

Q

# First Class

**Max Kupferberg, a student at Queens College the day it first opened its doors, will be opening doors for generations of students in the arts thanks to his extraordinary generosity.**





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FIRST ANNUAL

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COVER: Max and Selma Kupferberg. Photo by Nancy Bareis.

PHOTOS: Nancy Bareis pp. 4, 5 (Rosenblum), 8 (bottom), 9, 11 (Franco), 12 (Wolpert), 14, 15, 16 (column 3), 18 (Berry). QC Archives 3, 8 (top), 11 (top).

## AN APPEAL TO VETERANS OF WW II

I write to encourage alumni who are veterans of the military or civilian service during World War II to consider donating their archives, photos, memorabilia, or written or recorded memories to the Institute on World War II and the Human Experience at Florida State University. Many important documents and records of that time are in danger of being lost, and it is critically important for veterans and their families to make sure their papers and memories are preserved.

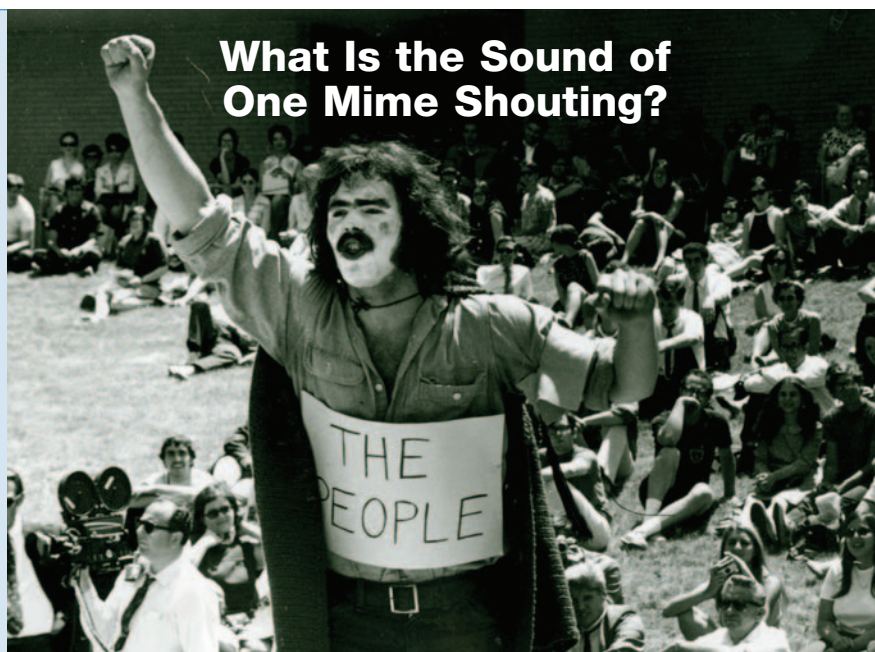
My wife, Ethel Clancey ('43), and I have donated our World War II materials to this fine Institute. Collections in their growing repository are available to historians and scholars and regularly used by FSU students. My collection includes, for example, copies

of my Army orders, newspapers of the time, publications I worked on in Army Intelligence in the Pacific, World War II books I collected over the years, and even a wartime cookbook Ethel had saved.

The address is Institute on World War II and the Human Experience, Department of History, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2200; phone: 850-644-9033; fax 850-644-6402; email: ww2@ww2.fsu.edu. The Institute is directed by Dr. William Oldson. I have found him and his staff of archivists cooperative and eager to be of service.

Please consider contacting the Institute and donating your World War II materials. Future generations will thank you.

*Jim Doyle, June '43*



The student in this picture from a 1969 *Silhouette* (this also appears in the college's official history, *The People's College on the Hill*) certainly grabs one's attention. Judging from the man to the left with a film camera, he also grabbed the attention of the media. Do you know who The People is? Is this an anti-war or anti-tuition rally? We would love to hear from you if you know what is going on or can identify someone in the photo. We may even give you a copy of *The People's College on the Hill*.

We welcome letters about your memories of the college, what you are doing now, or anything else you would like to write about. Send your letters to Q magazine, Queens College, CUNY, Kiely Hall 1307, Flushing, NY 11367.





## Armstrong House Acquires Jack Bradley Collection

When the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation was founded in 1969, Satchmo said, "I want to give back to the world some of the goodness the world gave me."

Among the many things the foundation gave back to the world was Louis's home and many of his possessions, which were donated to New York City after Louis and his wife died and became the Armstrong House & Archives, now administered by the college.

Last November the foundation awarded the college a grant of \$480,000 to acquire the world's foremost collection of Armstrong memorabilia from Louis's friend and personal photographer, Jack Bradley.

"Jack Bradley loved Louis Armstrong, and Louis loved Jack," said an obviously elated Michael Cogswell (Director, Armstrong House) as, with Bradley at his side, he announced the acquisition to a gathering of journalists, officials, and friends of Armstrong in the room where Louis and his wife entertained guests.

"Jack has been offered truckloads of money by private collectors in Japan and others for his collection; it is beyond value," said Cogswell. But Bradley didn't want the collection to go to an individual, Cogswell explained. "He wanted it to have a home with Queens College, to be a part of the exhibit here at the Louis Armstrong House."

Bradley's collection, assembled over 50 years, includes dozens of 16-mm films; letters and manuscripts penned by Armstrong; and hundreds of photographs that have never been seen by researchers or the public.

# Henderson Appointed VP for

There is a particular calculus essential to the effective administration of a large institution such as Queens College. So it is fortuitous that Sue Henderson, the new vice president for institutional advancement, is not only a master of the form, but also teaches its mastery to others.

"It's what I enjoy most," says Henderson, who teaches a class in business calculus. "It's about problem-solving and ways of approaching problems," she says, describing skills that are also essential to her new role.

"Sue will be working closely with me to advance the mission of the college," President James Muyskens said in announcing the promotion of his former executive assistant. Muyskens and Henderson have, in fact, been working together for years. Both arrived at QC in 2002 having already collaborated at the Gwinnett University Center in Georgia. Muyskens was the CEO of the center, which housed two institutions, and Henderson was COO of one of those institutions. Since then, they have worked to cultivate elected officials who can influence matters of concern to the college, such as funding.

"A good relationship with our political leaders at all levels is key," says Henderson, who has worked closely with Queens Borough President Helen Marshall on a number of occasions. As an alumna, Marshall '72 can especially appreciate how effective Henderson has been. "Sue hit the ground running when she arrived from Atlanta," observes Marshall, "and her advocacy on behalf of Queens College has already helped fundraising efforts within the community and far beyond. Wherever Queens College is going, Sue will help lead the way."

Wherever Queens College is going, alumni donors will have an important role in helping it get there and perpetuating its vitality for future classes of students. Consequently, alumni relations is an area where Henderson is working particularly energetically. "We have 85,000 alumni we can reach out to," she notes. "We've had an uneven relationship



Sue Henderson (top r.) with alumni at last year's Homecoming.

with them over a period of 20 or 30 years, but most have such a fond memory of the college and would like to be re-engaged."

Carole Barham '66, for one, is re-engaged, working with Henderson to establish a South Florida alumni chapter. "Sue's the most enthusiastic person I've ever met," she says. Over the past two years, Muyskens and Henderson visited South Florida several times to meet alums. Barham receives almost daily emails from Henderson providing the names of potential new members, a list that now numbers over 2,000. "We're having an event in West Palm Beach, and we'll see what happens from there," notes Barham.

Barham can certainly take encouragement from Henderson's success working with the Southern California chapter of the Alumni Association. Explains chapter member Jay Wolpert '65, Henderson was essential to the chapter's efforts to enlist donor alumni for their project to renovate the campus amphitheatre (see page 12). "She has been the first person—really since the president visited us some three years ago—to come here and reach out to the chapter in regards to what it's doing, what it needs, how we can improve communication, etc., and how the college can support the chapter."

