

SCOPE

A BIENNIAL SHOWCASE OF SKIDMORE COLLEGE PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS

SPRING 2021

ENVISIONING A NEW FUTURE

The world after COVID-19

- Alumni pivot during the pandemic
- Celebrating the Class of 2021





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FROM THE EDITOR

Better days are on the horizon. COVID-19 vaccines are now widely available, infection rates are dropping in many places, the economic outlook appears better, and there seems to be more openness to engaging in important conversations surrounding race and social justice that have been delayed far too long.

It has also been a remarkable academic year for Skidmore, which — through bold leadership and support from faculty, staff, students, alumni and the broader community — is emerging strong and ready for the future. The

successful conclusion of *Creating Our Future: The Campaign for Skidmore* reflects both the dedication of our entire extended Skidmore community and our hopes for the next phase of our journey together.

This issue of Scope looks back at some of the remarkable creativity displayed during this challenging period, including unique ways in which alumni have applied creative thought in their careers and pivoted to seize new opportunities. At the same time, we look to the future and consider the question of what comes next, from the launch of Skidmore's

new campus master planning process to Skidmore faculty members' visions for the world after COVID-19.

We share in the excitement of the Class of 2021 and look forward to the prospect of an in-person celebration in May, an event that seemed inconceivable just a few months ago.

It is an exciting time to witness history and be participants in it as well. I hope all of us seize this opportunity to learn from these difficult chapters and to draft hopeful ones for the future.

— James Helicke

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COLLEGE

SCOPE **SPRING 2021**

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On the cover:
Class of 2021 President Raymi Ramirez on campus during the spring semester.

CREATIVE
THOUGHT
MATTERS



As we approach the end of this remarkable, challenging, and unforgettable academic year, I am struck by how much we have accomplished together. These achievements would be impressive in a normal year, so I can't help but wonder: If we can accomplish all this during a pandemic, what can we accomplish together in the years to come?

Our responses to COVID-19 have, of course, impacted everything we have done over the past year. The fall semester was, all in all, a great success. We brought nearly 90% of our students back to campus, held 50% of our classes in person, and delivered our curriculum in an engaging and effective way, all the while seeing only 19 positive COVID cases during the entire 12-week semester.

Over the winter we hosted nearly 50 students on campus who were unable to return to their homes, and then we repeated our bold plan of in-person Skidmore instruction for the spring semester. We have continued to keep our COVID cases impressively low — as one president from a peer school said to me, “Skidmore’s numbers are the envy of most colleges.”

The commitment and care demonstrated by our students cannot be over-emphasized. I said to them back in August, “We have faith in you. We have confidence in you. We know you will make the heroic choices necessary to keep yourselves safe and to protect our entire community.” And the results are in — they’ve done an amazing job.

The work of our staff has been similarly heroic and has been the very definition of a collaborative team effort. But I want to call special attention to the front-line work of our Student Health Services staff, who have gone so far above and beyond the call of duty, and our Dining Services staff — including the many students who work in dining — who have implemented creative solutions and pivoted on a dime throughout the year to safely serve and support our students.

And the faculty! I have heard story after story of faculty re-inventing their courses, learning to teach in entirely new ways, reaching out to students via Zoom and other means to check in and provide support, and devoting countless hours to navigating the challenges of the pandemic.

Having recently watched live theater performances in Thomas Amphitheater, a dance recital along Haupt Pond, musical performances streamed from Zankel Music Center, this year's Freirich Entrepreneurship Competition, and such unforgettable speakers as Kwame Anthony Appiah, Robert P. George, Cornel West, Saidiya Hartman, and Charles Johnson, it is evident that the intellectual brilliance and curious spirit of our entire Skidmore community continue to shine through and make the Skidmore experience so remarkable.

This past year also brought the successful conclusion of the largest capital campaign in the College's history. *Creating Our Future: The Campaign for Skidmore* officially closed on Dec. 31 after raising

\$229.4 million for student scholarships and financial aid, athletic facilities and wellness initiatives, the Skidmore Fund, the Tang Teaching Museum, career opportunities, and, of course, the Center for Integrated Sciences. Construction of the CIS North Wing was completed last summer, and the facility has been home to classes and research since the fall. Construction of the East Wing is now well underway, and completion of the full project is expected in 2024.

The Center for Integrated Sciences is more than just a building, however. It's a concept for the future of Skidmore and the intersection of the sciences, arts, humanities, and social sciences. I cannot overstate how significant it is for Skidmore to be able to offer cutting-edge, interdisciplinary science facilities and how crucial this initiative is for the 21st-century education we will continue to provide.

As we look to the future, the College has also begun a new Campus Master Plan process to determine how future physical changes to campus can best support the College's strategic priorities, needs, and aspirations. With the last plan prepared in 2007, now is the ideal time to undertake this collaborative process.

Skidmore's Racial Justice Initiative also continues to be a critically important priority for the College. When I introduced myself to the Skidmore community last February, I said my number one goal at Skidmore would be to build a community of trust in which every single student, faculty, and staff member can flourish and say, “This is my home.” Pure and simple, that's the goal.

By embracing Skidmore's long-standing commitments to diversity and justice, working with every unit of the College to enhance those commitments every day, and taking clear and tangible action steps through our Racial Justice Initiative, transformational work is being undertaken at Skidmore.

As we all know, this has been a particularly challenging year in America's long history of seeking to live up to its grand and inspiring vision. Skidmore seeks to be part of that vision — to seek accountability, justice, understanding, compassion, and, above all, embrace true diversity in every respect. That is where the strength of this country lies, and Skidmore will embody the best of that aspiration. To me, this is a profoundly hopeful enterprise, as is the entire mission of higher education.

It's with that spirit of hope that we planned a live and in-person Commencement ceremony for the Class of 2021 this May. A great deal of creativity went into making it a safe and fitting celebration for this senior class that has shown such resilience, tenacity, and commitment this entire year.

Next we will move into the summer, when we plan to have as many as 300 students on campus for in-person classes, research with faculty, internships, and jobs. To ensure the safety of our community, we are requiring that all our on-campus students this summer be vaccinated against COVID-19, as are most of our peer schools and other colleges and universities throughout the country.

I'm confident that Skidmore's dedication and creativity will see us right through to the fall, when all classes are expected to be fully in-person and we will see a return to something that resembles true normalcy. And then, with the weight of this pandemic finally lifting, imagine how much more we will accomplish together.

— Marc C. Conner



Class President Raymi Ramirez '21 will be among those to address the Class of 2021 at Commencement on May 22.

CELEBRATING the CLASS OF 2021

Capping a unique but inspiring 2020-21 academic year, Skidmore was preparing to recognize the achievements of the Class of 2021 with traditional celebrations, including an in-person Commencement ceremony, while adopting special arrangements to ensure continuing safety during the pandemic.

Ahead of the College's Commencement Exercises on May 22, the College had a series of creative outdoor Senior Week activities planned that would align with state and College health and safety guidelines. Measures included strict limitations on crowd sizes, masking, social distancing and compliance with the College's rigorous testing requirements.

In line with Skidmore tradition, plans provided for the graduates to walk across the stage at Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC) and receive their diplomas.

"We've been separated by social distancing, but we've been excited about finishing this chapter in

our lives together," said Class of 2021 President Raymi Ramirez '21, a physics major from Boston.

The graduates would wear masks specially designed for the occasion and remain socially distanced throughout the ceremony. In order to ensure safety, family and guests would be unable to attend in person. The ceremony will be livestreamed on Skidmore's website and available on demand and for download.

"We're disappointed, of course, that all our loved ones can't be with us at SPAC, but we really wanted to gather together safely as a class," said Ramirez, who has been accepted into UCLA's Physics and Biology in Medicine doctoral program. "We missed just being together, and graduation is a way for us to look to the future."

For more information, visit skidmore.edu/commencement.

How to access augmented reality features in Scope

This issue of Scope is enhanced with additional content made possible through augmented reality. This technology integrates digital experiences with print, making the magazine more interactive and informative to readers.

To explore Commencement videos and additional augmented reality features throughout this magazine, visit www.skidmore.edu/AR.

When prompted, please allow the website to access the camera on your cellphone or tablet. Then simply hover over any images in this magazine that include an augmented reality icon (such as the one marked "ID" in the upper left corner of this page). iPhone users should use the Safari browser, instead of Chrome.

REUNION 2021

Reunion for classes ending in 1 and 6 will be celebrated virtually this year. For more information, please visit skidmore.edu/reunion.

TOGETHER THROUGH TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS

For the Class of 2021, it was a senior year filled with challenges but also hope for the future.

The senior class enjoyed on-campus experiences that included dynamic courses, unique experiences and excitement for in-person Commencement celebrations. Despite COVID-19, all students found ways to engage with friends and professors safely, participate in many opportunities at Skidmore and pursue creative endeavors in the arts, the sciences and many disciplines.

It was also a challenging time as the nation and campus community not only grappled with the pandemic but also took part in difficult conversations about national politics and racial justice in the country, in the local community and on campus.

The entire Skidmore community grieved as the senior class lost a

beloved member and an advocate for inclusivity and diversity: Samantha Sasenarine '21, who died Feb. 5. An English major and educational studies minor, she was co-editor of the Skidmore News opinion section and president of the West Indian Student Association.

“My motives and goals for change are to amplify the voices of other people of color on campus and shine a light on all the amazing work they do,” she once wrote.

Members of the Skidmore community participated in online gatherings to remember her and paid special tribute to her during Senior Week. Her aspirations for a better tomorrow continue.

As voices demanding change grew louder and vaccines became available across the nation, there was also reason for hope.



Branden Sampson '21, a neuroscience major, receives his first dose of the Pfizer vaccine at a vaccine clinic on Skidmore's campus.



Michelle Kelman '21, a management and business major, speaks in Professor Mark Youndt's Business Strategy course.

“I will miss Sam’s energy, dedication, fierce love of learning, kindness, commitment to fairness for all and her creativity. A light among us is now gone, but I will carry her in my heart always.”

— CATHERINE GOLDEN, PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH



Samantha Sasenarine '21



EXPLORE
MORE WITH
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REALITY.



Allai Regan '21, a dance major, and Elodie Linck '21, a political science and dance double major, perform outdoors as part of SpringFest, organized by the Theater Department.



Clare Boland '21, a biology major, examines specimens in Professor Corey Freeman-Gallant's Ornithology course in the new Center for Integrated Sciences.



Jordan Mjaatvedt '21, a health and human physiological sciences major, participates in field hockey drills.



Bass-baritone Atticus Rego '21, an economics and theater double major, performs in Zankel Music Center ahead of his virtual senior recital.



Kendall Zaleski '22, a member of Skidmore College Emergency Medical Services (SCEMS), hands out stickers to community members receiving the vaccine at an April clinic.



Joe Stankovich, director of institutional research, helps to distribute meals to students in isolation or quarantine.

A community that cares

The Skidmore community embraced ambitious steps to stay safe this academic year.

The Skidmore community took bold measures and demonstrated great care during the COVID-19 pandemic to keep the community safe and contribute to a successful academic year.

With thoughtful planning, a low regional infection rate and a range of precautions, Skidmore experienced only 19 positive cases this fall. Weekly testing for students and employees, masking and social distancing requirements were strongly supported by faculty, staff and students this year.

Although the start of the spring semester coincided with a nationwide spike in COVID-19 cases, Skidmore faculty, staff and students again went “all in” to reduce its spread. All students and on-campus employees were tested twice weekly in the first weeks of the semester. The term also opened in “safe shelter” mode, with students largely sheltering in their residence halls or apartments and only leaving to attend in-person classes.

More than 80,000 COVID-19 tests were administered at Skidmore this academic year. Although the spring semester witnessed additional cases, quick action and strong community support reversed any upward trends and kept the semester on track for a successful finish.

“I’ve got to give a shoutout to our students and the job that they have done. ... The numbers don’t lie; they’ve repaid the faith we’ve placed in them with inspiring action,” President Marc Conner said in mid-April. “When you compare how Skidmore has done to virtually every other college across the country, we’ve really set the standard for staying safe.”

Skidmore’s spirit of caring reinforced those efforts. Skidmore faculty and staff volunteered to support students in quarantine or isolation. In addition to being at the forefront of Skidmore’s COVID-19 pandemic response, members of the College’s Health Services staff even contributed to Saratoga County’s vaccine rollout. Other Skidmore employees and students volunteered on April 14, when Skidmore hosted its first on-campus vaccine clinic.

“It was exciting to see students receiving their vaccinations following a challenging year in which they have all shown a remarkable commitment to keeping themselves and their peers safe. Seeing members of our community volunteer to make this clinic possible was also inspiring,” said Julia Routbort, associate dean of student affairs for health and wellness. “Today was a happy day — we truly have a community that cares for one another.”



All students, faculty and staff on campus were tested at least weekly for COVID-19.



Dani Wood '24, right, registers for a COVID-19 vaccination at a clinic in Williamson Sports Center.

ENVISIONING A NEW FUTURE



Emmanuel Balogun, assistant professor of political science, speaks in his Comparative and International Politics course.

What will the world after COVID-19 look like?

Skidmore faculty share their own visions for the future based on teaching, research, national and international events, and experiences during this transformative period.

Throughout the past year, we have all witnessed – and grappled with – the profound changes that have overlapped with the COVID-19 pandemic, from personal tragedy to disruptions in our society and economy. This same period has also witnessed important public conversations about racial justice and troubling attacks on American democracy in the wake of elections last fall.

As large portions of the U.S. population have been vaccinated against COVID-19 and prepare for life after the pandemic, many of us are left wondering what our society and world will look like in the wake of this transformative period. Can we ever truly go back to the world that existed before, and is a return to the old days even desirable?

As Skidmore College President Marc Conner reminded us following the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, civic duty is central to Skidmore's liberal arts mission: "Our work as a great liberal arts college is more important than ever in this difficult moment. The world needs our mission today more than ever."

In their courses, research and personal lives, Skidmore faculty have considered these dramatic changes in real time. As they have dealt with tragedy and assessed national and international events, they have also thought deeply about our future. Several shared with Scope a few brief lessons they have learned during this period and their aspirations for a better future.

— James Helicke



EMMANUEL BALOGUN

Assistant Professor of Political Science

We need to address global inequities that have further deepened during this pandemic.

In my teaching and research, I have been looking at where there has been cooperation in the world and where there has been a lack of a global response during this pandemic. In my International Relations of the Global South class, for instance, we talk about how the foundations of global politics are rooted in distinction: That there is one system of politics and international relations for the countries that benefit from the current global order, and a different system for those countries that do not benefit from the status quo — those of the Global South.

The pandemic has exacerbated and compounded existing inequalities in the world. Take vaccine distribution and administration globally, for example. The United States has, by far, the most vaccines at its disposal and even has a reserve of the AstraZeneca vaccine, even when it was not approved to be used here. But there are also places in the world, including most of Africa, where populations may not attain a level of 50% vaccination until 2023 or even 2024. Although global resource inequality is not new, it is worth considering why, when

the world stopped, we looked inward instead of toward cooperation.

I hope the pandemic allows us to realize how truly connected we are. It is no coincidence that during the pandemic, we have seen a trend of civil unrest from the United States and Hong Kong to Nigeria and beyond. The pandemic accelerated a yearning for the improvement of societal conditions around the world; my hope is that people learned to see the injustice, inequity and oppression as a collective struggle.

We need to think of the world less as a zero-sum game and imagine a more humane world where we confront global problems and progress together. How can we level the playing field for the rest of the world? In the case of vaccines, one thing that we could do is make vaccine patents available to all countries, so countries can replicate the vaccines in cheaper ways and more people can have access to them. Moving forward, we need to engage more deeply with the broader questions of resource equity that will persist long beyond this pandemic.



MARTA BRUNNER

College Librarian

Libraries help us get to the truth, and the truth will get us better libraries.

I'm not sure whether fake news or misinformation is more prevalent now than in the past, but recent events certainly have made the work we do in Scribner Library feel all the more urgent and important. If the pandemic and the social and political upheaval of the past year have shown us anything, it is that our hold on the truth is too easily taken for granted. What grip we do have on the truth comes through collective and constantly renewed efforts, and the knowledge practices libraries embody are among the central social institutions that scaffold those efforts.

The past year has also made clear that we library folks have urgent work to do to improve our knowledge practices. Libraries have long assumed a neutral stance with regard to information, but, in a context of injustice or inequity, neutrality can perpetuate or even deepen that injustice and inequity. By reflecting on and improving our approaches to curation, categorization and access, Scribner Library and other libraries will be better able to ensure that those we serve have the fullest possible picture of the truth, in all its often-uncomfortable complexity.



BENJAMIN BOGIN

Associate Professor and Director of the Asian Studies Program

Obstacles can also be seen as opportunities.

This academic year, I co-taught a course called Pandemic Bardo with colleagues from the Tang Teaching Museum and John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative (MDOCS) that considered how the Tibetan Buddhist bardo tradition might offer new perspectives on the experience of the pandemic.

Bardo refers to the intermediate space between two determined moments, most famously the period between death and rebirth described in the so-called Tibetan Book of the Dead. When COVID-19 brought about a global lockdown, we entered a space of uncertainty stripped of the familiar habits and structures that organize our lives and communities. This indeterminate period of isolation provoked feelings of fear and anxiety for many of us, but the bardo tradition suggests that it is also an opportunity for meaningful change.

Many of us have experienced the ways in which the pandemic experience has been clarifying, helping us to reassess what is most important and what we can easily live without. As we imagine the world that will come into shape after the pandemic, I hope that we can all aspire to something more than a “return to normal” by building upon the lessons learned during the pandemic bardo.

“This indeterminate period of isolation provoked feelings of fear and anxiety for many of us, but the bardo tradition suggests that it is also an opportunity for meaningful change.”

— BENJAMIN BOGIN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ASIAN STUDIES



JENNY DAY

Associate Professor of History

Count the blessings in disguise.

I’ve thought about the pandemic as a blessing in disguise both for my teaching and for my scholarship. I’ve been teaching modern China as a form of online, role-play game, where students adopt their fictive families located in a particular

Chinese/non-Chinese region. I’ve learned that online teaching can be effective, personal and fun for students.

On scholarship, while I agree with many that the pandemic has been isolating, I also appreciate how online talks, conferences and meetings have forged closer global connections among scholarly communities located far apart. I’ve been able to revise and publish an edited volume and several peer-reviewed articles during the pandemic, given online talks at universities in the U.S., China and Britain, and attended many online panels. As a mother of a young child, I can’t travel easily, and I would not have imagined being able to be so involved with the scholarly communities previously.

I hope that these lessons, experiences and personal connections will continue after life becomes “normal” again.



LARRY JORGENSEN

Professor and Chair, Department of Philosophy

Painful experiences can help lead us toward truth.

Philosopher and activist Cornel West has said that “a condition of truth is to allow suffering to speak.” Suffering has been speaking loudly this year. Suffering spoke when the more vulnerable among us could not easily manage a shift to stay-at-home orders, when many among us lost their

jobs or their lives. Suffering spoke when many of us (like myself) lost loved ones to the coronavirus. Suffering spoke when George Floyd uttered his last, true words, “I can’t breathe,” and when those words erupted in protest across the country and around the world. Suffering spoke when monuments and symbols of untruth were taken down, and we in the United States continued our reckoning with the harmful myths of our own histories.

These events introduced ruptures in our comfortably familiar narratives, many of which have had a hold on our collective consciousness for generations. That’s where truth does some of its most important work. When what matters to power in this country are selective truths, properly told, stitched together into a rage-inducing narrative against those on the other side, the truths of suffering pierce through and speak for those who merely want the love and respect that is due them.



MARY CRONE ODEKON

Professor and Chair, Department of Physics

Progress is not predictable.

In science and in life, we tend to define progress according to a specific agenda, but an event like the pandemic forces us to rethink what really counts as progress. Like many scientists, I had neither the time nor the facilities needed to meet the goals I had set for myself in the year before the pandemic. What does that mean for making progress?

In fact, science does not generally proceed according to expected goals. We often hear about serendipity in science — the importance of chance and “chance favoring the prepared mind.” There is the story of Alexander Fleming, for example, who realized that mold had accidentally contaminated and killed a bacterial sample, leading to the discovery of penicillin.

On a larger scale, progress may be driven by sudden, unpredicted events, like widespread demand for coronavirus testing and vaccines.

Perhaps the most challenging part of the lesson is not to be blinded by conventional wisdom that we consider intrinsic to progress — conventional wisdom like discarding results of a contaminated sample or only using research labs for their originally intended purpose.

Hopefully, this past year will allow us to resist such rigidity and offer opportunities to rethink longstanding viewpoints and biases that may be holding us back in our science, society and personal lives.

“An event like the pandemic forces us to rethink what really counts as progress.”

— MARY CRONE ODEKON, PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS



MAHESH SHANKAR

Associate Professor and Director of the International Affairs Program

The U.S. should address the disconnect between what it says and what it does.

For much of the rest of the world, recent developments in American politics, culminating in the violence at the Capitol on Jan. 6, have highlighted dissonance between the historical tendency of the United States to present itself as a champion and sometimes manufacturer of democracy abroad, while at the same time overthrowing other democracies and propping up authoritarian regimes and doing little to address democratic fragility at home.

Debates here about race, income inequality, access to health care and education, and the U.S. response to COVID-19 have made those challenges clearer, while procedural questions surrounding how difficult it is for many to vote, the role of money in elections, the absence of an impartial body to conduct them and the institution of the Electoral College have all made U.S. democracy even less impressive from the outside.

Foreign observers of America and American foreign policy are also less likely to be shocked by what happened on Capitol Hill and more surprised that it doesn't happen more often — that a particularly militarized approach to policy at the global level hasn't redounded sooner on American democracy and the norms of what are seen as legitimate ways of effecting political change. Such dissonance will continue to shape global opinion of the U.S. role in the world.

The present is an opportunity to address these contradictions and re-imagine American leadership and policy abroad through more humility about the challenges of building democracy, and deeper and self-critical introspection about the utility of force to resolve problems, both at home and abroad.



JENNI MUELLER

Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Intergroup Relations Program

Our lives are interconnected.

In 1920, Black sociologist W. E. B. DuBois penned “The Comet.” In this short, sci-fi narrative, a low-level, Black employee and a wealthy, white woman — previously unknown to one another — discover they are the lone survivors of a cataclysmic disaster. Writing during the nadir of U.S. race relations, DuBois’ tale confronted a tacit yet looming question: Could realizing one’s survival was intertwined with and, indeed, dependent upon a Black person’s be enough to compel white people to abandon the deep-seated racism that sustains their privileged status, power and wealth?

Like DuBois’ destructive comet, the pandemic — but also climate change, a threatened democracy and other rising existential challenges — should make visible that long-term survival rests on understanding human fates as linked. And yet, disturbing evidence of resistance abounds. Consider how even the simplest act of interdependence — mask-wearing — has been politicized by white politicians and citizens; and how inequitable, structural conditions, widely tolerated for generations, all but ensured that Black and other marginalized communities would bear the worst burdens of the pandemic and now find the slowest relief.

Make no mistake: While systemic racism, unrestricted capitalism and the related hyper-individualism upon which much of the American ethos rests are a clear and persistently present danger to marginalized people, these forces ultimately threaten us all. The pandemic should wake everyone up to that reality and make clear that we must face these interrelated challenges bravely, honestly, and with all the seriousness and moral strength that any mendable existential threat should warrant.

Pandemic Pivoting



Creative thought means equipping Skidmore alumni with the ability to tackle the unexpected and embrace new directions in their careers. Never has that creativity been more apparent than during the past year: Inspired by Skidmore experiences, alumni networks and a lifelong love of learning kindled at the College, Skidmore graduates have demonstrated the entrepreneurial acumen, technological know-how and artistic imaginations to seize new opportunities during a year beset by a pandemic, economic turmoil and even natural disaster.

CREATIVE CURRENCY AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY MARKETS

As the pandemic has further stoked interest in cryptocurrency, Lincoln Lin '19 recently joined fellow alumnus and career mentor Melvis Langyintuo '12 at an exchange startup.

Lincoln Lin '19 has looked to friend and fellow alumnus Melvis Langyintuo '12 for his candid advice and insights into the finance industry since first seeking his career mentorship as an undergraduate with interests in business, math, computer science and international affairs.

"Melvis and I both have an international student background, so coming to Skidmore and not knowing much about the career path that I could take, there were a lot of waters to navigate," Lin says. "To know somebody like Melvis, who has navigated these waters so successfully, certainly provided a sense of security that somebody was there. He is completely transparent about how he sees things from his perspective, which is really helpful for me to factor into my own decision-making."



