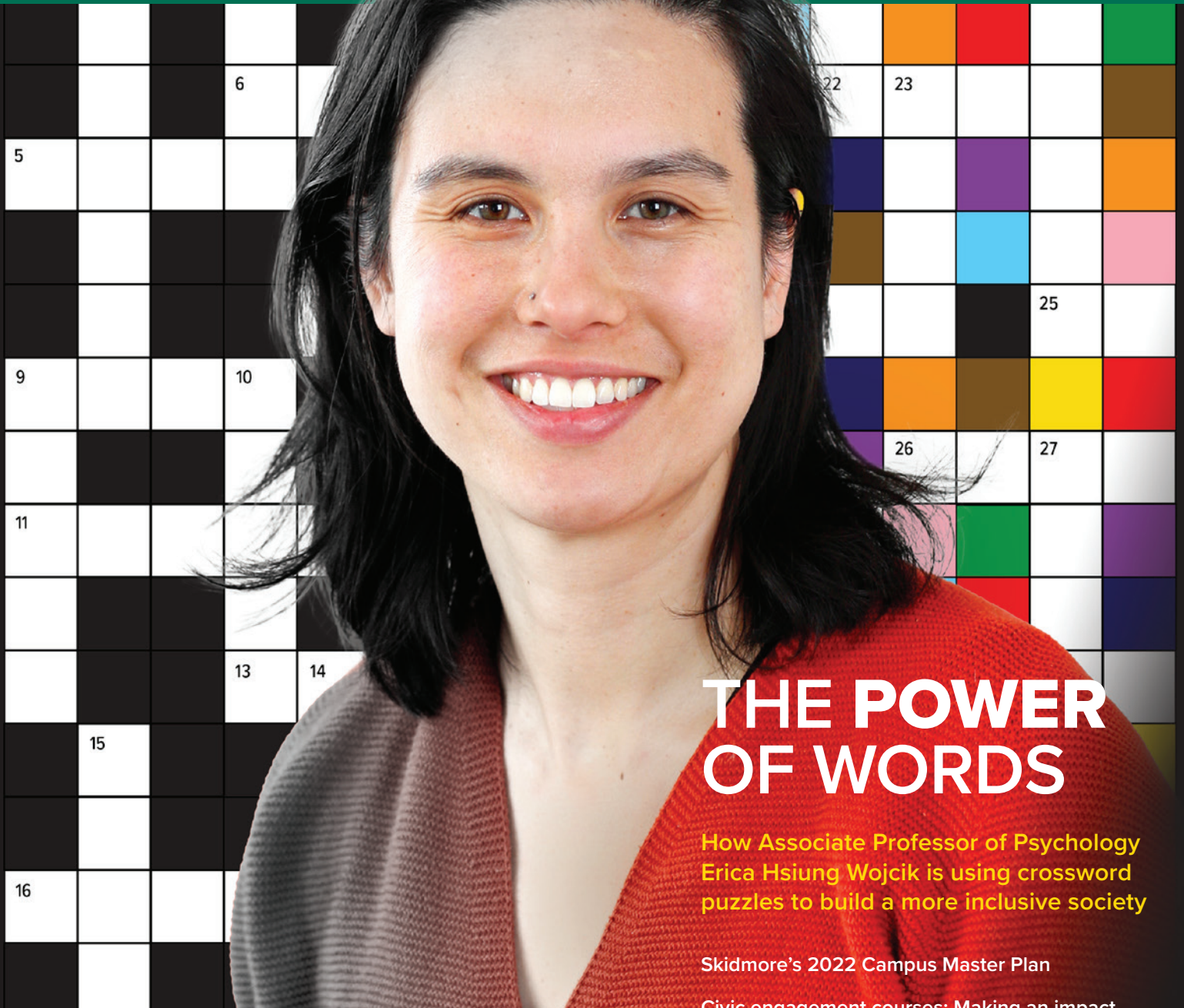


SCOPE

A SHOWCASE OF SKIDMORE

AND PROGRAMS

SUMMER 2022



THE POWER OF WORDS

How Associate Professor of Psychology Erica Hsiung Wojcik is using crossword puzzles to build a more inclusive society

Skidmore's 2022 Campus Master Plan

Civic engagement courses: Making an impact



Skidmore's newly dedicated Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences honors Life Trustee Wilma "Billie" Stein Tisch '48 for her decades of service, generosity, and visionary leadership.

Read more on **Page 24**.



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COVER STORY

The Power of Words

Inclusivity is at the heart of the crossword puzzles, research, and teaching of Erica Hsiung Wojcik, a Skidmore psychology professor turned crossword constructor.

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From the editor:

This issue of Scope is hitting mailboxes a little later than usual so we can feature some of the recent excitement from campus: In addition to Commencement 2022 and Reunion Weekend, Skidmore also hosted the Class of 2020 for a special Commencement Celebration and an extra Reunion Weekend for those classes whose celebrations were interrupted by COVID-19. There were other special occasions, including the dedication of the new Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences and a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Wyckoff Center, which underscores the importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice to our Skidmore community. These moments stand as testaments not only to our community's ability to overcome challenges of the recent past, but also to our collective embrace of a bold, creative, and inclusive vision for the future.

We hope that same spirit comes across on the pages of this magazine: Skidmore's new Campus Master Plan, drafted following more than a year of collaborative conversations, represents the community's collective aspirations for the future. Civic engagement courses, also featured in this issue, show how Skidmore is preparing graduates to become informed, engaged, and globally and interculturally aware leaders. Skidmore faculty members and alumni, including psychology professor Erica Hsiung Wojcik and filmmaker Sam Feder '97, are using diverse media — from crossword puzzles to Netflix documentaries — to build a more inclusive tomorrow. All of these stories stand as fitting tributes to our community as we celebrate Skidmore College's Centennial during the 2022-23 academic year. — *James Helicke*

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Above:
Associate Professor of
Psychology Erica Hsiung
Wojcik, standing, works
with Meghan Pierce '22
to process data on early
childhood language
acquisition. The research
sheds light on the diverse
experiences of babies
and ways they acquire
language.



As I reflect at the end of my second year as president of Skidmore, I am in awe of what our community has accomplished over the past two years. Our performance throughout the pandemic has been simply extraordinary. We have prioritized the health and safety of our entire community, while maintaining our educational mission as a great residential liberal arts college. More than that, we have accomplished all of this *as a community* — we have taken care of each other. As I said to the Class of 2022 at Commencement, when they look back years from now on their pandemic experiences at Skidmore, I think that is what they'll remember most: how we got through this time together, as a community that cares.

It has been a season of gathering and celebration on campus. In early June, we welcomed back to campus the Class of 2020, whose celebrations and culminations were stripped away by the pandemic in the spring of their senior year. Well over half the class returned to campus for a truly glorious celebration. For me, the most memorable moment was having their names called out, as they walked, sashayed, danced, and even roller-skated across the stage in Zankel Music Center, shook my hand, and raised their arms in triumph. To me, 2020 felt like an open wound, one that we are now closing and

healing. It will be wonderful to see our 2020 alums return to campus time and again to celebrate being part of Skidmore.

Another thousand alums returned over a two-week period for picnics, lectures, meals, dancing, campus tours, and to share the joy of being together on campus. All of this was more than a celebration of Reunion — it was also a celebration of being able to gather in person once again, after the two years of isolation and separation. For me, the whole experience was a veritable history lesson about Skidmore, as I got to spend hours in conversation with our proud and remarkable alums dating all the way back to the Class of 1951! Hearing stories about the Old Campus, about presidents Wilson, Palamountain, and Porter, about the great faculty of generations past who gave so much to our students, and about what I can only call the high-jinks and antics of undergraduates (about which there is surprisingly little variation from the 1950s to the 2020s!), gave me great pleasure and helped me understand in further depth the rich history of our great college.

I am especially proud that we have not *merely* endured and maintained in the face of COVID-19, we have also continued to move Skidmore forward in significant ways. We just completed one of the most successful admissions cycles in the College's history, and we concluded one of the most successful fundraising years in the College's history — both enormous accomplishments, especially given the challenges of the times.

And over the last year and a half, we collaboratively developed and completed the new Campus Master Plan for Skidmore College. The importance of the Campus Master Plan is hard to overemphasize. We now have a comprehensive overview of the structural needs of the campus to guide us over the next decade and more as we continue to respond to the ever-changing needs of a great undergraduate education.

Of particular note in our new Plan is how much it emphasizes *the residential student experience*. Project after project brings into relief our commitment to our students and what they need to learn and thrive in their

four years at Skidmore. A focus on student health and wellness, on fitness, on athletic facilities, on the residence halls and the living and learning spaces they contain, and on the classrooms and teaching and learning spaces of the campus, defines this Plan and its priorities. Similarly, resolute commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion — along with the natural beauty and the sustainable environments and ecosystems of the Skidmore campus — pervades the Plan. In short, the Plan reflects and articulates the primary values of the College: past, present, and future.

I think that historical perspective on Skidmore is what most fills my thoughts now, two years into my time as president. Of necessity, these two years have been highly focused on the present moment. Yet my attention is also always on the future of our College, on the needs and opportunities that await on the near and far horizons as we look to continue Skidmore's standing as one of the great liberal arts colleges in the world. And increasingly, my understanding of Skidmore's past, of the great figures and events that have shaped this college in such powerful ways, continues to grow. I believe firmly in the adage that to know where you're going, you have to know where you've been.

This year presents a special opportunity to reflect on our history as we mark the centennial of Skidmore's establishment as a four-year college. From its noble founding by Lucy Skidmore Scribner to the very recent naming event of our Center for Integrated Sciences after one of our defining figures, Billie Tisch '48, Skidmore's history is an inspiring story that has even more purchase on the needs of the current moment than it did in Lucy's day. I am honored to serve that inspiring purpose and look forward to all our achievements to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marc C. Conner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Marc C. Conner
President



Celebrating 100 years of Skidmore College

A century ago — on May 25, 1922 — the New York State Board of Regents officially recognized the collegiate status of the Skidmore School of Arts, which had been chartered in 1911, prompting immediate jubilation and celebration on Skidmore’s small campus in downtown Saratoga Springs. Two weeks later, on June 8, 1922, the new Skidmore College issued its first degrees: 27 baccalaureate and seven three-year degrees.

Over the past century, Skidmore has continued to grow — from the modest but forward-looking Young Women’s Industrial Club founded by Lucy Skidmore Scribner in 1903 to the dynamic, globally oriented institution of higher learning whose graduates now lead and serve in organizations of every kind around the world. As we mark the centennial of Skidmore College during the 2022-23 academic year, we commemorate a century of creativity and innovation — a transformative vision for a liberal arts education reimagined by each generation to cultivate both “mind and hand.”



Pictured: Fine arts major Virginia “Ginny” Vought Walters ’36 (1914-1996) presents her terra cotta design of the Skidmore College seal in 1936. Photo by Henry B. Settle, George S. Bolster Photograph Collection



Skidmore students welcomed prospective members of the Class of 2026 and their families during a series of Accepted Candidates Days this spring.

Skidmore is welcoming an incoming class drawn from more than 13,000 applications, a new record.

Here's a first glance at the Class of 2026 (as of June 1):



13,182
APPLICATIONS

26%
ADMISSION RATE



48%
ACCEPTED THROUGH
EARLY DECISION

STUDENTS FROM:



and



9%
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS



11%
FIRST-
GENERATION
STUDENTS



24%
DOMESTIC
STUDENTS
OF COLOR

**SUMMER
READING**

“Parable of the Sower” by Octavia Butler is this year’s First-Year Experience summer reading selection. The 1993 book is part of efforts to offer the incoming students a common intellectual journey that generates questions, prompts conversations, and ultimately binds the Class of 2026 together.



“Parable of the Sower” is a deeply interdisciplinary exploration of empathy and community in a world falling apart, and we think it will leave you thinking in new ways about how we can survive and even flourish in the face of problems bigger than ourselves,” Rachel Roe-Dale, director of the First-Year Experience and professor of mathematics, wrote to first-year students.

RESPONDING to TRAGEDY IN UKRAINE

On campus and around the globe, alumni and faculty sprang into action to explain Russia's war in Ukraine to the world and bring relief to those affected.

Among those involved, Misha Lanin '18 rushed to the Hungary-Ukraine border to help transport refugees from the borders, deliver Ukrainian children's books to displaced children, find long-term accommodation for displaced families throughout Europe, and take other action. As of June, Lanin had helped raise more than \$23,000 through an online campaign to support grassroots relief efforts (gofundme.com/direct-aid-for-refugees-ukraine).

Veteran journalists Cal Perry '01, a senior editor for MSNBC and a global digital news editor for NBC News, and National Public Radio Correspondent Elissa Nadworny '10 both reported from Ukraine and helped to explain Russia's military action and the humanitarian crisis to millions of Americans.

"I think the most valuable skill as a reporter is to listen and spend time with people. Even with all the news — nightly attacks, the big-picture military strategy — I tried to find as much humanity as I could," Nadworny told *Scope*.

On campus, Associate Professor of Political Science Yelena Biberman-Ocakli and Professor of Political Science Kate Graney, both experts on the region, joined Professor of History Jennifer Delton, Associate Professor of Political Science Feryaz Ocakli, and Assistant Professor of Political Science Emmanuel Balogun for a panel discussion about the conflict and its global implications that was also livestreamed to alumni and community members.

Aside from the academic aspects of the conflict, Graney, author of "Russia, the Former Soviet Republics, and Europe Since 1989" (Oxford University Press, 2019), and Biberman-Ocakli also noted the emotional toll that war presented. Biberman-Ocakli grew up in Belarus, which was then part of the Soviet Union, before immigrating to the United States. She also spent time as an adult in neighboring Russia and Ukraine.

"I came to this country as a refugee, and my heart is breaking," Biberman-Ocakli said. "I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of such a warm and supportive community as Skidmore. We must recognize such a community to be our most precious resource."

ON THE GROUND



Misha Lanin '18 loads flour, oil, and other supplies into his truck in Nyireghaza, Hungary, to transport 45 miles to the border with Ukraine. "I always throw in some candy for the orphanages," he said.

IN THE MEDIA



Cal Perry '01, left, a senior editor for MSNBC and a global digital news editor for NBC News, reports from Ukraine. **Elissa Nadworny '10**, right, a National Public Radio correspondent, prepares for a reporting trip to Kyiv, which was under threat from Russian forces.

ON CAMPUS



Skidmore faculty participate in a panel discussion about the conflict in Ukraine.

From **ART HISTORY MAJOR** to the **WHITE HOUSE** by ANGELA VALDEN



Melissa Winter '89 with Michelle Obama aboard Air Force One.

Melissa Winter '89, longtime chief of staff to former first lady Michelle Obama, reflected on her experiences at Skidmore, her successful career in politics, and key insights from her time in the White House and beyond during an open conversation hosted in April at the Tang Teaching Museum.

Kate Graney, professor of political science and director of gender studies, and Natalie Taylor, associate professor of political science, co-curators of the Tang's "100 Years of Women in Politics" exhibit, facilitated the discussion, and Rachel Seligman, assistant director for curatorial affairs and Malloy Curator at the

Tang, kicked things off by summarizing Winter's impressive resumé.

Having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from Skidmore, Winter moved to Washington, D.C., the day after graduation and held jobs on Capitol Hill before going on to shape core initiatives for Michelle Obama. "So when your parents ask what you can do with an art history major, the answer is anything you want," Seligman said to cheers and applause from the audience.

Winter spoke fondly about her Skidmore experience and her decision to pursue art history, saying it was important to her that she study something she enjoyed. She graduated

from Skidmore "prepared," she said, with two summers of internships under her belt, common-sense knowledge, a new set of social skills, and a strong sense of self-reliance.

"Skidmore sent me off into the world in the best possible way," Winter said. "I left here happy, content, and with self-esteem."

She started as a receptionist and then an executive assistant for two representatives in the House before spending 10 years working for Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman.

Then, it was during a 2007 meeting in her hometown of Chicago, in the living room of Barack and Michelle Obama,

that her career path took a serendipitous turn. She recalled being awestruck by Michelle, who told Winter, "I think my husband would be a great president." Michelle was both practical and protective of her family, Winter recounted, and so the Skidmore alumna followed her instincts and went to work for the Obamas.

To those students in the audience hoping to pursue a career in politics, Winter advised jumping right in and exploring a range of opportunities. "I think you should go to D.C.," she said. "Seeing how the machinery of government runs is exciting. ... If you have a candidate you believe in, it's intoxicating. The Obamas broke the mold for me and how I look at politics."

And if you can afford to do it, Winter added, internships are extremely valuable to finding out what you want to do with your career.

"You don't have to decide what you're going to be," she said, particularly to the students nearing the end of their time at Skidmore. "It's about the quality of your life. You have to love what you do, and you have to make some decisions and figure it out. Everyone has the same fears. Do what you're good at and what you enjoy."

There is an art to politics, Winter also noted, and an interdisciplinary Skidmore education prepares graduates to approach it with creativity and critical thought.

She also told the next generation of leaders that public service will always be important, despite challenges that will inevitably arise along the way.

"You take a few steps forward and a few steps back, but you can't give up," Winter said. "There's a lot that you all can offer."

DREAMING BIG

This year not only brought a return to play for some Skidmore teams, it brought hope for the future.

A year ago, the Skidmore men's hockey team did not have a season: two exhibition games to show for countless hours of training and, for most, a lifetime of anticipation leading up to finally getting a crack at being a college athlete. This year, the hockey team — and all the Thoroughbreds — did more than just compete; they dreamt big.

As is customary with the New England Hockey Conference, the schedule proved to be a physical and emotional gauntlet, but glimpses of brilliance were apparent even early on. A last-second goal to tie nationally second-ranked Norwich University on Pack the Rink night in November and a Skidmore Thanksgiving Invitational title were a couple. The New Year saw spirited bouts against Augsburg University, Babson College, and Elmira College — all ranked in the top 10 in the country. The Thoroughbreds also won big games, like a dominant 3-0 victory at Norwich in late January.

Playoff time came and Skidmore was seeded sixth, an underdog, in its NEHC quarterfinal matchup with University of Massachusetts Boston. The Thoroughbreds came out on top, 5-3. But they did more. The spunky and youthful Thoroughbred team strapped up and traveled to Hobart College the following weekend. The mighty Statesmen were the tournament's top seed and one of the highest ranked teams in the nation. Skidmore won again, 3-2. Onto the title game the Thoroughbreds went, the first championship game appearance in program history. The historic season for the Thoroughbreds came to an end in the conference title game against Babson. It was a phenomenal season by the underdogs from the very beginning.

"This group was really special — top to bottom," said Coach Rob Hutchison '07. "Every guy was pulling the rope in the same direction. They really set the bar high; the future is bright for this program."



This spring, the Skidmore women's tennis team won the Liberty League Championship for the 11th season in a row. Making their 15th consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament, the Thoroughbreds swept a first-round match versus Baruch, 5-0. In February, Nicolas Sodi '25 became the first Skidmore swimmer to win an event at the Liberty League Championships with a record-breaking performance in the 1,650-meter swim.

Kevin McGough '25 went on a run at the Liberty League Men's Golf Championship at Turning Stone to capture individual medalist honors, winning the event by five strokes. At the same tourna-

ment, Sean Hurley '23 drained a hole-in-one on a par-4, one of the most rare and difficult accomplishments in the sport.

The women's riding team had an undefeated regular season and went on to capture the Regional Final championship in convincing fashion. Skidmore later sent three riders to the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) National Championship.

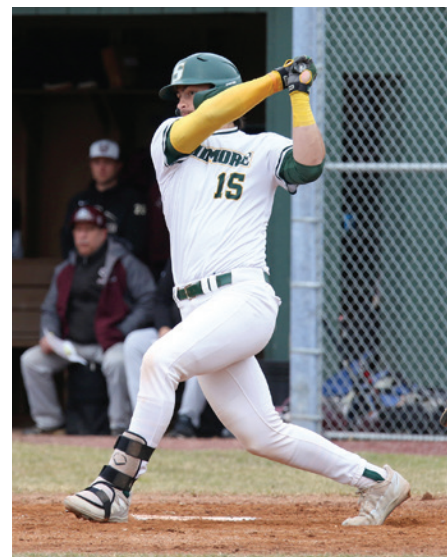
The men's basketball and men's tennis squads also appeared in Liberty League Championship contests in 2022.

Skidmore athletes thrived in the spring, particularly on the diamond. Megan White '22

was announced as the Liberty League Softball Player of the Year, and Jackson Hornung '23 was honored as the Liberty League Baseball Player of the Year.

"As we pause and think about all that our student-athletes accomplished in the classroom and with their teams this past year," said Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Athletics Gail Cummings-Danson, "we know that our future is filled with hope and that hard work, dedication, and perseverance will always be the cornerstone of our success."

— Kyle Lancto



COMMENCEMENT 2022



An Affirming Moment of Joy

With appeals for social justice and charges to change the world — without forgetting to pause for moments of joy — Skidmore College conferred 589 degrees to the Class of 2022 during the College’s 111th Commencement Exercises on May 21.

Family, friends, trustees, alumni, faculty, and staff gathered to celebrate the Class of 2022 at Saratoga Performing Arts Center. It was the first time the ceremony was held fully in person and was open to all since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Award-winning director, playwright, and activist-in-art Moisés Kaufman and noted novelist, literary scholar, and philosopher Charles Johnson both received honorary degrees and addressed the graduates.

Selected as faculty speaker by the Class of 2022, Teaching Professor and Associate Director of Skidmore’s Intergroup Relations Program Lisa Grady-Willis called for the graduates to affirm moments of celebration even as they work for social justice.

“Though it may be difficult, allow yourselves defining and affirming moments of joy, jubilation, and celebration,” Grady-Willis said. “You might strive to be vigilant in the fight against inequities, shed light on the horrors of injustice, be a steadfast force of change. But in the midst of it all, make time to express and experience joy.”

Mark R. Alcantara ’22, president of the senior class, spoke of his experiences as a first-generation college student and those of his class during a tumultuous period.

“I want you to remember that when we first came to Skidmore, we were full of hopes and dreams. Yes, we faced difficulties, but we didn’t let them stop us,” he said. “Never stop dreaming.”



“You might strive to be vigilant in the fight against inequities, shed light on the horrors of injustice, be a steadfast force of change. But in the midst of it all, make time to express and experience joy.”

— LISA GRADY-WILLIS
Teaching Professor and Associate Director of the Intergroup Relations Program

Charles Johnson, author of more than two dozen books including the National Book Award-winning novel “Middle Passage” (1990), encouraged graduates to defend democracy, seek tolerance, and continue to engage in the pursuit of knowledge that they started at Skidmore.

Moisés Kaufman, founder and artistic director of the Tectonic Theater Project and the recipient of a National Medal of Arts from President Barack Obama, spoke of his experience as a young gay and Jewish man growing up in Venezuela. He encouraged graduates to embrace their own identities in all that they do.

President Marc Conner said the endurance, grit, creativity, kindness, and community that the Class of 2022 stood for during a time of

unprecedented challenge represented the very principles of a liberal arts education at Skidmore. Nancy W. Hamilton '77, chair of the Board of Trustees, encouraged the graduates to continue to use that education throughout their lifetimes.