Wolpert explains that Henderson helped the chapter identify and approach alumni who were not necessarily active members.



# Institutional Advancement

She has accompanied him on visits to these alumni. “We would double team them. Sue acquaints them with what the college is doing and would like to do; I acquaint them with what the college has done. She does the horizon; I do the heart.

“She’s really helped our chapter feel that we’re not laboring out here in a vacuum,” affirms Wolpert. “We feel very connected because she’s physically there for us.”

Henderson is also busy reconnecting the college to its “pioneers,” the members of the classes of ’41 to ’55. “It is really a joy meeting our earliest graduates,” she says. The pioneers, who number some 1,100 in the New York area alone, have been invited to special events, such as tours of the Louis Armstrong House Museum and lunch at the president’s house.

Henderson praises the enthusiasm of such pioneers as Barbara and Michael Twomey ’48. Barbara recently agreed to serve on the board of the college’s Godwin-Ternbach Museum. Her husband, Michael, a former executive for the American International Group (AIG), is on the executive committee of the Campaign for Queens College, helping the college identify alumni who wish to give something back to the college either with a contribution or by sharing their expertise with students.

“We have been identifying our leaders in the corporate, education, and entertainment worlds and figuring out ways to get them back to campus, where they might provide opportunities for our students.” She cites the example of internships with the investment firm Bear Stearns, made possible through the involvement of its treasurer, Michael Minikes ’65. “Another great example of this,” Henderson says, “are the brothers Chris (’76) and Vincent Misiano (’72). One is the producer of ‘The West Wing’ and the other is the producer of ‘Law and Order.’ We’d like to get them back to campus to speak to our students.”

Additionally, thanks to Len Schutzman ’67, former senior VP and treasurer for PepsiCo, the college will soon offer students with innovative ideas a chance to launch their own businesses with seed money from the new Center for Entrepreneurship. “If they’re successful, it would be a win for the student, the center, and the college.

“Most every alum I’ve met,” Henderson continues, “has been grateful for their experience here. They recognize what a powerful education they received and the lifelong friends that they made. Involving them with the college again is an important way for us to complete the circle of a student’s life, to show they still can have a rewarding relationship with the college even after they graduate.”

## Library Inaugurates Lincoln Collection



At a ceremony on September 22, the Rosenthal Library inaugurated its new Lincoln Collection, donated by Hal Gross, a successful,

retired businessman. Gross had spent many hours working with library faculty—first as a member of the college’s CUE program for senior citizens, and then as a student pursuing an MA in political science. The collection, which includes more than 600 books, journals, and documents related to the Great Emancipator, is open to scholars and students. Gross has also established the Hal and Ida Gross Endowment for Lincolnia and 19th-Century American Literature, which will allow the library to purchase volumes on mid-19th-century history, particularly the Civil War.

## College Receives Award for Religious Tolerance Project

Queens College has received a \$100,000 grant from a Ford Foundation program that encourages colleges and their surrounding ethnic communities to engage in a dialogue on religious issues. The college’s project, *The Middle East and America: Clash of Civilizations or Meeting of the Minds*, builds upon history professor Mark Rosenblum’s nationally acclaimed pilot project to foster understanding and discussion about the Middle East conflict.

Rosenblum’s project, begun in fall 2004, initially brought together 15 QC undergraduates—Jews, Muslims, and Christians—for research and discussion of the Arab-Israeli conflict. (See Spring 2005 Q.) They were joined by several senior citizens, an assistant principal, and seven history and world

studies teachers from five Queens high schools. The program continued throughout the fall 2005 semester, greatly expanding its outreach to public high school teachers and students.

“This grant comes at an opportune moment in the life of our project, which is designed to give hope without delusion,” says Rosenblum. “We have been overwhelmed—in the positive sense—with requests from high schools citywide to provide teachers with educational tools to help students understand the conflict in all its complexity. The Ford Foundation funds will allow us to implement our growing project at this very critical time.”

Michael Krasner (Political Science), a co-founder of the project, is co-teaching



Rosenblum (r.) discusses his project with students

the course this spring, which will examine the role of mass media in portraying the conflict. Guest speakers from the *New York Times* and other media will generate class discussions.



# LEADING THE American

THE CAMPAIGN FOR QUEENS COLLEGE HAS AN AMBITIOUS GOAL OF \$100 MILLION, A GOAL THAT WILL ALLOW THE COLLEGE TO OFFER TOMORROW'S LEADERS THE KIND OF LIFE-CHANGING EDUCATION THEY DESERVE

By **JAMES MUYSKENS, PRESIDENT**



Muyskens

When I became president in 2002, it was in many ways a homecoming. I had lived in Flushing for nearly 20 years, and during that time my wife had received her master's degree from Queens College. So I knew firsthand what an exceptional college Queens was.

But most important in my decision to become president was my sense that the college was ready to move to the next level. What does moving to the next level mean? Like so many faculty members, I have had the experience of students, often with their parents, coming up to me after an open house, graduation, or other special event, to say, "I had no idea what a great college Queens was until I came here."

At the next level, there will be no surprise that Queens is a great college. We now have enough stellar graduates, enough first-class faculty, and more than enough outstanding current students to be ranked among the nation's finest colleges. To move to that next level, we must make sure that our high standards stay in place for the coming generations of students.

As we near the seventieth anniversary of our founding, Queens College is reaching full maturity. We are old enough that generations of our graduates have helped to shape our

nation, but young enough that every fall we welcome back to Homecoming members of our first graduating classes.

How remarkable were the men and women from those early classes. They went out into a world at war and immediately became part of such extraordinary efforts as the Manhattan Project (Max and Kenneth Kupferberg, Benjamin Wiener, and Frederick Zenz, from the classes of 1941 and 1942) and the cracking of the Germans' secret code (Arnold Franco '43). Obviously, these early graduates had received an education that helped them to address the greatest challenge of their time.

And that is what a fine liberal arts education should do: prepare students for the challenges of an always changing world. But as important as providing students with an education that prepares them for the unforeseen, we graduate students who take to heart the college's motto *Discimus ut Serviamus*: We Learn So That We May Serve. Perhaps this is why we educate more teachers each year than any other college in New York. We have also produced countless groundbreaking researchers who work to find cures for some of our most troubling illnesses, such as scurvy (John Burns '42), sickle cell disease (Doris Wethers '48), genetic diseases (Elizabeth Neufeld '48), hemophilia (Louis Aledort '55), cancer (Corinne Michels '63), cardiovascular disease (George Gubernikoff '77), and Alzheimer's disease (Jeffrey Kordower '80).

On Dedication Day in 1937, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia exhorted our first students to "Keep your buildings low and your standards high." If our first graduating class of 1941 visited our campus today, they would be surprised by the height of some of our buildings. Yet one thing would be very



"[Professor Edward] Greenberg allowed me to pursue independent study in standup comedy. I really feel it turned out pretty good."

—JERRY SEINFELD '76, comedian

familiar to them: our students are as hard-working and highly motivated as ever, but they now come to us from over 140 countries. Recent graduates have won Fulbright Awards, Marshall Scholarships, Goldwater Scholarships, Truman Scholarships, and Salk Scholarships. They have earned advanced degrees at Oxford University, Yale Medical School, Harvard University, the University of Rochester School of Management, and the Columbia University School of Journalism.

We continue to graduate students as remarkable as those from our first classes by stressing the traditional values of a liberal arts education while adding majors in important fields. In the past three years alone we have introduced a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with three different majors, a Bachelor of Science program in Graphic Design, a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience, and a Master of Arts in Environmental Geosciences.