“With cryptocurrency, you need to be very intellectually curious, entrepreneurial and have a multidisciplinary mindset.”

— LINCOLN LIN '19

So when Langyintuo told Lin he had pivoted to cryptocurrency in 2020 after years of working in traditional finance — in fixed-income risk management at Morgan Stanley, macro trading at Goldman Sachs and electronic trading at J.P. Morgan — Lin was interested to learn more about the growth potential his mentor saw in the sector.

“With crypto, it’s only 12 years old, so the writing isn’t on the wall yet, the paint isn’t dry yet. The ecosystem is still growing and evolving,” says Langyintuo, now client solutions strategist at OKCoin, a regulated digital asset exchange based in San Francisco. “And so being in a field that is entrepreneurial, you definitely have to be creative to try to solve issues. And so that’s why it’s pure — it’s a very green field in crypto right now in the sense that people are coming in and they’re solving new, interesting problems.”

Having joined OKCoin as a trading analyst in February, Lin is now proud to call Langyintuo his co-worker as well. The exchange, which offers global retail and institutional investors the ability to easily buy and sell cryptocurrencies and generate high yields through savings and lending products, has grown from about 45 employees to over 100 in less than a year, has offices across the globe and has been able to “work remotely and efficiently during COVID,” Lin says.

In fact, the pandemic has boosted interest in cryptocurrency and made the case for it, Lin contends. “For example, the federal government’s pumping of trillions into the circulation of U.S. dollars has a lot of implications on inflation,” he says. “So that had the institutional as well as retail clients worried about the value of their dollars going down and started a chain reaction of the big institutions buying into cryptocurrency.”

To understand the value of cryptocurrencies, Langyintuo says it’s first important to understand

the technology that enables their existence — blockchain — and its far-reaching applications.

“The blockchain is a distributed ledger that is immutable, as in no one can change what transactions have been put on it. It’s also cryptographically secure, which prevents anyone from hacking it. And it’s decentralized, as in there isn’t a central party who manages it,” explains Langyintuo. “And so globally, it democratizes investing and enables anyone with an internet connection to be able to make an instantaneous transaction with someone somewhere else in the world, without someone in the middle taking a fee in order to facilitate it. Anyone can invest in any protocol or any token that they want.”

The biggest use now is for payments and as a store of value, he says. “That’s what people are using Bitcoin for, to basically help hedge against inflation with all the money printing that governments are doing. It’s the digital gold.”

Second to Bitcoin is the protocol Ethereum, Langyintuo says. Called “the world computer,” it enables the creation of smart contracts, which are essentially transaction agreements built into blockchain.

But the technology’s utility doesn’t end there. By enabling protocols that fill needs in the traditional world, blockchain can be “very, very transformative across different industries in helping to solve various projects or problems,” Langyintuo says.

In the medical industry, patients’ health records could be stored securely on a blockchain. In education, diplomas could be stored on a school’s blockchain and be available for verification by employers or other interested parties, eliminating opportunity for forgery. Digital art, music and other creative work are now being bought and sold using non-fungible tokens, or

NFTs, which are units of data on a blockchain that represent unique digital items.

“There are so many potential use cases for the future. I think it really depends on what the end goal is,” Lin says. “So creative thought matters. It’s wherever you want to take it.”

In terms of investing in it, you’re investing in the technology and its utility in filling a need in the traditional world, or you’re investing in it as an investment product for the future growth and utility of that coin, explains Langyintuo.

“Governments are looking into it, traditional institutions are looking into it. And so there are a lot of moving parts,” he says. “It seems like one week in crypto is equivalent to three months in traditional markets, as so much is happening. So there’s immense excitement day in and day out.”

Though he’s just getting started, Lin also finds the work to be engaging. “With cryptocurrency, you need to be very intellectually curious, entrepreneurial and have a multidisciplinary mindset. All of that comes into play in all of the initiatives we’re creating and the solutions that we’re trying to present.”

“It really fits into our backgrounds coming from a place like Skidmore,” adds Langyintuo, who remains very involved with the College as a member of its Alumni Board and as a career mentor who has advised upwards of 100 students in his nine years since graduating. “Lincoln had an interest in political science, then ended up going into a quantitative field. And for me, I studied chemistry, physics and then law, and then ended up in economics. And now I’m in a technology field. So from the electives to major requirements and core curriculum, that education helped us to think outside of the box.”

— Angela Valden



Melvis Langyintuo '12



LIGHTING THE WAY TO A SAFER FUTURE

As more Americans are returning to air travel, offices and schools, Skidmore alumni Elliot “Mo” Kreitenberg ’14 and Leejay Pollacchi ’13 are leading the expansion of innovative UVC disinfection systems to keep germs at bay.

Long before the emergence of COVID-19, Elliot “Mo” Kreitenberg ’14 believed that the UVC disinfection system for airplane interiors that he helped to co-create could prove groundbreaking for the airline industry. The pandemic proved him right.

The Dimer GermFalcon from Dimer UVC Innovations uses short-wavelength ultraviolet light (UVC) to sanitize interior surfaces of an aircraft. Its mobile unit, the Dimer UVHammer, is designed to kill 99.9% of germs on surfaces in schools, businesses, government facilities and elsewhere.

Since the onset of the pandemic, interest in Dimer’s products has soared; Time magazine even included the GermFalcon on its list of “The Best Inventions of 2020.”

Now, as more Americans look to return to air travel, offices and schools, Kreitenberg is calling on his college roommate, Leejay Pollacchi ’13, a marketing and design professional, to support Dimer’s brand expansion and development.

“It’s been a wild ride to go from startup idea to production to launch in the middle of a pandemic, but that’s our call to arms — pushing through so we can make a difference,” Kreitenberg said.

“Since my time at Skidmore, I’ve always tried to look at markets without the established biases. Almost everyone in our industry looks at the

technology the same way,” he added. “Creativity is at the core of Dimer’s business, from product design to marketing and fundraising. It’s actually kind of flattering when more established players copy the original ideas we create at Dimer.”

One of the reasons Kreitenberg believes Dimer’s technology is now receiving so much attention is that it uses the same UVC science that hospitals have been using for years to sterilize operating rooms.

The idea behind Dimer began a decade earlier, when Kreitenberg’s father, an orthopedic surgeon, began tinkering in his garage workshop with hospital-grade germicidal UVC lights.

Intrigued, the younger Kreitenberg joined him between semesters at Skidmore. Together, they built a prototype that quickly kills viruses and bacteria on airplanes with the goal of disrupting the flu season. They spent years unsuccessfully pitching their product to airline executives. Then the pandemic hit.

Demand for germicidal UV technology surged as every sector sought ways to make their places and spaces safer.

Kreitenberg reached out to Pollacchi ’13 for support with expansion. The two longtime friends both studied management and business at Skidmore and played for the men’s baseball team.

“We know this is critically important work and part of a larger puzzle to change the world, especially this year,” said Pollacchi, brand manager at Dimer. “Mo did a lot of the work to get us here, but I’m excited to be on board to see where we go next.”

Working together, the two alumni are proudly celebrating one major milestone after another, including an exclusive strategic partnership with Honeywell International to bring their technology around the world to airplanes operated by JetBlue, Qatar and Azul Airways. Since the partnership agreement, offerings have further expanded to meet the needs of buses, trains and other modes of transportation.

In March, Dimer signed a global reseller agreement to add the Dimer UVHammer to Honeywell’s health building offering. The Dimer UVHammer will also be featured in the health care-focused catalog of Medline, which serves almost every hospital in the country.

“Our dream,” Kreitenberg said, “is that technology like ours becomes ubiquitous with everyday life, putting it in every major transportation intersection, classroom, public space and more, so we can prevent the catastrophic pain and suffering the COVID-19 pandemic wrought around the world.”

And creative thought is at the heart of that mission. “Skidmore allowed me to pave my own creative path,” Pollacchi said. “Work in this realm isn’t often by the book, and Skidmore always taught us how important it was to think outside the box.”

— *Julia Marco and James Helicce*

Learn more about Dimer and its story at dimeruv.com.

“Even before the pandemic heightened the health risks of air travel, the GermFalcon was preparing to create a cleaner, safer experience for passengers.”

— TIME MAGAZINE

UNCORKING THE LIBERAL ARTS

From supporting nuclear waste cleanup efforts to running an artisan wine operation during a tumultuous 2020, Shelby Perkins '95 says she has been “a constant academic” throughout a creative career path spanning science, art and business.

Each bottle of Oregon-based Perkins Harter wines, founded, owned and operated by Shelby Perkins '95, reflects not only inspiration and love of Côte des Blancs and Chablis wines but also a journey of personal discovery and creative problem-solving rooted in the liberal arts.

From impressionist landscapes to stunning black-and-white photographs of the Oregon coast, the label for each reflects the lifelong interest in visual art that first brought Perkins to Skidmore College from Binghamton three decades ago.

A Skidmore geology minor, the bottles also present detailed information, including climate, wind, elevation and soil, and insight into how volcanic rifts millions of years ago and cool coastal breezes help to create the bright, natural acidity of each Perkins Harter wine.

An environmental studies minor and business major, Perkins' wines also embody her strong commitment to organic and biodynamic practices and business acumen.

“Many people don't think of farmers as academics, but they really are,” she said. “We're talking about hydrology, fungal health, soil health, weather patterns and mean temperatures and then also looking at the economics of making sure that the farming decisions make sense.”

The path from a college student in Saratoga Springs to a winemaker in the Eola-Amity Hills of Oregon presented many curves and occasional bumps.

“When I went to Skidmore, I was studying studio art. For my science requirement, I took Historical Geology and totally fell in love with geology. I came in intending to paint and ended up a business major with geology and environmental studies minors.”

Always drawn to the outdoors, Perkins became an outdoor guide and water testing lab assistant after graduation. After a couple of years in the Northwest, she decided to study environmental law at Vermont Law School, eventually earning two law degrees — a Juris Doctor and Master



of Studies in Environmental Law — along with a Certificate in European Union Law at the University of Amsterdam.

She found herself working as a nuclear weapons cleanup policy assistant and attorney-advisor for the U.S. Department of Energy.

“Sure enough, I ended up getting a job working at Yucca Mountain (proposed spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste repository), the project that I wrote a paper on to fulfill a requirement for my geology minor at Skidmore,” she said.

After her work concluded due to the shutdown of the Yucca Mountain project, Perkins began looking for a different path. Following a “revealing” trip to Antarctica, she was a science and technology fellow at the National Academies, worked on a climate change project with Google, provided low-Earth orbit market research to SpaceX and conducted renewable energy technology research for a venture capital firm.

The outdoors continued to beckon, and she landed in wine country — Sonoma County, California.

“I worked a harvest and just fell in love completely with the wine lifestyle and being able to create and use my backgrounds in business and science,” she said.

Perkins is a certified sommelier with the Court of Master Sommeliers and holds a Diploma with the Wine and Spirit Education Trust. She also studied with the Institute of Masters of Wine.

After making zinfandels in Sonoma for four years from vines dating back to the late 19th century and becoming concerned about the long-term sustainability of the operation, Perkins decided to search for soils and climate more suitable for chardonnay and pinot noir.

She is the owner and winemaker of Perkins Harter Wines and is co-owner of the Bracken

Vineyard in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, where she lives with her husband, Peter Harter. Perkins Harter produces chardonnays that are dry, lean and light-bodied with citrus and white flower aromas. Its pinot noirs are light and acid-driven, with airy minerality and fresh red fruit on the nose and flavors of red cherry, cranberry, light strawberry and bay leaf on the palate.

Perkins, who is also actively involved in legal and policy efforts for the wine industry, notes that “farming takes an incredible amount of intellectual and emotional agility.” 2020 was a year of particular challenge: Not only did Perkins confront the demands associated with growing a young business, but smoke from raging wildfires nearby also threatened her vineyard and her crop.

Whereas some may have feared ruined chardonnays and pinot noirs, Perkins saw new opportunities for rosés and sparkling wines — not the varieties she had anticipated but a reflection of careful, scientific analysis and quick, creative thinking. Born was a new Spaghetti Western label and 2020 bottles of The Good, the Bad and the Bubbly and A Fistful of Bubbles.

“I am definitely the beneficiary of a liberal arts education because so much of what I do has always been complex thinking,” Perkins said. “With a liberal arts education, you stop seeing the boundaries between subjects. It's the blending of subjects that really gives us new resolution and new ability to see the world in new ways.”

“I do benefit from having studied many things and not living in fear of new subject matter, because at the end of the day, I ended up having to be a constant academic.”

— James Helicke

Learn more about Shelby Perkins '95 and Perkins Harter Wines at perkinsharter.com.



“That’s really how Lagniappe Baking was born: out of a hunger to feed my own curiosity and creativity. In my kitchen. In the middle of a pandemic.”

— KAITLIN GUERIN '14

CULINARY CHOREOGRAPHY

Dance and exercise science double-major Kaitlin Guerin '14 combined equal parts art and science with a generous amount of creativity to launch a distinctive pastry business during the pandemic.

Kaitlin Guerin '14 is the creative force behind Lagniappe Baking Co., a boutique, small-batch pastry business that bakes at the intersection of a Michelin star-quality dining experience and a box of sweets to be enjoyed at home on the couch.

With creations like a slice of spiced, mandarin King Cake or a grapefruit, cream cheese and coconut caramel mousse cake, Guerin offers vibrant colors, complex textures and decadent flavors that are a uniquely choreographed sensory experience and reflect Guerin's pivot from professional dancer to pastry chef.

“Much of this story starts at Skidmore,” said Guerin. “I knew I wanted to go to college for dance, and Skidmore is a top program. I was also interested in the science of movement and double-majored in exercise science.”

“My professors really encouraged me to explore my creativity,” she said. “That, along with being exposed to the amazing minds of friends I made, and the mix of other disciplines that I studied, like intergroup relations, really widened my world.”

After graduation, the New Orleans native moved to San Francisco to pursue dance. “I danced with several companies, and it was such a good experience. After three years, it dawned on me that as much as I love dance, it wouldn't be a lasting career for me. But I'm still an artist, and I wanted to create. I'd always loved baking and cooking, and so I started researching pastry programs and applied to the Culinary Institute of America's pastry program in Napa Valley.”

Reflecting on her change in direction, she says her time at Skidmore taught her to add to her life, collect experiences and pursue what spoke to her. “Skidmore built my confidence in my own curiosity, which further encouraged me to follow what would fulfill me,” she said.

Guerin added that the transition in her career also built on combined art-science experience fostered at Skidmore. “Bakers are scientists, and I love science,” Guerin said. “And then learning to design the desserts themselves — doing, plating, experimenting with flavors — that's the art part for me.”

Soon, Guerin was traveling from one Michelin-starred restaurant to another, including Noma in Copenhagen and State Bird Provisions in San Francisco, before returning home to New Orleans in early 2020.

As the COVID-19 pandemic arrived, Guerin found herself stuck inside. “I stress-baked a lot. I got really restless, and everyone got a cake.”

Given her professional training, skills and drive to raise the bar, she was never satisfied with just chocolate or vanilla. As soon as it was safe, she was out at her local farmers market

collecting spices, herbs, seasonal fruits and other ingredients for her next experiment.

“That's really how Lagniappe Baking was born: out of a hunger to feed my own curiosity and creativity. In my kitchen. In the middle of a pandemic,” she said.

The name, too, has creative origins. The New Orleans native chose “lagniappe” — a French-Creole word — that celebrates her cultural roots and what a dessert should be: “a little something extra.”

Today, Lagniappe Baking is known for inspired pastry boxes that can be ordered online and picked up or delivered to those lucky enough to secure a slot on the limited list that sells out each week.

“I do get funky,” she said. “My box this week has a snickerdoodle cake with poblano buttercream. I've also done a strawberry-pepper-olive oil cake with lemon-thyme buttercream. And I'm hoping to do something chocolate with something pickled. It sounds gross, but I promise it's not.”

Her desserts have also captured the taste buds of other talented creators in New Orleans. In addition to her pastry boxes, she has a growing list of invitations to be the featured pastry chef for exclusive pop-up restaurants.

From exercise science and dance major to pastry entrepreneur, this young alumna has no regrets. “It's all a culmination and collection of experiences,” she said. “And I still dance in the kitchen! I've hit the light fixture so many times that it's bound to fall on my head. Lots of turns. Every day, I'm kind of just finding my groove.”

— *Julia Marco*

Learn more about Kaitlin Guerin '14 and Lagniappe Baking Co. at lagniappebaking.com.



RECORD APPLICATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2025

The number of applicants for first-year classes at Skidmore College continues to climb.

This year, Skidmore received 11,200 applications for its incoming first-year class, the largest number in the College's history. Applications have grown more than 20% since 2016–17.

Skidmore received applications from 52 states and U.S. territories, and 150 foreign countries. Of U.S. states, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey and California produced the most applications, while Pakistan, India, China and Kazakhstan paved the way for foreign countries.

Applications from domestic students of color and first-generation college students also continue to flourish — 26% and 20% of total applications, respectively.

Skidmore continues to receive a robust number of early decision applications. This year, the College expects about 50% of its incoming class to come from early decision

enrollees, including those who deferred their early decision acceptances from last year.

"It is gratifying that so many students from across the country and around the world are interested in coming to Skidmore," said Mary Lou Bates, vice president and dean of admissions and financial aid. "We believe that this year's positive application numbers have been helped by the College's stellar on-campus oversight of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as our extraordinary virtual programming, which has substantially increased our outreach to prospective students and families."

Skidmore is consistently named as one of the nation's best liberal arts colleges by U.S. News and World Report, and the College has recently been featured on the Forbes lists of America's Top Colleges, America's Best Value Colleges and America's Most Entrepreneurial Colleges.

— Peter MacDonald

APPLICATIONS BY THE NUMBERS

11,200
APPLICATIONS

52
STATES & U.S.
TERRITORIES

150
FOREIGN
COUNTRIES

TOP 5 STATES

NEW YORK
MASSACHUSETTS
NEW JERSEY
CALIFORNIA
CONNECTICUT

TOP 5 COUNTRIES

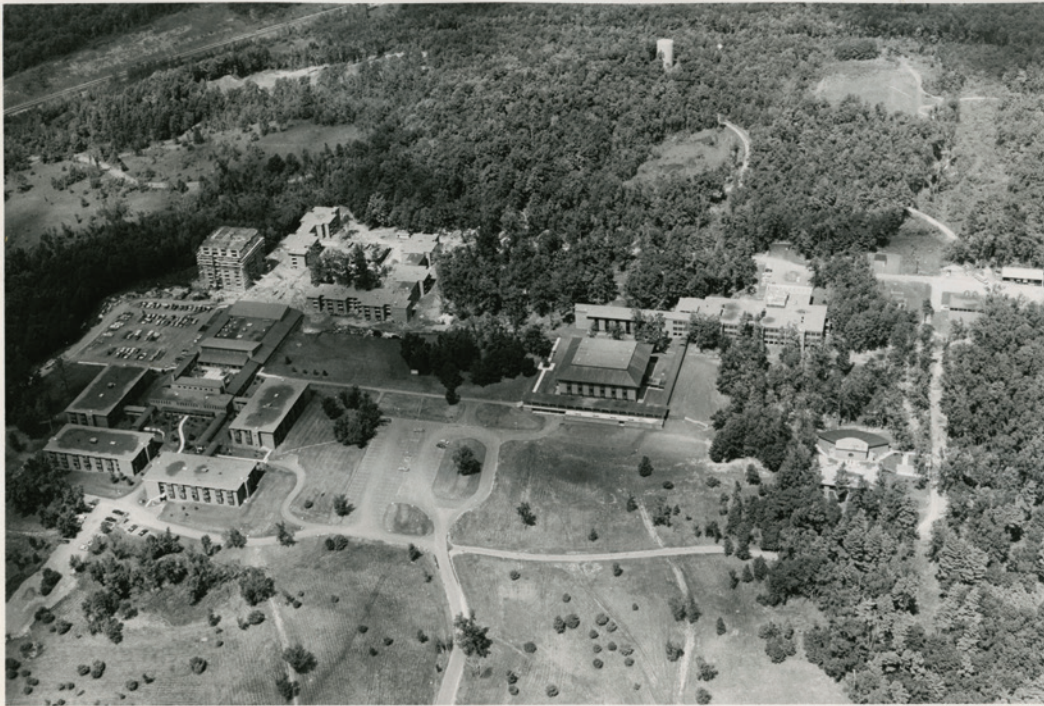
PAKISTAN
INDIA
CHINA
KAZAKHSTAN
ETHIOPIA

THOROUGHbred STRONG

Although COVID-19 forced the cancellation of many athletic competitions this year, Skidmore continued to show strong support for its student-athletes, who constitute about 20% of the student body. "Our teams have been able to train and practice together going all the way back to August, and many of our students talk about that being just as important as the competition," said President Marc Conner. "Being able to gather with their team and having that experience, that camaraderie, has been crucial to them." In March, the College honored 142 new Thoroughbred Society members for their academic achievements. The student-athletes earned a 3.67 grade point average or higher this fall. They included a record 30 perfect 4.0 honorees.



President Marc Conner visits with members of the women's basketball team, including Coach Jessica Turner (holding a basketball), in the fall.



An aerial view of Skidmore's new campus in 1968. The College moved from downtown to its current North Broadway location following the construction of the Jonsson Campus in the 1960s.

A DEEPLY COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Skidmore community envisions the future of its campus.

Skidmore has embarked on a new campus master planning process to imagine and plan the future of the campus and how future projects can best support the College's strategic priorities, needs and aspirations.

Ayers Saint Gross, an internationally recognized design firm, is leading Skidmore's efforts to craft a new comprehensive Campus Master Plan for submission to the Board of Trustees in May 2022.

President Marc Conner called the master planning process a "deeply collaborative community partnership" that will seek feedback from all stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, alumni and area residents.

"The product that we arrive at, to me, is less important than the process that we follow to get there and the principles that inform that process: our commitment to sustainability, our commitment to diversity, inclusivity and equity, our commitment to access for all," Conner said. "This is our opportunity to foreground those principles in the present and future shaping of our campus."

Kevin Petersen of Ayers Saint Gross said alumni play a vital role. "Alumni have an important connection to the College. They're important to its future," he said.

A task force comprising members of the entire Skidmore community will help the firm reach out to all

stakeholders this year. The group is co-chaired by Associate Dean of the Faculty Pat Fehling and Director of Facilities Dan Rodecker and includes staff representative Amy Tweedy; faculty representatives Mark Youndt and Erica Wojcik; Vice President for Strategic Planning and Institutional Diversity Joshua Woodfork; Sustainability Coordinator Jen Natyzak; Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Gail Cummings-Danson; and student representative Maria Bideiwy '24.

Skidmore's campus was largely designed and built in the 1960s, and two subsequent campus master plans were prepared in 1989 and in 2007.

ANITA JACK-DAVIES TO LEAD THE CENTER AT SKIDMORE



Anita Jack-Davies has been appointed Skidmore's deputy chief diversity officer and inaugural director of The Center at Skidmore.

Jack-Davies joins Skidmore from the faculty of arts and science at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, where she served as assistant dean of equity, diversity, inclusion and indigeneity.

"Dr. Jack-Davies brings extensive experience in the field of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) as a college administrator, educator, scholar, author and business consultant," said Joshua C. Woodfork, vice president for strategic planning and institutional diversity.

She was selected through a search launched as a priority of Skidmore's Racial Justice Initiative, a yearlong series of projects that seek to address the realities of racial injustice locally, nationally and globally.

In this role, Jack-Davies will shape the mission of The Center, a vibrant, accessible space at the heart of campus for connecting people and programs that underscore the importance of equity, inclusion and social justice. She will work closely with Woodfork, Student Affairs and other campus partners to strengthen diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

EXPLORING THE LIBERAL ARTS *VIRTUALLY*



GAGE SKIDMORE

Philosopher Cornel West and conservative thinker Robert P. George were among those to speak at Skidmore this academic year.

Skidmore hosted a robust series of speakers and forums that considered politics, racial justice, education and other important topics during this exceptional academic year.

Cornel West. Robert P. George. Trevor Noah. Kwame Anthony Appiah. These are just a few of the prominent voices who engaged with the Skidmore community on pressing issues and events in the news this year.

On Jan. 7, the day after the storming of the U.S. Capitol, Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Orr convened a forum of political science, history and Black studies faculty to consider the troubling events the previous day.