“As Skidmore grads, you can do anything. No obstacle is too great,” said Robert F. Resnick '88, president of the Skidmore College Alumni Association. “As Skidmore grads, you are never alone. You have an army of alumni nationwide, and even around the world, ready to help. This is what makes us Skidmore.”

— James Helicke



Fostering **CREATIVITY, INNOVATION,** and **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**



Rob Sands '81



Bill Caleo '99

Sands Family Foundation Initiative for Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship

The new Sands Family Foundation Initiative for Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship at Skidmore College is further enhancing a liberal arts education that prepares students for professional and personal success.

This spring, Skidmore announced a \$5 million one-to-one matching pledge along with additional matching gifts to create the \$10 million initiative.

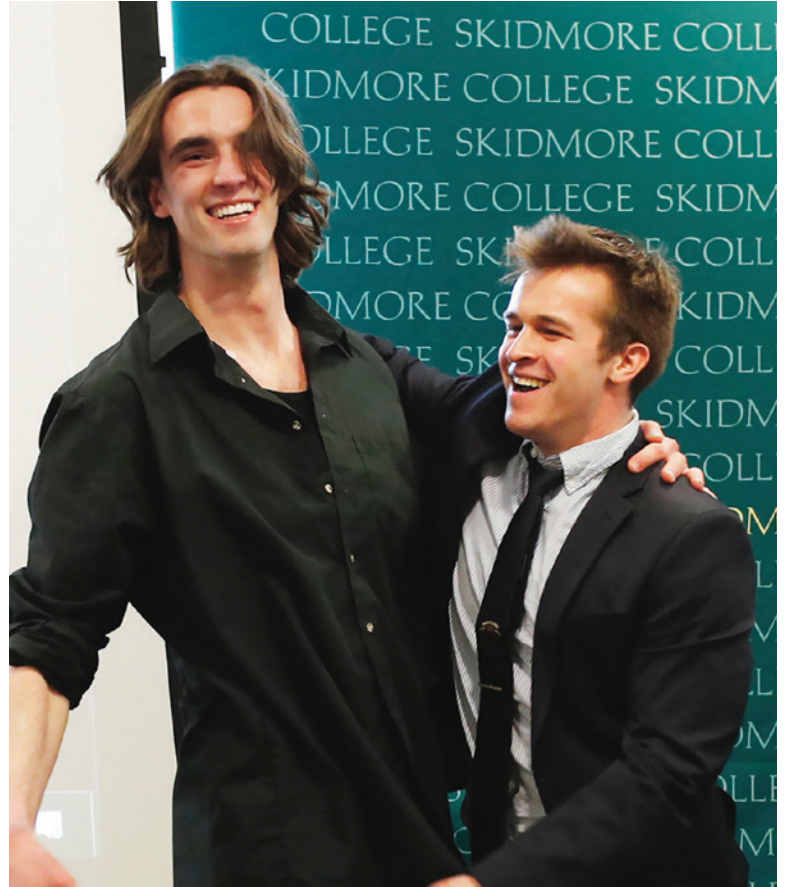
“We are so excited to spearhead the expansion of entrepreneurial thinking for all Skidmore students,” said Rob Sands '81, executive chairman of the board of directors of Constellation Brands. “My hope is that, through this support, students will use their talents upon graduation to create or grow new ventures from the Capital District to Rochester and beyond.”

Sands Family Foundation member Bill Caleo '99 stresses the promise of the gift to build on Skidmore’s creative, inclusive, and interdisciplinary education.

“I want the world to see that a Skidmore education is truly the best preparation for the 21st century,” said Caleo, who is also a member of the College’s Board of Trustees. “Our gift is going to provide programmatic support for the kind of entrepreneurial thinking that is a natural and fundamental part of the College.”

The initiative will increase support for transformative Skidmore programs, including the Kenneth A. Freirich '90 Entrepreneurship Competition, the Entrepreneurial Artist Initiative, the Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership, the Schupf Family IdeaLab, and other initiatives.

“This extraordinary gift celebrates what Skidmore has always done — nurture creativity and prepare students for life after graduation — and moves us forward in our ability to offer the very model for a 21st-century liberal arts education,” President Marc Conner said.



Tom Duncan '22 and Colin Fischer '22 celebrate after winning the 2022 Freirich Entrepreneurship Competition.

Freirich Entrepreneurship Competition

Colin Fischer '22, a psychology major, and Tom Duncan '22, a double major in psychology and philosophy, won the first-place \$20,000 prize in this year’s Kenneth A. Freirich '90 Entrepreneurship Competition for their protein-enhanced ice cream business, Vida Ice Cream.

The annual competition, endowed by Ken Freirich '90 — a trailblazer in conversations about entrepreneurship at Skidmore — offers student entrepreneurs the opportunity to develop and improve their business ideas through workshops, coaching, peer and alumni mentorships, and practice sessions.

Natalie Masannat '22 took the second-place prize of \$10,000 for a natural makeup studio in Aman, Jordan. Ava Wood '24 placed third and received \$5,000 for crocheted wearable art. In fourth place, Malika Sawadogo '24 secured \$2,500 for bags and clothing made using handmade fabric from Burkina Faso.



A Global Impact

To understand how deeply creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship are woven into Skidmore’s fabric, just tune into CNN.

Haja Isatu Bah ’21, who took second place in last year’s Freirich Entrepreneurship Competition, spoke about her project, Uman4Uman, recently on CNN’s “Inside Africa.” The segment, called “Meet Sierra Leone’s clean, green, climate change-fighting machines,” described Bah as part of an entrepreneurial spirit on the rise in Sierra Leone, where innovators are thinking globally while making an impact locally.

“Haja Isatu Bah is the eco-conscious innovator behind Uman4Uman, a social venture she says is addressing the issues of environmental waste, sustainability, accessibility, and affordability of feminine hygiene products,” CNN reported.

The story discussed how Bah’s idea of reusable, sustainable, healthy, and affordable sanitary pads as a means to address poverty and improve educational opportunities for girls and women was initially inspired by a conversation with Eun-sil Lee of Skidmore’s Opportunity Program and grew into a business with support from the Freirich Competition.

“In 2017, as a freshman majoring in environmental studies at Skidmore College in the United States, a conversation with an advisor would motivate her to take action,” CNN reported. “She would win a business competition and social entrepreneurship grant at Skidmore, which helped her officially launch the business.”

Education is at the heart of her work. As a Princeton in Africa fellow, her work is already inspiring the next generation of leaders.

“I hope I’ll become someone like her in the future and help girls and everyone around the world to learn,” Betalucia Williams, a student at a school Bah once attended, told CNN.



Above: Alicia, Harry ’22, and Bob Wyckoff, alongside President Marc Conner, cutting the ribbon for Wyckoff Center during a dedication ceremony in May.

Affirming diversity, equity, and inclusion

Wyckoff Center, Skidmore’s dedicated space for connecting people and programs that underscore the importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, has been named in recognition of the leadership and generous support of Alicia and Bob Wyckoff.

The Wyckoffs are parents of Harry, a member of the Class of 2022, and have served as chairs of the Parents Council. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for Wyckoff Center was held during the College’s May 2022 Commencement Weekend.

Joshua Woodfork, vice president for strategic planning and institutional diversity, and Anita Jack-Davies, deputy chief diversity officer and inaugural director of Wyckoff Center, stressed that the project represented the culmination of work and advocacy by countless community members over many years.

“Today marks a special day for a special place — a place at Skidmore where we prioritize diversity, equity, inclusion, difficult conversations, and making the uncomfortable comfortable,” Jack-Davies said. “Today we realize the promise of past generations.”

COLLABORATIVE CREATIVITY

Skidmore's Schupf Family IdeaLab recently offered high-tech support to Lauren Kelley's exhibition at the Tang Teaching Museum, an example of the creative and cross-disciplinary spirit at the heart of the innovation center and makerspace — and the museum.

Skidmore's Schupf Family IdeaLab innovation center and makerspace expanded from student and class projects to working with the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery and Lauren Kelley to realize key elements of the artist's museum installation.

The collaboration highlights how the state-of-the-art IdeaLab — now located in the new East Wing of the Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences — is, like the Tang, fostering learning across disciplines, bridging the arts and the sciences, and encouraging problem-solving and discovery in novel ways.

"Lauren Kelley: Location Scouting" turns the Tang Mezzanine into a community space for gathering and contemplation through custom-made carpeted seating, drawings, sculptures, and screens playing the artist's stop-motion animations. On one gallery wall are frames that look like airplane windows. On a shelf is a sculpture of a regal seated couple, which recalls sculptures created by the Dogon peoples of Mali (though this couple happen to be encased in a snow globe). These elements bolster the artist's meditations on daily life and travel and were created in a collaboration involving Kelley, the Tang, and IdeaLab.

IdeaLab Manager Darren Prodger said the project offered a unique learning opportunity because it was the first time the makerspace worked with an artist on an exhibition. Eric Kuhl, head preparator at the Tang, said, "Lauren had the big vision, and we realized it."

The process of realizing the artist's vision sounds simple: Prodger found a design for an airplane window and took Kelley's computer file of her design for the seated figures. He rendered those files into something a 3D printer could read. Then he hit print.

The reality was more complex. The window frames, for example, were designed to be 14 inches high, about one inch larger than what the IdeaLab's



3D printers can handle. So Prodger printed each window frame in parts, upper and lower. Each upper part took 19 hours to print; each lower part, 17 hours.

Once the frames were printed, they were delivered to Kuhl at the Tang. Kuhl glued the two pieces together and sanded and painted them before installing them on the gallery wall. Each of the four airplane window replicas now frame recent artworks by Kelley. Kuhl also used a 3D-printed frame as a mold to cast eight window frames in a translucent resin. He installed these new frames on the windows on the opposite side of the gallery to help fulfill Kelley's vision of the installation recalling an airplane's interior.



The seated figures proved even more challenging to print. Unlike the window frames, which were relatively flat, the figures were one piece that rose about 4 inches with lots of delicate parts, such as arms and legs, that are meant to hover in the air. Even the legs of the seat had their own small figures and details.

The difficulty is that the 3D printer's filament needs time to harden, or cure, or else the details will sag during the curing process. So Prodger had to figure out how to print the seated figures with a support structure that could be removed once the piece cured.



Artist Lauren Kelley stands in front of her exhibition "Lauren Kelley: Location Scouting."

Photo left: Lauren Kelley's exhibition "Lauren Kelley: Location Scouting" on the Tang Mezzanine. The frames resembling airplane windows were produced in a unique collaboration with the Schupf Family IdeaLab (inset photo).

Below left: Lauren Kelley's "Airport Present, No. 1" on view in the exhibition. With some trial and error, the piece was printed using a 3D printer from Skidmore's Schupf Family IdeaLab.

Below right: The artist answers questions during a student event at the Tang.

Luckily, the IdeaLab has a new 3D printer with two extruder heads, allowing for two types of filaments to be used at the same time. PLA, or PolyLactic Acid, a low-cost, odorless filament made out of sugarcane, was used to print the seated figures. PVA, or polyvinyl alcohol, was used for the supports.

PVA, Prodger said, is similar to Elmer's Glue in that it dissolves in water. So he planned to print the figures, soak them in water, and let the PVA supports disappear.

The idea was good, but each printing session took more than nine hours and the soaking happened overnight. Sometimes, though, details sagged or broke off, or the supports didn't dissolve correctly.

After a month of back and forth with Kelley, Kuhl, and Rachel Seligman, assistant director for curatorial affairs and Malloy Curator at the Tang, the exhibition was opening soon, and none of the prints was acceptable.

A new idea occurred to Prodger. He had been printing the piece from bottom to top: starting with a base and then working up to the legs, seats, torso, arms, and heads. What if the piece were printed in a different way? He rotated the design in the

computer file by 90 degrees and hit print. That meant it would print from the back of the figure to the front. That way, the piece would be less than half as tall and take less than seven hours to print.

It worked. Kelley was then able to take the figures and situate them in their snow globe. Her work, "Airport Present, No. 1," is now on view on the Tang Mezzanine on a shelf alongside the 3D-printed window frames showing her work.

For Prodger, he has learned how to use PVA to create support structures that can dissolve; how to ensure materials are kept in a climate-controlled setting to limit exposure to humidity, which can damage the dissolvable material; and how to run and maintain the new 3D printer.

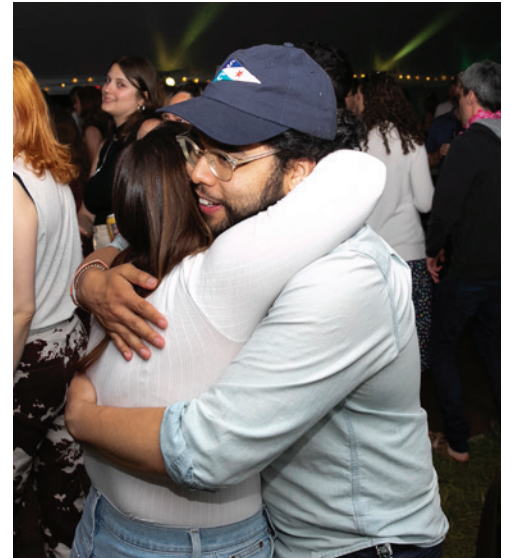
For Kuhl, the collaboration expands the Tang's ability to help artists realize new work. "It's very high tech," he said, "and opens up possibilities of what we can fabricate."

For the artist, on a day she gave a tour of her exhibition, she looked upon her installation and said, "I love it!"

— Michael Janairo



RETURNING HOME



For the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Skidmore College welcomed alumni back to campus for in-person Reunion celebrations.

This year, about 1,000 alumni returned to their alma mater over two sunny weekends in June to catch up with dear friends, learn about exciting developments at Skidmore, and honor classmates and fellow alumni. A June 2-5 Reunion Weekend for alumni with class years ending in 2 and 7 was followed by a separate celebration June 10-12 for class years ending in 0, 5, 1, and 6, whose Reunions had been postponed in 2020 and 2021.

Both weekends featured tours of Saratoga Springs and campus, opportunities to return to the classroom and learn about timely topics from Skidmore faculty, ceremonies to recognize outstanding alumni for their service and achievements, live music, dancing, spectacular fireworks, and beautiful weather.

"I've dreamed about this moment – a live, in-person Reunion, with the bagpipes and the sunshine," said President Marc Conner. "And the dream has come true."



A Heartwarming **EPILOGUE**



With ceremonial bagpipes and a weekend of fun, Skidmore welcomed members of the Class of 2020 back to campus for an emotional Commencement Celebration long delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speaking to a standing-room-only audience in Zankel Music Center, Jinan Al-Busaidi '20, president of the class, expressed excitement about the opportunity to reconnect with more than 300 classmates and finally “celebrate our class the way we deserve to be celebrated.”

Like students across the world, most Skidmore students abruptly left campus in spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of Skidmore’s Class of 2020 went on to receive their diplomas in the mail and joined a virtual Commencement ceremony.

The June 4 Commencement Celebration featured many aspects of Skidmore tradition: live bagpipes, the opportunity to march across the stage in front of friends and family, speeches, the granting of honorary degrees, and the singing of Skidmore’s Alma Mater. Many members of the class also opted to wear regalia.

But in many ways, the ceremony was also more lighthearted, as class members laughed and relished the opportunity to be back together again. One member of the class jovially handed President Marc Conner a rubber duck; another scooted across the stage in roller skates.

Al-Busaidi opened the ceremony by acknowledging classmates and loved ones who could not attend the celebration, which was also livestreamed, and received thundering applause from the audience. In their speeches, Conner, Alumni Association President Robert F. Resnick '88, and College President Emeritus Philip A. Glotzbach all acknowledged the unique challenges that members of the class had faced and their remarkable resilience.

An extended weekend of celebrations for the Class of 2020 also featured many traditional components of Senior Week. Members of the class stayed in Skidmore campus housing. They joined a Brick Celebration and perused the brick pathway in the heart of campus that bears their names and those of their classmates. There was an ice cream social with an inflatable obstacle course and life-sized foosball game; food trucks; a barbecue; a dinner cruise on Lake George; fireworks; and dancing.





MLK SCHOLAR

Eunice S. Ferreira, associate professor of theater, has been appointed a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Visiting Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for 2022-2023. MIT established the program to enhance and recognize the contributions of outstanding scholars. Ferreira was nominated and selected by an institute-wide committee for the prestigious visiting professorship. She is one of eight MLK Scholars who will engage in the life of the university through teaching, research, and other scholarly interactions with the MIT community during the coming academic year.

FACULTY BOOKS

Paul Benzon, assistant professor of English, published a new book: "Archival Fictions: Materiality, Form, and Media History in Contemporary Literature" (University of Massachusetts Press: 2021). The book explores how writers have constructed a speculative history of media technology through formal experimentation.

William S. Lewis '94, professor of philosophy, has published a new book, "Concrete Critical Theory: Althusser's Marxism" (Brill Academic Publishers, 2021), which makes contributions to Althusser studies, Anglo-American political philosophy, and current debates in the philosophy of the social sciences.

David A. Snider, lecturer of arts administration, published the new book "Managing Arts Organizations" (Rowman & Littlefield, January 2022). Snider provides a playbook for navigating arts management in a new era and seeks to inspire a new generation of arts managers.



FACULTY IN THE NEWS

Corey R. Freeman-Gallant, professor of biology, co-authored a paper, "Molecular parallelism in signaling function across different sexually selected ornaments in a warbler," in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Heather Hurst '97, associate professor of anthropology, was interviewed by Smithsonian, National Geographic (France), American Archaeology, and El País about her co-authored article, "An early Maya calendar record from San Bartolo, Guatemala," in Science Advances.

Andrew M. Lindner '03, associate professor of sociology, published "Does Protest 'Distract' Athletes From Performing? Evidence From the National Anthem Demonstrations in the National Football League," co-authored by Brianna Cochran '18, in the Journal of Sport & Social Issues, and "America's Most Divided Sport: Polarization and Inequality in Attitudes about Youth Football," in Social Problems.

Rebecca McNamara, associate curator at the Tang Teaching Museum, and Sara Lagalwar, associate professor of neuroscience, discussed the exhibition "Radical Fiber: Threads Connecting Art and Science" during an interview on WAMC's "Roundtable."

Pushkala Prasad, Zankel Professor of Management for Liberal Arts Students, published "True Colors of Global Economy: In the Shadows of Racialized Capitalism" in the journal Organization.

Minita Sanghvi, associate professor of marketing, was elected Saratoga Springs commissioner of finance.

Rodrigo Schneider, assistant professor of economics, published "The effect of presidential election outcomes on alcohol drinking" in Economics & Politics.

A.J. Schneller, assistant professor of environmental studies, is a lead author on the article "Urban ecojustice education: Transformative learning outcomes with high school service learners," in the Journal of Environmental Education, along with Gabe Feldman-Schwartz '22, Isabel Beard '20, Andrew Rhodes '20, Brandon Wilson Radcliffe '20, Audrey Erickson '20, and Isaac Bardin '20.

Jeff Segrave, professor of health and human physiological sciences, published the book chapter "The Driving Force of the Olympic Movement toward International Peace" in "Looking Towards the Future with Hope," which was commissioned and published by the International Olympic Committee.

Gregory Spinner, teaching professor of religious studies, appeared on the BBC show "Context" to discuss the decision by a Tennessee county school board to ban Art Spiegelman's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "Maus."



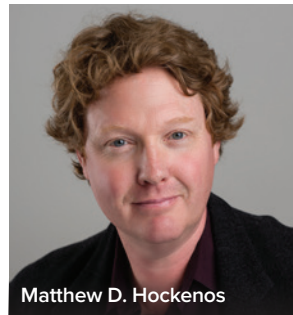
Susannah Mintz, the 2020-21 Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship recipient, presents her lecture “From Milton to Memoir: On Sentences, Story and Self.”

HONORING SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT AND CREATIVITY

The Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship is the highest honor Skidmore faculty confer upon one of their peers. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, two distinguished Skidmore professors delivered the lecture during the 2021-22 academic year.

In November, **Matthew D. Hockenos**, Harriet Johnson Toadvine '56 Professor in 20th-Century History and the 2019-20 recipient, discussed the discrepancy between the myth and the reality of Martin Niemöller, the German Lutheran pastor popularly hailed for his stance against the Nazi regime, in his lecture “Then They Came For Me: America and the Making of the Niemöller Myth.” Hockenos is author of the acclaimed 2018 biography “Then They Came for Me: Martin Niemöller, the Pastor Who Defied the Nazis.”

In April, Professor of English **Susannah Mintz**, the 2020-21 recipient, presented a brief history of her academic life in her lecture “From Milton to Memoir: On Sentences, Story and Self.” Mintz is the author of five books, including the 2021 memoir “Love Affair in the Garden of Milton: Poetry, Loss, and the Meaning of Unbelief.” Professor of American Studies and Douglas Family Chair in American Culture, History, and Literary and Interdisciplinary Studies Daniel A. Nathan will deliver the 2021-22 lecture this fall, and Professor of Health and Human Physiological Sciences Paul J. Arciero, the 2022-23 recipient, will deliver his lecture next spring.



Matthew D. Hockenos



Susannah Mintz

WELCOMING A NEW COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING VP

Jacqueline Conrad, a highly successful communications executive with 30 years of experience in the private and nonprofit sectors and a demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts, is Skidmore’s new vice president for communications and marketing.



Conrad joined Skidmore on July 5 from Cambridge College in Boston, where she served as vice president of communications and public relations for nine years.

Her work across her career has earned her a strong reputation for entrepreneurial leadership, savvy marketing, social impact, and engagement with and support for diverse communities.

At Cambridge College, her many notable contributions have included leading a college reconception and rebranding, and serving as a key member of President Deborah Jackson’s transformative leadership team. She co-founded Cambridge College’s Racial, Equity, and Social Justice Initiative to develop an intentional and strategic response to systemic racism and inequities.

Before joining Cambridge College, Conrad led her own communications firm, working on strategic communications, branding, and marketing with a host of nonprofit, educational, social justice, and corporate clients.

She holds a bachelor’s degree from Suffolk University and earned a master’s degree in communications management from Simmons College.

Listening, Learning, and Building Community

Civic engagement courses at Skidmore are making an impact.

by ANGELA VALDEN



Bill Cole, owner of Cole's Woodwind Shop in Saratoga Springs, shows Warren King '23 and Raisa Ihnat '24 how to repair instruments during a workshop held at Ticonderoga High School as part of The Arts and Rural Poverty class's spring break field experience.

To prepare today's students to address challenges they see in their communities and affect meaningful change — now and in the future — 2021-22 Periclean Faculty Leaders Evan Mack and David Howson say it's all about cultivating productive empathy, generating energy, and building confidence through education.

"If you see a problem that you're not happy with, don't wait around for someone else to solve it. You solve it," says Mack, senior teaching professor of music and founder of We Are Instrumental, an organization he started two years ago to address the needs of struggling music programs in the Adirondacks.

