared in national publications from *The New York Times* to *National Lampoon*, from *Vogue* to *Penthouse*. For many years he published a syndicated political cartoon called “Plympton.”



One of the films he showed at Sarah Lawrence was “The Fan and the Flower,” an endearing and tragic love story about a ceiling fan who falls in love with a flower and eventually kills himself to save her. The film is definitely not “his usual style,” he said, noting that it is the only film of his that his mother likes.

Despite lucrative offers from Disney and others, Plympton refuses to make cartoons for children. The things he thinks about are inappropriate for non-adults, he says—jealousy and hate and love and sex. “Sleazy is what I’m all about,” he joked.

It was evident from his films, however, that he is also about conflicts of the human spirit and battles of the conscience. His most recent film, “Idiot and Angels,” is a dark tale of an acerbic man who suddenly sprouts angels’ wings and is forced into doing good deeds. The film is ultimately about the man’s battle for his soul, and raises other cosmic issues of good and evil.



After each short or clip he screened, Plympton used a black marker to quickly draw the main character from the film on an easel. “You can see how I draw really fast and uncontrolled,” he commented.

It isn’t just Plympton’s drawing style that sets his work apart—it’s also the fact that he still draws at all. In the age of computer animation, Plympton still produces his films by hand, some of them requiring over 30,000 individual drawings. “You have to use a lot of economy and simplicity because you have to do lots of drawings in a short amount of time.”

While drawing, Plympton said the first time he realized cartoons were important was in high school, when he drew a controversial poster for a friend’s student council campaign. During class, an announcement came over the intercom: “Will Bill Plympton the pornographer please come to the principal’s office?”

When he returned to class, the other students looked at him differently—as a “maverick” artist. “I realized then that cartoons could be mediums of change,” Plympton said.

The screening was hosted by the Spencer Barnett Experimental Film Forum, which was created in memory of a Sarah Lawrence student who passed away in 2008. Barnett’s mother introduced the event, saying that like Plympton, Spencer loved animation and all things quirky in art.

—Katharine Reece MFA ’12

# Joan Micklin Silver '56

Date: Dec 1, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Alums

*The Santa Barbara Independent* » [ <http://www.independent.com/news/2010/nov/27/crossing-delancey-director-appear-jewish-film-fest/> ] reports that acclaimed director Joan Micklin Silver '56 will serve as the filmmaker-in-residence at the 6th annual Santa Barbara Jewish Film Festival in April 2011. Silver is best known for directing the films *Crossing Delancey* with Amy Irving and *Hester Street* with Carol Kane.

# Rally to Restore Sanity: A Student's Perspective

Date: Dec 1, 2010

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Politics Students Faculty

His name was Russell and he was handing out cards that read, "STOP: Deport All Illegal Aliens Now! No Amnesty! No guest Workers! E-Verify!" Russell wasn't the kind of person you'd expect to see at Jon Stewart's Rally to Restore Sanity, given the *Daily Show* audience's reputation as a crowd of sarcastic college students. I spotted Russell amidst a sea of other political sign-wavers at the fringes of the rally on October 30. Half a block down was the "legalize pot" contingency, just across from MoveOn.org's satirical "join Republicorp" banners.



I had arrived in Washington, DC, that morning on a bus with 50 other Sarah Lawrence students. The trip was organized by politics faculty member Sam Abrams; back at SLC, students watched the rally at a live screening sponsored by the Sarah Lawrence Activities Council. I was excited because, true to my liberal-college-student demographic, I love Jon Stewart. Plus I was curious to see what a concerted, moneyed effort to promote rational political discussion could realistically do for America. Call me idealistic, but I was hoping that it could stimulate a new age of reasonable discourse.

I was no newcomer to political gatherings—I'd been to anti-war vigils, Middle Eastern protests, campaign rallies, local political meet-and-greets, you name it. But Jon Stewart was doing something different. The rally aimed to be simultaneously patriotic and critically reflective, soberly apolitical and puckishly belittling of campaign-side mudslinging. I was hoping Stewart could pull it all off.

My friends and I got past Russell and tried to maneuver towards the stage where Stewart and Colbert were prancing in stars-and-stripes outfits. No luck: long before the official 12:00 start time, the crowds had engulfed the event space, and "late" arrivals such as ourselves were doomed to circling around the rally, perpetually just out of earshot and sight of the event.

As we waded deeper into the crowd, the number of directly political signs decreased. Instead, they became increasingly individual-spirited and diverse. Amongst the teen contingent, riffs on internet memes abounded: "Consequences will never be the same"; "Hide your kids! Hide your wife!" Colbert constituents: "We scare because we care"; "Kids may be Nazis," Stewart loyalists: "My rent is pretty reasonable"; "Hyperbole is literally destroying America." Out-of-the-blue deadpan humor: "Has anyone seen my car?" "Homosexuals are gay!" "Am I too late for the Glenn Beck rally?"

The diversity in the signs reflected the diversity of the crowd. There were grannies for sanity and toddlers for fear. There were business types, hippies, soccer moms, high school students, artists, and everyone in between. I struggled to find conservatives—there was tangible anti-Tea Party sentiment in the sea of statements, although I did find a huddle of people under a sign reading "Restore sanity! Vote Democrats out!"

I began interviewing people in the back reaches of the crowd, those who couldn't even see the stage and could hear only the high notes of the songs Stewart sang. They all agreed that they loved the variety of the people who came out and enjoyed the day together.

For me, the rally represented the best of American public engagement—optimism, heterogeneity, celebration. In a way, Russell was the perfect introduction to the Rally to Restore Sanity experience, because he forced me

to let go of my assumptions about the crowd.

I don't know if the Rally to Restore Sanity stimulated a new age of reasonable discourse in America. I don't know if it prompted its attendees to vote or engage their civic duties in ways they hadn't before. What I do know is, the 215,000 people who came out on October 30 got a chance to see a crowd of their fellow Americans for what they were: proud, hopeful, and impressively diverse.

Article and photo by Jess Unger '13



## Suzanne Wright '98

Date: Dec 1, 2010

In the News Alums

*The Palm Beach Daily* » [ <http://www.palmbeachdailynews.com/society/pbau-names-eileen-burns-suzanne-wright-as-women-1085878.html> ] reports that trustee emeritus Suzanne Wright '98 is a recipient of the 2011 Women of Distinction Award from Palm Beach Atlantic University, which honors women who have made significant contributions to the community. Wright and her husband, Bob, are co-founders of Autism Speaks, North America's largest autism science and advocacy organization.

## Jahla Seppanen '14 shares her thoughts on taking academic risks and trying new things with *The Santa Fe New Mexican*

Date: Dec 2, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Creative and Performing Arts Politics Writing Dance Students

First year Jahla Seppanen '14 contributes to *The Santa Fe New Mexican* » [ <http://www.santafenewmexican.com/teen/College-101-Try-something-new--mdash--from-classes-to-cleaning> ] about taking academic risks in college and her resulting discovery of a love of law, despite having thought she would focus on dance and writing.

## Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, extols the virtues of play in natural settings on huffingtonpost.com

Date: Dec 2, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies Art of Teaching Child Development CDI Faculty Staff

In an article titled "Nature as a Play and Learning Ground" on [huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-grob/nature-as-a-play-and-lear_b_788990.html) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-grob/nature-as-a-play-and-lear\\_b\\_788990.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-grob/nature-as-a-play-and-lear_b_788990.html) ], Rachel Grob, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and past director of the [Child Development Institute](http://www.slc.edu/adult-professional/cdi/index.html) » [ <http://www.slc.edu/adult-professional/cdi/index.html> ], extols the virtues of play in natural settings.

## 15th Semi-Annual Science and Mathematics Poster Session, December 9 at 6 p.m.

Date: Dec 3, 2010

Announcement Science and Mathematics Pre-med STS Mathematics Physics Chemistry  
Computer Science Biology Students

15th Semi-Annual Science and Mathematics Poster Session, December 9 at 6 p.m.

## Concerts and performances highlight December calendar of events

Date: Dec 3, 2010

Announcement

Concerts and performances highlight December calendar of events.

## David Lindsay-Abaire '92 nominated for Film Independent Spirit Award for screen adaptation of his play *Rabbit Hole*

Date: Dec 3, 2010

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Filmmaking Theatre Theatre Writing Alums

*IndieWire* » [ [http://blogs.indiewire.com/thompsononhollywood/2010/12/01/rabbit\\_holes\\_new\\_poster\\_and\\_clips\\_four\\_indie\\_spirit\\_nominations/](http://blogs.indiewire.com/thompsononhollywood/2010/12/01/rabbit_holes_new_poster_and_clips_four_indie_spirit_nominations/) ] reports that *Rabbit Hole*, a film based on the play by David Lindsay-Abaire '92, has been nominated for four Film Independent Spirit Awards and is garnering serious Oscar buzz. Lindsay-Abaire is nominated for the Best Screenplay Indie Spirit Award. *Rabbit Hole* opens on December 17.

# Sarah Lawrence College Coaches Earn End of Year Accolades

Date: Dec 7, 2010

News Release SLC Students Staff

Sarah Lawrence College coaches Matt Cribbin (Women's Volleyball), Michael Butler (Men's Soccer), and Jay Barston (Women's Tennis) were each named Coach of the Year in their respective sports by the Hudson Valley Athletic Conference (HVWAC).

Coach Matt Cribbin directed the Women's Volleyball team to a first place ranking in the conference, earning the top seed in the HVWAC Conference Tournament. This is the third year in a row that Cribbin has won Coach of the Year honors.

"Matt really worked to make sure everyone improved and learned something new about the sport. He challenged us to always try our hardest for the sake of the team, and in the end it paid off. This is the best team I've had the privilege to be a part of, and Matt's leadership inspired us to be that team" said senior Betsy Dupuis, co-captain of the volleyball team.

In his first year, Coach Mike Butler, along with co-head coach Hassan Turner, led the Men's soccer team to four wins. The team ended the season ranked 5th in the conference.

"Coach taught us about the game and ourselves... he encouraged us to trust each other and to collaborate as a force of eleven all seeking the same goal," said senior Bobby Phillips, captain of the team.

Coach Jay Barston guided the Women's Tennis team to a 7-1 overall record and the 2010 HVWAC Tennis Championship.

"I could not be more pleased with our coaches or our program this year. Our fall sports have been very successful; the titles and trophies the teams have brought home are a tribute to all of the hard work the athletes and coaches have put in over the last several months," said Sarah Lawrence College Athletic Director Carolyn Miles.

## *Books Never Die*, a short film by Evan Humphris '14, to be shown at 360/365 Film Festival

Date: Dec 8, 2010

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Students

*Books Never Die*, a short film by Evan Humphris '14, will be shown at Rochester, New York's 360/365 Film Festival in April. The short film was awarded Best Film Documentary at the Rochester Teen Film Festival in August, as reported by the *Fairport-East Rochester Post* » [ [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A\\_3540&site=21757](http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3540&site=21757) ].

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the 120-year history of Army-Navy football on CNN.com

Date: Dec 8, 2010

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In a special commentary to [CNN](http://www.cnn.com/2010/OPINION/12/08/mills.army.navy.game/) » [ <http://www.cnn.com/2010/OPINION/12/08/mills.army.navy.game/> ], literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the history of the annual Army-Navy college football game, which celebrate its 120th anniversary on December 11.

## Swim team mentors local group of swimmers training for the Special Olympics

Date: Dec 9, 2010

In the News Students SLC

*The Journal News* » [ <http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/lohud/access/2207946051.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&type=current&date=Dec+9%2C+2010&author=Randi+Weiner&pub=The+Journal+N> ] features a story on the relationship between the Sarah Lawrence swim team and The Shark Swim Club, which trains more than two dozen swimmers in competitive swimming in preparation for the Special Olympics. The Shark Swim Club trains at the SLC pool, and receives mentoring from the College's swimmers.

## *Twin Cities Daily Planet* profiles award-winning photographer Alec Soth '92

Date: Dec 16, 2010

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

The *Twin Cities Daily Planet* » [ <http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/news/2010/12/12/perfect-strangers-photographer-alec-soth-reveals-everyday-thats-often-overlooked?print=1> ] profiles world-renowned and award-winning photographer Alec Soth '92.

## Alumna Julianna Margulies nominated for Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards

Date: Dec 16, 2010

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

Alumna Julianna Margulies nominated for Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards

# Fall Sports Victories

Date: Dec 16, 2010

Feature Story Students Administration Staff

Fall 2010 was a stellar season for SLC athletics. Women's tennis swept the conference, winning both the regular season title and the tournament championship. Women's volleyball captured the regular season title. And the men's basketball team won its homecoming game, with greater support in the stands than ever before in SLC memory.

Supporting SLC's increasingly devoted athletes is a core group of coaches who provide institutional memory and continuity for the teams they lead. Three Gryphon coaches were named "coach of the year" this fall in their conference: Matt Cribbin (women's volleyball), Michael Butler (men's soccer), and Jay Barston (women's tennis).

All of this has helped boost the overall profile of athletics on campus. Men's soccer veteran Harper Hunt '13 perceives an expanding base of support for student athletes: "Compared to last year, there has been an increased interest in Sarah Lawrence sports."

Athletics Director Carolyn Miles adds, "Students want to prove that sports can succeed here—there's sort of a 'Yes We Can!' attitude to it."

"The idea of the program is getting bigger," she says.

—Jess Unger '13

## President Lawrence announces major gift from trustee Nancie Cooper MFA '04 and her husband Steve

Date: Dec 16, 2010

Announcement

President Lawrence announces major gift from trustee Nancie Cooper MFA '04 and her husband Steve

## White House names Brooke Anderson '86 Chief of Staff and Counselor for the National Security Staff

Date: Dec 17, 2010

In the News History and the Social Sciences Politics Alums

[The White House](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2010/12/16/statement-press-secretary-brooke-anderson) » [ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2010/12/16/statement-press-secretary-brooke-anderson> ] has announced that Brooke Anderson '86 will serve as Chief of Staff and Counselor for the National Security Staff beginning on January 12. In the announcement, National Security Advisor Tom Donilon characterizes Anderson as "an extraordinarily talented, experienced, and well-respected member of [the Obama] Administration." Anderson is currently serving as Ambassador and Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations.

## James Freedland '02 and Christina Harvey '02 appointed to senior staff positions by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman

Date: Jan 3, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Politics Alums

Two Sarah Lawrence alumni have been appointed to senior staff positions by New York State's new Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, as reported by the *Albany Times Union* » [ <http://blog.timesunion.com/capitol/archives/51781/schneiderman-snags-two-spitzer-era-veterans-and-a-schumerite/> ]. Christina Harvey '02 will serve as Director of Operations, and James Freedland '02 will serve as Deputy Director of Communications. Both Harvey and Freedland worked in Schneiderman's State Senate office.

## *Sarah Lawrence* magazine wins Gold in 2011 CASE Accolades Awards; read the online version of the latest issue

Date: Jan 3, 2011

Announcement SLC

Sarah Lawrence magazine wins Gold in 2011 CASE Accolades Awards; read the online version of the latest issue

## SLC's electronic music equipment influences first album from Andy Butler '00

Date: Jan 4, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Music Alums

*Dusted Magazine* » [ <http://dustedmagazine.com/features/702> ] profiles songwriter Andy Butler '00 and his upcoming album *Hercules and Love Affair*. Access to Sarah Lawrence's electronic music equipment while a student allowed Butler "to learn about physical properties of sound and how to manipulate the electronics, which is a major part of why *Hercules and Love Affair* sounds so developed."



## President Lawrence and Vice President Tom Blum featured in CNBC video on the value of a Sarah Lawrence education

Date: Jan 4, 2011

[Video](#) [President](#) [Administration](#) [SLC](#)

As part of its *Price of Admission* series, CNBC presents a video on the value of a Sarah Lawrence education. The [video](#) » [ <http://plus.cnbc.com/rssvideosearch/action/player/id/1690303232/code/cnbcplayershare> ] features President Karen Lawrence and Vice President of Administration Tom Blum.

[ [Embedded media https://plus.cnbc.com/rssvideosearch/action/player/id/1690303232/code/cnbcplayershare](https://plus.cnbc.com/rssvideosearch/action/player/id/1690303232/code/cnbcplayershare) ]

# \$5 Million Gift to Sarah Lawrence is Among the Largest in College's History: Endowment, Writing Program and Admission Office to Benefit

Date: Jan 6, 2011

News Release SLC Alums

Sarah Lawrence College has announced a \$5 million gift from Trustee Nancie Cooper MFA '04, former financial services management consultant, and her husband Steve, co-founder and former chairman of Zolfo Cooper, an advisory and management firm, and former vice chairman of MGM.

The Coopers' gift is one of the largest in the College's history and will provide funding to enhance the endowment, support the College's nationally renowned writing program and faculty, and finance the renovation of the Admission office.

"Nancie has played a catalytic role on the Board of Trustees, working particularly closely with faculty and staff to ensure a healthy future for the College she loves," said President Karen Lawrence about Cooper, who joined the Board in 2005 and currently serves as vice chair.

Addressing the centrality of the faculty to the College's ethos, Cooper commented: "My experience with the generosity of my teachers in sharing their scholarship, their patience, and their guidance with my evolving and uncertain aesthetic, their enthusiasm and encouragement, and above all their kindness, led me, and my husband, to make this gift. These factors truly create an environment where students feel free to experiment—and that freedom is the gateway to growth."

The portion of the Coopers' gift dedicated to direct support for faculty will take the form of a rotating chair in writing to be named in memory of Nancie Cooper's friend and award-winning journalist, Ellen Kingsley Hirschfeld '73.

## Alice Hill '87

Date: Jan 6, 2011

In the News Alums

*PR Newswire* » [ <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/alice-hill-joins-dice-as-managing-director-of-dicecom-113000239.html> ] reports that Alice Hill '87 has been named Managing Director of dice.com, a job search portal for technology professionals.

## Dr. Brad Popovich MS '78 appointed Chief Scientific Officer of Genome British Columbia

Date: Jan 6, 2011

In the News Human Genetics Alums

Dr. Brad Popovich MS '78 has been appointed Chief Scientific Officer of Genome British Columbia, as reported by *Benzinga* » [ <http://www.benzinga.com/pressreleases/11/01/m753510/key-executive-in-bc-life-sciences-joins-genome-bc-team> ]. As Chief Scientific Officer, Popovich will work to promote the organization's ongoing scientific strategy, focusing on the science of genomics, proteomics and bioinformatics within the larger realm of biotechnology and life sciences in BC.

## Writing faculty member Scott Snyder

Date: Jan 6, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Writing faculty member Scott Snyder, creator of the *American Vampire* comic book series, will be a guest speaker at the Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo (C2E2) in March, as reported by *Comic Book Resources* » [ <http://www.comicbookresources.com/?page=article&id=30187> ].

## Dr. Nancy Bennett '73, associate vice president of University of Rochester Medical Center, finalist for Athena Award

Date: Jan 10, 2011

In the News Biology Pre-med Physics Chemistry Alums

*Rochester Business Journal* » [ <http://www.rbj.net/article.asp?aID=182637> ] reports that Dr. Nancy Bennett '73, professor of medicine, director, Center for Community Health and associate vice president, University of Rochester Medical Center, is one of the finalists for the Athena Award, which recognizes the leadership roles of women in the local workplace and in the community.

## Zoe A. Fisher '13 featured in *New York Times* slideshow on Earth-friendly clothing

Date: Jan 10, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies Students

Zoe A. Fisher '13 and the biodegradable couture coat she designed and produced in an environmental studies class are featured in a Trendspotting/Design slideshow on Earth-friendly clothing in *The New York Times* » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2011/01/09/education/edlife/20110109-trendspotting-ss-1.html> ].

## President Karen Lawrence pens *Huffington Post* blog entry titled, "The Cost of College: Weighing Expense With Value"

Date: Jan 11, 2011

In the News President Administration SLC

In a *Huffington Post* » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/karen-lawrence/the-cost-of-college-weigh\\_b\\_806779.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/karen-lawrence/the-cost-of-college-weigh_b_806779.html) ] blog entry titled "The Cost of College: Weighing Expense With Value," President Karen Lawrence discusses the question that's often left unanswered in news stories about the cost of attending Sarah Lawrence: what value does that cost provide?

# Sarah Lawrence Program in Cuba Marks Ten Year Anniversary; Professor Honored by University of Havana

Date: Jan 11, 2011

[News Release](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [History](#) [Administration](#) [President](#) [SLC](#) [Faculty](#)

In December 2010, Sarah Lawrence College marked ten years of its study abroad program in Cuba, celebrating its status as one of the first U.S. college programs—and the longest continuous program—established at the University of Havana since the break in diplomatic ties between the two countries in the early 1960s.

Reflecting on a recent visit to Cuba commemorating the affiliation between Sarah Lawrence College and the University of Havana, College President Karen Lawrence said: “Our international collaboration with the University of Havana has thrived under difficult circumstances and we are very proud of the quality of the program we have maintained over our decade of partnership.”



Sarah Lawrence has increased its involvement with the University’s Centro de Estudios Demográficos (CEDEM), a research arm of the institution responsible for the design of a core seminar course in the program that examines gender, health, education and sustainable development throughout Cuban society.

While the University of Havana is the College’s overarching partner, SLC’s offerings have broadened over the ten years of affiliation and now include course work in the humanities, literature and social sciences at the University, as well as film history at the Fundación del Nuevo Cine Latinoamericano, and the performing and visual arts at the Instituto Superior de Artes (ISA).

Sarah Lawrence students are fully integrated into the university, take all courses in Spanish, follow the same curriculum and are subject to the same standards and requirements as Cuban students.

At the anniversary celebrations, attended by President Lawrence, College Trustee Joan Countryman, and Vice President Thomas Blum, SLC history faculty member Matilde Zimmermann was honored with the 280th Anniversary of the University of Havana Medal, awarded by the Rector of the University, in recognition of her outstanding scholarship and contributions to academic exchange.



Zimmermann has served as academic liaison to the university for the last eight years as well as providing guidance to the undergraduates who have spend a semester in Havana. Since the program’s inception 120 students have studied in Cuba through the Sarah Lawrence program.

“For many students this has been a life-changing experience—and they bring back their academic knowledge as well as cultural information to Sarah Lawrence and the graduate schools they go on to attend,” she said.

A member of the Sarah Lawrence faculty since 2002, Zimmermann has studied, taught, and written extensively about the Cuban and Nicaraguan revolutions, labor and social movements, and the African diaspora in the Caribbean and Latin America, among other scholarly endeavors.

## Columbia University Provost Claude Steele to speak on stereotyping in higher education, January 18 at 5 p.m.

Date: Jan 11, 2011

Announcement SLC

Columbia University Provost Claude Steele to speak on stereotyping in higher education, January 18 at 5 p.m.

## Farmer-activist Annie Novak '05 to deliver "Food, Land, Sustainability" lecture, January 20 at 7 p.m.

Date: Jan 18, 2011

Announcement History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies Alums

Farmer-activist Annie Novak '05 to deliver "Food, Land, Sustainability" lecture, January 20 at 7 p.m.

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills reflects on President Obama's Tucson memorial speech in *Dissent*

Date: Jan 18, 2011

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In a January 18 posting on *Dissent* » [ <http://www.dissentmagazine.org/atw.php?id=349> ], Literature Faculty Member Nicolaus Mills compares President Obama's speech in Tucson, Arizona, to great historical speeches by Abraham Lincoln and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A follow-up, [King in Tucson, Part II](#) » [ <http://www.dissentmagazine.org/atw.php?id=351> ], was published on January 20.

## *The New York Observer* profiles Sarah Lawrence "senior" Peter J. Wade and his experience as a student in the Center for Continuing Education

Date: Jan 18, 2011

In the News Literature Writing CCE Students SLC

*The New York Observer* » [ [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/pdf/New\\_York\\_Observer\\_011711.pdf](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/pdf/New_York_Observer_011711.pdf) ] profiles Sarah Lawrence "senior" Peter J. Wade and his experience as a student in the [Center for Continuing Education](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/ce/cce/index.html> ].

## Carly Weis '05

Date: Jan 20, 2011

In the News SLC Alums

[Rochester Business Journal](http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/launch.aspx?referral=other&refresh=Fq901Ks47t0M&PBID=dc452a6e-e666-4b81-8df9-06a792288784&skip=) » [ <http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/launch.aspx?referral=other&refresh=Fq901Ks47t0M&PBID=dc452a6e-e666-4b81-8df9-06a792288784&skip=> ] profiles acupuncturist Carly Weis '05. Reflecting on her acceptance to Sarah Lawrence, she says the school "felt like a comfortable place to be but also a place I could explore...It ended up being the perfect school for me."

## Larisa Oleynik '04

Date: Jan 21, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Alums

Various media outlets, including [The Honolulu Star-Advertiser](http://www.honolulupulse.com/movies-tv/hawaii-five-0-gets-new-cast-member) » [ <http://www.honolulupulse.com/movies-tv/hawaii-five-0-gets-new-cast-member> ], are reporting that actress Larisa Oleynik '04 will join the cast of the CBS show *Hawaii 5-0* later this season.