Recently we raised our admission standards and challenged the city's top students to choose Queens College. More and more students have been taking this challenge. To keep our promise of providing them with the finest education, we are embarking on our most ambitious fund-raising campaign ever. *Leading the American*



"Why am I involved with Queens? Without it, I would not be a novelist."

—SUSAN ISAACS '65,  
novelist & screenwriter



# Dream

*Dream: The Campaign for Queens College* has a goal of \$100 million, which is both ambitious and necessary if we are to offer tomorrow's leaders the kind of life-changing education they deserve. I am proud to say that we are already well over half way to our goal.

## We Will Invest in Three Major Areas:

**STUDENTS** Students are always our first priority, so we must enhance all their academic opportunities. This means an increase in scholarships and faculty-mentored research, the ongoing development of innovative course offerings, and the expansion of enriching programs such as Study Abroad.

**FACULTY** Whatever major students choose, they are taught by dedicated teachers who bring to the classroom firsthand knowledge of their field, including historians who have served as peacekeepers between quarreling nations; policy experts who influence the course of government; or scientists conducting innovative research. Our faculty have won Guggenheim fellowships, Fulbright awards, National Science Foundation fellowships, the Jewish National

Book Award, and the Emmy Award. Endowment funds will allow us to strengthen our faculty by recruiting the finest young scholars, as well as help our distinguished faculty achieve their research and teaching goals.

**CAMPUS** While there is no substitute for brilliant teachers who can open up minds to new possibilities, modern education demands modern technology and infrastructure. That means a first-rate library, the latest "smart classrooms," state-of-the-art performance and exercise spaces, and fully equipped science and media laboratories where faculty and students can work together on important research and creative projects. *The Campaign for Queens College* will ensure that our students will always study at the finest campus anywhere.

## Creating a Legacy

Our graduates are extraordinary not only for what they have achieved, but also for their generosity in acknowledging the part Queens College has played in their lives. Many colleges have a Lincoln Building or an Einstein Hall, buildings whose names make a statement about what a college aspires to. But a Cooperman Plaza, a Frese Hall, a Goldstein Theatre, and a Barham Rotunda could only exist at Queens College, where they tell a story of shared achievement: a college that prepared a student, and a student who used that preparation to accomplish remarkable things. We are honored that the names of these graduates are now a permanent part of Queens College.

I hope you will join these illustrious graduates by making whatever contribution you can to *The Campaign for Queens College*. It is a much-appreciated vote of confidence in your alma mater and an investment in students who are as remarkable as you are. **Q**

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

The partnership between the public and private sectors is crucial to the advancement of Queens College. Approximately 80% of the college's annual budget of \$85 million is devoted to personnel costs, with the remaining spent on rent, utilities, and ongoing maintenance. Tax-levy dollars provide only basic funding; they do not allow us to make the improvements necessary to uphold our standards of excellence. The gap can be filled only with private donations from our alumni and friends.

"When we began to plan our capital campaign," says Mario Della Pina, the college's director of development, "we had one thing in mind: to set a goal that would be both challenging and attainable. The administration and the members of the Queens College Foundation were all excited when we realized that, thanks to the past support of our graduates and friends, a goal of \$100 million was within our reach. Below is how we plan to use the funds raised by *The Campaign for Queens College*."

### Capital Projects (Renovation and Construction)

Athletics Center	\$8,000,000
Kiely Hall	6,000,000
Armstrong House Visitors Center	6,000,000
Media Production and Teaching Facilities	5,000,000
Copland School of Music	4,000,000
Jefferson Hall	3,000,000
Honors Center	2,000,000
Open Theatre	2,000,000
Colden Auditorium	1,000,000
Goldstein Auditorium	1,000,000

### Student and Faculty Program Support (Endowment)

Restricted Endowment	\$17,000,000
Unrestricted Endowment	10,000,000

### Annual Operating Needs

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,000,000</b>
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"Queens College turned me from an introvert afraid to speak my mind into an activist, a feminist,

and a real believer in helping others. I am so grateful."

—VIRGINIA FRESE PALMER '42, former speech therapist & philanthropist

To make your contribution to *The Campaign for Queens College*, visit us at [www.qc.cuny.edu](http://www.qc.cuny.edu) and click on the flashing Make a Donation icon. This will take you to a secure page where you may make a donation and also view a 36-page booklet on the college's fundraising effort (click on Capital Campaign Information).



# A Gift

## That Will Keep Giving

*An alum of the first incoming class, Max Kupferberg and his wife, Selma, cap a lifetime of support for Queens College with an unprecedented \$10 million gift.*

By **BOB SUTER**

For six decades, Kepco, the successful company Max Kupferberg '42 founded with his three brothers in Flushing at the end of the Second World War, has been designing and manufacturing equipment to convert and regulate electrical power. Now, thanks to his remarkable \$10 million gift, the *Campaign for Queens College* will have the power to undertake some major improvements to campus facilities and programs for the arts.

Colden Center, with which Kupferberg has had a long relationship, will be a substantial beneficiary. "That Max donated the money to us is a testament to his feelings about Colden Center," says director Vivian Charlop. "He was the first and only president of our board when we had a board. And, even after it disincorporated, he and his brothers have supported us every year through the Kupferberg Foundation."

Thanks to Kupferberg's latest gift, Colden Auditorium, which has not had a major renovation since opening in 1961, will see a number of upgrades, including better lighting, new seating, and a major facelift for the lobby and restrooms. Half of



Queens College Physics Department, c. 1941.

his gift will go to establish an endowment for the arts, which will benefit the center as well as the Music School, the Drama and Media Studies Departments, the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, the Art Center, and the Armstrong Museum and Archives.

In recognition of his gift, Colden Center is being renamed the Selma and Max Kupferberg Center for the Visual and Performing Arts. A dedication ceremony March 30 will honor Kupferberg and his wife, Selma, for their generous gesture.

"I'm at the stage in my life where this money should be given away, and I always have been interested in Queens College and what they've done for this community," says the 87-year-old Kupferberg.

"Fortunately, we had a good business and we were able to develop a foundation, so that each year I would give to about 40 different organizations." But he quickly points out that his \$10 million pledge to the college is not from the Kupferberg Foundation. "It's something that I'm doing personally."

### A LIFE MADE IN QUEENS

Max Kupferberg's parents came from Romania. His father, a cabinetmaker, arrived in 1903 and later brought over the woman he would marry. "We were very fortunate with our parents," says Max. "We appreciated them and they appreciated us. My parents had seven children and we always had a house. I was born in 1919 and





we moved to Flushing in 1926.”

It was a very active household. “My parents let us do all kinds of constructive things at that house,” he recalls. “My brothers Jack and Jesse had their radio shop and also built motorized wagons. Ken and I did photography and we also had benches for building model airplanes.”

After graduating from Flushing High School, Max and twin brother Ken became members of the first class at Queens College, majoring in physics. “We had very little money, so we worked at the college.” The brothers were charged with photographing all new students, as well as doing some event and specialty photography. They also worked in the speech department, recording the voices of students. “I think they paid us \$10 a month to do all these things,” he laughs.

“Apart from the physics and the math, what we liked at Queens College was that we were getting a general education,” he says, lauding the opportunity to study music, art, and French. “And, of course, the English courses were great because they taught us how to write. A liberal arts education helped form the background of whatever we did. That’s one of the reasons I’ve always been active at Queens.”

#### THE WAR YEARS

Ken graduated in 1941. “But I graduated a half a year late, in 1942,” says Max. “Ken went on to Columbia and I went on to NYU to do graduate work. And, of course, the war came along.”

He recalls Jack and Jesse selling their radio and television repair business when they were drafted: “Jack went into the signal corps and Jess wound up at Fort Knox, where he did FM service on tanks.”