"This generation of students seems to have a heightened sense of awareness and purpose," observes Howson, senior teaching professor and Arthur Zankel Executive Director of Arts Administration. "I commend their altruism. What we're doing is giving them the tools to make a greater impact on whatever they want to focus on. Our students are not risk averse, but giving them the courage is really important."

Their course, The Arts and Rural Poverty, is among a number of civic engagement courses at Skidmore that help prepare graduates to lead lives of consequence as informed, responsible, and globally and interculturally aware citizens.

Through Project Pericles, a consortium of 30 colleges and universities that promotes civic engagement within higher education,

Skidmore faculty are supported in developing and teaching innovative courses across the humanities, STEM, and social sciences that provide students with an opportunity to tackle real-world issues while enhancing partnerships between the College and local communities.

"Learning how to navigate a community, how to embed yourself in the community, and doing a lot of listening and observing is how you can make a difference." — *Evan Mack*

Centered on Mack's We Are Instrumental program — which collects and repairs used instruments, puts them into the hands of schoolchildren, and educates band directors about instrument repair — the Arts and Rural Poverty course shines a light on the systemic challenges faced by many in the beautiful but deeply complex Adirondack region of New York state, just north of the Skidmore campus.

"These music programs are doing amazing work. It's just that they face these daily barriers," says Mack. "And so enlightening our Skidmore students about the problem, and then as a group coming up with ways to address these issues through We Are Instrumental and

beyond, is both helping the community and helping give perspective to our students."

Through readings, discussions, field trips, and in-person and virtual guest speakers, students in the spring semester course learned about the political, educational, and cultural challenges associated with generational poverty in the Adirondack region — from limited broadband internet service to struggles in accessing healthcare — as well as about fundraising, grant writing, and other solution-oriented resources. Visitors included representatives from community organizations, local politicians, and Teaching Professor of Management and Business Cathy Hill, who stopped by to deliver her lecture "The Big Idea," on developing a concept and turning a problem into a high-impact solution.

Ahead of spring break, the students interviewed band directors at select school districts using what Mack calls a productive empathetic approach, drawing out solutions from the impacted community. From there, they handed off a list of questions and circumstances that they wanted to know more about to the four students with "the boots on the ground" during the week-long spring break field experience, who would shadow band directors, interview students, and experience downtowns throughout the Adirondacks. From Ticonderoga to Tupper Lake and Peru and Chazy near the Canadian border, they covered a radius of approximately 100 miles, visiting small towns and school systems that each face their own distinct challenges.



Sarah DiPasquale, associate professor and chair of the Dance Department, leads *Lea Leventhal '23, Annika Bergofin '24, Julianna Willis '22, and Amanda Francis '25* in practicing a dance routine for *Dance to Success*.

Warren King '23 recalls that while shadowing Ticonderoga Music Director Mike Iturrino, he was immediately struck by the sense of belonging that many music students at the school district felt in their lessons and music ensembles, as well as in and around the band room.

“Ticonderoga is the embodiment of a loving and nurturing program headed by a hardworking educator who truly cares, and *We Are Instrumental* was able to help this program grow and prosper even more,” King says. “It made me nostalgic to see that dynamic again, as something I had experienced and treasured in my high school years. I hoped we could do it for all the schools in the Adirondacks.”

At the end of the week, the four students took part in an instrument repair workshop alongside band directors from around the region, led by Bill Cole, owner of Cole’s Woodwind Shop in Saratoga Springs.

“Learning how to navigate a community, how to embed yourself in the community, and doing a lot of listening and observing is how you can make a difference,” Mack reflects. “I think Skidmore students really want to make a difference in their communities. And while they may not go into their communities and create a *We Are Instrumental* program, they’re going to do something else, and they’re going to learn the skills from this experience and other classes.”

In the curriculum and in the culture

Other courses taught by Periclean Faculty Leaders at Skidmore have spanned social policy and advocacy, activism in the arts, environmental science in relation to politics, history, and economics, and elementary education and dance — all taking a hard look at complex societal challenges through an interdisciplinary and action-oriented lens.

Students in Assistant Professor of Social Work June Paul’s course, *Social Policy and Social Justice*, have studied the history, politics, and structure of the U.S. social welfare system and worked directly with the National Association of Social Workers of New York State to complete a semester-long policy-advocacy project.

For her course *Theater for Social Justice and Change*, Eunice Ferreira, associate professor of theater, has partnered with local community groups *MLK Saratoga* and *Black Dimensions in Art*, as well as Skidmore’s *John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative (MDOCS)*, to elevate BIPOC voices, facilitate conversations about injustice, and explore how the arts can be a catalyst for change.

Political Ecology, taught by Associate Professor Nurcan Atalan-Helicke of the Environmental Studies and Sciences Program, has demonstrated the myriad ways in which history, institutions, culture, politics, economics, and broader power structures shape the use of resources, conservation, and environmental policies, and then has asked students to tackle an urban political ecology issue with a local community organization. Past partners have included *Sustainable Saratoga*, *Seeds for Peace*, *Mohawk Harvest Food Cooperative*, and *Bikeatoga*.

The course *Dancing Toward Success: Arts Education for Public Schools* has examined issues surrounding arts education access, funding, and the relationship between arts and learning. Students in this class taught by Sarah DiPasquale, associate professor and chair of the

Dance Department, have collaborated with the Groversville Enlarged School District to design and implement a dance education residency, bringing the power of art and movement to elementary schoolchildren in their community.

The positive impact of that mind-body connection for young students was also the inspiration behind DiPasquale’s creation of “*Dance to Success*,” an innovative streaming series that helps elementary school teachers and students use movement to explore topics such as sharing, listening, and expressing and processing emotions. She collaborates with students from a variety of majors, as well as faculty and staff across the College — including the Education Studies Department, the Management and Business Department, MDOCS, and the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery — to develop and share the programming.

Videos in post-production this spring focused on bridging some of the gaps in emotional development that children are experiencing due to the pandemic, such as dancing through themes like conflict resolution, self-confidence, patience, and inclusion.

Through existing partnerships with the Groversville school district, Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC), and local PBS affiliate WMHT — and now through a collaboration with PBS Learning Media — the educational series is being offered to communities and schools throughout the region and across the country, for free.

“We have no intention of ever charging for this work,” says DiPasquale. “It’s physical research, it’s educational research, and it’s really a community service that we hope to continue for decades to come.”

In addition to the courses made possible through Periclean Faculty Leadership Program support, Skidmore offers a wide variety of

Students in Associate Professor of Theater Eunice Ferreira's **Theater for Social Justice and Change** class engaged in an intergenerational community partnership with local groups Black Dimensions in Art (BDA) and MLK Saratoga, with further support from a Mellon-funded project with the MDOCS Co-Creation Initiative.



Applied Civic Engagement courses that emphasize the value that community-based research brings to scholarship. Topics range from gender and intersectionality in political marketing to educating parents in the digital age.

For the Skidmore Bridge Experience, a new requirement of the general education curriculum, students critically examine how power and justice have shaped the experiences of people with a variety of identities in the United States and how they have responded to the reality of inequality in their lives. A practice and application component of the course calls on students to reflect on their own positions in their communities and on campus, and to connect their study of power, justice, and identity to other areas of their education and their everyday lives.

It's not uncommon for the volunteer component of Skidmore courses to inspire deep personal reflection, and it's the crux of the EN 105 writing seminar *What's In It for Me?* Brenda Pashley-Rabbitt, a lecturer in the English Department and academic counselor and peer academic support coordinator for Student Academic Services, asks her students to take on a community service project and then ponder its impact on self and community as a foundation for their writing in the class.

Arianna Cruz '24, who volunteered with the organization Camp Good Mourning!, offering bereavement services for children between the ages of 7 and 17 who have lost a parent or sibling, reflected on how profound an impact the opportunity had on her life. "It has been the most rewarding experience," she wrote. "I know that everything I've done to help CGM! has had a positive effect on grieving children.

Not only that, but in giving my time I have reaped so many benefits, including pride and satisfaction, enhanced communication skills, valuable networking acquaintances, and a greater perspective on what it really means to be a responsible member of the community. It goes to show that kindness and good deeds have a way of coming back to you."

Eric Morser, professor of history, faculty director of civic engagement, and director of the Bridge Experience, says he feels fortunate every day he comes to campus and works with Skidmore faculty who are committed to civic engagement. "Their classes are innovative, robust, inspirational, and important. They challenge students to apply what they learn in the classroom to address real-world problems and, in the process, teach them to be critical thinkers and good citizens."

Even beyond the curriculum, civic engagement is an integral part of Skidmore's culture, observes Michelle Hubbs, director of community service programs.

From the campuswide effort behind the College's annual Skidmore Cares donation drive, to the community service projects undertaken by athletic teams and organized by resident assistants for their halls, to the student clubs that make it their mission to give back, examples of responsible and generous citizenship abound.

"What I love about Skidmore is that civic engagement and community service are really embedded throughout the College," Hubbs says. "You'll find it everywhere."

SKIDMORE-SARATOGA CONSULTING PARTNERSHIP:

A Secret Treasure

by PETER MACDONALD

For more than 20 years, the Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership has generated fresh, impactful ideas for local nonprofit, for-profit, and arts organizations, an important example of how Skidmore courses are making a difference in the local community.

A few years ago, Elizabeth Sobol, president and CEO of Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC), joined the students of the Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership (SSCP) to thank them for the amazing work they had done for SPAC, calling SSCP "Saratoga's secret treasure." The Skidmore students had just completed an intensive, 12-week consulting practicum with SPAC to produce a 40-page deck of their research and findings and a PowerPoint presentation with their recommendations.

With a mission of making an impact and "making North Broadway shorter," — the Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership engages with three clients each semester, usually a mix of not-for-profits, for-profits, and arts organizations.

In the cultural arena, SSCP has previously consulted with Caffé Lena, Universal Preservation Hall (UPH), Saratoga Arts, Northshire Bookstore, Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation, and Pitney Meadows Community Farm, among others.

When Colleen Burke, executive-in-residence and director of the program, first pitched the idea of having SSCP provide pro bono consulting services to SPAC, Sobol was receptive, thinking it could be a good opportunity to build a closer relationship with Skidmore.

Sobol recalls putting a single hour on her calendar. That first conversation ended up lasting two and one-half hours, and the partnership was sealed.

“The students had so many questions, so many ideas, so much energy,” says Sobol. “We were getting a huge amount of value out of the students’ questions and perspectives, and it was also a significant learning experience for them. We were both mentoring and being mentored.”

Burke is adamant that she isn’t going to let any deliverable go out to the community that isn’t an A+. She is also quick to point out that the success of SSCP comes from many sources: the willing collaboration of Skidmore faculty members; the interdisciplinary liberal arts curriculum; and the diversity and inclusivity of the campus community, to name some.

In true Skidmore fashion, SSCP students bring a variety of majors to the mix — math, physics, social work, political science, studio art, dance, philosophy, and more — which brings multiple perspectives to class discussions and consultant teams.

A growing Skidmore alumni network is also crucial to SSCP’s success. Some graduates come back from their consulting firms — Deloitte, Accenture, Ernst & Young (EY), KPMG, Kantor, and IBM Consulting — to recruit SSCP students for internships and entry positions. Others come to SSCP classes in person or via Zoom to share their expertise. Bill McKendree ’74 from the Clarion Group, Amy Munichello ’94 from EY, Tess Mattimore ’16 from IBM, and Jack Sloan ’18 and Mark Purowitz ’87 from Deloitte have had a huge impact on the course, says Burke.

The idea for a Skidmore-Saratoga partnership was developed by Economics Professor Roy Rotheim in 2000. Since Burke inherited the partnership in 2013, SSCP has consulted for more than 60 local businesses and organizations, including Saratoga National Bank, Saratoga Eagle, Wellspring, Saratoga Senior Center, Habitat for Humanity, the Daily Gazette, and Artisanal Brewery.

Many of the clients implemented SSCP’s recommendations: Healthy Living Market added the family-owned image to its public story; Saratoga Today adopted its “blue box” identity; bike lanes and bikeshares appeared on the streets of Saratoga Springs after SSCP engaged with the Capital District Transportation Authority and the city Mayor’s Office; and the Saratoga Farmer’s Market changed its foot traffic flow after SSCP consultants flew a video drone over the market to capture disruptions. The YMCA and Pitney Meadows even appointed SSCP graduates to their boards of directors.



Members of the 2019 Skidmore-Saratoga Consulting Partnership team that provided recommendations on positioning SPAC as a cultural destination. From left, Roman DiPasquale ’19, Emily Einhorn ’19, SPAC President Elizabeth Sobol, Bella Rinskaya ’19, and Ian Carter ’19.

In addition, SSCP students are occasionally offered positions at client organizations. Aaron Rosenblum ’20, a business major and arts administration minor, consulted with and was subsequently hired by Yaddo, the retreat for artists here in Saratoga Springs.

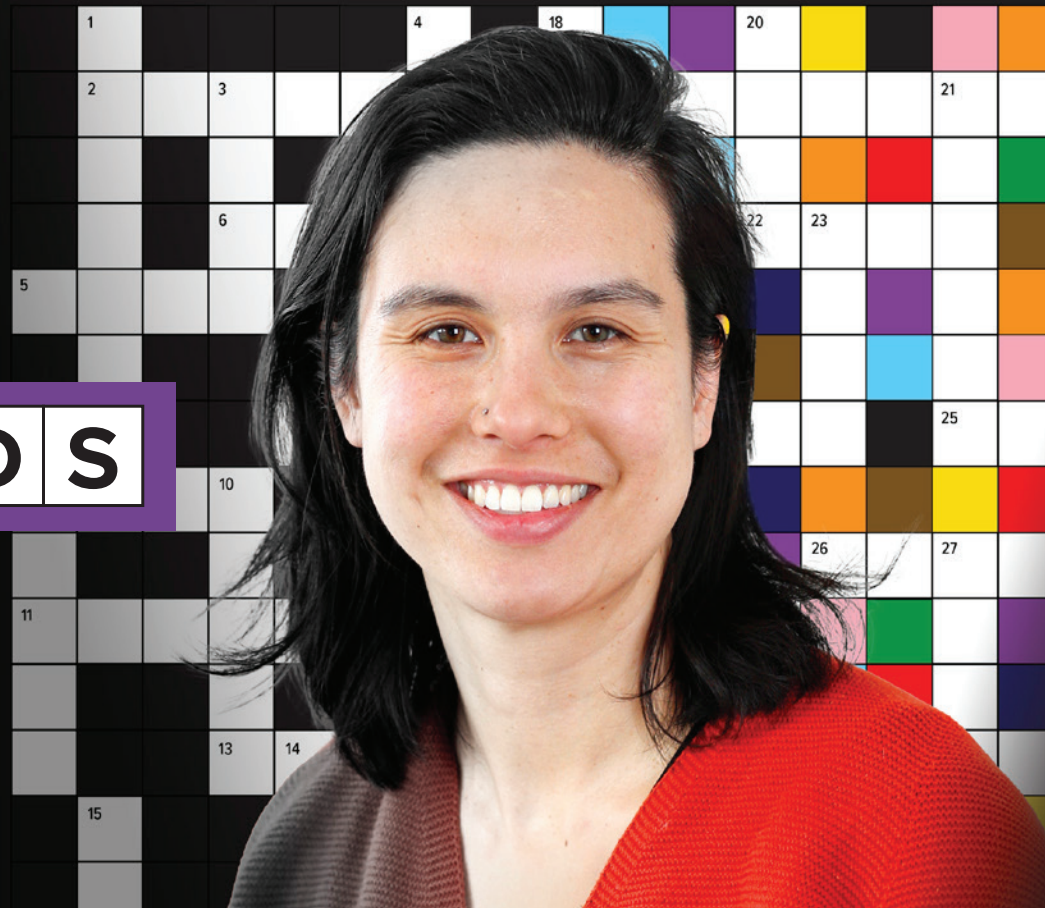
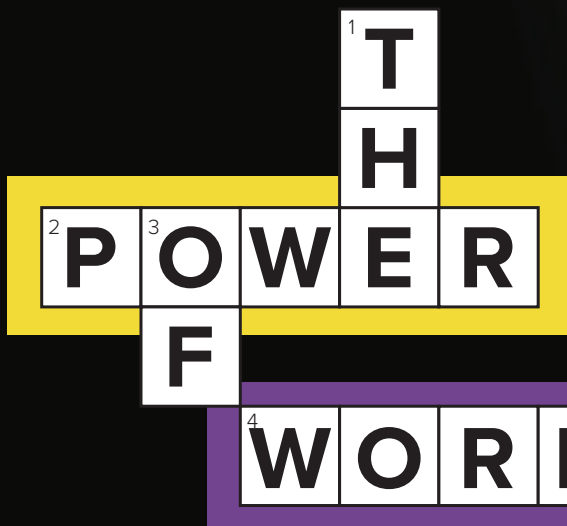
“More than anything, our team brought a youthful perspective to Yaddo,” says Rosenblum. “I think that is a big part of what SSCP brings to local businesses — a curiosity and fresh thinking that brings things into a different light and creates new possibilities.”

Back at the 2019 Skidmore team presentation for SPAC, a guest from the Abu Dhabi-based parent company of semiconductor producer GlobalFoundries, headquartered in nearby Malta, New York, was so impressed, he quickly hired two SSCP students: Roman DiPasquale ’19, a Filene Music Scholar (violin) and business major, and Sonju Mohan ’19, a double major in business and economics.

DiPasquale’s SSCP team focused on positioning SPAC as a cultural destination. They interfaced with about two dozen cultural leaders, from SPAC board members to the UPH president to the head of the Chamber of Commerce.

“People were excited to be involved and talk to one another, and they were impressed with what we brought to the table. ‘Oh, you’re Skidmore students — Wow!’ they said.” — Roman DiPasquale

SSCP and SPAC are now in conversations about fall 2022, when the new SPAC School of the Arts may become an SSCP client.



Using crossword puzzles to build a more inclusive society

by JAMES HELICKE

H

ow was I ever supposed to know that word?

Many of us know the frustration of unsuccessfully attempting to solve a crossword puzzle filled with unfamiliar lingo and cultural references.

But that experience, says Skidmore College Associate Professor of Psychology Erica Hsiung Wojcik, is particularly alienating for individuals from underrepresented backgrounds, who are especially unable to find their own experiences and knowledge reflected on many crossword grids.

There's a reason for this lack of resonance: Many crossword constructors use the same reference materials and tools in constructing puzzles that are often filled with references to the likes of Ed Asner, Frank Sinatra, or an epee — a fencing sword and one of many overused puzzle answers.

“Let’s be honest: We’ve been assuming that the person solving the crossword is a white person of a certain age who has certain literacy and cultural references,” she said. “That’s just super limiting.”

Wojcik, who has created crosswords for The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and USA Today, has sought to make crosswords more accessible to everyone by broadening their scope to include experiences that often haven’t traditionally been

reflected on crossword grids. Wojcik is also sharing her knowledge and experiences by creating a database for other crossword constructors that seeks to expand the crossword lexicon and broaden the appeal of puzzling to new and more diverse audiences. As she wrote in a New York Times “Gameplay” blog earlier this year, she is “making a crossword puzzle that looks like me.”

A similar commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion also cuts through Wojcik’s research, which focuses on early childhood language acquisition, and her teaching at Skidmore.

“If we want to actually understand how babies learn language, if we want to teach students well, if we want to write crosswords for people — to do a better job at all of those — we have to be more inclusive,” said Wojcik. “We have to recognize that there’s much more diversity than we’ve typically acknowledged. That’s the exciting challenge now of research, pedagogy, and crosswords: There’s so much exciting variability in human experiences. We can write crosswords that are more fun for a wider range of audiences. We can teach classes that don’t just inspire a handful of students but that hopefully inspire the whole classroom.”

Wojcik is one of many Skidmore community members — faculty, alumni, students, staff, and administrators — who are engaged in scholarship, creative

endeavors, and other initiatives that are rethinking, diversifying, and expanding their work — and the reach of a Skidmore education — in innovative ways while breaking new ground.

The College is also making diversity, equity, and inclusion a top institutional priority. The Racial Justice Initiative, announced on President Marc Conner’s first day in office, is taking important steps on campus, in the community, and across the curriculum toward building a community of trust. Skidmore’s newly dedicated Wyckoff Center offers a dedicated space for connecting people and programs that underscore the importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

Take Wojcik’s research, for example. Earlier in her career, Wojcik says her research — like that of many psychologists — was almost exclusively based on experiments conducted in a laboratory, which she describes as an artificial setting that can also make assumptions about childhood experiences.

“If we really want to understand how language learning happens, in my opinion, we need to look at a ton of intracultural and intercultural differences. My kid’s language environment is really different than the kid down the street, which is really different than a kid in another country.”



One interesting way Wojcik and colleagues are engaging in a more naturalistic approach to understanding language development is by gathering data through head-mounted cameras worn by babies that record their experiences and gain a unique window into language development. Focus on the project was invigorated by constraints brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, when many labs were initially closed. Associate Professor of Psychology Jessica Sullivan spearheaded data collection.

Wojcik quickly realized the innovative method had the potential to shed light on the many unique experiences of babies and the ways they acquire language.

“My goal with the head cameras is to work with data sets that are more diverse. I’ve given up the idea that there is a universal way that kids learn words, because I think the environments that kids are in are so different,” she said. “There’s no typical baby, just like there’s no typical Skidmore student, and there’s no typical crossword solver.”

Wojcik, a recipient of a 2022 President’s Award for Leadership and Service from Skidmore, also works hard to ensure that insights from a range of perspectives make their way into the classroom. She is the moderator of a database of more than 1,500 psychology papers authored by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) individuals that helps instructors at Skidmore and elsewhere diversify course syllabi and encourages them to think about voices, topics, and questions that might be missing from their classroom.

Wojcik also brings a similar commitment to equity to her other passion: crossword puzzles. The



Associate Professor of Psychology Erica Hsiung Wojcik works with Meghan Pierce '22 to process data on early childhood language acquisition. The research sheds light on the diverse experiences of babies and ways they acquire language.

Expanded Crossword Name Database, which she created and continues to update, is a crowd-sourced resource for crossword constructors. It is filled with names of women, nonbinary and trans individuals, and People of Color, as well as organizations, works of art, and monuments, that represent groups, identities, and people that are often excluded from crossword grids.

“The point of the database is to give people the kind of proper nouns, names — primarily of people — that are often underrepresented in crosswords,” said Wojcik, whose list suggests crossword constructors consider WNBA top scorer Diana Taurasi, sci-fi great Octavia Butler, or the 14th-century traveler Ibn Battuta, for example, instead of the same clues involving 1950s white American celebrities and European royalty.

Bringing attention to these broader experiences on a crossword grid not only affirms their importance, it also helps to broaden the appeal of the puzzles to broader audiences.

The idea of more inclusive puzzles seems to be catching on. Earlier this year, for instance, The New York Times announced the inaugural class for its Diverse Crossword Constructor fellowship. The five individuals will work with the New York Times puzzle team, including editor Will Shortz, to prepare puzzles that reflect the range of their experiences.