“This is what an institute of higher education does,” said President Marc C. Conner. “This is part of our ongoing work to understand, interpret and respond.”

Other faculty forums were held in the immediate aftermath of the U.S. presidential election. Another, titled “Aftershock: Global Views of U.S. Democracy After Trump,” posed tough questions about the state of American democracy, perceptions of the United States from abroad and the notion of American exceptionalism.

Eminent public intellectual Cornel West participated in two conversations with the Skidmore community

this spring, including a Periclean Honors Forum conversation with his friend, conservative intellectual Robert P. George, on the future of liberal education. The March event was made possible through a gift from Janice Billingsley '68.

“One of the things that brings Cornel and me together — that brought us together originally and keeps us working together — is a concern for liberal arts education and the future of liberal arts,” said George.

In April, West also participated in live, intersectional conversations with students and faculty — including Associate Professor of Gender Studies Gwen D’Arcangelis, Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs Cerri Banks, political science major Anissa Joseph '22 and Director and Professor of Black Studies Winston Grady-Willis — about topics ranging from racial justice to advice for student activists. The event was part of an event sponsored by the Black Studies Program and supported by Skidmore College’s Racial Justice Initiative.

Asked about frustration in achieving social justice goals when so much “never seems to change,” West said it is important to maintain as much “strength, joy, power, willingness to serve and sacrifice” as earlier generations of activists displayed.

“If we don’t fight, there could be 10 Breonna Taylors and 10 George Floyd Juniors every week. And we do fight, and there’s still too many. But if we fight, there’s less,” West said.

Once a low-income, first-generation college student, Harvard University Assistant Professor Anthony Abraham Jack discussed his book “The Privileged Poor, How Elite Colleges Are Failing Disadvantaged Students” in February. Philosopher Kwame Anthony Appiah delivered the prestigious Frances Steloff Lecture virtually and received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

Many other live, online events transported phenomenal speakers to Skidmore.

“Daily Show” host Trevor Noah spoke in a live conversation moderated by comedian Heidi Gardner of “Saturday Night Live” and co-sponsored by the Student Government Association’s Speakers Bureau and Union, Smith, Amherst and Middlebury colleges. Topics ranged from Noah’s writing process to his understanding of leadership. It ended with Noah urging a more nuanced understanding of America and appealing for dialogue.

College, he said, represents a unique space where diverse individuals “come together to learn new ideas, challenge each other on ideas and meet people who don’t share the same ideas. I encourage you, in a respectful way, to do that,” Noah said.

“Talk to each other. Talk to people you don’t normally talk to. Talk to people who come from different walks of life. Learn from them. Learn to live with them. Learn about them, because you are the people who are going to go out into the world who will have a more nuanced view of the people who live in the same world with you. Enjoy college for what it is.”



Trevor Noah

COMEDY CENTRAL



Kwame Anthony Appiah

LEAVING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON EARTH

Chemistry major Heather Ricker '22, the recipient of a prestigious Barry Goldwater Scholarship, plans to pursue a career mitigating human-driven climate change.

Skidmore chemistry major Heather Ricker '22 has been awarded a Barry Goldwater Scholarship, the most prestigious scholarship in the United States for undergraduates planning to pursue research careers in science, technology, engineering and math disciplines.

Ricker, who is also pursuing a minor in environmental studies and sciences, was selected from a pool of more than 5,000 sophomores and juniors nominated by hundreds of colleges across the United States.

Ricker, who has also received the highly selective Porter/Wachenheim Presidential Scholarship in Science and Mathematics and support from the Schupf Scholar Program at Skidmore, plans to pursue a doctorate in chemistry. She eventually hopes to help develop chemical solutions to support climate change alleviation and adaptation.

"My priority rests with leaving a positive, lasting impact on Earth, so I intend on pursuing a career in mitigating human-driven climate change," said Ricker of Londonderry, New Hampshire. "I will do everything in my power to research and undo

some of the negative impacts that humans have left on the climate by using chemistry, environmental science and geoscience."

Ricker has participated in collaborative research experiences with Associate Professor of Chemistry Juan Navea over the past two summers and has been one of just a few undergraduate research assistants for the Center for Atmospheric Impacts on Chemistry of the Environment (CAICE), a National Science Foundation center for chemical innovation based at the University of California, San Diego.

She has also collaborated with international projects like SeaSCAPE, which models ocean-atmosphere interactions in a controlled experiment.

"I'm very excited about this award and am also grateful for opportunities that have allowed me to pursue my interest in science at Skidmore," Ricker said. "Skidmore makes research and scientific engagement so accessible. Winning this award at a small liberal arts college goes to show that Skidmore offers all of the opportunities of a large research institution while still fostering close

"Winning this award at a small liberal arts college goes to show that Skidmore offers all of the opportunities of a large research institution while still fostering close student-faculty relationships, small class sizes and a strong sense of community."

— HEATHER RICKER '22



Heather Ricker '22, winner of a Barry Goldwater Scholarship, and Associate Professor of Chemistry Juan Navea examine scientific equipment in the new North Wing of the Center for Integrated Sciences.

student-faculty relationships, small class sizes and a strong sense of community."

She has also co-authored several scientific papers, including "Particle formation and surface processes on atmospheric aerosols: a short review of applied quantum chemical calculations" in the *International Journal of Quantum Chemistry* (2020) and "Atmospheric Processing of Anthropogenic Combustion Particles: Effects of Acid Media and Solar Flux on the Iron Mobility from Fly Ash" in *ACS Earth and Space Chemistry* (2020).

She is the lead author on another research article that seeks to explain the presence of an elusive molecule, nitrous acid, in the marine atmosphere. It will be submitted for peer review this summer.

"Heather is a brilliant young scientist and has been able to pursue research and professional opportunities at Skidmore that otherwise might be reserved for graduate students," said Navea, who is also associate chair of the Chemistry Department and leads Skidmore's Laboratory of Atmospheric Physical Chemistry. "I'm very proud that Heather has been selected for this prestigious

honor and expect her to make important contributions to climate science solutions of the future."

Skidmore continues to invest heavily in opportunities in the sciences at the College with the belief that scientific literacy is essential for all students — not just science majors — and will drive careers of the future.

Another Goldwater Scholarship recipient from Skidmore, Logan Brenner '12, received her doctorate from Columbia University and Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and is now assistant professor in environmental science at Barnard College. Brenner is a member of the Skidmore College Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Jonathan Brestoff Parker '08 earned both an M.D. and a Ph.D. after winning the scholarship. A Skidmore trustee and assistant professor of pathology and immunology at Washington University School of Medicine, Parker worked with Xinya Zhang '21 and Alexander Lewis '23 during the pandemic to publish "A systematic review and meta-analysis of obesity and COVID-19 outcomes" in *Scientific Reports* earlier this year.

— James Helicke

SYMBOLS OF ACTIVISM

As a capstone project, Jane Cole '21 curated an exhibition connecting activist movements of the past with urgent social justice issues of today — an example of rich learning and pre-professional experiences at the Tang.

In her sophomore year, Jane Cole '21 visited the Tang Teaching Museum with Political Science Professor Kate Graney's Race, State and Power class to view the "Like Sugar" exhibition, which explored the problematic and joyful aspects of sugar through works of art and history.

"That experience got me thinking about how art and museums could be an effective lens for exploring history and politics," said Cole, an art history major and political science minor.

Last summer, Cole participated in Black Lives Matter protests in Saratoga Springs and witnessed the unprecedented marches and rallies nationwide against systemic oppression. Signs, posters, banners and photos, she noticed, acted as vital tools for empowerment, unity and inspiration.

Back on campus in the fall, her experiences with both the protests and her coursework helped form an idea for her capstone project as the 2019-20 Carole Marchand '57 Intern at the Tang: an exhibition that



Gilbert Baker, "Rainbow25 Eight-Color Commemorative Flag," gift of Scott Seitz/SPI Marketing.

explores visual symbols of activism in the United States.

"Enlivened, Aware, Awake: Symbols of Activism" opened this spring and illustrates the history and contemporary use of the Black Power fist, the LGBTQ Pride flag and the Wide Awakes eye through photographs and artwork. While the Black Power fist and the Pride flag are widely recognized, the Wide Awakes eye is used by a network of artists and activists committed to using art, education and protest for political and social change. The movement and its visual symbol — an eye — are inspired by a 19th-century abolitionist youth organization of the same name. The show offers viewers a space to reflect on the power of visual symbols to galvanize action and establish identity.

The exhibition includes several recent acquisitions to the Tang collection, including a powerful 1968 Stephen Shames photograph of Black Panther George Murray speaking at a Rally in Oakland, California, and a 2020 Isaac Scott photograph of Black Lives Matter protesters in Philadelphia. The museum also acquired a special eight-color commemorative Pride flag by Gilbert Baker, designer of the original rainbow flag in 1978.

"Jane's exhibition is a great example of inventive and timely student curatorial projects," said Dayton Director Ian Berry. "Just as the protests had an impact on Jane, she had an impact on the museum, showing us the collection in a new context and helping bring new objects into the collection. Gilbert Baker's Pride flag, for



Jane Cole '21, the 2019-20 Carole Marchand '57 Intern at the Tang, in the exhibition she curated, "Enlivened, Aware, Awake: Symbols of Activism."

example, helps reveal Jane's ideas in an immediate, visceral way in the exhibition. As part of the museum's collection, it will inspire research, reflection and scholarship by Skidmore students and faculty members for generations to come."

The Marchand Internship is one of four named, yearlong, pre-professional internships at the Tang that give students extraordinary experiences in museum work. The museum also offers students paid positions in all areas of museum operations.

Before being appointed Marchand Intern, Cole worked as a gallery monitor and as an exhibitions and collections assistant. She also volunteered as a member of the Tang Student Advisory Council, a group of students who develop programs and act as museum ambassadors on campus.

"I'm so grateful for the opportunity the Marchand Internship gave me to learn from and work alongside Tang staff, partake in meaningful curatorial research and conversations, and to ultimately curate my own exhibition," Cole said. "Developing 'Enlivened, Aware, Awake' allowed me to perform real museum

work while exploring the intersections between art and social justice — an interest I cultivated through my Skidmore coursework. I'm excited to develop this interest and expand upon the skills I've acquired at the Tang in a future museum career."

— Michael Janairo

"Just as the protests had an impact on Jane, she had an impact on the museum, showing us the collection in a new context and helping bring new objects into the collection."

— IAN BERRY, DAYTON DIRECTOR OF THE TANG MUSEUM

CREATING OUR FUTURE

The CAMPAIGN for SKIDMORE

Impactful research opportunities and transformative career experiences. New athletics facilities and state-of-the-art science equipment and labs. Life-changing scholarships and inspiring arts programming. Through these outcomes and countless more, *Creating Our Future: The Campaign for Skidmore* has strengthened every aspect of the Skidmore experience.

The seven-year campaign, which officially concluded on Dec. 31, 2020, raised a record-setting \$229.4 million from 27,193 donors to support innovative opportunities and an overall exceptional liberal arts experience for Skidmore students while also building resources for the College's future.

Launched in October 2013 and publicly announced in 2017 by President Emeritus Philip A. Glotzbach and Marie Glotzbach, the campaign was marked by major milestones for Skidmore and meaningful

acts of generosity from alumni, parents, friends, retirees, students, faculty and staff.

"Strengthening a creative, collaborative and community-centered future for Skidmore has always been at the core of *Creating Our Future*," says President Marc Conner. "Our commitment to this vision for the future remains steadfast. This is an incredibly important moment for our college because of what our entire community — past, present and future — has made possible."

Gifts are helping to fund construction of the new Center for Integrated Sciences (CIS); support critical priorities through the Skidmore Fund; bolster scholarships and financial aid; enhance athletics, health and wellness initiatives; fund innovative exhibitions and programming at the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery; and increase career development opportunities.



EXPLORE
MORE WITH
AUGMENTED
REALITY.

For students like Charlotte Squire '21, a history major with minors in studio art, classics, and media and film studies, such gifts have made a significant impact in more ways than one. "My greatest accomplishment at Skidmore has been the amazing amount of pre-professional experience I've been able to participate in as an undergraduate," she says. "From receiving a grant to complete an internship with a music marketing agency to working at the Tang, I feel well prepared for a career in the arts and entertainment industry."

The first phase of Skidmore's Center for Integrated Sciences, the largest academic initiative in the College's history, opened in fall 2020 with the completion of the 58,000-square-foot North Wing, home of the departments of computer science and mathematics and statistics. Its new classrooms and labs are already supporting modern research and world-class instruction while furthering interdisciplinary connections, and much more is yet to come. When the entire

project is completed in 2024, CIS will host all of Skidmore's 10 science departments and programs.

"We already have the students, we already have the faculty, and with the construction of the science center, we have the institutional support and the vision for first-class, competitive science programs at a top liberal arts college," said Bernie P. Possidente, professor of biology.

As the need for student scholarships and financial aid continues to grow, *Creating Our Future* has improved access to a Skidmore education through programs such as the Davis UWC Scholars program, which supports opportunities for international students, and Glotzbach Scholars, an initiative to honor the Glotzbachs' 17 years at Skidmore.

In the last year of the campaign, gifts played a critical role in addressing unprecedented challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, including costs associated with reopening



DOLLARS RAISED

229.4

MILLION RAISED



DONORS

27,193

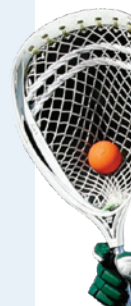
ALUMNI, PARENTS,
FRIENDS AND
ORGANIZATIONS



VOLUNTEERS

6,384

ALUMNI, PARENTS,
FACULTY AND STAFF





campus and creating a safe residential environment for teaching and learning.

“Faculty, staff and students have demonstrated resilience, adaptability and creativity,” said President Conner. “We know they are grateful to the donors who support Skidmore’s continued success. The *Creating Our Future* campaign is an important indicator of what our community can accomplish together in the years ahead.”

Far surpassing its initial fundraising goal of \$200 million, *Creating Our Future* became the largest campaign in the College’s history by nearly \$13 million.

A record-setting number of individuals and organizations made gifts and commitments and volunteered their time and talents to the campaign, including 27,193 individuals and organizations who made donations; 6,336 alumni and parent volunteers who encouraged ongoing connections and financial participation; and 48 faculty and staff volunteers who led the campus campaign

that involved 57% of current and former employees and retirees.

Volunteer leadership includes co-chairs Susan Gottlieb Beckerman ’67 and Tom Wilmot ’99 and original co-chairs Nancy W. Hamilton ’77 and W. Scott McGraw P’12.

“This campaign brought our community together in important ways, and we couldn’t be more grateful for the support and engagement of alumni, parents, faculty and staff, foundations and other friends of the College who joined together in their support of Skidmore and our students,” said Hamilton, current chair of the Board of Trustees.

Over 150 donors and College supporters joined President Conner, Barbara Reyes-Conner, President Emeritus Glotzbach, the campaign’s Executive Committee and members of the Board of Trustees for a virtual Campaign Celebration in early April to officially commemorate the accomplishments and impact of the campaign.

President Conner hopes to build on that momentum well into the future.

“Going forward, our collective support will continue to keep Skidmore strong and true to its mission of delivering a life-changing education to our students and preparing them to thrive and lead lives of consequence after graduation.”

— Angela Valden



CELEBRATING A CIS MILESTONE

In a socially distanced, outdoor ceremony held in late March, Skidmore officially celebrated the completion of the Center for Integrated Sciences’ North Wing and becoming one step closer to achieving the full vision for the College’s CIS initiative.

“We are here, in person, to mark a great achievement. Despite a global pandemic, we have continued the construction of our Center for Integrated Sciences,” President Marc Conner said to the small group in attendance, which included wife Barbara Reyes-Conner, President Emeritus Philip A. Glotzbach and Marie Glotzbach, CIS faculty coordinator Pat Fehling, Facilities Director Dan Rodecker, Construction Services Assistant Director Paul Lundberg, Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Donna Ng and Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Orr. “We completed the North Wing ahead of schedule and safely. We are well on our way to completing the East Wing on schedule too.”

When the entire project is completed in 2024, it will boast 200,000 square feet of new and renovated space and will house all 10 scientific departments and more than 90 faculty. It is the largest building project at Skidmore since the College moved to the North Broadway campus in the 1960s.

“Our community, including our wonderful CIS donors, have come together from afar to support the construction. Our students and faculty have been working and learning in the North Wing since the academic year began in late August. It’s a collective effort of which we can all be proud,” Conner said.

Fehling, associate dean for infrastructure and faculty affairs, spoke about what CIS means for Skidmore’s academic programs.

“Our students now have a beautiful space for labs and classes, our faculty have updated and fully functional teaching and research spaces, and our community has a building that can be used by all departments on campus,” said Fehling. “This building is a testament to our commitment to ensuring our students have the facilities and programming necessary to thrive in their education and to preparing them to engage deeply with pressing issues in their post-graduate lives. In this case, it’s to ensure that all Skidmore students receive an education in the sciences that is necessary for informed citizens in the 21st century.”

Glotzbach, who oversaw the launch of the CIS initiative during his presidency and has long emphasized the importance of science literacy and its place in the liberal arts, took a tour of the North Wing ahead of the ceremony.

“Nearly two decades in the making, this celebration represents a significant moment in the history of Skidmore College,” Glotzbach said. “The CIS will become a vital hub of learning not just for science majors, but for all Skidmore students. As we cut the ribbon this afternoon, we reaffirm the College’s commitment to cutting-edge disciplinary and interdisciplinary scientific education — a commitment Skidmore demonstrates every day that in these fields too, creative thought matters.”

Photo: From left, Pat Fehling, Donna Ng, Michael Orr, Marie Glotzbach, President Emeritus Philip Glotzbach, Dan Rodecker, President Marc Conner, Barbara Reyes-Conner and Paul Lundberg attend the March 25 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Center for Integrated Sciences’ North Wing.

Corinne Moss-Racusin, associate professor of psychology, has been awarded the American Psychological Association Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology, a first for a researcher from a liberal arts college.



USING SCIENCE TO CONFRONT GENDER BIAS

Corinne Moss-Racusin, associate professor of psychology at Skidmore College, is the recipient of the prestigious 2021 American Psychological Association Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology for innovative research on gender-based discrimination.

Moss-Racusin is the only known recipient in the history of the award to be affiliated with a liberal arts college rather than a major research institution. Awarded to just a handful of researchers each year, the prize honors early-career scientists for exceptional work conducted in the first decade following completion of their doctorate.

“One of the major things I try to do in my work is to see how we can use the tools of science — the robustness of the scientific method and experimentation — to tackle really thorny social problems, including gender bias,” Moss-Racusin said.

Her cross-disciplinary research considers ways that stereotypes lead to biased perceptions of individuals and the backlash that both men and women encounter when they violate gender stereotypes. She also uses insights from her

research to develop and implement evidence-based interventions to overcome persistent gender biases.

“My hope is that my research will help our society to understand and overcome the persistent biases and stereotypes that contribute to occupational gender segregation and allow everyone to do the work that they’re most excited about, without being constrained by stereotypic expectations about what is expected for someone of their gender identity.”

Since joining the Skidmore faculty in 2013, she has received grants from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Smithsonian Institution, among other organizations, for research focusing on the impact of gender bias in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. Her work has appeared in leading scientific journals, including *Nature*, *Science*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* and the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*.

Her widely cited paper “Science faculty’s subtle gender biases favor male students,” published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, was the first study to demonstrate

and quantify the biases that women reported experiencing in STEM fields by showing how gender stereotypes were skewing perceptions of similarly qualified male and female candidates for a STEM position.

She has collaborated extensively with undergraduate students to expand her earlier research, resulting in the article “Gender bias produces gender gaps in STEM engagement” in the journal *Sex Roles*.

“I am extremely proud to be able to conduct this work in partnership with talented Skidmore undergraduates, who are among the next generation of rising psychological scientists,” said Moss-Racusin, who will be recognized at an awards event tentatively scheduled to coincide with the American Psychological Association’s annual meeting this summer.

“Professor Moss-Racusin’s pathbreaking research and her strong commitment to the education of undergraduate students in the classroom and through collaborative research experiences exemplify the teacher-scholar model that is at the heart of Skidmore’s liberal arts mission,” said Michael T. Orr, dean of the faculty and vice president for academic affairs at Skidmore College. “Our College community is very proud of this well-deserved recognition for Professor Moss-Racusin and her efforts to address gender biases in STEM fields and to build a more inclusive society for all.”

“One of the major things I try to do in my work is to see how we can use the tools of science — the robustness of the scientific method and experimentation — to tackle really thorny social problems, including gender bias.”

— CORINNE MOSS-RACUSIN

FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Skidmore faculty continue to share their work with the broader scholarly community and in prestigious publications. Here is a sampling of faculty who have recently made the news:

Jason Breves, associate professor of biology, co-authored the article “Molecular mechanisms of Cl⁻ transport in fishes: New insights and their evolutionary context” in the *Journal of Experimental Zoology A*.

Anna Brezny, assistant professor in the Chemistry Department, co-authored the research article “Different Kinetic Reactivities of Electrons in Distinct TiO₂ Nanoparticle Trap States” in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry C*.

Kris Covey, visiting assistant professor of environmental studies and sciences, collaborated with Zoe Pagliaro '20 and 28 other scientists to publish “Carbon and Beyond: The Biogeochemistry of Climate in a Rapidly Changing Amazon” in *Frontiers in Forests and Global Change*. The study, which concluded for the first time that the Amazon rainforest is likely having a net warming effect on global climate, was covered by dozens of media outlets, including *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic* and *Smithsonian Magazine*.

Mary Kate Donovan, assistant professor of Spanish, published “Race, Celebrity and Fashion: Anna May Wong in Spanish Magazines of the 1930s” in the *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies*.

Stephen Ives, associate professor of health and human physiological sciences, **Sarita Lagalwar**, associate professor and director of neuroscience, and **T.H. Reynolds**, professor and chair of health and human physiological sciences, co-authored “The effect of succinic acid on the metabolic profile in high-fat diet-induced obesity and insulin resistance” in *Physiological Reports*. They collaborated with Kendall Zaleski '22, Cheyanne Slocum '17, Daniela Escudero '16, Caty Sheridan '16, Saada Legesse '16 and Kavey Vidal '15.

Eliza Kent, professor and chair of the Department of Religious Studies, published the essay “Gender and the Social Boundaries between ‘Hindus’ and ‘Christians’” in *The Routledge Handbook of Hindu-Christian Relations*.

Elzbieta Lepkowska-White, professor of management and business, together with Amy Parsons and William Berg '18, received the 2020 Emerald Literati Award for Excellence for the article “Social Media Marketing Management: An Application to Small Restaurants in the U.S.,” published in the *International Journal of Culture, Tourism, and Hospitality Research*.

Evan Mack, senior teaching professor of music, released a new album called “The Travelled Road.” Cellist **Jameson Platte**, lecturer and private music instructor, performs on two of the tracks.

Kelly Melekis, associate professor and chair of social work, co-authored “Identity Narration and Negotiation among Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness,” in the *Journal of Aging and Environment*.

Jason Ohlberg, assistant professor of dance, published “Rethinking Technique: Considering Visual, Oral, and Movement Literacy to Promote Technical Skill and Artistic Growth” in the *Journal of Dance Education*.

Juan Navea, associate professor of chemistry, has been selected as a 2020 Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar by the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, one of only eight scholars in the country to win the prestigious award.

Bradley Onishi, associate professor of religious studies, published “Trump’s New Civil Religion” in *The New York Times* and was also quoted in *The New York Times* article “Atlanta Suspect’s Fixation on Sex Is Familiar Thorn for Evangelicals.” His “Straight White American Jesus” podcast is now an institutional partner with the Capps Center for Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at the University of California Santa Barbara.

June Paul, assistant professor of social work, was chosen as a Periclean faculty leader by Project Pericles, a national consortium of colleges and universities that promotes civic engagement within higher education.

Jessica Sullivan, associate professor of psychology, and **Leigh Wilton**, assistant professor of psychology, published “Adults delay conversations about race because they underestimate children’s processing of race” in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. The article drew significant media attention.

Nancy Thebaut, assistant professor of art history, has published “The Double-Sided Image: Abstraction and Figuration in Early Medieval Painting,” in the volume “Abstraction in Medieval Art: Beyond the Ornament.”

David Vella, professor of mathematics and statistics, published the textbook “Invitation to Linear Programming and Game Theory” with Cambridge University Press.