## Graduate Writing Program celebrates the legacy of former faculty member Grace Paley with screening of documentary *Grace Paley: Collected Shorts*

Date: Jan 24, 2011

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing SLC Faculty

Graduate Writing Program celebrates the legacy of former faculty member Grace Paley with screening of documentary *Grace Paley: Collected Shorts*.

# Chinese Authority on Jews in China to Lecture at Sarah Lawrence College February 15

Date: Jan 25, 2011

News Release Humanities History and the Social Sciences Asian Studies History Religion SLC

Jews have had a long history in China, with the earliest groups arriving via the Silk Road during the Tang Dynasty, around the 8th Century, says Dr. Pan Guang, Dean of the Center of Jewish Studies Shanghai, the most influential research institute in China studying Judaism and Israeli affairs. Dr. Pan will deliver a lecture—Jews in China: Legends, History and New Perspective—at Sarah Lawrence College on February 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the Donnelley Theatre, Heimbold Visual Arts Center. The program is free and open to the public. For more information please call (914) 395-2412.

Dr. Pan, who has been conducting research and giving lectures widely in North America, East Asia, Russia, Central Asia, Europe, Middle East and Australia, holds a number of prestigious posts in Chinese institutions on International Studies, Asian Studies, Middle East Studies and Jewish Studies, is widely published, and is the recipient of numerous awards and honors.



His talk at Sarah Lawrence, which is presented in cooperation with the Westchester Jewish Council, will address the origins of the Jewish community in China and the arrival of waves of Jewish immigration including Sephardic Jewish merchants and businessmen with British citizenship following the Opium War in 1840-41 and the subsequent upsurge of trade with Britain; Ashkenazi Jews fleeing anti-Semitism in Russia and Eastern Europe beginning in the 1880s and as a result of the Russo-Japanese War and Russian revolutions of 1905 and 1917; and Jews seeking refuge from the Nazis.

Dr. Pan is the Director of, and Professor at, the Shanghai Center for International Studies and Institute of European & Asian Studies at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. He is Director of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Studies Center and Dean of the Center of Jewish Studies Shanghai (CJSS), as well as Vice Chairman of the Chinese Association of Middle East Studies.

Appointed Ambassador of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in 2008, Dr. Pan is an International Council Member of the Asia Society (U.S.), Senior Advisor of the China-Eurasia Forum (U.S.), Advisory Board Member of the *Asia Europe Journal* in Singapore, and Senior Advisor on Anti-Terror Affairs to the Municipality of Shanghai and Ministry of Public Security of the PRC. He received the 1993 James Friend Annual Memorial Award for Sino-Jewish Studies, 1996 Special Award for Research on Canadian Jews from China. In 2004 Russian President Vladimir Putin presented him with the Sankt Peterburg-300 Medal for Contribution to China-Russia Relations. He was awarded the Austria Holocaust Memorial Award in 2006.



# Alumna Joelle Sander's "Color as Refuge" Oil Paintings Exhibited at Sarah Lawrence

Date: Jan 25, 2011

[News Release](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Painting](#) [CCE](#) [Alums](#) [Faculty](#)

Alumna Joelle Sander's solo exhibit, "Color as Refuge," will continue through March 9 in the Esther Rauchenbush Library Gallery. The exhibit features oil paintings; representational abstractions of the natural world. The vibrancy of her luscious colors provides Sander a safe haven, a refuge, as she paints. Drawn to large forms and patterns, Sander paints the semblance of sky, water and woods and abstracts images of petals, leaves, branches, flowers, and birds. Her textures run the gamut from translucence to heavy impasto. Exhibit hours are Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Sander began painting twenty years ago after being a writer for thirty-five years. Published in newspapers, magazines and scholarly books, her book *Before Their Time: Four Generations of Teenage Mothers* won Best Adult Book about Children (1991-1992) from the Anti-Defamation League's Braun Center for Holocaust Studies. A Sarah Lawrence alumna (class of '63), she always knew she wanted to be a professional writer. But, painting has been a great surprise. For twenty years (1989-2009) she served as associate director of The Center for Continuing Education, where she taught "Modern American Poetry" and "Reading and Writing the Essay." She continues to teach in the Writing Institute.

## Executive Producer and 1971 alumnus Jon Avnet's *Black Swan* nominated for Best Picture Oscar

Date: Jan 25, 2011

[Announcement](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Filmmaking](#) [Alums](#)

Executive Producer and 1971 alumnus Jon Avnet's *Black Swan* nominated for Best Picture Oscar.

# Leading Film Scholar to Speak at Sarah Lawrence College February 3

Date: Jan 25, 2011

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Writing Filmmaking Writing

"How Motion Pictures Became the Movies" is the topic of a lecture by leading film scholar David Bordwell on February 3 at 6 p.m. in the Donnelley Film Theatre, Heimbold Visual Arts Center. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information please call (914) 395-2412.

Bordwell, Jacques Ledoux Professor Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, is the most distinguished and important Anglo-American film scholar of his generation. Roger Ebert has called him "our best writer on the cinema," and he has been the subject of a [laudatory article](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/25/movies/25dargis.html) » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/25/movies/25dargis.html> ] by *The New York Times* film critic Manohla Dargis.



Bordwell's seventeen books, many of which have been translated into other languages, include ground-breaking contributions to film theory, the history of film style, and the study of individual filmmakers. Among his accomplishments he pioneered the introduction of cognitive psychology to film studies. He and his wife, Kristin Thompson, have influenced generations of film students through their widely used *Film Art* textbook. They were named film critics of the decade by the Independent Film Channel for their for their blog [www.davidbordwell.net](http://www.davidbordwell.net) » [ <http://www.davidbordwell.net> ].

The program is sponsored by the film history and filmmaking faculties and the Spencer Barnett Memorial Fund.

## *Yale Medicine* profiles Dr. Clarion Johnson '72, global medical director at ExxonMobil

Date: Jan 26, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Pre-med](#) [Chemistry](#) [Biology](#) [Physics](#) [Alums](#)

*Yale Medicine* » [ [http://yalemedicine.yale.edu/ym\\_au10/alumni\\_faces.html#johnson](http://yalemedicine.yale.edu/ym_au10/alumni_faces.html#johnson) ] profiles Dr. Clarion Johnson '72, global medical director at ExxonMobil

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills highlights SLC's practice of written evaluations as a method to counteract grade inflation

Date: Jan 26, 2011

[In the News](#) [Humanities](#) [Literature](#) [SLC](#) [Faculty](#)

In *The Huffington Post* » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/grade-inflation-the-a-tea\\_b\\_813234.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/grade-inflation-the-a-tea_b_813234.html) ], Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills highlights the Sarah Lawrence system of written evaluations and one-on-one meetings between faculty and students as methods to counter grade inflation.  
» [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/grade-inflation-the-a-tea\\_b\\_813234.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/grade-inflation-the-a-tea_b_813234.html) ]

## *Good Wife* star and alumna Julianna Margulies wins second consecutive Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Actress in a Drama Series

Date: Jan 31, 2011

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

Alumna Julianna Margulies of CBS' *The Good Wife* won a second consecutive Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Actress in a Drama Series, as reported by media outlets worldwide, including [NBC's Dallas-Fort Worth affiliate](#) » [ <http://www.nbcdfw.com/blogs/popcornbiz/Julianna-Margulies-is-a-Good-Wife-and-Best-Actress-at-SAG-Awards-114920094.html> ].

## Buzz surrounds *The Evolution of Bruno Littlemore*, the debut novel from Benjamin Hale '06

Date: Feb 9, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Literature](#) [Writing](#) [Faculty](#) [Alums](#)

*The Evolution of Bruno Littlemore*, the debut novel from current MFA Writing Program faculty member and 2006 alumnus Benjamin Hale, is garnering much buzz in the media, including a favorable write-up in the February 4 *New York Times* [Sunday Book Review](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/06/books/review/Beha-t.html?_r=1&emc=eta1) » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/06/books/review/Beha-t.html?\\_r=1&emc=eta1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/06/books/review/Beha-t.html?_r=1&emc=eta1) ], a recent stint on *Entertainment Weekly's* ["Must List"](http://www.ew.com/ew/gallery/0,,20460997_20903895,00.html) » [ [http://www.ew.com/ew/gallery/0,,20460997\\_20903895,00.html](http://www.ew.com/ew/gallery/0,,20460997_20903895,00.html) ] and being named a selection by *The New Yorker* [Book Club](http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/bookclub/2011/01/the-book-clubs-back.html) » [ <http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/bookclub/2011/01/the-book-clubs-back.html> ].

## Laura Weil, director, Health Advocacy Graduate Program, weighs in on Internet health care searches in *The New York Times*

Date: Feb 1, 2011

[In the News](#) [Health Advocacy](#) [Faculty](#)

In the health section of *The New York Times* » [ <http://prescriptions.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/02/01/health-care-is-high-among-web-searches/> ], Laura Weil, director of the [Health Advocacy graduate program](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/public-health-advocacy/index.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/public-health-advocacy/index.html> ], comments on the top five health concerns searched for by Internet users.

## Literature professor Nicolaus Mills

Date: Feb 1, 2011

[Buzz](#)

Literature professor Nicolaus Mills discusses the "sexual politics" of the new movie *Blue Valentine* on [huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/blue-valentines-sexual-politics_b_815398.html) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/blue-valentines-sexual-politics\\_b\\_815398.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/blue-valentines-sexual-politics_b_815398.html) ].

## Photographer Priscilla Rattazzi '77 profiled by *Palm Beach Daily News*

Date: Feb 1, 2011

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

In the *Palm Beach Daily News* » [ <http://www.palmbeachdailynews.com/news/profile-palmbeach/photographer-priscilla-rattazzi-has-focused-her-camera-on-1222929.html> ], fashion and celebrity photographer Priscilla Rattazzi '77 discusses her latest book *Luna & Lola*, which chronicles the relationship between her two dogs, and working with famed photographer Hiro as a young photographer just out of college.

# Newton and Helen Mayer Harrison, leaders of the eco-art movement, to speak on campus February 14

Date: Feb 2, 2011

News Release History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies Visual Arts SLC

Newton and Helen Mayer Harrison, leaders of the eco-art movement, will discuss [their work](http://theharrisonstudio.net/?page_id=394) » [ [http://theharrisonstudio.net/?page\\_id=394](http://theharrisonstudio.net/?page_id=394) ], including, “The Force Majeure,” in the auditorium of the Heimbold Visual Arts Center at Sarah Lawrence College on Monday, February 14 at 5 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.

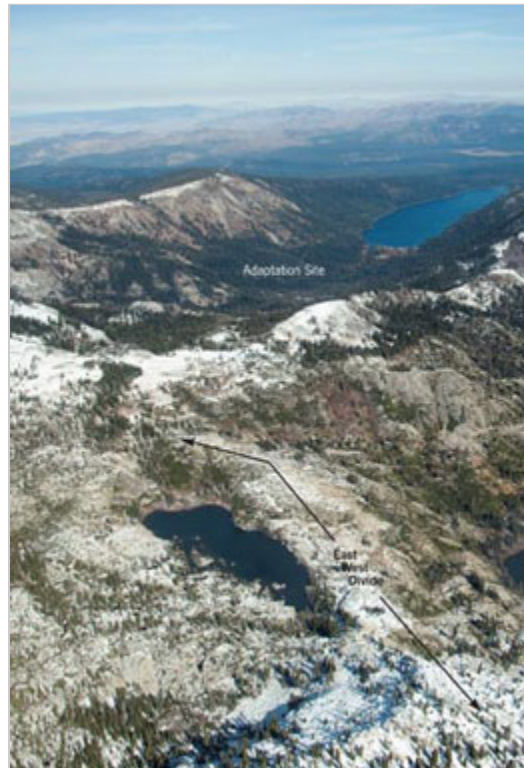
“The Force Majeure,” which addresses the accelerating transaction between aspects of the Global Warming phenomenon and their interaction with the many ecosystems that are under stress or in actual turbulence from over-demand by human activity, has been on view at the Ronald Feldman Gallery in SoHo, where another of the Harrisons’ installations, “Sierra Nevada: An Adaptation,” will open on February 10.

The collaborative team of Newton and Helen Mayer Harrison have worked for almost forty years with biologists, ecologists, architects, urban planners and other artists to initiate collaborative dialogues to uncover ideas and solutions which support biodiversity and community development.

Past projects have focused on watershed restoration, urban renewal, agriculture and forestry issues, among others. The Harrisons’ visionary projects have often led to changes in governmental policy and have expanded dialogue around previously unexplored issues leading to practical implementations throughout the United States and Europe.

Foundational figures in their field, they commented: “If you look at the field of critical thinkers in the Arts, you will, in the main, find a human-centered group of scholars, who most care about the human condition, loosely gathered under the title of social justice concerns. We have yet to find a critic who is ecologically literate. This is not a trivial matter, as the great problems that we will confront over the next 50-100 years are indirectly about human justice, but are more about how to confront the vast changes that are coming upon us.”

This program is sponsored by the Noble Chair in Modern Art & Culture, the Barbara B. and Bertram J. Cohn Professorship in Environmental Studies, and the Mellon Initiative in Environmental Studies.



## *Marin Independent Journal* reviews debut album from alums' indie-pop band Big Tree

Date: Feb 4, 2011

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

The *Marin Independent Journal* » [ [http://www.marinij.com/entertainment/ci\\_17283964](http://www.marinij.com/entertainment/ci_17283964) ] reviews the eponymous debut album by Big Tree, the indie band founded by Kaila McIntyre-Bader '09, Luke Bace '10, and Colin Fahrner '10.



# Arianna Huffington to deliver commencement address to Class of 2011

Date: Feb 7, 2011

News Release SLC

Internet publishing entrepreneur Arianna Huffington will deliver the Commencement address to the Sarah Lawrence College class of 2011 on Friday, May 20, at 10 a.m. on the College's southern Westchester County campus.

"Arianna Huffington is one of the most distinctive and influential voices shaping communications today. We are delighted that she will deliver the commencement address at Sarah Lawrence College, which has always nurtured individual voices and entrepreneurial spirits," said Sarah Lawrence College President Karen Lawrence, who will preside at the commencement of approximately 300 graduating seniors and 130 students receiving their master's degrees.

Huffington is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of The Huffington Post, a nationally syndicated columnist, and author of thirteen books. Her latest, *Third World America*, published in September 2010, chronicles the struggles of America's besieged middle class. She is also co-host of "Left, Right & Center," public radio's popular political roundtable program, as well as "Both Sides Now," a weekly syndicated radio show with Mary Matalin moderated by Mark Green. She is a frequent guest on television shows such as *Charlie Rose*, *Real Time with Bill Maher*, *This Week with Christiane Amanpour*, *The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell* and *The Rachel Maddow Show*.

In May 2005, she launched The Huffington Post, a news and blog site that has quickly become one of the most widely-read, linked to, and frequently-cited media brands on the Internet. She was named to the Time 100, *Time Magazine's* list of the world's 100 most influential people, and to the *Financial Times'* list of 50 people who shaped the decade.

Originally from Greece, she moved to England when she was 16 and graduated from Cambridge University with an M.A. in economics. At 21, she became president of the famed debating society, the Cambridge Union.

Huffington's widely read Huffington Post has been acquired by AOL, it was announced today. According to an AOL- Huffington Post press release Huffington will lead The Huffington Post Media Group "which will integrate all Huffington Post and AOL content, including news, tech, women, local, multicultural, entertainment, video, community, and more."

# How to Confound a Stereotype

Date: Feb 8, 2011

Feature Story Psychology SLC Students

A class of nervous math students is about to take a test. Will the girls perform as well as the boys? If the teacher merely reminds them that females are considered inferior at math, chances are, they'll do poorly, says Claude Steele, an acclaimed social psychologist and provost of Columbia University.



Steele calls this “the underperformance phenomenon”—which he spent 20 years researching and explains in *Whistling Vivaldi: And Other Clues to How Stereotypes Affect Us*. He spoke about his findings at the Samuel Fund Lecture on January 18.

Stereotypes are insidious: other people don't even have to act on them for them to have a negative impact, Steele says. Just the threat of being judged in terms of a stereotype rather than as an individual can cause debilitating anxiety and affect performance—as in the case of the female math students.

“The prospect of being seen or treated that way can be very upsetting,” he says. In fact, research shows that “you can drive someone's performance by which aspect of their identity you make salient before the test.”

But stereotypes are not invincible. The term “whistling Vivaldi” came from the experience of Brent Staples, now a columnist for the *New York Times*. When Staples was a graduate student at the University of Chicago, he would walk around Hyde Park in Chicago, and people would react in fear as he approached. They assumed that, as a young, informally dressed, African American male, he was dangerous.

Understandably, this made Staples uncomfortable, and he began to whistle out of nervousness. But a strange thing happened: as he whistled Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, people's fears evaporated. As Steele explained, “It's not plausible that a menacing, dangerous guy could whistle Vivaldi.” As long as he was whistling, the stereotype could not apply.

In the case of women and men performing differently at math, Steele found that by changing the instructions before the test—by removing the reference to gender, and therefore the stereotype pressure—the women performed just as well as the men.

—Katharine Reece MFA '12

## *Good People*, the new Broadway play by David Lindsay-Abaire '92, favorably reviewed by *The New York Times*

Date: Mar 4, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Writing Writing Theatre Alums

*The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/06/theater/06abaire.html?\\_r=1&scp=1&sq=david+lindsay&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/06/theater/06abaire.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=david+lindsay&st=cse) ] features a favorable review of *Good People*, the new Broadway play by David Lindsay-Abaire '92. An earlier *Times* article profiles the early life of playwright, who grew up in South Boston, where the play is set.

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills appears on CNN to discuss the parallels between Egypt's revolution and the U.S. Civil Rights Movement

Date: Feb 14, 2011

In the News Humanities Politics History Literature Faculty

In a special commentary to CNN » [ <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/02/12/mills.egypt.selma/index.html> ] titled "How nonviolent protest defeats injustice," Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills reflects on his participation in the Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march in 1965—a memory called to mind while watching demonstrators in Cairo's Tahrir Square sitting down to reduce the violence around them.

A CNN video embedded in the piece—"Echoes of U.S. unrest of 1960s"—features Mills and Reverend Bernice King, daughter of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., discussing the parallels many are drawing between the revolution in Egypt and the U.S. Civil Rights Movement.

## Mara Farrell '77 wins Martha Washington Woman of History Award for work in the field of Hudson Valley history

Date: Feb 14, 2011

Buzz History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies History Alums

*The Poughkeepsie Journal* » [ <http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/poughkeepsiejournal/access/2259520821.html?FMT=ABS&date=Feb+07%2C+2011> ] reports that community activist Mara Farrell '77 is the recipient the Martha Washington Woman of History Award, which recognizes women who have distinguished themselves in the field of Hudson Valley history. Farrell is co-founder of Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot, a non-profit organization committed to the preservation of historic lands.

# Sarah Lawrence College Swim Team wins End of Year Tournament

Date: Feb 14, 2011

[News Release](#) [Students](#) [Administration](#) [SLC](#)

The Sarah Lawrence College swim team capped off a successful season by winning the 2011 Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference Swimming Invitational. The team finished the season with a 9-3 record and an undefeated record in the conference

Team members Catherine Griffin '11, Elizabeth Brandli '12, Suzie Elliot Bearce '13, and Lucy Madden Lunsford '13 were named to the All Conference Team. Led by captain Abby Udden '11, the team captured many "Swimmer of the Week" and "Rookie of the Week" honors throughout the season.

"Winning the conference tournament is a result of all the hard work my team has put in this season and I extremely proud of our athletes" said head swim coach Sandra Clarke.

In addition to their hard work practicing and competing this season, the Sarah Lawrence Swim Team found time to mentor The Shark Swim Club, which trains more than two dozen swimmers in competitive swimming in preparation for the Special Olympics. The Shark Swim Club trains at the SLC pool.

# The Dick Butkus Society

Date: Feb 18, 2011

## Feature Story

Beth Koscianski '11 MA '12 came to Sarah Lawrence College with a slightly heavy heart. She was leaving behind her brothers and her television—a combination that allowed her to watch as much football as she wanted. Which, as it turns out, is quite a bit.

But during her first year, she met a few other students who loved football just as much as she did. For the past three years, Koscianski has joined Matt Alberswerth '12, Jonathan Monitz '12, and a handful of others in the Pub to watch every single game of the NFL season.

All this despite their busy schedules. Koscianski, for example, is a resident adviser and both a senior and first-year graduate student in the Women's History program. She also has a job.

"You make time for what you love," she says with a shrug of her petite shoulders. "And I love football."

Last fall, the students made their group into an official club, called The Dick Butkus Society after the famous Chicago Bears linebacker. Koscianski, Alberswerth, and Monitz co-chair the club.

Sarah Lawrence televisions are first come, first served, so for their Super Bowl celebration this year, Koscianski showed up on the second floor of the Pub at 11:30 a.m. to claim the TV. (The game didn't start until 6:29 p.m.)

"There was no way I was giving this TV up," she said. "The Super Bowl, for me, is the biggest holiday of the year. It was packed. People were covering every surface. I've never experienced something like that while watching football here." She estimates that 30 people watched the game with them.

For Koscianski, the Super Bowl is also the saddest day of the year, because it means football season is over. But these fans won't quit: the group is planning on having an NFL draft dance party in April. After that, they'll have to wait until next season's training camps begin in August.

—Katharine Reece MFA '12



## Dean Jerrilynn Dodds receives Albert C. Outler book prize from the American Society of Church History

Date: Feb 21, 2011

Buzz Humanities Creative and Performing Arts Religion Writing Writing Administration

*The Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture*, co-authored by Dean of the College Jerrilynn Dodds, has been awarded the Albert C. Outler book prize of the American Society of Church History for 2010. In making the selection, the chair of the award committee called the book "a fascinating and gorgeously illustrated study of inter-religious and intercultural relations among Christians, Jews, and Muslims in medieval Castile."

## Richard Morais '81, author of *The Hundred-Foot Journey*, featured in Australia's *Sun Herald*

Date: Feb 21, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

Richard Morais '81, author of the acclaimed book *The Hundred-Foot Journey*, shares a feature from Australia's *Sun Herald* on his [blog](http://www.richardmorais.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/20-02-2011_Sun_Herald_Extra_feature-1.jpg) » [ [http://www.richardmorais.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/20-02-2011\\_Sun\\_Herald\\_Extra\\_feature-1.jpg](http://www.richardmorais.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/20-02-2011_Sun_Herald_Extra_feature-1.jpg) ]. In the article, he recalls a class at Sarah Lawrence taught by Grace Paley, in which he disagreed with her statement that "the reason we write is to show why we are different from other people." Morais offered to Paley his reason for writing: "to try to find what I have in common with other people."

# Book Prize Awarded to Dean of the College

Date: Feb 22, 2011

News Release Humanities Religion Writing Writing Administration

Sarah Lawrence Dean of the College and scholar of art history, Jerrilynn Dodds, and co-authors Maria Menocal of Yale and Abigail Balbale of Brandeis, have been awarded the 2010 Albert C. Outler book prize for *The Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture* as best publication in “ecumenical church history broadly conceived” by the American Society of Church History (ASCH).

According to Keith A. Francis, the Society’s executive secretary, the book has been praised as a “fascinating and gorgeously illustrated study of interreligious and intercultural relations among Christians, Jews, and Muslims in medieval Castile.” Francis explained that works considered for the prize include “topics relating to the quest for a fuller understanding or unity within Christianity or between Christianity and other religions.”

The prize, which includes a monetary award as well as a commemorative plaque, will be presented at an upcoming meeting of the ASCH in April.

Published by Yale University Press, *The Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture* was named a Book of the Year by the *Times Literary Supplement*. It was short-listed for the ACE/Mercers International Book Award, for making an outstanding contribution to the dialogue between religious faith and the visual arts.

According to the publisher, “The lavishly illustrated work explores the vibrant interaction among different and sometimes opposing cultures, and how their contacts with one another transformed them all. It chronicles the tumultuous history of Castile in the wake of the Christian capture of the Islamic city of Tulaytula, now Toledo, in the eleventh century and traces the development of Castilian culture as it was forged in the new intimacy of Christians with the Muslims and Jews they had overcome.

“The authors paint a portrait of the culture through its arts, architecture, poetry and prose, uniquely combining literary and visual arts. Concentrating on the eleventh and twelfth centuries, the book reveals the extent to which Castilian identity is deeply rooted in the experience of confrontation, interaction, and at times union with Hebrew and Arabic cultures during the first centuries of its creation. Abundantly illustrated, the volume serves as a splendid souvenir of southern Spain; beautifully written, it illuminates a culture deeply enriched by others.”