After a long day of teaching and research, Wojcik solves a puzzle every evening with husband Tom Yoshikami, assistant director for engagement at the Tang Teaching Museum, who first introduced her to the puzzles. In creating new puzzles for broader audiences, Wojcik strives to eliminate “crosswordese” — terms that only seem to appear as puzzle clues — and ensure that when there’s a tricky clue, overlapping words are manageable, so the puzzle can be solved by everyone from every background.

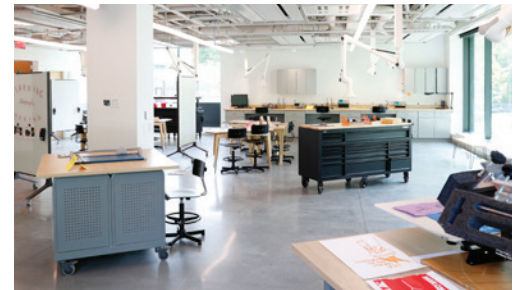
That’s certainly her hope for all her puzzles, including the one featured in this issue of Scope.

“My hope with this crossword is that it’s really doable for anybody and that there’s nothing that feels like that experience that I had with crosswords when I first saw them in The New York Times, where I’d ask ‘What the heck is this? What is this word I don’t even know? How was I supposed to get that?’” Wojcik said. “I don’t want people to have that experience with this puzzle. I want them to be able to say, ‘I totally get it, and I had some fun solving it, too.’”

Try solving one of Erica Hsiung Wojcik’s crosswords yourself! Wojcik has created an original education-themed crossword puzzle for this issue of Scope. See Page 49.

LEADING by EXAMPLE

With touching tributes, Skidmore recognized storied alumna, trustee, and donor Wilma “Billie” Stein Tisch ’48 by naming its ambitious new science center in her honor.



The new Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences, the largest single academic project in College history, reflects both her profound generosity to Skidmore over many decades and her vision for the future of the College.

At a naming ceremony and dedication for the new facility on Friday, May 20, College leaders past and present spoke about her many contributions to Skidmore, recalling how Billie, who served on the Board of Trustees from 1994 to 2014, even proposed the name “Center for Integrated Sciences.”

“That name, which seems so obvious today and that so effectively captures our purpose, was the product of Billie Tisch’s own creative thought,” recalled President Emeritus Philip A. Glotzbach. “More than any other person I could name, Billie Tisch exemplifies the virtue of generosity ... She has responded to many, but we are honored that she has always assigned Skidmore the very highest priority in her philanthropy.”

“More than just an updated science facility, the Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences declares that Skidmore is as dedicated to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) as it is to the arts and humanities,” explained Heather Ricker ’22, a recent chemistry graduate and recipient of a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship.

Denise Smith, professor of health and human physiological sciences, said holding the Tisch Family Distinguished Professorship has been a highlight of her career by strengthening her connection to the College, providing her time to engage in pathbreaking research into cardiovascular strain associated with firefighting, and supporting collaborative research with students.

“Perhaps the greatest gift that Billie gave us is her example,” said Smith, “an example that calls us all to give more freely of our talents and our energy to ensure that Skidmore continues to thrive and deliver on our collective promise to our former, current, and future students.”

“Perhaps the greatest gift that Billie gave us is her example — an example that calls us all to give more freely of our talents and our energy to ensure that Skidmore continues to thrive and deliver on our collective promise to our former, current, and future students.”

— Denise Smith, Tisch Family Distinguished Professor

The ceremony coincided with the completion of the project’s East Wing, the second of three phases of the project’s construction, which opens its doors to students this fall. The first phase of the project, the North Wing, opened in fall 2020. The remainder of the project is on track for completion in 2024.

“I think you all know how much my mother loves Skidmore. It’s always been with her, and I just know how much she’d love to be here today,” Thomas Tisch said. “I also know how great she’d feel seeing the shape Skidmore is in.”

— James Helicke

Photos (clockwise from top): the newly dedicated East Wing of the Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences; the Schupf Family Idealab innovation center and makerspace; President Marc Conner with Billie’s sons Thomas, James, and Daniel Tisch at the naming ceremony in May; and a tour of the interior of the new science facility.

Strengthening Our Future Campus

Skidmore's 2022 Campus Master Plan provides a long-term, student-centered roadmap for the development of the College's physical campus.

After nearly 15 months of extensive collaboration among Skidmore students, staff, faculty, retirees, alumni, and Board of Trustees members — as well as members of the Saratoga Springs community — the College has put forward a student-centered 2022 Campus Master Plan that will guide campus development for the next decade and beyond.

Overarching commitments to diversity, equity, inclusion, and sustainability form the foundation of the Plan and are strategically woven throughout all proposed projects to promote a more welcoming, accessible, and sustainable campus for all.

The Campus Master Plan's six guiding principles — integration, flexibility, belonging, wellness, humility, and stewardship — were developed through conversations with the entire campus community and inform every aspect of the proposals, in step with Skidmore's current Strategic Plan.

Projects outlined in the living, flexible document are ambitious yet “right-sized,” charting realistic and attainable renovations and creations at Skidmore that will align with the College's top priorities and values, says President Marc Conner.

“At Skidmore, we do not just build buildings. We build concepts — concepts of teaching and learning given material form. Zankel Music Center is a concept of musical education in a liberal arts setting. The Tang Teaching Museum is a concept of how to teach using the visual arts and the material arts in every discipline. And the newly dedicated Billie Tisch Center for Integrated Sciences is a concept of how to teach science in ways that most speak to the needs of the 21st century,” says President Conner. “With every project we ask, ‘How does this impact and support student learning?’ ”

Near-, mid-, and long-term projects will be implemented based on the College's strategic initiatives, needs, and available funding.

Above all else, College leaders emphasize that the engaged process involving all stakeholders that resulted in the creation of the Plan will continue to guide Skidmore into the future.

“This collaborative process isn't over,” President Conner says. “The Campus Master Plan gives us a menu of possibilities for our campus, but it doesn't determine our priorities and provide all the details. All of that work will happen in the strategic planning process, and then the next capital campaign, and that's going to proceed in this same way — very inclusive, very collaborative, with clear communication.”

The Plan was drafted in partnership with the architectural firm Ayers Saint Gross, who will host final presentations of the Plan at the start of the fall semester. — *Angela Valden*

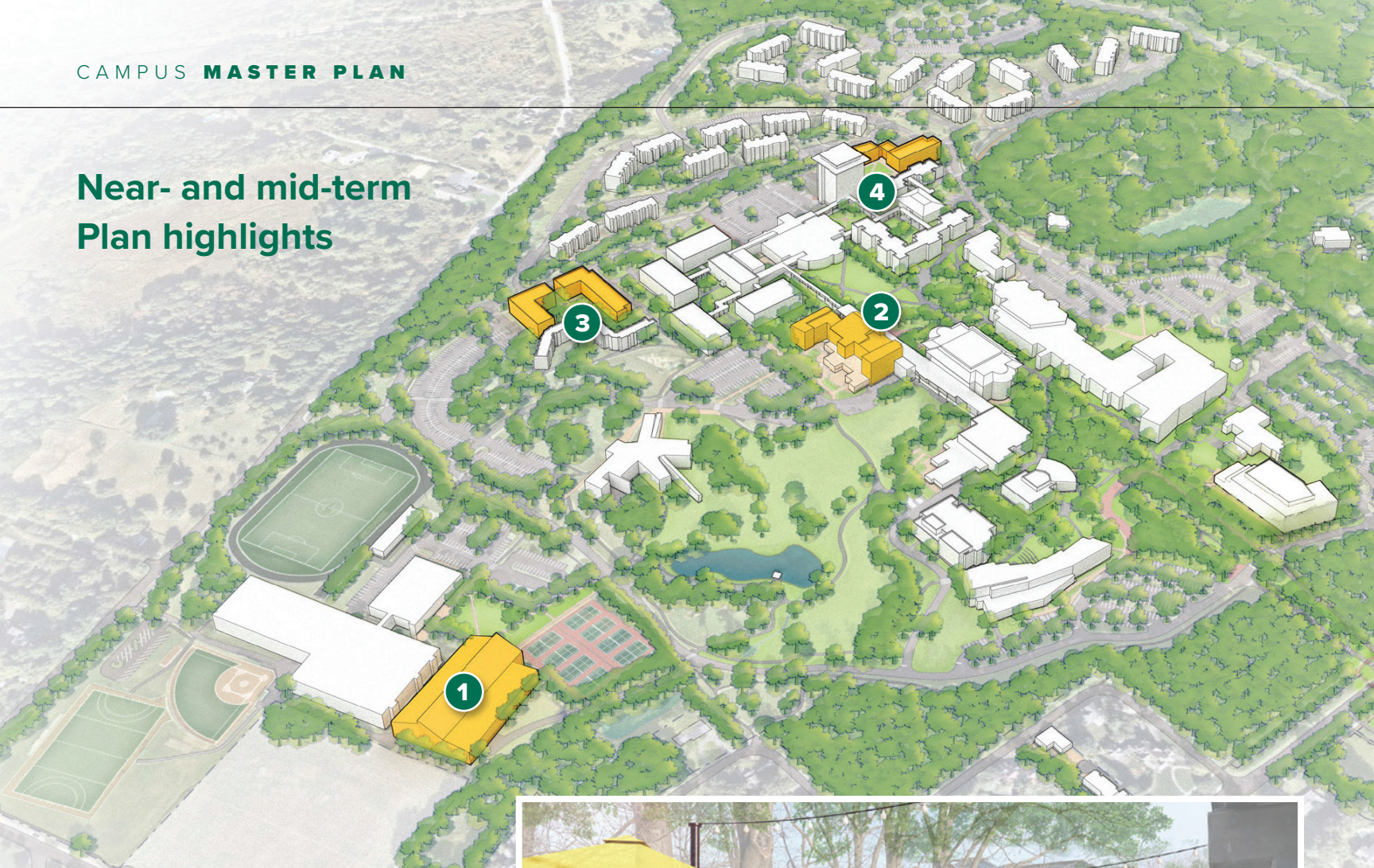
“The fully engaged, collaborative process is one of the defining elements of this plan.” — *President Marc Conner*

The entire Plan is available to view on Skidmore's Campus Master Planning webpage.

 skidmore.edu/campusplan



Near- and mid-term Plan highlights



1

A NEW FITNESS, TENNIS, AND HEALTH AND WELLNESS FACILITY

The construction of a new fitness, tennis, and health and wellness facility adjacent to Williamson Sports Center would help address some of the athletic, recreation, and health and wellness needs on campus. There is an opportunity to gather together all the Student Health and Wellness offices and facilities into a single, unified new building that would elevate these functions to the priority they demand on a residential campus, and unify student health with fitness and wellness more broadly.

WILLIAMSON SPORTS CENTER, DANCE CENTER RENOVATIONS

Condition-focused renovations and the expansion of wellness, recreation, and athletics facilities are proposed. Accessibility challenges in the Dance Center would also be addressed.



CASE CENTER TRANSFORMATION

A renovation of Case Center in conjunction with Ladd Hall — to bring in updated furniture and design and improve accessibility — would better support student life functions and greatly improve gathering spaces. A test kitchen, an identified need during the Campus Master Plan process, could potentially be located on the first floor across from The Spa.

Modest changes and additions to Case Center Plaza, such as an outdoor hearth, flexible seating, and catenary (string) lights, have the potential to be implemented in the near-term and provide an immediate positive impact, defining a comfortable meeting space for the campus community and extending use into the shoulder seasons and evenings.

NEW RESIDENCE HALLS

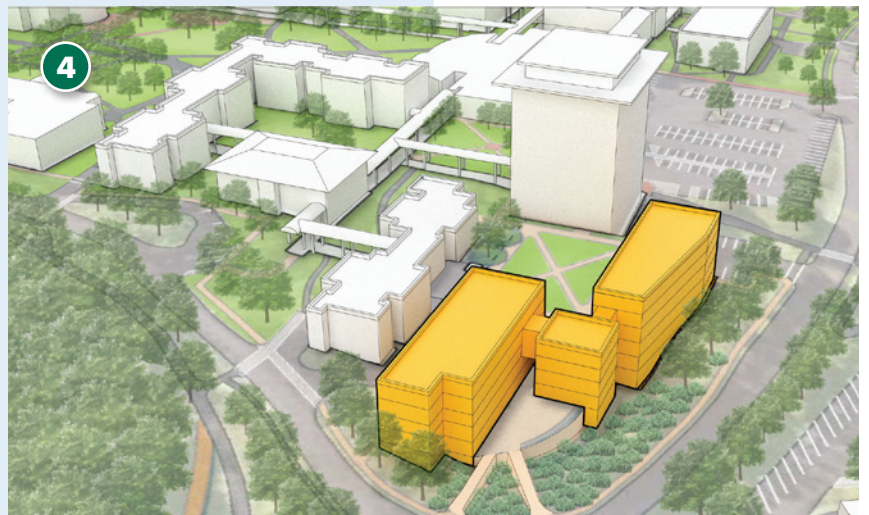
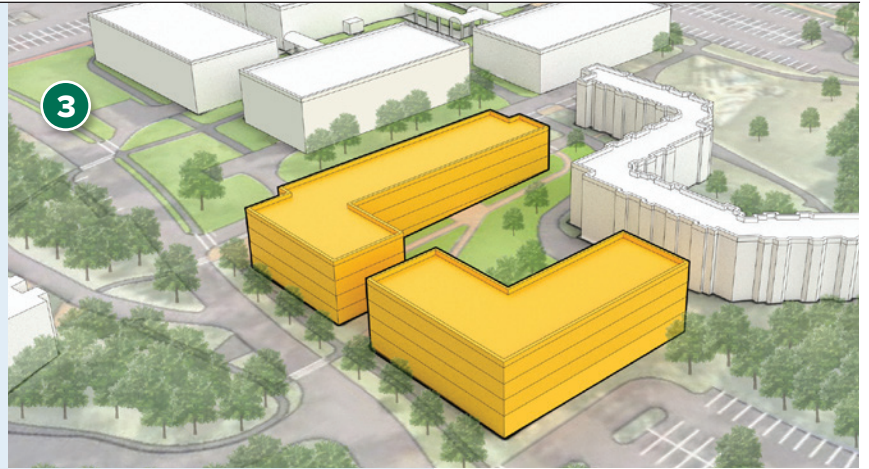
A new residence hall is needed to:

- Accommodate student population growth.
- Decompress existing housing inventory.
- Provide for potential future growth.

Two residence hall communities are recommended, but only one is needed in the immediate future. Each community can provide at least 120 beds.

A new residence hall community on the West Lot west of Wiecking Hall (Figure 3) could extend the open space network from the South Quad and draw the residential community closer to the Tang, Dance Center, Sports Center, and proposed Fitness, Tennis, and Health and Wellness Facility.

A new residence hall community inside Perimeter Road, north of Jonsson Tower (Figure 4), could connect the core of campus to the Sussman Village and Northwoods apartments and create an accessible and complete route along Perimeter Road. A multi-level common space between the two halls and a one-story parking structure with a green roof are recommended.



EXISTING RESIDENCE HALL RENOVATIONS

Condition-focused renovations are proposed for Jonsson Tower, Howe-Rounds, Kimball, McClellan, Penfield, and Wilmarth halls. Adding common spaces for residents to gather and build community, and prioritizing further decompression of units would improve the student residential experience.

RENOVATIONS OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT-SUPPORT BUILDINGS

In support of creative learning and academic success, condition-focused renovations would be prioritized for Palamountain Hall, Tisch Learning Center, Bolton Hall, Ladd Hall, Saisselin Art Building, and Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater.

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Implementing more sustainable landscapes, native plants, and wildflowers would improve the quality and diversity of campus landscapes and ensure resiliency for decades to come.

A localized stormwater management approach is suggested for Perimeter Road. The collection of stormwater immediately adjacent to the impervious surface in bioretention basins allows water to be collected and recharged into the ground water system in a more manageable and sustainable method. Pervious pavers are also suggested for parking lanes and other areas of campus.



Sustainable efforts recommended in the 2022 Campus Master Plan include increasing the diversity of native vegetation, creating bioretention basins to control runoff, and installing pervious pavers. ▶



'48

Gloria D'Aiello Wehle's daughter, **Deborah Ann Wall Wilcox '75**, an accomplished artist, passed away on Aug. 7, 2021. Gloria's granddaughter, Abigail Deborah Wilcox, also a gifted artist, graduated from Paier College of Art with a BFA degree. The trio exhibited their works in a tri-generational show at the Madison Art Cinema Gallery in Madison, Conn., in 2018.

We extend condolences to the family and friends of **Zilpha "Dotsie" Slosson Erskine**, who died Jan. 26. A stalwart volunteer, most recently serving as class correspondent, she was recognized by the Alumni Association with an Outstanding Service Award in 2018. She will be dearly missed by the Skidmore community and many others.

Office of Alumni Relations
classnotes@skidmore.edu

'50

Ann Perkins Ott is still going strong at 93; she does all her yardwork (including mowing), housework, and cooking on her own. "I've been blessed and am very fortunate." She was happily married for 75 years to husband Norm, who died in 2010. Sadly, Perkie lost her son, Dale, to cancer in 2018. Daughters Sharyn and Sharman live in Pinehurst, N.C., and in Annapolis, Md. Perkie has three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Ellen Kelsey Dubocq is happy and well at her retirement community in Tucson.

Nan Radack Strauss loves living in her condo in Hopkins, Minn. It overlooks a pond and park. Several neighbors have "adopted" Nancy and even take her on surprise overnight trips. Two of her sons live nearby, as do her three grandchildren. She

visits her oldest son in Paris every year. Nancy is fully recovered from injuries sustained in an auto accident several years ago. As an active member of a Peripatetic Group, she authors research papers on select topics.

Sina Nazzaro Conte lost her beloved husband Frank on Aug. 4, 2021, "after 60 years of wedded bliss." It was most unexpected and left Sina devastated. Fortunately, she has a wonderful, supportive son and daughter-in-law and three fine grown grandsons. Sina resides in Pine Plains, N.J. She still hasn't lost her beautiful handwriting, which your correspondent greatly envies.

I received notice of the death of **John A. Beals**, one of our special WWII service veterans who added so much to the class. John was 95 and died in the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Albany.

I've been in Greenville, N.C., just over two years. Although they haven't taken the Connecticut Yankee out of me yet, I've settled

in and appreciate being close to my growing family. Bill and I have two children, but when the family gathers these days, we number 18, including my newest great-grandson, Marcus Cadger, who arrived last year. It's just more evidence that moving south was the right thing to do!

Irene Marcus Senter
senter2@comcast.net

'51

Anthea Merrihue Turner enjoyed a trip to Lake George last summer, as she lives in Florida. A grandson was married in Munich, Germany, in September. Two great-grandsons were born in 2021. Being surrounded by family is a gift that keeps on giving, says Anthea!

Janet Ainsworth MacDonald says that life is getting harder every day!

Mary Dunham Scott passed away on Oct. 5, 2021.

Lois Burch Whitford's son died from cancer in June 2021. He was living in England at the time. Lois was unable to be with him, but her daughter and son-in-law did get to go to England after getting vaccinated. The Class of 1951 sends its condolences. For Lois, it was mostly a "stay at home and read books" kind of year.

Barbara Tyson Hartman's daughter Pam, who lives in Virginia, and grandson Logan, who lives in Connecticut, celebrated Thanksgiving with Barbara. She also received a special mention at the Thursday Musical Club concert for her volunteer work while singing with the chorus. It was a nice surprise. Barbara is still getting shots in her eyes for macular degeneration. She says it is hard to read letters and numbers.

Barbara Freedman Wolfson has kept busy with Zoom meetings, meditations, walking, double masking, telephone visits with friends, and other "signs of the times." Other than that, all is thankfully status quo.

A Tribute to Class Notes Editor Mary Monigan



After serving Skidmore for more than a quarter-century, Class Notes Editor Mary Monigan has retired. Mary (officially associate director of alumni communications) joined the College's former University Without Walls program in 1996 before joining the Alumni Relations team five years later. Over the years, she has fostered enduring relationships with alumni and told their stories through *Scope* magazine, *Scope Monthly*, social media, and a variety of other platforms. A talented writer, she has written countless alumni profiles for important community celebrations and supported Skidmore alumni and the Alumni Association Board in numerous other ways. "She's done all of this with talent, skill, and a deep understanding of Skidmore's history — not to mention good humor," said Mike Sposili, assistant vice president of Alumni Relations and College Events. "If you ask Mary what her job has entailed, she'll tell you it is all about telling alumni stories. Mary has been our storyteller, and she will be missed." The *Scope* editorial team thanks Mary for her many years of dedicated service and wishes her a very happy retirement.

Helene Brower is sad to report the death her husband, Norman, in December 2020.

Sally Harrison Dickinson and husband Porter have celebrated 69 years of marriage. and Sally says that they are still talking to one another! They will be traveling to San Francisco in March to visit with their son, daughter-in-law, and their three grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Sally became a great-grandmother again for the fourth time. Ethan David Thoma was born July 1, 2021. His mother, Lauren, is a medical examiner for three townships in New Jersey.

Patricia B. Koedding
classnotes@skidmore.edu

'52

Jean Adams Shaw and Biff report that "all is well in Essex, Conn." and wish everyone a happy and healthy year.

Marcia Hilfrank Forrest and George enjoyed the weddings of two of their grandsons this past summer. Because the newlyweds live close by, they are able to enjoy their lifestyles. The three Forrest daughters "wait" on Marcia and George, who feel very spoiled. The entire family enjoyed the family summer home on Lake Ossipee in New Hampshire this past summer. The other months are enjoyed by all the Forrests' home in North Hampton.

Sallie Walstrum Bailey writes that "getting old certainly is a challenge." Because of back problems, she has had to give up golf, but she still swims 14 laps every other day in one of the two pools at Leisure World in Mesa, Ariz. She enjoys being with her three children and their families, who live nearby. She "feels good" serving her church as a deacon.

Barbara "Bobbie" Neustaedter Scheer has been living in the same house in Poughkeepsie for 69 years. Bobbie misses her husband, Hum, who died four years ago. Her 1½ -year-old black, longhaired dachshund (Gussie) is her constant companion and saved her during COVID. She still drives and spent some time in Florida at Longboat Key. Bobbie is very proud of her son Jonathon, 67; David, 65, an ophthalmologist; and daughter Melissa, 61, a radiologist. A granddaughter graduated this year from Wesleyan University.

Barbara Underhill Collyer is hoping for better times ahead. She is now living in an assisted living facility only a half-mile from her home in Ithaca. She is learning to use a walker after losing a leg last summer. She keeps in touch with **Nancy "Randy" Moore Foster**, **Jean Adams Shaw**, and **Cynthia "Cindy" Hartwig Gyorgy**. She would love to hear from other classmates.

Barbara "Bobbie" Bower misses her days of playing tennis and skiing. However, she occasionally drives guests to Vail. She gave up her real estate broker's license after 50+ years at the age of 85. She now enjoys living in a very large independent living community in Littleton, Colo. Bobbie remembers when her brother was born during her freshman year. He is now 72 years old and is only eight years older than her daughter. Her 10-month old identical-twin great-grandsons and the other "grands" add to her enjoyment.