Kamilah Williams, assistant professor of economics, co-authored “Does Information Sharing Matter? Cross-country Evidence on Foreign Bank Presence” in the *Journal of Economics and Business*.



FACULTY BOOKS

The editors of *The New York Times Book Review* included Skidmore College President **Marc C. Conner’s** latest book, “The Selected Letters of Ralph Ellison,” in their list of “100

Notable Books of 2020.” The book is an extensive collection of letters from Ellison, the 20th-century African American writer best known for his novel “Invisible Man.” The *Times Book Review* editors wrote that the “magnificent collection” captures Ellison’s “wit, style, ambition and personal travails, as well as his powerful insights into Black artistic expression.” The product of a decade’s worth of work and collaboration with John F. Callahan, literary executor for Ellison’s estate, the volume was published by Random House.



Gwen D’Arcangelis, associate professor of gender studies, critiques an understudied dimension of the war on terror — U.S. focus on bioterror and germ threats — in “Bio-

Imperialism: Disease, Terror and the Construction of National Fragility.” Published by Rutgers University Press, the book examines the post-9/11 mobilization of bioscience and public health fields in the fight against bioterrorism, alongside narratives of Arab/Muslim terror, U.S. vulnerability, white femininity, technoscientific progress and pandemic preparedness. “In this astute and timely study, D’Arcangelis tracks the rise of a racialized and gendered ‘bioterror imaginary’ in the U.S. through science, politics, journalism, social media and popular culture that facilitated the conversion of warnings of bioterror into a strategy for U.S. imperialism,” author Priscilla Wald wrote about the book.



Far from the Amazon, Kris Covey (in green) collected water samples from a frozen Loughberry Lake in Saratoga Springs with Luke MacKay '24, Carlos Freeman '24 and Marina Hebeisen '24 and other students in a Field Studies in Environmental Science course.

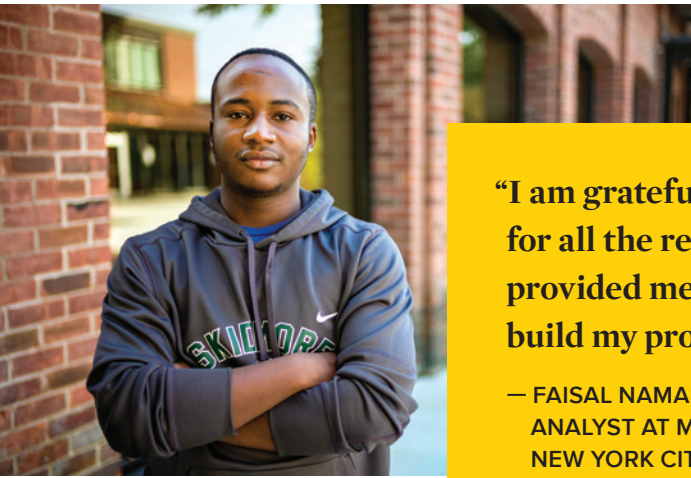
AIG DENVER PUBLIC
SCHOOLS BOSTON
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
GE POWER OFFICE OF
THE NEW YORK STATE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

HANGING TOUGH

Despite a challenging labor market, members of the Class of 2020 have demonstrated remarkable success in pursuing employment, education and other opportunities after graduation, according to Skidmore's annual First Destinations Report.

HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
BBC NEWS
SARAJEVO
HOSPITAL UNIVERSITY
OF ICELAND KPMG
DUKE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
BOSTON UNIVERSITY
MCGILL UNIVERSITY





“I am grateful to Skidmore for all the resources it has provided me in the quest to build my professional career.”

— FAISAL NAMANYA '20
ANALYST AT MUFG BANK IN
NEW YORK CITY

Tuli Kuckes '20 is definitely hanging in there. Like many other members of the Class of 2020, Kuckes has found a creative way to keep his sights high and pursue his passions in a challenging labor market.

Kuckes '20 was hired by Vertical Access, an architectural consultancy firm and rope access company.

A SPRAT-certified, Level 1 rope-access and preservation technician, Kuckes performs inspection and testing work at difficult-to-access structures around the country, including dams, cathedrals and skyscrapers. The job involves rappelling, photography, data compilation and extensive research.

“It’s an unexpectedly good fit for a humanities double major and media minor who spent most of his free time in college fixated on rock climbing,” he quips.

Kuckes is not an outlier. Although members of Skidmore’s Class of 2020 graduated during lockdowns and a steep downturn in the global economy, they have demonstrated remarkable success in finding jobs, advancing their careers, and pursuing education and other opportunities after graduation.

According to the Skidmore College Career Development Center’s annual First Destinations Report, an overwhelming majority of respondents — 85% — reported they are employed or pursuing post-graduate educational and other opportunities. Most — about three-quarters — indicated that they are continuing on a path related to their career goals.

“Although our graduates are entering into one of the most challenging job markets in many years, they barely missed a beat,” said Kim Crabbe, associate dean of student affairs for career development. “They are finding jobs or getting into the graduate schools of their

dreams, a remarkable accomplishment that illustrates how prepared they were to adapt to a rapidly changing market as well as their innate resilience and flexibility.”

The report provides a snapshot of the various paths Skidmore graduates embark on with their degrees. The results reflect responses from 70% of Skidmore’s 639 graduates in 2020. The survey meets part of the guidelines of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), which allow for standardized data among reporting colleges.

Employed graduates are working in nearly every industry. Top fields include arts, audio/video technology and communications (16%), education and training (14%), business management and administration (14%), health science (11%) and finance (10%).

Career Development Center Associate Director Megan Jackson, who prepared the report, said the responses speak to Skidmore’s commitment to supporting students and graduates for a wide range of career paths.

Nearly nine of 10 respondents reported completing at least one internship during their time at Skidmore, and three of four reported participating in two internships or more.

Faisal Namanya '20 is an analyst at MUFG Bank in New York City. He works on the securitized products team, a group he interned with while he was a student.

“I am grateful to Skidmore for all the resources it has provided me in the quest to build my professional career,” Namanya said.

Photo (opposite page): Tuli Kuckes '20 performs inspection and testing work at difficult-to-access structures for Vertical Access, an architectural consultancy firm and rope access company. This image was captured during work in Manhattan.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

85% of respondents report being employed in a job or internship, in graduate school, engaged in service work or on a fellowship.

88% of respondents reported completing at least one internship prior to graduation. Of those who completed an internship, 75% reported two or more.

74% of respondents rated their current occupation as “very related” or “somewhat related” to their career goals.

73% of respondents rated their current occupation as “very related” or “somewhat related” to their area of study.



Hadia Bakkar '20 contributed to coverage of the U.S. presidential election as an intern with broadcaster Al-Jazeera and later moved to NPR. Like other 2020 graduates, Bakkar used creativity to turn challenges into opportunity: Questions about how 20-somethings maintain friendships during the pandemic and the theft of her bicycle in Washington both inspired features for NPR. The professional development opportunity was supported by the Career Development Center through a Post-Graduate Award. The award includes a \$15,000 stipend, paid over six months, allowing new alumni to pursue an unpaid opportunity related to their specific career aspirations. Thanks to generous donors, this funding is growing this year to support more graduates. Atef Al-Jawad, a political analyst, is shown in the background in this image taken during Bakkar’s work with Al-Jazeera.

'44 Dorothy "Dodie" Roman Guenther died peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Dec. 12, 2020. A competitive synchronized swimmer into her 80s, she took flying lessons while at Skidmore. We send condolences to her daughter, Dorothy Gail Mazer, and the entire family. Dorothy Gail observed, "She was a leader, a supporter and a great teammate who always gave her all to whatever she took on."

Alumni Relations
alumni@skidmore.edu

'47 So many gals report doing well at 95 — quite a feat, especially during a pandemic. I'm also delighted to hear from quite a few nursing majors. I was fortunate to receive my vaccination promptly in January.

Claire Reese Burrill celebrated her 95th birthday with four generations of her family present. She stays busy keeping up with grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Retired nurse **Anna Faber Weyant** says her Skidmore degree made it

easier to get the hours she wanted — important to the mother of five. Anna stopped in Saratoga Springs on the way to an Elderhostel a few years back.

Jane Geibel Morton is tired of quarantine but delighted by her "sweet new great-granddaughter Makena." Jane's oldest great-grandson starts college next year. Although she no longer is up for long trips, she still drives and enjoys regular exercise.

I was saddened to learn that **Patricia Lathrop Crow** died on June 3, 2020. The longtime Coral Gables, Fla., resident moved to Santa Fe, N.M., to live with her daughter Karen in 2019. Karen observes, "She had a long history of philanthropic service. She was clever and had a great sense of humor, boundless energy and an infectious laugh."

Do Dunkel Jerman
alumni@skidmore.edu

'48 Phyllis Magill Levy traveled to Italy to see her granddaughter's graduation from a master's program at the University of

Pisa. Her granddaughter is now pursuing a doctorate in linguistics on full scholarship at Cambridge University in London. She dedicated her thesis to Phyllis.

Dotsie Slosson Erskine
grandotse@gmail.com

'49 Beverly Bernhardt Jarrett, now in her 93rd year, has three sons, a daughter and seven grandchildren. Everyone is "doing fine."

Mary Mitchell Durland moved in with daughter Susan Huskey, who lives in Palm Springs, Calif. Mary misses her friends back east but enjoys California's warm weather. Busy meeting new friends, she recently joined her daughter's book club.

Marjorie "Marge" Fee Neff is completely blind, but a gentleman friend chauffeurs her around town. Marge enjoys their long talks and walks together. Grandson Jimmy Lynch graduated from Penn State with a degree in finance. She enjoys spending time with her grandchildren.

Jane Robertson Kalisch is in assisted living in Potomac Falls, Va. She lost her Skidmore roommate, **Elaine Ruggiero Raeburn**, in November 2020. Jane's adopted son, Mark, is building a home in Lake Tahoe, Calif. He calls her twice a day and helps her with stocks.

Dorinne Shutter Armstrong's garden won first prize for small city gardens during her garden club's virtual tour last summer! She now walks with a brace on one knee. While cleaning out an old chest, she discovered memorabilia from her senior seminar at Skidmore — what fun.

Elaine Straka Silverman is looking forward to her grandson's wedding next September. Her granddaughter is completing a Ph.D. at Yale School of Public Health. Elaine's son Robert teaches jazz remotely in NYC.

A healthy **Adelaide Hodgman Marx** stays busy with church work and Girl Scouts.

Caroline Bruner Dean moved into a senior residence in Monroe, Ohio, last September. Three of her four kids live in the state and two live nearby. Although still active and able to go out, Caroline had meals delivered to her room most of this past year. She stays busy crocheting and keeping up with 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Caroline and her husband celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Feb. 24.

I am recovering from a broken right wrist. The injury left me pretty handicapped, but I am finally starting to slowly get back the use of my hand. I have helpers come in daily, which makes my life easier.

Edith Armend Holtermann
holterglas@aol.com

'50 Delray Beach, Fla., resident **Margaret "Peggy" Kahles Guyder** is grateful for her children, grandchildren and four new great-grandchildren. The youngest, Emerson, was born in June 2020.

Sina Nazzaro Conte tells us that she and her husband are doing well. They have three grandsons, two of whom are engaged. They are looking forward to the weddings.

Ruth Raush Wilson and husband Dick reside in Willow Valley, Pa. They both get around in battery-powered scooters. The virus limited their activities, but they are grateful to be healthy. Both children live in California; Tom works in a Permanente hospital and Susan is taking care of her husband, who has cancer.

For **Ellen Kelsey Dubocq**, life in lockdown "was not fun, but it sure beat contracting the virus." She has a ground-floor apartment in a lovely Tucson, Ariz., retirement home. One daughter lives in NYC and the other is about an hour away.



Derrick McAllister '20 has been awarded a 2021 Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship. Funded by the U.S. Department of State and managed by the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center at Howard University, it will allow Derrick to complete a master's degree in an area relevant to U.S. foreign policy. Following an internship and overseas posting, he will become a Foreign Service officer. He is currently an intern at the Alliance Française de Chicago.

Jane Nickum Eastman was frustrated by COVID-19 restrictions. She lives in Lancaster, Pa., where she resumed playing piano after a 25-year hiatus. “It has been a fascinating exercise in observing ‘what comes back — and what doesn’t.’” Jane took “a great trip down memory lane” when a grandson surprised her with a FaceTime video tour of the old family home in Bridgeport, Conn.

Jan Sutherland Fairservis has been painting more than ever. She also teaches a Zoom exercise class for seniors.

Sadly, we lost two classmates since the last issue. We send our sympathy to Ellen French Bunch, who informed us that her mother, **Mary Stokes French**, passed away on June 29, 2020. **Joan Sonnenblum Sands** died in November 2020 after a long illness. We extend condolences to her daughter Caren and sons Gordon and Jeffrey, along with the rest of the family.

Irene Marcus Senter
senter2@comcast.net

51 **Ann Hammel Kahl** is getting requests for her calligraphy on wedding invitations. She’s also working on 150 hand-drawn 2022 desk calendars. Anne works out regularly with weights and a stationary bike and provides fitness coaching for older women.

Lois Burch Whitford suffered a stroke in August that weakened her left hand. She has been recuperating at home with the help of daughter Pam and son-in-law Edwin. Lois’ son, Alan, spent most of the past year in lockdown in England.

Kathleen Borzani Burns considers herself fortunate to be in her fifth year at Whitney Center. Two of Kathleen’s children live nearby, while the other two reside in New Hampshire and Atlanta.

Barbara Tyson Hartman had been in regular contact with **Isabelle “Izzy” Bohman** about plans to

attend our 70th reunion together. She was devastated to learn that Izzy died in August 2020. Our condolences to Barbara and Izzy’s family and friends. Barbara retired from two choruses but still plays piano for a church service at a senior residence. Her children and grandchildren are scattered across the country.

Janet Ainsworth MacDonald says “life is getting harder!” But she is doing well with the assistance of a helper who is also her driver. Although they share December birthdays, Janet’s 92-year-old sister Anne is a year younger.

Sequestered in her nursing home since March 2020, **Mary Dunham Scott** is “hanging in there.” She turns 92 in May!

Barbara Freedman Wolfson had a Zoom visit with **Nancy Long ’76**. Nancy resides in an independent living community in Sayville on Long Island. Barbara continues to mediate custody visitations, small claims and other matters for a local nonprofit.

Despite some health problems, **Maureen “Reni” Hanway Foulke** enjoys life with her golden retrievers. She adopted a feral cat named Nugget, whose golden color matches its personality. Reni’s granddaughter Kirsten and her fiancé, Matt, wed last fall and live in north White Plains, N.Y. Kirsten is the daughter of Reni’s son, John.

Joan Kreuser Noone reminisces fondly about Skidmore often. Although Joan had her legs amputated several years ago, she is able to live in her own home with the assistance of caregivers.

I am proud of my grandchildren, all of whom have interesting careers. Lauren is a forensic pathologist and deputy medical examiner for three New Jersey townships. Her sister Jocelyn, who lives in Lancaster, Pa., publishes a blog, “Lancaster Transplants.” Grandson Bryant produces videos for the



Anna Piperato '01 is a licensed tour guide in Siena, Italy, and works with the “Rick Steves’ Europe” video series. Hit hard by the pandemic, the travel industry was suspended. But Anna was able to launch a series of virtual talks and tours. She will continue to offer scheduled and customized events this year. For details, visit sienaitalytours.com.

New England Patriots and the New Orleans Saints. His sister Paige is a fashion designer with a design house in NYC. I stay in touch with John Brueggeman, chair of the Sociology Department at Skidmore. My grandson John Silverwood postponed his wedding until May 2022 due to the coronavirus. I hope I’ll still be around to attend the ceremony; John assures me that I will. Only time will tell!

Patricia B. Koedding
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52 **Bea Kee’s** grandniece, **Alina Chaudhri ’25**, has been accepted early decision to Skidmore!

Alina is thrilled that she can continue her ballet studies and also be a college student.

Jean Adams Shaw and Biff have slowed down and are appreciative to have each other and the “knock and drop” meals delivered from the Essex Meadows kitchen.

Margery Blacker Griffith was delighted to be honored with a 90th birthday party in November, thrown by a daughter who lives two blocks from her in St. Louis and attended by two sons. Margery survived

lockdown by painting watercolors, including one of a family fish pond commissioned by a granddaughter.

Peggy McConnell Hinrich has been quarantined in her Vero Beach, Fla., home, popping out occasionally to grocery shop and visit the hair salon.

After 30 years in Florida, **Joan Marshall Berger** moved back to New England to be near her daughter.

Betty Johnson Boothe
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53 Life for **Jan Tinsley Fiske** and Bob has been uneventful but enjoyable at their homes in Darien,

Conn., and Vermont. They feel very fortunate to be in good health and have the pleasure of family and friends and each other. “So far, so good!”

Like most of us, **Yvonne Mandell Bartman** spent a lot of time waiting to get the vaccine. “It has been tough being alone so much.” She especially missed playing bridge, orchestra concerts, eating out and seeing family.

Norma “Billy” Fisher moved from her beloved house to a large facility

run by a private company and the University of Florida. As she approaches 90, the availability of continuous multilevel care makes sense. She adds, "No more travel!"

Barbara "Bobbie" Kauffman Stokes shared her take on the past year in a hilarious pen-and-ink self-portrait. It shows a frazzled Bobbie, sipping coffee in her bathroom and slippers 24/7. She sure hasn't lost her touch.

Despite being locked down at Riverwoods, **Carol Morgan Knapp** is enjoying her many friends there and safe opportunities for recreation. Carol created watercolor collages that accompany her Tanka poetry at the community gallery.

Carol "Dubie" Haynes Nelson doubts that, back in 1953, any of us could have imagined a year like 2020 even in our wildest dreams.

Barbara "Bobbie" Fee Dickason lives at Wake Robin, where the hospital and assisted living residents received vaccines well before those in independent living. She enjoyed a "Zoom" Christmas celebration with her family, whom she hadn't seen for 10 months. They met outdoors last summer.

Grace Ackerknecht Harrigan shared the sad news that **Judith "Judy" McEndy Lynch** died at home on Oct. 16, 2020, with both boys at her side. At Skidmore, Judy was known for her vibrant Irish eyes and enthusiasm.

Constance "Connie" Amato Gallo's roommate **Hope Norton Rehlaender** died in February 2020. We remember her as a positive, creative and generous friend. Our condolences to husband Don, their children and the entire family.

Gabrielle "Gabe" Fuchs informed us that her beloved twin sister, **Gerda Fuchs Rypins**, died suddenly on Oct. 4, 2020. Gerda was a 4-foot-11 bundle of energy. As many of you know, Gabe and Gerda lived together happily for the past three

years. We send condolences to Gabe and the entire family. Gabe was happy to hear from **Dorothy Foster Napolie** and **Barbara Feder Mindel**.

Marty Stamper Smith celebrated her 90th birthday this January. She is grateful for friends, family and her wonderful Skidmore memories.

Barbara Fitzgerald Nerreau still lives in the home she and her husband renovated to accommodate her art studio. She no longer paints but is doing well with the assistance of a helper.

Alice Gundersen Schofield's daughter shared that her mother is in assisted living in nearby Burke, Va. Alice lost her husband John in November 2019 and grandson J.P. in April 2020. She thinks of Skidmore friends often. Alice, we are thinking of you.

MaryAnne "Mibs" Wade Menk
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'54 Marcia Weeks Clayton resides in an independent living facility in Brunswick, Mass. Although she couldn't have guests, she stayed in touch with **Delsa Walsh Wilson** and **Joan Hall Hardy**, who live in the area. Sadly, Marcia's 33-year-old granddaughter Emily died of heart failure in September, leaving her husband and 16-month-old twin girls. Our sympathy goes out to you and your family, Marcia.

Sue Lindemann Staropoli and husband Nick celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in February, with family attending at a distance. The couple stays busy gardening and walking. Their children and grandchildren also reside in Oregon, allowing distanced visiting over the past year.

Ann "Balli" Ballenger Wilcox lives in a retirement facility in Malvern, Pa., close to her daughter, son and granddaughter Kelsey. Kelsey assisted Balli in planning our 60th

reunion and continues to be a wonderful presence in her life.

Anne Rayner Korjeff and husband Mike are still dividing their time between a summer residence in Fitzwilliam, N.H., and their home in Harwich Point, Mass. They are also the proud grandparents of **Parker Mumford '22**. Ann is extremely impressed by President Marc Conner.

For **Adelaide "Addie" Warner Minott**, maintaining virtual contact with her large family kept life during the pandemic interesting. Happily, their children and grandchildren were able to safely visit in person over the holidays.

Joanne Ewig McCallum and her husband feel lucky that their son and daughter live close by.

No one in **Emily Whitlack Moore's** family contracted COVID-19, including a daughter who works in Roanoke Memorial Hospital's emergency wing. However, a tornado touched down on their half-mile driveway in Fincastle, Va., turning the sky bright orange!

I am saddened to report the loss of several classmates: **Grace Herbell**

Griffith on April 4, 2019, **June Smith Blessington** on April 19, 2019, **Caryl Bruns Hutchens** on Sept. 9, 2020, and **Carol Leeke Kajala** on Nov. 21, 2020.

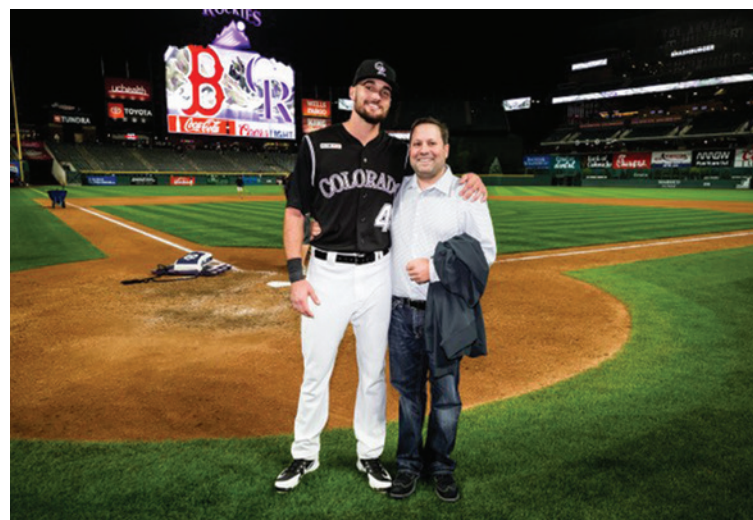
As for me, I am in the same boat as the rest of you. My daughter Leslie stayed with me for several weeks just before starting a part-time job at the St. Regis in Aspen, Colo. Leslie talked me and her daughter Lydia into taking a quick trip to Lake George. We stopped at Skidmore to see the old and new campuses. It was the highlight of 2020!

Lydia Pardo McMinn
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'56 Judith Bloom Shaw recently published a collection of stories, "Catching a Memory," her first foray into fiction. She is the author of several books on health-related subjects. Preview her latest at spdbooks.org.

Averill Dayton Geus
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'57 Class "Prexi" Hope Thompson Kerr reports that the coronavirus hit Oregon hard in late



Scott Bronstein '96 is an MLBPA-certified agent for Magnus Sports, a full-service baseball and entertainment agency headed by Latin music star Marc Anthony. Scott lives in Scottsdale, Ariz., with wife Liza and their four daughters, including identical triplets. Here, Bronstein appears with Sam Hilliard after his MLB debut in 2019.



Fitzhugh Karol '04 was one of eight New York state artists selected in 2020 to install art along the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge's bicycle and pedestrian path in Rockland County, N.Y. His sculpture incorporates steel from both the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge and its predecessor, the Tappan Zee.

winter. She enjoys doing thousand-piece puzzles and taking long hikes with her twin sister near their home in Bend. It's a great place to view birds and wildflowers.

Mary "Bang Bang" Gund Farr and Hap live in a Naples, Fla., retirement community but return to Cleveland and a family retreat in Michigan for spring and summer. Hap enjoys sailing his radio-controlled boats while Bang Bang experiments with new art mediums.

Toby Rowe Hohenstein's family trip to celebrate her 85th birthday has been canceled twice! She and Floyd are hoping to travel by train to visit parks in Canada in June.

Joanna "Joy" Hamman Shaw's retirement facility provided virtual entertainment during lockdown, but isolation and a ban on visitors were tough to take. Nonetheless, a stalwart Joy busied herself by knitting many baby hats for a local hospital, along with reading and puzzles.

