

FALL 2014, VOL. XVIII, NO. 1

QUEENS

THE MAGAZINE OF QUEENS COLLEGE

**Meet President
Félix V. Matos Rodríguez**



Behind every scholarship recipient is a story.



“ I am extremely thankful for the alumni who contributed to my college education. They have given me the opportunity to pursue my passion for music, and I am truly grateful for their generosity. ”

MELAINA BADALIAN '15, QCF SCHOLAR

Melaina chose Queens College because of its renowned Aaron Copland School of Music, its affordable tuition, and its great education. Thanks to contributions from alumni, this QCF Scholar can devote herself to rehearsals, schoolwork, and daily practice. She's a member of QC's orchestra, brass ensemble, horn ensemble, and several brass quintets. Melaina's a top academic performer, too.

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On the cover: President
Félix Matos Rodríguez
tours the campus with
Beatriz Núñez '15 and
Carlisky Belizaire '15.

New York City Parks Photo Archive



Party with a Purpose

Former Queens College President James Muyskens and alums Don Brownstein '65 and Stephanie J. Stiefel '80 (l-r) accepted well-earned recognition at the 24th Queens College Gala, held at Manhattan's Gotham Hall on May 6.

Muyskens, who had led QC for eleven-and-a-half years before leaving in December—making him QC's longest-serving top administrator—was given the Lifetime Achievement Award. Brownstein received the President's Award. After teaching philosophy for 20 years, he moved into the financial sector; the founding CEO of Structured Portfolio Management LLC, a hedge fund, he donated \$1 million to QC to endow a scholarship program honoring his former philosophy professor, John McDermott. Stiefel, who received the Alumni Award, is managing director at Neuberger Berman LLC. She is also a trustee on the Queens College Foundation board.

Like these honorees, the gala performed admirably on behalf of QC, grossing \$908,000, the third highest total for this event since 1994.

McCoy and Tamburri Named Distinguished Professors

Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them. But only a select few, by virtue of their scholarship and commitment to teaching, attain the status of CUNY Distinguished Professor, conferred on Richard McCoy (English) in January and Anthony Tamburri (European Languages and Literatures) in September.



McCoy

"I knew when I read *King Lear* in high school that I wanted to teach," says McCoy. A Californian who earned his BA at Stanford and PhD at University of California—Berkeley, he headed east in 1975 when Columbia University hired his wife for a position in Chinese literature. Four years later—two of them at Columbia himself as a post-doc—McCoy came to QC. He has been here ever since, commuting to Flushing from Manhattan's Upper West Side.

A relative latecomer to the Shakespearian field—he originally focused on the poets Philip Sidney and Edmund Spenser—McCoy made the shift with his third book, *Alterations of State: Sacred Kingship in the English Reformation*, followed by *Faith in Shakespeare*. This research prompted invitations to lead academic workshops and participate in talkbacks with cast members and directors at the Public Theater and other noted stages. "My work with actors and directors is a great blessing," he observes. "And I really do love being at QC. The students are ambitious self-starters who don't feel entitled. I have wonderful colleagues."



Tamburri

Tamburri is internationally recognized for his contributions to Italian and Italian American Studies, as well as for his writings on cultural studies and textual interpretation. He has edited 20 volumes and written 14 books, including *Re-Reading Italian Americana* (2014), which has been called a landmark in the field.

Since his arrival at QC in 2006 as dean of the Calandra Italian American Institute, Tamburri has greatly increased the profile of the institute, which now stretches to Italy. He began an annual conference, now in its eighth year, which has drawn participants from around the world. He is co-founder of the Italian/American Digital Project, which produces a website, a magazine, and a weekly TV show.

Together with Fred Gardaphé (English) and Paolo Giordano (Univ. of Central Florida), Tamburri co-founded Bordighera Press, which over the past quarter century has published more than 150 volumes of Italian-American poetry, fiction, and essays, as well as the journal *Voices in Italian Americana*.

Tamburri takes special pleasure in this appointment because it begins with a nomination by his peers at the college and then receives final approval by a university-wide committee of distinguished professors. "One could not ask for greater validation of one's work," he says.

Alumna Creates a Scene in Queens Hall



Location, location, location could be the mantra of Diane Lederman '87. But she isn't a real estate agent. She's the production designer of *The Leftovers*, an HBO series that debuted

in the summer. Based on Tom Perrotta's novel of the same name, the show explores the lives of people left behind after family and friends disappear in the Rapture.

In a one-day February shoot that filled the first floor of Queens Hall with cameras, computers, and a hospital cot, Lederman and her crew turned QH 105 into a psychiatrist's office. "We needed a hallway with a door, and high ceilings," says the alumna, who learned about Queens Hall through location manager Demian

Resnick, who heard about the potential site from Dale Nussbaum (Campus Event Services). Other considerations included proximity to a wooded area—in this case, Forest Park—needed for a different scene. "The look and configuration for our schedule worked for us," observes Lederman. "Putting a film schedule together is like putting a jigsaw puzzle together."

A media studies major at QC—"I took a class with Jonathan Buchsbaum and I blame him"—Lederman gravitated toward production design and learned the field from the ground up. Among the credits on her resume are the movies *Summer of Sam*, *Before the Devil Knows You're Dead*, and *The Butler*; all as set decorator; *Leftovers* is her first job as production designer.

"I have achieved what I was working toward in this project," she muses. "I studied film and here I am at QC working at it. It's a nice culmination of events."

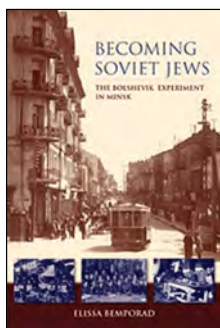
Carol Fredericks Jantzen Honored at Commencement

Carol Fredericks Jantzen '67, '70 has received 11 patents, published about 300 papers, and won national recognition in the fields of glass chemistry and the disposal of high-level nuclear waste (HLW). In May, her alma mater gave her one more distinction: An honorary doctorate.

Inspired by her father, a self-taught geologist, Jantzen earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from QC and a doctorate in material science and engineering from SUNY Stony Brook. Since 1982, she has worked at Savannah River National Laboratory in Aiken, South Carolina, where she has developed process models that run the world's largest facility for putting HLW in glass—thus closing the nuclear cycle.



Carol Fredericks Jantzen displays the degree she received from Interim President Evangelos Gizis during May's Commencement ceremony.



Bemporad Wins National Jewish Book Award

The hushed environs of a library do not encourage exuberant expressions of joy. That was Elissa Bemporad's (History) dilemma when on January 12 she received a call bearing the news that she had won the National Jewish Book Award (NJBA). "I almost fell on the floor," she recalls.