Flo Shoemaker Taylor says she is "functional without any excess of energy," even though "there is none to begin with!" She is presently living comfortably with her daughter while her husband, 94, is in an assisted living facility nearby. Flo says "thank goodness for kids. No, thank God for them!"



Ileana Paules-Bronet '15 and Matt Kugler '14 married Oct. 16, 2021, in Canfield Casino in Saratoga Springs. Ileana, associate managing editor of a digital media company, and Matt, an attorney at Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, have been together since 2014, when they met while working at Murray-Aikins Dining Hall.

Dorothy "Dotsy" Bernstein Modlin recently enjoyed a visit with **Bobbie Neustaedter Scheer**, and they are both planning on attending our 70th Reunion. Dotsy is still living in Hewlitt, Long Island. She is happy to have very loving family members visit her frequently. Her dear husband, Elibu, died last May. A graduate of Union College, he loved Skidmore and attended all of Dotsy's reunions. Wonderful memories!

Nancy Moore Foster enjoys her active lifestyle at a Masonic retirement center in Wallingford, Conn. In spite of COVID, her entire family (frequently tested), including seven grandchildren, celebrated a wonderful Christmas together. Nancy feels so fortunate that many of her family live close to her. She is still driving and has been looking forward to our 70th Reunion. The year 1952 seems like such a long time ago — and it is! Our 70th Reunion, June 2-5, represents an exciting time for those of us celebrating on campus. Once there, we know Skidmore will treat us royally. As I said in the last Scope, "we may be in our 90s, but our spirit is still primed for fun!"

Betty Johnson Boothe reports she is "now one of the many widows at Heatherwood." Bill died in his sleep on Jan. 29, 2021. "We had 67 years of a wonderful life together, for which I am thankful. Bill loved Skidmore and attended every Reunion with me." Her three daughters, their husbands, and their families, including eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, "are so good to me in so many ways."

Betty Johnson Boothe
bettyboothe@gmail.com

'53

Carol Nelson enjoys reflecting upon our distant past, including road trips to attend big-band concerts and "spotting the Burma Shave signs all along the way!"

Janet Danziger Weinstein lives in a lovely assisted living community in the San Francisco Bay area near her daughter and grandson. She can be contacted at sarwein1@gmail.com.

Bascha Grubman Mon created new paintings as a gesture of hope after two challenging years. She is grateful for healthy children

and grandchildren, her partner, Jay, and a long life. Her work can be viewed on Facebook and Instagram @baschamon.

Our apologies to **Barbara Feder Mindel** for several errors in the last issue. Her grandchildren are 23, 22, 18, and 13.

Joan Lacey Hansen's son informed me that Joan died Jan. 7, exactly one year after she lost her beloved husband. Joan spoke so fondly of her time as a Skidmore nursing major and her career at Massachusetts General. Joan was up for any opportunity to help others and loved entertaining her friends in a grand and thoughtful manner. She will be dearly missed.

MaryAnne Wade Menk
mmenk@verizon.net

'54

Catherine "Kit" Green celebrated her sixth year at University House in Issaquah, Wash. She enjoys watching sports and

playing bridge twice a week. She retired as senior associate athletic director at the University of Washington. Kit stays in close contact with a niece and nephew in Connecticut. Kit's two grandnieces are in college, Syracuse and the University of Miami. Both honors students, one is majoring in engineering and the other in marine science.

Adelaide Warner Minott stays busy keeping up with her four children, 11 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. The family was surprised with a set of twins in July. Life is never dull!

Roslyn Newman Wolin is staying isolated at home due to medical issues that prevent her from being vaccinated. For the past two years, she has not been able to visit a grandchild and great-grandchildren on the East Coast. She sends her sympathies to all who have lost loved ones and hugs to all.

Sydney Bartlett Tansi lives in Manchester, Conn., at Arbors Independent Living. Her four children and five grandchildren live in the Northeast. Still painting, she participates in a local music group and never tires of birding. "I'm a naturalist at heart."

Marcia Weeks Clayton talks often with **Delsa Walsh Wilson**, who lives in Harpswell, Maine, with son Tim. Sadly, friend and classmate **Joan Hall Hardy** and her husband both passed away in 2021. In September, she attended her husband's 70th reunion at Dartmouth escorted by her son, Mark. Active on the Dartmouth (51) board, she serves on the library and dining committees. She also plays lots of bridge.

We lost a number of classmates in 2021: **Arden Whittle Freeman**, **Constance Jones Peck**, **Jeanne Pitta Pacchiana**, **Joan Hall Hardy**, **Mary "Grin" Grindley Shepard**, **Gwendolyn Williams Spencer**, and **Nancy Gillis Sheridan**. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

My "bright spot" was the birth of my first great-granddaughter. In October, I traveled west with my son, daughter-in-law, and two daughters to see my five grandsons, one great-grandson, and the new arrival. While in the area, I visited **Sandy Strouse Gaylord** and husband Tom. My family surprised me with an early celebration of my 90th birthday; it was a wonderful time. I am back volunteering at the library and thrift store while taking all the necessary precautions.

Lydia Pardo McMinn
lpmcminn@gmail.com

'55

Ruth Tuoti Dufault retired in 2021 after 50 years running her landscape business in addition to her work on the town Conservation Advisory Council. Distressed

by what is happening to the environment, she encourages everyone to keep writing letters and calling public officials. Content to putter in her own garden, Ruth enjoys visiting family and friends and working on her drawings.

Nancy Mathis Engen's husband Harry created a home gym and established a neighborhood walking route to keep himself busy and involved during the pandemic. Nancy played the piano, read, and finished home projects. The Engens have two children and three grandchildren living not far from their home in Rockville, Md. The couple missed spending time with a grandchild and great-grandchild living in Florida last year. Their oldest daughter is a missionary in Guatemala.

Ruth Miller Kwartin is thrilled to announce that she now has two great-grandchildren: a boy and a girl.

Diane Davis Nelson welcomed her seventh great-grandchild, Octavia. "She is adorable." Diane enjoyed a week-long visit with her two New York daughters before returning home to South Carolina. She stays busy playing bridge and other card games, singing at her church, and staying as active as possible at age 88.

Nancy Sulkin Marin weathered the first COVID storms and resumed her senior fitness classes. When they got vaccinated, two of her sons came for "nice long visits" and her third son put together a vacation to Maine and Cape Cod. "I feel blessed because my sons always include me in their plans," she writes. Five years ago, Nancy's 51-year career in education ended, "but I keep in touch with many of my former colleagues. **Bryna Cohen Potsdam** and I stay in touch, too." Nancy's life happily includes singing in her community chorus and joyfully supporting the local children's theater.



Dale Lazarovitch '84 (center), **Laura Alpert P'10**, and **Steve Nettler '85** are among many alumni, parents, and community members to serve as judges for MB 107, Skidmore's cornerstone management and business course, which recently marked its 40th year. "Even now, I remember MB 107 as, by far, the most impactful course I ever took, whether in college or business school," Steve said. Students, including **Amelia Murphy '23** and **George Ogenah '24** (both standing), were tasked with boosting Lego sales.



After postponing their original wedding date, **Alana Coscia '14** and her partner **Kyler** got to celebrate their wedding with friends and family in November 2021. In attendance were many Skidmore friends: **Caitlin Hoey Flynn '14**, **Alina Bazarian '14**, **Maya Nussenzweig '13**, **Erin Richard '14**, **Kelsey Weiner Osarczuk '14**, and **Madi Ellis '14**. Photos were taken by **Julia Lockett Cox '12**. After finishing her doctoral degree in 2019, Alana has been working as a clinical psychologist and just took on the role of clinical director at the group practice she works at.

Diana D'Arienzo Pascal attended a "wonderful" graduation ceremony at Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Va., for their grandson, the last of three grandchildren to complete high school there. She and husband Jack live in Garden City, N.Y.

Susan Gannon left her home on St. Simons Island, Ga., for a senior retirement center: Marshes Edge. She has nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, who are "lots of fun." She talks with her Skidmore roommate, **Margaret "Monie" Malcolm Smith**, in Maryland several times a year.

My first-year roommate, **Barbara Wallace Morrison**, and her husband decided downsizing was a great idea after three years of splitting their time between Colorado and Massachusetts to be near their families. While they were away, their homes were often occupied by friends or other family members. One

frequent house sitter came to their Denver residence while getting chemotherapy treatments. They even had one couple who unexpectedly came down with COVID-19 while staying in their home. No more! Barbara and husband are now comfortably back in Colorado full time.

Nancy Lee Farrell is well and retired from the substitute teaching job she really loved. When COVID-19 arrived, she decided to go to work learning Spanish in order to understand Spanish speakers at the immigration prison in Tacoma, Wash., where she volunteers. In addition, she got herself a big sign to walk around in the city that says "WALKING FOR HUNGER." People donated more than \$9,000 that first year. Nancy gave the money to food banks, which she said are "hurting." The donations have now topped \$20,000, and she is still walking. Nancy, we'd love to see a photo of you holding your sign.

Rosanne "Ronnie" Brody Raab and Ed summered at their home in Deer Island, Maine, as the COVID-19 pandemic swept the country. They live the rest of the year in New York City, where Ed is still doctoring in pediatric ophthalmology. Rosanne wrote that they are well, and she is happy to be able to visit the city's great museums again as they reopened.

Thomas White told me that his wife, **Susan Singiser White**, passed away July 11, 2021, of complications from a fall. He and Susan met on a blind date in 1955 at the Ambassador Bar and Grill in Saratoga. Thomas, you have sent a bunch of us down memory lane. Our deepest thoughts of comfort to you.

Mary Cornell wrote to let us know that her mother **Judy Hackwell Cornell** passed away June 20, 2021. Judy was a Skidmore biology major, later graduating from Bellin School of Nursing. A pediatric and general hospital nurse, she ended her career as a hospice nurse. To her children, Susan, John, Mary, Martha, grandson Zachary and the families, we send our condolences.

Barbara McBride Sterling
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'57

Julie Gaines Phalen saw **Margot "Mugs" Cahn Zales** over the Thanksgiving break. Mugs hosted 26 members of her family in Siesta Key, Fla. They are an amazing group, each one nicer than the last.

Joanna "Joy" Hamann Shaw and husband Gordon have moved to a retirement community in Concord, Mass., where they have many longtime friends. Their children live nearby.

Linda Gorham Harvey lost her beloved husband John this fall. Still living on Cape Cod, she

winters near us in Florida (lucky us!). Her three girls all live near her in the New England area.

Hope Thompson Kerr shares a home with her twin sister in Bend, Ore., where winter is colder than in New Jersey. She and Cliff play pickleball, golf, and hike. They hope to return to cruising this year.

Nancy Wyman Horner's husband Lee told me that Nancy has Alzheimer's and has been in a nursing home for almost 10 years. She sends her love to classmates. Right back at you, Nancy.

Two of **Doris Shilliday Grayson's** sons are now grandfathers; she is delighted to be great-grandmother! She enjoys oil painting and swimming daily.

Joan Sears Keelan has moved from Fairfield to Westport, Conn. Her 15-year-old grandson, who was fully vaccinated, recovered from a breakthrough case of COVID-19 earlier this year.

Thea Woodfin Reinhart continues her private practice as a forensic psychologist working court cases. She enjoys it and believes she makes a positive impact. She and husband Frank stay active by keeping up with family and strolling in the park. They cruised the Mississippi River from Minnesota to New Orleans for two weeks, lingering there for a few more days. "There was too much good food; we pigged out on gumbo!" They enjoyed visits from family over the holidays.

Dotty Wakeman Mattoon
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'58

Elizabeth Humes Kornblum and husband Sylvan Kornblum bought a two-bedroom condo on the sea in southern France about 20 years ago and have enjoyed six months there yearly since retirement. Two years ago, they

were “caught by COVID” and were able to remain legally since their return plane reservations were canceled. “It certainly is a lovely place to stay, and we feel very fortunate to be living in a fine climate, in a place we know and love. We are all vaxxed up, including boosters and annual flu shots!”

Susanne Hecht Goldstein sends greetings from California. “I am praying for rain, no more masks, and more active years. It is indeed a new world since we were at Skidmore. Enjoy, learn, thrive.”

Clare Russell Kingsbury is still living in three locations: Williamstown, Mass., Point O’ Woods on Fire Island, N.Y., and Vero Beach, Fla. Her grandkids are mostly working: Henry, 24, is teaching at charter school in Memphis, Tenn.; Charlie, 22, is working in a law office in NYC; Mason, 23, is working in Oceanside, Calif.; Melissa, 19, has been married over a year; and Quinn, 15, is a high school student. “My nursing (under Agnes Gelinas) has come in handy many times.”



Lauren Berry-Kagan '18 recently started working at Lifelong AIDS Alliance as a housing case manager, supporting formerly homeless people with complex medical conditions in maintaining stable housing. She is on the board of her synagogue, Kadima Reconstructionist Community, and milks her friends’ goats at the Rainbow Ranch on Monday mornings.

Linda Gross Singer was looking forward to spending the holidays with family. Last fall, she and Lou went to Honolulu, Hawaii, visiting classmate Miya Umaki Uyeda and her family. “She is as special as ever.” Linda presently lives in Naples, Fla., “truly a paradise.”

Elsa Daspin Suisman spent a delightful Thanksgiving at the home of her daughter, **Jacqueline Haft '85** and son-in-law **Carl Yackel '86**.

Sidney Wright Coursen and Beau continue to enjoy living on Cape Cod. “**Mary Caskey Avery '53** and I catch up on Skidmore news at our book club.” She says it was difficult to lose **Priscilla Knowlton Tavenner** last May, reporting that the “bright spot” at her memorial was the daughter of **Anne Bachman Walmsley '58**, Jill, who came from Wisconsin to Maine to represent the Walmsley family. “Jill gave an incredible testimony about her mother’s friendship with ‘Rose,’ as they called each other.”

Judith Podlesney keeps in touch with her “inner writer,” drafting limericks and poems for a local publication and participating in a group of writers. “We write our memories in vignettes and share with each other. It is great fun.”

Barbara Drucker Smith was presented with a Life Achievement Award by the National Association of Transpersonal Hypnotherapists Conference in December 2021.

Office of Alumni Relations
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'59

Nancy Rae Scully remained in NYC this past year, surrounded by family and many close friends. She is always eager to connect with any '59ers living in the area. “There is always so much going on and we have Central Park as our country place.”



Raiza Nazareth '12, vice president of sales and investor relations at real estate investment firm CONTI Capital, recently moved to Stuttgart, Germany, where her husband, Darshan, is on joint staff, working with the U.S. military’s European/NATO command. This photo was taken shortly before Darshan was deployed to Africa for five months in late 2020 and early 2021.

Anna Wakefield Milano is especially proud of her three grandchildren, who all live near Denver, Colo. Samantha is a physician specializing in pediatrics and internal medicine. Grandsons Luke and Ben are mechanical engineers. Anna shares her Dover, Mass., home with her “very special Westie dog, Bella. Anna’s son Jon lives in Vermont; daughter Cathy is in New Jersey.

Marjorie Goreff Neuwirth is gradually easing up on her patient advocacy work with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. She recently retired from her co-op board. Partially as a result of injuries from a fall, “much of the latter part of 2021 is a blank.” Son Philip and grandson Leo and his partner live in Vancouver. Son Andrew is in Bryn Mawr, Pa. Marge sees **Rita Maduro Frenkel** in Washington, Conn., where Marge maintains a home.

Gail Steiner Trigg attended three weddings in 2021. All four grandchildren are now married; three live in St. Louis and one in Kansas City. Her oldest grandson is married to a doctor and moved back close to their home. Gail’s

husband is fighting lung cancer but doing well. No travel is planned this year; they feel lucky to have seen the world.

June Mesriow Statmore and husband Ken settled in Washington Crossing, Pa. After teaching high school English, June partnered with a friend to co-lead a writing seminar for retirees. The couple enjoy keeping up with children Elizabeth and Michael and their families.

Susan Cahill Ramsey met her boyfriend on a flight to Aruba almost 30 years ago. Today, their combined families total 18 grandkids and five great-grandchildren. Susan’s oldest son, Greg, and his family recently moved to Saratoga Springs. He regularly hikes through the “new” Skidmore campus with his wife and their black Lab. Talk about coming full circle!

Nancy Marsh spent the last year publishing her family history using the digital platform Storyworth. She ended up with 500 pages of stories plus over 450 photos, including our Skidmore experiences.

Rosemary Anziano Ducey and Kenneth are still enjoying their home in the Hamptons. They had a great time at Skidmore during Celebration Weekend with their granddaughter, **Marie Ducey '25**. While there, the couple attended President Marc Conner's inauguration.

Elizabeth Wadleigh Leary has been painting and selling her work. It is available to view and purchase from a number of fine art galleries online as well as on the Artsy website.

Marsha Johnson Bancroft lives with daughter Betsy in Orange, Vt. Their home borders the Sage Mountain Botanical Sanctuary, 600 acres of beautiful plants, wildlife, and hiking trails. Marsha does lots of hiking there with her dog and is active in church and antiracism groups.

Sylvia Phelps Helms sent in a class note for the first time. She raises alpacas and other animals on a six-acre farm in Timberville, Va. She stays in touch with **Kaye Taylor Patterson** in Austin, Texas, and always looks forward to reading classmate news.

Last June, **Cynthia Perry Newton** and husband Jack celebrated their 60th anniversary with their four children and their families — 24 in all. While there, the couple flew over to Ochu to see the Arizona Memorial. There were no volcanoes erupting, but lava flows were everywhere.

Linda Eisenberg Hardy and her husband love their home in Seattle; the property includes acreage, a creek, trails, and lush vegetation. Over the winter, they flew to their residence in sunny Las Vegas to lounge about our pool and take walks. The couple has eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild: "They are all treasures."

Barbara Huge Homeier is still in real estate and stays healthy by exercising and walking. She and Dave "dodged a bullet" when their area was spared by tornadoes that hit Missouri last year.

Sandra Stees Sudofsky
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'60

New class president **Carol Santry-Covello** and her husband Tim recently moved to Naples, Fla.; it was a challenging experience. Carol tested positive for the coronavirus the day after they arrived. The couple's furniture arrived on Day Three. On Day Four, Tim was scheduled to move into assisted living. Although Carol considers her bout with COVID mild, she was grateful she had been fully vaccinated.

Elaine Perlman Cohen also contracted COVID-19. Fortunately, her husband arranged for her to receive monoclonal antibody infusions as an outpatient. Happily, she has fully recovered.

Suzanne Elsesser enjoys volunteering with County Harvest, a local charity that "rescues" fresh but unsold food from supermarkets and delivers it for distribution to those in need. She also swims at the YMCA but is looking forward to swimming in nearby Long Island Sound this summer.

Kathy Adair Coombs lost her beloved husband Fred this past year. They first met in seventh grade and had been married for 63 years. We send our sympathy to her and **Jean Braddon Lewellyn**, whose husband Bruce died of congestive heart failure after a successful seven-year battle with lung cancer. **Judy Harmon Miller** and husband Roly are their next-door neighbors on Martha's Vineyard and are wonderfully supportive.

Friends confirmed positive for COVID kept Judy grounded on Christmas Day. Roly suggested gifting their adult children with the opportunity to purge the couple's basement of the stuff they left in storage boxes 14 years earlier. Among the findings was the decrepit remains of Judy's freshman bib.

Sales have been booming at **Linda Stevens Lucas'** real estate office in Hingham, Mass., with many transactions occurring online. She reports that virtual walkthroughs, low inventory, and multiple offers are the norm. Linda rues the lack of personal connection with clients.

Marty Miller Spencer
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'61

I took my granddaughter and her friend to Hawaii for six days in June to celebrate eighth-grade graduation, which had happened a year before. An adult cousin of mine went with us and helped us get around Oahu in a rented car. We had a great time, even though my roommate, Jerry, had moved from Hawaii to Oregon shortly before our trip. Granddaughter Nora came back as a pretty good surfer!

Susan Stark Match wrote that they enjoyed seven weeks of the mid-to-late summer in the suburbs of Chicago with their younger daughter, **Laura Match Schaffer '89**, and her family. During that visit, their son celebrated his bar mitzvah and Sue's husband, Ron, celebrated his 90th birthday. They appreciated relief from the heat in Vero Beach, Fla. When they returned to Florida, the hurricane season smiled on them and passed them by. Sue was looking forward to a planned visit by President and Mrs. Conner to Vero Beach. She reports that she and Ron are in reasonable health and keeping safe. Sue sends her best to all classmates!

Marian "Cookie" Rapoport Thier wrote that when she and her partner couldn't go somewhere warm in the world on a house exchange (which has been their custom), they rented a bungalow in St. Petersburg, Fla. Cookie normally rents her Boulder house during that period, but this year she is hosting an Afghan refugee family (a couple and their four boys) through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Cookie's son lived and worked in Afghanistan for a decade, speaks Dari, and transferred his love of the country and its people to her. Cookie showed the family around her house while her son translated from Washington, D.C. Who could have imagined in 1961!



Barbie Herbert von der Groeben '69 met Joyce Benedict Ricker's three sons, **Justin '96**, **Jason '91**, and **Evan '97**, when they played in the Cranberry Cup on Nantucket in October. She continues to have biweekly Zoom calls with the third-floor Van Deusen classmates: **Leslie Gardner McGovern**, **Marcia Jensen Watson**, **Karleen Erhardt**, **Mary Ann Giddings Eldred**, **Kay Giles Arthur**, and **Mary Hardman LaPorte**. After the better part of a year and well over 1,000 arms injected, Barbie has re-retired.

I received a colorful card from class member **Janet Alling**. It was a print of one of her watercolors, a patchwork of beautiful leaves called "Territories Unknown." I went to her website (janetalling.art) and saw more of her beautiful work.

Charlotte Smiley Read
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'62

Susan Friedberg Roberts is involved in a vital community organization connected with the Village Movement for seniors living at home. Over the past few years, she has visited with **Sandra Katz Neiman** on numerous occasions in Boston and in southern Maine.

Since the start of the pandemic, **Diana Fong Chan** and husband Steve have limited their travels only to see family in NYC. They were able to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with grandchildren Josie and Benji while also unexpectedly enjoying some terrific shows on Broadway including "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child," "Diana the Musical," "Aladdin," and "Tina: The Tina Turner Musical." She counts her blessings that her children and grandchildren are doing well.

Susan Sambrook Berry
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'63

Carol Brush Nicholson lost the love of her life about a year ago and is still learning how to be single. She has elected to remain in her home and renovate to add a first-floor bedroom in case she ever needs it. Her three much-loved pets keep her company and engage with her in pet therapy visits at a local hospice. Carol stays in touch with her nursing school bestie, **Judy Cohen Lutz**, who visited in October, and it was just like being roommates again.



Alexa Banculli '13 married **Daniel Landau '14** in Lancaster, Pa., on Oct. 2, 2021, the 10th anniversary of when they met at Skidmore. From left are **Dave Jacobs '14**, **Gabe Herrera '14**, **Samantha Skurdahl '13**, **Abby Wyant '13**, **Kayleigh Kahn '13**, **Catherine Chang '13**, **Daniel Schiffrin '13**, **Alexa Banculli '13** (bride), **Daniel Landau '14**, (groom), **Will Conway '14** (behind the bride and groom), **Tate Cousins '14**, **Stefani Mladenova '14**, **Forrest Goldstein '14**, **Heather Ashe '14**, **Brandon Lomuto '14**, **Kate Hyman '14**, and **Will Sax '14**.