Ingrid Kolseth Zola and husband Skip moved to Meadow Ridge in Redding, Conn., to be closer to two

of their children. The couple's 10 grandchildren are scattered across the country. Son **Rob '89** has a daughter at UNC and his twins start college this fall. **Laurie Zola Gendell '81** and husband David are proud of son Alex, who is completing an MBA there. Son **Brad '86** lives in London with his wife, Leanna. Another son, Greg, lives in Westport, Conn., with his two boys.

We've lost three of our own over the past year and a half. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families. Jeanne Lombardi, daughter of **Grace Lehmann**, informed me that her mother died on Oct. 14, 2020, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. **Stephanie Merber Lench** shared the sad news that **Vivian Weisenfeld Gans** died at her home in McLean, Va., on Oct. 21, 2020. **Dorothy Briwa Ball** reported the death of **Sarah Cameron Alexander** in Middletown, R.I., on Oct. 18, 2019.

On a happier note, Jim and I are grateful for good health and loving companionship. During quarantine, we walked, swam and tended our houses, which are one mile apart.

Jim's place served as our "guest house." It accommodated my son, Geoffrey, a musician and instructor at Manhattan College, and his wife, who escaped NYC last March and worked remotely there until mid-August. Jim's granddaughter spent a month in the house in the fall. It was nice to spend time and holidays with some of the family. We celebrated my 85th birthday with a special video produced by Geoffrey. Check out "Happy Birthday to Mom" on YouTube.

Dorothy "Dotty" Wakeman Mattoon
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'58 Due to a surprise visit from cancer, I've been less physically active than usual. Masked doctors, family and friends, along with telephone calls and handwritten cards, lift my spirits. I'm grateful that the coronavirus could not cancel the Tucson, Ariz., sunshine and blue skies!

Scottsdale, Ariz., resident **Joyce Gilbert Hood-Jelliff** is also dealing with serious health issues. We commiserate over our new challenges and rejoice in the support we get.

Naomi Goldfarb Tamerin has relocated from Greenwich, Conn., to Mill Valley, Calif., to be closer to daughters **Jessica '85** and **Miriam '89**. Naomi stays in touch with **Marilyn Rosenberg Estess**, **Monica Reis de Janosi** and **Esther-Ann Solotaroff Asch**.

Frances "Fran" Garrett Crew lost her husband of 62 years, Bruce, due to complications from aneurysm surgery in January. Fran has moved from Elmira to Lake Saranac, N.Y., to be near her daughter and son-in-law. Fran's daughter is an attorney for the Olympics works in Lake Placid.

Essex Junction, Vt., resident **Louise Fancher Field** lost her husband, Clifford, after his 10-year struggle with Parkinson's and heart problems.

She appreciates the amazing support from nearby family and home hospice care.

Clare Russell Kingsbury shared that a family Christmas gathering in Vero Beach, Fla., a 20-year tradition, was replaced with a Zoom call. The pandemic also prevented Claire from attending her granddaughter's spring wedding in Virginia.

Constance Masciale Carino and husband James live in Dunwoodie, a continuing care community outside Philadelphia. She enjoyed a call from **Betty Jennison Brady** on Dec. 28, 2020, their 62nd wedding anniversary. Betty had attended the couple's wedding! They had a good laugh and reminisced about old times. Both are healthy and doing well.

Phyllis Atwood Walsh finds reading helps her get through these strange "home alone" times. She recommends David Michaelis' new biography of Eleanor Roosevelt, "Eleanor," as well as his earlier biography of N.C. Wyeth. Another top pick is Erik Larson's newly released title, "The Splendid and the Vile," about Winston Churchill.

Barbara "Oz" Osborne Vulkoff and husband Craig are doing fine at home. They are getting adept at puzzles. She exclaims, "I can't believe we are so old!"

Here in Tucson, I am saddened to report that **Valeria "Vallie" Hill Beckwith** has died from cancer-related complications. Oz, **Barbara Hawes Wood** and I will miss her at our little Skidmore luncheon outings

Barbara "Bobbie" Hayman Schwartz
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'59 Just prior to the shutdown, **Jan Beinetti Thurling** enjoyed two glorious weeks in Florida with family. They enjoyed unbeatable sunsets on Captiva Island and time with family in Naples. Jan missed working with her first-graders but is

grateful for her volunteer work with JOY International. Their Barefoot Mile fundraiser was postponed until Aug. 29.

Anne Henszey Pyle and Ken “happily endured” 2020, staying virus-free. Sequestered at home, they stayed in touch with their children and grandchildren virtually. Anne is preparing her Watanabe art collection for donation to a major museum. Ken retired in June after 56 years teaching at the University of Washington. He is at work on a new book. He and Anne celebrated their 60th anniversary on Dec. 22, 2020.

Marsha Johnson Bancroft lives with her daughter Betsy in Orange, Vt. Located about 30 minutes from Montpelier, their home borders the 600-acre Sage Mountain Botanical Sanctuary. They enjoy walking its many beautiful trails. Marsha retired after a long career with Disability Rights Vermont.

Jane Williams Walker moved into a “wonderful” assisted living facility in Fishers, Ind.

Linda Eisenberg Hardy’s first great-grandchild celebrated her first birthday in January. Linda and her husband shuttle between homes in Seattle and Las Vegas every few weeks. Their youngest grandchild will fly to France to finish her third year of college. The other seven are out of college and employed.

Staying close to home, **Barbara Huge Homeier** remained in partial quarantine in Missouri.

For **Marilyn Ramshaw Adair**, lockdown didn’t provide enough extra time to tackle all the projects on her to-do list, along with preparing meals and feeding pets.

Anne-Marie Philippe DeTourbet says, “Bonjour ’59ers! She put her 50-year-old sewing machine to work to make 30 patient gowns for a local hospital with an acute shortage. The couple spent August in the Chamonix Valley in France.



Brittain Mason Huey '06 married Brian Huey on Bainbridge Island, Wash., on Sept. 4, 2020. The couple reside in Seattle.

Sheila DeNadal Salvo and Jim attended the wedding of their first grandchild, Sarah Bruce, on June 27, 2020. Their daughter, **Vicki Salvo Bruce '82**, was the proud mother of the bride. Plans for a beach ceremony were scuttled by rain and guests were restricted to a small group of 20. The newlyweds will celebrate with a big party in May. With 10 adult grandchildren, the Salvos expect many more nuptials in their future. Both hale and healthy, the couple splits their time between Florida and Massachusetts.

Five of **Cynthia Perry Newton’s** grandchildren graduated from high school or junior high in June 2020; none were traditional ceremonies. However, she and John enjoyed watching a parade of local graduates, including a grandson, who drove into town in their decorated vehicles, beeping their horns and waving. In addition to much reading and golf, they explored new walking trails.

Despite a tumultuous year, **Audrey Ades Reilly** welcomed two great-grandbabies just before lockdown. Having five little ones toddling about “is such a joy!” Audrey spent most of the summer at the family camp at Lake George, where family members visited in shifts.

Joanna “Joey” Haufler Rosenthal’s breast cancer returned after 27 years. She had her second surgery this winter and is on the mend. The Rosenthals’ son Todd, a theater designer, had 14 plays canceled. He is a tenured professor at Northwestern.

Roe Schainman Halper taught art outdoors this summer. Many high school students had little to do after camps and pre-college programs were cancelled. Roe also helped high school seniors prepare art portfolios. She continues working on her own art and gardens, walks and swims.

Royanne Chippo Bailey hosted her daughter and family at their Virginia farm for two weeks last June. They all enjoyed swimming, hiking, biking and bouncing on a mini-trampoline. Their two granddaughters, 7 and 12, also spent a lot of time searching the woods for their dog, who loves to chase deer. Royanne and Ed “were worn out just watching them from the porch!”

Terry Alcorn Foster spent a week in Maine with their family of 10, all of whom had tested negative for the coronavirus. She and Frank returned to Pennsylvania refreshed and content to stay put. Although Terry’s

hospice work was curtailed, she and Frank help out with yard work and grocery delivery.

Marilyn McGiffin Knight wishes everyone the comfort of knowing that ’59ers truly care for one another. She cited the words of poet Rasool Rza: “While yet there is time/let the hand of a friend/feel the warmth of your hand.”

One of **JoEllen Steinfeld Snowman’s** two daughters lives in Tanzania. She typically visits Jo Ellen and Alfred in their Englewood, N.J., home for two weeks twice a year. Due to the pandemic, she stayed for six months. Their other daughter and her children live in Massachusetts. All are healthy. Spending time with friends provided Jo Ellen and Alfred “a little bridge to sanity.”

Carolyn “Lynn” Morrison Dallesandro feels fortunate to live in Florida. She was able to play golf, tennis and pickleball throughout the pandemic. Lynn volunteers by making phone calls for Meals-on-Wheels. She stays in touch with **Jean Travis Davies** and the daughter of the late **Joan Squillacote Chevalier**.

Sally Freund Saltzstein continues to tutor and volunteer in the elementary school from which she retired after

30 years. She likes the current arrangement “much better.”

Janet Lucas Whitman enjoyed a quiet Christmas in Austin, Texas, with granddaughter **Lydia Coleman '24**, child of Janet's daughter **Sally Coleman '87**. She is thrilled that Lydia is a Skidmore freshman — and loves it!

Nancy Rae Scully held smaller but nonetheless joyous and festive Christmas and New Year's celebrations at her NYC home. She has been focused on staying mentally and physically active during the long coronavirus siege. Happily, “there is always something to do in NYC.”

Virginia “Ginny” Diefendorf Preston had moved 16 times before finally settling in North Carolina last fall. Her appreciation of class communication this past year “can't be measured. Thanks so much.”

Starting last March, **Susan Cahill Ramsey** and her boyfriend stayed in virtual isolation, going out only to get groceries and medications. After living by a busy work and social schedule for years, “the days are blissfully ours.”

Sandra Stees Sudofsky
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'60 Class president **Suzanne Elsesser** enjoys being a volunteer driver for County Harvest, a nonprofit that “rescues” unsold food from supermarkets and delivers it to local groups for distribution to those in need.

Susan Grove Hyson's granddaughter, **Anna Hyson '25**, will begin her freshman year at Skidmore in September. A third generation Skiddie, her father is **Matt Hyson '92**.

Eddie Ackerman Jacques and her husband Walter have remained healthy. She was disappointed they could not visit kids and grandkids in California. Like many of us, they

read, exercised and watched too much TV.

Dorothy Gordon Englander moved from Albany to Brookline, Mass., to be near her adult children.

After a year of sequestration, **Becky Martin Watson** feels blessed to be healthy and living in Vermont. Her family is hoping to reopen their day camp this summer. Closed last year, she and her sister **Dorothy '65** spent time vacationing and fundraising — new experiences for them.

After **Kathy Ford Lyon's** husband died in 2014, she sold their Connecticut home of 50 years and moved to a retirement community in Salt Lake City to be closer to her son and his family. While there, she met a charming retired doctor. Since then, the couple has vacationed in Hawaii together and enjoyed visits with **Jean Morrison** and her husband Ronald. Kathy is proud of her grandson, who graduated from the University of Chicago with a combined bachelor's and master's degree in four years.

Nelle Nugent is grateful she did not have a Broadway show running last spring. Two productions are in the works that she is conservatively scheduling to open in spring 2022. Kudos to her daughter Alexandra for making Nelle a first-time grandmother on Jan. 1, 2020! **Ruby Puryear Hearn** and Nelle are good friends and opera nuts. They miss meeting up at the Met!

Another award goes to **Anne Costales Foy**, who recently became a great-great-grandmother! Due to pandemic restrictions, she and her husband Robert see the new arrival virtually for now.

To maintain sanity, **Judy Harmon Miller**, **Kathy Adair Coombs**, **Barbara Block Zwick**, **Mary Kelchner Lindner** and **Liz Atterbury Harrington** have a regular Zoom gathering every other Friday. “We're in fine shape unless you count back surgery, leg healing, tendonitis, a

torn rotator cuff and occasional lame legs,” quips Judy.

Sue Smith notes that we are in a new era. “It's time to move on, but we should also take time to remember those we have lost.”

Rosemary Bourne informed us that **Pam Crossley Faulkner's** husband, Bob, died on Feb. 2 after a long fight with cancer. We send Pam and her family our heartfelt sympathy.

Betty Garman Robinson died unexpectedly due to a fall last October. An active participant in the Civil Rights Movement, she organized a student march protesting racial exclusion at Woolworth lunch counters in the South.

Carolyn Finney Wipper is sad that Reunion 2020 had to be cancelled. She had planned on coming with **Deb Davenport Brooks** and **Sarah Couch McQuilkin**.

Mary Jane Adriance Hall joins **Peggy Campbell Rhoads**, **Ann Schuyler Young** and **Mary Jane “MJ” Springer Auch** for a Zoom get-together on a regular basis. MJ's tech expertise is key to its success.

Elizabeth Perles Gillman is involved as vice chair of the New Rochelle Opera Company board in New Rochelle, N.Y. She also volunteers playing the piano at White Plains Hospital.

Hadley Sillick Robertson feels like our generation had the best of

everything: we were too young to remember WWII in a vivid way and our young men were not drafted to serve in Korea or Vietnam.

Debby Davenport Brooks spent 2020 “vacationing in ‘Puerto Backyarta.’” She and David spend a lot of time driving to and from their Vermont house. She read a lot of books.

Leilani Holloway Eels's daughter moved in with her after the death of Leilani's husband last year — “a wonderful arrangement.”

Carol Santry Covello feels fortunate that she continues to stay healthy and active.

Ellie Davies Bowden lost her husband Bob to Alzheimer's disease last October. **Pam Crossley Faulkner's** husband Bob died in February after a long period of illness. We send heartfelt sympathy to them both.

Barbara O'Donovan Whitwell died on Oct. 20, 2020. Principal and director of a school for children with disabilities in Roanoke, Va., for two decades, she transformed many lives.

Judy White and I live 1,680 miles apart but have fun playing bridge together online. Thank heavens for the internet!

Marty Miller Spencer
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STAY IN TOUCH

CLASS NOTES are edited for length and clarity. Visit alumni.skidmore.edu/classnotes for the latest class news.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Contact Mary Monigan, Class Notes editor, at 800-564-0115 or mmonigan@skidmore.edu.

YOUR PHOTOS ARE WELCOME

Please send photos to scope@skidmore.edu.

'61

Class President **Zelda Jacobson Schwartz** is “thrilled” that her granddaughter Ayla is a member Skidmore’s Class of ’25! Looking forward to celebrating our 60th, Zelda hopes “we will all gather together to share our journey soon.”

Sally Pew remembers the day she arrived in Saratoga wearing green knee socks, Bermuda shorts, an oversized Oxford cloth button-down shirt and a bright yellow oilcloth bib that read “Sally Pew, Portland Maine.” She has two children and two “perfect” grandchildren.

Sue Jacobs Schaffzin missed our 50th due to illness; she’s fine now. The last time she visited her two sons and four grandkids in the South was January 2020, but in May she had an 80th birthday celebration on Zoom. She stays busy playing online bridge and walking.

Instead of escaping the Colorado winter by going to Australia or New Zealand on a house exchange, **Marion “Cookie” Rapaport Thier** and Ken rented a sweet Victorian bungalow in St. Petersburg, Fla. They are enjoying a vibrant community with lots of museums and galleries. Hiking and beach time round out their schedule.

Sandra Weisman Sheppard got more exercise than ever over the past year: water aerobics, a balance class and gym workouts. Her children and grandchildren are doing well, and she can’t believe her oldest daughter, Lauren, is retiring from teaching this year. “How can she — we, I — be that old?”

Paula Rosen Janis has been approached by a team of successful producers interested in producing a cartoon version of her “Magic Garden” TV show. The best part, quips Paula, “Cartoon characters don’t get wrinkles.” She is delighted to be performing at 80 and to discover that the “Magic Garden” was mentioned in Mariah Carey’s new memoir.

Peyton Bibb Evans spent last summer at her Yarmouth home on Cape Cod. In late October, she returned to her Key West residence to shelter in place, relying on Facebook and email to stay connected with friends. Sadly, Peyton’s sister, Ann Price, passed away over the summer. Eighteen months older than Peyton, she and Ann were very close. Peyton, we send you our condolences.

For the past 20 years, **Sue Parker Prior** tutored first- and second-grade students in reading and math in Savannah, Ga. The transition from in-person to online and hybrid instruction has been challenging. When the summer musical theater program she advises was shuttered, Sue was granted permission to film a staged production for online streaming. Rigorous safety measures paid off; no one became ill. Sue is gearing up for this summer’s productions of “Pippin” and “Frozen.”

I often use FaceTime to connect with my Skidmore roommate, **Jerry Conley Richmond**, in Hawaii. Retired after 55 years as a Montessori teacher and trainer, she and husband Henry relocated to Rogue Valley Manor, a life-care retirement community in Medford, Ore. Jerry encourages anyone in the area to look her up.

Helen Illingworth Challenger’s plans to travel to China and Africa were canceled by the pandemic. She and her husband feel fortunate to be fit and active; their health club stayed open last year. They both golf several times a week and Helen plays tennis and pickleball. She enjoys walking along the Chattahoochee River.

Barbara Connell Howell attended Skidmore for her junior and senior years. She and her husband lived in Germany, where their two daughters were born, and then moved to Australia before returning to the U.S. They now divide their time between Hobe Sound, Fla., Little



Gabriella Carboni '14 married Christian Perez-Morin on Oct. 5, 2019, in Lincoln, Mass. Shawna Jackson '14 and Sarah Dinkelacker '14 were bridesmaids. Also in attendance were Rae Ajamie '14 and Joanna Egner '14 (Gabriella's first-year roommates), Savannah Redston '14, Matt Gaydar '14, Alison Eagle '14, Alexandra McGlinchy '14, Nick Rushman '13, Eva Hagan Tartaglia '14, Ryan Ahern '14, Hannah Miller '14, Joe Marto '14, Lena Bilik '14, Emily Pintel '13, Jack Ireland '14, John Crian '14, Noah Throop '14 and Caroline Robinson Smith '14.

Compton, R.I., and NYC. A Duke grad, their older daughter is senior VP of DeBeers Diamonds and lives in London with her husband and two teenagers. The younger daughter and her husband live on their working farm in Washington, Conn., with their son and two daughters when not in NYC.

Linda Collier Kenerson has met a gentleman. He’s an Irish tenor, plays the piano by ear and entertains at their community coffee bar. She promises to keep us updated on their plans to travel in California and Italy once the pandemic eases.

Pam Merton Jackson and her husband are well but wearied after 10 months of lockdown in Texas. Pam’s trip to Italy with the Kimbell Art Museum (**Linda Collier Kenerson** was to be her roommate) and a May trip to Scotland (a knitting trip to Shetland) were canceled.

Derry Knight Coe reports that demand for Welsh terriers during the pandemic has been high. Their dogs provide comfort and joy at a time like this!

Meredyth Clark Graham resigned after 32 years teaching ESL at Delaware County College. She’s

spending more time with family, catching up on household chores, reading and, of course, spoiling her labradoodle, Juliet.

Joan Horowitz Behr and her husband traded their beloved Cape May home for a new residence in Philadelphia that comes with a double-door French refrigerator. It wasn’t an even trade, but they no longer smack their heads on the fruit and veggie bins. It’s been hard to replace being “down at the shore” and their wonderful neighbors there.

Fran Malino’s work recovering and preserving Jewish history is featured in the June 2020 issue of Smithsonian Magazine. She spearheaded the creation of the digital platform Diarna, which combines cutting-edge technology, archival research and oral histories to recreate lost Jewish heritage sites around the globe. Fran is board president of the associated nonprofit Digital Heritage Mapping.

Peyton Bibb Evans now winters in Key West, Fla., and summers on Cape Cod. Despite being masked and isolated, Peyton is happy and well.

Singing weekly with my church choir has been a special joy for me

during the pandemic. The young music director, Steven Seigart, is a genius in arranging music virtually. A former Skidmore Sonneteer is also a member. You can check me out on stevenseigart.com. I also stay busy keeping up with a 14-year-old granddaughter and her 4-year-old brother, who both live nearby. I'm looking forward to our 60th reunion.

Charlotte Smiley Read
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'62

Cassandra Nickerson Blattner and husband Dave spent spring and summer 2020

sequestered in Maine and wintered in Denver, Colo.

Nancy Smith Bushnell shared the sad news that her husband, Vic Reiling, died Feb 1. He had been in a memory care facility since October 2020. Although Vic's health was declining, the loss "was still a shock." Nancy spent three days with "roomie" **Susan Donner Wells** at a timeshare on Siesta Key in Florida.

Susan Sambrook Berry
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'63

Lynn Edwards Hendricks moved to Austin, Texas, where her daughter and son-in-law built a "casita" for her on their property in the Spanish Oaks area. She loves being near her family and looks forward to enjoying Austin's food and music scene soon.

Weeks before the outbreak of the pandemic, **Joan Davidson Reich** and husband Jim sold their home and moved to Pennswood Village, a CCRC in Newtown, Pa. The community soon went into lockdown. The Reichs look forward to less Zoom and more in-person socializing.

On the West Coast, **Joan Rascoe Hausman** and husband Warren traded their home of 43 years for a new and smaller residence nearby in Cupertino, Calif. Warren is a retired Stanford professor.

Sandy Wilbert Fleischman stays in touch with **Susan Ershler** and has frequent virtual get-togethers with **Ronnie Zolondek Bramesco** and **Judith Pettingell**. Sandy and Ronnie now FaceTime twice a week for cocktails and chatter. Sandy plays tennis, walks and hikes with her two daughters and youngest granddaughter several times a week. An avid knitter, she makes hats for a Native American reservation in South Dakota, dolls for kids in Tanzania and socks for lucky friends.

Dina Schoenthal Butcher enjoyed a Zoom visit and drinks with recently widowed **Jane Snowden Jones** and **Ronnie Zolondek Bramesco**.

Jane Finneman Hochman is eager to discuss something other than the pandemic or politics. She hopes the scourge of COVID-19 will be gone by late summer so we can enjoy our mini-reunion in Mystic, Conn., from Sept. 20 to 22.

Carol Brush Nicholson's husband Carlton passed away peacefully at home in February. Carol plans to sell their home and relocate to a local independent living residence.

Widowed since December 2019, **Elizabeth Cater Jones** sold her essential oil company and no longer teaches classes on plant medicine, nutrition and essential oils.

Roberta Lahn Simon points out that early vaccination has been one of the advantages of age. After subscribing to the genomics company 23 and Me, she discovered that she and **Patty Foreman Balbirer** are cousins!

Susan Altus Rudnick and husband Jeffrey spent the winter in Boca Raton, Fla. After selling their home of 51 years in Sudbury, Mass., the couple relocated to Harrison, N.Y., to be near a daughter and her family. Their son is a physician in Napa Valley, Calif. Despite the pandemic challenges, the happily retired couple enjoy golfing and walking.

Connie Pendleton Phipers and

husband Dean winter in Vero Beach, Fla., and summer in Manchester, Vt. They have stayed in touch with their eight children and 17 grandchildren via Zoom. They enjoy long walks, cocktails on the beach and playing bridge online.

Laura Young held a one-woman show at Hudson River Gallery in Iowa City, Iowa, featuring her red abstract paintings. Is it a coincidence that Laura has a new man in her life, as well as a new home and rescue cat?

Anne Luetkemeyer Stone's son Dorsey and his wife Becky moved out of Boston to nearby Milton, with their children, 5-year-old Jamie and 2-year-old Lily. Naturally, Anne considers them "gorgeous and brilliant."

Sabre Gilmartin is selling her flat in the U.K. and returning to her newly renovated and refurbished Manhattan apartment. She is interested in buying a small winter residence in Sarasota, Fla., and welcomes pointers on where to look.

I am very grateful that we seem to be emerging from the multiple crises of 2020. A new administration has implemented measures to ameliorate the impact of the pandemic and set a new course. I love Skidmore, am very excited about our new president, Marc Conner, and am happy to know the wonderful women of our class.

Susan Blum Loukedis
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'64

Lynne Knobel enjoys living on the waterfront in Milford, Conn., where she paints portraits and cares for rescue horses. She was sad she couldn't see family during the pandemic, especially her son and grandchildren.

Carol Spiegel Hadler and her husband continue to call Chapel Hill, S.C., home. They missed seeing family in Berkeley, Calif., but look forward to resuming travel soon.

Carol Krentzman Ginsburg is involved with a software project at her synagogue and especially misses theater, travel and hugging her granddaughters.