## Rashaun Mitchell '00 lauded by *New York Times* dance critic Alastair Macaulay

Date: Feb 22, 2011

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

In a review of the Merce Cunningham piece "Crises," being performed in March at the University of Arizona, Tucson, *New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/20/arts/dance/20macaulay.html?\\_r=1&ref=dance](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/20/arts/dance/20macaulay.html?_r=1&ref=dance) ] dance critic Alastair Macaulay calls the performance of Rashaun Mitchell '00 "one of the greatest of our day."

## President Karen Lawrence's *Who's Afraid of James Joyce?* favorably reviewed by *The Times Literary Supplement*

Date: Feb 23, 2011

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Humanities Literature Writing Writing President Faculty

President Karen Lawrence's recent book *Who's Afraid of James Joyce?* was favorably reviewed by *The Times Literary Supplement* in early February. In her review, Sarah Davison cites the impressive "standard of scholarship on display" in the book, which takes its name from a seminar taught at SLC by President Lawrence. The full review is available on the [TLS web site](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/the_tls/Subscriber_Archive/Other_Categories_Archive/article7171624.ece) » [ [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/the\\_tls/Subscriber\\_Archive/Other\\_Categories\\_Archive/article7171624.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/the_tls/Subscriber_Archive/Other_Categories_Archive/article7171624.ece) ], however a subscription is required.

## Former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel '81 elected mayor of Chicago

Date: Feb 23, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Politics Alums

Rahm Emanuel '81 was elected mayor of Chicago on February 22—a decisive victory in which he received 55% of the vote. Formerly White House Chief of Staff under President Barack Obama, Emanuel's latest political endeavor marks a milestone as he becomes the city's first Jewish mayor. Several media outlets covered the election, including *Politics Daily* » [ <http://www.politicsdaily.com/2011/02/22/rahm-emanuel-wins-chicago-mayoral-race/> ], *The Chicago Tribune* » [ <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/elections/ct-met-elect-mayor-0223-20110223-85,0,5679594.story> ], and *The New York Times* » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/24/us/24chicago.html> ], including op-ed columnist [Maureen Dowd](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/23/opinion/23dowd.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss) » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/23/opinion/23dowd.html?\\_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/23/opinion/23dowd.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss) ].



## Brianna Leone '11

Date: Feb 24, 2011

In the News Womens History Students

In a *Journal News* » [ <http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/lohud/access/2271572351.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&date=Feb+20%2C+2011&author=Ernie+Garcia&pub=The+Journal+News&edition=> ] article about the rise in student enrollments in graduate school, Brianna Leone '11, who is simultaneously completing her senior year of undergraduate studies and beginning her first year of graduate studies at SLC, highlights how her master's courses have helped her land two internships.

## Guest post from President Lawrence in *Washington Post* blog explores “the cost of getting higher education into shape”

Date: Feb 24, 2011

In the News SLC Parents

President Karen Lawrence is featured as a guest writer in Daniel de Vise's *College Inc.* blog on [WashingtonPost.com](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/college-inc/2011/02/here_is_a_guest_post_2.html#more) » [ [http://voices.washingtonpost.com/college-inc/2011/02/here\\_is\\_a\\_guest\\_post\\_2.html#more](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/college-inc/2011/02/here_is_a_guest_post_2.html#more) ]. President Lawrence's post, titled “The Cost of Getting Higher Education into Shape,” comes as a response to a February 20th *Washington Post Magazine* article » [ <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/02/11/AR2011021104924.html> ] by de Vise titled “Eight Ways to Get Higher Education into Shape.”

## Trustee John Hill and wife Marilyn Wood Hill named Senior Advisors to mentor South Carolina's Liberty Fellow

Date: Feb 25, 2011

In the News Administration

John Hill, Chair of the Sarah Lawrence College Board of Trustees, has been selected as one of 22 influential leaders to serve as Senior Advisors in South Carolina's Liberty Fellowship. As reported by [UpstateBizSC.com](http://www.upstatebizsc.com/news/headlines/519/) » [ <http://www.upstatebizsc.com/news/headlines/519/> ], Hill and his wife Marilyn Wood Hill will mentor and provide guidance to Laura Varn, Vice President of Corporate Communications and Media Relations at Santee Cooper.

## Jon Avnet '71

Date: Feb 25, 2011

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

*The Daily Pennsylvanian* » [ <http://www.dailypennsylvanian.com/article/former-penn-student-black-swan-co-producer> ] profiles Jon Avnet '71, executive producer of the movie *Black Swan*, which received five Oscar nominations. Avnet transferred from the University of Pennsylvania to study Film History at Sarah Lawrence. » [ <http://www.dailypennsylvanian.com/article/former-penn-student-black-swan-co-producer> ]

## Head volleyball coach Matt Cribbin named to American Volleyball Coaches Association's "Thirty Under 30" list

Date: Feb 25, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Staff](#)

Head Volleyball coach Matt Cribbin is a recipient of the “Thirty Under 30 Award,” which honors up-and-coming coaching talent at all levels of volleyball, as reported by the [American Volleyball Coaches Association](#) » [ <http://www.avca.org/articles/index.cfm?action=view&articleID=3349> ].

## President Lawrence blogs about the benefits of studying abroad in Cuba on huffingtonpost.com

Date: Feb 25, 2011

[In the News](#) [SLC](#) [President](#)

In a [HuffingtonPost.com](#) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/karen-lawrence/cuba-as-a-learning-lab-pe\\_b\\_827605.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/karen-lawrence/cuba-as-a-learning-lab-pe_b_827605.html) ] blog post titled, “Cuba as a Learning Lab: Perspectives from Sarah Lawrence College’s 10-Year Study Abroad Program,” President Karen Lawrence discusses the easing of restrictions on American travel to Cuba and on people-to-people exchanges—a move from which, she states, both countries stand to benefit. Lawrence cites SLC’s [study abroad program in Cuba](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cuba/index.html> ], celebrating its 10th anniversary, as an example of the “rich, often transformative experience” that can come as a result of these eased restrictions.

# Women's History Conference Focuses on Body Politics

Date: Feb 25, 2011

News Release Womens History SLC

How perceptions of physical beauty affect public policy around issues of health, civil rights, education, and accessibility; an examination of what is normal when it comes to “the body” across cultures and time; and how these ideas are complicated when considering race, class, gender, sexuality, age and disability will be addressed by participants at Sarah Lawrence College’s 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Women’s History Conference, to be held March 4 and 5 in the Heimbold Visual Arts Center.

The two-day conference, “Breaking Boundaries: Body Politics & the Dynamics of Difference,” is free and open to the public. The keynote speaker is Marilyn Wann, fat activist and author of *Fat! So?* Panels of scholars, activists and writers include such topics as: Stigma, Issues in Fat Studies, Burlesque, Body Politics on Film, and the Price of Beauty.

For further information please contact Tara James, Associate Director, Graduate Program in Women’s History at [tjames@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:tjames@sarahlawrence.edu) » [ <mailto:tjames@sarahlawrence.edu> ] or (914) 395-2405 or visit the [conference site](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference/index.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference/index.html> ].

## Politics faculty member Elke Zuern discusses what Egypt can learn from South Africa in *Insana Quotient* interview

Date: Mar 1, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Politics](#) [Faculty](#)

Politics faculty member Elke Zuern appeared on the radio show *The Insana Quotient* to discuss how the past experiences of South Africa can be instructive as protests and regime change affect North Africa and the Middle East. Zuern, author of the recently published *Politics of Necessity: Community Organizing and Democracy in South Africa*, argues that working toward greater socio-economic equality is crucial to achieving a successful and sustainable democracy. To listen to the interview, visit <http://www.roninsanashow.com/programhighlights> » [ <http://www.roninsanashow.com/programhighlights> ] and select February 28 from the archive calendar.

## Anthropology faculty member Robert Desjarlais' new book on chess praised by *Foreword Reviews*

Date: Mar 2, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Anthropology](#) [Faculty](#)

*Foreword Reviews* » [ <http://www.forewordreviews.com/reviews/counterplay-an-anthropologist-at-the-chessboard/> ] lauds Anthropology faculty member Robert Desjarlais' new book *Counterplay: An Anthropologist at the Chessboard*, saying "the subject of chess boasts more books than any other game, but this one is special."  
» [ <http://www.forewordreviews.com/reviews/counterplay-an-anthropologist-at-the-chessboard/> ]

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills critiques speech by Defense Secretary in *The Guardian*

Date: Mar 2, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Humanities](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

In *The Guardian* » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/mar/01/west-point-military-robert-gates> ], Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills critiques the recent address at West Point by Defense Secretary Robert Gates, comparing Gates' words to those of John F. Kennedy in a 1962 address to cadets and contrasting the climate of the military then and now.  
» [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/mar/01/west-point-military-robert-gates> ]

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses post-traumatic stress disorder on CNN.com

Date: Mar 2, 2011

In the News Humanities Literature Faculty

In a special commentary on [CNN.com](http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/03/01/mills.salinger.ptsd/) » [ <http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/03/01/mills.salinger.ptsd/> ] titled “What Salinger tells us about caring for veterans,” Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills highlights lessons that can be learned from J.D. Salinger and, in particular, his 1950 short story *For Esme—With Love and Squalor*. Mills states that in the story, Salinger, himself a World War II veteran who struggled with post-traumatic stress disorder, “gives an account of PTSD that speaks directly to us today.” » [ <http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/03/01/mills.salinger.ptsd/> ]

## Politics faculty member Sam Abrams writes on informal social networks and voter turnout in *The British Journal of Political Science*

Date: Mar 2, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Politics Faculty

The research of Politics faculty member Sam Abrams, along with co-authors Torben Iversen of Harvard and David Soskice of Duke and Nuffield College, Oxford, appears in the current issue of *The British Journal of Political Science* in an article entitled “Informal Social Networks and Rational Voting.” While their argument incorporates game theory and strategic complementarities, and is thus challenging to briefly summarize, the essential hypothesis is a simple one: Individuals vote if their informal networks of family and friends attach importance to voting. Voting thus leads to social approval. And conversely, not voting leads to disapproval. [Read the complete article](http://journals.cambridge.org/repo_A81VNggj) » [ [http://journals.cambridge.org/repo\\_A81VNggj](http://journals.cambridge.org/repo_A81VNggj) ]

## Dance program director Sara Rudner graces cover of *Dance Teacher* magazine

Date: Mar 2, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Faculty

Sara Rudner, director of the dance program, appears on the cover of the March issue of *Dance Teacher* » [ <http://www.dance-teacher.com/content/feature-teaching-perfect-every-age> ], and discusses how she integrates dance as part of her students’ academic lives in an article titled “Teaching at the Perfect (Every) Age.”

## News outlets cite Sarah Lawrence College as instrumental in the beginning of Women's History Month

Date: Mar 2, 2011

In the News Womens History SLC

With the start of Women's History Month (March), a number of news outlets, including [AOL](http://www.aolnews.com/2011/03/01/womens-history-month-a-brief-history-of-the-celebration-of-fem/) » [ <http://www.aolnews.com/2011/03/01/womens-history-month-a-brief-history-of-the-celebration-of-fem/> ] and [Clutch magazine](http://www.clutchmagonline.com/2011/03/march-is-womens-history-month/) » [ <http://www.clutchmagonline.com/2011/03/march-is-womens-history-month/> ], are chronicling the history of the month that recognizes women's rights and contributions, and how it got its start at Sarah Lawrence College.

## Noted journalists Cokie and Steve Roberts visit campus to discuss "A Nation of Immigrants: Past, Present and Future"

Date: Mar 4, 2011

Announcement Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing

Noted journalists Cokie and Steve Roberts visit campus to discuss "A Nation of Immigrants: Past, Present and Future"

## David Grimm '97

Date: Mar 4, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

[Broadwayworld.com](http://costamesa.broadwayworld.com/article/Tales_from_Red_Vienna_to_Be_Read_in_SCRs_NewSCRipts_Series_314_20110301) » [ [http://costamesa.broadwayworld.com/article/Tales\\_from\\_Red\\_Vienna\\_to\\_Be\\_Read\\_in\\_SCRs\\_NewSCRipts\\_Series\\_314\\_20110301](http://costamesa.broadwayworld.com/article/Tales_from_Red_Vienna_to_Be_Read_in_SCRs_NewSCRipts_Series_314_20110301) ] reports that *Tales from Red Vienna*, written by award-winning playwright David Grimm '97, will have a staged reading as part of the South Coast Repertory's NewSCRipts series on March 14. » [ [http://costamesa.broadwayworld.com/article/Tales\\_from\\_Red\\_Vienna\\_to\\_Be\\_Read\\_in\\_SCRs\\_NewSCRipts\\_Series\\_314\\_20110301](http://costamesa.broadwayworld.com/article/Tales_from_Red_Vienna_to_Be_Read_in_SCRs_NewSCRipts_Series_314_20110301) ]

## Holly Robinson-Peete '86, Alice Walker '65, and Sanaa Hamri '86 nominated for NAACP Image Awards; Peete to co-host ceremony

Date: Mar 4, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Humanities](#) [Writing](#) [Filmmaking](#) [Literature](#) [Writing](#) [Alums](#)

Holly Robinson Peete '86 will co-host the [The 42nd NAACP Image Awards](#) » [ <http://www.naacpimageawards.net/42/home/> ], the nation's premier multi-cultural awards show celebrating the outstanding achievements and performances of people of color in the arts. Peete's children's book *My Brother Charlie* is nominated for an award in the category of Outstanding Literary Work–Children. In addition, *Just Wright*, a film directed by Sanaa Hamri '86, is nominated for Outstanding Motion Picture, and *Hard Times Require Furious Dancing*, a book by Alice Walker '65, is nominated for Outstanding Literary Work–Poetry

## *The Weekly Standard* reviews *Disconnect: The Breakdown of Representation in American Politics*, co-written by Politics faculty member Sam Abrams

Date: Mar 4, 2011

[Buzz](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Politics](#) [Faculty](#)

In a [Weekly Standard](#) » [ [http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/elites-against-moderates\\_552876.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/elites-against-moderates_552876.html) ] blog post titled "The Elites Against the Moderates," Fred Barnes reviews *Disconnect: The Breakdown of Representation in American Politics*, written by Morris P. Fiorina with Politics faculty member Sam Abrams. Barnes states that readers of the book are "likely to come away with an altered view of parties and elections," as he did.

## Lucinda Childs '62 reflects on the influence of Merce Cunningham in *The Los Angeles Times*

Date: Mar 8, 2011

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

In the [Los Angeles Times](#) » [ <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2011/03/as-with-many-in-dance-lucinda-childs-found-inspiration-from-merce-cunningham.html> ], Lucinda Childs '62 reflects on the influence of the late Merce Cunningham on her career as a choreographer and on "Dance," her seminal 1979 work that was revived in 2009 and now tours throughout the U.S and Europe.

## Writing Institute student Neil Selinger publishes memoir

Date: Mar 8, 2011

In the News CCE

Frequent [Writing Institute](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/ce/writing-institute/index.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/ce/writing-institute/index.html> ] student Neil Selinger is featured in *The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/07/nyregion/07towns.html?\\_r=3&ref=books](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/07/nyregion/07towns.html?_r=3&ref=books) ] and *The Journal News* on the eve of a launch party for his memoir *A Sloan Product*. Selinger, diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease in 2009, wrote in a recent essay: "As I slowly lost my speech, I gained my voice."

## *The New York Times* remembers Sam Chwat '74, speech therapist to the stars

Date: Mar 9, 2011

In the News Alums

*The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/08/nyregion/08chwat.html?\\_r=1&hpw](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/08/nyregion/08chwat.html?_r=1&hpw) ] remembers alumnus Sam Chwat '74, a renowned speech therapist and dialect tutor for film stars, who passed away on February 3.

Chwat helped out with the Fall 2009 issue of *Sarah Lawrence* magazine, teaching readers "How to Fake an Accent" in a story titled "[How to Find Your Voice](http://www.slc.edu/magazine/voice/featured/voice.html)" » [ <http://www.slc.edu/magazine/voice/featured/voice.html> ]."



# Open Mic, Friendly Ears

Date: Mar 10, 2011

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Students

The gathered students were hushed, and even the baristas behind the counter stopped using the noisy blenders, despite the glut of milkshake orders. At 10:35 p.m. in the Black Squirrel, all eyes were on the first-year girl sitting on a stool before the audience. To alleviate the intensity of the moment, she muttered into the mic, “God farted and I came out,” which drew a few smiles. “Here’s a song called ‘The World Spins Madly On,’ I dunno if you know it.” She went on to play a three song set, covering love songs with a jazzy, syncopated style on her acoustic guitar, with a friend holding her lyrics sheet for her. Listeners smiled and nodded gently as she sang.



This was the third event in the Coffeehouse/Open Mic series this spring. The series is sponsored by the Sarah Lawrence Activities Council, and in only two years, it has become a centerpiece of campus life and a valuable venue for student artists to perform new work with the attention and support of their peers.

Dan Levin ’13, the chair of the open mic series, blends right in with the undergraduate audience, wearing a crinkly flannel shirt with washed-out jeans and old sneakers. He looks somewhat like a dark-haired Kurt Cobain, a messy ponytail being the salient difference. Levin attended each and every open mic in his first year at SLC, performing songs on ukulele with his house-mate and reading his original poetry. Levin fell in love with the supportive, energizing community he found in the open mic audiences, recalling, “It’s a great way to publicly workshop a piece.”

As chair, Levin encourages an anything-goes, risk-taking spirit among performers. A recent event featured a 25-minute freestyle rap marathon—combined with a juggling act. “Open mic is like the social media of campus events,” Levin says. “The content is all user-generated.”

With encouragement from former co-chair Abby Hellauer ’12, Levin applied to chair the open mic series for SLAC in his sophomore year as a way to promote for his fellow students the same supportive environment he had enjoyed as a performer. He remembered being surprised at how much behind-the-scenes work there was to be done for the job. “Abby had told me, ‘Yeah, it’s fun, you just have to go to a few meetings. But there’s definitely more to it than that. It’s nerve-wracking to feel responsible for the quality of an event like that.’”



To make the series run smoothly, Levin personally reaches out to 30 potential performers, inviting them to play at upcoming open mics, which happen twice monthly. The footwork pays off: the events typically feature a dozen or more artists performing in front of capacity-or-more crowds in the Black Squirrel.

Audience member Hayden Miller ’13 enjoys the series. “Open mics are a great break for work,” he says. “It’s stimulating, to say the least, to see what other students can do creatively.”

Between acts at the February event, one performer accidentally knocked over an empty milkshake glass. As it shattered on the concrete floor, 15 audience members simultaneously launched themselves forward to help clean up. Levin, about to announce the next performer, smiled into the microphone, "It's been a good open mic. It's all about the chaos."

—Jess Unger '13

Photos by Ye Weon (Mary) Kim '12

# Pre-med student Nadia Rahman '14 featured on NBC Nightly News

Date: Mar 14, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Pre-med](#) [Students](#)

Nadia Rahman '14, a pre-med student at SLC, is mentioned in an [NBC Nightly News](#) » [ <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032619/#42019533> ] segment about her cousin, Sal Khan, founder of the online Khan Academy, which strives to "deliver a world-class education to anyone anywhere." The idea for the Academy came several years ago, when Khan was tutoring Rahman in algebra remotely via the Internet. (Video segment starts at 19:52).

# Nonfiction Theatre Group Trains SLC Students

Date: Mar 14, 2011

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Students Faculty

What makes a house a home? What would you take from your house in the case of a fire? And maybe most importantly, how do you feel about wall-to-wall carpeting?

Fifteen theatre students recently posed these questions and more to friends and family members as part of a project with The Civilians, a Manhattan-based theatre group that came to campus for a two-week residency in January. The students edited their interviews into three eight-minute vignettes about the theme of “home,” creating an original piece of theatre in which each actor played an interviewee.



The Civilians—whose productions are often labeled as docudrama or investigative theatre—are known for chiseling interviews and research into original performances. For their current project, *You Better Sit Down*, they interviewed their parents about their marriages and subsequent divorces. Both The Civilians and the theatre students performed at Sarah Lawrence on January 29.

Jennifer Morris, a founding member of The Civilians, directed the residency. She led the students through a shortened version of the troupe’s own process of creation: brainstorm a topic and questions, interview people, then splice together the interviews into characters, and, ultimately, into a show.

During the editing phase, Morris encouraged the students to move pieces of the interviews around if it created a better fit, or communicated something more clearly.

“The end result is not about strict adherence to fact. It’s based more on perceptions, and the symbolism that emerges in the process of collaboration,” Morris said.

Contradictions abounded: Charles Peoples III '12 was struck that one of his interviewees could consider a home “great” both because everyone had their own separate room *and* because they all ate dinner together at night.

“So the house felt homey because you could all get away from each other?” he asked during one of his group’s brainstorming sessions, laughing.



With Morris’ encouragement, the students jumped on this idea. “It doesn’t have to make sense!” she said. “People are weird. They say contradictory things!”

The “weirdness” of people is something The Civilians often use to access the complex, layered nature of human character. They don’t shy away from difficult or controversial topics, either. One of their shows was crafted from interviews with people who attended Ted Haggard’s church in Colorado, addressing the growing politicization of the Christian conservative movement. Another current project, *Pretty Filthy*, is the first major musical about the porn industry.

Even though The Civilians have performed *You Better Sit Down* before, their shows often take years to fully develop, and Morris considered this one still in progress.

“Our process absolutely benefits from working with students,” Morris said. In addition to creating their own vignettes, the theatre students sat in on The Civilians’ rehearsals and offered ideas for improvement.

The residency was a perfect fit for Sarah Lawrence, said Robert Lyons, creative director of the theatre program. He pointed out that the collaborative, creative nature of The Civilians’ process reflects the College’s own educational style.

The residency gave students “the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with New York’s finest artists in the process of making theatre,” he said. “It expands students’ ideas about how theatre can be made.”

Zachary Wagman '13, who first became involved with theatre in middle school when he auditioned for *The Taming of the Shrew* to impress a girl, particularly enjoyed the interactive nature of interviewing people.

“It’s weird how the smallest things in others’ lives, like their childhood home, are so interesting, and yet if you were to ask them, they would think that it was the most boring thing in the world.”

Another student was shocked to learn that her boyfriend would take his dog’s ashes and his childhood teddy bear from his house if it were burning—perhaps pointing to the best aspect of The Civilians’ methods: you never know what you’ll discover.

—Katharine Reece MFA '12

# The Green Heart

Date: Mar 15, 2011

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Visual Arts Environmental Studies

It was Valentine's Day 2011, and an old married couple were seated a breath away from each other on the stage of the Heimbold auditorium. They often finished the other's sentences, unwittingly using the same gestures and expressions.

But Newton and Helen Mayer Harrison weren't there to share tips on building a good relationship. They were addressing a rarer cause: environmental advocacy through art. The Harrisons are pioneers in the field of "eco-art," and over the course of their 40-year career, they have helped the public visualize climate change and the effects of over-development through public installations, graphic presentations, and museum pieces.

The Harrisons don't engage directly with the political challenges of environmental policy. Instead, they create artwork like "The World Ocean is a Great Draftsman," which maps how Britain's coastline would change if the sea level rose. The final image, representing a 100-meter rise, is a fragmented cluster of islands.

For an exhibit in Bonn, Germany, the Harrisons physically transplanted sections of a 400-year-old meadow threatened by development to a museum rooftop, creating a walkable park. Pieces like these offer ordinary people the chance to interact with nature in a new way, and hopefully provide insights about the value of biodiversity and of preserving ecosystems.

The Harrisons' projects often focus on protecting cultural as well as natural resources. In the 1990s they developed a campaign to protect the "Green Heart of Holland"—undeveloped land inside a ring of major Dutch cities—from suburban development. Why did the Green Heart matter? Its presence defined the cities and their respective cultural identities, they said, and its vastness supported important urban as well as rural diversity.

At the request of the Dutch government, the Harrisons developed an elaborate exhibition of maps and plans for alternative development of the Green Heart. After a series of political setbacks, many of their ideas were adopted as official policy, and the Green Heart was cited by European Union agencies as one of the seven most valuable open spaces in the region.

—Jess Unger '13 and Suzanne Walters Gray MFA '04

## Photography faculty member Michael Vahrenwald

Date: Mar 18, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Photography Faculty

*The Journal News* reports that the work of photography faculty member Michael Vahrenwald will be on display at *The Bank & Trust Show* » [ <https://www.artswestchester.org/things-to-do/event/the-bank-and-trust-show/> ] presented by ArtsWestchester. Vahrenwald's work displays pictures of bank buildings over the years, demonstrating how the architecture of these buildings has changed.

## Poetry faculty member Rachel Griffiths featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine*

Date: Mar 25, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Poetry faculty member Rachel Griffiths is featured in the current issue of *O, The Oprah Magazine* » [ <http://www.oprah.com/style/Spring-Fashion-Modeled-by-Rising-Young-Poets/4> ]. In a piece called "Fashion Extremes: Celebrate Your Unique Style," Griffiths joins seven other rising poets in expressing their dynamic personal styles.