Judith Pettingell weaves a happy Skidmore tale of many get-togethers with several classmates lately, including **Linda Blanchard Chapman**, her roommate at Cambridge for three years after graduation. Judith and Linda got together for a few nights while Linda's husband was having surgery in Dartmouth's teaching hospital. Judith lives in Hanover, N.H. Linda and her husband moved from their large family home to a retirement community in Middlebury, Vt., which I wrote about last year. Judith and Linda got together again, both in August and again soon after, when the Chapmans also invited **Charlotte "Pixie" Cram Elsberry** and her significant other to the Chapman family's shared vacation home on a lake near the Canadian border. They ate well, laughed a lot, and had wonderful conversations. Judith has also joined the Skidmore Alumni Book Club, where she can discuss interesting books with Skidmore alumni.

Betsey Burstein Schneider sold her home of 47 years last September and moved about five miles down the road into a totally renovated condo among the redwoods in Menlo Park, Calif. At that time, she was undergoing simultaneous chemotherapy and radiation for muscle invasive bladder cancer. She is doing well and looking forward to being together for our 60th Reunion in 2023.

After 30 years in Mobile, Ala., **Judy Fuller Aronson** has moved with her partner, Steve, to Denver, Colo., and they are now living in a 55+ high-rise. She is enjoying the Denver weather and being close to her daughter, Molly, and the Colorado grandkids.

Big, celebratory news from **Laura Young**, who married Robert Littlehale on Dec. 10, 2021. The newlyweds found each other on an online dating site. After many phone conversations, Robert

visited Laura in Iowa City in June 2016. Twice widowed, Laura believes that three is a magical number; we agree and confidently wish them a long and happy marriage.

Jane Finneman Hochman is selling her lovely Princeton home and downsizing this month to a smaller place in a 55+ community nearby. This move is a huge deal for Jane: "My present house holds so many things, both tangible and intangible, from my entire life to this date ... I came upon all of my Skidmore notebooks full of class notes, blue books from finals, essays and papers, etc. I looked through them with interest, and then said goodbye to them — finally!" In the mix were also her freshman beanie, her blazer, and even her bike, still sporting a Skidmore flag.

From their winter digs in Tucson, Ariz., **Patty Foreman Balbirer** writes to sing the praises of

her brilliant and accomplished granddaughters; the older is a Fulbright recipient teaching in Germany, while her younger sister is spending this semester at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Patty and her husband Arthur are proud of them both.

Widowed in September after a 58-year marriage, **Roberta Curtis Golub** is trying to acclimate to her husband Stan's absence. Roberta is retired after a 33-year career in finance with Ayco and Goldman Sachs. Her husband, a veterinarian, loved his work, never retired, and left a large global footprint. Roberta, who still lives in Chester, N.J., is contemplating a possible move to California, though not immediately.

Karen Rogers Harrison and her husband migrated about 18 months ago from New Jersey to Orange, Va., to be closer to their daughters and their families. Karen would be happy to know if any of our classmates are now living in the Charlottesville area. She can be reached at her email address, brukarh@yahoo.com.

During much of the pandemic, **Alex Wilbert Fleischman**, **Ronnie Zolondek Bramesco**, and **Susan Ershler** enjoyed regular Zoom cocktail parties. Alex also visited Ronnie at her awesome condominium in Lenox, Mass., last summer, and enjoyed it so much that she rented a timeshare near Ronnie in her community. Alex has also had wonderful times riding her new e-bike with her younger daughter, exploring as many rail trails in their area as they had time for. Alex is still playing tennis twice a week but had to give up golf for a few weeks with a tennis elbow issue.

Skidmore women in the Class of '63 persist! We are hardy stock, no matter where we came from or what we have been doing. We rise to every occasion, and just keep on keeping on. I am so proud of us all. And I know from my own experience that Skidmore gave us so much of what we needed for this adventure. Love you all!

Susan Blum Loukedis
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In early October, **Laura Dubinett '89** spent a day in Saratoga to attend a wedding nearby. She had not been back to Saratoga for 18 years and decided to visit the old and new campuses and the beautiful gray Victorian mansion on Broadway where she had her senior portrait taken. She asked permission from the owners to photograph the exterior. Just as happened 52 years ago, the owners invited her into the parlor, where the same sofa where she had taken her photo previously remained. Laura was touched and now has two photos spanning half a century.

'64

Beverly Fuhrmann Gregory has moved to an independent adult community in Florida that offers healthcare services. After 34 winters in the Northeast, she is delighted with the new opportunities that Florida's climate makes possible. Bev is a docent at the city's historic Juniper Lighthouse. She spends six months at her home on the Connecticut shoreline.

After **Lindsay Knowlton's** partner, Burt Porter, died in December 2020, she moved from northern Vermont to Linden Ponds in Hingham, Mass. Lindsay was awarded a Vermont writers' prize for her poem "Death of a Barn," which appeared in the June 2021 issue of Vermont Magazine.

Betty Anne Edge Kreutziger captured the top prize at a gallery show in Carlsbad, Calif., where she was honored as featured artist. Betty Anne and her husband of 58 years live in an adult community in Oceanside, Calif. Travel is on their agenda once conditions are safe.

Tina Matkovic Spiro and husband Eran celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August. Due to the pandemic, they've stayed close to home, a farm in Jamaica that includes a hummingbird sanctuary. Tina is focusing on art that depicts climate change and botanical drawings that inspire preservation. She exhibits at the KGS Gallery in Katonah, N.Y.

My husband Robert and I have six grandchildren; our granddaughter is a junior at Connecticut College in New London. One of our grandsons is a high school senior; four other grandchildren are younger.

Janice BozBeckian Touloukian
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'65

Marge Orton Hanselman and David spend winters in Harker's Island, N.C., on the water. They love the weather, fishing, beachcombing, and birding. Their summer home is in Eagle River, Wis., where they once ran a resort. She sends greeting to classmates and "the great physical education gang."

Katie McDowell reports that she and her husband are doing well despite the pandemic. Fully vaccinated and masked except at home, they live in an area where many people refuse to comply with both measures. They are still practicing law and, of course, enjoying living in the mountains and being out on the trail. It is nice to be over an hour from Phoenix. They have snow at 5,300 feet, but it is mostly sunny. They hope to see extended family when COVID is under control.

Karen Norvig Berry and Bill moved to Moravian Village, a senior living community in Bethlehem, Pa., following his stroke three years ago and have been quite happy there with new friends and community events. Working on the committee handling the Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lecture Series has been their contribution to the local community. The educational program has kept them engaged with others during the pandemic.

Charlene Petnick Rosen is living in Rhinebeck, N.Y., most of the time with her partner, Roger Phillips, and the rest of the time in NYC. Her son suggested that she become active in politics, so she started a fundraiser for Antonio Delgado, her representative in the House of Representatives. They have raised \$40,000 so far and are arranging for a spring event.

Eileen Kirwin Cameron lost her husband Edward on Jan. 1. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a partner at Price Waterhouse's New York office. Over the years, he ran in the New York and Boston marathons, among others. He and Eileen visited many countries and enjoyed hiking. He will be missed by Eileen, sons Colin and Ian, and four grandsons.

I spoke on management-covered work factors in Federal Employees Compensation Act psychiatric cases, and the shortage of physicians, at the Workers Injury Law and Advocacy Group Conference in Palm Beach in September. I wish Skidmore's Class Notes editor, Mary Monigan, much happiness in her retirement.

Toby Weisberg Rubenstein
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'66

Christine "Tee" Neville writes that she is still happily teaching gifted students two days a

week though this year, entirely in person. Her summers are centered around growing flowers for the farm market across the road and continuing with watercolor painting. She and her lab, Molly, walk by the ocean most days. Life is good in Maine!

Diane Burko's "Seeing Climate Change: 2002-2021" was on exhibit at the American University Museum in Washington and closed in December. A 120-page catalog accompanied the show with essays by curators Mary Garrard and Norma Broude and commentary by Bill McKibben.

Ann C. LoDolce
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'67

Denver resident **Midge Fraser Kral** sees **Nancy Apthorp Paterson** and Doug frequently. Nancy and Midge continue to represent Skidmore on the College for a Day committee, where representatives from

various Eastern colleges come together to introduce their schools to local high school students. Skidmore's Alumni Office is always helpful when it is Skidmore's turn to host a professor. Midge and her family enjoyed a vacation in Brewster, Mass., on Cape Cod last summer, where she had worked at the sailing camp during college summers and her sister Julia has a condo. Daughter Maggie came from Portland, Ore., with husband Nate and daughters Delaney, 4, and Remy, 1. Son Bill came from Denver. She spent time with **Sherry Mernick '69** and **Nancy Garra '74**. Midge continues to love her job as a bookseller at The Bookies, an independent bookstore near her home in the Washington Park neighborhood of Denver.

Proud mother of bestselling author Elin Hilderbrand, **Sally Huling Hilderbrand** attended Elin's "Bucket List Weekend" on Nantucket with **Judy Harris Soper** and another friend. Elin has written 27 books that take place on Nantucket. Sally says, "I couldn't believe that I was treated like a celebrity — daughter Elin is the true celebrity." They had a trivia contest about obscure facts from her books. I (Lorraine) enjoyed reading "Summer of '69," and I suggest you look for this summer's book, "The Hotel Nantucket."

Pam Scharmann Stewart keeps busy with singing, gardening, and crafting, and she tries to make every day a little different. She wishes that her kids were closer, and she is looking forward to Reunion.

Artist **Marsha Smith Tuchscherer**, who lives in Seymour, Wis., is spending her eighth winter in Aiken, S.C., with her 25-year-old horse whom she has owned for 17 years. Marsha was exhibiting her oil paintings as a featured artist at The Pump House, western Wisconsin's regional art center located in La Crosse, this spring.

Nancy Sherbrooke is in Arizona for the winter. "I have my two horses here, too." She just completed a clinic with the Land Safe organization that taught her how to fall from a horse without much injury, "a good thing for an old timer like me. I wish I had done more gymnastics over the years! The training used a bit of that kind of movement." She says she is not thinking of spending any more winters in the Northeast.

Polly Weber Smith recalls that she was completely stalled when her husband died of Alzheimer's in 2017. Looking to be active in her Tucson community and building upon experience as a research assistant, she began to work for Dr. Michael Bogan, who is studying the Santa Cruz River and how quickly parched rivers can heal themselves. She has also spent many years working for a small dog rescue organization; her newest roommate is a 14-year-old Shih Tzu who is blind and has hip issues but is thriving with the help of acupuncture and love. Polly says life got better once she had a purpose. She just returned from a nine-day road trip to Laramie to see her researchers.

I have been sticking close to home, seeing my daughter and her family, studying Spanish, and taking long walks with my dog. My son Tony and his wife, Britt, visited from Brooklyn in June. I have received thanks from many classmates for writing this column, and I want to highlight Mary Monigan, the editor at Skidmore, who has turned straw into gold for all the Scope columns. She deserves a big thank you from all of us as she retires to spend time with family.

Lorraine Rorke Bader
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Alumnus **Michael J. Harmon '93**, senior mail operations manager at Quad Graphics in Saratoga Springs, hands **Sara Miga '08**, Skidmore's director of external relations and strategic communications, a copy of the fall 2021 issue of *Scope*. The two alumni are among many involved in production of this magazine.

'68

Debbie Forbes Lindell continues on the faculty of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University, where she is the Marvin E. and Ruth Durr Denekas Professor. She is currently a Fulbright scholar in Kenya, where she is assisting a small new college to develop the first program of nursing education in northwestern Kenya. She resides at Turkana Basin Institute, a base camp/lab for human origins research, while husband Craig is ably holding down the homefront. They have three children and three grandchildren in Oregon, Indiana, and Maryland.

Nicoline Holbrook Sabbath
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'69

Alex Friedman continues her tapestry journey with a three-month show at the California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco from February through April. More details can be found on her website: alexfriedmantapestry.com. Alex is looking forward to the end of this pandemic so she can gather with friends again.

Karen Johnson is awed by the fact that Skidmore is now a national leader in addressing inequities in higher education and responding to the pandemic. Karen aims to support these efforts. She has been taking exciting classes in AI and data analytics at Rutgers University. An avid traveler, her current destinations of interest include South America, especially Peru, and Europe. I continue to be cautiously optimistic that life as I knew it will return. Until then, I stay busy with volunteer and philanthropic activities, and time with my sons and their families.

Carol A. Bogardus
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On Jan. 7, **Barbara Hauck '70** was acknowledged for her work as executive director of a multi-million-dollar campaign to restore and expand Erie's Warner Theatre. This 1931-era picture palace, now a performing arts center, is the last original Warner theater in the country. In conjunction with her fundraising efforts, she also wrote a book on the theater's history, "A Picture Palace Transformed: How Erie's Warner Theatre Survived a Changing World." During the opening ceremony, Barb was surprised to be honored from the stage by Tom Ridge, former Pennsylvania governor and Homeland Security chief.

'71

Greetings from Bonita Springs, Florida. My husband Doug and I had the Christmas holiday pleasure of being invited to Ray and **Martha Seem Banghart's** festively decorated Sanibel Island home for a lovely beach walk and dinner. Marty and I hadn't seen each other since our 40th Reunion and had never met each other's husbands. After this very special "reunion," I wish they were here for more of the winter so we could get together more often.

For **Janet Murnane Kreidler**, 2021 was a busy year! She has completed a dream of having built a new home with a view within their golf community. She reports that the size is just right and that there's still room enough for any Skiddies who want to visit the Hilton Head area. In March, their first grandchild was born to Chuck's son Scott and Alicia. The lowest point of her year was having not very successful back fusion surgery in March. This kept

her off the golf course for far too many months! Despite our 50th Reunion being delayed, Jan had several mini-reunions through travel, including visits with **Martha Merrick Shanahan** in her winter home in DeLand, Fla.; with **Carolyn Robinson Colgate** and Craig at their lake house on Cape Cod; with **Elise Shevenell '69** in Scarborough, Maine; and with **Martha Merrick Shanahan** in Big Moose, New York, whom **Susan McNeily Craig '69** and family were visiting at the same time!

As I close, we must also pay tribute to our inimitable **Virginia "Vini" Norris Exton**. After her courageous battle with cancer, she passed on Sept. 29, 2021. Her memorial was to take place May 21 in Mesa, Colo. I know she touched many of us and that her legacy of fun, humor, adventure, loyalty, and love will remain in our collective hearts.

Susan Flanders Davidson
suzart@davidsonautonet.com

'72

In November 2021, **Caroline "Kebbie" Kennedy** traveled to Attleboro, Mass., to visit with **Kristina Nelson Occhino** and her husband Guy. She attended the opening of Kristina's solo art show at the True Grit Art Gallery in Middleborough. **Christine Dahlgren Huber** and husband Al drove down from their home in New Hampshire to support Kris (or Tina as we call her!) on this important occasion. Despite stormy weather, the opening was a success. At least two of her paintings were sold that evening and a wonderful dinner celebration followed.

Barbara Devine Bode
Barbara.bode1@gmail.com

'73

Catherine "Curtis" Ingham Koren lives in Vermont and has been there full time for some 30 years. She began her career as an editor and writer at Ms. magazine in 1973. She moved on to reporting jobs in Cyprus and the Middle East from 1978 to 1980 before marrying Ed Koren, a cartoonist for The New Yorker, in 1982. Their son Ben was born in Vermont in 1988. Over the past 30 years, she has been a freelance writer and an English teacher in middle school and high school. She also founded semester programs for juniors and seniors in high school and gap students, taking them for four-month stints to Ladakh, India, in the Himalayas. The Korens have two cats, Alexander von Humboldt and Mariposa.

"I can't believe we are coming up on the big 50th reunion in another year," says **Linda Filon**. She is looking forward to seeing classmates in June 2023. She still lives in West Hartford and spends her summers at the beach. Her two boats take up most of her time.

Kathie Chwals Milligan enjoyed spending Christmas with all her children, grandchildren, “grand doggie,” and husband in her “not too big house. It was the first Christmas in many years that we could all be together and we so enjoyed it,” says Kathie. She is teaching art this winter, mainly online. In January, Kathie remembered Skidmore’s wonderful 4-1-4 program and spending a week in a monastery in Elmira, N.Y. — a profoundly moving experience for her.

Carol DeLancey has taken up watercolor painting in retirement. She and husband Walt Lichmira are thrilled that their son Sam and his lovely wife Kristin moved from Bethesda back to Pennsylvania in 2019. Together with Kristin’s parents, they have enjoyed sailing, fishing, and eating crabs on numerous vacations to various beaches.

Carol and Walt are hoping to travel further afield soon. She did manage to visit **Davien Buckner Gould** and **Anne Blodgett Holberton** this past summer, and also got to see **Jennifer Pearman Lammer**.

Zoe Vose Morsette says that “after Broadway was shut down for 18 months, it is so good to be back, even if shows are experiencing temporary shutdowns due to COVID.” She has made some props for “Mrs. Doubtfire” and continues working on all of the productions of “Hamilton.” She also did a small rush job for a GM Super Bowl commercial that will be on Rob Lowe’s face. There’s a good chance that Zoe will get work on “The Devil Wears Prada,” which will be heading to Broadway in the near future (hopefully). And

finally, she was able to go back to the Cape for Thanksgiving with family after not being able to go for three years.

Cathy Offinger wants to remind everyone that our 50th (how is that possible?) Class Reunion is fast approaching. She is looking forward to a record-breaking turnout in June 2023. She hopes to see as many of you as possible in Saratoga. Cathy says, “If you have not attended a Reunion since we graduated, this is the one for you!”

Additionally, **Jenny Pearman Lammer** and **Cathy Offinger** had a fantastic road trip in April 2021 (along with Cathy’s golden, Berkley) to Fort Myers, Fla. They spent over two months there with Cathy’s daughter and son-in-law and their new baby girl, Josie. As the saying goes, “I never thought I would fall in love again — and then I became a grandmother!” Jenny, Berkley, and Cathy are planning to hit the road again. Cathy met **Sally Amend Larmon** for dinner in late 2021 when Sally and her niece came to Falmouth. It is always wonderful to catch up with Sally, who introduced Cathy to Cape Cod in 1972. Cathy also visits her dad in Connecticut, who will be turning 102 by the time this is published. In addition to serving on several nonprofit boards and being a town meeting member, she still spends time curling, playing pickleball, and walking miles with Berkley.

Barbara Mintzer Good is happy to announce that husband Howie is officially retiring from a 37-year career teaching journalism at SUNY New Paltz. He will devote his time to writing poetry, playing the ukulele, and creating collages. Barbara and Howie now have five grandchildren; grandson Joaquin was born in November 2021. They spend time traveling the Northeast

visiting their four grown children. During the pandemic, Barbara has volunteered her time to the Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps.

I am thankful that I am still working full time; it gives me a purpose and a routine. I continue to assist people through the legal system. In many instances, due to lack of resources, mainly financial, there aren’t enough facilities to aid families with young people who have mental illnesses. Thankfully, Rosie is always there to make me laugh. She is a social butterfly, always looking out the window and waiting to greet any human or animal that walks by.

Joanne Rubin
jrubin610@aol.com

'74

Susan J. Schwaidelson Siegfried is thrilled about the recent publication of her newest novel, *The Pomegranate*, an epic tale of a smart, courageous heroine in a plot set in medieval times. It’s sure to capture your interest and imagination! Susan also has a new website: sjschwaidelson.com.

Helen Edelman sends greetings as “La Saratogienne,” having never left! She and her fiancé were planning February in Naples, Fla. She has enjoyed keeping in touch via the rare art of letter writing! In addition, she had both knees replaced within five months of each other, so she has focused on consistent, successful rehab!

Along with the news of her marriage, **Emily Pavlovic Chiles Startz** announced the opening of her new business: The Woodlands Art Gallery & Studios. It is also a used bookstore and event space, as well as a great escape from the stresses of joining a three-generation household. She is finally a (step)mother and has two grandchildren: ages 4 and 18 months.



Jack Ireland '14 and **Emily Pintel '13** were married in September 2021. “We were lucky enough to have a safe and vaccinated wedding where so many of our Skidmore friends could join us!” In attendance were **Robin Shore '14**, **Sophia Ladouceur '14**, **Alex Stern '14**, **Lelah Childs '14**, **Varak Baronian '14**, **Zac Uslianer '14**, **Ryan Ahern '14**, **Will Zhang '14**, **Joe Marto '14**, **Jeremy Rosen '14**, **Hannah Miller '14**, **Nell Mittelstead '18**, **Nick Mittelstead '12**, **Matt Gaydar '14**, **Dan O'Connor '14**, **Lena Bilik '14**, **Sydney Lea '14**, **Julia Hansen '13**, **John Crisan '14**, **Seamus Gildner '14**, **Patrick Mock '14**, **Stephanie Sherry '13**, **Emma Weiss '13**, **Anna Egner '14**, **Gabby Carboni '14**, **Melina McCormack '14**, **Brittany Perlmutter '13**, **Laura Cornachio '14**, **Jeremy Ohringer '13**, **Olivia Nielsen '13**, and **Billy Berger-Bailey '13**.

Recently Published Books by Skidmore Alumni

Witchy Magic and Me, Maggie

Cynthia Magriel Wetzler '59, a former feature writer for *The New York Times*, has written a middle-grade children's book for ages 8 to 11. Published in 2020, the book won the prestigious Mom's Choice Award for its underlying message of "girl power." The Pound Ridge NY Historical Society has also included the book in a time capsule, buried in September 2021 and to be dug up in 100 years. Cynthia says, "I am so honored and can't imagine if there will even be paperback books in 100 years!"

The Last Taxpayer at King Henry's Faire

Now retired, **Bill Scannell '76** has written a second book. "No one wanted the first," he quips. The newly released *The Last Taxpayer at King Henry's Faire*, a satiric crime novel about two IRS agents, is "funny, absurdist and kind of a romp." The plot involves IRS agent Gwendolyn Nix, who endeavors to solve a 10-year-old murder-mystery. Bill is currently at work on a sequel.

CryptoDad: The Fight for the Future of Money

Widely known as "CryptoDad" for his advocacy of blockchain technology, **Christopher Giancarlo '81** is the former chairman of the United States Commodity Futures Trading Commission and one of the most influential figures in the field of financial regulation. He hosted a webinar about his career path and blockchain technology for the Skidmore community this past fall.