Lindsay Knowlton lost her partner of 26 years, Burt Porter, on Dec. 29, 2020. Poet laureate of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, he was an acclaimed musician and former chair of Lyndon Institute's English department.

A daily walker, **Lilless McPherson Shilling** enjoys the beaches of South Carolina. She has taken a hiatus from her online business writing course at East Carolina University but will resume this fall. Daughter Paz and her children live nearby, a great comfort since the loss of husband Mackie.

Family nurse practitioner **Nancy Eile Warner** considers it "a privilege" to have provided medical care during the pandemic.

Toni Scheer Brackis shared the exciting news that grandson **Eli Cott '25** enrolled early decision at Skidmore. A third-generation Skiddie, he follows Toni's son **Jonathan Brackis '91**.

Janice BozBeckian Touloukian
jantouloukian@gmail.com



From left, Becky Martin Watson '60, Ellen Flight '80 and Dorothy Martin Milne '65 are all involved in children's camps in Vermont. Watson and Milne were recognized for lifetime achievement for their many years of involvement by the Vermont Camp Association.

'65

Jane Flax Lewis lost her husband John in October 2019 following a two-year illness. Her son, John Berman, is an early-morning anchor on CNN's "New Day." He and his wife live in Westchester, N.Y., with their 13-year-old twin boys. Jane's daughter, Mindy Berman, is CEO of a management consulting firm in Boston. She and her physician husband live in Newton with their daughters, ages 20, 17 and 15. Jane stays in touch with **Linda Rosenfield Schaye**, **Bonnie Palisi Greenawalt** and Skidmore roommate **Karen Berlan Bleier**.

Thanks to Zoom, **Kathie Aberman** has been busy with community projects and politics. She supplements a scarce social life with book discussions and a workout group. Kathy had successful cataract surgery in February and is eager to visit her children in Arizona.

Susan "Gibbsie" Gibbs reports that coronavirus restrictions put a damper on life in Oslo, but Norwegians continued to "hold on." She took a lovely drive to fjord country last summer to visit family and friends, sightseeing along the way.

Joan Laskey Sussman is executive director of a chamber music group she has been involved with. She moved to a multi-age lifestyle community in Sarasota, Fla., and took a part-time job with La Musica, an international chamber music festival held annually in April.

Judith Testa arrived in Rome last February just as the city began to close down. Undaunted, she took in a Raphael exhibit, tramped around the deserted archaeological museum in Palatine Hill and visited the beach town of Marina di San Nicola with a friend. She sailed through several airports on March 12, the day before international travel closed. Two months later, a happy Judith received her computer and iPad, which she had left in Rome's airport. It was retrieved by her landlord.

Julie Sparks Parmegiani and Bob spent the winter and early spring in Florida. She and I ruminated over holiday mail delays and missing family. Julie enjoys her book club and watching historical movies.

Sarah Smith Munley died Dec. 2, 2020. A leading professional in the

field of pharmacology, she was a longtime advocate for human rights and gender equality. We extend condolences to her family.

I was a roundtable panelist at the Workers Injury Law and Advocacy Group's September Zoom Conference. **Sandy Koch Prior** and I chat several times a year. Many of us missed family milestones and holiday events due to the pandemic. Hopefully we'll be able to make up for it this year.

Toby Weisberg Rubenstein
owcpcclaimsconsulting@gmail.com

'66

Janie Drees Blando retired after a 17-year career as a GED teacher with the New York State Department of Corrections. Husband Frank is a retired attorney and public defender. The couple moved into Janie's childhood home. Their son Dante and his wife Sienna have a 6-year-old. Sienna holds a doctorate in art history and works with the Cleveland Clinic's art collection. Dante is a systems analyst for the Bank of Oklahoma, working remotely.

Mary Ann Sheldon resides outside of Philadelphia after living in cities across the U.S. and overseas. At 50, she earned a master's from the University of Pennsylvania and left publishing for a teaching career and is now happily retired. Her two children are in Boston. Mary Ann spent several months helping her daughter, the mother of 3- and 5-year-old sons and 1-year-old identical twin girls, last year. Back at home, Mary Ann cares for her wonderful collie-great Pyrenees dog, myriad houseplants and huge perennial gardens.

Christine Neville teaches gifted students three days a week. Last year, her neighbors put together a farm-to-table produce and artists market that has been a great success.

Ann C. LoDolce
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'67

I am fortunate that my daughter and her family live about 15 minutes away, so we have had brief outdoor visits. I talk to my son in NYC a few times a week. I'm in my fourth-year reading exams for an independent elementary school. For balance, I walk my dog and take Spanish and yoga classes on Zoom.

Joan Oppenheimer Cohen and husband Ben were hunkered down in their home of 47 years in New Jersey much of the past year. They enjoyed short outdoor visits with their son and daughter-in-law and three granddaughters, who live nearby. Joan is eager to visit her daughter and two grandchildren in Costa Rica. Semi-retired, husband Ben works virtually as a mediator. Joan stays in close touch with **Suzanne Hammer Eliot**, **Harriet Macht Beckerman**, **Carolyn Grodin Wenger** and **Gail Tully Owen**. She regularly meets up on Zoom with Carolyn and Gail. In February, **Susan Gottlieb Beckerman** and Joan happened to attend the same virtual author event for an Atlanta civil rights lawyer.

Chris Leader Hoffmeister and husband George walk several miles each day. Three of their grandchildren are in college (Elon, Bowdoin and Lehigh); all returned to campus for spring semester.

Sally Huling Hilderbrand took on the massive chore of cleaning out her home of 45 years. She has moved to a CCRC in Virginia close to her youngest child, Doug.

Carla Cotter Skjong loved our old campus but believes that Skidmore continues improving. She is proud of the College's goals, particularly President Conner's Racial Justice Initiative.

Pam Scharmann Stewart had her left hip replaced last September and the right swapped out in February. She is delighted with the



Carole Walter Maeder '65 and Zack sold their New Hampshire home, hosted the annual Skidmore '65 celebration and celebrated their 13th anniversary. From left to right: Linda Ellenbogen, Carole Walter Maeder, Elaine Hickey Neely, Eileen Kirwin Cameron, Linda Miller Thorell, Diana Ettinger Kloevekovn '66, Peg Kendrick Kuechle and Joan Berejik.

results: “No pain!” Husband Douglas was a great help in her recovery. They miss their kids and grandkids but connect via Zoom.

Peggy Baker Rennels considers her riverside home outside Oxford, Md., “a nice place to isolate.” She follows COVID webinars presented online by former colleagues but doesn’t miss the stress. Highlights of 2020 include a family wedding at her home and a trip to Antarctica.

Christine Filbin Hoffman and Frank live close to a community ski slope with well-designed mountain biking and hiking trails. Condo living in a small village allowed them to experience some daily normalcy, interacting with a very small pod of friends. A development consultant, Frank works with nonprofits around the country. Chris’s women’s choral group met online before resuming parking lot rehearsals. She does pastel painting in a small rented studio.

Martha Drexler Osler sent word that **Leslie Miles** died in her Connecticut home on Sept. 21, 2020. Chris Leader Hoffmeister informed me that **Kathy Strait Jackson** died unexpectedly on July 5, 2020. We send condolences to both families.

Lorraine Rorke Bader
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'68 Sharon “Sherry” Brooker Stewart lives in an independent wing of a senior community. She and her neighbors were able to get vaccinated early when an area CVS discovered 450 extra doses of the vaccine. During the past year, she ate in the dining room three days a week and otherwise got takeout meals. Distanced line dancing and Zoom classes helped her get through. “Driveway visits” at her son’s home provided solace.

Margie Price Lee stays active by walking, occasional cross-country skiing and mountain biking. She teaches virtually with Elders Climate

Action and supports state and local climate change initiatives. Two book clubs and a Zoom cocktail get-together with friends round out her schedule. She’s looking forward to seeing her daughter and three grandsons soon.

My husband Larry and I cared for our 2-year-old grandson Tyler, who provided us with needed diversion and exercise! We adjusted to pandemic life with online classes, outdoor exercise and FaceTime with grandchildren. Participating in the Great Courses and a weekly virtual cocktail hour with friends were highlights.

Nicoline Holbrook Sabbath
nsabbath@verizon.net

'69 Marine ecologist **Charlene D’Avanzo** is the author of a four-book mystery series featuring the Maine oceanographer Mara Tusconi and based on actual environmental events. Look out for her latest book, which mirrors an unprecedented shark attack that shocked Mainers last summer. For details, see charlenedavanzo.com.

Barbie Herbert von der Groeben and I have regular phone chats while walking. We also join biweekly Zoom conferences of the three-floor Van Deusen Seven, hosted by **Leslie Gardner McGovern**. As a fire prevention officer for the Nantucket Fire Department’s Generation Safe program, Barbie assesses seniors’ homes for adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and other safety issues. When the coronavirus hit, she helped multiple agencies pull together a highly successful homebound vaccination program.

Please check out the Class of 1969 Facebook page. Its 83 members are sharing wonderful photos of nature walks and other glimpses into their lives.

Carol A. Bogardus
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Meaghan Flanagan '17, sporting Skidmore gear, submitted this photo from a recent road trip that she undertook with Kelly Donnelley '18, Veronica Mocerì '18 and Caite Opfer '18. The four stopped at White Sands National Park, Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Canyonlands National Park and Arches National Park (where this photo was taken).

'70 **Vicary Clark Thomas** is among a group of classmates who meet weekly on Zoom after their annual gathering in Wellfleet, Mass., was canceled last summer. The crew includes **Janet Felker**, **Nancy “Taffy” Lawson**, **Cindy Lamson** and **Jennifer Walter King**, as well as Ross House pals **Kate Stevenson Taylor**, **Marti Mensing Kinny** and **Carter Coates Donovan**.

Betsy Evans sheltered at home after decades traveling across the U.S. and internationally as an early childhood trainer. She’s been coaching and teaching remotely. Betsy and her husband have seven grandchildren ranging in age from 2 to 17. She is eager to visit them. Betsy’s books and videos on managing children’s conflicts are accessible at kidsandconflict.com.

Teacher **Janet Sangenito Fagal’s** award-winning poems have been published in anthologies for adults and children. Among them is “I am Someone Else, Poems About Pretending,” edited by renowned children’s anthologist Lee Bennett Hopkins. When not engaged in literary pursuits, Janet and husband Fred love spending time with their grandchildren, 2 and 5. Their son is an associate editor of *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson* at Princeton. Janet

mourns the loss of her former high school teacher, **Florence Andresen '57**, a Skidmore trustee emerita who died in 2019.

Many thanks to our longtime class correspondent **Barbara Bell**, who wishes to pass the position on to another. If you are interested in serving as class correspondent, contact Mary Monigan at mmonigan@skidmore.edu for details on this fun and staff-supported volunteer position.

Alumni Relations & College Event
alumni@skidmore.edu

'71 Filling out my 50th reunion class history questionnaire is a trip down memory lane! I saw myself leading tours on the Union Avenue campus, popping up to Eunice Pardon’s weaving studio and into Regis Brodie’s pottery studio. In College Hall, I practiced a Bach toccata on the Austin pipe organ before freshman chorus with Mrs. Waner. The reverie ended with me gazing out at the view from the top of Jonsson Tower.

Marilyn Savage retired from IBM several years ago and currently owns a business buying and redeveloping Boston properties. She had completed two high-end town houses in Waltham just

before the coronavirus hit. Marilyn recently expanded into wholesaling, purchasing houses in cash directly from the seller. This strategy allows sellers to close quickly and spares realtor fees and time waiting for bank approval.

Nicole Visconsi Mawby lives in the Cleveland area, where she enjoyed cultural and sporting activities prior to the pandemic. Unable to visit her three daughters and their families in Salt Lake City and Ketchum, Id., she especially misses her four grandchildren. Fortunately, her son, his wife and their four children live close by. Their frequent hugs sustain her sanity. Nicole has been painting watercolors and hand-making greeting cards.

Like most other institutions, Skidmore made the difficult decision to cancel plans to hold Reunion Weekend on campus. However, be assured we'll still be able to walk down memory lane collectively, albeit virtually this time. There will be some exciting opportunities to connect with one another and peruse our completed 50th reunion class history. Many thanks to members of our wonderful Reunion committee, especially **Susan Baxter, Lynne Roach Hildebrand** and **Ellen Tanner**. Visit the Reunion website (skidmore.edu/reunion) for an up-to-date schedule of activities and events.

Susan Flanders Davidson
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'72 While sheltering in place most of the past year, **Caroline "Kebbie" Kennedy** stayed in touch with family and friends via Zoom. Kebbie made use of the months cloistered at home to paint, declutter, rearrange and throw out accumulated stuff. Before the shutdown, Kebbie and her business partner decided to put their magazine, *Present*, on hiatus to reevaluate the business.

Happily retired, **Lesley Graham** stays in touch with **Keppele**

"Keppele" Miller Sullivan and **Barbara LeMoine Hansbury**.

Melissa Fowler Hanno and Bruce are enjoying retirement at their Brantingham Lake home outside Lowville, N.Y. Although the coronavirus limited their activities, they were still able to access the lake and Adirondacks. The couple enjoyed several distanced visits with their daughter and her family, who live 60 miles away.

Ellen Gingras Barkhuff and husband Jim managed to stay one step ahead of the pandemic, as well as fires, typhoons and floods, while traveling last February! "We visited Fiji (typhoons), New Zealand (floods), Australia (fires) and Hawaii." Closer to home, the couple has been "hibernating" in Cape Cod, where Ellen stays busy quilting and knitting.

Debbie Baum Chapin-Horowitz is living in Quogue, Long Island, with her husband. She admits to falling out of touch with classmates for several years. "This seems to be a good time to make amends."

Elizabeth Craig-Olins has turned to her inner poet during the pandemic, writing poems with her 4-year-old granddaughter. She is a teaching fellow for Harvard's Poetry in America, a program for teachers of verse. Last year she welcomed twin grandsons, the children of son **Jake Olins '11**. Liz has been in touch with **Ruth Kawecky Liebermann** and **Jody Ziebarth**.

For the first time in many years, travel restrictions forced **Debbie Richardson Thomas** to spend the entire winter in Australia. Her three children live in the U.S. She found solace in daily walks.

Kebbie Kennedy is spearheading plans for our 50th reunion. If you are interested in getting involved or have ideas for this milestone celebration, contact Kebbie at kobbiecaroline@gmail.com.

Barbara Devine Bode
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'73

It is not too early to start thinking about our 50th reunion in 2023. I hope you will join us to celebrate this milestone.

Howard and **Barbara Prince Stone** enjoy spending time with their two daughters and sons-in-law and four grandchildren. One family is in Philadelphia and the other resides in Maryland. The couple recently relocated from Philly to a senior community in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Grateful for their health and each other, the pandemic has prompted a new perspective on the aches and pains of aging.

Mainer **Sara Hotchkiss** has seen a slowdown in her weaving business since the onset of the pandemic and has had to cancel her in-person workshops. However, her custom work continues to garner media attention. Read more in the February issue of *Down East* magazine's "Maine-Made" feature.

Jennifer Smith Linck's children both spent the year working on the front lines of the pandemic. Her son is a pediatrician, and her daughter is a critical care nurse in a hospital neurological ward. Two of Jennifer's six grandchildren have returned to charter school classrooms. The others study virtually.

Connie Terry Ferguson and husband Bob are in Vero Beach, Fla. Connie spends her days playing golf, taking their rescue dog to the dog park, doing lots of needlepoint and reading. She'll return to Vermont this summer and looks forward to visiting family. Daughter Abby and her family live in Truckee, Calif. Son Pete and his wife live on the North Fork of Long Island.

Unable to hold their annual Maine gathering this summer, a group of classmates started monthly Zoom sessions. Earlier this year, **Margot Hand Anderson** hosted **Janet Steinmeyer Egan, Nancy Reade Everett, Susan Furber Mair, Beth Gould Parr, Kris Hansen Wardwell,**

Susan Hayward Donahue, Susie Hazlett Miller, Lucia Sontag Johnson and young upstart **Erin McHugh '74**. They spend about 45 minutes trading updates on their growing gaggle of grandchildren, plans to move and future travel destinations. It's been great fun!

New Hampshire resident **Anne Blodgett Holberton's** 29-year-old son and his NYC friends enjoyed lake time while working remotely from her home last year. Two family members in the NYC area contracted the virus but recovered. Still working, husband Phil is busier than ever with Zoom calls. Anne used the platform for connecting with friends, "a nice change" from endless work meetings. She encourages classmates to start thinking about our 50th reunion.

Joan Halpert was delighted by two timely exhibits at the Tang Museum: "We've Only Just Begun" and "Never



Sue Reinhardt Groesbeck '72 has been living in the Middle East, where she is superintendent of the American British Academy in Muscat, Oman. The school serves 1,000 International Baccalaureate students hailing from 70 different countries in the region. Sue and husband Mark loved the first half of the assignment, touring Oman and surrounding countries, as well as Jordan and Turkey. But in 2020, multiple challenges arose, including the pandemic. "But it was all an adventure," observes Sue stoically. "We are really glad we did it!"



Laura Lasker '74 (wearing a white hat) and her family met in a state park midway between Connecticut and Massachusetts for an outdoor Christmas gift exchange. The celebration was shared by Laura, her husband, their son and daughter, along with their spouses and four grandchildren. The newest member, an Akita pup named Pearl, joined in the fun too! Laura keeps busy painting dog portraits (bowwowportraits.com). She sends greetings to Ross house alums.

Done: 100 Years of Women in Politics and Beyond." The Tang helped put a spotlight on family matriarch Nancy Halpert, who voted for FDR in 1944 and has not missed a presidential election since. The multi-generation Skidmore legacy includes **Jonathon Halpert '84** and **Simcha Halpert-Hanson '03**. Simcha served on a virtual panel of trans Jewish farmers at the Jewish Farmer Network's Cultivating Culture Conference.

Carol Mulvihill Ahlers promised her old roomie **Timi Carter** that she would attend our 50th reunion, Carol's first. We're going to hold you to that, Carol!

Naomi Lewis retired from her position as outreach coordinator at UAlbany Art Museum.

Patricia Bissell is living in an independent senior residence in Tampa, Fla. Despite pandemic challenges, she is happily retired and her Parkinson's is better managed.

I want to wish everyone on the cusp of 70 a very special happy birthday. We'd love to hear about how you plan to celebrate and what's on your bucket list.

Joanne Ruben
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Amy-Hannah Kraus Broersma recently retired after serving as a prosecuting attorney for

over 30 years. Since then, Amy has guest lectured at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Pepperdine University's graduate program and UCLA School of Law and actively volunteered in UCLA's undergraduate mock trial program. Her son, Jack, is following in his parents' footsteps and is a third-year law student at Hastings School of Law. Amy wishes everyone physical and mental health during these trying times.

After 22 years as CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska, **Taber "Shirley" Rehbaum** is a commercial loan portfolio officer. Shirley and her two dogs live in a log home north of Fairbanks with a great view. She bikes and tends flowers in the summer, splits wood and takes in the northern lights in the winter. Taber recently found her biological family through a DNA test and research. She had always wanted a sister. Now she has seven — "all warmhearted, funny and welcoming."

Anne Peterson Conolly lives in Burlington, Vt., close to her two daughters and two adorable

grandsons. She was lucky enough to visit Africa for a second time just before the coronavirus shut borders down. Since then, there have been many jigsaw puzzles, outdoor activities and safe contact with family. In December, Anne welcomed a granddaughter. She is glad that **Julie Stillman** and **Mary Gamache Schumer** live in the area and plans to have some true Skidmore fun soon!

Emily Pavlovic Chiles is engaged to be married in May! She met her fiancé, physician John Startz, on Match.com. He is a widower with three children and two grandchildren. Emily enjoys painting, an art form John is learning. They expect to commute between Emily's apartment and John's home north of Houston.

Arlene Goldberg Thrope's son Glenn was married in September 2020 at the Hempstead House in Sands Point, N.Y., in a ceremony attended by 11 guests. A technology group product manager, his wife Ali is a pediatric resident at Weill Cornell Medical Center. Arlene's younger son Jonathan and his wife Sarah, both Amherst grads, were wed at the Philadelphia Horticulture Center prior to the pandemic. They live in Houston, where Sarah is director of analytics for the Houston Astros and Jonathan is a U.S. Department of Justice civil fraud litigator. Arlene is eagerly planning family visits, along with an Italian vacation that was postponed twice!

Part-time Saratoga resident **Joan Berger** describes herself as "the renter who never left." Despite the snowy winters, she loves the city's beauty. It has also been "a haven" for her family during the pandemic.

Sally Remick Colacicco and husband David retired to Falmouth, Mass., where she serves on the board of Friends of Nobska Light, an organization dedicated to transforming a decommissioned lighthouse property into a maritime

museum. She is also a docent at the historic Highfield Hall and Gardens. She has fun connecting with local residents **Ann Hargrave Loos '73** and **Ann Dahlstrom Forsberg '70**, who belong to her book club. Happily, their husbands also enjoy being together. Sally is in regular contact with **Debbie Bottomley Nelson** and **Susan Doran Weitzmann**.

Ellen Brickman has been wistfully thinking about travel. Meanwhile, she hasn't taken up any new hobbies nor baked bread, which remains on her "to-do" list.

Louise Mallette, Cheryl Kempinsky, Ellen Brickman and **Regina Carbon** have joined the Skidmore Alumni Book Club! It has been fun escaping into its selections (most recently "Storm in a Teacup: The Physics of Everyday Life" by Helen Czerski). For more information or to join, visit bbc.guru/skidmore.

The pandemic and events of the past year have impacted us all, personally, professionally or both. Each classmate included a wish for a safe and secure return to more active, sociable lives very soon. Be well and remember to exercise random acts of kindness — guaranteed to elicit smiles all around!

Regina N. Carbon
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Sam Herzfeld '99 is a principal and member of the executive team at Safety Facility Services. The company performs high-end cleaning and disinfecting in NYC and surrounding areas. Business has grown substantially during the pandemic.

'75

Susan Luthy and Mark have been quarantining at their home in the Las Vegas suburb of Summerlin. Located at the base of Red Rock National Park, they take advantage of great hiking trails. Mark's real estate business is booming, as many are moving to the area in pursuit of sunny days and mild winters. The couple have been in daily contact with their sons, grandsons and good friends.

Now retired, **Julia Frank Hundman** volunteers as an educator at Humane Society of Missouri.

Colorado had an especially tough year, says Denver resident **Cathy Pomeroy**. In addition to the pandemic, wildfires continued to burn late last year even as snow fell. She navigated isolation at home by rekindling hobbies and serving on the Arapahoe County Cultural Council. Cathy was able to get together with roommate **Janet "Jeffy" Fagal Benedict** in Edwards, Colo., and looks forward to seeing **Phoebe Orr-Richardson** and other local classmates soon.

Frann Addison created her "Eight Knights of Hanukkah" menorah, which incorporates eight knight chess pieces, just as the Netflix series "The Queen's Gambit" became a hit. Frann's work was selected by the Premier Chess Club of New York to include in its holiday blog. She was the featured artist for the inaugural issue of Jewish Canadian magazine Niv and authored an article in the December issue.

Noni Reilly
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'76

Obie Sue Dunklee Thomas retired last June from a 32-year career with the Westminster-Canterbury Retirement Community. Since last August, she has been working as a pastoral counselor at a local church. She recently became a first-time grandmother to a beautiful baby boy.

Nancy Foster Munoz leads the Republican Conference in the New York State Assembly. A member since 2009, she represents parts of Morris, Somerset and Union counties in the 21st Legislative District.

Hilda Stark relocated to NYC last October to design the CBS series "The Good Fight" and is working on the network's new show, "The Second Wave." Daughter Ellie is sharing Hilda's garden apartment on the Upper West Side until the pandemic subsides.

Ingeborg Hegemann Clark
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'77

Suzanne Schmidt Harvie married Stephen Schneck in Charleston, S.C., in August 2019. The couple settled in Washington, D.C., which Suzanne had just begun exploring when the city went into lockdown. The newlyweds spent their first six months cloistered in their apartment. Last August, they bought a house off the coast of Bald Head Island. She is eager to resume work as a hospice nurse.

A retired social worker, **Marilyn Patton** relocated from Wyoming to Tasmania, Australia. She spends her days exploring the beautiful island and painting in oils. She would be happy to serve as a guide should anyone be traveling in the region.