Her book, *Becoming Soviet Jews: The Bolshevik Experiment in Minsk* (Indiana University Press), won the Award for

Writing Based on Archival Material. It was also a finalist in another NJBA category, Modern Jewish Thought and Experience.

Bemporad, who is QC's Jerry and William Ungar Professor in Eastern European Jewish History and the Holocaust, specializes in the social and cultural history of the Jews of Russia and the Soviet Union. "In terms of scholarship," she says, "I study the Soviet period, beginning with the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. I mostly focus on the interwar period."

Becoming Soviet Jews explores the social integration and acculturation into the Soviet system experienced by the Jews of Minsk between the two World Wars. Bemporad spent a year living in the city, now the capital of Belarus, where she says Jews had a long

and vibrant history, representing 40 percent of the population until their liquidation by the Germans in World War II.

Bemporad explains that the book reflects a major change she experienced while pursuing her PhD at Stanford, where a professor convinced her to shift her focus from Russian Jews before 1917 to Soviet Jews after the revolution. There was an additional personal connection in that her roommate at Stanford was from Minsk.

"Minsk is the perfect case study," she says, "because it's such a Jewish city and it becomes the capital of a Soviet republic. So you can really see this encounter between Jewishness and Communism and what happens."

Bemporad is particularly happy to have won in the category of archival research because of the extensive time she spent exploring archives in New York, Moscow, Israel, and Minsk. She will be returning to the archives of the Vatican and to Ukraine to continue research for her next project exploring blood libel, the ritual murder accusations made by Christians against Jews.

This was the second accolade for *Becoming Soviet Jews*, which previously received the Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History awarded by the London-based Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide. A Russian translation of her book is forthcoming from the Russian publisher ROSSPEN.



Rushkoff

Douglas Rushkoff Joins Media Studies Faculty

Douglas Rushkoff, the famed cyberculture expert who originated concepts such as “viral media” and “social currency,” joined the college’s Media Studies faculty this fall. Besides teaching, he will help lead the development of a master’s degree that will address the technological and market forces that dominate our lives.

With four PBS documentaries, three graphic novels, and more than a dozen best-selling books to his credit, Rushkoff knows all about cutting-edge trends. But his approach to education is surprisingly old school. “I don’t particularly like digital tools in the classroom,” says Rushkoff, whose latest title is *Present Shock: When Everything Happens Now* (Current). “If you’re going to take the time to put 30 bodies in a room together, I don’t want to have them look at iPad screens. Socrates said that learning is a kind of conspiracy—literally, ‘breathing together.’”

A Whitestone native, Rushkoff attended PS 79 before his family moved to Larchmont, where he went to public schools. Thereafter, appropriately enough, the future public intellectual followed a multidisciplinary path, completing pre-med requirements while majoring in English at Princeton and completing an MFA in theatre from the California School of the

Arts before earning a PhD in new media and digital culture from Utrecht University in the Netherlands.

“Media studies used to be about how we receive media: books, radio, TV, and movies,” comments Rushkoff. “Now we look at all the ways that people act through media, from the net to software development. More important, you can look at other systems through the lens of media studies, such as economics: money is an operating system, and the corporation is software.” One of his goals as an educator is to help students analyze—and counteract—corporate values that have been embedded in our increasingly synthetic landscapes. “We have to become aware that they are not natural environments,” he adds.

“Rushkoff’s contributions to current thinking in technology, media, and society are at the forefront of the evolving study of media,” notes Media Studies Chair Richard Maxwell. “He’s a great fit for our program and will complement our existing faculty in providing a transformative learning experience.”

While Rushkoff has taught at New York University and the New School, he is especially proud that his first full-time professorship affiliates him with QC. This fall he is teaching an undergraduate course on propaganda and a graduate seminar on interactive media theory. “Most schools have to balance the needs of students against those of their sponsors,” he notes. “At Queens, I’ll be able to teach without putting my students into hundreds of thousands of dollars of debt. I’m affirming the values of public education.”

Legendary Newspaperman Phillips Sends Papers to QC

In his 44-year career, Warren Phillips ’47 (right, with wife Barbara) rose from copy editor at the *Wall Street Journal* to chairman and CEO of its corporate parent, Dow Jones. Institutions throughout the country would have vied for the privilege of housing his archives. But QC won the battle without firing a shot when Phillips contacted the college about donating his papers. “Alexandra Dolan-Mescal delivered his FedEx letter to me in class,” recalls Ben Alexander (GSLIS). “I’ve never been so happy for an interruption.”

Appropriately enough, Dolan-Mescal herself got to follow up with Phillips at his Bridgehampton home. “He said he wanted to give this to us because Queens was the only school that would take him when he was a student,” she says. The issue may have been his age. The future journalist had graduated from high school at age 14 and applied to college at 15, after a year at a prep school.

Several semesters after Phillips matriculated at QC, he interrupted his education to serve in World War II. Upon finishing his degree, he sought jobs at every local newspaper; in an echo of his experience with higher education, the only daily willing to hire him was the *Wall Street Journal*, where he rapidly made his mark.

A collector from childhood, Phillips saved and organized everything, from the newsletter he wrote and illustrated at age 6 or 7, to press passes and expired passports, to correspondence pertaining to his 2011 memoir, *Newspaperman: Inside the News Business at The Wall Street Journal*. The results are a gold mine for anyone interested in journalism, international affairs—Phillips was among the first set of reporters to go to China after President Richard Nixon met Chairman Mao Zedong in 1972—or related topics.



Photograph by Morton I. Hamburg

Dolan-Mescal literally brought the collection to campus aboard her Volvo station wagon. Now 15 linear feet of acid-free boxes are on shelves in Rosenthal Library, awaiting processing. “We will go through each box and preserve its contents,” Dolan-Mescal explains. “For example, we’ll take material out of scrapbooks and put it in acid-free Mylar. We provide alternate copies for researchers.”

They’ll also conduct interviews with Phillips to get background information, so all the items can be identified and given a context. In the final steps, Dolan-Mescal says, “We’ll connect this archive to other collections, and promote it. We want to make sure everyone knows that it’s here.”

Queens College Foundation Chooses Three New Trustees

Coming from families of modest means, attending high school in Queens, and working their way through college, three new trustees of the Queens College Foundation developed a drive to thrive financially. These three alumni share other traits: entrepreneurial acumen, a philanthropic esprit, and a commitment to their alma mater. Lee Fensterstock '68, James A. Mitarotonda '77, and Maurice Reznik '76 realize that with QC's \$150-million Gateway to the Future campaign in full swing and an incoming president, this is indeed a pivotal time.