Save the Village

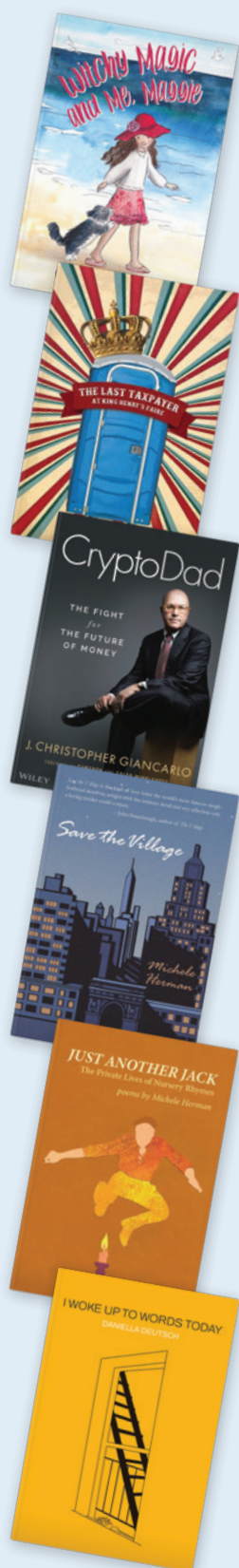
Just Another Jack: The Private Lives of Nursery Rhymes

Michele Herman '81 credits writing instructors at Skidmore with providing the foundation that has allowed her to do what she loves: "write, edit, teach, and help others get their manuscripts ready for publication." The recipient of several writing awards, Michele has an MFA in nonfiction writing from Columbia University, teaches fiction, poetry, and memoir writing at The Writers Studio and works as a developmental editor and writing coach. She is also a regular contributor to *The Village Sun*, an online newspaper covering Greenwich Village and beyond.

Earlier this year, Michele's first novel, *Save the Village* (Regal House Publishing), and her second poetry chapbook, *Just Another Jack: The Private Lives of Nursery Rhymes* (Finishing Line Press), were released within days of each other.

I Woke Up To Words Today

Daniella Deutsch '17 published her second book of poetry, *I Woke Up To Words Today*, in March. She describes it as "a love letter to what her New York City looks and feels like." Through what she has coined as geographical poetry, the book focuses on various coordinates in the city linked with memories of herself, strangers, and experiences over many years — both important and mundane. Daniella is currently pursuing a master's in clinical social work at NYU.



Laura Lasker looks forward to getting together with her Ross House roommate **Elisabeth Post** and **Laura Freid**. Remembering Mrs. Brown, the wonderful dance teacher at Skidmore, Laura has continued to dance jazz and tap and loves it. She would enjoy hearing from **Dana Seaman** and other first-year Ross House friends. Although she transferred to Colgate in junior year, Skidmore remains closer to her heart.

Regina N. Carbon
rcarbon14@gmail.com

'75

Deborah Ann Wall Wilcox passed away Aug. 7, 2021. An accomplished artist, she followed in the footsteps of her mother, **Gloria D'Aiello Wehle '48**. Deborah's daughter, Abigail Deborah Wilcox, holds a BFA from Payer College of Art and continues the creative legacy. They held a tri-generational show at the Madison Art Cinema Gallery in Madison, Conn., in 2018.



Mark Walhimer '85 is still splitting his time between the United States and Mexico City and consulting on new museum projects. He has started work on a new African American Museum project, and in December, Mark's new book "Designing Museum Experiences" was published by Rowman & Littlefield.

Peg O'Higgins Boyers and **Catherine Pond '11** celebrated the publication of their new books with a joint outdoor poetry reading outside the Tang Museum in September. Peg's new collection of poems, "The Album," is anchored by images of the paintings that inspired them. Her fourth volume, it joins "Hard Bread," "Honey With Tobacco," and "To Forget Venice," all published by the University of Chicago Press. Peg continues as executive editor of *Salmagundi Magazine*; Catherine Pond is a former assistant editor. One of Peg's former students, Catherine is the author of "Fieldglass," a collection of poetry that won the Crab Orchard First Book Prize.

Now retired from a long career in nonprofit fundraising, **Kim Martinelli Shiley** finds herself back in Saratoga Springs more often. Her son Christopher, vice president for artistic planning at SPAC, has been living in Saratoga since 2018. She and husband Ed have enjoyed several return visits to her old stomping grounds and are looking forward to another visit this summer when they will once again enjoy live performances of the NYC Ballet and Philadelphia Orchestra. Last fall, Kim had a great time with former roommates **Martha Murphy** and **Margarita Boyatzis Dempsey** celebrating the wedding of Martha's daughter. The trio have remained close friends since their days at Skidmore.

Marianne Boswell retired in August 2021 as CEO of genomics software firm Boston Lighthouse Innovations. Happily settled in the lovely Cape Cod town of Wellfleet, she loves exploring trails there, where two-thirds of the land lies within the boundaries of the Cape Cod National Seashore. She is always on the lookout for driftwood to make mobiles.

Noreen Reilly
noreen.reilly@verizon.net

'76

Matt Rosen '76 has been selected to serve as a volunteer at the 2022 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

For her latest project, **Dawn Penk Marar** founded a writing workshop, "Moving Beyond Bloc-Whiteness."

Ingeborg Hegemann Clark
iehegemann@gmail.com

'77

Last summer, **Leslie Stimmel Guggiari** enjoyed a luncheon mini-reunion with her Scribner Village Pine B roommates: **Susan Bliss Soule '76**, **Jane Reade Nissi '76**, **Robin Maley '76**, and **Jennifer Gregory Ely**. "After 45 years, it was fantastic to all be together!"

Office of Alumni Relations
classnotes@skidmore.edu

'78

After a long career as a corporate and securities attorney representing hedge funds and ultimately becoming the CEO of a prominent NYC firm, **Carol Befanis O'Donnell** retired in May 2021 and says "it feels great!"

Emily Walker Bracchitta
embracchitta@gmail.com

'80

Steve Morrow and **Rob Rothschild** shared their plans for summer 2022 — after our 40th Reunion, which wouldn't be complete without them. Steve enjoys retirement; tennis, surfing, and travel top his daily agenda. Steve looks forward to a two-week tour of Europe with Skidmore friends **Robb Blake '82** and **Jeff Ravreby '83**. Postponed last summer due to the pandemic, the trip will follow the stops on Kenny G's European tour. Steve and Rob are pondering whether they should coordinate some of the itinerary

with David Hasselhoff's German tour!

Marcie Siegel Shealy attended the multimedia show "The Eyes of the World from D-Day to VE Day," staged at Carnegie Hall in celebration of Veterans Day. **Meredith Wagner** co-produced the sold-out show. Historian John Monsky narrates the dramatic final 11 months of World War II in Europe through the eyes of Ernest Hemingway, Life magazine war photographer Robert Capa, and Vogue model-turned-photojournalist Lee Miller. Ian Weinberger ("Hamilton") conducted the 58-piece Orchestra of St. Luke's with music from the era, including some of his original compositions, sung by top Broadway vocalists. **Missy Godfrey Fitzpatrick**, **Betsy Nelson Welke**, **Marcie Siegel Shealy**, and **Debbie Genco Powell** were on hand to celebrate Meredith's success!

The Class of 1980 would like to wish Skidmore staffer Mary Monigan the very best on her retirement. While I hope we continue to share class notes for many years to come, it won't be quite the same without Mary!

Peri Snyderman
specialcat@msn.com

'81

Alison Apicella lives in Norwalk, Conn., where she is a horticulturist at Blondie's Treehouse Inc. She is still painting abstract art.

Karen Stone Talwar reports that her travel business, Adventures in Art, "is alive and well." Over the winter, she gave a tour of Crystal Bridges, the museum built by Alice Walton in Bentonville, Ark. By sheer coincidence, four of the 20 participants were Skidmore alumni. Fall tours will include Venice Biennale, Charleston, S.C., Milan, and the gardens of England and Southern France.

Nelson Ritschel's sixth book, "Bernard Shaw, Sean O'Casey, and the Dead James Connolly," was published in July 2021 by Palgrave Macmillan. He also was a co-editor of a special issue of SHAW: The Journal of Bernard Shaw Studies, titled "Shaw, Journalist." He is again chairing humanities at Massachusetts Maritime and continues to serve on SHAW's editorial board.

Karen Bradley McElroy
bkccamac@gmail.com

'83

Ebba-Marie Gendron is teaching in the MFA Acting Program at New York Film Academy in Burbank, Calif. She is teaching both acting technique and movement/voice.

Lilly Jaray Ostrove
danjasry@yahoo.com



Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine recognized **Monica Anne Faye Villegas '16** as the Student Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine of the Year. The award recognizes an osteopathic medical student for leadership, community service, dedication, and professionalism. A Skidmore neuroscience major, she earned a master's in physiology from Georgetown.

'84

Sara Doremus Swartz retired after a 37-year teaching career at Gill St. Bernard's School in Gladstone, N.J. She has been spending time in New Jersey; Sarasota, Fla.; and Cape Cod. A new pickleball enthusiast, she volunteers and gardens.

Drake Patten is living in Rhode Island and is the owner of hurricanehillfarm.com along with her husband, artist Wright Deter. Drake manages the farm's Leicester Longwool flock, event space, educational programming, and busy Airbnb. The historic conservation farm also leases land to women farmers. Drake remains active in local community concerns related to farming, the environment, and social justice.

Joseph and Mary Ann Hoover Gulyas are proud to be grandparents to four grandchildren ages 2 through 9. Their family all live in the Capital Region of New York. Joe and Mary Ann have lived down the road from Skidmore for the past 35 years in Clifton Park. Mary Ann has been a music history teacher for the past 16 years at Hudson Valley Community College, and Joe is celebrating 34 years as a chiropractor with two offices.

Mark Nathan has founded PlasTechFree LLC, which manufactures a host of home compostable products, including diapers, grocery bags, and other packaging. He is in talks with retailers and the fast-food industry, among others, and hopes to expand the business across multiple sectors.

As for me, I had the privilege of working on the 2020 campaign of **Mary Fay '83**, who ran for Congress in Connecticut along with her sister **Margie Fay Craig**. Although Mary didn't win the seat, we had an amazing experience working together. We were packed

and ready to move to Washington, D.C., with her as her support staff! I also had the true pleasure of serving as a judge for Skidmore's MB 107 for the past several years. In December 2021, I returned to Saratoga to share the panel with **Jody Hocart James, Margie Fay Craig, Philip Wachtler, and Craig Poler**.

Dale Schultz Lazarovitch
redink1994@gmail.com

'86

After years of living in landlocked Nashville, **Camille Ostman** decided to build a new home on Johns Island in South Carolina. Daughter Gabrielle is science department chair at the Washington Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C. Son Geoffrey recently earned a certificate in coding from Vanderbilt University. He lives in Worcester, Mass., with his fiancé. Camille welcomes hearing from any alumni in the Charleston area at edwardsostman@gmail.com.

Russ Brandon has authored the book "Holy Smoke: Trapped by Hellfire," the story of three guys



After four postponements due to COVID-19, **Maureen "Moe" Egan Thomas '83** and **Barnaby Thomas** finally took their vows in a church wedding in September 2021 at Grace Episcopal Church in Manchester, N.H. They had earlier wed in a civil ceremony at city hall. **Bill Ladd '83** and **Anne Kornrumpf Ryan '84** were on hand to share in the special day. Bill also did a reading for the wedding ceremony.

fighting addiction who venture into the backwoods of Yellowstone Park during the wildfires of 1988.

My son Jason is a first-year law student at University of Virginia and my daughter **Leah Nelson '20** is working in the Boston area.

Clifford Nelson
clifford.s.nelson@live.com

'87

Martin Fenton used the pandemic to do something new with his kids. Since his daughter had been accepted at UVM, the family headed off last summer, traveled the country, and settled in Burlington for the school year. His son played hockey at the local high school while he worked for the Vermont Health Exchange. Now they are back in Coronado. His son is now a senior year at Coronado High School while his daughter continues her degree in natural sciences. Overall, it was "a great chance to reconnect with life, family, and nature."

Melissa Weintraub
gaudior@icloud.com



'88

Emily Sielman Leuthner and her husband Mike are enjoying life with their pets and horses in New Glarus, Wis. Working from home, she is able to ride dressage in between meetings. In 2019, she and Mike sold their three veterinary hospitals to Encore Vet Group, based in Saratoga Springs. Mike is practicing part time, and Emily is working with the Encore home office. Their oldest son, **Logan '24**, is studying business finance at Skidmore. Their youngest son, Silas, is a senior in high school and is planning to pursue a business degree when he heads off to college. "Life is good!"

Deirdre Ritter Hill reports that after 30 years as a school counselor, she is retiring at the end of the school year. Her husband Jeff is a financial advisor. Their daughter Avery graduated with a master's in occupational therapy from Keuka College and is an occupational therapist at a rehab facility in Saratoga Springs. She recently became engaged and has a June 2023 wedding in Lake George planned. Their son Ethan is a first-year student at Quinnipiac University in the School of Communication for Filmmaking. While visiting Ethan this fall, Deirdre ran into **Mark Barnett**, whose son is also a freshman at QU.

Clara Rabassa
uwantcr@yahoo.com

'90

In 2021, **Jill Bacharach** decided to "turn pain into power and service." She became a collaborator with Reimagine, a nonprofit organization that deals with loss, grief, end-of-life issues, and learning how to show up for the most challenging moments in life. She invites everyone to learn more about her work by following her on Instagram @jbacharach23.

Rebecca Metzler Smith reports that she and husband Mark moved to a farm in Dorset, southwest England, in August 2021. She continues to run Rebecca Smith Garden Design and is currently overseeing three construction projects. Her children, James and Miranda, are both living and working in London. Becky recently traveled to San Francisco to catch up with her family after two years of lockdowns and travel restrictions. She also got to spend a great evening catching up with **Randy Edgar** and **David Levine '91**.

Dana Metes
danametes@yahoo.com

'92

Kristen Z. Stavisky was recently appointed the first female co-executive director of the New York State Board of Elections and designated by the Governor's Office as the chief election official for the state. Former commissioner of the Rockland County Board of Elections, Kristen also served as chair of the Rockland Democratic Committee and secretary of the NYS Democratic Party. She holds a master's in higher education administration from Columbia University and a J.D. from Pace University School of Law. In July 2021, she and husband Evan bought a house just behind Skidmore's athletic fields. They split their time between Saratoga Springs and Rockland.

Jamie Nimmons
Jamie.nimmons@gmail.com

'93

Last December, **Thomas Caruso** directed "A Christmas Carol" at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles, starring Bradley Whitford, Kate Burton, and Alex Newell. The show also toured Spokane, Phoenix, and Las Vegas.

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classnotes@skidmore.edu

'95

Laura Forlano is an associate professor of design at the Institute of Design and director of the Critical Futures Lab at the College of Architecture at Illinois Institute of Technology. A Fulbright award-winning and National Science Foundation-funded scholar, her research focuses on the intersection of design and emerging technologies. Over the past 10 years, she has explored the potential of autonomous vehicles, smart cities, innovation ecosystems, and wearable medical technologies.

Timothy Hill co-founded Messina Perillo Hill LLP, a boutique litigation and land use firm in Sayville, N.Y. He would love to hear from Skidmore classmates.

John Johnston
johnjohnston35@gmail.com

'97

Tracy Young-Pearse is associate chair of neuroscience research at Brigham and Women's Hospital and co-directs the Nervous System Disease Program at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute. She and her team have developed a groundbreaking stem cell platform that can help predict whether an individual will develop Alzheimer's disease and identify the optimal treatment for that patient. Their study was recently published in the scientific journal *Neuron*.

Jennifer Toran Sargent is currently director of research and data analytics in the Office of Membership at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). She and her husband Jon live in the D.C. area with their three kids.

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classnotes@skidmore.edu

'98

Lauren Knopf became a licensed clinical psychologist in August 2021. She has a private practice in Manhattan. Lauren is also the training director for a psychology internship consortium operated from the Derner School of Psychology where she earned her Ph.D.

Tracey DeLong Belcastro is working in program development and production for a movement/health/fitness company called MOSSA and MOSSA On Demand. She lives in Cobb County, Ga., and has two children (Rocco, 14, and Maren, 11) as well as a stepdaughter (Xanth, 7).

Barb Anderson is doing well and still lives in Brooklyn with her husband and three children. Her eldest daughter, who enjoys dancing, got to stay at Skidmore College for a summer before the pandemic through the New York State Summer School of the Arts program. Barb continues to keep in touch and see lots of Skidmore friends, including **Jono Pandolfi '99**, **Dan Fishman**, and **Tim Dyer** and family, with whom they got to spend some time in the Poconos over the holidays.

Michele Rothstein
mdrothstein@gmail.com

'99

Sue Kessler is creative director of The Bushwick Starr, an OBIE award-winning independent theater in Brooklyn that she co-founded with **Noel Allain '98** in 2007. Interviewed last year in The New York Times, Sue details their quest to find a new, permanent location for the nonprofit group. They had been pushed out of its longtime Starr Street home in 2020 to make way for residential housing. Sue and Noel scrambled to find an affordable property, finally purchasing a former dairy plant less than a mile away. The

Bushwick Starr is slated to reopen this fall.

Luis Alicea completed his Master of Science in organic chemistry, with a concentration in carbohydrate chemistry, at Seton Hall University in 2021. He was accepted to medical school at the University of Medical and Health Science in St. Kitts and Nevis and has begun his studies.

Nancy Magnus
magnusnancy@gmail.com

'00

Emily Falcigno interviewed **Ben Sargent** for her new podcast "The Visionary's Journey," where she helps savvy singles manifest their true desires. The podcast demonstrates how worthwhile it is to jump into the scary unknown! Case in point, all these thought-provoking conversations helped her land on a new career path: pro-organizing and Feng Shui. Listen at savvysinglesstudio.buzzsprout.com.

Lauren Granahan
lauren.granahan@gmail.com

'01

Mac Love was recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives for Akron Stories, a grassroots oral history project funded through the sale of commemorative bricks and dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of Akron's rubber workers.

Janine Geller Jones
JRGeller@hotmail.com

'02

Gardiner Comfort has made it through the pandemic thanks to his acting students at Queens College, his virtual tours of NYC with New York Adventure Club, the play he's been writing, and the road bike he was able to snag before the shops ran out last year. He's about to start

an intensive workshop with the Labyrinth Theater Company. In his spare time, he assists his neighbor, a Civil War reenactor, with Union soldier uniform authenticity.

Kate Nedelman Herbst
kateherbst@gmail.com

'03

Vera Ventura is doing well after being diagnosed with aggressive genetic breast cancer and then brain cancer a year later. After undergoing extensive chemotherapy, reconstruction, rehab, and radiation, she's back to living her best life, working in holistic health, raising kids, teaching yoga, and coaching other women diagnosed with cancer. She is also celebrating her 17th year sober! She can be reached at breastcancergoddess.com.

Joey Mowrey got married to **Kimmie Remis '15** last August. They had an intimate ceremony in Massachusetts. Joey just received his master's from Johns Hopkins University and is a nurse on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Kimmie is a social worker. They live together in Maryland.

In July 2020, after months of lockdown and isolation, **Kari Stuart, Nina Dodge, Amy Wenzel, Sarah Lutenski, Evelyn Brensinger Aissa, Emmy Grant, and Annie Burns** reunited in upstate New York. They connected over beautiful tablescapes, yoga on a deck, a fire pit, homemade tortillas, and the nearby Yellow Deli Cult (it's a thing; Google it). Bonding together again was a true high point of 2021, and they look forward to doing it again this year.

Rebecca and **Greg Shenkman** welcomed a new baby, Amelia, on June 16, 2021.

Bridget Cummings Dorman
bcdorman09@gmail.com

SKIDMORE Loyalty CIRCLE

Formerly called the 1903 Society, the Loyalty Circle recognizes donors who have made a gift to Skidmore for three or more consecutive years.

Last fiscal year, gifts from Loyalty Circle members totaled over \$4 million through the Skidmore Fund, helping to increase financial aid, maintain Skidmore's distinctive educational experience, and provide much-needed funding for student internships.

What inspires Loyalty Circle members to give to Skidmore year after year?

"If a student is interested and passionate about a topic, then finances should not hold them back. Everyone benefits from increased equity and access, and I feel very grateful that I can contribute."
— Sarah Buck '06

To find out why members choose to give, visit: skidmore.edu/loyalty_circle



Steve Handler '88, Charlie Hecht '88, and Daryl Helfman '88 reconnected in Saratoga on Oct. 23, 2021. They walked around campus, reminisced a bit, and marveled at all the new construction. The classmates then stopped at the Alumni Memorial Garden (behind the Surrey Williamson Inn) to remember Jaime Guttenberg, the late daughter of **Fred Guttenberg '88**. Next on the agenda was a tour of some old haunts, including *Desperate Annie's*, *Tin & Lint*, and *Perfect Pint*, as well as a few new contenders including *Druthers Brewing Co.*, *Forno*, and *Sweet Mimi's Cafe*. "It was a great time catching up with old friends," says Steve. He looks forward to seeing many more classmates at our next Reunion in 2023.



Associate Professor of Psychology **Casey Schofield** (center) officiated at the wedding of **Monica Abdul-Chani '17** and her fiancé **Taylor Best '14** in late October. Both Thoroughbred swimmers, they also invited Coach **Jill Greenleaf** to do a reading during the ceremony.

'04

In the years since graduation, former roommates **Nyssa Wittliff Boardman** and **Meg Schade Steffey Schrier** have seen their paths cross again. After graduating from Skidmore, both set off on separate paths for graduate school, jobs, and new states to live in. Fast forward a decade and a bit, the two are once again sharing a hallway. For the past four years, both have been working at Harvard University's Health Services: Meg as chief of nutrition, and Nyssa as a staff psychologist. Specializing in eating disorders, they collaborate on cases. Skidmore provided the foundation for a lifelong friendship and the trust needed for a solid work partnership.

Meghan Haseman and **Chris Haseman '03** are living in London, enjoying exploring the city and traveling when possible. Chris is an engineering director

at Facebook, and Meghan is enjoying time at home with the kids (ages 5 and 3). If any Skidmore alum fancies a pint in London, let us know!

Kyle Lewis Opuszynski and her husband welcomed their second child, Walter Opuszynski, on March 27, 2021. He comes from a long line of Walters on both sides. The newest Walter is a complete joy, and big sister Haley, 4, is stepping into the big sister role nicely.

Lisa Hilberg Craig and husband Christopher have had a very eventful year. They purchased their dream home in Charlotte, N.C., and welcomed their first child, Lucas Victor Craig, last April.

Elizabeth Heonis left a challenging and rewarding career in the corporate world to become a career transition coach. She helps those who want to move up or out of their current roles

to a more fulfilling career. With a major in organizational behavior, she is happy to say that "the great education I got at Skidmore continues to serve me well." Learn more and contact her at leapsoarcoachingllc.com.

Jocelyn Arem is a Grammy Award-nominated music producer, multimedia storyteller, artist, and founder of archival storytelling studio Arbo Radiko. She recently experienced "a full-circle storytelling moment" when the book "Behind Her Vision: Women of New York City" was released late last year at NYC Barnes & Noble stores and online. One of 25 pioneering female creatives profiled by authors Ashika Kalra and Jade Chen, Arem was asked to describe the creative process that ultimately led to the publication of her book and CD set "Caffè Lena: Inside America's Legendary Folk Music Coffeehouse."

As for me, I have started a new position as director of the public health master's program at Sacred Heart University. After a very busy few years teaching, living, and working in public health, I'm looking forward to leading the department into the future of this field.