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'78

Cynthia Blum Carroll and her family are doing well despite the pandemic. She and husband David spent most of last year sequestered in their Naples, Fla., condominium with three of her four kids, all studying remotely. David has recovered from a serious motorcycle accident and now works full time. Cynthia is sitting on multiple public and private company boards based in various parts of the world. Normally a frequent flyer, she is glad for more family time at home.



Andrea Stone '90 and her family cheered on the Thoroughbreds at a men's basketball game at Yale in 2019. "My daughter has taken my original class of 1990 sweatshirt as her own!" she said.

Julian Chisholm is a nurse caring for patients in an ICU and recovery hospital wing in Washington state. "It has been a mentally and physically exhausting year for everyone for sure," she notes. Julian recharges by getting outside to hike, snowshoe and bike in and around the Puget Sound and Cascade Mountain region.

Margaret "Margie" Greve created a group of embroidered portraits for "AmericanaLand: Where Country-Western Met Rock 'n' Roll" by her husband, John Milward. Slated for a June release by the University of Illinois Press, the book features Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton and the Byrds.

Last year, **Gregory Hess** and his wife made three cross-country road trips and attended two graduations, "all during one awful pandemic!" The couple sent their dog to college (to be with daughter Claire). "He did come back smarter, although he now sleeps till noon if we let him," quips Gregory.

Sharon Johnson Tennant lives in Los Angeles, where residents could still access beaches and hiking trails during the pandemic. Her triplets are now 25 and her youngest child is 23. Sharon exhibited her photography in three juried shows over the past year. For details, visit sharonjohnsontennant.com.

Alison Moore and husband Mark Rucker (son of late Philosophy Professor Darnell Rucker), reside

in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley wine-growing region. She is development manager for Ballet Kelowna. The couple lives at Raven's View Farm, where they grow tree-ripened stone fruit for master chefs, raise chickens and manage The Cottage, a five-star Airbnb. Alison performs weddings and celebrations of life throughout the area as a professional Life-Cycle Celebrant.

Mary Ann Preacher Beck looks forward to traveling to Berlin, where her son and daughter-in-law live, as soon as it is safe.

Emily Walker Bracchitta
embracchitta@gmail.com

'79

Sarah Banwell Deadrick had great news to share: All three sons got engaged in 2020. Congratulations to all!

Cindy Newman Kebba retired from the Comprehensive Planning Office for the city of Rockville, Md., in February 2020. She and husband Robert sold their Maryland house and moved to Lakewood Ranch, Fla. Undaunted by the pandemic, they continued unpacking and furnishing the house. Son Steve moved back to the D.C. area from Boston and works remotely for Dell. Daughter Alison works for Netflix in Los Angeles.

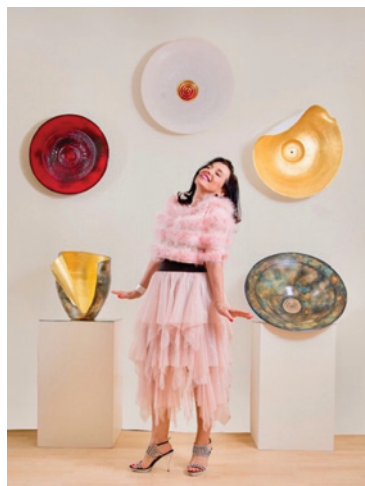
Lisa Lavieri's son Christopher graduated (virtually) from the University of Vermont last May with a double major in economics and

English. He started working last fall. Daughter Suzanne is in her second year of medical school at Trinity College in Dublin. Both were working from home last year. Suzanne returned to Ireland in February. Lisa misses “having the kiddos at home.”

Lori Gedon enjoyed a few visits from a college roommate and best friend last summer. Her business trips to Mexico and the Caribbean were canceled. In the meantime, she has been attending travel industry webinars and earning over a dozen certifications. She is eager to share her expertise helping Skidmore friends plan future travel.

Andrea Manyon became a grandmother last February when twins Bartholomew and Theodora were born. She continues practicing family medicine via telehealth sessions.

Mary “Holly” Roberts Adams’s daughter Marcy married Tanner Helgren on June 20, 2020. Holly and her husband welcomed their second grandchild, Kellen Patrick Conley, on Aug. 27. With a little creativity, the



Heidi Loewen '78 celebrated 24 years as artist, owner and director of Heidi Loewen Fine Art in Santa Fe, N.M. Heidi exhibits her porcelain and metal sculptures and teaches wheel-throwing to individuals and groups. She recently added a ceramic and 3D restoration division to her business. An award-winning artist, she was included in Marquis’ “Who’s Who in America” last year. She sends “heaps of appreciation” to ceramics Professor Emeritus Regis Brodie.

family was able to spend two weeks together over the holidays.

I was able to work from my deck during the spring and fall of last year, managing to enjoy morning and lunchtime bike rides. My garden looked its best ever thanks to extra TLC. Happily, I was still able to participate in the Skidmore MB107 class presentations. It was incredible to watch the mostly freshman and sophomore student participants present in groups of five, from their dorm rooms!

Debbie Monosson
debbie@bfec.com

After a career in the fashion industry, **Vera DeDominicis** and two colleagues struck out on their own to launch apparel brand ReVMP. Their eco-friendly, functional and stylish line, which includes accessories sourced from recycled plastic, is available at shopReVMP.com.

Physicians **Neil Kaye** and his wife Susan Donnelly Kaye opted to take action for the greater good during the pandemic. Each of them donated a kidney to MedStar Georgetown Transplant Institute as non-directed and anonymous living donors. Neil and Susan share their donation experience on the video “A Double Gift of Life,” posted Jan. 13 on YouTube by MedStar Georgetown Institute. Founder of Skidmore Crew, Neil was honored with a Distinguished Achievement Award by the Alumni Association in 2015.

Peri Snyderman
specialcat@msn.com

Josh Boyce and wife Deb are enjoying time with their grandson Max, who was born just before the lockdown last March. Josh received the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology’s 2020 Mentoring Award in recognition for his lifetime contributions to the field. Congratulations on both counts!

Karen Bradley McElroy
bkccamac@gmail.com

As executive director of the NYC Media Lab, **Steven Rosenbaum** recruits and oversees a community of startups, university faculty and graduate researchers that collaborate on high-tech projects such as machine learning for storytelling and computer vision in journalism. These teams work closely with one of the lab’s corporate partners, which include The New York Times, the Associated Press and ASCAP. Current NYU graduate student **Sindiso “Sindi” Mafico ’19** recently joined the lab as a program assistant. Rosenbaum encourages anyone interested in NYC Media Lab membership to contact him at steve@NYCmedialab.org.

Jeff Dinardo’s first middle-grade novel, “The One Great Gnome,” was recently published by Red Chair Press.

Lilly Jaray Ostrove
danjasry@yahoo.com

NYC resident **Jacqueline Haberfeld** and her family are riding out the pandemic at their home in rural Sherman, Conn. She enjoys having enough space to preclude “killing each other” while working and studying. Daughter Rebecca is a high school senior considering colleges, including Skidmore. Jacqueline is in touch with roommates **Donielle Offerman Leigh** and **Helen Kim Balboni**, along with “a whole slew of fellow wombats.” Recently named global director of pro bono for Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Jacqueline is featured among the “2021 Most Notable Women in Law” by Crain’s New York Business.

Mark Gionfriddo was associate musical director for the Berkshire Theatre Festival’s outdoor presentation of “Godspell” last summer, the only production staged in the U.S. during 2020.



Before the pandemic, Davide Scarselli traveled to Skidmore to watch his son, **Matteo Scarselli ’22**, play in a men’s varsity soccer game. While on campus, he unexpectedly reconnected with Coach Jack Huckel, who coached Davide 31 years earlier.

Maura Matthews Walsh lives outside Boston in Southborough with husband John, a mechanical engineer. A nurse anesthetist at Newton Wellesley Hospital, she holds an MSN from Columbia University. The couple’s eldest son John graduated from Tufts and is a breaking news reporter for Forbes. James is a senior enrolled in Drexel University’s music industry program; he plans to pursue an MBA there. **Matthew** is a sophomore political science major at Brown. Maura worked in COVID-19 ICUs during the first surge last March and April. “In my 35 years in medicine, they were truly the sickest patients I have ever seen.”

My event planning business came to a screeching halt in March 2020. Like others in the industry, I had to reinvent and pivot. Partnering with a professional produce buyer, I launched a weekly produce box service, sourcing fruits and vegetables grown by New Jersey farmers during the summer months, later adding produce from New York and Philadelphia markets. Our virtual farmers market, Box of Farm,” (boxoffarm.com) now works with other small businesses that provide

coffee, baked goods and dried fruits and nuts. This endeavor is the most fulfilling and fun of my entire professional career! I encourage alumni interested in joining or learning more to reach out.

Dale Schultz Lazarovitch
redink1994@gmail.com

'86 **Brian Downing** enjoys living near Great Falls National Park in Virginia, where he often hikes. Self-employed, his two wonderful teenage daughters attend “Zoom College” in California, and “Zoom High School” in Washington, D.C. Brian stays in close touch with good friend **Olivier Kirmsler** and supports the College any way he can. He welcomes hearing from classmates and Skidmore friends.

Clifford Nelson
clifford.s.nelson@live.com

'87 **Liz Colquhoun's** niece **May Halm '23** is a sophomore at Skidmore. May and Skidmore are a perfect fit and usher in another generation of Liz's family to Skidmore. A theater major and an environmental science minor, May is a member of the

Skidmore a cappella group the Skidmore Dynamics; check out their socially distanced submission for last semester's Beatlemore Skidmania on the Skidmore Dynamics Facebook page.

Saratogian **David Harrison** says 2020 was an “epic” year for his family, with all three sons graduating. Eldest son Austin earned an MBA from Montclair State University while working full time at Public Service Electric & Gas; he continues there as a GIS specialist. Middle son Chase earned a master's in comparative government from Oxford University. He returned to the U.S. just before the lockdown. Chase now works for the Americas Society/Council of the Americas, covering Mexico, Brazil, Colombia and Nicaragua. The youngest, Devan, graduated from Saratoga Springs High School and is a freshman at Cornell's School of Hotel Administration. The Harrisons look forward to seeing classmates at Reunion '22!

For **Gregory Rutchik**, running through empty West Hollywood streets and playing guitar have been his “saving grace.” He's in close touch by phone with **Adam Perlmutter**, who keeps him laughing, and **David Harrison**,

whose Saratoga home is very close to Tower, their freshman dorm. While serving as judges for Skidmore's Kenneth A. Freirich Entrepreneurship Competition, Greg has gotten to know **Gregg Smith '92**, **Liz Kigin '10** and **Matt Kavet '94**. Despite living in different parts of the country, they now get together for Zoom drinks and business.

Melissa Weintraub
gaudior@icloud.com

'88 **Lucinda Williams Bliss** has served as dean of graduate studies at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston since July 2019. She continues to work as an artist and writer and has become an avid runner over the past decade. Lucinda is working on a drawing and writing project exploring history and genealogy with the Stanley Whitman House in Farmington, Conn.

Andrew Morse has launched Tutti Foods, an online, zero-waste food company that produces high-quality, natural spice blends. Based in Minneapolis, Andrew is a scratch cook whose background spans Madison Avenue and natural food cooperatives. His spice blends are packaged in compostable pouches that reduce weight and shipping costs.

After a memorable and rewarding 28-year tenure in the legal department at Subway headquarters, I look forward to starting the next chapter of my career. I am exploring various options. In the meantime, I enjoyed a summer “sabbatical” by doing a lot of bike riding and spending time at my newly renovated childhood home in Hampton Bays, N.Y. I really missed getting up to Skidmore in 2020 with **Virginia Lane '87** for our annual jaunt. Let's hope we can resume those kinds of traditions very soon.

Clara Rabassa
uwantcr@yahoo.com

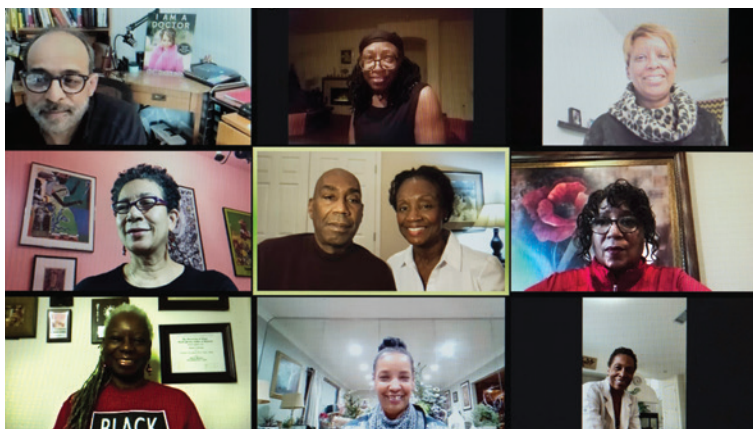
'89 **Amy Briggs** married Brian Klink on July 22, 2020, at the top of Devil's Thumb Pass in Colorado's Indian Peaks Wilderness. It was a bright spot in a year shadowed by the pandemic. Happily, the couple loved their intimate “run-hike wedding!” The ceremony involved a 16-mile loop of rugged, single-track trail. After ascending 3,000 feet from the trailhead to the pass, they celebrated with dancing and champagne. Two friends came along; Jim performed the ceremony, and John snapped some photos. Afterwards, they celebrated in an outdoor café with beer and pizza. Amy and Brian live in Boulder with their cats Reena, Ranjit and Spartacus.

University of Kansas History Professor **Eric Rath** authored a third book on the history of Japanese food: “Oishii: The History of Sushi,” published recently by Reaktion Books. While writing the book, Eric recalled the many sushi meals he shared with friends at Skidmore.

Jessica Davis Godwin is excited her daughter **Isabel '24** is a Skidmore freshman and lives in the same South Quad dorm she did. Let's hear from the other classmates who are also Skidmore parents. Send me a note at newyearsbaby67@yahoo.com and I'll be sure to report out in the next issue.

Cindy Urick
newyearsbaby67@yahoo.com

'92 Like so many, **Christian “Sasha” Leland** and his wife, Erin, hunkered down at home last year, content to work on their digital marketing business and walk their dog. Erin spent many hours sewing and donating masks. Weekends were spent renovating their small New Hampshire A-frame. They enjoyed a few socially distanced



Class Diversity and Inclusion Chairs Josie Duckett Boyd '76, Hermione Cox McNeill '76 and Angela Alexander-Knight '76 have been organizing regular online meetings, including this recent Zoom session, which included: (top row from left) Delmos (Duke) McCall '78, Luanne Brown-Johnson '75 and Ivetta Williams '78; (middle row) Josie Duckett Boyd '76, William (Skip) Knight and Angela Alexander-Knight '76, and Pam Johnson Stovall '74; (bottom row) Angelina Chambers '76, Hermione Cox McNeill '76 and Lavenia (Brown) Ferguson '64.



Jacob Kulin '95 lives in Milton, Mass., with his wife Myriah, 6-year-old son Asher, and 4-year-old daughter Mia.

outdoor visits with friends, and celebrated Christmas in a parking lot with family members in York, Maine, complete with a lighted tree in his sister's minivan.

Virginia Will Russell is a senior salesforce consultant at Navint Partners LLC. She and her two kids live outside Denver. She appreciated spending more time at home and less in the car last year.

Katharine "Kate" Jackson launched Ensō Wellbeing Coaching (ensowellbeing.com) in 2018 after completing a master's in integrative health and wellbeing coaching from the University of Minnesota. Kate embraced the great Minnesota outdoors with sledding, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing this winter. While participating in a Facebook home organization challenge, she connected with **Jennifer Cummings Hillery '00**, a mutual friend of **Amy O'Leary '92**. Kate's decluttering efforts led to the discovery of senior year photos with **Allison Armstrong Montague** and **Ingrid Whitaker**.

Jamie Nimmons
jamie.nimmons@gmail.com



NYC photojournalist **Bryan Smith** has three of his images included in the Museum of the

City of New York exhibition "New York Responds: The First Six Months." Running from December 2020 to April 11, it highlights photographs, artworks and objects from this historic and challenging time in NYC history.

Emily Sellergren is a psychotherapist in Boulder, Colo., whose practice is focused on University of Colorado students and adolescents. She and sons Max and Henry love to ski, fly-fish, camp, mountain bike and hike. Husband Pete is in advertising. The family, including dog Roxy, survived 2020 by spending as much of it outside as possible.

Jim Southard and his wife, Elena Ostanina Southard, who attended Skidmore as an exchange student from 1992 to 1993, celebrated their 25th anniversary in August 2020. In November, Jim was appointed assistant superintendent for finance and operations for Voorheesville Central School District, outside Albany.

Victoria "Vicki" Tisch
vickitisch@yahoo.com



Jennifer Dodge teaches at Rockefeller College for Public Affairs at UAlbany. She teaches nonprofit leaders and policy advocates pursuing social change

work. An environmental policy conflict researcher, she recently partnered with a colleague to explore a community's rejection of oil extraction in Columbia, South America. To find balance, she practices yoga, takes long walks with partner Nat and tends her garden.

Geology major **Jennifer Ryan Johnson** switched careers. After her second experience as a gestational surrogate, she earned a degree in ultrasound technology. She works in an outpatient facility near White Marsh, Md. Her oldest son studies engineering at Clarkson and the youngest is in 10th grade.

Jacob Kulin lives in Milton, Mass., with his wife Myriah, son Asher, 6, and daughter Mia, 4.

John Johnston
johnjohnston35@gmail.com



Georgette Blau Guttman spent more time with children Benjamin, 9, and Zoe, 4, over the past 10 months. Although her company, On Location Tours, is not currently fully operational, she is celebrating 21 years in business. Georgette and her family live in New Rochelle, N.Y.

Cary Tamura lives in NYC with his wife Jackie and daughter Mari, 2. A realtor with Corcoran, he had "a surprisingly busy 2020." Cary regularly sees **Cedar Daniels**, and his family bumps into other Skiddies fairly often, or at least they did pre-pandemic, when going out was a thing.

Erin Cosel-Pieper Dolan continues to love her career; she is currently a special education coordinator. Happily wed to newly retired husband Peter, they have two beautiful children. Erin is in touch with a group of Skiddies, including **Steven Mallory** and **Leila Joseffer '97**. Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy 2021.

Stephanie Agudelo Veeder lives in North Carolina with husband

Doug and children Joshua, 19, and Chloe, 15. Inspired by the "amazing hearts and teaching" of professors Peg Tacardon, Pat Oles and Jackie Azzarto, Stephanie is a longtime social worker and advocate for children and families. Her work with special-needs preschoolers earned her the 2020 School Social Worker of the Year Award from North Carolina's Wake County School District.

Ben Soreff is president of House to Home Organizing, a service company based in Fairfield County, Conn. He lives in Ridgefield with his wife Heather and their two children.

UWW grad **Virginia "Gini" Miettunen** and her husband have three children and nine wonderful grandchildren — five girls and four boys. They live in a townhouse on one of New York's Finger Lakes in Canandaigua, N.Y.

Brad Moody led the visual communications and digital media major in the School of Art, Architecture and Design at American University in Dubai for eight years. In January 2019, he returned to the U.S. to chair the Digital and Interactive Media Production Program at Daytona State College's School of Photography. Brad and his daughters Hunter and Quinn love strolling the beach with their adopted boxer Simba.

Office of Alumni Relations
alumni@skidmore.edu



Men's basketball stand-out **Adam Clay '95** is CFO of cybersecurity firm Beyond Identity. Profiled in a winter 2020 issue of Saratoga Living magazine, he attributes his success to experiences as a Thoroughbred, a student in Murray LeVith's Shakespeare course and a stint teaching in Qufu, China after graduation.

'97 Cape Cod novelist **Jean Stone** has authored a third book in her Martha's Vineyard series. "A Vineyard Morning" was published in January by Kensington Press.

Office of Alumni Relations
alumni@skidmore.edu

'98 **Rena Strober's** newly released children's album, "Imagine That!", celebrates the music of "Sesame Street." Rena performs classic songs along with actors Jason Alexander and French Stewart. A choir of young voice students Rena teaches at the Academy of Music for the Blind provides backup. Despite pandemic restrictions, she has continued doing voice-over work for animation and video games. She also stayed plenty busy entertaining her 3-year-old.

Michele Rothstein
mdrothstein@gmail.com



Eve Sandler '00 married Dean Hogan on Aug. 22, 2020, in a quarantine "mini-mony" at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston. Originally planning to wed in Dean's hometown of Gander, Newfoundland, the couple opted to elope. Their children Trevor, 14, Sarah, 11 and Graham, 10, came along for the ceremony. The day was made "even more special" by guest and photographer Emily Falcigno '00, founder and owner of Falcigno Foto in Boston. Eve and Dean live outside the city, where Eve is corporate counsel for Public Consulting Group Inc., and Dean is a data analyst for Hologic Inc.

'99 **Rebecca Ripps Garber** received the 2021 American Association of Nurse Practitioner's State Award for Excellence in Practice for Colorado.

Nancy Magnus
magnusnancy@gmail.com

'00 **Andy Glaze** spent a lot of last year outside; a competitive runner, he covered 8,178 miles!

Alyssa Porter spent last year at home with her husband and three kids, teaching and working. She is active in the Hingham Pride Project, a nonprofit she founded in January 2020 that provided over 1,000 free pride flags and window seals to homes and businesses in Hingham, Mass., last June. Fundraising activities enabled the nonprofit to donate books about racial justice, provide meals and resources, and support the LGBTQ community.

Nicole Hemmett Griffiths survived three months teaching sixth grade math remotely and supervising her four sons as they finished up fifth, seventh, ninth and 11th grades. "I was far more successful at keeping my students engaged and motivated than I was with my sons," she quips.

Katie Ross Zandbergen hosted Michelle Weise, former assistant professor of English at Skidmore, on the Harvard Business School podcast "The Disruptive Voice." They discussed higher education, the labor market and the future of work in an age of longevity.

Last year I launched a few whimsical projects in Saratoga in an effort to foster joy and unity during a divisive, challenging time. I opened the Saratoga Puzzle Exchange, a free library-style box, over the summer. I also began posting a weekly "silly question" poll outside my house that neighbors vote on. Over Thanksgiving, a local news channel covered my "favorite pie"



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poll. Most recently, I've been asking anonymously matched neighbors to bring joy to one another for a month.

Lauren Granahan
lauren.granahan@gmail.com

'01 Last summer, **Lauren Roberts-Fairbanks Smith** relocated from NYC to Taos, N.M., with husband Marc, a musician and sound engineer. A licensed arts psychotherapist and certified child life specialist, Lauren maintains a private practice in NYC and New Mexico. She is a faculty member in the graduate programs of art therapy at Pratt Institute and Southwestern College in Santa Fe. Last spring, Lauren provided essential mental health care services to end-of-life COVID-19 patients and their families, while also offering support for other front-line health care workers and their children. A fine arts painter, she also finds respite in the spectacular desert views at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

Janine Geller Jones
JRGeller@hotmail.com

'02 When schools closed last March, early childhood educator **Rachel Miller** and partner Nicole Werther launched Backyartists in Somerville, Mass. The company delivers curated art kits that allow children to create and engage in sensory play safely at home.

Kate Nedelman Herbst
kateherbst@gmail.com

'03 **Abigail Janco Martin '03** is running for the Northwest Bronx seat on New York's City Council. A forensic social worker and advocate for children in foster care, she spent seven years managing the Court-Appointed Special Advocates' Office at Bronx Family Court. She subsequently headed up Montefiore Hospital's Child Advocacy Center. Abigail is an adjunct professor and student advisor at Columbia University's School of Social Work.

Stephanie "Stevie" Howell's design work was featured in the Style section of The New York Times on Jan. 14.

Bridget Cummings Dorman
bcdorman09@gmail.com

'04 **India Clark** (also an '11 MALS alumna) lives with her husband and 3-year-old son in Jamaica Plain, Mass. Founder of the Wayfinder Institute, India helps creatives through virtual group programs, private coaching and museum mindfulness experiences. She recently released an audio meditation that accompanies artist Shen Wei's painting at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Kelly Harkins and her husband, Adam Kincaid, welcomed their first child, Maya Alba Kincaid, in November 2020. Kelly is the founding CEO of two biotechnology startup companies that develop DNA sequencing tools. Claret Bioscience is focused on clinical research, and

Astrea Forensics specializes in applications for law enforcement. Both companies are based in Santa Cruz, Calif., where Kelly and her family reside.