Ken was drafted while at Columbia, but because of his physics and mathematics background, he was selected to join the top secret Manhattan Project, which was constructing the first nuclear weapons. At the primary research site at Los Alamos, New Mexico, scientists were exploring using an FM signal to initiate detonation. Asked if



he knew anyone with a background in FM, Ken immediately suggested Jesse. Max, who had been deferred from the draft while working on a project for the Navy, also made an application to Los Alamos and joined his two brothers.

“Oppenheimer interviewed me when I came out,” says Max, referring to legendary physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, the Manhattan Project’s scientific director. “He wanted me to spend two weeks visiting different projects. He said, ‘I want you to decide what you’re interested in,’ which was wonderful! I learned more in those two weeks than I’d learned in the previous two years.

“At Los Alamos we were able to see the whole deal,” he continues, explaining that the other project centers around the country sent their work there to be evaluated. “We had seminars, usually twice a week, with different groups and usually people like Oppenheimer or [Enrico] Fermi would attend. We had a general meeting each week with the people who had the highest clearance, people like [Edward] Teller and Niels Bohr, and we would get reports on what they were doing. When I was 26 years old, to have that kind of exposure was fabulous. A lot of my friends keep telling me: ‘You ought to write a book about this.’”

Max and Ken went to the Trinity test site as part of a team measuring the first atomic

bomb test detonation. “Ken was in a bunker about a thousand yards from the detonation tower; I was with a team about five miles away. Our team’s job was to measure radioactivity. When the bomb was detonated, we could feel the heat on our faces at that distance.

“It was a very interesting time in our lives,” he says with just a touch of understatement. “Of course, once the war was over we were anxious to get back home.”

#### BUILDING A BUSINESS ON LESSONS LEARNED AT LOS ALAMOS

Kepeco, the business founded by the Kupferbergs, has been a mainstay of the Flushing business community since 1946. The business was a logical outgrowth of the experience Max shared with brothers Ken and Jesse at Los Alamos. Their wartime work required them to help invent and build new instruments, so they were well prepared to provide new kinds of power equipment that were needed as economies worldwide rebuilt and expanded.

“We manufacture electrical equipment in the power field, transformers and things of that type,” says Kupferberg, seated in the conference room of Kepeco’s offices in a red brick building just off College Point Blvd. “We convert the power supplied by a utility from AC power to DC power. It’s a line of equipment that’s sold around the world. It’s a bread and butter sort of business because everybody needs a power supply.”

Max also launched another very successful enterprise in 1946: He married Selma Share and they settled in Bayside, where they remain today. They raised two children, Saul and Rhoda. Saul, along with the sons of Max’s three brothers, is actively guiding Kepeco into the future.

While noting that many changes have occurred in Flushing over the years, especially the dramatic change in the ethnic composition of the community, Kupferberg feels certain that one thing will not change: “Queens College will continue to influence the children of these new immigrants, just as it influenced me.” **Q**











In an archival photo from the war years, students in uniform relax on the Quad a short distance from the proposed location behind Jefferson Hall for the Arnold C. and Beverly Franco Veterans Memorial Plaza.

## Remembering the Greatest Generation

By **BOB SUTER**

Arnold Franco '43 believes it is high time for a memorial acknowledging the sacrifices made in World War II by the members of the "pioneer" generation of students. Franco himself served in Europe with the Third Radio Squadron Mobile, an elite group of code breakers. He and another member of the group were hon-

ored last year with the French government's highest award, the Legion of Honor. For the Campaign for Queens College, Franco is contributing \$100,000 toward the construction of a plaza



Arnold Franco

behind Jefferson Hall—the Arnold C. and Beverly Franco Veterans Memorial Plaza—which will celebrate all alumni who served in World War II, including the 57 who lost their lives in the war.

According to Franco, the inspiration for the memorial began with his involvement in several veterans' events, including the 60th anniversaries of D-Day and VE-Day, both of which he observed by travel-

*Barely two years into the life of Queens College, Nazi Germany invaded Poland, igniting a war that engulfed the world. By 1944 more than 1,100 men and 22 women from the student body of Queens College were members of the armed forces.*

ing to Europe. Noting that America entered the war in 1941, the year the college graduated its first class of students, Franco says, "Here you have this brand new college whose first five classes are sacrificed to the war. You're talking about a body of 1,600 students; the school was small. Some 1,100 served in the armed forces; you're talking about 70 percent! Of those 1,100, 57 were killed—the ultimate sacrifice. If you use the World War II ratio to calculate wounded to killed, then about 250 were wounded; I'm among them. So the toll was enormous.

"Fast forward," he continues. "Here you are 60 years later; there has never been a monument to something that was so enormous for this college!"

Franco believes the proposed plaza nicely complements other campus projects, including the laying of inscribed bricks purchased by alumni. His funding would provide for a brick for each student who

served in the war.

"It dovetails with the project the college has been planning for a long time of opening up the back of Jefferson Hall so that the old veranda, which is so beautiful, will be like it was when we were students. It's also the best view on the campus; when you come out of Jefferson Hall, you have the Manhattan skyline and the whole quadrangle right in front of you."

Franco also sees the memorial as an opportunity to educate current students about alumni veterans and has proposed to both President James Muyskens and History Chair Frank Warren that students from the History Department should research the 57 war dead. He envisions a ceremony in which students will then relate what they have learned about those who lost their lives in the war. "I see it as a loop," says Franco, "tying the students here today with members of the pioneer classes." **Q**



# A Hollywood Bowl for Flushing

*The amphitheatre, a long-neglected feature of the Queens College campus, may soon realize its potential as an entertainment venue thanks to a group of alumni from the show biz capital of America.*

By **BOB SUTER**

"We thought that this would be a unique opportunity to say thank you to the college," says George Colman '64, chairman of the Southern California chapter of the Queens Alumni Association.

Along with chapter members Gary Leo '63, Steve Kohn '62, Howard Papush '62 and Jay Wolpert '65, Colman is spearheading the effort to see the austere, bowl-shaped configuration of concrete and grass behind King Hall turned into an inviting, fully functioning, open-air performance space with the finest sound, lighting, and projection equipment.

"I was not involved in theatre when I was at the college," says Colman, who is now an attorney. "I was a history major and an English minor and very active in sports. But most of the group that got together here in Southern California have been involved in the entertainment field." He mentions Papush, who was a talent coordinator for Johnny Carson; Wolpert and his wife Roslyn (Granowitter) '65; and Mike Steinfeld '63, director of the Beverly Hills Public Library.

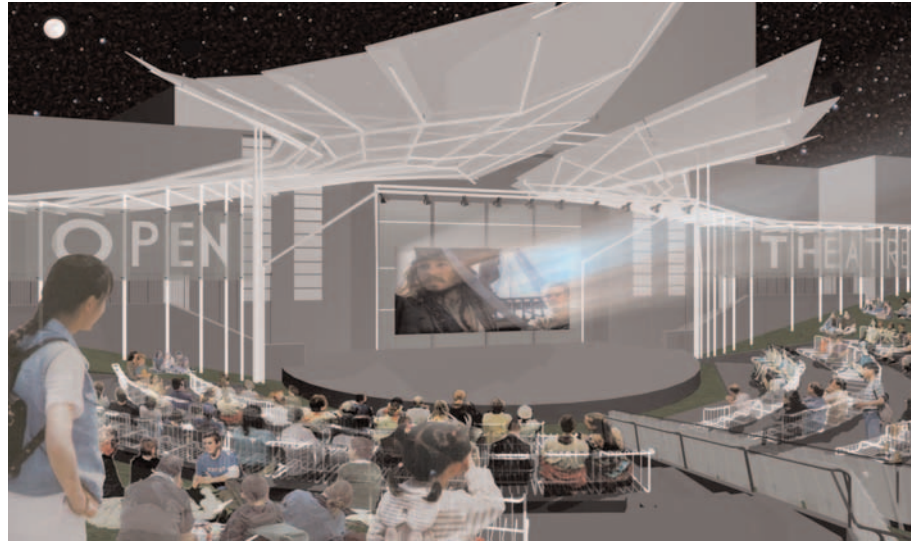
While he wasn't involved in the theatre program per se, Colman did get to exercise some performance chops acting and singing in the annual Follies skits competition between campus fraternities. "I was in Alpha Epsilon Pi and we would win this event every year," he recalls. "One main reason: the well-known Paul Simon [63], a frat brother who wrote all original music."