Jacqueline Vernarelli
jvernarelli@gmail.com

'05

Rebecca Broussard is an environmental protection specialist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. A former presidential management fellow, Broussard is currently the workgroup chair and lead rule writer for a Clean Water Act hazardous substance facility response plan. Previously, in EPA's Region 8 based in Denver, she led the development and implementation of a plan to fulfill an executive order mandating the

improvement of chemical facility safety and security in the region, a large section of the Mountain West and upper Midwest.

Kemoy Briscoe-Morris is director of St. John's University's Upward Bound Program, which helps low-income, first-generation, and at-risk students graduate from high school and access higher education. She previously served as director of the university's New York state-sponsored Liberty Partnerships Program. A former higher education opportunity program (HEOP) counselor and instructor at Long Island University, she later led its federally funded scholarship and pre-college program.

Robert Caiazzo
robert.j.caiazzo.jr@gmail.com

'06

On July 3, 2021, **Brittain Mason Huey** and husband Brian welcomed son Mason Huey to the family.

Alexandra Ravener Feigman
afeigman@gmail.com

'07

Christina Cioffari held a studio sale featuring a large volume of her artwork to help raise money for environmental protection and combat climate change. She donated 25% of all sales to The Nature Conservancy.

Autumn Bush
autumnbush@gmail.com

'09

Meredith Muzik and husband **Taylor Schlupe '07** welcomed a daughter, Shirley, in May 2021.

Office of Alumni Relations
classnotes@skidmore.edu



Kelsey Cioffi and **Jake Dolgenos '14** were married on Sept. 11, 2021, in a ceremony at The Thayer Hotel at West Point. Many Skidmore alumni — and even Skids — made a showing at the celebration.



Joseph Kaifala '08 has been named a Ford global fellow, the first Sierra Leonean to be selected for the honor. As a participant in the Ford Foundation's flagship leadership development program, he will collaborate with a select group of young leaders who are advancing innovative solutions to inequality.

'10

Rebecca Rawling welcomed precious baby Ian James on May 28, 2021, five weeks ahead of Rebecca's due date. Rebecca writes, "we've got a real Skidmore go-getter, as he was born less than an hour and a half after we called the ambulance. Nothing else to share, just living baby life right now."

Carolyn Raider currently works at Stanford University's travel/study department, marketing and leading trips for alumni. She also leads a working group aimed at increasing sustainable travel initiatives and is spearheading a goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2025. After teaching photography with National Geographic student expeditions for around a decade, Carolyn has just started assisting with teaching Stanford photography courses through its continuing education program. In her free time, Carolyn recently launched an Etsy (called Raider Travel) and is enjoying the challenge of creating art and photography with a sustainability mission.

'11

Catherine Pond and **Peg Boyers '75** celebrated the publication of new books with a joint outdoor poetry reading outside the Tang Museum in September. Pond is the author of "Fieldglass," a book of poetry that won the Crab Orchard First Book Prize. Publishers Weekly praised the debut volume as "poems of startling craft and vision." Her work has appeared in Best New Poets, Best American Nonrequired Reading, Salmagundi, and the Adroit Journal.

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

Katelin Millar is manager of renewable development at Invenergy, a global company headquartered in Chicago with an office in Ithaca, N.Y., that develops and builds sustainable energy infrastructure. Working in collaboration with government, private industry, and community stakeholders, she leads large-scale renewable projects from the sketch board to ribbon-cutting. Millar previously worked at Renovus Solar, where she was vice president of project development.

Tanner Kaufman
Tanner.Kaufman@gmail.com

'12

Elaine Burns wed Will Thompson in Charleston, S.C., in April 2021. The couple live in NYC.

Rebecca Landman and **Chris Iredale '11** wed on Aug. 21, 2021, in Los Angeles, surrounded by family and friends, including many from Skidmore. Everyone danced the night away under the full moon, celebrating the Skidmore sweethearts' 11 years together and many more to come!

Ross Lovern
ross@lovern.com

'13

Maureen Mahoney was appointed director of development at the National Museum of Racing in Saratoga Springs. Maureen has worked in a variety of capacities since joining the institution in 2015.

Sarah Ryan and **Jordana Elias** recently joined forces at Plato Learning, a company that provides mythological and immersion-based learning through summer camps designed to spark the imagination and unleash the hero within.

Office of Alumni Relations
classnotes@skidmore.edu

'14

San Francisco resident **William Zhang** is a senior category manager at Italic, an online marketplace that allows manufacturers to sell directly to consumers. The self-described next-generation "everything store" specializes in selling affordable luxury goods from top brands. Zhang, who heads up the company's men's clothing business, was previously product strategy and merchandising lead for natural fiber apparel and footwear brand Allbirds. Zhang also worked in menswear as a buyer at Stitch Fix, a personal styling company.

Scott Pinder married **Carrie Koch '13** near their home in British Columbia, Canada.

Alex Dorgan is strategy project manager at Universal Hydrogen, a carbon-free aviation and aerospace company based in Los Angeles. She served as technical assistant to the vice president for aerospace technology at Raytheon Technologies, where she designed and piloted an online course in collaboration with MIT for a global learning platform.

'16

Physician **Nicole Becker Katz** was recently inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society for "excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service in medicine." A graduate of the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, she is interning at Harvard Medical School's Mount Auburn Hospital in internal medicine. Next year, Katz will begin residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, an HMS teaching partner renowned for treatment of brain, spinal cord, and sports injuries.

Jenny Zhang is a laboratory genetic counselor for PerkinElmer Genomics. She is working remotely and has recently moved to Stratford, N.J. She keeps in touch with classmates from the Class of 2016.

On Nov. 17, 2020, **Kelly Isham** and **Cody Couture** were married. In June 2021, they both received their doctorates from University of California, Irvine. They'll be located in New York, where Cody will be an assistant professor of economics at Hamilton College and Kelly will be a visiting assistant professor of mathematics at Colgate University.

Stella C. Langat
stellalangat@gmail.com



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'18

Akaylia Morgan is a mechanical engineer for electronics manufacturer Honeywell and is based in Kansas City, Mo. She also serves as a remote teaching assistant for the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth. Prior to that, Morgan led STEM camps in New York City for engineering professional association IEEE.

Kathryn Koke
katiekokedma@gmail.com

'19

Kun Zhou is a software engineer at Stripe, an Irish-American financial services and software company headquartered in San Francisco and Dublin. With clients spanning the globe, it provides economic infrastructure for online businesses ranging from new startups to large public corporations like Salesforce and Facebook. Zhou previously developed digital payment and banking systems for the Morgan Chase subsidiary WePay.

Monica Andrews was recently appointed to serve on the Museum Committee for the College Art Association where she will advocate for issues at the intersection of Art History and Museum practice. Monica was also awarded the New England Museums Association 2021-22 fellowship, which supports her professional growth.

Desiree Sim
Dsim188@gmail.com

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Visit alumni.skidmore.edu for the latest class news. Questions or concerns? Contact the Office of Alumni Relations and College Events at 518-580-5610 or 800-584-0115, or email classnotes@skidmore.edu. Your photos are welcome at scope@skidmore.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

Janet Emslie McCulloch '43 of Pembroke, Bermuda, died Aug. 2, 2021. She was an art major and successful marketer in her career.

Judith Gellert Berkley '47 of Westminster, Vt., died Sept. 5, 2021. An English major, she worked for many years as a professional photographer before establishing her own real estate business. She is survived by her daughter and four grandchildren.

Sibyl V. Kirby '47 of Rutland, Vt., died Dec. 29, 2021. A sociology major and two-sport athlete, she was a passionate social worker in her career. She volunteered regularly at her local library and regional hospital and also served as a class agent and Reunion volunteer for Skidmore. She is survived by her husband, Brian, and their two children.

Janet Lauer '47 of Mill Valley, Calif., died Sept. 24, 2021. She was a sociology major and earned a master's degree in medical social work. Her impressive career of service included work with the American Red Cross in military hospitals, Catholic Social Services, and the San Francisco School District special education department. She is survived by six nieces and nephews.

Zilpha "Dotsie" Slosson Erskine '48 of Dallas died Jan. 26. A theater major, she supported her local community through involvement in local theater and her local church and also served as an EMT. In 2018, she received the Alumni Association's Outstanding Service award for more than 70 years of service that included volunteering for Reunion and representing her fellow alumni as class president. She is survived by her three children and three grandchildren.

Virginia Joseph Saba '48 of Arlington, Va., died Nov. 21, 2021. A nursing major, she went on to earn her master's in nursing, an M.S., and an Ed.D. The road from Skidmore led Saba down a dual career path as a nurse officer in the U.S. Public Health Service and as an educator. She joined the faculty of Georgetown's School of Nursing and passionately worked on the development of nursing informatics technology.

Frances Ballinger Reiff '49 of Southbury, Conn., died Dec. 15, 2021. She was a biology major and went on to give back to her community by volunteering with the Visiting Nurses Association and Watertown Library and through work at the Taft School. She is survived by her sister, Lydia, three children, and four grandchildren.

Joy Anderson Rathmann '50 of Palo Alto, Calif., died May 6, 2019. A biology major, she and her late husband both were a part of the formation of biotech companies Amgen and ICOS. A dedicated environmentalist, she founded the Rathmann Family Foundation, which has helped direct millions of dollars to charities for environmental causes. She is survived by her sister, five children, 13 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Frances "Bunny" Bogardus Lang '52 of Greenwich, R.I., died Dec. 11, 2021. A sociology major, she was an active volunteer throughout her life. Beyond her work as a class and Reunion volunteer, she was president of the women's auxiliary and member of the board of trustees of the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange, N.J. A skilled athlete, she was an avid racquet sports fan. She is survived by her husband, William, three children, and many grandchildren.

Betsy Clark McIsaac '52 of Pittsford, N.Y., died Oct. 7, 2021. A sociology major, she was the director of several independent schools and founding director of Martha's Vineyard's Options in Education. Betsy also was a class Reunion volunteer in addition to her work as an advisor to the Martha's Vineyard Charter School's board of directors. She is survived by her two sons and five grandchildren.

Cynthia Margetts Robinson '52 of Mendham, N.J., died Jan. 1. A history major, she earned a Master of Arts in Teaching from Cornell University. After 20+ years of teaching for the Madison, East Orange, and Mendham Borough school districts, Cynthia created Robin Hill Flowers, a flower arranging business. A dedicated community member throughout her life, she served as a Reunion volunteer.

Joan Hall Hardy '54 of Woolwich, Maine, died March 20, 2021. An art major, she went on to volunteer as an EMT for the New Vernon and Mendham Township's First Aid Squads and the Morristown Memorial Hospital ER. She also obtained a degree in photography. She is survived by her husband, Doug, and four children.

Constance Jones Peck '54 died Oct. 2, 2021, in Clinton, Conn. A Skidmore nursing major, Connie went on to become a nurse at the Visiting Nurses Association in Middletown, Conn. She is survived by her four children and many loving friends and grandchildren.

Gwendolyn "Gwen" Williams Spencer '54 of Bloomfield, Conn., died Dec. 5, 2021. A nursing major, she later earned an M.A. in Early Childhood Education and a Master Gardener's Certificate. She spent most of her career as a nursery school teacher at the Orange Congregational Church and then

at First Church in West Hartford. She was a Reunion and regional volunteer. She is survived by her daughter, Carolyn, and six nieces and nephews.

Mary-Ann Efird Higgins '55 of Gouldsboro, Maine, died Dec. 23, 2021. A physical education major and four-sport athlete, she taught and coached in secondary schools. As a community volunteer, she worked with youthful offenders in the criminal justice system. She was also an election official and member of the municipal government budget committee. She is survived by her husband, Al, three children, three grandchildren, and a brother.

Carol R. Lofstedt '56 died Jan. 16 in Easton, Md. A nursing major at Skidmore, Carol went on to get her master's in mental health nursing and education. Later, she taught and worked in the nursing field. Carol was also an adamant advocate against animal cruelty and was active in multiple community organizations.

Susanne Kelley Miller '56 died Jan. 2 in Oneida, N.Y. A Skidmore history major, Sue later dedicated her life to teaching children. She became a devoted community volunteer and church leader. Sue authored a tutor training manual for literacy volunteers and received the NYS Volunteer of the Year award, which was presented by Barbara Bush. Surviving her are two daughters and numerous grandchildren.

Nancy Hueber Swinchatt '58 died Aug. 20, 2021. The only drama major in her Skidmore class, Nancy was a member of the Skidmore Sonneteers and is remembered as an adventurous soul who always had a song in her heart. She is survived by her two daughters and grandson.

Jean Lowes Dignazio '60 died on March 8, 2021, in Maryland.

A home economics major at Skidmore, Jean is survived by her son, daughter, and many loving friends.

Jacqueline Reichman Flathman '61 of Towson, Md., died Jan. 30, 2021. A psychology-education major, she raised four children while excelling in diverse careers and community service. An early computer programming enthusiast, she launched a consultancy that helped adults master use of then-novel personal computers. She was an active volunteer at the Women's Center of Montgomery County, Pa. She is survived by her husband, Donald, four children, and nine grandchildren.

Evelyn Berrell Edwards '63 died Sept. 2, 2021, in Sandy, Utah. A Skidmore business major, Evelyn was a needlework aficionado and a devoted member of PEO International. She was also a lover of skiing and golf. Evelyn is survived by her husband and son.

Nancy Bigelow Sinclair '64 died on Dec. 9, 2021, in Springfield, Vt. An American studies major at Skidmore, Nancy was a class volunteer and respected student leader. She was also an exuberant outdoorswoman and loved to sail, ski, play tennis, and dance. Nancy is survived by her husband, daughter, and two sons.

Marion "Polly" Lord Steadman '64 died Dec. 9, 2021, in Damariscotta, Maine. A psychology major at Skidmore, she was a fervent painter of both realist and abstract art. Polly was also a volunteer at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and local animal shelters. Polly is survived by her many loving friends.

Jan Babson Anderson '69 died Dec. 21, 2021. A mathematics major at Skidmore, Jan went on to get master's degrees in business and mathematics. She was also an accomplished artist in oils and an

ardent journalist. She is survived by her husband and her four sons.

Jane Kaplan Stimmler '72 died Sept. 23, 2021. She studied English at Skidmore and later went on to get a master's at Emory University. An advocate for equality in the workplace, Jane was also an avid traveler and had a keen intellect with love for books. She is survived by her beloved dog, Watson.

Velma A. McCargo '73 died Dec. 23, 2020. She was an English major at Skidmore. Velma will be remembered for her love of her family, plants, and animals. She is survived by her daughter and her two grandchildren.

Liz Tiemann Howard '73 died Aug. 19, 2021, in Fort Worth, Texas. An education major at Skidmore, she went on to get a master's degree in early childhood education. A teacher of various young ages, Liz was also a devoted mother and tireless volunteer for various causes. She was awarded the Lockheed Martin Chair for Teaching Excellence in Elementary Mathematics. Liz is survived by her husband and daughter.

Eric E. Mitchell '77 died on Oct. 3, 2021, in Pennsylvania. Eric was a self-determined major at Skidmore and worked as a professional photographer. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Dana S. Kirkpatrick '85 died on Dec. 10, 2021, in Colorado. Dana was a business major at Skidmore and later a five-time Emmy award-winning audio engineer for network sports television. Dana is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Peter G. Galvin '89 died Oct. 13, 2021. He was a government major during his time at Skidmore. Peter was active in hockey organizations and will be remembered as an avid

boater and lobster fisherman. Peter is survived by his wife, daughter, and son.

Dennis A. McCafferty '06 died Dec. 6, 2021, in New York. A music major at Skidmore, Dennis will be remembered as an eclectic drummer, pianist, guitarist, and prodigious composer. He was loved by his primary and secondary school students and brought music into many hearts.

RECENT FACULTY DEATHS

Professor of Computer Science Emeritus **Robert "Bob" DeSieno**, a strong proponent of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields who helped grow Skidmore's computer science program, died April 17. He was 88. DeSieno, who served Skidmore from 1983 to 2006, played a central role in the Science Planning Group and founded the Office of Sponsored Research, which allows faculty to support their research with external funding. "If it were not for his persistent, insistent advocacy for science at the College, we would not have the Center for Integrated Sciences today," said Associate Dean of the Faculty and Associate Professor of Classics Michael Arnush. He and his late wife, Marcia B. DeSieno, established the student prizes for excellence in computer science and mathematics, which bear their name.

Associate Professor of Psychology Emeritus **Richard H. Page**, a dedicated scholar and teacher of psychology and the liberal arts, died on March 28. He was 89. "Richard Page was a fine psychologist, professor, and colleague. He had wide-ranging interests, including the study of the evolution of intelligence," said Professor of Psychology Sheldon Solomon. Page served the College from 1959 until his retirement in 1988.

SAM FEDER '97

Transforming trans lives on and behind the screen



In the acclaimed Netflix documentary “DISCLOSURE,” director Sam Feder '97 offers an unprecedented examination of the ways in which transgender people have been depicted on the screen, from early silent films to contemporary blockbusters.

A featured selection at the Sundance and Tribeca film festivals, the 2020 film tells this difficult history — filled with persistent stereotypes and tropes that have continued to shape the personal and private lives of trans people — through the voices of Laverne Cox, Jamie Clayton, Chaz Bono, Sandra Caldwell, Michael D. Cohen, Jen Richards, and many other prominent trans actors, filmmakers, and intellectuals.

“It had to be trans people guiding us and telling this history because we are the experts of our own lives,” the Peabody Award-nominated filmmaker said. “Not only is it exhausting to hear other people talk about and for us, but they don’t know about our history or about our experiences in the ways in which we do.”

The Skidmore anthropology major returned to campus earlier this year for a screening of the film, conversations with students, and a panel discussion. The panel also featured Sarah Friedland, interim director of the John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative (MDOCS), who edited Feder’s last film, “Kate Bornstein is a Queer and Pleasant Danger”; environmental science major, film and media studies minor, and MDOCS DocLab Student Assistant Luna Peralta '23; and Atsushi Akera, a professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and general manager of Cafe Euphoria, a trans and gender-nonconforming worker-owned café in Troy.

Although college wasn’t an easy time, Feder credits Skidmore professors and coursework with sparking an early interest in the power of media.

“I remember seeing ethnographic films for the first time. I was deeply impacted by how pervasive the bias was within the storytelling,” Feder said.

At Skidmore, Feder benefited from working with sculptor Leslie Ferst '76 and from coursework with former Spanish instructor Katica Urbanc, now a professor at Wagner College, who sparked Feder’s interest in the work of filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar.

“The relationship to his (Almodóvar’s) films with the media critic lens I was developing is what propelled me to make documentaries. I saw ‘All About My Mother,’ which touched on issues that I’m passionate about — race, sexuality, gender, AIDS, politics — in a beautifully expansive and inspiring way while also being a critique of our culture. That was when I knew how I wanted to make work in the world.”

Soon thereafter, Feder set out on a filmmaking journey. Feder’s 2006 documentary “Boy I Am” considers resistance by queer women to trans guys and seeks to open dialogue. Feder’s “Kate Bornstein is a Queer and Pleasant Danger” (2014), the first feature documentary about trans author and performer Kate Bornstein, received the Best Feature Documentary Award at Beacon Independent Film Festival.

Feder is also quick to point out that bringing attention to the experiences of the trans community also carries risks with it by putting members in the spotlight.

“This is the paradox of visibility: We all need to be seen, but that often comes with being put in harm’s way,” said Feder.

That concern has also motivated Feder to build a stronger future for the trans community: When crewing up for “DISCLOSURE,” Feder prioritized hiring trans people. When they



couldn’t do that, a non-trans person mentored a trans fellow, who could learn more about the film production process.

Feder, who has also returned to Saratoga Springs for two residencies at the Yaddo artists retreat in recent years, brought that vision to campus this year, sharing personal experiences and encouragement with Skidmore students.

“Sam’s coming here has made me more certain that I want to be in film in the future, and as a trans person, I know I’m capable of doing it,” said Luna Peralta '23. “Sam is a resource that I’ll always be very grateful for.”

— James Helicce

Sam Feder '97 is currently developing the scripted TV series “Weimar” about trans life in Berlin in the 1920s and the Netflix Original animation “Connect.” Feder is also directing the kickoff episode, “Split Screen,” for Trevor Noah’s upcoming series on MSNBC. “DISCLOSURE” is available on Netflix.

Get an Education

Erica Hsiung Wojcik

ACROSS

- 1 “___, bye” (Beyoncé breakup song lyric)
- 4 Guide in a treasure hunt
- 7 5K or triathlon
- 11 Just OK
- 12 Clung, as to tradition
- 14 Unit of land
- 15 “___ by with a little help from my friends”
- 16 Really love
- 17 “See ya later!” in a text
- 18 Absolutely no communication
- 21 Dorito dust ingredient (abbrev.)
- 22 Painter’s deg., perhaps
- 23 Acknowledges silently
- 27 Neo’s portrayer in “The Matrix”
- 29 Give it another go
- 31 Most drab
- 33 Service charge, for example
- 34 Heavenly hoop
- 37 Pop-up windows, often
- 38 Queens or kings
- 39 ___ carte (separately priced)
- 40 Planned break from a diet
- 44 Public meeting place
- 46 “Go me!”
- 49 Member of the Class of 2023, come fall
- 50 Director DuVernay
- 51 End-of-summer sign?
- 53 Headed to Skidmore, for example, or a hint to the starts of 18-, 29-, and 44-Across
- 57 Undecorated
- 60 Word after ant or man
- 61 Slowly make your way
- 62 [Sigh]
- 63 Eves’ opposite
- 64 Cover-ups, essentially
- 65 Grated citrus peel
- 66 Matching group
- 67 Sketch show feat. Bowen Yang

DOWN

- 1 Tall order
- 2 Antsy
- 3 Big name in coolers
- 4 ___ Studies
- 5 Notably missing
- 6 French for father
- 7 Like “The Lion King” but not “Frozen,” oddly
- 8 Do something
- 9 Let the tears flow
- 10 Unagi

	1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	
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57	58	59										61	
62												64	
65												67	

- 11 Dense, like a mattress or tofu
- 12 Enjoys oneself
- 13 IHOP competitor
- 19 Prefix with “present”
- 20 It keeps you warm in winter
- 24 Out of harm’s way
- 25 Neck and neck
- 26 Vending machine bills
- 28 Fuss
- 29 Spotify competitor
- 30 Take a beat
- 32 ___ Garcia Bernal (actor/producer)
- 34 Fezzes or fedoras
- 35 Natural sunburn soother
- 36 Manicured green space
- 38 Letters on a party invite
- 40 When doubled, a train’s sound
- 41 Neighborhood at 125th street in New York City
- 42 Shipwreck explorers
- 43 Kuwaiti or Omani, perhaps
- 45 Most friendly
- 47 Give the facts
- 48 Place for a puppy
- 50 Word after free or change
- 52 Against all ___
- 54 Vientiane’s country
- 55 French word for “to be” that anagrams to “tree”
- 56 Head-turning birds?
- 57 Molly ____, cookbook author and Skidmore alum
- 58 Druther’s Brewing Company offering
- 59 Dorm supervisors



To view the answers, visit [skidmore.edu/crossword](https://www.skidmore.edu/crossword)

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