Fensterstock aims "to have an impact on getting students jobs." In the 1990s he first served as a QC Foundation trustee and is a trustee of George Washington University. Growing up in Laurelton, he chose QC for its affordability and quality, and majored in mathematics. As social chairman of Zeta Beta Tau, he recalls, "I had a great group of friends and learned how to organize events and people." Last spring, speaking at QC's Professionals on Campus series, Fensterstock "saw that these kids were no different than I was a zillion years ago. The motivation, the drive, the desire, that kind of raw material—that's what I had, that's what my classmates had, and that's what current students have."



Fensterstock

After earning his MBA at the University of Rochester in 1971, Fensterstock felt lucky to be hired by Citibank. He joined PaineWebber 15 years later, "where I could impact the results." In his entrepreneurial phase, he restructured the broker dealer Gruntal & Co., launched a company (Bonds Direct Securities LLC) and sold it, then bought and restructured a public company (Broadpoint Securities Group). Now as chairman and CEO of Fensterstock Associates in Manhattan, he can cherry-pick where to invest his own funds.

Mitarotonda immigrated to the United States at age nine from southern Italy's Bari province, a name fondly wrapped into Barington Capital Group, LP, the investment firm near Central Park that he co-founded in 1991. Mitarotonda serves as chairman, president, and CEO of Barington, which invests in "undervalued public companies, becoming very actively involved in those businesses"—including chemicals, plastics, machinery, footwear, retail, and apparel. Barington has taken an active role in assisting over 100 companies improve their financial and share price performance, including Dillard's, Steve Madden, the Jones Group, Lancaster Colony (foods), and A. Schulman (plastic compounds).



Mitarotonda

Enrolling at QC wasn't a hard decision for Mitarotonda as "the quality was exceptional," he recalls, and its cost was very reasonable. Like Fensterstock, he developed skills at Citibank and earned an MBA—his is from New York University. In becoming a trustee, he will step down from QC's Business Advisory Board. "I think I will bring to the Foundation Board a real dedication, a real passion for Queens College," he states. "I want people to have the same chance I had." But, he adds, "I also had to work while attending college—that develops individuals who have tremendous fortitude, a tremendous desire to succeed."

Once a year or so, Mitarotonda returns to his Bari roots: the town of Grumo Appula, to visit his cousins. "People who came from other countries recognize the beauty of America and the opportunity it provides," he believes. "America has so much to offer."

Reznik, from Buenos Aires, Argentina, immigrated to Brooklyn at age 10. From his parents, he learned "to work harder than anyone else and be passionate about what you do." While collecting cartloads of bottles to redeem for deposits and selling peanuts at Shea Stadium, "never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd become CEO of a company. I didn't even know what that was," says Reznik, who in 2008 was promoted from president to CEO of Maidenform Brands Inc.



Reznik

His is a "common Queens College story," Reznik relates: an immigrant who chose QC because: "A, we didn't have any money; B, I really wanted to go to a good school; and C, it had to be close because I had to work the whole time." Studying economics and Spanish at QC while working 1–9 pm in Flushing's clothing stores, at QC Reznik seeded the savvy that served him well along his "old-fashioned business path," featuring stops in mom-and-pop shops, sales-to-VP at Macy's, and president of Warners Intimate Apparel Group. He led Maidenform from its base in Iselin, New Jersey, to a global presence. With his company's sale to HanesBrands Inc. last fall and the closure of that base, Reznik moves on, looking forward to his charitable projects and the next stop. "I really do love growing businesses and being creative," he affirms. He also finds time to serve on the boards of Movado and KapStone Paper & Packaging, and on the advisory committee of Shatterproof.org.

In talking with QC students, establishing a scholarship, and as a trustee, Reznik aspires "to provide opportunities for deserving students, to bring more visibility to the school, more brand recognition. It's just a remarkable institution."



Nurturing Aspiring Writers



(Above) Julius Baltonado (center, front row) met the Cestaro family, who made his scholarship possible; (inset) Jamie Hittman worked for young adult publisher Paper Lantern Lit during her last semester.

Launched in 2007, Queens College's MFA in Creative Writing and Literary Translation attracts inquiries from all over the country. "About a third of our 35 students come from out of state," reports program director Nicole Cooley. "We're thrilled." She's equally delighted that the program now offers three awards that can help defray the cost of tuition. "It's very exciting," she says.

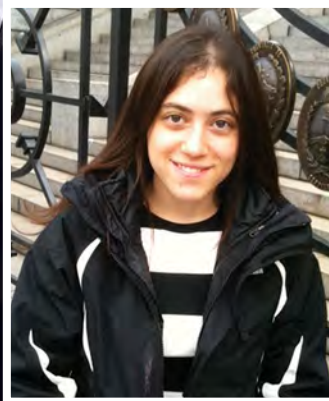
QC's oldest MFA scholarship commemorates alum Giro Cestaro. A writing student here in the early 1980s, he died at age 45 without realizing his dream of being published. In his memory, his family created a scholarship fund at QC to provide financial support to students in the MFA program. The first award was issued in 2012. "Giro had the heart of a writer," says Christopher Cestaro, one of Giro's brothers and the initiator of the scholarship. "He had many loves in his life who were often the subjects of his poetry and short stories. The MFA program was the perfect way to memorialize Giro's love of classical writing, and to help students who may be struggling with the cost of graduate school."

Recent Cestaro Scholarship recipient Julius Baltonado, a class of 2010 alum who came back to QC for graduate school, found his life considerably improved by the award. He was able to quit his job at a bookstore and look for a better position, tutoring writing and

working with ESL students at Queensborough Community College. "It's easier to make ends meet," observes Baltonado, whose specialty is poetry. "I had taken out \$7000 in loans and would have borrowed more. I'm deeply thankful."

Paper Lantern Lit's fellowship, now entering its third year, is given to one person in the spring semester. The winner receives that term's tuition as well as a paid internship with the award's donor, a literary incubator

that constructs detailed plots for young adult novels and hires up-and-coming writers to bring them to life. Our fellows get experience "not just in writing, but also on the editorial side," explains Lexa Hillyer, co-founder of the Brooklyn-based company. The benefits, she adds, go both ways. "For us, it's great to have the new perspective of students. Since they're coming from the academic world, they bring a different kind of analysis to the table."



Paper Lantern's 2013 fellow, Jamie Hittman, says she enjoyed seeing "how Paper Lantern develops ideas and pitches. Now I understand the utility of outlines and the importance of plotting." A Johns Hopkins graduate who just entered medical school, Hittman cites physician-author Abraham Verghese as an example worth emulating. "I just want to keep writing fiction," she vows.

For out-of-state applicants, a scholarship can spell the difference between enrolling at QC and matriculating elsewhere. After eight years of teaching English at a public high school in rural Virginia, Clint Ruhlman—who holds a bachelor's in philosophy and English literature from the University of Maine and an MA in English from the University of Colorado—was ready for change. He heard about QC's MFA program while attending a graduate-level poetry workshop.