## Mathematics faculty member Dan King named Governor of Mathematical Association of America's Metro NY Chapter

Date: Mar 28, 2011

Buzz Science and Mathematics Mathematics Faculty

Mathematics faculty member Dan King has been elected Governor of the Mathematical Association of America » [ <http://www.maa.org/> ]'s Metro NY Chapter. Based in Washington D.C., the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) is the nation's primary professional organization focused on mathematics at the undergraduate level, and whose core mission is the support of mathematics education, research, professional development and public policy. King has previously held positions with the MAA both locally as Secretary and Chair of the Metro NY Chapter and nationally as a member of the Committee on Mathematics Across the Disciplines. In addition, he currently sits on the Board of Editors for *The College Mathematics Journal*, the MAA publication catering to the interests of undergraduate mathematics students and their professors. King has been on the faculty at Sarah Lawrence College for 14 years, teaching a number of unorthodox mathematics courses (*The Mathematics of Jorge Luis Borges*, *The Philosophical Basis of Mathematics* and *The Theory of Games and Strategy*) alongside courses in the traditional undergraduate canon (*Statistics*, *Calculus*, *Abstract Algebra*, *Topology*).

## Religion faculty member Glenn Dynner featured in next episode of NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?*

Date: Mar 28, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Humanities](#) [Religion](#) [Faculty](#)

Religion faculty member Glenn Dynner will be featured in an episode of the NBC show *Who Do You Think You Are?* » [ <http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are/video/gwyneth-paltrow/1316233/> ], scheduled to air on Friday, April 1. The reality show follows celebrities as they trace their family roots with the help of subject matter experts. In his episode, Dynner helps actress Gwyneth Paltrow learn more about her paternal grandfather.

## Trustee Myra R. Drucker '68 receives *Institutional Investor* magazine's "Investor Lifetime Achievement Award"

Date: Mar 30, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Economics](#) [Alums](#) [Administration](#)

Myra R. Drucker '68, Vice Chair of the Sarah Lawrence Board of Trustees, is the recipient of *Institutional Investor* » [ <http://www.usinvestmentawards.com/> ] magazine's "Investor Lifetime Achievement Award." The magazine's annual U.S. Investment Management Awards recognize U.S. institutional investors with innovative strategies and fiduciary savvy. Drucker will receive the award on May 16.

## Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout to read on campus April 6

Date: Mar 31, 2011

[Announcement](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Writing](#)

Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout to read on campus April 6

## Caroline Lieber MS '80, director of the Human Genetics graduate program, discusses at-home genetic tests in *U.S. News and World Report*

Date: Apr 1, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Pre-med](#) [Human Genetics](#) [Alums](#) [Faculty](#)

Caroline Lieber MS '80, director of the [Joan H. Marks Graduate Program in Human Genetics](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/genetic-counseling/index.html> ], weighs in on the rise of direct-to-consumer



genetic tests and the risks they pose in a *U.S. News and World Report* article » [ <http://health.usnews.com/health-news/managing-your-healthcare/genetics/articles/2011/04/01/do-at-home-genetic-tests-tell-too-much-and-explain-too-little> ] titled, "Do At-Home Genetic Tests Tell Too Much and Explain Too Little?"

## Max Mallory '11 discusses the value of a liberal arts education in an AOL Finance/Wallet Pop article

Date: Apr 4, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Theatre](#) [Students](#)

In an [AOL Finance/WalletPop.com](http://www.walletpop.com/2011/04/04/what-good-is-a-liberal-arts-degree-in-the-job-market/) » [ <http://www.walletpop.com/2011/04/04/what-good-is-a-liberal-arts-degree-in-the-job-market/> ] article titled, "What Good is a Liberal Arts Degree in the Job Market," Max Mallory '11 answers that question by discussing his experiences at Sarah Lawrence and his plans for the future—which include using his studies in theatre and the social sciences and his legal internships to pursue a career in law.

## Men's tennis team defeats St. Joseph's 8-1

Date: Apr 5, 2011

[Announcement](#) [SLC](#) [Students](#)

Men's tennis team defeats St. Joseph's 8-1

## Choreographer Juliette Mapp '93 channels Gertrude Stein in *The Making of Americans*

Date: Apr 6, 2011

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

In *TimeOut New York* » [ <http://newyork.timeout.com/arts-culture/dance/1128995/juliette-mapp> ], dancer and choreographer Juliette Mapp '93 talks about *The Making of Americans*, a new dance that draws from Gertrude Stein's novel of the same name.

## Associate dean of financial aid and admission Heather McDonnell shares insights in AP article

Date: Apr 7, 2011

[In the News](#) [Administration](#) [SLC](#) [Staff](#)

Heather McDonnell, Associate Dean of Financial Aid and Admission, was featured in an [Associated Press article](#) » [ [http://m.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110417/LIFE/110409783/-1/WAP09&template=wapart&m\\_section=](http://m.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110417/LIFE/110409783/-1/WAP09&template=wapart&m_section=) ] sharing insight on financial aid as it affects college admissions.

# Adventures in Filmmaking

Date: Apr 8, 2011

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Creative and Performing Arts Environmental Studies  
Visual Arts Filmmaking Students

"Boy, ain't yo ass cold?" one lady yelled. "Yeah, it ain't summer, honey!" jeered another. Trevor Wallace '13 just smiled and kept running. It was indeed the middle of winter in Boston, and he could have taken the bus.

But Wallace had just returned from Antarctica, and all he could think about was the exhaust of that bus collecting in the atmosphere, leading to higher temperatures that would melt ice sheets, affecting polar animals and weather patterns all over the world. So instead, he suited up in a parka and shorts, and jogged the two miles to work through Central Square.

Wallace traveled to Antarctica with Students on Ice over winter break of his first year at Sarah Lawrence. The organization, which arranges educational expeditions focused on conservation, offered him a \$12,000 scholarship for the journey.

He took along a DVX video camera and made a documentary for his Experimental Film class with teacher Robin Starbuck. The resulting film, *The Compass Points South*, has been screened at the Museum of Natural History and the Explorer's Club in Manhattan, where he was just awarded membership. Wallace's Antarctic journey is just one example of the ways he's merging filmmaking, adventure, and environmental justice.

"Antarctica is one of the most remote places on earth, and yet our daily activities affect the ecosystems there," Wallace says. "Our society is very detached from the source of what we consume, and knowing where what we use goes after we're done with it."

Wallace's film is short and to the point, exploring the intersection between people and nature.

This intersection is most elegantly demonstrated in his close footage of penguins. (Antarctic law stipulates that you can't approach penguins, but they can approach you.) Wallace rests his camera at an angle on a beach as the birds wiggle their tails and flap their wings. When one curious penguin waddles directly up against the camera, Wallace focuses on the individual drops of water on its slick feathers.

He hopes that this intimate footage, along with the rest of his film, will remind his viewers that nature doesn't exist apart from humans, or only in national parks.

"If we continue to only see ecosystems as compartmentalized commodities or as remote places, then species will keep disappearing, and things like erosion and global warming will continue harming peoples' lives around the world. With more images of people acting responsibly in and outside of nature, I think we can become better stewards of the earth and help ourselves," he says.

Antarctica was neither Wallace's first nor last time abroad—he's traveled to Thailand, Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Fiji, New Zealand, Japan, Bolivia, and Tanzania. Over Spring Break 2011, he went to Colombia and created a documentary short about Kiva, the nonprofit micro-finance organization. In the fall, he will study abroad in Cuba, where he plans to make a film about hitchhiking—a well-established and semi-organized activity there. And Wallace was recently awarded the Meredith Fonda Russell Memorial Fellowship, a grant that will enable him to spend the summer in Nepal, filming another documentary.

Wallace's travels have all been financed through personal fundraising and scholarship/grant programs. "It has always taken a lot of initiative to find the means to travel because of my socioeconomic background, but many people have helped me along the way," he says.

What will it take to reverse environmental degradation featured in his films? Wallace acknowledges that it's important for people to make sustainable choices in their personal lives (which may or may not include forgoing the bus for a brisk jog). But more valuable, he says, is that people think of themselves as something more than what they consume. "Although owning a hybrid is nice, being aware of legislation and what is going on around the world is more important."

And that awareness requires asking a lot of hard questions—which is exactly what he's trying to do at Sarah Lawrence. "It takes extra effort to really know what's going on, but I want to be part of the people who are asking those questions."

# Renowned Neuroscientist Dr. Bruce McEwen to speak at Sarah Lawrence as part of Brain Awareness Week

Date: Apr 8, 2011

News Release Science and Mathematics Biology Staff Students

Dr. Bruce McEwen, one of the original founders of Brain Awareness Week, a program of the Dana Foundation, will discuss the effects of stress on the brain in a talk titled “Our Stressed-Out Brains: From Molecules to Societies” on Tuesday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m. in the Donnelley Lecture Hall, Heimbold Visual Arts Center. On Wednesday, April 20, Dr. Erin O’Connor of NYU will speak on the cognitive and socio-emotional development of children at 5 p.m. in the Esther Raushenbush Library.

A past president of the Society for Neuroscience, Dr. McEwen is the Alfred E. Mirsky professor of neuroscience and head of the Harold and Margaret Milliken Hatch Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology at Rockefeller University. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Institute of Medicine. His numerous awards include a share of the 2010 IPSEN Foundations Prize in Neuroplasticity, the Gold Medal award from the Society for Biological Psychiatry the Pasarow Award in Neuropsychiatry, the Dale Medal of the British Endocrine Society, the Goldman-Rakic Prize for Cognitive Neuroscience from the National Alliance for Research for Schizophrenia and Depression and the Karl Spencer Lashley Award from the American Philosophical Society.

Dr. Erin O’ Connor’s talk will discuss the role of care giving relationships in the growth of children’s cognitive and socio-emotional development Dr. O’Connor received her doctorate in Human Development and Psychology from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and is currently an Assistant Professor at New York University’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development where she leads a research program examining relationships with mothers and teachers and the impacts of these relationships on children’s development in early and middle childhood. Her research has implications for teaching and learning and applied developmental science as well as educational practitioners and policy-makers. Dr. O’Connor has published in educational and psychology journals including the *American Educational Research Journal*, *Journal of Educational Psychology* and *Journal of Applied Psychology*.

Sarah Lawrence’s participation in Brain Awareness week was organized by junior Russell Cohen Hoffing, a student in Biology faculty member Dr. Leah Olson’s course *Introduction to Neuroscience*.

# WWI Exhibit “Winds and Words of War: Posters and Prints from the San Antonio Public Library” on display at Sarah Lawrence College

Date: Apr 8, 2011

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

An exhibit of 40 framed vintage posters from World War I, featuring famous images of patriotic themes and messages, is on display in the Esther Raushenbush Library at Sarah Lawrence College through Thursday, June 30. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, please call (914) 395-2470.

The exhibit documents “the first major national marketing campaign in 20th-century America [which] came not in the form of branding a product or selling a service but in the moving of an entire country, at a rapid pace, into the arena of a world war through the use of printed images,” said curator Allison Hays Lane, Sarah Lawrence Class of 1983, in the introduction to the book she authored accompanying the exhibit. “The unifying aspect of this national marketing campaign was that these images became the great equalizing force in American culture. People of all backgrounds and classes, rural or urban, educated or uneducated, rallied to the cause.”

The exhibit was first installed at the San Antonio Public Library, and has traveled to the Chicago (Illinois) Public Library, the Wichita (Kansas) Public Library, the Kansas City (Missouri) Public Library, the Evansville Vanderburg County (Illinois) Public Library, the Harford County (Maryland) Public Library, and the Memphis (Tennessee) Public Library.



# Fifteen Sarah Lawrence College student athletes named to the inaugural Hudson Valley Athletic Conference All-Academic Team

Date: Apr 12, 2011

News Release Students

The Hudson Valley Men's and Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference announced its inaugural All-Academic Team recognizing student athletes who have excelled both athletically and academically, and fifteen Sarah Lawrence students are on the roster.

To be eligible, student athletes must be sophomores or higher and maintain a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA while participating in one of the conference's fall sports: cross country, men's soccer, women's tennis and women's volleyball.

The following Sarah Lawrence College student athletes were named to the inaugural Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference All-Academic Team:

**Tennis:** Antonia Aglialoro '12, Alison Berman '12, Laura Fenney '12, Beata Harju '11, Mary Kim '12, and Antonia Verdi '12

**Volleyball:** Betsy Dupuis '11, Emily Krupin '11, and Brooklynn Moore '13

**Cross Country:** Taylor Zansberg '13

The following Sarah Lawrence College student athletes were named to the inaugural Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference All-Academic Team:

**Soccer:** Harper Hunt '13, Bobby Phillips '11, Nathan Thompson '13 and Trevor Wallace '13

**Cross Country:** Robert Cook '13

## Politics faculty member Sam Abrams conducts survey of Jewish leaders in America on the recent events in Egypt

Date: Apr 12, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Politics](#) [Religion](#) [Faculty](#)

Politics faculty member Sam Abrams, along with professor Steven M. Cohen of the Berman Jewish Policy Archive at NYU Wagner, have released the results of an online, opt-in survey of Jewish leaders conducted in March 2011. The survey demonstrates that American Jews are of two minds about recent developments in Egypt: On the one hand, they warmly greet the apparent turn to democracy and human rights. At the same time, they are unsure of the implications for Israel and the Jewish State's long-standing peace treaty with Egypt. The survey results were reported by [JTA.org](http://www.jta.org) » [ <http://www.jta.org/about> ], as well as in a [press release](#) » [ [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/pdf/BJPA\\_Press\\_Release.pdf](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/pdf/BJPA_Press_Release.pdf) ] from BJPA.

## *Westchester Magazine* profiles President Lawrence

Date: Apr 12, 2011

[In the News](#) [SLC](#) [Administration](#) [President](#)

[Westchester Magazine](http://www.westchestermagazine.com/Westchester-Magazine/April-2011/Madam-Presidents/) » [ <http://www.westchestermagazine.com/Westchester-Magazine/April-2011/Madam-Presidents/> ] profiles President Karen Lawrence, one of four female presidents leading an institution of higher education in Westchester County.



# Sarah Lawrence College student awarded prestigious Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship

Date: Apr 12, 2011

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Students

Sarah Lawrence College junior Kioka Williams has been awarded the 2011 Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship for her “Peace-ing together a Community in Transition” project in her former neighborhood of Bedford-Stuyvesant, NY.

The goal of the project is to create a fiber mural/fiber sculpture from leftover textiles that remain after clothing swaps. Williams, who regularly coordinates clothing swaps in this neighborhood, will work with local residents and organizations to host workshops that will teach individuals basic crafting skills. Most importantly, participants will learn the current relevance (as well as the historic value and cultural significance) of textile waste as material for art making. The unveiling of the artwork will take place in August with a neighborhood party to commemorate the effort and contributions by the residents and organizations involved.



“The goal of this project is to bring together neighbors who might not have the chance to meet otherwise by providing three basic but important elements: time, space, and opportunity. In my eyes, this is an effective, powerful, interactive, and transformative method of creative peace-making,” says Williams.

The Davis Projects for Peace, the vision of philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis, invites undergraduates at American colleges and universities in the Davis United World College Scholars Program to design grassroots projects with the objective to encourage and support today's motivated youth to create and tryout their ideas for building peace.

Sarah Lawrence College has been a participating institution in the Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship Program since 2009. Previous students who have been awarded Davis Fellowships have conducted research in Brazil (2009) and India (2010).

For information about the Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship, contact Evelyn Leong, associate dean of studies, at [eleong@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:eleong@sarahlawrence.edu) » [ <mailto:eleong@sarahlawrence.edu> ].

# Enrico Wey '04 and Theatre faculty member Tom Lee bring puppetry skills to Lincoln Center Theatre production of *War Horse*

Date: Apr 13, 2011

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

A *Wall Street Journal* » [ <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704101604576248960114805474.html> ] article titled, "A Harmony of the Head, Heart—and Haunch" features the work of Enrico Wey '04, one of the puppeteers in the Lincoln Center Theatre production of *War Horse*. Theatre faculty member Tom Lee is also in the cast of the production, and was interviewed for a *WNYC* » [ <http://culture.wnyc.org/articles/features/2011/apr/15/secret-language-puppets-war-horse-comes-lincoln-center/> ] feature on the production. *CBS Sunday Morning* » [ <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7362314n&tag=related;photovideo> ] also featured a segment on the making of *War Horse*.

# SLC wins major awards for new Admission materials

Date: Apr 13, 2011

News Brief SLC

Sarah Lawrence College was selected as a winner in the 26th Annual Educational Advertising Awards sponsored by Higher Education Marketing Report. Honors included:

- Silver Award for the new student viewbook—*Look deeper*
- Merit Award for the conversion brochure—*Go deep and go far*

Both pieces were produced through collaborative effort by the North Charles Street Design Organization, SLC's Office of Communications, and the Office of Admission. The collection of new admission materials can be found online in SLC's [publication library](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/about/viewbooks-and-publications.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/about/viewbooks-and-publications.html> ].

## President Lawrence discusses what's behind the price of a Sarah Lawrence education in *Inside Higher Ed*

Date: Apr 14, 2011

In the News SLC Administration President

In an *Inside Higher Ed* » [ [http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2011/04/14/essay\\_on\\_why\\_sarah\\_lawrence\\_college\\_is\\_among\\_the\\_most\\_expensive\\_in\\_the\\_nation](http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2011/04/14/essay_on_why_sarah_lawrence_college_is_among_the_most_expensive_in_the_nation) ] essay titled, "Why We're No. 1," President Karen Lawrence discusses the customized, "handcrafted" nature of a Sarah Lawrence education, the impact that has on the cost of attending the College, and the transformative results it affords alumni well beyond graduation.

## Literature faculty member Joe Lauinger's new play *Michael Archangel* wins Fulton Theatre's Discovery Project

Date: Apr 18, 2011

In the News Humanities Creative and Performing Arts Writing Theatre Literature Writing Theatre Faculty

The Fulton Theatre has selected *Michael Archangel*, a play written by literature faculty member Joe Lauinger, as the winner of its first Discovery Project, a contest to find and produce new full-length plays. The play, which is a modern take off of Anton Chekhov's *Platonov*, makes its stage debut on April 28 as reported by the *Lancaster New Era* » [ <http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/376194> ].

## President Karen Lawrence lends expertise to James Joyce panel

Date: Apr 18, 2011

In the News

President Karen Lawrence participated in a panel discussion at Bowdoin College titled, "The Next Joyce Century: Still Fearing and Loving *Ulysses*." In her talk, "Something Old, Something New," President Lawrence reflected on how old Joyce manuscripts are "bringing new life" to current studies on his works. *The Bowdoin Orient* » [ <http://orient.bowdoin.edu/orient/article.php?date=2011-04-15&section=1&id=7> ] covered the event.

# Meghan Roguschka '12 awarded prestigious Udall Scholarship

Date: Apr 18, 2011

[News Release](#) [Anthropology](#) [Economics](#) [Environmental Studies](#) [Politics](#) [Photography](#) [Students](#)

Sarah Lawrence College junior Meghan Roguschka has been selected as a 2011 Morris K. and Stuart L. Udall Scholar in recognition of her commitment to the environment. With her scholarship she will continue her current research on the role that women play in societal development. Her most recent research concerns the impact of the Hindu caste system on women's rights in India.



Roguschka developed an interest in this topic after spending last summer in a small village in Central India where, funded by the Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship Program, she worked to implement a sustainable gardening project.

This semester, Roguschka is studying *Language and Race* (Anthropology), *Collective Violence and Political Change* (Political Science), *Marxian and Post-Keynesian Economics* (Economics), and documentary photography. She intends to pursue a doctorate in philosophy in international development studies, with a focus on women's rights and environmental justice in southern Asia.

The Udall Foundation is an independent federal agency, established by Congress in 1992 to provide federally funded scholarships for college students intending to pursue careers related to the environment. The Udall Foundation is dedicated to educating a new generation of Americans to preserve and protect their national heritage through scholarship, fellowship, and internship programs focused on environmental and Native American issues.

For more information on the Udall Scholarship, contact Evelyn Leong, Associate Dean of Studies, at [eleong@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:eleong@sarahlawrence.edu) » [ <mailto:eleong@sarahlawrence.edu> ].

# Annual Mayfair carnival to be held on April 30; proceeds benefit student scholarships

Date: Apr 18, 2011

News Release Students SLC

Sarah Lawrence College's annual Mayfair, for families and children ages 5-10, will take place on Saturday, April 30, rain or shine from 11 a.m. -3 p.m. There will be games, crafts, and prizes for all, as well as a "pop-up" adventure playground organized by the College's Child Development Institute and Early Childhood Center.

The cost of admission is \$20 per family or \$5 per person. All proceeds go towards the College's Students for Students Scholarship Fund (SSSF). For more information, please contact Jason Gloe, Assistant Director of Student Activities, at (914) 395-2575.

"Mayfair is a great community tradition at Sarah Lawrence. We look forward to hosting this event," said Rebecca Butler '12, who chairs the SSSF.

## Helen Whitney '65 debuts *Forgiveness: A Time to Love and a Time to Hate* on PBS

Date: Apr 19, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Filmmaking](#) [Writing](#) [Alums](#)

Acclaimed writer, producer and director Helen Whitney '65 explores the concept and practice of forgiveness in a new PBS film called *Forgiveness: A Time to Love and a Time to Hate*. The film is running in two 90-minute specials during the month of April on PBS stations nationwide. [PBS.org](#) » [ <http://video.pbs.org/video/1860421436> ] ran a short video monologue from Whitney on the eve of the first segment's premiere.

## Michelle Fox MS '79 featured in *Los Angeles Times* article on the role of genetic counselors

Date: Apr 19, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Human Genetics](#) [Alums](#)

Michelle Fox MS '79, an alumna of the [Human Genetics graduate program](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/genetic-counseling/index.html> ], is featured in a *Los Angeles Times* » [ <http://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-genetic-counselors-20110418,0,6871002.story> ] article on the role of genetic counselors in shepherding families through complicated medical issues.

## Michelle Huber '12 recalls her time in Havana in *New York Times* article on study abroad programs in Cuba

Date: Apr 19, 2011

[In the News](#) [SLC](#) [Students](#)

In "Cuba: A Door Ajar," the *New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/17/education/edl-17cuba-t.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/17/education/edl-17cuba-t.html?_r=1) ] discusses the Obama administration's easing of restrictions on academic travel to Cuba. Sarah Lawrence's longstanding [study abroad program in Cuba](#) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/cuba/index.html> ] is mentioned as the largest in the United States, and student Michelle Huber '12 discusses her time in Havana with the program.

## Nell Minow '74 discusses "passionate curiosity" in *New York Times* article on the habits of effective leaders

Date: Apr 19, 2011

Buzz History and the Social Sciences Alums

In a *New York Times* » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/17/business/17excerpt.html?sq=nellminow&st=cse&adxnnl=1&scp=1&pagewanted=1&adxnnlx=1303221662-3Y0VLq6yXGQ724fPv57P0w> ] article entitled, "Distilling the Wisdom of C.E.O.'s," adapted from his book *The Corner Office: Indispensable and Unexpected Lessons From CEOs on How to Lead and Succeed*, author Adam Bryant examines the habits of highly effective leaders. Nell Minow '74, co-founder of the Corporate Library, discusses the importance of "passionate curiosity" as a character trait that can set leaders apart.

## Alumni members of Big Tree tour in van that runs on vegetable oil; explain eco-friendly music to MTV

Date: Apr 20, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Environmental Studies Music Students Alums

Luke Bace '10, Colin Fahrner '10, and Kaila McIntyre-Bader '09, three members of the band Big Tree, explain the concept of eco-friendly music to MTV in a [blog](http://act.mtv.com/posts/whats-eco-friendly-music-indie-band-big-tree-explains) » [ <http://act.mtv.com/posts/whats-eco-friendly-music-indie-band-big-tree-explains> ] written by current student Lauren Grillo '11. The band has traveled more than 12,000 miles in a diesel van converted to run on vegetable oil as they share their music and raise awareness about alternative fuels and simple ways people can keep their lifestyles eco-friendly. Big Tree will be at Sarah Lawrence on Earth Day.

## New book by Anthropology faculty member Robert Desjarlais reviewed in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Date: Apr 25, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Anthropology Faculty

In its Chronicle Review section, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* » [ [http://chronicle.com/article/Nota-Bene-For-Love-of-the/127210/?sid=cr&utm\\_source=cr&utm\\_medium=en](http://chronicle.com/article/Nota-Bene-For-Love-of-the/127210/?sid=cr&utm_source=cr&utm_medium=en) ] features Anthropology faculty member Robert Desjarlais and his new book *Counterplay: An Anthropologist at the Chessboard* and looks at the background that led Desjarlais to research and write the book.