Jay Wolpert

anyone in the Southern California chapter, having enjoyed success as a television producer and screenwriter (*The Count of Monte Cristo* and *Pirates of the Caribbean*). He also remains a familiar face on campus, having

Wolpert remembers being on the losing end of those competitions where he got some of his first writing experiences creating skits for Tau Epsilon Phi. Today, he has the most extensive show business resume of



Mark Rakatansky Studio

An illustration of a proposal for the renovated amphitheatre. And, yes, that's Johnny Depp in *Pirates of the Caribbean* on the movie screen.

returned several times to talk to students about his experiences. According to him, the idea of renovating the amphitheatre came about when President James Muyskens attended a breakfast with the Southern California group.

"I guess they sat me next to him because I talk," says the gregarious Wolpert. "We had this exchange, I don't remember who said which part, but one of us said: 'You know, one of my favorite places on campus is the amphitheatre.' And the other said: 'Oh, my God! I love that place!'"

"It was behind Colden, Rathaus, and King like the hole in the middle of the donut," Wolpert continues, recalling his memories of the spot. "No one really knew it was there. If you happened to make a mistake and walked through a breezeway, you suddenly came to this grass slope with a slab of concrete at the bottom. It was a quiet space where occasionally you'd see a guy with a guitar and a girl and that would be it. During the whole time I was there I only saw it used once for a production of *Oedipus Rex*."

Wolpert and the Southern California alumni had been considering different ways to make a contribution to the college, and restoring the amphitheatre seemed like the perfect project. "It was exactly the right

size," Wolpert says of the project he initially discussed with Muyskens. "It was big enough to have an impact on the college, and specific enough to allow us to point to it and say 'we breathed life into that.' I reported my conversation back to the alumni group when Jim left and everybody climbed on board."

Wolpert says the college and architect Mark Rakatansky have been wonderfully accommodating, presenting the group with proposals and listening to their input. It was, however, something of a surprise to Colman to learn that the amphitheatre space could also be used to show films. He mentions seeing a powerpoint presentation which used a frame from *Pirates of the Caribbean* to demonstrate that possibility. "So all of a sudden it became a multi-media space for music and theatre and film."

Despite all the enhancements that have been proposed for the space, Colman and the group are determined that the amphitheatre maintain the traditional element of a grassy area where people can bring blankets. They also want it to remain open, "so on a beautiful evening, the sky is there."

"It would be unique," Colman says. "I can't think of a college—certainly not in the metropolitan area—with anything like this." **Q**





# HELPING a Friend in Need

Donating a kidney to co-worker Nidha Mubdi, Derek Ivery has changed both of their lives forever.

Derek Ivery met Nidha Mubdi when she wanted to join the Peer Advisors program on campus. Their lives are now joined together in a special way.

By **LESLIE JAY**

Most young adults take their health for granted. Nidha Mubdi '04, the daughter of Bangladeshi immigrants, has never had that luxury. With the help of a bone marrow transplant in 1999, she made a complete recovery from leukemia, but the treatment damaged her kidneys so badly that she required dialysis three times a week. Nonetheless, she not only enrolled as a student at Queens College, but also expressed interest in the Peer Advisors program.

"She applied in April 2002," says Derek Ivery '03, who was then serving as the program's screening coordinator while working toward his degrees in political science and psychology. "She told us during the interview that she would eventually need a kidney transplant. She was very casual about it. Right then, I got the impression that she was a very special person." He wasn't the only one who was impressed. The program accepted Mubdi, who participated for several semesters while working toward a bachelor's degree.

But in the past year, Mubdi's condition declined further. "She sent out a general email describing her need for a transplant," recalls Ivery, who was working on campus

as an assistant in the Biology Department office, and had stayed in touch with Mubdi. "I found it hard to believe that she'd have better luck getting a kidney from a stranger." Indeed, she faced long odds; according to the National Kidney Foundation, more than 55,000 people in this country are waiting for someone to give them a kidney. (Healthy people can function perfectly well with only one.)

That's when Ivery demonstrated that he is a very special person, too. Last summer, after much thought, he volunteered to donate the organ himself. "At first, my family was concerned, but then they were very supportive," he says. Soon he found himself making the rounds of medical offices, submitting to a battery of tests to determine whether he was physically and emotionally equipped to be a donor: He went through a full physical, a CAT scan, and interviews with a social worker and a psychologist.

"I didn't even know my blood type," Ivery notes. That was the least of it, he explains. "They checked my antigen and tissue type. The antigen was OK; the tissue type wasn't close, but doctors said that with the medications Nidha would take, it

wouldn't be a problem."

The transplant took place on November 4, 2005, at New York-Presbyterian in Manhattan. Ivery was hospitalized for three days, Mubdi for a little longer. Both patients were discharged to Queens, where they live with their respective families. Within two weeks, Ivery was back at work on campus, feeling none the worse for wear. "Once in a while, if I do a lot during the day, I'll get a little tired," he says. Currently, he is trying to decide if he should do graduate work in counseling or apply to law school.

Mubdi's prognosis is necessarily more problematic, involving some post-surgical complications and adjustments to her medication. But she was well enough to attend her sister's wedding in January.

"I kind of feel guilty about all the press I've been getting," admits Ivery (the *New York Times* and *Daily News* both published two stories). "I would wish that everyone who donates would have this experience, he says, adding that the Mubdis have embraced him as a member of their family. "People have told me that I've inspired them. I've made a tremendous difference in Nidha's life, and I'll always feel good about it." **Q**



# NASSER DAVIDKhalili

*“Religion and politics have their own language,” notes Khalili, “but the language of art is universal. And there has never been a more desperate time for this universality than now.”*

By **BOB SUTER**

When Nasser David Khalili immigrated to the United States from Iran in 1967, he arrived with \$175 in his pocket—money he had earned from selling publication rights to a book he’d written at age 14 in which he ranked 233 of the world’s geniuses.

In the intervening decades Khalili, now 60, has demonstrated a genius for collecting art. Recently he was profiled by *Forbes* magazine, thanks largely to his skill at amassing the world’s largest private collection of Islamic art.

For Khalili, a Jew born and raised in Iran, his collection is not just a source of

great monetary wealth; it is a means by which he can pursue the cause that has defined much of his adult life: the reconciliation of Muslims and Jews. “Abraham had two sons,” he is fond of observing: “Isaac, the father of the Jews, and Ishmael, the father of the Muslims. There is a tremendous amount in common between us. Rather than blowing up these bridges between us, let’s use them.”

Khalili hopes his new book, *The Timeline History of Islamic Art and Architecture*, can be one bridge. Featuring photos of many works in his collection of over 20,000 objects, the book represents every region of the Muslim world and every period of Islamic culture. It speaks eloquently of Islam’s contributions to world culture,

contributions he believes today’s Muslims should be proud of and non-Muslims should be more aware of.