Ruhlman

"When I sent in my application, Roger Sedarat (English) called me," says Ruhlman. "I was very interested in translation. Then Sedarat called me back and said there was a scholarship. That, with the uniqueness of the translation track, and the New York City location, was a deal-maker." As the first recipient of the Irma and Harry Long MFA Scholarship, Ruhlman hasn't had to worry about tuition for his first two semesters of study. Instead, he has been immersing himself in Ovid and related works.

Giving someone freedom to study is what QC alumna Madeleine Long had in mind when she created a scholarship in memory of her parents. "I wanted to do something significant in their name, because they made my education possible," she notes. "There's nothing better than helping students to succeed."

Create your legacy, join the Jefferson Society!

You can preserve your legacy at Queens College through a planned gift; a great way to give back to your alma mater while also receiving tax and other financial benefits. Future generations of students already benefit from generous alumni and friends who chose to include Queens College in their future plans. Society members are invited to special openings, exhibits, and events on campus and beyond, and are also granted special access to the renowned Benjamin J. Rosenthal Library. We invite you to join this dedicated group, known as the **Jefferson Society**.

Please contact Laurie Dorf at 718-997-3920 or qc.foundation@qc.cuny.edu to learn more.

Putting Stock in Students

Steve Errera '69 had a brilliant career in energy futures. Now he's investing in student futures: He established a QC scholarship in his name for business or economics majors.

"I liked QC very much," says Errera, who was president of his house plan, Knighthouse. "I did well." That's something of an understatement. Upon graduating with a degree in economics, he landed a job with the New York Mercantile Exchange and, aided by an MBA from Rutgers University, worked his way up to vice president of marketing. In 1981, after designing the industry's first heating oil futures contract and promoting and marketing the exchange, he started his own company, Energy Futures Inc. He also co-wrote a bestselling book on the topic, *Fundamentals of Trading Energy Futures & Options*, now in its second edition.

An industry expert who appeared as a pundit on all the major TV networks and wrote for *American Banker*, *Futures Magazine*, and *Oil & Gas Journal*, Errera was so successful that he was able to retire in 1989, at the age of 42. He keeps up to date on his field and still serves as a consultant in energy futures lawsuits.

Grateful for the education he got at QC, Errera created a scholarship in 2009. "I wanted to help out," he explains. Open to full-time sophomores and juniors—"freshmen don't know what they want and seniors are almost home-free," he observes—the awards cover a year's tuition; two recipients were named for each of the first five years. This fall, he awarded five scholarships. "It's been very heartwarming to meet the students," Errera continues. "They're extremely appreciative. Hopefully, they'll do well and pass it on."

Steve Errera (center) created a scholarship awarded to QC students (l-r) Saitung Wong, Monica Rosenthal, Seth Glanzman, and Jonathan Taryan.



Commencing New Lives *and* New Careers

Go abroad to teach, or go back to school? Take a research job, or take a break? Last May, after receiving diplomas from Queens College, more than 2,500 men and women found themselves weighing their options; here's what nine of them decided to do next.



Solomon



Weiser

Karla Padawer Solomon and **Chloe Weiser** have flown overseas to assume prestigious Fulbright Program positions as English Teaching Assistants. Each will live in a foreign community for 10 months, promoting cultural exchange as well as language skills. Padawer Solomon is based in Spain, a destination inspired by her study abroad experience in Madrid during the summer of 2013. “When I left, I thought, ‘I’m so not done. I’m coming back to finish what I started,’” says the psychology major. To improve her command of Spanish—one of her minors—she hopes to room with a native speaker. Weiser, an English and anthropology major, sought placement in the Czech

Republic. “I read Czech writing in a global literature class, and it really resonated with me,” she observes. “In a country that survived so many ideological regimes, what does this post-dystopian reality look like?” Both women worked as tutors at QC’s Writing Center and, not coincidentally, are thinking of pursuing a master’s in teaching English as a second language.

Boston-based nonprofit Shooting Touch selected hoops star **Lisanne Comeau** for a sabbatical in Rwanda, not to teach English but to use basketball as a vehicle for improving the lives of children and teenagers. “I want to work with Rwandans to create a better situation,” says Comeau. “Although I plan on teaching a lot of basketball and gender equality, etc., I know that I will be the one to learn the most.” A FNES major who interned in a strength and conditioning program at St. Francis College and at a physical therapy clinic, she expects to continue her education in a field related to fitness and health.



Comeau



A mathematics and economics major who has already presented research in social policy, **Patryk Perkowski** applied for—and won—a Fulbright in Malaysia; he chose that country after reading about the changes it was implementing in education. Then he got an invitation he liked even better. “I accepted an offer to join the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco as a research associate in its applied microeconomics division,” Perkowski reports. “I’ll be doing labor economics research and taking classes at University of California Berkeley before going to graduate school.”



Perkowski

The research of another accomplished member of the Class of 2014, neuroscience major **Daniel Stalbow**, earned him money for medical school. CUNY awarded Stalbow a Jonas E. Salk Scholarship for his study of memory loss caused by Lipitor, a drug that is commonly prescribed to lower cholesterol. He’ll use the scholarship, which will give him \$8,000 over four years, at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. He is proud to have continued his family’s QC tradition. “My aunt and uncle went here, and my parents met here as students,” he says.



Stalbow



Samantha and Angela Moraitis

Two generations of one family became alums simultaneously when **Angela Moraitis** and her daughter, **Samantha**, received BAs this year. Angela juggled family responsibilities, her full-time job as manager for a medical practice, and Adult Collegiate Education, QC’s program for students older than 25. “The first class that

I enrolled in was psychology,” she recalls. “I was hooked.” Samantha transferred to QC after attending Molloy College on a scholarship. She, too, majored in psychology. Never in the same exact class, the Moraitises did, on three occasions, find themselves taking the same

course within the same semester. “Having different professors helped us out,” notes Samantha. “If one of us didn’t understand something, we would try to explain it in a way that our own professor did.” After taking time off, Angela expects to go to graduate school, for a degree in counseling. Samantha is back at QC this fall; she enrolled in the graduate program in Elementary and Early Childhood Education.

Matthew De Andrade also intends to become a teacher. To prepare himself to share his favorite subject—mathematics—with public high school students in New York City, he entered a master’s program in secondary education at City College. Graduate students often worry about accumulating debt, but De Andrade has powerful numbers working in his favor: He’s the recipient of a Math for America Scholarship, which will cover the costs of his master’s degree and provide a \$100,000 stipend spread over five years.