Kathleen Rogan continues serving her community through the pandemic. A member of the Ulster County Board of Health, she sits on an advisory committee for the Dietz Stadium Renovation project in Kingston. Most recently, she was named to the 2021 Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Committee for the Freihofer's Run for Women.

Michael Kevin Baldwin was appointed associate artistic director and director of education for the Sharon Playhouse, a regional theater in Sharon, Conn. Michael welcomes hearing from Skidmore alumni in theater and education who are interested in collaboration at michael.k.baldwin@gmail.com.

I've been busy as a professor and director of research education at Sacred Heart University. A nutritional epidemiologist and public health nutritionist, I work in consultation with the university's College of Health Professions. As a member of the Coronavirus Planning Team, I'm also working diligently to help keep our campus



Emily Weiss Schaffer '08 holds her son, Zev, who turned 1 in December 2020.

safe. The wonderful student-faculty relationships I experienced at Skidmore have played an important role in shaping my teaching and mentorship style.

Jacqueline Vernarelli
jvernarelli@gmail.com

'06 As political director of Democratic PAC American Bridge 21st Century, **Alexandra "Sacha" Haworth** oversaw its 2020 campaign communications program. She celebrated at the inauguration of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. Sacha and her husband live in Washington, D.C., with their 15-month-old son.

Eloise Rarey Waterbury wed Jeffrey Spence Waterbury in 2018 and bought a house in Portland, Conn., the following year. In 2020 they became foster parents and "couldn't be happier!" Eloise is still teaching English as a second language at the elementary school level.

Alexandra Ravener Feigman
afeigman@gmail.com

'07 **Shardae Mendes** was selected to be a judge for this year's Clio Awards. Associate creative director for TBWA Health Collective, she has honed her conceptual design skills at firms including Grey, Havas and Vayner Media, where she digitally grew brands including COTY, Diageo, Purina and Blistex.

"In an exciting twist of fate," **Holly Keating Selby** and husband **Alex Selby '08** purchased a house on property directly next to a parcel owned by **Nick and Marissa Block Mastors**. The shared 10 wooded acres north of Portland, Maine, is appropriately named "Skidfarm."

Working from home allowed **Sarah Jeffery Kelson** to spend quality time with her husband and 2-year-old son.

Autumn Bush
autumnbush@gmail.com

'08 **Jonathan and Samantha Morrison Ugol** welcomed a second daughter, Maya Abigail Ugol, in December 2020. She joins older sister Norah, 3.

Kate Caulfield Slater is assistant dean of student affairs at Brandeis University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. She and her husband live on the North Shore of Massachusetts, where they are slowly fixing up a 1920s house "that boasts zero 90-degree angles."

In February 2020, **Sara Eddison** started an interior painting and wallpaper installation business. A licensed female painting contractor, she is generating enough contracts among homeowners to turn a profit. Sara lives in Arroyo Grande, Calif., with her fiancé and his two teenage kids.

Kelly Genoio
kgenois@gmail.com

'09 In spring 2020, **Morgan Webster** was director of Common Good Vermont, which supported mission-driven nonprofits across the state. The agency was acquired by Marlboro College and Graduate School, where Morgan was pursuing a master's in nonprofit management. After the school announced it was closing in mid-2019, Morgan negotiated a merger with 25 partner agencies, including United Way of Vermont. Morgan will complete a master's with a teach-out partner in May.

Alumni Relations and College Events
alumni@skidmore.edu

'10 **Jesse Kovarsky** feels fortunate. Despite working in a hard-hit industry, he landed a job on the new Netflix film "Tick Tick Boom," directed by Lin-Manuel Miranda. He is assisting in



Daniella Deutsch '17, right, recently published her first volume of poetry, "All the Things my Mother Never Told Me," illustrated by Lisa Jean Moran '17, left. The book captures the layered emotions and experiences of being young adults in their 20s.

choreography for the film, slated for release later this year. Jesse and his boyfriend traveled to Atlanta to canvass door to door for the successful Senate campaigns of Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock.

In August, **Lauren Donovan** and her husband welcomed their first child, daughter Emerson. She has already visited campus and is a big fan of stroller naps under the covered walkways. The family resides in NYC, where Lauren is senior director of publicity at Scholastic Inc.

Alexandria Cooper and Josh Crowley welcomed a daughter, Marcella Astra Cooper-Crowley, on Nov. 7, 2020. "She is a complete joy," says her proud mom.

Jules Martowski earned a doctorate in psychology from Baylor University in 2019. Prior to graduating, he joined the U.S. Navy and completed internships at Walter Reed Medical Center and the Naval Hospital in Beaufort, S.C. Married in 2020, Jules and his wife live in Beaufort with a dog and a cat.

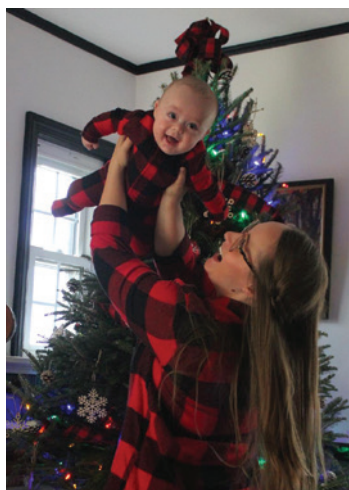
Sarah Summer graduated last year from Loyola University Maryland's SELLINGER School of Business with an MBA. She started a job at PayPal as a business operations analyst and bought her first home.

It has been a busy few months! In March I started a new job as manager of Lasting Impressions programs at DOROT, an organization that serves older adults in NYC. My husband Max and I welcomed a baby girl, Miriam "Mir" Tonia Nisen, on Nov. 27, 2020.

Claire Solomon Nisen
claire.a.solomon@gmail.com

'11 Catherine Pond's first book of poetry, "Fieldglass," won the Crab Orchard First Book Prize and was published by Southern Illinois University Press in March. She is completing a Ph.D. in creative writing from the University of Southern California.

Emily Gorbach was appointed youth services librarian at Five Corners, the busiest regional branch library in the Jersey City Free Public Library system. Former children's librarian at the Brooklyn Public Library's Kings Bay Branch, she was responsible for programming and building partnerships with schools



Jenna Glendye '11 and her husband, Luke, welcomed baby Finnegan James Short in August 2010. "I hope to bring him to our next Reunion," she said.

and local community organizations.

Tanner Kaufman
Tanner.Kaufman@gmail.com

'12 Edith Mudge composed and produced the theme music for Marvel's new podcast, "Declassified," on SiriusXM.

Journalist **John Maher** co-edited a history of animation in 100 influential sequences and authored a number of supplemental pieces for New York magazine's culture publication, *Vulture*, last fall.

Ross Lovern
ross@lovern.com

'13 Stefan Schonsheck has joined the UC Davis Mathematics Department as a Kerner assistant professor and a postdoctoral researcher at the university's TETRAPODS Institute of Data Science.

Ariel Fowler and **Michael Jay** are engaged to be married this June!

Office of Alumni Relations
alumni@skidmore.edu

'14 Amber Charette completed an MSW degree and is a licensed clinical social worker in Rhode Island. She is searching for communities to serve in that role.

Kaitlin Guerin has launched the Lagniappe Baking Company in New Orleans.

Office of Alumni Relations
alumni@skidmore.edu

'18 Despite the obstacles wrought by the coronavirus, many classmates carried on, achieving some impressive goals. Congratulations to all!

Jonnea Herman is a full-time graphic designer working from a cozy apartment in Brooklyn. Some

of Jonnea's quarantine hobbies are cuddling with their roommate's cat and reading on the fire escape.

Ebrahim Najam was laid off from his job as an electrical engineer in White River Junction, Vt. After graduation, Ebrahim continued a final year of studies at Dartmouth to earn his engineering degree.

Helen Day finished up a research assistant position in the department of psychiatry at Boston Children's Hospital. She will start the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program at Yale University School of Nursing this fall.

Molly Zollo is program director at Paraclete, a nonprofit after-school program located in a repurposed convent in South Boston. Using her training in elementary education, she strives to foster a positive learning environment, address racial inequalities impacting area residents and encourage a lifelong love of giving back to the community.

Kathryn Koke
katiekokedma@gmail.com

'19 An essay by **Nkosingiphile "NK" Mabaso** was published in "Hungry Hearts," a new volume that also features the writing of Sue Monk Kidd, Austin Channing Brown and Luvvie Ajayi Jones. The book grew out of the inspirational speaking tour "Together Live," which featured NK sharing her story of hope and perseverance.

Since leaving Skidmore, **Samuel Vogel** has led backpacking trips in Oregon, taught science courses in Jackson Hole, Wyo., and served in the Peace Corps in Jamaica.

Kate Greenberg is associate producer of the play "At Midnight," one in a series of classic radio dramas from the 1930s and 1940s produced by Second Saturday Magazine. Broadcast last spring



Hilary Cranston '13 married Ted Skarbinski in a New Hampshire vineyard ceremony in October 2020. The wedding was attended by their closest family and friends. After the "magical day," the couple enjoyed a three-day honeymoon in Antigua. (Photo credit: Tarren Bailey)

on Bridgeport, Conn., radio station WPKN, "At Midnight" was authored by Skidmore Trustee Emerita Josephine Young Case. Her story of isolation and hope originally aired on "Author's Playhouse" in 1943. Kate and **Josh Karen '18** are also members of the cast in the new production.

Blair Goldstein is an AmeriCorps teacher at Paraclete, a South Boston after-school program. She has spent much of the pandemic designing and installing murals throughout the repurposed convent.

Paige Durant has officially become "a crazy plant lady." She has stayed busy acquiring and learning to care for new plants.

Olivia "Liv" Del Brocco spent last year working as a live-in group leader at the Discovery School of Virginia for Girls. Now back home in Worcester, Mass., she is pursuing an MSW degree at Boston College.

Desiree Sim
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'20

We offer a special welcome to these new alumni, who have been managing to find purpose, thrive and help others during a pandemic year. Kudos to all of you! Please stay in touch.

Lily Esposito bought a 2008 Ford E350 van that she and her partner outfitted to serve as their full-time home. Working and living across the country, Lily has been a vegetable harvester in Rhode Island, a snowboard instructor in Vermont and a raft guide in New York.

John C. John is grateful for learning from “incredible professors” and access to studio spaces at Skidmore. Although it has been a tumultuous year, he has been able to continue his jewelry making practice.

Jamin Garcia is a research assistant involved in a research study on how environment affects the mental health of Puerto Rican children. She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to work in the Puerto Rican community in these challenging times.

Andrew Rhodes hiked the Long Trail in Vermont, which spans 273 miles between the state’s borders with Canada and Massachusetts, in 24 days.

John Batuello works full time as a physical therapy aide. He will begin a doctoral program in physical therapy this summer.

Angelina Leonard is a research assistant at the Atmospheric Composition and Chemical Processes subgroup of the Chemical Sciences Laboratory at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. She is working on a spectrometer that will take flight in Korea in 2021 to investigate the composition of ozone in the stratosphere.

Jemma Maynard was “honestly terrified” graduating during a

pandemic — for professional and personal reasons. Last spring, she moved from Ohio to NYC to take a position as an ophthalmology technician and found it to be one of the most positive highlights of 2020. She works in a private patient care facility with gifted surgeons and supportive colleagues.

Ellie Strayer is teaching middle school drama at The Rivers School and established a virtual collaboration hub for emerging artists at First Kiss Theatre Company. On top of that, she is learning how to cook, tutoring non-native English speakers and coaching softball!

Office of Alumni Relations
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MALS

Lisa Chalidze '08 and her family were among the residents of Niagara, Ore., and the surrounding area whose homes were destroyed by massive wildfires. Lisa and her sisters spearheaded a monthlong event, “Canyon Rising Lollapalooza,” to help coordinate volunteer assistance efforts. On Thanksgiving, they fed 70 families in 28-degree weather.

Now retired from her consulting company, **Mary Jaworski '01** launched a small business making wreaths and artificial floral arrangements. She sells her products on Etsy and eBay and through local Facebook groups.

Sharon McLelland '09 is an environmental analyst/supervisor with NYS Homes & Community Renewal in Albany. The organization provides safe, quality affordable housing for low-income families, seniors and disadvantaged/disabled persons.

Nichole North Hester '09 is an educator, coach and yoga teacher who founded True North, a wellness consultancy that helps individuals manage stress, make better decisions and care for themselves.

For more information, visit beartruenorth.com.

Evelyn Ramirez-Schultz '14 continues her work in fundraising at nonprofits and educational institutions in Southern California. She is the director of development at The Priority Center, an organization dedicated to ending generational trauma for vulnerable children and families in Orange County. She has a 16-year-old preparing for the college search and 10-year-old twins.

Anna Taft '20 was the final student to graduate from the MALS program before it closed. She is the founding director of The Tandana Foundation, a nonprofit that collaborates with communities in Ecuador and Mali on initiatives ranging from food security and

health care to education and water resources.

Linda “Elle” Yavin '03 lives in Kensington, Calif., where she is founder, CEO and executive coach at EllevateYou, a boutique coach agency. Elle is also an associate professor at California College of the Arts. **Nephew David Kaufman '06** is an alumnus of Skidmore’s undergraduate program. A ceramicist with a teaching practice, he lives in Homer, Alaska, with his wife and two children, Keel and Elsa.

Judi Lerman
judilerman@hotmail.com

Visit skidmore.edu/reunion for updates on Reunion.



Nathan Smail '20 is pursuing a master’s degree in geology at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik.

IN MEMORIAM

Flora Posson '37 of Medina, N.Y., died Dec. 20, 2020. A business major, she was a longtime executive assistant and civic volunteer. She is survived by two nieces, including Jennifer Cassidy.

Ruth Carpenter Fraas '42 of New Windsor, N.Y., died Feb. 17, 2019. An English major, she retired after a long career as a teacher in Newburgh Public School District. She is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Whalen, a son, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Anne Mills King '43 died Jan. 7, 2019. A philosophy major, she earned a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. She retired as an English professor from Prince George's Community College. She was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps. She is survived by a son, Stewart King, a son-in-law and four grandchildren.

Daisy Pandaleon '43 of Arlington Heights, Ill., died Jan. 4, 2019. A business major, she was an executive assistant to three CEOs at Uniroyal Corporation in NYC. She is survived by two nephews, including George Pandaleon.

Virginia Gooch Puzak '44 of Minneapolis, M.N., died Dec. 27, 2020. A music major, she was a devoted alumna volunteer and supporter of arts and civic groups in Minneapolis. She is survived by three sons, including Nicholas Puzak, and eight grandchildren.

Dorothy Roman Guenther '44 of Wayne, N.J., died Dec. 9, 2020. A business major, she was an internationally competitive synchronized swimmer into her 80s. She served Skidmore as a longtime class correspondent.

Patricia Lathrop Crow '47 of Santa Fe, N.M., died June 3. A business major, she was former

executive assistant to James Knight at the Miami Herald. She was a civic volunteer and philanthropist. She is survived by two children, including Michael Crow, two stepchildren and 13 grandchildren.

Sally Wickstrom Poole '48 of West Sand Lake, N.Y., died Dec. 24, 2020. A sociology major, she was a social worker at Family and Children's Association in Albany and a civic volunteer. She is survived by four daughters, including Cynthia Poole, a son, nine grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

Ann Crooks Seitzer '48 of Melbourne Beach, Fla., died Sept. 29, 2020. She was a community volunteer and co-manager of a gift shop. She served Skidmore as a longtime Reunion volunteer. She is survived by two daughters and three grandchildren.

Phyllis Harder Reininger '49 of Redmond, Wash., died Jan. 9. A home economics major, she was a longtime Skidmore alumna volunteer. She is survived by four sons, including Craig Reininger, and a daughter, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Joan Conant Albaugh '49 of Pierre, S.D., died Dec. 8, 2020. An English major, she was a homemaker. She is survived by a daughter, Sharon Helbig, two grandsons and three great-grandchildren.

Mary Stokes French '50 of Vineyard Haven, Mass., died June 29, 2020. An English major, she was a prize-winning artist and member of Boston's prestigious Copley Society. She is survived by a daughter, Ellen Bunch, and two grandchildren.

Janet Atwood '50 of State College, Pa., died Dec. 28, 2020. A physical education major, she earned a master's degree at the University of Iowa. She retired

from Penn State after a 30-year career as associate professor of kinesiology. A Skidmore fundraising volunteer, she was inducted into the Friends of Skidmore Athletics Hall of Fame in 2005. She is survived by three nieces and a nephew.

Shirley Wallace Gebhard '50 of Groton, Conn., died Nov. 19, 2020. She was a nursing major. She is survived by three children, including David Gebhard Jr., and four grandchildren.

Bette Bostwick Campbell '50 of Houston, Texas, died Oct. 11, 2020. She is survived by her husband, Trent Campbell, and two daughters, three grandchildren and a brother.

Nancy Gallup Barbano '50 of Gaithersburg, Md., died Jan. 8. She is survived by a son, Mark Evans, two daughters, five grandchildren and a sister.

Izzie Bohman '51 of Lacey, Wash., died Sept. 22, 2020. A physical education major, she pursued advanced degrees and retired as assistant dean of the Physical Therapy School at Washington University in St. Louis. She is survived by three nieces and four nephews. She was a longtime Skidmore volunteer.

Bea Howorth '53 of Santa Barbara, Calif., died Sept. 23, 2020. A business major, she earned a master's in education administration and built a distinguished career in public relations and marketing. She is survived by her husband, David Howorth.

Mary Lyman "Lymie" Heist '53 died Sept. 22, 2020. A nursing major, she was a public health nurse for the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and the Navy Relief Society. She served Skidmore as a longtime class agent and Reunion volunteer. She is survived by daughter Jane

Gamber, three sons and their spouses, including Lisa Fairchild Heist '82, and 14 grandchildren.

Suzanne Dorr Cairns '53 of Issaquah, Wash., died April 24, 2020. An art history major, she taught elementary school in the Boston area. She is survived by two daughters, including Katie Boissoneault, and four grandchildren.

Carol Leeke Kajjala '54 of New Bern, N.C., died Nov. 21, 2020. A nursing major, she enjoyed a three-decade-long career with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York. She is survived by her husband, Glenn Kajjala, two daughters, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Grace Herbell Griffith '54 of Western Springs, Ill., died April 14, 2019. She was a liberal arts major. She is survived by three daughters, including Beverly Fleming, seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and two sisters.

June Smith Blessington '54 of Warwick, R.I., died on April 19, 2019. She was a sociology major. She is survived by two daughters and a son, Steven Blessington, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Rosemary Gilman '56 of Kilmarnock, Va., died on Aug. 28, 2020. An art major, she was an accomplished interior decorator. She was also assistant editor of Architectural Digest and a jewelry designer. She is survived by a brother and sister-in-law and several nephews and nieces, including Susan Notis Gilman.

Joan Schwenk Shaver '56 of Ennis, Mont., died Nov. 20, 2020. A home economics major, she was a flight attendant with Pan Am Airlines for three decades. She is survived by a nephew, Jeff Berke, a brother and several nieces and nephews.

Geraldine Schadt Evans '56

of Cincinnati, Ohio, died Aug. 18, 2020. A nursing major and Sonneteer, she assisted her husband's medical practice. She is survived by her husband, Thomas M. Evans, and three children, eight grandchildren, a great-grandson, a sister and a brother.

Vivien Weisenfeld Gans '57

of McLean, Va., died Oct. 21, 2020. An English major, she was a teacher and journalist. She is survived by four children, including Jeffrey Gans, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth Garman Robinson '60

of Baltimore, Md., died Oct. 12, 2020. A racial justice activist and organizer, her experience working for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was recorded for the Library of Congress Civil Rights History Project.

Elinor Herman '61 of Ballston Lake, N.Y., died Jan. 6, 2020. A physical education major, she earned a master's in social work and enjoyed a long career working for Schenectady County human services agencies. She is survived by her brother, Peter Herman, and several nieces and nephews.

Carol Gilman Tinney '63 of Alpharetta, Ga., died Dec. 31, 2020. She was a physical education major. She is survived by her husband, Douglas Tinney, and three daughters.

Mary Davidson Conant '64 of Boston, Mass., died May 9, 2020. An art history major, she managed Long's Jewelers, the Davidson family business. She is survived by her husband, Bradford Conant, three daughters and 10 grandchildren.

Sarah Smith Munley '65 of San Antonio, Texas, died Dec. 22, 2020. A chemistry major, she earned a Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of Rochester.

She was a distinguished chemistry professor and pharmaceutical executive. She is survived by her husband, John Munley, two children, four grandchildren, two sisters and a brother.

Kathleen Strait Jackson '67 of Newark Valley, N.Y., died July 10, 2020. A biology major, she earned a master's in psychology and pursued a career in human services. She is survived by her husband, Richard Jackson II, a son and two daughters, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Leslie Miles '67 of Wilton, Conn., died Sept. 21, 2020. A psychology major, she earned a master's in education from Boston University, where she served as assistant director of admissions. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Suzan Miles, and four cousins.

Barbara Lena Kosheff '73 of Fairfield, Conn., died Dec. 10, 2020. A biology-chemistry major, she earned an MBA from the University of Connecticut. She had a successful 40-year career in the food and beverage industry. She is survived by her husband, Robert Kosheff, two daughters, a brother and two sisters.

Larry Rosenmann '74 of West Sand Lake, N.Y., died Nov. 22, 2020. A geology major, he earned a master's at RPI. He was an engineering geologist for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. He is survived by his wife, Susie Rosenmann, two children and a brother and sister.

Robyn Greer Hallock '80 of Greenwich, Conn., died Oct. 24, 2020. A psychology-education major, she taught before building a career in corporate travel management. She is survived by her husband, David Hallock, a daughter and two brothers.

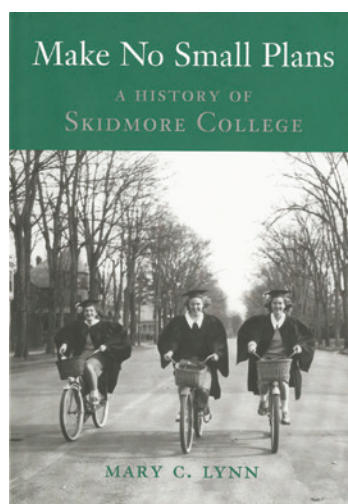
Christine Cox-Hill '84 of Washington, D.C., died Dec. 27, 2020. An art and art history major, she was an accomplished graphic designer, painter and silk screen printer. She is survived by her husband, George Hill, two children, her mother, a sister and a brother.

Janine Przybylinski Buckner '93 of West Orange, N.J., died Aug. 31, 2020. A psychology major, she was associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Seton Hall University. She is survived by her sister, Jennifer Przybylinski Peluso, and a daughter.

RECENT FACULTY DEATHS

Betty Vasiliki Svolos Balevic, associate professor emerita of management and business, died Jan. 31. Balevic joined the Skidmore faculty in 1969 and served as department chair and on numerous committees before retiring in 2010. "Betty created countless internships and career placements. It all stemmed from her commitment to not only teaching in the classroom but caring for her students long after they moved into adult life," recalled Trustee Kim Roy Tofalli '80. Balevic also contributed to Skidmore's former University Without Walls program and considered the two decades she spent teaching inmates at a maximum-security prison among her most rewarding teaching experiences. A classroom in Palamountain Hall honors her memory.

Mary Constance Lynn, professor emerita of American studies, died Feb. 23. Lynn, who joined the College in 1969 and retired in 2013, was best known for "Make No Small Plans: A History of Skidmore College," published in 2000. "Not only is it the best college history I have ever read, it has also brought hundreds



of Skidmore alums into a conversation with each other about the College," said Professor of American Studies Gregory Pfitzer. Then-President Philip A. Glotzbach had designated her as the College's historian. She chaired the Department of American Studies for more than 13 years and served on many important faculty committees. A dedicated teacher, she was awarded the Skidmore College Alumni Association Outstanding Service Award (2001), the Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching (2010) and the Phyllis A. Roth Faculty Distinguished Service Award (2013).

Alan Wheelock, associate professor emeritus of English, died Oct. 26, 2020. Wheelock joined Skidmore in 1982 and continued to teach courses even after retiring in 2002. He particularly cherished the academic year he spent lecturing in China in the 1990s. "Alan Wheelock's specialty was American literature, but he taught wide-ranging courses at Skidmore that included classic films, world fairs, witchcraft and science fiction," said Professor Emeritus Murray Levith. Wheelock was a Marine Corps veteran.

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