## Elana Bell '99, MFA '08 receives Walt Whitman Award from Academy of American Poets

Date: Apr 25, 2011

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

[The Academy of American Poets](http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/22303) » [ <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/22303> ] has announced that Elana Bell '99, MFA '08 has been selected by distinguished poet Fanny Howe as the recipient of the 2011 Walt Whitman Award for her collection of poems *Eyes, Stones*, which will be published next spring. The award is given to honor and publish a poet's first book of original poetry.

» [ <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/22303> ]

## Jithendra Seneviratne '12 to appear in Shakespeare on the Sound production of *Much Ado About Nothing*

Date: Apr 25, 2011

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

[Broadway World](http://ct.broadwayworld.com/article/Marno-Wooddell-Set-For-Shakespeare-On-The-Sounds-MUCH-ADO-20110420) » [ <http://ct.broadwayworld.com/article/Marno-Wooddell-Set-For-Shakespeare-On-The-Sounds-MUCH-ADO-20110420> ] reports that Shakespeare on the Sound has announced its final cast for the upcoming production of Shakespeare's comedy *Much Ado About Nothing*, which includes graduate student Jithendra Seneviratne '12 playing the role of one of Dogberry's Men.

» [ <http://ct.broadwayworld.com/article/Marno-Wooddell-Set-For-Shakespeare-On-The-Sounds-MUCH-ADO-20110420> ]

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses affirmative action in higher education in *The Guardian*

Date: Apr 25, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Humanities](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

In a comment piece in [The Guardian](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/apr/23/higher-education-race) » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/apr/23/higher-education-race> ] (UK), Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the current state of affirmative action and the need to rethink the program, particularly as it applies to higher education.

## Matt Matros MFA '04 defends Internet poker

Date: Apr 25, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

In a *Washington Post* » [ [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/after-the-dept-of-justice-shuts-down-online-poker-a-poker-pro-defends-his-game/2011/04/20/AFjoffPE\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/after-the-dept-of-justice-shuts-down-online-poker-a-poker-pro-defends-his-game/2011/04/20/AFjoffPE_story.html) ] op-ed, writer and professional poker player Matt Matros MFA '04 laments the Justice Department's virtual shutdown of online poker sites, and defends the medium—and the game—as important parts of American culture.

## Writing faculty member Jo Ann Beard pens debut novel

Date: Apr 25, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Writing faculty member Jo Ann Beard is profiled by the *Salt Lake Tribune* » [ <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/entertainment/51673876-81/beard-girl-says-zanesville.html.csp> ] on the eve of publishing her debut novel *In Zanesville*.

## *Christian Science Monitor* blog praises Sarah Lawrence and its no SAT-ACT policy

Date: Apr 27, 2011

In the News SLC Parents

On the *Christian Science Monitor* » [ <http://www.csmonitor.com/Business/new-economy/2011/0426/Qualities-that-could-solve-America-s-budget-crisis> ] Web site, Diane Lim Rogers, chief economist at the Concord Coalition, blogger at EconomistMom.com, and parent of an incoming Sarah Lawrence student, writes about the incompleteness of standardized tests and measures in college admissions and beyond.

## Actress Jane Alexander '61 to receive Eleanor Roosevelt "Following in Her Footsteps" Award

Date: Apr 27, 2011

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Alums

*The Boston Globe* » [ [http://articles.boston.com/2011-04-20/ae/29451818\\_1\\_kate-middleton-love-story-brookline](http://articles.boston.com/2011-04-20/ae/29451818_1_kate-middleton-love-story-brookline) ] reports that actress Jane Alexander '61 » [ <http://www.sl.c.edu/magazine/voice/featured/throwing.html> ] will be presented with the Eleanor Roosevelt "Following in Her Footsteps" Award at a benefit on Sunday, May 15 at the Coolidge Corner Theatre in Brookline, MA. Alexander portrayed Roosevelt in two television movies, *Eleanor and Franklin* and *Eleanor and Franklin: The White House Years*.

## Writing faculty member Mary Morris publishes crossword-themed essay in *The Atlantic*

Date: Apr 27, 2011

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

Writing faculty member Mary Morris published *The Cross Word: A story and puzzle in 76 clues* in the May issue of *The Atlantic* » [ <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2011/05/the-cross-word/8466/> ] magazine. Maxwell Neely-Cohen '08 assisted with the crossword puzzle.

# Three Sarah Lawrence College Alumni Awarded Prestigious Guggenheim Fellowships

Date: Apr 29, 2011

News Release Creative and Performing Arts Dance Visual Arts Writing Theatre Dance Writing Faculty Alums

Playwright David Adjmi '93, choreographer Pam Tanowitz MFA '98, and artist Janine Antoni '86 are among a select group of 180 scholars, artists, and scientists who were awarded the prestigious Guggenheim fellowship in 2011. Successful candidates were chosen from 3,000 applicants, and were selected on the basis of achievement and exceptional promise.

David Adjmi's plays include *Stunning*, *The Evildoers*, *Marie Antoinette*, *Strange Attractors*, *Elective Affinities* and *Caligula*. Last year Adjmi was one of ten recipients of the 2010 Whiting Writer's Award and his plays have earned him a Bush Artist's Fellowship, and Jerome, McKnight, Cherry Lane Theatre, and Kesselring Fellowships. Adjmi has also received the Helen Merrill Award, a Marian Seldes-Garson Kanin Award, a Lecomte du Nouy Award, and a Steinberg Playwright Award.

"David could always be counted on for his passion, insight and intelligence as a writer," said Allen Lang MFA '95, co-director of Theater Outreach at Sarah Lawrence, who took playwriting classes with Adjmi.

Pam Tanowitz Dance, founded by the choreographer in 2000, has received commissions and residencies at coveted New York theaters including Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project, Joyce SoHo, The Guggenheim Museum's Works & Process program, Baryshnikov Arts Center and Central Park Summerstage. In 2001, it was one of only three companies in the United States invited to perform at the American Dance Festival in Durham, NC, as part of the Emerging Generations concert.

"In Pam's dances delicate physicality and effortless spontaneity coexist in a rigorously satisfying formality that is the result of a highly thoughtful and kinesthetic intelligence," said Dance faculty member Rose Anne Thom, who taught Tanowitz.

The artistic work of Janine Antoni has been exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, S.I.T.E. Santa Fe, and the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin. She is the past recipient of several prestigious awards including a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship in 1998 and the Larry Aldrich Foundation Award in 1999.

## Artist Gwendolyn Cardente '97 praises study abroad program in Florence

Date: Apr 29, 2011

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

In a profile by Sarasota's *Herald Tribune* » [ <http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20110428/ARCHIVES/104281033> ], artist and gallery owner Gwendolyn Cardente '97 cites spending her junior year in SLC's study abroad program in Florence as the reason she became an artist, saying, "It was the best experience I ever had."

## Incoming student Bayan Baker '15 recalls family's journey from Croatia to America

Date: May 3, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Pre-med](#) [Students](#)

*Yonkers Rising* » [ [https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/pdf/bayan\\_baker.pdf](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/media/pdf/bayan_baker.pdf) ] applauds the acceptance of Bayan Baker '15 to Sarah Lawrence College, as well as her receipt of the Yonkers Town Scholarship, and shares her story of immigration from post-war Croatia to America as evidence that the American dream is alive and well in Yonkers, New York.

# Sarah Lawrence College Professor Awarded Prestigious Research Fellowship

Date: May 3, 2011

News Release Humanities Film History Faculty

Film History faculty member Malcolm Turvey has been named one of 26 fellows by The Stanford Humanities Center at Stanford University for the 2011-12 academic year to research and write his upcoming book *Play Time: Jacques Tati and Comedic Modernism*.

*Play Time: Jacques Tati and Comedic Modernism* will be the first book about the films of Jacques Tati (1907-1982) by an English-language scholar in over 25 years. The book will offer a comprehensive analysis of Tati's highly original and challenging aesthetic, which he cultivated in response to problems of modern life. The focus will be on Tati's synthesis of his modernist aesthetic with the popular genre of comedian comedy, by showing how Tati, like artists working in other mediums, combined the two in innovative ways.

Turvey is the author of two previous books: *The Filming of Modern Life: European Avant-Garde Film of the 1920s* (MIT Press, 2011) and *Doubting Vision: Film and the Revelationist Tradition* (Oxford University Press, 2008). His essays have appeared in a number of journals and anthologies, including *Framework*, *Millennium Film Journal*, *Film Studies: An International Review*, *Artforum*, *Film Theory and Philosophy* (Oxford University Press, 1997), *Freud's Worst Nightmares* (Cambridge University Press, 2003), *The Philosophy of Film: Introductory Text and Readings* (Blackwell, 2005) and *European Film Theory* (Routledge, 2008).

Founded in 1980, the Stanford Humanities Center is a multidisciplinary research institute dedicated to advancing knowledge about culture, philosophy, history, and the arts. The Center's fellowships, research workshops, and public events strengthen the intellectual and creative life of the university, foster innovative scholarship and teaching, and enrich our understanding of the human experience.

## Attorney, author, and filmmaker Tonya Lewis Lee '88 raises awareness about infant mortality

Date: May 3, 2011

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

*The Journal News* profiles attorney, children's book author, novelist and award-winning filmmaker Tonya Lewis Lee '88, national spokesperson for the "A Healthy Baby Begins with You" campaign, which raises awareness about infant mortality and advocates for healthier lifestyles for women.

## Sarah Lawrence dominates Tony award nominations

Date: May 4, 2011

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

The work of SLC graduates [David Lindsay-Abaire '92](#) » [ [http://www.myhometownbronxville.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2997:interview-with-pulitzer-prize-winning-playwrights-david-lindsay-abaire-also-a-sarah-lawrence-graduate&catid=3:art-drama-music-books&Itemid=3](http://www.myhometownbronxville.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2997:interview-with-pulitzer-prize-winning-playwrights-david-lindsay-abaire-also-a-sarah-lawrence-graduate&catid=3:art-drama-music-books&Itemid=3) ] and Enrico Wey '04 and theatre faculty member Tom Lee has been recognized with nominations for several [Tony Awards](#) » [ [http://www.tonyawards.com/en\\_US/nominees/index.html](http://www.tonyawards.com/en_US/nominees/index.html) ], which celebrate the best in American theatre. Lindsay-Abaire's *Good People*, on which faculty member Jill DuBoff is the sound designer, is nominated for Best Play, and Wey and Lee are currently lending their puppetry and performance skills to the Lincoln Center production of *War Horse*, which is nominated for five awards; in addition, the Handspring Puppet Company will receive a special Tony for their work on *War Horse*. The Tony awards ceremony will be held on June 12 in New York City.

# Commemorating the Freedom Riders of 1961: "Reflecting on Liberty, Democracy, and Freedom in America"

Date: May 5, 2011

News Release Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Politics Sculpture  
Visual Arts History

On May 4, 2011—the 50th anniversary of the first Freedom Rides of 1961—"Liberté," a 22" high-bronze sculpture by Yonkers artist Vinnie Bagwell, will arrive at the historic Montgomery, AL, Greyhound bus station for a year-long exhibition titled, "Road to Equality: The Freedom Riders of 1961," sponsored by the Alabama Historical Society and the Alabama State Arts Council. A second cast of "Liberté" will be unveiled at Sarah Lawrence College in Yonkers, New York on November 1, 2011 at a commemorative program and exhibition-opening reception being planned by co-sponsors Sarah Lawrence College and ArtsWestchester, the largest arts council in New York State, serving Westchester County.

Freedom Riders were civil-rights activists who rode interstate buses into the segregated, southern United States to test the 1960 United-States Supreme-Court decision *Boynton v. Virginia*. The first Freedom Ride left Washington, D.C., on May 4, 1961, and riders kept rolling through September. More than 60 different Freedom Rides criss-crossed the South, and more than 300 riders were arrested. It is estimated that almost 450 riders participated in one or more Freedom Ride. About 75 percent were male, and the same percentage were under the age of 30, mostly evenly divided between black and white. November 1, 2011 will be the 50th anniversary of when the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) issued the necessary orders—and the new policies went into effect—that permitted passengers to sit wherever they pleased on interstate buses and trains; "white" and "colored" signs came down in the terminals; separate drinking fountains, toilets, and waiting rooms were consolidated; and lunch counters began serving people regardless of race.

"This is an important time for reflecting on liberty, democracy, and freedom in America. My goal is to create art that has the power to reach out, strike the heart, and enrich the lives of others. There were many Freedom Riders from the greater New York metropolitan area, and still many surviving, including Mayor Ed Koch. I hope people will appreciate their contribution to the American struggle for equality," Vinnie Bagwell declares.

Ms. Bagwell created "The First Lady of Jazz Ella Fitzgerald," a life-sized bronze at the Yonkers Metro North train station in 1996, and "Frederick Douglass Circle" at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, in 2008. She is currently developing "The Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden," a public-art project for the City of Yonkers to commemorate the first enslaved Africans to be manumitted by law (written by John Jay) in the United States, 76 years before the Emancipation Proclamation.

The exhibition at Sarah Lawrence College will feature the artwork of 13 contemporary artists, alongside artists from the civil rights era, and will be on view for the month of November. The opening program will also include special guest speakers, spoken word, poetry, and performing artists. Additional information will be announced in the near future on this site and on <http://www.artswestchester.org> » [ <http://www.artswestchester.org> ].



## Photos by Jennifer Pinkowski '98 featured in Forbes.com blog

Date: May 5, 2011

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

The work of writer and photographer Jennifer Pinkowski '98 is featured in John Giuffo's "Small World, Big Mouth" blog on *Forbes.com* » [ <http://blogs.forbes.com/johngiuffo/2011/05/04/daily-travel-flashback-beijing-china/> ]. Giuffo praises the juxtaposition evident in several of Pinkowski's photos, saying it's "a trick she learned while studying photography first at Sarah Lawrence, and then at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism."

## Ansel Elkins '07 wins "Discovery"/*Boston Review* Poetry Contest

Date: May 6, 2011

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

Ansel Elkins '07 has been named a winner of the "[Discovery](#)"/*Boston Review* Poetry Contest » [ [http://www.92y.org/shop/event\\_detail.asp?productid=T-TP5MS29](http://www.92y.org/shop/event_detail.asp?productid=T-TP5MS29) ]. Elkins will join other winners in a reading at the 92nd Street Y Unterberg Poetry Center, and will be published in the May/June 2011 issue of *Boston Review*.

## Katie Arnold-Ratliff MFA '08 publishes debut novel, declared "writer to watch" by *Booklist*

Date: May 9, 2011

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

*The Times Herald* » [ [http://www.timesheraldonline.com/ci\\_18008271](http://www.timesheraldonline.com/ci_18008271) ] (California) profiles author Katie Arnold-Ratliff MFA '08 and reviews her first novel *Bright Before Us*. The book has received much praise from reviewers, including *Publishers Weekly* and *Booklist*, which urged readers to "mark her as a writer to watch."

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills examines Obama's stance on Libyan intervention in *The Guardian*

Date: May 9, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Humanities](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Literature](#) [History](#) [Faculty](#)

In *The Guardian* » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/may/08/libya-middleeast> ] (UK), Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses the impact he believes Obama advisor Samantha Power's book *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide* has had on the President's stance on Libyan intervention.

# Spy Class, Decades Later, Becomes a Play

Date: May 9, 2011

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Writing History  
Theatre Writing Faculty Alums

Sheila Schwartz '80 first studied history's famous spies in the late 1970s, in a class taught by her don, Jefferson Adams. The course, "Intelligence and Diplomacy in Modern History," examines how intelligence gathering and covert action influence the course of historical events.

The class made such an impression that three decades later, Schwartz is still thinking about the world of espionage. In fact, she wrote a play about it: *Spy Garbo*, which debuted off-Broadway this spring.

In the play, Spanish Fascist Francisco Franco, British Communist spy Kim Philby, and Nazi double agent Wilhelm Canaris meet on the fictional in-between stage of History. The men banter with one another, recreate their personal exploits, challenge accepted history, rationalize, and lie, all in an effort to overshadow Garbo—the ultimate double agent—and win the starring role in History's WWII spy-adventure movie.

Schwartz didn't start out as a cloak-and-dagger aficionado. Prior to attending Sarah Lawrence, she had worked with children in foster care, and was considering a degree in social work. "When I got to Sarah Lawrence, I wanted to save the world," she remembers. "It didn't take long, though, to realize I didn't have the faintest idea of what kind of world I was going to save."

Her solution was to study history. Adams remembers Schwartz as a serious, vivacious student who was constantly willing to see things from varying perspectives.

For her part, Schwartz admired Adams' truth-seeking sensibility. She says, "Jeff always had a wonderful way of dealing with oversimplification—he would push us as students and say, 'Yes, that's true, but at the same time, what about this?' We wish things were so simple but they're not."

Though Schwartz would have been content to stay at Sarah Lawrence for the rest of her life, she says now, she graduated in 1980. She earned a master's in liberal studies at the New School For Social Research, attended General Theological Seminary in Manhattan, studied with Harold Bloom at Yale, and wrote a screenplay and a novel (both unpublished).

But she remained fascinated by espionage and history, and in her late 50s, she began writing *Spy Garbo*, even though she had no idea how to write a play.

Years later, Schwartz and Adams reconnected at a book party celebrating the release of Adams' *Historical Dictionary of German Intelligence* in 2009. The two hadn't spoken in years. It was sheer coincidence that her play and his book were exploring similar topics.

Schwartz later invited Adams and his current "Intelligence and Diplomacy" class to attend the play in April. Adams says he was thoroughly impressed by the production. (His students' favorite part was when Franco gets pelted with virtual tomatoes.)

In many ways, Schwartz's story embodies what Adams tries to teach his students: "In the end, life has a way of working itself out," he says, and our imaginations truly are without limits.

Schwartz agrees heartily. "It shouldn't be our concern to worry about whether our dreams can be realized—that's tomorrow's worry. Writing this play has shown me that we must do the thing that's in our head to do, and the rest takes care of itself."

## Biology faculty member Leah Olson quoted in *Hartford Courant* article on healthy eating

Date: May 10, 2011

In the News Science and Mathematics Biology Faculty

Biology faculty member Leah Olson is quoted in a *Hartford Courant* » [ <http://www.courant.com/health/fl-jjps-eating-0511-20110509,0,7033968.story> ] article on healthy eating and the lack of vegetable and fruit consumption by American adults.

## Arianna Huffington to deliver commencement keynote address on May 20

Date: May 12, 2011

Announcement SLC

Arianna Huffington to deliver commencement keynote address on May 20

## Literature faculty member Fredric Smoler '75 examines European reaction to the killing of Osama bin Laden in *Dissent*

Date: May 12, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Humanities Literature History Faculty Alums

In an online symposium of *Dissent Magazine* » [ <http://dissentmagazine.org/online.php?id=484#smoler> ] writers on the killing of Osama bin Laden—on how it was carried out, its potential impact on government policies, and its meaning to and reception by the public— Literature faculty member Fredric Smoler '75 contributes a piece entitled, "The Particular Case of Osama bin Laden." In the piece, Smoler examines the critical reactions of some European nations to the killing.

# Russell Cohen '12 brings Brain Awareness Week to Sarah Lawrence

Date: May 16, 2011

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Biology Human Genetics Health Advocacy Students Faculty

National Brain Awareness Week (BAW), founded and coordinated by the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, is a global campaign to increase public awareness of the progress and benefits of brain research. During BAW, participants organize innovative activities to educate and engage people of all ages about the brain. During the week of April 20, Russell Cohen '12 brought Brain Awareness Week to Sarah Lawrence with two talks that informed and inspired the campus community. Cohen cites his motivation for bringing BAW to SLC as a desire to promote learning. Cohen explained, "My initial interest came from my background in education reform and Neuroeducation. I saw Brain Awareness Week as the perfect opportunity to share my love of learning and neuroscience with the Sarah Lawrence community."

Cohen first learned about National Brain Awareness Week on the Society of Neuroscience Website. He then discovered The Dana Foundation's Alliance for Brain Initiatives: "A nonprofit organization committed to advancing public awareness about the progress and promise of brain research and to disseminating information on the brain in an understandable and accessible fashion." Cohen contacted the Dana Foundation and expressed his interest in bringing the global event to Sarah Lawrence for the first time. Cohen remarked, "The Dana Foundation made it ridiculously simple. They provided me with contacts and hundreds of flyers." Cohen describes the process of finding speakers for the event: "I literally just started e-mailing people that I thought would be interesting and I received an overwhelming response. Seven out of the nine people I contacted expressed interest in speaking. I think that this speaks to the true power of Brain Awareness Week. It is an educational platform that people are willing to donate so much time and effort to." Neuroscience professor Dr. Leah Olson praised Cohen's hard work: "Russell almost single-handedly organized this amazing event. From the day he first became aware of National Brain Awareness Week to the time when the first of our two great speakers arrived to celebrate Brain Awareness Week at SLC—a little over two months—Russell organized everything."

Interestingly, the first person that Russell reached out to turned out to be the man who started it all—Dr. Bruce McEwen of Rockefeller University. Cohen joked, "I didn't know how huge this guy was. He was the first person to e-mail me back and said he would be thrilled to speak. I later found out that he created National Brain Awareness Week in partnership with the Dana Foundation." Dr. McEwen is world-renowned neuroscientist and a past president of the Society for Neuroscience, a society comprising of over 40,000 neuroscientists. He has received numerous awards for his ground-breaking work on the effects of stress on the brain.

Dr. McEwen was Sarah Lawrence Brain Awareness Week's first speaker. His talk, "Our Stressed-Out Brains: From Molecules to Societies," focused on educating students about the neurological consequences of stress. The talk was both comprehensive and accessible to students. Stress is an inescapable reality of student life and students left Dr. McEwen's talk with newly-acquired knowledge on how to cope with stress in a healthy and sustainable manner. The second speaker, Dr. Erin O'Connor of NYU, is published in educational and psychology journals, including the *Journal of Educational Psychology* and *Journal of Applied Psychology*. She currently leads a research program examining relationships with mothers and teachers and the impact of these relationships on child development in early and middle childhood. She spoke on the role of care-giving relationships in the growth of children's cognitive and socio-emotional development. Students found Dr. O'Connor very engaging due to the seminar style approach typical of Sarah Lawrence classes.

In the spirit of Sarah Lawrence, Cohen is particularly interested in highlighting the inherent interdisciplinary nature of neuroscience. "My goal was to find speakers who relate neuroscience to topics that students find interesting and engaging." Judging by the positive responses from students and the overall excitement that BAW generated for the Sarah Lawrence community, Cohen clearly succeeded. Lauren Shepard '13 commented,

"I had no idea Brain Awareness Week existed. I'm really glad Russell helped me and the rest of the campus become aware. What I loved about Dr. McEwen's talk is how relevant it was—students deal with stress pretty often, so it was really interesting to learn more about the biological basis of stress and its consequences on our lives. It was especially cool to learn about it from someone who is a leading researcher in the field." Shepard's sentiments were echoed across campus. Hannah Greene '12 remarked, "Brain Awareness Week was a fantastic idea. Dr. Erin O'Connor's lecture was very accessible. She seemed like a wonderful human being whose heart was truly in her work. I would love to see BAW return to Sarah Lawrence next year, including more speakers!"

Cohen is thankful for the integral role that Sarah Lawrence played in making Brain Awareness Week a reality, "Everyone I spoke to from Leah to College Events was incredibly supportive." Dr. Olson remarked, "We both deeply appreciate all the help provided by the administrative staff that Russell contacted, who bent over backwards to give him the help and support he needed—showcasing the opportunities available for engaged and passionate students to fully participate in helping to create and sustain our unique intellectual environment."

Cohen also credits his newfound passion for neuroscience to Sarah Lawrence's educational philosophy. "Sarah Lawrence gave me the confidence to go out there and pursue my interests. My interest in neuroscience is completely new. I put myself out there, started emailing people in the field and now it has become a huge passion." Indeed, Cohen's passion for neuroscience extends beyond BAW. He is currently working on an independent project titled "Music of The Brain." The project entails converting brain scans into sounds. Cohen has also started a club for students interested in learning about the brain. Cohen notes, "The club is not exclusively for the purpose of organizing Brain Awareness Week. It is a forum for any student who wants to learn more about the brain." Cohen envisions weekly readings and discussions on topics that interest students. Cohen is equally passionate about expanding his passion for the brain outside of the SLC community. Cohen notes, "There are so many schools nearby that we can engage with. It would be great to organize a day to raise awareness about the brain at a local elementary or high school."

Cohen has high hopes for BAW next year. He envisions a week filled with interactive student activities in addition to lectures. Cohen anticipates a "Brain Fair," where students can "walk from booth to booth and learn about topics like dance and the brain and how illusions work." He is also interested in planning an art competition that challenges students to create art based on the brain. Cohen also looks forward to planning a film series. Cohen noted, "I would love to screen *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and hold a discussion on the neuroscience behind the film." Both Cohen and Dr. Olson hope that others will join him next year and in years after to make this Brain Awareness Week a Sarah Lawrence tradition.