De Andrade

Those who want to teach at the college level are under tremendous pressure to publish. **Yves Henri Cloarec** (MFA) set himself apart from other prospective professors with the recent release of his translation of *Dans Ma Peau* (*Inside My Own Skin*), a memoir by French writer Guillaume de Fonclare. Cloarec saw his work set in print after it took top honors in this year’s Loose Translation Series, an annual publication award co-sponsored by Hanging Loose Press and the QC MFA program in creative writing and translation. With that credit on his C.V., he is looking for full-time faculty or teaching artist opportunities in the United States or Europe.



Cloarec



New School Year, New President

QC Welcomes Félix V. Matos Rodríguez

Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, who became Queens College's tenth president on August 28, has had a career that spans academia and the public sector: He is a scholar, teacher, administrator, and former cabinet secretary of the Department of Family Services for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

A cum laude graduate in Latin American Studies from Yale University, Matos Rodríguez received his PhD in history from Columbia University, and has taught at Yale, Northeastern University, Boston College, the Universidad Interamericana-Recinto Metro, City College, and Hunter College, where he also directed the Center for Puerto Rican Studies. Immediately prior to his appointment at QC, he spent five years as president of Hostos Community College, where he significantly increased its student retention and graduation rates. He also served as a program officer at the Social Science Research Council.

An expert on the history of women in the Caribbean, Matos Rodríguez is the author of *Women and Urban Life in Nineteenth-Century San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1820-1862*, editor of *A Nation of Women: An Early Feminist Speaks Out*, and co-editor of numerous anthologies. His work has been published in such journals as *Public Historian*, the *Journal of Urban History*, and *Latin American Research Review*, and his expert commentary has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Congressional Quarterly*, and *El Diario/La Prensa*.

Matos Rodríguez is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a board member of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, Phipps Houses, and FedCap. He has received numerous awards, including the Albert J. Beveridge Award of the American Historical Association and the Community Leadership Award from Citizens Union. In 2012 he was named the grand marshal of New York's annual Puerto Rican Day Parade. We sat down with Matos Rodríguez this summer to give our alumni a personal look at Queens College's newest president.

Could you tell us a little about your life growing up?

I am the oldest of three brothers in a traditional middle-class family in Puerto Rico. My paternal grandparents were of humble backgrounds,

countryside people with eighth-grade educations who moved to the city. My maternal grandmother taught English in a public high school for 35 years. I was very blessed in that I grew up knowing all four of my grandparents and five of my great-grandparents.

My parents have always worked very hard. They both attended the University of Puerto Rico—which is the CUNY of the island—and were part of the generation that saw a social transformation in Puerto Rico. My Dad became an engineer and spent most of his career working for a large flour and feed mill processing plant. He rose from being shift supervisor to becoming the plant's chief operating officer. My Mom was going to be a Spanish teacher, but then I was born and that was the end of her professional life. Mom and Dad were hyper-involved parents, always engaged in volunteer work and community service.

How did you become interested in studying history?

I went to a Jesuit school, Colegio San Ignacio High School, which was one of the best high schools in Puerto Rico at the time. And there I met Puerto Rico's most prolific and influential historian, a Jesuit priest named Fernando Picó. He became a mentor of sorts, a model of what an intellectual could be. I also think part of the reason I became a historian is that I grew up in a house in which I heard so many stories from my grandparents, stories that became a part of my life and made me want to know more about the past.

What was your college experience like?

I came to Yale in 1980. I had been to the U.S. briefly twice before—once to Disneyland—but this was my first extended time there by myself. As soon as I landed in New Haven, I was told my luggage had been lost. And then, as I spoke English with a combined Spanish and Long Island accent—almost all my English teachers back home



Samuel Jaboin '15 and Alexandra Nicoletti '15 talk with President Matos Rodríguez.

came from Long Island—it was a challenge to find a cabdriver who understood what I was saying.

But once I found my luggage and the campus, I had a wonderful time at Yale; it was a great intellectual experience. Yale had on its faculty the leading Caribbean anthropologist, Irving Rouse, a giant in the field, the man who dug up the most important Caribbean archaeological sites from Venezuela to Cuba. Well, with some of the great naïveté you sometimes have as an undergraduate, I thought I would just go up to him one day and start talking. I did, and he turned out to be receptive and asked me to take a course with him, which would basically be a one-on-one tutorial. What a gift it was to study with a man like Professor Rouse.

To help support myself during my college years, I would referee soccer, basketball, and volleyball, which was a great way to expand my vocabulary, particularly slang, which you don't learn in formal English high school classes. When a player would get mad and yell things at me, I would say, "What did you call me? And can you spell that, please?" And a yellow or red card usually followed that!

Much of your scholarship centers on the role of women. What drew you to this topic?

During my years at Columbia University, most of the students and scholars who were working on Latin American topics were women. We would talk all the time about feminist theory in literature and in history. When I was looking for a topic for my doctorate, I realized that very little work had been done on pre-twentieth-century Caribbean women's history, and so I chose that. Some people thought I shouldn't take on this topic because I was a man. In fact, many times I would go to a conference to deliver a paper and I would be the "token" male on the panel. I think this gave me a little bit of insight into what it must be like for women breaking into any field that is dominated by men.

After years of teaching, you accepted an opportunity to go back to Puerto Rico with your family. What was behind this decision?

While I was director of the Center for Puerto Rican studies at Hunter, I was approached by the deputy chief of staff for the governor of Puerto Rico, who recommended me for a position with the governor. My wife, Liliana, is also from Puerto Rico, and we thought this was an opportunity for us both to go back home and serve. Our sons were very young at that time, so this could be a wonderful chance for them to get to know their family and heritage better. So after a few meetings, the governor offered and I accepted a job as head policy advisor on health and social welfare.

After a year in this position, the governor asked if I would serve as cabinet secretary for the Department of Family Services. I had a budget of \$2.2 billion, 11,000 employees, 104 regional offices, and a lot of tough cases to handle.

I traveled all over the island, to communities where people had never seen a high-level government official before. I listened to their issues, and in many cases helped to make their lives a little better. I also learned that little things mean a lot to the people who work with you. So whenever I could, I would go out in the field with, for

example, the social workers who investigated child abuse hotline cases. They were very grateful that I cared enough to see firsthand the obstacles they faced in their jobs.

Could you tell us about your years at Hostos?

Hostos, as you might know, is a beloved institution in the Bronx because it was created out of community activism. The main campus building used to be an abandoned tire factory, but the community took it over and said they were not leaving until a college was built there.

We achieved many good things while I was at Hostos, but good things don't happen because the president is good; they happen because the president has a very good leadership team and dedicated faculty and staff on campus. We were able to improve our graduation and retention rates, develop more community partnerships, work more closely with area employers, and create more student-centered programs.

I am so proud of what we were able to accomplish. Recently, we started a Student Success Coach program in which all freshmen are assigned a student service professional who remains with them until they graduate or transfer. We also received grants from the Aspen Institute and Citibank, for example, to encourage students to go to summer classes, and thus accelerate their time-to-degree.