## Bringing a Message of Reconciliation

Last December 15, Khalili brought his message of reconciliation to Queens College, returning after nearly three decades at the invitation of President James Muyskens to lecture on “The Art of Islam—A Glorious Tradition.” For nearly an hour Khalili recounted to an enthusiastic crowd the accomplishments of Muslim artists, architects, and calligraphers and how they reflected the ideals of Islamic culture. He illustrated his points with dozens of photos of artwork from his collection, including intricately engraved gold fittings believed to have adorned the riding saddle of Genghis Khan.

It was a remarkable homecoming for someone who, nearly four decades earlier, had to convince then-President Joseph Murphy that an immigrant with an unusual accent and almost no money was Queens College material. Khalili recalls that Murphy offered him a deal: get a daytime job and take a few courses at night. If he did well in those courses, he would be permitted to enroll. Khalili found a job at a nearby fast-food restaurant, and his work in the evening courses proved his academic acumen to Murphy’s satisfaction. He enrolled full time in spring 1970, transferring 30 credits from his previous studies in Iran.

Remembering QC in the early 1970s, Khalili says, “The atmosphere was electric in those days. Everybody was for everybody else; there was no selfishness. . . . It didn’t matter if you were American or from overseas, you felt like you were welcome.”

Khalili elected to major in a subject far removed from the world of art: computer

President James Muyskens (right) accompanies Nasser David Khalili (center) into LeFrak Hall.







science. He did this—even though by this time he was already dealing in Islamic art, an area few collectors were then interested in—to fulfill a challenge he'd given himself. As a student in Tehran, he had excelled at every subject except physics, which was taught by a man he greatly admired. "It was a crusade," he says of his decision to pursue an area of study grounded in pure math and physics. "I knew that I would never use it. From day one, it was a joke among all my classmates: 'If you're going to do art, what the heck are you doing in computer science?' It was just to prove that I could do it."

Khalili graduated from the college in 1974, and with his new degree and the lessons learned from his family business dealing art, he began his extraordinarily successful career. "For three generations my family was involved in art in a small way; it was just being involved for survival." Despite the fact that they had no formal education, Khalili acknowledges of his family, "All I know, all I am, is from them."

The 1970s saw a rising tide of Islamic fundamentalism in Iran. As its once secular culture became increasingly anti-Semitic, many Jews were forced to leave. "In 1978 I got married in London," recalls Khalili. "My parents came to the wedding in London and never went back to Iran." Khalili himself became an American citizen in 1981. "My

life was made in the United States, I got my break in this country. So I became an American citizen first, and ten years later I became a British citizen."

### Building Bridges

Khalili continues to live in London, from where he directs most of his activities. "In 1989 I endowed the first chair in Islamic art in any university in the world in the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, where I did my PhD," he notes. "Recently, I endowed probably the finest center for Islamic research in the world: the Khalili Research Centre for Culture and Material Art of the Middle East at Oxford University."

Khalili works tirelessly at his dream of bringing together Muslims and Jews. He views peacemaking as a natural extension of his Jewish heritage. "Judaism is about helping others," he asserts. "We were not chosen to live like kings and queens; we were chosen to carry the burden of humanity."

One of Khalili's principal instruments on behalf of Jewish-Muslim reconciliation is the Maimonides Foundation, named for the 12th-century Jewish philosopher and theologian who became a respected figure in the Islamic world and was official physician to the court of Saladin. Khalili is a co-



Khalili signs copies of his book *The Timeline History of Islamic Art and Architecture* following his lecture at LeFrak Hall. An illustration from the book appears above.

founder and chairman of this London-based organization, which promotes interfaith dialogue and cultural exchanges.

"I'm using Maimonides as a bridge builder based on culture and education," he says. "Politics has no place in the foundation. The minute we have politics, we have problems. Religion and politics have their own language, but the language of art is universal. And there has never been a more desperate time for this universality than now." **Q**



# HOMEcoming is Saturday, September 30! All are invited! Don't miss the fun!



**1942: Alice Boardman Smuts** is the author of the recently published *Science in the Service of Children, 1893–1935* (Yale Univ. Press). The book grew out of Alice's doctoral dissertation at the University of Michigan, where she taught for many years. Alice is a founding member of the Society for Research in Child Development's History Committee . . . **1951: Richard Richter** (pictured with the Dalai Lama) recently retired



as founding president of Radio Free Asia (RFA) after more than a half-century in print, broadcast, and electronic media. A longtime executive producer with ABC, CBS, and PBS television, he helped to launch RFA in 1996 shortly after Congress authorized its creation as a "surrogate" broadcaster, providing news and information to East Asian countries that lacked free media. RFA broadcasts to the closed countries of East Asia in a number of languages, including Burmese, Cantonese, Khmer, Korean, Lao, Mandarin, Wu (Shanghaiese), Tibetan, Uyghur, and Vietnamese. Before founding RFA, Dick worked for 25 years at ABC News and CBS News as a producer, senior producer, and executive producer for news and documentaries. At "ABC Evening News" he was executive producer and a founding senior producer of "Good Morning America." As senior producer of the ABC News Close-up series, he worked on 64 documentaries that won virtually every major national and international award. Dick began his career as a reporter for *Newsday* and went on to work as a writer and editor for the *New York World-Telegram* and the *Sun* . . . **1953: Composer and author Jack Gottlieb's** new book, *Funny, It Doesn't Sound Jewish—How Yiddish Songs and Synagogue*

*Melodies Influenced Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and Hollywood* (State University of New York Press), chronicles how Jewish songwriters and composers transformed the popular music of mid-20th-century America. Jack has lectured on the Jewish contribution to American popular music throughout the United States, Canada, and Israel . . .

**1955: Marc Pilisuk** writes: "My wife **Phyllis (Kamen) Pilisuk** and I met in our sophomore year and were married in 1956. Phyllis went to graduate school in anthropology at Harvard, sociology at the University of Michigan, and social welfare at the University of California. She did all this, and raised our two children, while challenged by multiple sclerosis. She is now a poet and has completed three books of poetry. I got my PhD from the University of Michigan, taught in many interdisciplinary programs, and retired from the University of California. I now teach at the Saybrook Graduate School and am working on my seventh book, this one on understanding global violence. I am on the steering committee of Psychologists for Social Responsibility and a past president of the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence, which recently gave me an award for lifetime accomplishments. We are grandparents of four-year-old twins and lifelong activists in causes for peace and social justice" . . . **Arlene Eyerman Wolinski** was wearing a self-described "grubby" QC alumni T-shirt to dinner at the Six Camels Encampment in the Gobi Desert, Mongolia last July 1 when a man introduced himself. He was fellow graduate **Arthur Sommers '67**, a Pennsylvania dentist who was traveling with a group from Toronto. Arlene teaches history at Mesa College in San Diego and is an



adjunct professor in classics at San Diego State University and in the Education Dept. at University of California, San Diego. The shirt was a gift Arlene received from the Southern California QC alumni chapter, presented when she'd given a talk about King Tut. Arlene was visiting the Gobi Desert to see the site where dinosaur eggs were first found by the American Museum of Natural History in New York . . . **1959: Marilyn Rueschemeyer** is the co-author with Victoria D. Alexander of *Art and the State: The Visual Arts in Comparative Perspective* (Palgrave Macmillan). The book examines

the impact of states and their policies on visual art, contrasting developments in the United States with art policies in Britain, Norway, and Sweden. It also analyzes the changes brought about in East Germany after unification and the experiences of artists who left the Soviet Union for the West . . . **1962: Alice Mattison's** latest book, *In Case We're Separated* (Morrow), is a series of 13 interrelated stories that follow several generations of a Jewish family from the Ukraine to New York and beyond. Alice, who lives in New Haven, CT, teaches at Bennington College and also writes poetry. Recently, she began championing an obscure poetic form called the sestina, a poem of six six-line stanzas . . . **1963: Peter Golden**, an expert in medieval history at Rutgers University, is the first recipient of the Provost's Distinguished Research Award for Rutgers University's Newark campus. The award acknowledges professors who have done "exceptional scholarly work on a subject of fundamental intellectual importance." Recipients must demonstrate the ability to communicate their research, regardless of its complexity, to a general audience. An expert on the Turkic-Mongolian steppe people of medieval Eurasia, Peter has published numerous scholarly books and articles in popular journals . . .