Students interested in joining the Brain Club, helping out with Brain Awareness Week, or who have any ideas they want to share may contact [Russell Cohen](mailto:rcohenhoffing@gm.sl.c.edu) » [mailto:rcohenhoffing@gm.sl.c.edu ].

## Film History faculty member Malcolm Turvey's new book reviewed by *The Architect's Newspaper*

Date: May 16, 2011

In the News Humanities Film History Faculty

*The Architect's Newspaper* » [ [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A\\_3793&site=21757](http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3793&site=21757) ] reviews *The Filming of Modern Life: European Avant-Garde Film of the 1920's*, the new book written by Film History faculty member Malcolm Turvey.

## Rahm Emanuel '81 sworn in as Chicago's new mayor

Date: May 16, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Creative and Performing Arts Politics Alums

Several national media outlets including *The Chicago Tribune* » [ <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chibrknews-rahm-emanuel-to-be-sworn-in-today-as-chicago-mayor-20110515,0,2840741.story?page=1> ] profile former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel '81 on the day of his swearing in as Chicago's 46th mayor.

# Sarah Lawrence College student awarded Meredith Fonda Russell International Fieldwork Fellowship

Date: May 16, 2011

News Release Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Filmmaking Visual Arts  
Environmental Studies Students

Sarah Lawrence College sophomore Trevor Wallace has been awarded the Meredith Fonda Russell International Fieldwork Fellowship to continue work on a project titled "Hydroelectric Dams in Nepal through Documentary" this summer in Kathmandu along with two other research areas near Everest Base Camp and in Western Nepal.

Through his research on hydroelectric dams, Wallace will explore rural people's changing relationship with the land and development. Wallace plans to connect with grassroots non-governmental organizations and local populations and will focus on small projects such as micro hydels—the automated use of water mills and technology—to generate electricity to power small villages.

In addition to his research, Wallace will produce a weekly media project (podcast, photo-essay, and film) as a Beyond Good Intentions Fellow for dissemination on BGI's Web site, conducting regular interviews and field visits to local aid organizations.

Beyond Good Intentions is an organization committed to uncovering more innovative and effective approaches to international aid worldwide. According to the organization, their film series and educational programs work to catalyze a much-needed dialogue about aid effectiveness.

For more information on the Meredith Fonda Russell International Fieldwork Fellowship, contact Evelyn Leong, associate dean of studies, at [eleong@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:eleong@sarahlawrence.edu) » [ <mailto:eleong@sarahlawrence.edu> ] .



## Ani Adishian '95 turns passion for gardening into career as landscape contractor

Date: May 18, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Environmental Studies Alums

Ani Adishian '95 is featured in a *Journal News* » [ <http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/lohud/access/2347486411.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&date=May+15%2C+2011&author=Bill+Cary&pub=The+Journal+News&edition=&srch=1> ] article about local gardening enthusiasts who have turned their hobby into a successful career. Adishian, a landscape contractor and owner of Flora Landscapes Ltd., has maintained the College's grounds for the past decade.

## Arianna Huffington: Sarah Lawrence "one of the great colleges in America"

Date: May 18, 2011

In the News SLC

Two days before delivering the commencement address at SLC, media mogul Arianna Huffington penned a *Huffington Post* » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/arianna-huffington/dear-class-of-2011\\_b\\_863743.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/arianna-huffington/dear-class-of-2011_b_863743.html) ] letter to the Class of 2011 about the challenges that face them after graduation. In the piece, Huffington calls Sarah Lawrence, "one of the great colleges in America."

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills traces the issue of deficit reduction in *The Guardian*

Date: May 18, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Humanities Literature Politics Faculty

In a commentary in *The Guardian* » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/may/17/mitch-daniels-republicans> ] (UK) entitled, "Mitch Daniels: the convenient amnesia of a deficit hawk," Literature professor Nicolaus Mills points out the changed stance of Indiana's Republican governor on deficit reduction, and how the change indicates that the issue "is not an ultimate priority for either party."

# Sarah Lawrence College Student Awarded Prestigious Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Argentina

Date: May 18, 2011

[News Release](#) [Humanities](#) [Modern Languages and Literatures](#) [Students](#)

Sarah Lawrence College senior Maggie Murphy has received a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship for 2011-2012 and will spend the year in Argentina teaching English to young students.

"We have a long history of helping our graduating seniors apply for and secure Fulbright Fellowships," says Allen Green, Dean of Studies and Student Life. "Maggie is a great example of the type of SLC student whose passion and experience speaks to what Fulbright is all about."

Murphy has led art classes for immigrant children, taught ESL at a summer camp, and worked with autistic teens in Canada through Best Buddies, an organization dedicated to creating opportunities for one-to-one friendships.

"Working with young adults has been the basis of all my volunteerism," said Murphy. "Teaching English abroad, whether in a home for abandoned girls in Jaipur, India, or in a Granada classroom, in my experience, has been the key vehicle in establishing meaningful inter-cultural understanding."

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has given approximately 300,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists and scientists the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

For more information on the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, contact [Beverly Fox](#) » [ <mailto:bfox@sarahlawrence.edu> ], associate dean of studies.

# SLC to pilot student voter registration initiative

Date: May 18, 2011

[News Release](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Politics](#) [SLC](#) [Faculty](#) [Alums](#)

Beginning this fall, Sarah Lawrence College will implement provisions of proposed legislation intended to increase the number of eligible students registered to vote, introduced in the New York State Senate by Jeffrey Klein (Bronx, Westchester), and cosponsored by 10 other senators.

The College will facilitate the voter registration process on campus by making both the New York State and the national registration forms available when students register for their courses and provide collection points for them as required in the bill, SB 542. An endowed fund will support a paid student worker to provide information and assist students. The local League of Women Voters will also provide counsel and assistance on campus, as they have done for many years. Students and faculty members will further encourage voter registration by organizing discussion forums, speakers and civic-related activities on campus.

At a press conference on May 5, Sarah Lawrence politics faculty member David Peritz announced the new procedures the College will follow. He noted that the entire faculty unanimously voted to endorse BS542, an act to amend the election law in relation to voter registration enrollment. "As a faculty, we encourage our students to be informed participants at all levels of American politics, and recognize that current registration procedures often raise obstacles for students attending residential colleges," he said.

Citing a study that looked at numbers of students registered to vote, conducted several years ago, Klein said that colleges, particularly private colleges, did not do a very good job of advising students how to register. "We have to look for ways to get more and more young people active in the political process," he said. "Voting is the most important thing you can do to effect change, which is why students should be educated on the voting process so their voices can be heard. We need to replicate what Sarah Lawrence is doing on their campus on every campus in the state of New York," declared Klein.

Working with such organizations as the New York Public Interest Group, New York University Law School Brennan Center for Justice, DEMOS, legislators, elected student leaders and other voter registration advocates, principal author of the legislation and founder of The Help Students Vote! Coalition, Pamela Julian '09, recruited the essential support for this student voter registration initiative. She has also launched similar efforts in her home state of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and in Washington D.C. Julian's work began as an academic project while a student of much admired Sarah Lawrence politics faculty member Raymond Seidelman.

"Pamela began this effort as a student in a fieldwork placement sponsored by our late colleague, and his influence continues," said politics faculty member Peritz. "It is especially appropriate that the pilot project for this legislation begin at this College. We believe it will demonstrate the relatively easy steps that schools can take to encourage their students to participate in American democracy and society."

Julian read a frequently repeated declaration Seidelman impressed upon his students: "Democracy is not what we have. It is what we aspire to be. So dare to aspire to it, for in the process you become a democratic citizen. It takes courage to live as a democratic citizen. That's why we fight for it. This will involve you at great risk, but it's worth it because it will make you free."

Yonkers City Council President Chuck Lesnick, stating that there is "nothing like a good issue to motivate young people to vote," noted in his remarks that the youth segment of the population is the cohort that votes the least.

Politics faculty member Samuel Abrams added: "Political science has observed a generational decline in turnout over time, and this may help reverse such a trend. We know that voting tends to be a habitual act, so those who

vote and become civically active when they first are eligible tend to be life-long voters. As turnout is generally low in the United States, this may help increase turnout and promote the basic idea that people should participate in electoral politics in modern democracies."

Olivia "Vicki" Ford '60, a former councilwoman for the town of Eastchester and an alumna and trustee of Sarah Lawrence, added her voice of support. "I came from Minnesota, the heartland, and I found a new identity at Sarah Lawrence College as I found adulthood. Sarah Lawrence is making it possible for those turning 18 to take on the commitment of being good citizens, one of the most important things that can happen in their lives. It is time for every citizen in this country to shoulder the responsibility of our freedom," she said.

## J.J. Abrams '88 produces two new shows for television's fall season

Date: May 19, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Filmmaking](#) [Writing](#) [Alums](#)

*The Washington Post* » [ [http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/tv-column-new-shows-of-interest-cbs-trots-out-a-twist-from-jj-abrams/2011/05/18/AFnFvk6G\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/tv-column-new-shows-of-interest-cbs-trots-out-a-twist-from-jj-abrams/2011/05/18/AFnFvk6G_story.html) ] previews the new television show *Person of Interest* from executive producer J.J. Abrams '88; the show is hailed as "CBS's highest-testing drama pilot in 15 years." Abrams is also executive producer of *Alcatraz*, picked up by FOX for the upcoming season and previewed by *Entertainment Weekly* » [ <http://insidetv.ew.com/2011/05/18/alcatraz-abrams/> ].

# Students place second in worldwide "Rise Pakistan" competition

Date: May 19, 2011

News Release Science and Mathematics Students

Sarah Lawrence College first-year students Jackie Assar and Garin Kessler and two students from NYU were among ten teams selected from among worldwide finalists in the "RISE (Road to Innovative Social Entrepreneurship) Pakistan" competition, which was held at the University of Chicago May 19-22. The students placed second in the competition and received "tremendous praise" for their concept.

Titled VOWs (Village Opportunity Workshops), the SLC-NYU team's project design combines the concepts of direct foreign investment, microcredit, and local sustainable production. The goal for each workshop is to employ residents of a given community to create handmade crafts, which will be sold through partnerships developed with businesses that have similar missions such as Macy's Shop For A Better World and Ten Thousand Villages as well as university bookstores.

The VOWs organization, explained Assar, will also establish clubs at colleges and universities that will actively sell the products and subsequently educate their schools and communities on the impact of social entrepreneurship. Assar elaborated on their concept, which envisions powering the workshops with micro-hydro power: "A Village Opportunity Workshop employs residents of a given community in Pakistan to create many of the handmade crafts endemic to their culture, and provides them with a gateway to the opportunity of the Western export market. VOWs will directly address issues of flood relief and prevention in several ways. First, they will employ those whose economic livelihoods were destroyed by the floods with living rather than minimum wages that will allow the employed to not only survive but to save money and improve their quality of life. Second, their profits will give villagers the resources to proactively respond to the long-term threats of flooding. Additionally, outside of the field of flood relief, VOWs provide the potential for an economic revolution in Pakistani villages—a revolution that employs men and women, and helps educate their children, all through the power of exchange rates."

The students are currently looking for ways to make their idea become a reality.

## Vogue profiles author and historian Amanda Foreman '91

Date: May 25, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Filmmaking Writing History Writing Alums

In its June issue, *Vogue* » [ [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A\\_3811](http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3811) ] profiles historian and author Amanda Foreman '91 and reviews her highly anticipated second book, *A World on Fire: Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War*, which is currently in pre-production as a BBC/HBO miniseries. Gabrielle Tana '85 produced *The Duchess*, a movie based on *Foreman's first book* Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, and is currently developing a four-year series for BBC Worldwide based on unused material from the book. In the article, Tana says of Foreman: "She makes her subjects vibrant and alive, and there's an enthusiasm and excitement in the ways she looks at things."

» [ [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A\\_3811](http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3811) ]

## Media outlets cover Commencement 2011 and keynote address by Arianna Huffington

Date: May 25, 2011

In the News SLC

Sarah Lawrence held its 83rd Commencement » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/news-events/commencement/index.html> ] on Friday, May 20, 2011. Media mogul Arianna Huffington delivered the keynote address, and received a standing ovation from parents and students. Local publications *Westchester Magazine* » [ <http://www.westchestermagazine.com/Blogs/Poptional-Reading/May-2011/Commencing-the-Rest-of-Your-Life/> ] and *New Rochelle Patch* » [ <http://newrochelle.patch.com/articles/arianna-huffington-delivers-keynote-speech-at-sarah-lawrence-commencement-ceremony> ] covered Huffington's speech, as did blogs *Top Colleges* » [ <http://www.top-colleges.com/blog/2011/05/19/the-art-of-the-celebrity-commencement-address/> ] and *The Grindstone* » [ <http://the grindstone.com/role-models/arianna-huffington-told-sarah-lawrence-graduates-getting-dumped-may-be-the-best-thing-to-happen-to-you/> ].

» [ <http://the grindstone.com/role-models/arianna-huffington-told-sarah-lawrence-graduates-getting-dumped-may-be-the-best-thing-to-happen-to-you/> ]

## Recent grads talk about the future and how SLC has prepared them for what's ahead

Date: May 26, 2011

In the News Science and Mathematics Humanities Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Alums Students

In the *Bronxville Patch* » [ <http://bronxville.patch.com/articles/sarah-lawrence-college-graduates-optimistic-about-future> ], recent graduates Emily Krupin '11, Maggie Murphy '11, and Max Mallory '11 talk about their future plans and how their Sarah Lawrence education has prepared them. Krupin summed things up by describing the impact of her education: "I can deal with any situation as it comes up."

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills praises author Christopher Hitchens in *The Guardian*

Date: May 26, 2011

In the News Humanities Writing Literature Writing Faculty

In *The Guardian* » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/may/25/christopher-hitchens-cancer> ] (UK), Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills praises the *Vanity Fair* essays of Christopher Hitchens, which for the last year have chronicled the author's battle with cancer.

## *The New York Times* profiles filmmaker J.J. Abrams '88

Date: May 31, 2011

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

*The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/29/magazine/filmmaker-j-j-abrams-is-a-crowd-teaser.html?\\_r=1&pagewanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/29/magazine/filmmaker-j-j-abrams-is-a-crowd-teaser.html?_r=1&pagewanted=print) ] profiles the life and work of J.J. Abrams '88, who attended Sarah Lawrence instead of USC at the urging of his father, who "didn't want him to focus too soon on one trade alone." While studying many subjects at SLC, and prior to graduation, Abrams wrote and sold a screenplay that later became the 1990 comedy *Taking Care of Business*. His current projects include the feature film *Super 8*, which opens in theatres in early June, and the new fall TV shows *Alcatraz* and *Person of Interest*.

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills examines the relationships between American presidents and Israeli prime ministers in *World Policy* blog

Date: May 31, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Humanities History Politics Literature Faculty

In a *World Policy* » [ <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2011/05/26/enduring-tension> ] blog, Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills takes a historical look at the "tension between American presidents and Israeli prime ministers," likening the current situation of President Obama to that of Harry Truman in the late 1940s.



## Politics faculty member Sam Abrams cited in *Economist* article on Israel's role in American politics

Date: May 31, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Politics Faculty

Politics faculty member Sam Abrams is cited in an article in *The Economist* » [ <http://www.economist.com/node/18744129> ] entitled, "The Kosherest Nosh Ever," which explores the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the attachment of American Jews to Israel, and the political implications of both for Democrats and Republicans.

## Richard Morais '81 reviews Dean Jerrilynn Dodds' award-winning book in *The Huffington Post*

Date: May 31, 2011

In the News History and the Social Sciences Humanities Creative and Performing Arts Religion  
History Writing Writing Administration Alums

Richard Morais '81, author of *The Hundred-Foot Journey* and the forthcoming *Buddhaland Brooklyn*, penned a review in *The Huffington Post* » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/richard-c-morais/post\\_2071\\_b\\_868476.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/richard-c-morais/post_2071_b_868476.html) ] of *The Arts of Intimacy: Christians, Jews, and Muslims in the Making of Castilian Culture*, which was co-authored by Dean of the College Jerrilynn Dodds. The book was named a Book of the Year by *The Times Literary Supplement* and won the 2010 Albert C. Outler Book Prize.

# Battle of the Bands Debuts at SLC

Date: Jun 3, 2011

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Students

There was a frenetic energy in the crowd packed into the Blue Room—this was like every 15 minutes, everybody in the room was getting an adrenaline shot straight to the arteries. At the first-ever Battle of the Bands in April, each of the seven music acts had just 15 minutes in the limelight, which made for a high-intensity show. "It was definitely a different energy—there was no sound check, and you only had so much time for your band, so that made it really high octane," recalls Racecar Racecar drummer Sam Monaco '11.

Victory would go to the most popular band, as determined by a decibel meter manned by a member of the Sarah Lawrence Activities Council, which sponsored the event.

The Battle of the Bands featured a variety of musical acts from the campus music community. Andrew Sarrion '13, who played with the energetic rock band No Johns, enjoyed the diversity of the groups performing: "There was a startup aspect to it. We all knew of each other before the Battle of the Bands, but I finally got to hear what these other guys were doing.." Monaco adds that the fixed set times and brutally short set changes spurred a new degree of communication between performers just to keep the music going: "We all had to work together. There was definitely a sense of camaraderie to it."

The event also brought new audiences to some of the performers. While rockers Racecar Racecar, girl-punk outfit Slothrust, and recently formed blues-rock group The Thirds were Blue Room veterans, left-field rappers Chantz Erolin '14 and Phaedo (Matt Nestor '11) had spent more time performing at Black Squirrel open mics—and No Johns and the instrumentalists in Nicolas hadn't played on campus before, period. "I feel like the audience was sort of sectioned up, and that it was up to us as performers to bridge that divide," Erolin said. "Some kids came for *not you*, so the challenge was to win over the whole audience. I enjoy that kind of challenge."

In the end, Slothrust and The Thirds tied for first place, both hitting maximum levels of applause noise on the decibel meter. They cordially agreed to share the prizes: a \$300 gift card to Guitar Center and an opportunity to play at Bacchanalia, the end-of-year music fest.

# Three Sarah Lawrence College Alumnae Awarded Citations for Achievement

Date: Jun 3, 2011

News Release Humanities History and the Social Sciences Creative and Performing Arts  
Science and Mathematics Alums

Brooke D. Anderson '86, Joyce Zankel Lindorff '71, and Nell Minow '74 will be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in government and public service, music and education, and corporate governance, respectively, during Reunion Weekend at Sarah Lawrence College taking place June 4-5.

Fifteen years ago, the Sarah Lawrence Alumnae/i Association established an annual recognition program to honor outstanding Sarah Lawrence alumnae/i. The Citation for Achievement is given to a person or persons whose work embodies the values and ideals of a Sarah Lawrence education, with the understanding that there is no one yardstick for achievement. Previous winners include vocalist Meredith Monk '64, actress Jane Alexander '61, neuroscientist W. Ian Lipkin '74, film director Jonathan Avnet '71, novelist Allan Gurganus '72, Barbara Taylor Bowman '50, early childhood expert and co-founder of the [Erikson Institute](http://www.erikson.edu) » [ <http://www.erikson.edu> ], and Joan Rosen Marks '51, director emerita of the [Human Genetics Graduate Program](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/genetic-counseling/index.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/genetic-counseling/index.html> ] at Sarah Lawrence, the first and largest program in genetic counseling.

**Ambassador Brooke D. Anderson '86** is Deputy Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff and Counselor for the National Security Staff at the White House. Respected for her expertise in nonproliferation, her experience as a US ambassador representing the United States at the United Nations, and her service in top-level positions in the US Department of Energy, US Congress, and nonprofit sectors, Anderson got her start working in the international arena with an internship at the UN during her senior year at Sarah Lawrence. From 2009 to 2011, Anderson served at the United States Mission to the United Nations. She also served as Policy Advisor and Senior National Security Spokesperson for President Barack Obama's transition team. From 2001 to 2008, Anderson was a senior official at the nonprofit Nuclear Threat Initiative working to reduce global threats from nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, and she was co-director of the Nuclear Security Project, which advances concrete steps toward the goal of a world without nuclear weapons. Anderson also served at the White House in the Clinton Administration.



Harpichordist **Joyce Zankel Lindorff '71** has performed in concert halls all over the world. She has also taught music in Asia for six years, including positions at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Hong Kong Baptist University, and Xi'an Conservatory of Music. While in Asia, she conducted groundbreaking research on the history of harpsichord in China and became an expert on Teodorico Pedrini and Tomas Pereira, European music masters to the Chinese court during the Baroque period. Lindorff has been a Fulbright Scholar as well as the recipient of a Pro Musicis Artist Award and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The first to record the complete *Rossignoto* by Alessandro Poglietti, Lindorff's performance earned high praise from music critics, who called it "absolutely breathtaking." Lindorff also co-founded and directed the summer Baroque music festival *Music at Fishs Eddy*. Holding a doctorate from Juilliard, she is currently professor of keyboard studies at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance.



**Nell Minow '74** has followed unlikely parallel careers; she's an award-winning corporate watchdog—and a popular family movie critic. Minow is the Risky Business columnist for Bnet, the hub of the CBS Interactive Business Network, and serves on the board of Governance Metrics International, an independent research firm leading the charge for corporate transparency and accountability. The firm was formerly known as The Corporate Library, for which she was editor and co-founder. *Directorship* magazine named her one of the field's 20 most influential people, *BusinessWeek* online called her “the queen of good corporate governance,” and she received the prestigious International Corporate Governance Network Award in 2008. Minow, previously an attorney with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Department of Justice, is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School. In addition to providing analysis of investment and litigation risk and corporate board effectiveness for numerous publications, she co-authored three books on corporate governance, authored *The Movie Mom's Guide to Family Movies*, and reviews movies and DVDs for newspapers, on radio, and for her blog, *The Movie Mom*.



# The Child Development Institute at Sarah Lawrence College and Groundwork Hudson Valley to host "Pop-Up Adventure Playground"

Date: Jun 6, 2011

News Release Child Development Art of Teaching CDI ECC Faculty SLC

On Sunday, June 19, The Child Development Institute (CDI) at Sarah Lawrence College and Groundwork Hudson Valley will host a Father's Day "Pop-Up Adventure Playground" for children (ages two and up) to create their own play adventures as they manipulate loose play parts, including cardboard boxes, wood, tires, fabric, etc., which will all be provided free of all charge at the site.

The pop-up adventure playground will be held from noon to 4 p.m. at Sullivan Oval Park and Playground on Spruce Street next to School 23 in Yonkers. The pop-up adventure playground will be dedicated solely to children's play with trained play-workers, participants of CDI's Facilitating Play Program, on site to help inspire and enable unstructured free play.

Barbara Schecter and Margery Franklin of the Sarah Lawrence Child Development Institute remarked: "Opportunities for free play are essential for children to develop initiative, problem-solving strategies, imagination and creative thinking. Pop-up adventure playgrounds offer a stimulating play environment by providing the space and materials for exploration, movement, and innovation. Parents and other adults will learn a great deal about children and their play from standing at the sidelines and observing what goes on."

The Child Development Institute was established in 1987 to develop programs for early childhood and elementary school teachers, administrators, child development professionals, parents and the community. Through the Empowering Teachers Program, The Learning Child Series, conferences, lectures, and occasional papers » [ <http://www.slc.edu/adult-professional/cdi/research/papers/index.html> ], the Child Development Institute provides a progressive perspective on child development and education.

Groundwork Hudson Valley is a non-profit organization located in Yonkers, NY whose mission is to foster and awaken the potential of Yonkers neighborhoods by working with the community to improve the physical environment. In doing so, Groundwork hopes to help Yonkers neighborhoods gain a renewed sense of place, opportunity, and pride.

For additional information regarding the playground, please contact Anais Murphy at (914) 395-2630.

## Poetry Northwest pays tribute to Pulitzer Prize-winner Carolyn Kizer '45

Date: Jun 7, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

In a profile of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Carolyn Kizer '45 by Julie Muhlstein of Washington's *Daily Herald* » [ <http://heraldnet.com/article/20110605/NEWS01/706059893> ], Muhlstein's mother Jeanne Tiefel reflects on her friendship with Kizer. In related news, the Spring/Summer issue of *Poetry Northwest* » [ <http://www.poetrynw.org/2011/04/spring-summer-2011-now-available/> ] pays tribute to Kizer, the founding editor, with commentary honoring her place in American poetry.

» [ <http://www.poetrynw.org/2011/04/spring-summer-2011-now-available/> ]

## Jake Szczpek '07 featured in reimagining of Stravinsky's "Histoire du Soldat"

Date: Jun 7, 2011

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Dance Dance Alums

*The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/05/arts/music/stravinskys-histoire-du-soldat-updated.html?\\_r=1&scp=1&sq=histoire du Soldat&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/05/arts/music/stravinskys-histoire-du-soldat-updated.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=histoire%20du%20Soldat&st=cse) ] profiles the current reimagining of Igor Stravinsky's 1918 music-theatre piece, "Histoire du Soldat," which features Jake Szczpek '07 dancing as the Soldier.