But most important, our retention rate went up about ten percent in five years, the highest percentage increase of any CUNY community college in those five years. And we more than doubled our fundraising dollars destined for student scholarships.

Why did you want to become president of Queens College?

I truly believe that many of the things I have been able to accomplish in my professional life I owe to my liberal arts education. So, when the opportunity came to become a part of CUNY's top and quintessential liberal arts and sciences institution, I knew I had to give it a try. Also, Queens College's stellar faculty and talented students had always impressed me, so I thought it would be an honor to be associated with them.

The Queens motto is something that is very much a part of my life. I strongly believe that a good life is a life that is dedicated to service. I saw what public education did for my grandparents and parents, and I want to be part of helping to create those same opportunities for students here.

What do you do to relax?

I try to spend as much time as I can with my family. My wife and I are big movie fans, and we recently saw *A Hard Day's Night* on a big screen in Pelham, where we live. I play tennis, softball, and golf. I love to read and just finished a fine book about World War I, *The War that Ended Peace*, and now I'm into Walter Isaacson's biography of Ben Franklin. I have no talent for music, but I love it. My son Lucas plays the bass and Juan Carlos plays the cello, so I spend a lot of time with them at music lessons and recitals. But even though I love music, I am one of the few Latinos who cannot dance.



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When It Was

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On the following pages, we revisit momentous events that put
Queens, and QC students, in the headlines half a century ago.

By Leslie Jay

The Sixties had a rich and memorable soundtrack. **FAR LEFT:** Leading the “British Invasion,” Beatles (l-r) Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, John Lennon, and George Harrison waved to the public at JFK Airport. **NEAR LEFT:** Protest veteran Pete Seeger sang for—and with—activists attending the Freedom School Convention. (Mark Levy, 1964, Mark Levy Collection, Department of Special Collections and Archives, Queens College, City University of New York.)

Education in Action

QC Students Immersed Themselves in the Issues of a Turbulent Era

“Queens College, whose predominantly white student body came mostly from Jewish immigrant and working-class families, had become a hotbed of civil rights activity.”

Carrying handwritten signs, students walked across the Quad, dressed for protest and, perhaps, the photographer documenting the event. The men were clad in slacks and sweaters, and the women in knee-length skirts. No one wore blue jeans; everyone had neat haircuts.

Belying their sartorial choices, these young adults were anything but conservative. “Queens College, whose predominantly white student body came mostly from Jewish immigrant and working-class families, had become a hotbed of civil rights activity,” writes Michael Wenger ’65 in his memoir, *My Black Family, My White Privilege: A White Man’s Journey through the Nation’s Racial Minefield* (iUniverse). A senior fellow at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies and an adjunct at George Washington University, Wenger recalls that he and his classmates “marched to protest the brutality in the South, conducted fund-raising drives to support the freedom riders and the lunch counter protestors, and arranged lectures and ‘teach-in’ activities on campus to raise student awareness and implore the federal government to do more to support racial justice.”

The nation’s political climate was heating up. Frustrated by the incremental improvements won in federal courtrooms, people began calling attention to discriminatory businesses and institutions. Sit-ins, strikes, and picket lines were becoming common.

This spirit was contagious. In the early 1960s, campus chapters of civil rights groups, such as the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), had healthy rosters and busy agendas. For example, the Student Help Project—launched at the suggestion of CORE faculty advisors in the School of Education—enlisted hundreds of college volunteers to tutor youngsters in South Jamaica’s crumbling public schools.

As these idealists would learn, far worse inequities existed in the world beyond Queens. In Virginia, Prince Edward County had closed its public schools instead of complying with a court order to integrate them. Local black churches responded by organizing classes. To support that initiative, Student Help decided to send 16 tutors and faculty advisor Rachel Weddington (Education) to the county in the summer of 1963. “They’re going to be in culture shock if they don’t live in a diverse community,” warned Rosalyn Terborg-Penn ’63, then one of QC’s relative handful of African American students, now a history professor emerita at Morgan State. The volunteers prepared for their trip by working in a tutoring program that Terborg-Penn helped set up at St. Albans Congregational Church, her family’s house of worship.

En route home, deeply affected by their encounter with the Jim Crow South, the Student Help contingent attended the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. They weren’t the only delegation from QC; interest was great enough that the student government chartered a bus to take people to the rally.

An Eventful Semester

Civic engagement reached a new peak in 1964 as the growing pool of committed people returned for the spring semester. The first event occurred off campus. To protest de facto segregation in New York City schools, civil rights leader Bayard Rustin urged parents to keep their children home on February 3; in Jamaica and elsewhere, QC students notified people about the boycott. Schools recorded more than 464,000 absences that day, most of them in black and Puerto Rican neighborhoods.

On March 11, activists held a Fast for Freedom on college grounds. Rev. Milton Galamison, a prominent figure in the school boycott, QC President Harold Stoke, and others addressed students, many of whom skipped lunch that day and donated their meal money to a food drive in Mississippi—the state was withholding federal aid from black recipients who pursued their voting rights. Freedom Week, a follow-up that began on April 20, featured teach-ins and talks. Martin Luther King and CORE co-founder James Farmer planned to speak, but canceled; King sent future Mississippi state legislator Aaron Henry in his stead (he stayed with the Wenger family during this trip).

Freedom Week also served as a recruitment vehicle for people ready to spend their summer in Mississippi, teaching in Freedom Schools and registering voters. Volunteers had to be chosen carefully, explains Dorothy Zellner ’60, who worked with the SNCC to find suitable candidates. “We wanted people who had respect for the black community, who would not do something crazy like wearing shorts to church,” she has commented. “We didn’t want prima donnas who said, ‘Oh okay, I’ll do this, but I won’t do that.’”

One successful QC applicant was CORE chapter member Andrew Goodman. According to his mother, Carolyn Goodman, “The combination of Andrew’s family influence—we were an



(Above) RESPECTFUL SIGNS OF THE TIME: Taking to the Quad in support of academic freedom, these QC students demonstrated a preference for conventional attire as well as a talent for sloganeering; one protester expressed herself in French. Queens College Silhouette, 1964. **(Right) Andrew Goodman.** (Courtesy of the Andrew Goodman Foundation.)

activist family—and that of the schools he attended, such as the Walden School and Queens College, and his realization that he had led a relatively sheltered life, tended to make him feel that he could make a contribution to the Mississippi Freedom Summer.”

Closer to home, activists focused on the World’s Fair, seeing it as a wasteful monument erected in a troubled city by construction companies that practiced discriminatory employment. Radicals promoted a stall-in proposed by the Brooklyn chapter of CORE. On April 22, the fair’s opening day, drivers were to abandon cars along major routes to Flushing Meadows Park, creating massive traffic jams. That didn’t happen. But more than 200 QC students, Goodman among them, went through the turnstiles to picket several pavilions.