## CHIEF MARSHAL'S CHAIN OF OFFICE AND MACE

The 2005 Commencement featured two historic additions. Retired Media Studies Chair **John Haney (ctr)** and President **James Muyskens (r)** display the Commencement Chief Marshal's Chain of Office, first worn by Biology Professor **Jared Rifkin** during last June's Commencement. Haney, who served as chief marshal in 2000, donated the chain as well as the mace, which is held by Executive Director of Events **Joseph Brostek**. The chain is engraved with the names of all past chief marshals. The mace is embedded with a QC Medal that was awarded to the college's first registrar, **Howard Knag**. Between commencements, the chain and mace are displayed in the president's office.



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**1968: Noel Hankin** was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Medgar Evers College at the college's 16th Annual Academic Convocation Ceremony in December. Currently the senior VP for multicultural initiatives at Moët Hennessy USA, Noel was honored for his long-term service to the community, primarily in the area of education. Among his accomplishments, he helped found the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund in 1987, Milwaukee Tutorial in 1991, and Homework First in 1994. President Clinton appointed Noel to his Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, where he provided counsel to the president for seven years. Noel also serves as senior vice chairman of the board of directors of the New York Urban League and is a lifetime member of the NAACP . . .



**1970:** Emory University has received \$540 million from Gilead Sciences and Royalty Pharma for royalty rights to an AIDS treatment drug discovered by **Dennis C. Liotta**. The sum is possibly the largest amount ever paid to a university for intellectual property. Dennis discovered the drug, Emtricitabine, along with fellow Emory faculty member Raymond F. Schinazi and former researcher Woo-Baeg Choi. Dennis, who received his PhD from the CUNY Graduate Center in 1974, has had a distinguished career at Emory, where he has received numerous awards and served as chair of the department of chemistry and vice president for research . . . **1971:** In September the 52,000-member Vietnam Veterans of America elected **John Rowan** its national president. With more than 600 chapters nationwide, the organization is the only congressionally chartered body dedicated to those who served in the Vietnam War. John was in the Air Force from 1965 to 1967, spending the last eight months in Okinawa and at Da Nang in Vietnam. He was previously a member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War . . . **1972: Barry Knepper** is the president of CFO Business Solutions in New York. He also works with The Alternative Board (TAB), an organization that offers small and mid-size businesses real-world business advice . . . **1973:** After graduating, **Holly-Jane Rahlens** moved to Berlin, where she has worked as a

## Let's keep IN TOUCH

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## PHILIP BERRY: PUTTING GLOBAL EXPERIENCE TO WORK LOCALLY



As a top executive with the Colgate-Palmolive Company, Philip Berry '73 has lived and worked all over the world. But he developed his global ambitions locally, getting an associate's degree at the Borough

of Manhattan Community College before crossing the border into Queens for a bachelor's in sociology. He ventured farther afield to Columbia University for an MS in social work, and then to Xavier University in Cincinnati, where he earned his MBA.

"I wanted to combine a great understanding of how to work with people, with a great understanding of how business worked," Berry explains. "Human resources was a natural outlet for me." As he climbed the professional ladder, his multifaceted education enabled him to alternate among nonprofits and government agencies (the Urban League of Westchester County, the Metropolitan Transit Authority), and private firms (Digital Equipment Corporation).

Fifteen years ago Berry moved to Colgate-Palmolive. As director of human resources for its international business development group, he was responsible for subsidiaries in Eastern Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, allowing him to use the language skills he'd honed at CUNY. Although he was not raised in a multilingual household—"not unless you consider black English a second language," he quips—he speaks French and Spanish, and is familiar with Swahili and Russian. Subsequent postings took Berry to Latin America and Europe.

"My experience working around the world gives me a unique perspective on New York City," he says. "I'm very concerned with global diversity. We need to continue to take advantage of the richness of that diversity. Sometimes we build walls when we should build bridges. That's what my agendas are about."

Today, as vice president of Colgate-Palmolive's global workplace initiatives, Berry is based in New York, where he is a decision-maker at prominent institutions. "When I got back from overseas, I wanted

to get involved in a few targeted activities to give back to the community," he observes. As an appointee to the New York City Board of Education's Panel for Educational Policy, he helps set guidelines for more than one million public school students. In addition, he serves on the board of trustees of the City University School Construction Fund, and on the board of directors for the New York City Center.

Berry is involved with his alma mater, too. For 10 years he has supported a Queens College scholarship in the name of Helen T. Hendricks, who mentored many minority students while she worked as assistant to the dean of academic affairs. He also donates his time as a board member of the Louis Armstrong House Museum and Archives. Not a musician himself—"I listen well," he reports—Berry particularly admires the trumpet player, vocalist, and composer who was an international jazz ambassador. "Armstrong traveled around the world, and his music was appreciated around the world," Berry concludes.

Leslie Jay

broadcast journalist, radio music show host, and a columnist for the Berlin International Film Festival. A writer and producer/director for German television, Holly-Jane has also appeared as an actress in various stage, film, radio, and television productions. Her one-woman shows have made her the "doyenne of the American performers in Berlin" (*Wall Street Journal*). Holly-Jane is currently adapting two of her novels for the screen: the 2003 Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis winner for Best Young Adult Novel, *Prince William, Maximilian Minsky, and Me* (recently published in the U.S. by Candlewick Press), and the romantic comedy *Vegas for Beginners*, based on her second German-published novel, *Mazel Tov in Las Vegas*. Her works have been published in 13 countries. Holly-Jane lives in Berlin with her husband and son . . . **Laurie Younger**, president of Buena Vista Worldwide Television Distribution, works to distribute the Walt Disney Company's creative content to markets all over the world. Her group has had record-breaking revenue recently, largely due to their success marketing the TV shows "Desperate Housewives" and "Lost" to about 200 territories worldwide . . . **1978:** Women's National Basketball Association President **Donna Orender** will be inducted into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and Museum on April 30 at the Suffolk Y JCC in Commack, NY. Prior to joining the WNBA, Donna was senior VP of the PGA Tour. An All-American basketball player while at Queens, Donna played professionally for the NY Stars, NJ

Gems, and Chicago Hustle of the Women's Basketball League . . . **1979:** **Arturo Casadevall**, the Mitrani Professor in Biomedical Research and interim chair of microbiology and immunology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, has been elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, an honor bestowed on AAAS members by their peers. His election recognizes his distinguished contributions to understanding the evolution of microbial pathogens, their interaction with the host immune system, and to novel therapeutic modalities . . . **1982:** **Carol (Brostek) Benedetto** is sales vice president for Jewels by Park Lane. A psychology honors graduate and member of Phi Beta Kappa, Carol is a second-generation QC alumna: her mother is **Carol (Heiser) Brostek '54** and her father **Joseph Brostek '55** is executive director of events at Queens College. Carol, who was previously a sales manager for Ziff-Davis Publishing and a district manager for Tupperware, resides in North Massapequa, NY with her husband, Paul, and three children . . . Last May Police Lt. **Frank Spangenberg** lost in the semi-final round of the "Jeopardy Ultimate Tournament of Champions" on ABC television. Frank won \$34,399 in the first round and an additional \$30,000 for his semi-final effort. In 1990 Frank set a five-day