## Ann Patchett '85 publishes new novel, reflects on SLC teachers who "changed [her] life"

Date: Jun 10, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

In a review of her new book *State of Wonder* in *The Guardian* » [ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2011/jun/10/ann-patchett-life-writing-interview> ] (UK), Ann Patchett '85 says, "I had a couple of teachers in college who changed my life," referring to Allan Gurganus '72 and the late Grace Paley. She reflects on how each of them influenced her writing and development as an individual. Patchett also appeared on public radio's *The Diane Rehm Show* » [ <http://thedianerehmshow.org/shows/2011-06-08/ann-patchett-state-wonder> ] in advance of the book's release.

## Daniel Horowitz '13 presents documentary film on comic book culture

Date: Jun 10, 2011

[In the News](#) [Creative and Performing Arts](#) [Writing](#) [Filmmaking](#) [Visual Arts](#) [Students](#)

In [Platform Nation](http://www.platformnation.com/2011/06/01/comic-relief-the-premier-new-york-comic-con-documentary-is-released/) » [ <http://www.platformnation.com/2011/06/01/comic-relief-the-premier-new-york-comic-con-documentary-is-released/> ], Daniel Horowitz '13 presents a write up and full-length video of *Comic Relief*, his short documentary that gives an insider's look at the eclectic culture and community surrounding comic books.

## Dancers Jon Kinzel MFA '09 and Neil Greenberg '08 featured in revival of *Beau Regard*

Date: Jun 10, 2011

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

[The New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/08/arts/dance/susan-rethorst-deconstructs-dance-making-at-danspace-project.html) » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/08/arts/dance/susan-rethorst-deconstructs-dance-making-at-danspace-project.html> ] reviews the revival of renowned choreographer Susan Rethorst's *Beau Regard* (1989), featuring Jon Kinzel MFA '09 and Neil Greenberg '08. *Beau Regard* is part of Danspace Project's latest Platform series, entitled Susan Rethorst: Retro(intro)spective.

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills looks at the history of NYC's High Line on CNN.com

Date: Jun 10, 2011

[In the News](#) [Humanities](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

In a special opinion piece to [CNN](http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/06/10/mills.reclaim.urban.ruins/) » [ <http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/06/10/mills.reclaim.urban.ruins/> ] entitled, "New York City reclaims its ruins," Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills marks the opening of the second section of the High Line park by looking back at the history of the project and how the idea is spreading to other urban areas.

## Health Advocacy faculty member Laura Weil MA '94 quoted in *Parade* article on advocacy in today's health care system

Date: Jun 14, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Health Advocacy](#) [Alums](#) [Faculty](#)

Health Advocacy faculty member Laura Weil MA '94 is quoted in a *Parade* » [ <http://www.parade.com/health/stay-healthy/2011/06/12-health-advocate.html> ] magazine article on the benefits of hiring a health advocate, explaining that "advocates can help you get the information you need to understand test results, find specialists, and choose the right treatment."

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills looks at commencement from a teacher's point of view in *Huffington Post*

Date: Jun 14, 2011

[In the News](#) [Humanities](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills reflects on commencement from a teacher's perspective in a *Huffington Post* » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/parents-grads-and-the-end\\_b\\_875764.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nicolaus-mills/parents-grads-and-the-end_b_875764.html) ] blog.

## Health Advocacy faculty member Laura Weil MA '94 selected by NRC as patients' rights advocate on medical use of isotopes

Date: Jun 16, 2011

[In the News](#) [Health Advocacy](#) [Alums](#) [Faculty](#)

Health Advocacy faculty member Laura Weil MA '94 has been selected by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission » [ <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2011/11-110.pdf> ] to be the patients' rights advocate on the agency's Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI). Weil, who was selected from among 10 nominees for the position, was chosen for both her extensive practical experience and academic background in patient advocacy.



## SLC's summer programs featured in article on the benefits of going back to school when looking to meet people

Date: Jun 21, 2011

In the News SLC

A story on [lifegoeststrong.com](http://lifegoeststrong.com) » [ <http://play.lifegoeststrong.com/searching-new-bff-take-summer-course> ], a network of sites catering to people between the ages of 45-65, extolls the benefits of going back to school for people looking to make new friends, specifically citing SLC's extensive [summer offerings](https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/summer/index.html) » [ <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/summer/index.html> ].

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills praises "political courage" of Senators McCain and Graham on CNN.com

Date: Jun 22, 2011

In the News Humanities History and the Social Sciences Politics Literature Faculty

In a [CNN](http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/06/22/mills.courage.libya/) » [ <http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/06/22/mills.courage.libya/> ] opinion piece, Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills praises Republican senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham for their decisions to support President Obama's sending of military aid to America's NATO allies in their air war against Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Their decisions, says Mills, are "acts of political courage in a time of intense partisanship."

## Art History faculty emeritus Philip Gould discusses imprisoned Chinese artist Ai Weiwei

Date: Jun 22, 2011

In the News Humanities History and the Social Sciences Asian Studies Art History Politics Faculty

In [Williamsburg Greenpoint News + Arts](http://thewgnews.com/2011/06/ai-weiwei-recognized-by-an-american-scholar-25-years-ago/) » [ <http://thewgnews.com/2011/06/ai-weiwei-recognized-by-an-american-scholar-25-years-ago/> ], art critic Sarah Schermer interviews Art History faculty emeritus Philip Gould about the intricacies of Eastern and Western art and incarcerated Chinese artist Ai Weiwei. In speaking of the plight of Weiwei, Gould sums up the situation by saying, "Artists, in general, are a threat to the status quo because they inevitably express the sentiments that infuse society. Artists are political whether they realize it or not."

## Writing faculty member Jo Ann Beard's new book *In Zanesville* earning rave reviews

Date: Jun 22, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

*Chronogram Magazine* » [ <http://www.chronogram.com/issue/2011/5/Books/The-Girls-of-Her-Youth> ] profiles writing faculty member Jo Ann Beard and reviews her new book *In Zanesville*, which also received a favorable review by *Publishers Weekly*. Raved the *Weekly* review: "Beard is a faultless chronicler of the young and hopeful; readers couldn't ask for a better guide through the wilds of adolescence."

# Video Games and the Future of Fiction

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Creative and Performing Arts Writing Computer Science  
Writing SLC

Think about the last story you read. Did it end the way you wanted it to? Were you disappointed with any decisions the author made, and how you weren't able to alter the course of events?

If your answer is yes, Noah Wardrip-Fruin understands, and would probably suggest you start playing video games. Wardrip-Fruin teaches computer science at UC Santa Cruz, where he co-directs one of the world's largest technical research groups focused on games. At a talk at Sarah Lawrence in April, he said he believes the future of fiction belongs to those who can both write great stories and great computer systems.

Wardrip-Fruin showed a variety of clips from video games old and new, such as *Dragon's Lair* (a 1983 laserdisc video game), *The Sims* (a real-life simulation first released in 2000), and *Uncharted II: Among Thieves* (an action-adventure game released in 2009). He used each example to demonstrate how much autonomy the player has in controlling the game's outcomes. As gaming technology has evolved, he says, the level of control given to the player has increased.

Wardrip-Fruin compares the tension between story development and player control to written storytelling. Referencing older, less sophisticated video games such as *Dragon's Lair*, Wardrip-Fruin says, "You could make one choice at any given time, and that choice was either the right one, in which case you saw the next video clip, or the wrong one, in which case you die." The story was static and controlled, much as it is in a novel.

But this is no longer the case. Now games are becoming capable of creating stories in ways that few art forms, including film, can replicate. Small choices made by the player alter the outcome of the game's overarching story, and myriad options can unfold.

Wardrip-Fruin argues that because of this, video games have the potential to be about more than just fighting villains and managing the amount of ammunition you need to survive. As the technology evolves, he hopes that players' actions and choices become so real that their choices are questions of morality.

"We want something more," he argues. "We want game systems that engage issues like how we think about the world, how we relate to each other, how we craft fictions." We can interrogate our own responsibilities in the world, he says, by modeling them in the game world.

# Work in Progress: Eileen Cheng, History faculty

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story History and the Social Sciences History Faculty

Politics makes strange bedfellows—even when you're a historian, says Eileen Cheng (history).

Case in point: during and after the Revolutionary War, some American historians retained British sympathies. These loyalists wrote accounts of the nation's birth that painted the revolutionaries as a disorderly, anarchic rabble.

Years later, in the early 19th century, nationalist historians took a different tack. They de-radicalized the Revolution, creating a conservative, orderly vision of the war, Cheng says. This was a way for them to argue against progressive, rebellious factions of their own day.



Cheng studied these two groups of historians during a recent sabbatical. To the surprise of many, she found that the loyalist historians' attitudes had a significant impact on the nationalist historians of the early 19th century. Though they had different political goals, both groups believed that rapid, revolutionary change was dangerous. In fact, nationalist historians of the early 1800s drew heavily on earlier loyalist writers, sometimes to the point of plagiarism, Cheng says. She's now working on a book based on this research.

## Work in Progress: Kristin Sands

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story Humanities Religion Faculty

An estimated 85 percent of Muslims don't speak Arabic. Even fewer can read Classical Arabic, which renders many religious texts inaccessible to the modern generation. To address this problem, the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought in Jordan has recruited a number of scholars to translate important Qur'anic commentaries into English. One of these scholars is Kristin Sands (Religion), who is translating the *Lata'if al-isharat* (The Subtleties of Allusions) by Abu'l-Qasim al-Qushayri, an 11th-century scholar and Sufi teacher.

Al-Qushayri, like other Sufis, believed that the Qur'an has layers upon layers of meaning that cannot be reduced to one "official" interpretation. Instead, he insisted that the meaning of the Qur'an is uncovered on an ongoing basis by individuals through careful reflection and spiritual practice.

Because the Institute's objective is to make these works broadly accessible, Sands' translation of this six volume work will be published not only in print, but also online, next to the translations of other Qur'anic commentaries.



# Work in Progress: Leah Olson

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Biology Faculty

Why do animals get old and die? And how is diet implicated in the aging process? These are the questions Leah Olson (biology) will discuss in her forthcoming book, *The Fire of Life: The Biology of Living and Dying*.

Caloric restriction diets offer a compelling clue, Olson says. If mice are fed 30 to 40 percent of the calories they need to maintain a "normal" weight, they can live 40 percent longer than the average life span. These dramatic results appear to hold true for other organisms as well.

The antioxidant resveratrol, naturally found in red wine, offers another clue, she says. This compound activates an enzyme that in mice has been shown to significantly reduce the health risks associated with obesity or a diet high in fat and sugar. Resveratrol may not fully explain the "French Paradox"—the observation that the French have a lower incidence of cardiovascular disease despite their atypically high dietary consumption of fats and sugars (along with plenty of red wine)—because the mice in the study received the equivalent of a few thousand liters of wine a day. As it happens, however, the enzyme that resveratrol activates also affects cell aging, and may be related to the positive effects of caloric restriction diets.

# Work in Progress: Malcolm Turvey

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Humanities Film History Filmmaking Visual Arts Faculty

Film is often used as a metaphor for the functioning of the human mind. On a recent sabbatical, Malcolm Turvey (film history) worked on "Film and Mind," a book-length project that examines the tradition of theorizing about the relation between film and mind. Turvey and Richard Allen, a professor from NYU, have been working on the project since 2004.

In the first half of the book, Turvey and his partner excavate this tradition and point out its flaws, such as the loose nature of the analogies that are drawn between film and mental phenomena. The second half aims to clarify certain core psychological concepts in film theory, drawing on the ordinary-language philosophical tradition of Wittgenstein, Austin, and Ryle. They define terms such as "imagination," "see," and "think" —concepts which most film theorists misunderstand and misuse.

Turvey is also writing about the French filmmaker Jacques Tati. No systematic exploration or treatment of his work currently exists, Turvey says. After writing an article on Tati, Turvey won a fellowship to write an in-depth, book-length treatment of his life and work.

Turvey published *The Filming of Modern Life: European Avant-Garde Film of the 1920s* in March 2011.



# Work in Progress: Mary LaChapelle

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Writing Faculty

What journey must a person take to become a hero? Mary LaChapelle (writing) spent her recent time-release grant pondering this question in order to develop a new fiction-writing course. As a result of her answers, she restructured her novel-in-progress, which chronicles a contemporary female's adventures down the Mississippi River.

LaChapelle initially thought her new course would be called "Hero's Journey." She eventually revised the emphasis on a hero's journey, however, because she didn't want her students to be limited by what turned out to be a far too narrow focus.

"The most surprising thing I discovered in the course was how much more the students needed to imagine and understand the nature of their characters' particular agencies," she says. "More than any other workshop, the writers needed to come to terms with the overall meaning of a character's actions in a story."

LaChapelle wanted her students to open their frame of reference and appreciate how characters' actions and values change according to culture and time and circumstances. Thus, the new course title, "Necessary Hero," was born.



# Work in Progress: Nicolaus Mills, Literature faculty

Date: Jun 23, 2011

## Feature Story

Can there be war without sacrifice? Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills used his recent sabbatical to explore this not-so-simple question in his upcoming book, *Season of Fear: 9/11 and the Road to Iraq*.

Mills's research focuses on the period between September 11, 2001, and the American invasion of Iraq on March 20, 2003—a time that Barack Obama labeled a "season of fear." Mills contends that the United States' invasion of Iraq was contingent on a series of cultural forces, including support for the war that came from liberal intellectuals like George Packer and Michael Ignatieff.

Mills's primary concern is that America continues to engage in "war without sacrifice." This doesn't mean that Americans don't get killed, he says, but rather that their deaths touch only their friends and family, not society at large. For most middle-class Americans our wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are barely an inconvenience, he says. Their sons and daughters are not in danger, and their taxes remain historically low.

## Work in Progress: Roland Dollinger, German faculty

Date: Jun 23, 2011

Feature Story Humanities German Modern Languages and Literatures Faculty

Three heavyweight German intellectuals of the early 20th century—Carl Jung, Martin Heidegger, and Gottfried Benn—were avowed anti-Semites. Yet all three had affairs with Jewish women.

Roland Dollinger (German) is examining these relationships in a forthcoming book on German-Jewish relations, which he researched during a recent sabbatical. He will draw connections between the three famous men and the Jewish women with whom they were involved: Sabrina Spielrein, Hannah Arendt, and Else Lasker Schuler.

The women all became highly significant writers and intellectuals in their own right, although they were threatened by the Nazis' rise to power. Arendt and Schuler had to flee the country, while Spielrein fell victim to their mass murder.

In his book, Dollinger—a native of Augsburg, Germany—will explore how these complicated romantic and political experiences affected the writers' intellectual legacies. The book will be written for popular, rather than academic, audiences.



## Music faculty member Matt Wilson named Drummer of the Year by Jazz Journalists Association

Date: Jun 24, 2011

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

Music faculty member Matt Wilson was voted Drummer of the Year by the [Jazz Journalists Association](#) » [ <http://www.jjazwards.org/2011/06/2011-winners-jja-jazz-awards.html> ]. The award was announced at the 15th annual JJA Jazz Awards in early June.

## Rebecca Keith '07, Mira Ptacin '09, and Alex Dimitrov '09 featured in *Daily News* article on MFA graduates

Date: Jun 24, 2011

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

The [New York Daily News](#) » [ [http://www.nydailynews.com/ny\\_local/2011/06/23/2011-06-23\\_new\\_york\\_writers\\_with\\_mfa\\_begin\\_new\\_chapter\\_with\\_readings\\_and\\_projects.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2011/06/23/2011-06-23_new_york_writers_with_mfa_begin_new_chapter_with_readings_and_projects.html) ] interviews three Sarah Lawrence College MFA graduates, Rebecca Keith '07, Mira Ptacin '09, and Alex Dimitrov '09, who have each started reading series in their communities as they look to establish themselves while pursuing literary careers.

## Author Dani Shapiro '83 remembers the late Esther Broner of the writing faculty

Date: Jun 27, 2011

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

In [The Huffington Post](#) » [ [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dani-shapiro/on-the-death-of-a-mentor\\_b\\_884800.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dani-shapiro/on-the-death-of-a-mentor_b_884800.html) ], bestselling author Dani Shapiro '83 reflects on the influence of the late Esther Broner, an important faculty mentor to her during her years at Sarah Lawrence.

# Kaia Zimmerman '14 to travel through New England exclusively by bicycle to raise awareness of fossil fuel consumption

Date: Jun 27, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Painting Visual Arts  
Economics Environmental Studies Students

*The Worcester Telegram* » [ <http://www.telegram.com/article/20110625/NEWS/106259952/1246> ] reports that Kaia Zimmerman '14 will be one of several college students traveling throughout New England this summer exclusively by bicycle for Climate Summer, an internship program that is part of the Better Future Project, a non-profit organization working to build a world free of fossil fuels.

# Newly Tenured Faculty: Jeffrey McDaniel

Date: Jul 5, 2011

Feature Story Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

**Discipline** Writing

**Courses** *Masks, Personae, and the Literal I; The (So-Called) Confessional Poets; The Image Factory*

**Favorite writers** Two I admire a great deal are Dostoyevsky and Baudelaire

**Favorite poet** I would be very interested to read a fusion of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson. In some alternate reality, a scientist has the DNA of various poets and is able to blend them like spices.

**Favorite thing in your office** An Anna Akhmatova poster I got in Russia, and a picture of my daughter

**Worst poem** Got to write the bad ones to get to the good ones

**Best trip** A 29-day trip to Asia I took with my wife in 2006. We went to Tokyo, Kyoto, Angkor Wat, Luang Prabang, Bangkok, and Chiang Mai

**Worst job** One of the hardest physically was working on a loading dock after my sophomore year of college, unloading trucks in South Philly

**If not yourself, who would you be?** My shadow

**Real life heroes** I was very impressed by that pilot, Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, who guided his plane into the Hudson with both engines out.

**Natural talent you'd like to be gifted with?** The ability to levitate on command

**Best event at SLC** I'm biased towards the annual Dead Poets Slam

**Favorite motto** I don't know about mottos but here's a line by W.S. Merwin: "the lightning has shown me the scars of the future"

**Technology you can't live without** Well, electricity is pretty important.

**Books on your nightstand** I wish I could say something smart like Marcus Aurelius, but the truth is I generally don't read in my bed. Right now I'm reading parts of an Emerson biography, Jennifer Egan's new book, and *To The End of the Land* by David Grossman.

**Vices** I am wondering if there is a connection between the two meanings of vice, like if the metal tool with movable jaws is a metaphor for the psychic consequence of wicked, immoral behavior. Either way, the answer this month is Earl Grey.

**What do you love about Sarah Lawrence students?** How they continue to surprise me.

**What do you love about teaching at Sarah Lawrence?** I do not have to convert anyone to poetry. Poets are taken seriously here. And there is so much trust and freedom—the administration allows the faculty a great deal of latitude when creating courses, and the faculty allows the student a great deal of latitude when it comes to learning.

## Lauren Busser '12 recalls freeing experience of dressing up as *Harry Potter* character in the *Hartford Courant*

Date: Jul 7, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Students

In an opinion piece in the *Hartford Courant* » [ <http://www.courant.com/news/opinion/hc-op-busser-fresh-talk-harry-potter-20110706,0,3764319.story> ], Lauren Busser '12 recalls her experience of dressing up as Bellatrix Lestrange at a screening of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallow Part 1* last year. The piece was originally written for Busser's Nonfiction Essay class, and was edited for timeliness.

## Play by Theatre faculty member Lucy Thurber to be showcased alongside works by Sam Shepard, David Mamet

Date: Jul 7, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Faculty

*The Washington Post* » [ [http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/backstage-contemporary-american-theater-festival/2011/07/05/gHQAF44pzH\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/backstage-contemporary-american-theater-festival/2011/07/05/gHQAF44pzH_story.html) ] reports that "The Insurgents," a play written by theatre faculty member Lucy Thurber, will be one of five productions showcased at the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, starting July 8. Thurber's play will be staged alongside works by theater icons Sam Shepard and David Mamet.

## Ohio Theatre to re-open as Ohio West under the direction of Theatre faculty member Robert Lyons

Date: Jul 7, 2011

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Theatre Faculty

*Timeout New York* » [ <http://newyork.timeout.com/arts-culture/theater/1629173/report-ohio-theatre-and-the-ice-factory> ] reports that the Ohio Theatre will re-open this fall and be renamed Ohio West. Robert Lyons, director of the Ohio Theatre since 1987, is also the creative director of the theatre program at Sarah Lawrence.

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills likens battle over debt ceiling to a battle over the American dream on CNN.com

Date: Jul 11, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Humanities](#) [Public Policy](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

In a special opinion piece to [CNN](#) » [ [http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/07/08/mills.debt.dream/index.html?hpt=op\\_t1](http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/07/08/mills.debt.dream/index.html?hpt=op_t1) ], Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills likens the battle between President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans over raising the debt ceiling to a battle over who speaks for the American dream.

## Vice Chair of the Board Mark Goodman '83 publishes new book titled *Defending Corporations and Individuals in Government Investigations*

Date: Jul 11, 2011

[Buzz](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Alums](#) [Administration](#)

Mark Goodman '83, Vice Chair of the SLC Board of Trustees and a partner at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, co-edited the just-published 2011 edition of *Defending Corporations and Individuals in Government Investigations* » [ <http://west.thomson.com/defending-corporations-individuals-in-government-investigations-2011/161391/40824893/productdetail> ]. Goodman also co-authored five chapters of the text, dubbed "an invaluable resource for every white collar lawyer."

## New poetry collection by Writing faculty member Thomas Sayers Ellis reviewed by *New York Journal of Books*

Date: Jul 12, 2011

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

The *New York Journal of Books* » [ <http://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/review/skin-inc-identity-repair-poems> ] reviews *Skin, Inc.: Identity Repair Poems* by Writing faculty member Thomas Sayers Ellis, stating, "The fine and noble tradition of protest poetry is in safe, strong hands with this latest collection."

## Alumna Julianna Margulies receives second straight Emmy nod for role in *The Good Wife*

Date: Jul 18, 2011

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

Numerous media outlets, including the *Los Angeles Times* » [ <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/awards/2011/07/emmy-nominations-jon-hamm-steve-buscemi-kyra-sedgwick-julianna-margulies.html> ] and *Entertainment Weekly* » [ <http://insidetv.ew.com/2011/07/14/emmy-nominations-2011/> ], report that alumna Julianna Margulies has received a second straight Emmy nomination for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series for her role as Alicia Florrick in CBS's *The Good Wife*.

## Dance program director Sara Rudner participating in San Diego's Malashock Dance Summer Intensive

Date: Jul 18, 2011

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

*The San Diego Tribune* » [ <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/jul/17/sara-rudner-the-down-to-earth-diva/> ] profiles dance program director Sara Rudner, who is currently teaching and creating a dance at the Malashock Dance Summer Intensive in San Diego. The profile recalls a performance of Rudner's from last year, which prompted *The New York Times*' chief dance critic Alistair Macauley to call her "the greatest dancer in the world."

## Yvonne Sangudi '10 talks about life as an NBC page in an *E! News* segment

Date: Jul 19, 2011

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

In an *E! News* » [ [http://www.criticalmention.com/components/url\\_gen/play\\_flash.php?autoplay=1&clip\\_info=2105312737|0|59^2105314130|0|59^2105315592|0|59^2105317125|0|8^](http://www.criticalmention.com/components/url_gen/play_flash.php?autoplay=1&clip_info=2105312737|0|59^2105314130|0|59^2105315592|0|59^2105317125|0|8^) ] segment about the NBC Page Program, the highly competitive post-graduation program for those interested in pursuing careers in television broadcasting, Yvonne Sangudi '10 is interviewed about her experiences as a page.



## Jessica DePetro MS' 07 leads field as Staten Island's only genetic counselor specializing in cancer

Date: Jul 22, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [Human Genetics](#) [Alums](#)

[SILive.com](http://www.silive.com) » [ [http://www.silive.com/northshore/index.ssf/2011/07/jessica\\_depetro\\_staten\\_islands.html](http://www.silive.com/northshore/index.ssf/2011/07/jessica_depetro_staten_islands.html) ] profiles Human Genetics graduate program alumna Jessica DePetro MS' 07, Staten Island's only genetic counselor specializing in cancer. She is one of a growing number of genetics counselors in a field that is continually evolving.