The same month saw the birth of a movement that adopted the strategies of civil rights advocates: Teaming up with grassroots activist Jacob Birnbaum, Glenn Richter co-founded the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ). In that pre-Internet era, the fledgling organization put together a May Day demonstration outside the U.S.S.R. consulate in Manhattan, where 1,000 young adults picketed in silence. In coming months, singer Theodore Bikel and Rabbi Joshua Heschel would join SSSJ protests.

Lost In Mississippi

Arriving in Mississippi, Goodman sent a postcard to his parents. “The people in this city are wonderful and our reception was very good,” he wrote; the card was postmarked June 21. That very day, he and fellow activists James Chaney and Michael Schwerner disappeared in Meridian, Mississippi. In early July, still waiting for news about the men, seven QC students—including Wenger, future Queens Congressman Gary Ackerman ’65, and Ron Pollack ’65, who would found Families USA, a nonprofit that researches health care—settled in the basement of a Flushing church for a hunger

strike. Their goal: to protest segregation and pressure the federal government to protect civil rights workers. Their five-day fast won coverage in the *Long Island Press*.

As the public would learn, Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner were dead, killed by Ku Klux Klan members acting in collusion with Neshoba County police. On August 4, the FBI uncovered the victims’ remains in a dam. Eighteen conspirators were tried in federal court on civil rights violations; seven were convicted and spent up to six years in prison. Exactly 41 years after the triple murder, a racially mixed jury would find Klansman Edgar Ray Killen, age 80, guilty of manslaughter for his role in planning the crime.

News of the activists’ murder reached the QC community, but did nothing to dampen support for their goals. Singer-songwriter Paul Simon ’63 commemorated the fallen with a revised version of “He Was My Brother” [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=daPpeLKdGSw>]. Building on the mission of the Student Help Project, the College Community Service Corps sent volunteers to work with children at after-school recreation centers in poor neighborhoods. In October, in a nod to the importance of education and educators, Chaney’s mother and younger brother came to campus and talked to student teachers.

The year concluded with another Freedom Week, featuring a Fast for Freedom and the screening of a film about Andrew Goodman. The student senate voted to work with the Urban League in a program supporting fair housing. And a new cause—the antiwar movement—was emerging; well into the next decade, it would engulf this campus and others, changing the country forever.





Foreign Flavor

How the Beatles and the World's Fair Shaped Our Cultural Borders

On February 7, 1964, the Beatles landed at John F. Kennedy Airport; their first appearance that weekend on the “Ed Sullivan Show” made them a household name. Just two months later, the World’s Fair opened its gates at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Those events, and the concerts the Beatles would hold in Forest Hills Tennis Stadium and Shea Stadium—the first location subsequently renovated and renamed, the other replaced and razed—still loom large in the memories of many Queens residents.

For people born after World War II, the Fab Four and the fair may have particular resonance. “Baby boomers grew up with the Cold War, the space race, the Kennedy assassination, birth control, and the moon landing,” observes sociologist Candy Leonard ’77, who majored in communications and psychology before earning an MA in developmental psychology from Columbia University’s Teachers College and a PhD in sociology from the University of New Hampshire. “It was a time of unprecedented technological and social change. Advertising took off when 90 percent of households had television, and boomers were a huge target market; one of the products sold to us was the Beatles.”

Unlike any pop performer before them, the Beatles gave their followers a lasting sense of community. As they evolved, tweaking authority, experimenting with drugs, practicing Transcendental Meditation, their listeners did the same, developing a deep, lifelong connection to the musicians. Leonard, for example, has followed the band from the moment she saw it on “Ed Sullivan.”



A few decades later, as a qualitative research consultant specializing in health and wellness, she decided to use her skills as an interviewer and analyst to document an experience shared by millions of baby boomers. She found fans through Beatles conventions, social media, and word of mouth. The result is her just-published book, titled with a term the Cambridge, MA, resident coined herself: *Beatleness: How the Beatles and Their Fans Remade the World* (Arcade).

“The Beatles had the largest communication platform that had existed up to that point, and the rapt attention of the largest-ever demographic,” Leonard explains. “The entire six-year spectacle—of brilliant music, compelling images, and new, playful ways of seeing reality—functioned like an alternative curriculum for millions of

“We experienced them in families, sitting with our siblings and cousins. This cemented our sense of identity. People who went on that journey feel that they experienced something extraordinary.”

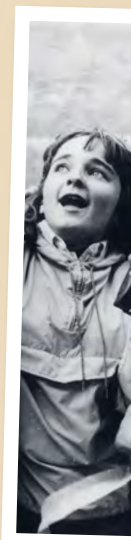
young people who were empowered to ask questions, think for themselves, grow their hair, shorten their skirts, rethink interpersonal relationships, and challenge the constraints and conformity of the early sixties.”

This phenomenon is not likely to be repeated. “Audiences are much more fragmented now,” she says. “But the Beatles were ubiquitous. We experienced them in families, sitting with our siblings and cousins. This cemented our sense of identity. People who went on that journey feel that they experienced something extraordinary.”

The Beatles never attended the World’s Fair, but they were represented nonetheless. A copy of their album *A Hard Day’s Night* was deposited in the time capsule created for the fair by the Westinghouse Corporation. Images of the foursome, accompanied by Ed Sullivan, received the public at Walter’s International Wax Museum, where the British contingent included Lady Godiva.

Continental Drift

Otherwise, Great Britain had no official presence in Flushing. Nor did most of Europe, apart from Ireland, Francisco Franco’s Spain, and the Vatican City. The Bureau of International Expositions (BIE), which governed world’s fairs, had asked its members to boycott this one, which violated BIE by-laws by lasting longer than six months and by opening in the wake of the Century 21 Exposition, held in Seattle in 1962. (The BIE expected countries to wait a decade between hosting events.) The tactics of the fair’s



manager, master builder and power broker Robert Moses, had only made matters worse. “Moses didn’t do diplomacy; he finagled,” comments journalist Joseph Tirella ’92, interim director of media relations and publications at Lehman College and author of *Tomorrowland: The 1964-65 World’s Fair and the Transformation of America* (Lyons Press).

Consequently, the lineup featured pavilions from the U.S. federal government, 23 states, the host city, and 28 American corporations. Not counting the multinational puppets in Walt Disney’s boat ride, “It’s a Small World,” most of the foreign flavors came from installations funded by countries in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. After the 1965 Immigration and Naturalization Act, which eliminated preferential treatment for Northern and Western Europeans, those three regions would alter the population of the United States and make Queens into its most diverse county.