record for winnings on "Jeopardy," taking home \$102,597, which he used to purchase a house. (His record held until 2003.) Frank has made several appearances on "Jeopardy" over the years. A 19-year veteran of the NYPD, he is currently completing a master's degree in public education at Harvard University . . . **1986:** **Wendy Levinson** was named the assistant director of the Greater New York Council of the Union for Reform Judaism in October. The Greater New York Council provides services and guidance to 88 Reform Jewish congregations and two summer camps . . . **1988:** **April Lynn James**, a mezzo-soprano and musicologist, is a visiting scholar at the college's Aaron Copland School of Music, where she is continuing her work on the Maria Antonia Project (MAP). Named after the subject of April's dissertation, Maria Antonia, Electress of Saxony (1724–80), MAP works to restore operas composed by women to the living repertory. April will be presenting performances and lectures as well as creating an exhibit of opera scores based on an exhibit she curated for Harvard University in 2003 called *In Her Own Hand: Operas Composed by Women 1625–1913*. April lives in Hollis, Queens. For more about MAP, visit [www.classicalsinger.net/aljmap](http://www.classicalsinger.net/aljmap) (April was incorrectly identified as April Jones in the last issue of Q.) . . . **1989:** **Daniel Nkansah** (MLS), the library manager of

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the Laurelton branch of the Queens Library, was honored last September with a Luminary Award in recognition of his leadership and teamwork, especially with community youths. Daniel was born in Ghana and came to the U.S. in 1982. A graduate of York College, he also holds a BS in business administration from York College . . .

**1992: Eve Hammer** (MLS) was named Librarian of the Year by the *New York Times* in November. The award is given to librarians who exemplify professionalism, knowledge, and public service. Eve, who is the manager of the Bay Terrace Library, was chosen from over 1,200 nominees . . . **2004: Thomas W. Galante** (MLS) is director of the Queens Library, the largest circulating public library in the United States and the fifth-busiest public library in the world. A resident of Wilton, CT, Tom had held executive positions in the Queens Library since 1987, most recently as interim library director. His accomplishments include opening the first U.S. public library with complete self-service stations for customers utilizing RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology coupled with automated payment technology. Tom holds a BBA from St. Bonaventure University and an MBA from Hofstra University . . . **2005:** An article in the September issue of *Hispanic profiles* **Arturo O'Farrill**, citing his accomplishments as a jazz pianist, arranger, composer, and director of Lincoln Center's Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra. Arturo is the son of the late Arturo "Chico" O'Farrill, widely considered the creator of what has become known as Latin jazz.

## WE REMEMBER

**1943: Harvey Dreyer, Ruth King Mance**

**1944: Robert Connolly, Mary O'Toole Beyer, Janet Meldon Taylor**

**1945: Nita H. Henick, Helen Pansky Reinfrank, Dorothy J. Vincent**

**1946: Herbert Gordon**

**1948: Arthur Falek, Mary Jane (Carr) Quigley, Jerome Schlactus**

**1950: Louis Kasdan**

**1957: Robert Moog, the creator of the electronic music synthesizer that bears his name; Ronald S. Stutz**

**1961: Ruth Rapczyk Nurge**

**1972: Herbert Holman, Jr.**

**1997: Jenny Nacinovic**

**Paul Avrich** (Distinguished Professor Emeritus History) passed away on February 16. He earned his BA from Cornell and his master's and PhD in history from Columbia. He joined the QC faculty in 1961 and was named one of the college's first distinguished professors in 1982. Prof. Avrich was praised as being "America's leading historian of anarchism" by the *New York Times*, and his 1967

work, *The Russian Anarchists*, is still considered the definitive history of anarchism in Russia. Four of his books, including *Sacco and Vanzetti: The Anarchist Background* and *The Haymarket Tragedy* were nominated for Pulitzer Prizes. His works have been translated into many languages.

**Daniel Marien** (Professor Emeritus Biology) died on November 17, 2005. He earned his BS from Cornell and his PhD from Columbia in 1956. His doctoral thesis research on *Drosophila* species evolution was carried out under the mentorship of the renowned geneticist and evolutionary biologist Theodosius Dobzhansky. Prof. Marien joined the Biology Department in 1962 and retired from the faculty in 1992. He headed the college's Health Professions Advisory Committee for 35 years.

**Frederick Purnell, Jr.**, professor of philosophy at the college and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, died suddenly of a stroke on November 29, 2005. A graduate of Duke University, he studied with Paul Oskar Kristeller at Columbia University, receiving a PhD in 1970. Prof. Purnell made a number of notable contributions to the study of Renaissance Platonism, Renaissance Science, and the Hermetic tradition. His analysis of Galileo's accomplishments on the History Channel International this past fall led to an invitation to lecture in China. Prof. Purnell served for 11 years as chair of the Philosophy Department and two years as acting associate provost. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, May 3 at 3:30 pm in LeFrak Concert Hall in the Music Building on campus.

**Andrew Whiteside** (Professor Emeritus History) died July 10, 2005. He was the author of *Austrian Socialism Before 1918* (1962) and *The Socialism of Fools: George Ritter von Schonerer and Austrian Pan-Germanism* (1975).

## ALUMNI NEWS

### Attention Peer Advisor Alumni

**Ruth Frisz**, coordinator of the Peer Advisement Program, informs us that the Peer Advisement Alumni Advisory Committee has been active for over three years and has held three fundraising events. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, contributing to the QC Foundation-Peer Advisement Fund, or just being kept informed of upcoming events, you can contact Ruth at [ruth.frisz@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:ruth.frisz@qc.cuny.edu), 718-997-5426, or at the Counseling and Advisement Center, Frese Hall, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, NY 11367.

### Send Us Your News!

We want to hear more from graduates—especially our recent graduates. Tell us where you are and what you are doing, and enclose a photo. Be sure to let us know when you move.

Email: [alumni@qc.edu](mailto:alumni@qc.edu)

Mail: Alumni News, Office of Alumni Affairs, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Boulevard, Flushing, NY 11367

Phone: 718-997-3930 Fax: 718-997-3602

Look for us on the Web. We are always adding information about news at the college and upcoming events. And be sure to click on Entertainment Alumni Updates. You will be pleasantly surprised. Alumni Affairs Web site: [www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni\\_affairs](http://www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni_affairs)

### Missing Alumni

We have lost touch with many of our over 110,000 alumni. In most cases they did not let us know when they moved. Addresses can be updated online by going to [www.qc.cuny.edu/QC\\_Foundation](http://www.qc.cuny.edu/QC_Foundation).

If you know alumni who do not hear from the college, please let us know.

## Italy's Magnificent Lake District

Join us for the Summer 2006 QC Alumni Trip, August 8-16



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Approximately \$2,295 per person, plus airfare, based on double occupancy. (VAT an additional \$95 per person, subject to change.)

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# Recalling a Summer of Change



In the summer of 1965 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. recruited the late Rev. Hosea L. Williams and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)—along with over 500 college volunteers—to register African Americans to vote in 120 counties in five southern states. This major voter registration effort came to be known as the Summer Community Organization and Political Education (SCOPE) project. Among the students who participated in the SCOPE contingent assigned to Orangeburg, SC, were Peter Geffen, a QC graduate and founder of the Abraham Joshua Heschel School and now executive director of the Center for Jewish History; Moshe “Mickey” Shur, who now, as Rabbi Shur, heads the QC chapter of Hillel; and Dean Savage (Sociology). The project, which resulted in the registration of 49,000 new voters in the South, had a huge impact on their lives. On February 8 these three men shared their experiences in a special event at the college called “The Scope of Freedom: Dr. King’s Civil Rights Movement.” It was one of a variety of events that took place on campus in February under the title “Remembering the Past: Celebrating the Future” to commemorate African American History Month.



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