## Philosophy faculty member Roy Brand, director of Yaffo 23 gallery, discusses cultural revitalization of Jerusalem in *Jewish Exponent*

Date: Jul 22, 2011

[In the News](#) [Humanities](#) [Philosophy](#) [Faculty](#)

Philosophy faculty member Roy Brand, who has spent his sabbatical from SLC launching the Yaffo 23 gallery in downtown Jerusalem, talks in [Jewish Exponent](http://www.jewishexponent.com/article/24039/Jerusalem_Finds_Its_cultural_Groove/) » [ [http://www.jewishexponent.com/article/24039/Jerusalem\\_Finds\\_Its\\_cultural\\_Groove/](http://www.jewishexponent.com/article/24039/Jerusalem_Finds_Its_cultural_Groove/) ] about the revitalization of Jerusalem's cultural scene.

# Genetics Without Borders

Date: Jul 25, 2011

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Human Genetics Faculty Alums

In America, it's easy to take for granted the availability of testing and medical management for genetic disorders like hereditary cancer, Huntington's disease, or spina bifida. But in underdeveloped countries, genetic testing barely exists.

Sarah Lawrence alumni Lindsey Alico MS '11, Gillian Blaber MS '11, and Ny Hoang MS '11 want that to change. For their thesis work at SLC, they founded [GenetAssist](http://genetassist.blogspot.com/) » [ <http://genetassist.blogspot.com/> ], a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping communities around the world without access to genetic services and counseling.

"In class, we were learning about all these countries where there are genetic disorders and no genetic counselors to help guide people through their diagnoses, or even to provide testing," says Blaber, who is from Ontario. "So we were thinking, 'Why is there no Doctors Without Borders for genetic counseling?' We decided to just do it, and turned the organization into our thesis projects to get it all done."

All three women say they pursued genetic counseling because it's the perfect combination of their love for science and for working with people. Their enthusiasm for their project seems to vibrate around them—and never more so than when they're describing their recent spring break trip to Guatemala to conduct a pilot run of GenetAssist.

Why Guatemala? In the fall of 2010, Guatemalan physician Dr. Marta Julia Ruiz visited Sarah Lawrence and spoke about her work with indigenous Mayan girls and women. At a lunch with Caroline Lieber, director of Sarah Lawrence's Human Genetics program, Dr. Ruiz shared a story of working with a young woman whose baby was born with a birth defect. The baby died without having a diagnosis, and Dr. Ruiz described her anguish in not being able to provide the woman with information for future pregnancies.

This is not an uncommon story in Guatemala, Lieber says. When Dr. Ruiz heard about Alico, Blaber, and Hoang's work, she invited them to come assess the current state of genetic services in Guatemala, and to meet the practitioners caring for individuals and families with genetic conditions.

And that's exactly what they did. Funded by an anonymous grant, Lieber, Alico, Blaber, and Hoang traveled to hospitals and clinics in three major cities in Guatemala in March 2011. They met with dozens of doctors and patients, and conducted surveys to get a sense of where their resources would be most useful. Dr. Ruiz arranged all of the appointments.

Hoang, who was born in Vietnam but grew up in Ontario, Canada, spoke about a particularly moving day when they were encouraged to interact with patients in a hospital.

"Previously, we were just meeting with physicians and hearing what they thought about genetics," she says. But this time, "There was this one girl who was only a couple months old, and she had hydrocephalus, which is fluid build-up inside the skull. We'd all studied the condition in our classes, but seeing it was a completely different experience. I realized in that moment, 'We need to be here.' The people we met could have such better medical care if they had the right resources."

The students were inspired by the overwhelming repetition of needs. Doctors and people in the communities they visited constantly told them that genetics was important and immediately necessary. However, corruption in the Guatemalan government, in addition to widespread poverty, creates a scarcity of staff and resources that would be needed to implement any genetic counseling or testing systems.

What can GenetAssist do to help? And where do they go from here?

“We’re still working with Dr. Ruiz over Skype, and her main goals are to prevent genetic disease through education, and to provide better services for those born with genetic conditions and birth defects,” says Alico, who has wanted to be a genetic counselor since her sophomore year of high school.

“There were so many opportunities for us to come in and help, especially with the education aspect in the clinics,” Hoang adds.

The trio knows that these large goals will be accomplished through smaller, practical steps. Hoang is currently sifting through all of the completed surveys and entering them into a database so they can analyze their data. They are actively searching for grants to help fund further work and travels.

The women also decided to bring GenetAssist under the umbrella of Sarah Lawrence’s 501(c)3 status—an affiliation they plan to maintain so that future Human Genetics graduate students can travel to other countries to help with their work.

“There is so much we want to do to help, so we’re trying to take a step back and see what’s the best thing to do next,” Alico says.

Blaber adds: “With e-mail and Skype, moving forward with GenetAssist is totally doable, even if we’re not living in the same city. After taking this trip, there’s just no way we can’t do it.”

## Alessandro King '09 play wins 2011 Trustus Playwrights Festival, debuts at Trustus Theatre

Date: Jul 27, 2011

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

[Broadwayworld.com](#) » [ <http://baltimore.broadwayworld.com/article/Benny-Goodman-Swings-Onto-The-Trustus-Main-Stage-812-20110726> ] reports that *Swing '39*, winner of the 2011 Trustus Playwrights Festival and written by Alessandro King '09, will make its premiere at the Trustus Theatre in Columbia, South Carolina, on August 12. While at Sarah Lawrence, King was awarded the 2009 Stanley and Evelyn Lipkin Prize for Playwriting.

## New book by Amanda Foreman '91 reviewed in *The New Yorker*

Date: Jul 27, 2011

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

The current issue of *The New Yorker* » [ [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A\\_3924](http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3924) ] reviews *A World on Fire: Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War*, the latest book by Amanda Foreman '91.

## SLC parent Diane Lim Rogers writes about the long-term value of investing in a college education

Date: Jul 27, 2011

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

In *The Christian Science Monitor* » [ <http://www.csmonitor.com/Business/new-economy/2011/0726/Tuition-costs-high.-But-they-earn-15-percent-a-year> ], Diane Lim Rogers, chief economist at the Concord Coalition and parent of an incoming Sarah Lawrence student, writes about the long term value of a college education. She cites the benefits of a Sarah Lawrence education, through which "broader human qualities—such as the ability to notice keenly, reflect deeply, relate sympathetically, and therefore act and react intelligently—are well cultivated in the intensely interactive mentoring environment of a 9-to-1 student-teacher ratio."

## Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills discusses debt ceiling debate in CNN opinion piece

Date: Jul 27, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Humanities](#) [Politics](#) [Literature](#) [Faculty](#)

In a [CNN](http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/07/26/mills.common.purpose/index.html?iref=allsearch) » [ <http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/07/26/mills.common.purpose/index.html?iref=allsearch> ] opinion piece, Literature faculty member Nicolaus Mills laments that while there is a shared fear among Democrats and Republicans about raising America's debt ceiling, "there is no consensus among the two parties on the future, no vibrant belief in the idea that we're all in this together."

## Writing faculty member Kevin Pilkington receives New York Book Festival Award

Date: Jul 27, 2011

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

Writing faculty member Kevin Pilkington has been awarded the 2011 New York Book Festival Award in Poetry for his collection *In the Eyes of a Dog*, as reported by the [Black Lawrence Press News](http://blacklawrence.wordpress.com/2011/07/22/kevin-pilkington-wins-the-2011-new-york-book-festival-award-in-poetry/) » [ <http://blacklawrence.wordpress.com/2011/07/22/kevin-pilkington-wins-the-2011-new-york-book-festival-award-in-poetry/> ].

# Meet Our Newly Tenured Faculty: James Marshall, Computer Science

Date: Jul 28, 2011

Feature Story Science and Mathematics Computer Science Faculty

## Discipline

Computer Science

## Courses

First Year Studies: Achilles, the Tortoise, and the Mystery of the Undecidable; Computer Science: An Accelerated Introduction; Robotics; The Computational Beauty of Nature; Principles of Programming Languages

## Favorite writers

Carl Sagan, Douglas Hofstadter, Arthur C. Clarke

## Technology you can't live without

My Macbook Pro

## Favorite thing in your office

My robots. I recently acquired a couple of humanoids.

## Best trip

Traveling around Europe to visit famous pipe organs. I also spent a month camping and hiking in the Canadian Rockies.

## Worst job

Working in the warehouse of a computer company. Packing boxes isn't all that interesting.

## Natural talent you'd like to be gifted with?

I'd love to be a really good pianist or organist. I'd love to be able to play Bach's Prelude and Fugue in A Minor BWV 543.

## Favorite movie

*2001: A Space Odyssey*

## Vices

Swiss, Italian, or Belgian chocolate

## What do you love about Sarah Lawrence students?

A lot of my students are wonderfully self-motivated, and especially during conference projects, I feel they're teaching me as much as I'm teaching them. One student wanted to study formal logic, so we spent a semester going through a formal logic textbook together. Another student wanted to study the theory of computation, which is a course I took as an undergraduate. We spent a semester doing theory of computation proofs, which helped me to relearn some of the material and get back into that mindset. It felt like we were colleagues for a semester, grappling with these ideas together.

## What do you love about teaching at Sarah Lawrence?

One thing I really like is the flexibility in teaching, and being able to design courses that really excite me. I based my most recent First Year Studies course on Douglas Hofstadter's book *Gödel, Escher, Bach*, which is



one of my very favorite books. I always wanted to design a course around that book, and I was able to do that here. *The Computational Beauty of Nature* explored fractals, chaos theory, and complex systems, all topics that I find fascinating. Another great thing I love is hanging out with my colleagues in the Science and Math faculty group. We talk about quantum computing sometimes, or things like information theory or cognitive science. We often get together for social events and parties, too, which is fun. It's nice that we're all from different disciplines, not just from computer science.

*The New York Times* reviews *Conquistadora*, the new book by Esmeralda Santiago MFA '92, about the life of a plantation mistress

Date: Aug 1, 2011

Buzz Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Alums

*The New York Times* » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/17/books/review/book-review-conquistadora-by-esmeralda-santiago.html?scp=1&sq=esmeraldo+santiago&st=cse> ] reviews *Conquistadora*, the new book by Esmeralda Santiago MFA '92, about the life of a plantation mistress.

*The Queens Ledger* profiles activist Jen Waller '09, who discovered her work interest while at Sarah Lawrence

Date: Aug 1, 2011

In the News Alums

*The Queens Ledger* » [ [http://www.queensledger.com/view/full\\_story/14852837/article-Jen-Waller--Brooklyn-activist](http://www.queensledger.com/view/full_story/14852837/article-Jen-Waller--Brooklyn-activist) ] profiles activist Jen Waller '09, who discovered her work interest while at Sarah Lawrence.

In a Letter to the Editor in *The Wall Street Journal*, President Karen Lawrence dismisses the notion that tenure decisions are based solely on research and publication, rather than on classroom teaching

Date: Aug 1, 2011

In the News President

In a [Letter to the Editor in \*The Wall Street Journal\*](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111903591104576468560241641414.html?KEYWORDS=karen+lawrence) » [ <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111903591104576468560241641414.html?KEYWORDS=karen+lawrence> ], President Karen Lawrence dismisses the notion that tenure decisions are based solely on research and publication, rather than on classroom teaching.



Sloane Tanen '92 talks to *The Santa Barbara Independent* about working with director John Hughes when she was a teenager.

Date: Aug 1, 2011

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

Sloane Tanen '92 [talks to \*The Santa Barbara Independent\*](http://www.independent.com/news/2011/jul/31/sloane-tanen-working-john-hugues-teen/) » [ <http://www.independent.com/news/2011/jul/31/sloane-tanen-working-john-hugues-teen/> ] about working with director John Hughes when she was a teenager. Hughes is the director of iconic teenage movies such as *Sixteen Candles*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Pretty in Pink* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*.

# Someone's There for You

Date: Aug 1, 2011

Feature Story Students

In the middle of a late night study session at 1 A.M., Zac Hewitt '12 sent an urgent text message to Anna Press '13, Parisa Zamanian '13, and Erin Mayer '13, asking them to meet him in the Sarah Lawrence College library immediately.

Hewitt's hurry was because he'd come up with an idea: "Someone's There For You," an online forum where people could share the one thing they most wanted to say. Press loves photography and could take the photos; Zamanian is involved with LGBT issues and outshines most at social organizing and community service; and Mayer would know how to make the project reach beyond Sarah Lawrence—it also doesn't hurt that she is passionate about Tumblr blogs!

Out of their early morning meeting, the blog was birthed, and states simply that its goal is to have people "share messages of hope, optimism, solidarity, and love."

With the help of Student Affairs and College Events, the group hosted a photo shoot a few Sundays after their initial late-night library rendezvous, and over forty students showed up to have photos taken of their messages.

"The response to the project has been overwhelmingly positive," Hewitt says, who hails from Maine but is spending his summer working as a counselor at an art camp in California. The blog currently boasts over seventy posts, and accepts unsolicited submissions.

Each post is a photo of an individual holding up a sign with their message. One student wrote, "Ask a single mother what she needs for her family"; another's sign says, "I heart therapy," in the hopes of dispelling the stigmas associated with mental health; and another quoted Dr. Seuss: "Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you."

Hewitt is a bit reluctant to share the origin of the blog's name.

"It's my mom's fault, really," he says with a smile. "She raised me listening to Cher, and I've always listened to her 'Song for the Lonely.' One of the lines is 'Can you hear this prayer? Cause someone's there for you.'"

Hewitt frequently listens to pop music, and has noticed that popular artists like Katy Perry and Lady Gaga are writing a lot of anthems, and he thinks it's because something is really wrong.

"It's not just that everything 'will be okay,' like a lot of people are saying now," he explains. "There are serious issues we want to address, and we need to figure out what's wrong and say something about it."

So, the only question left is: What do *you* have to say?

## In *The New York Times*, Susan Bell MFA '01 shares her experience of self-publishing her first book, *When the Getting Was Good*

Date: Aug 1, 2011

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

In *The New York Times* » [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/30/your-money/the-rise-in-self-publishing-opens-the-door-for-aspiring-writers.html?scp=1&sq=susan bell&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/30/your-money/the-rise-in-self-publishing-opens-the-door-for-aspiring-writers.html?scp=1&sq=susan%20bell&st=cse) ], Susan Bell MFA '01 shares her experience of self-publishing her first book, *When the Getting Was Good*.

## *Dance Magazine* profiles Laurel Tentindo '01, a member of the Trisha Brown Dance Company

Date: Aug 3, 2011

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

*Dance Magazine* profiles » [ <http://www.dancemagazine.com/issues/August-2011/Technique-My-Way-Laurel-Tentindo> ] Laurel Tentindo '01, a member of the Trisha Brown Dance Company. Trained in traditional ballet, she explored contemporary dance late in high school and immersed herself in it at Sarah Lawrence.

## Writing faculty member Kevin Pilkington won the 2011 New York Book Festival Award in Poetry for his collection *In the Eyes of a Dog*

Date: Aug 4, 2011

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

Writing faculty member Kevin Pilkington won the [2011 New York Book Festival Award in Poetry](#) » [ <http://blacklawrence.wordpress.com/2011/07/22/kevin-pilkington-wins-the-2011-new-york-book-festival-award-in-poetry/> ] for his collection *In the Eyes of a Dog*.

SLC acs Princeton Review's 2012 rankings including #1 for "Class Discussions Encouraged" and top 20 for "Professors Get High Marks," "Professors Accessible," "Best Classroom Experience," and "Best Theatre Program"

Date: Aug 4, 2011

Buzz SLC

[SLC acs Princeton Review's 2012 rankings »](http://www.princetonreview.com/SarahLawrenceCollege.aspx) [ <http://www.princetonreview.com/SarahLawrenceCollege.aspx> ]! #1 for "Class Discussions Encouraged" and top 20 for "Professors Get High Marks," "Professors Accessible," "Best Classroom Experience," and "Best Theatre Program."

*The Washington Post* interviews writing faculty member Thomas Sayers Ellis about his new exhibit, "(Un)Lock It: The Percussive People in the Go-Go Pocket"

Date: Aug 4, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

[The Washington Post interviews »](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-exhibit-highlights-pioneers-of-the-go-go-scene/2011/08/02/gIQA2mg8rI_story.html) [ [http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-exhibit-highlights-pioneers-of-the-go-go-scene/2011/08/02/gIQA2mg8rI\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/dc-exhibit-highlights-pioneers-of-the-go-go-scene/2011/08/02/gIQA2mg8rI_story.html) ] writing faculty member Thomas Sayers Ellis about his new exhibit, "(Un)Lock It: The Percussive People in the Go-Go Pocket," a collection of images reflecting on the Go-go music genre.

In a *WestFair Online* profile, President Karen Lawrence discusses how SLC is preparing liberal arts students for careers that didn't exist 10 years

Date: Aug 9, 2011

In the News President SLC

In a [WestFair Online profile »](http://westfaironline.com/2011/15291-at-sadie-lou-bucking-stereotypes/) [ <http://westfaironline.com/2011/15291-at-sadie-lou-bucking-stereotypes/> ], President Karen Lawrence discusses the importance of a liberal arts education, stating "What CEOs are looking for are people who can think.... We're preparing students for careers that didn't exist 10 years ago."

*CartoonBrew* reports *Bleu*, a short cartoon created by Mike Bentz '14, won an award at the recent Animation Block Party 2011, the premier animation festival of the East Coast

Date: Aug 10, 2011

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

*CartoonBrew* » [ <http://www.cartoonbrew.com/biz/animation-block-party-2011-announces-juried-award-winners.html> ] reports *Bleu* » [ <http://vimeo.com/25322708> ], a short cartoon created by Mike Bentz '14, won an award at the recent Animation Block Party 2011, the premier animation festival of the East Coast.

*The Norwalk Citizen* reports music faculty member Jonathan Yates has been named the new musical director/conductor at the Norwalk Symphony Orchestra

Date: Aug 11, 2011

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

*The Norwalk Citizen reports* » [ <http://www.norwalkcitizenonline.com/news/article/NSO-names-new-musical-director-conductor-1834269.php> ] music faculty member Jonathan Yates has been named the new musical director/conductor at the Norwalk Symphony Orchestra.

*Backstage* profiles Katharine Houghton '65, currently starring in "The Pretty Trap" and well known for her role as Joanna Drayton in the film "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner"

Date: Aug 12, 2011

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

*Backstage profiles* » [ <http://www.backstage.com/bsa/news-and-features-features/katharine-houghton-tackles-tennessee-williams-1005312502.story> ] Katharine Houghton '65, best known for her role as Joanna Drayton in the film "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," starring Sidney Poitier and her aunt, Katharine Hepburn. Houghton is currently starring in "The Pretty Trap," playing at the Acorn Theatre on Theatre Row in New York City.

## *Bloomberg BusinessWeek* and *Washington Post* profile Mayor of Chicago Rahm Emanuel '81

Date: Aug 12, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts History and the Social Sciences Politics Dance Dance Alums

*Bloomberg BusinessWeek* » [ <http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/the-reinvention-of-rahm-emanuel-08042011.html> ] and *The Washington Post* » [ [http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/as-mayor-rahm-emanuel-shines-spotlight-on-chicago-dance/2011/08/09/gIQAcpOMBJ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/as-mayor-rahm-emanuel-shines-spotlight-on-chicago-dance/2011/08/09/gIQAcpOMBJ_story.html) ] profile Mayor of Chicago and former White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel '81.

## Ninalee Craig '50, subject of *An American Girl in Italy*, celebrates photo's 60th anniversary

Date: Aug 15, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Visual Arts Photography Alums

*The Toronto Star* » [ <http://www.thestar.com/entertainment/article/1038839--an-american-girl-in-italy> ] profiles Ninalee Craig '50, the subject of the iconic photo *An American Girl in Italy*, taken by Ruth Orkin. The photo is celebrating its 60th anniversary.

## Cris Villonco '06 "star performer" in *Noli Me Tangere the Musical*

Date: Aug 16, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Theatre Music Theatre Alums

*BusinessWorld* » [ <http://www.bworldonline.com/content.php?section=Opinion&title=Noli-The-Musical&id=36555> ] reviews *Noli Me Tangere The Musical*, staged by the Tanghalang Pilipino at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, calling Cris Villonco '06 the "star performer."

## Literature professor Nicolaus Mills discusses the history lessons of Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris*

Date: Aug 16, 2011

In the News Humanities Literature

In *Dissent* » [ <http://dissentmagazine.org/atw.php?id=533> ] magazine, Literature professor Nicolaus Mills discusses the timeliness and importance of Woody Allen's latest movie, *Midnight in Paris*.

## *The Wag Magazine* profiles Annie Novak '05, co-founder of Eagle Street Rooftop Farm

Date: Aug 18, 2011

[In the News](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Alums](#)

*The Wag Magazine* » [ <http://thewagonline.com/2011/08/up-on-the-roof/> ] profiles Annie Novak '05, co-founder of Eagle Street Rooftop Farm, a 6,000-square-foot organic vegetable farm in Brooklyn, N.Y. While at Sarah Lawrence, Novak learned the intricacies of fair trade while studying abroad in West Africa.

## Psychology faculty member Jan Drucker explains brain-boosting activities for young children in *Parents* magazine

Date: Aug 18, 2011

[In the News](#) [History and the Social Sciences](#) [Psychology](#) [Child Development](#) [Faculty](#)

In the September issue of *Parents* » [ [http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A\\_3950](http://images.burrellesluce.com/image/21757A/21757A_3950) ] magazine, psychology faculty member Jan Drucker discusses the beneficial and brain-boosting activity of playacting seen in young children, and advises parents on how to encourage this behavior.

## Brian Morton '78, director of the graduate writing program in fiction, offers advice to prospective students in *Poets and Writers*

Date: Aug 22, 2011

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

The September/October issue of *Poets & Writers* » [ [http://www.pw.org/content/advice\\_from\\_the\\_programs](http://www.pw.org/content/advice_from_the_programs) ] magazine features a special section called "Advice from the Programs," in which directors, coordinators, and professors from various MFA programs offer advice to prospective students trying to decide which programs are right for them. Brian Morton '78, director of SLC's graduate writing program in fiction, was among those offering advice.

## Writing faculty member Cathy Park Hong talks to *The Paris Review* about new book

Date: Aug 25, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty

Writing faculty member Cathy Park Hong talks to *The Paris Review* » [ <http://www.theparisreview.org/blog/2011/08/23/cathy-park-hong-on-engine-empire/> ] about her upcoming book, *Engine Empire*.

## A post-storm update from President Lawrence, 8/28/11

Date: Aug 30, 2011

Announcement

A post-storm update from President Lawrence, August 28, 2011

## Brian Morton '78, Director of the Graduate Writing Program in Fiction, pens *New York Times* op-ed on wrongly-cited quotations in pop culture

Date: Aug 30, 2011

In the News Creative and Performing Arts Writing Writing Faculty Alums

In an op-ed in *The New York Times* » [ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/30/opinion/falser-words-were-never-spoken.html> ] titled "Falser Words Were Never Spoken," Brian Morton '78, director of the graduate writing program in fiction, takes a look at the increasing instance of wrongly-cited quotations in pop culture—such as "pithy, cheery sayings" on mugs and bumper stickers attributed to Gandhi and Henry David Thoreau, which are really boiled down versions of their actual thoughts.

## Students talk to *Bronxville Patch* about their opening weekend experiences with Hurricane Irene

Date: Aug 31, 2011

In the News Students SLC Staff

In a video feature, students and staff share their hurricane-impacted stories from opening weekend with *The Bronxville Patch* » [ <http://bronxville.patch.com/articles/video-sarah-lawrence-college-move-in-day-irene-recollections#video-7572057> ].



## Dr. W. Ian Lipkin '74 lends healthy dose of reality to upcoming movie *Contagion*

Date: Aug 31, 2011

[Buzz](#) [Science and Mathematics](#) [STS](#) [Physics](#) [Chemistry](#) [Biology](#) [Alums](#)

*Contagion*, a new movie from Oscar-winning director Steven Soderbergh about the outbreak of a deadly virus, received a healthy dose of reality from Dr. W. Ian Lipkin '74, one of the world's foremost molecular neurobiologists and director of the Center for Infection and Immunity at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. As technical adviser to Soderbergh and screenwriter Scott Z. Burns, Dr. Lipkin shared his experiences in managing outbreaks, such as SARS in 2003, and coached the film's actors on the practices and process of scientific research. (Elliott Gould even plays a research scientist named Ian.) The filmmakers and Dr. Lipkin see *Contagion* as not only an opportunity to entertain, but to educate the public about the challenges posed by infectious diseases in the modern-day, global world. [Read a review of \*Contagion\* in \*The New York Times\* »](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/28/movies/all-star-cast-for-steven-soderberghs-contagion.html?_r=1&pagewanted=all) [ [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/28/movies/all-star-cast-for-steven-soderberghs-contagion.html?\\_r=1&pagewanted=all](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/28/movies/all-star-cast-for-steven-soderberghs-contagion.html?_r=1&pagewanted=all) ] | [Watch the movie trailer »](http://trailers.apple.com/trailers/wb/contagion/) [ <http://trailers.apple.com/trailers/wb/contagion/> ]