“America was getting a glimpse of itself 50 years later,” says Tirella, who grew up hearing about the event from his parents. “No one saw the obvious.” Instead, visitors were captivated by unfamiliar tastes and technologies, such as Belgian waffles, Bell Labs’ first picturephone, and an interactive RCA studio that allowed

people to see themselves on the screens of color televisions, luxuries in the era of black and white. The press was more interested in documenting the behind-the-scenes battles and fiscal troubles that plagued the fair, which cost investors 37.6 cents on the dollar and repaid only \$1.5 million of the \$24 million it borrowed from New York City.

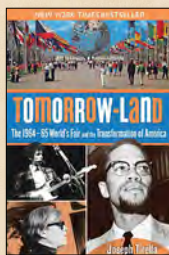
Local Assets, Global Appeal

On the plus side, the fair left landmarks to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. “Moses wanted to turn it into a world-class park,” says Tirella. The legacy ranges from the Column of Jerash—an ancient Roman artifact displayed in Jordan’s pavilion—to the iconic Unisphere. Queens Museum, the Hall of Science, and Queens Theatre in the Park all occupy World’s Fair buildings that were repurposed. Sadly, the distinctive towers of the New York State Pavilion, designed by celebrated architect Philip Johnson, were allowed to rot.

Now, after cameo appearances in the sci-fi films *Men in Black* and *Iron Man 2*, the three towers are going to be headliners in their own right: The latest city budget allots \$5.8 million for upgraded electricity and other repairs. Preservation of the New York State Pavilion, says Borough President Melinda Katz, “will aid our efforts to rebrand Queens as a tourist-level destination that we call ‘The World’s Borough.’”

In other words, Queens has become synonymous with the fair it hosted 50 years ago.

(Left) Crowds of adoring young women gathered wherever the Beatles appeared. (Below) Television made its black-and-white American debut at the 1939 World’s Fair; 25 years later, RCA offered visitors a wider range of experience.



Fox Photos/Hulton Archive/Getty Images



Doug Caldwell/Wikimedia Commons

QUEENS ALUMNI NOTES

1943: When **Mitzi Kanzer Libsohn** passed away in 2008, she left an unfinished book of poetry. Now her daughter, Pauli Rose Libsohn, has completed and edited it in her name. *Immortal Kisses: Confessions of a Poet* will be published this spring ... **1952:** **Harvey Alter** wrote to inform us that his wife **Cora Wolff Alter** '57 passed away in April. Cora had a rich and rewarding life and career. She performed as a classical singer—including with the Washington National Opera Company and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra—until she was 70 and, after retirement, continued as a jazz singer at fundraisers for the local symphony orchestra. Besides her many community activities, Harvey writes that “Over her life she used her talent and training to teach music to groups ranging in age from pre-K to seniors” ... **Lewis Lockwood** was elected to membership in the 250-year-old American Philosophical Society—a tribute to his distinguished scholarship in historical musicology, especially on both Beethoven and the Italian Renaissance. Now a Distinguished Senior Scholar at Boston University, Lewis taught at Princeton from 1958 to 1980 and held a named chair at Harvard from 1980 to 2002. He is past president of the American Musicological Society, which grants an award named in his honor ... **1953:** **Jack Urbont** has had a career like few others—including as composer and lyricist for theme songs about Marvel Comics’ superheroes. His wife, Rosalind, sent in a YouTube video of Jack playing and singing songs for PBS about such household names as the Hulk, Captain America, and Iron Man. His many other credits make an eye-popping catalog of popular culture—encompassing not only major films and theatre but also the top TV networks and cable companies. He won an Emmy for Lorne Green’s “New Wilderness,” a BMI TV/Film Pioneer Award, and many other honors. He has been pianist, music director, and conductor to the stars, from George Burns and Donald O’Connor to Sammy Davis Jr. and Merv Griffin. You can catch his work on numerous albums and DVDs,

including *Jerry Orbach Sings, The New Christy Minstrels, Iron Man*, or even *Go Simpsonic with the Simpsons* ...

1955: **Stephen Rosen** published a witty memoir, *Youth, Middle-Age, and You-Look-Great! Dying to Come Back as a Memoir* (available online). Trained in



theoretical physics, Stephen worked at the Hudson Institute, a think tank for policy in the public interest. Now, as a career executive, he advises scientists, physicians, lawyers, and executives on making professional transitions ... **1956:** **Suzanne Benton** had an exhibition in May titled *From Paintings in Proust*, in Stamford, CT. She spent a year seeking out paintings in Paris, Giverny, Rome, and Assisi that had been mentioned in the works of French novelist Marcel Proust, a quest she describes as an “all-engrossing inspiration” for her new works ... **1958:** **Inge Auerbacher** continues her



lectures, writing, and other international work as a child survivor of the Holocaust. Last year she received three of Germany’s highest awards for her work toward reconciliation: the Cross of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany, the Medal of Merit from the state of Baden-Württemberg, and the Medal of Honor from the city of Göppingen. She also was made an honorary member of the Blackfeet Nation of Montana ... **1960:** **Ronnie Hammer** published *En Garde, My Battle with Breast Cancer*, describing every step of her diagnosis and treatment and her use of visualization to help her get through her ordeal with strength and hope. Ronnie is a writer of stories and, more recently, a blog; she also leads the Madison group of Women Who Write and is an editor of its magazine, *Goldfinch*. Ronnie and her husband, Harvey, live in Morristown, NJ ... **1961:** **Humberto Robles** was inducted into the Academia Ecuatoriana de la Lengua, a learned society that is highly regarded in the Spanish-speaking world. This honor

recognizes Humberto’s distinguished career as a scholar and teacher.

Now a professor emeritus at Northwestern University, he is working on a book-length study of Henri Michaux’s *Ecuador. Journal de voyage* ... **1963:** **Michael Goldstein** returned last October



to give a talk to students as part of the QC Professionals on Campus series. His talk was based on his experiences as former chairman of the board of Toys “R” Us ... **1965:** **Jeff Bennett** is still drawing out the unsuspected thespian talents of adults at the Bare Bones Theater Company on Long Island, which he founded in 2000. It is both a school for new actors and a stage for four or five full-length productions each year. A legendary drama teacher, Jeff is the author of *Secondary Stages: Revitalizing High School Theater* (Heinemann). The auditorium at Shoreham-Wading River High School is named after him ... **Philip Zuchman** and his wife, Deborah, were profiled in a John Thornton film, *The Zuchmans, a Marriage of Artists*, which can be seen on YouTube ... **1966:** **Dennis Bell** (MA) has enjoyed an award-winning career as a producer, composer, conductor, and pianist. He is working on scores for the Five College Dance Companies in Amherst, MA, the Misnomer Dance Company in Chicago, and his daughter’s company, Sidra Bell Dance NY. He writes that, having studied with George Perle, Leo Kraft, and Hugo Weisgall (his thesis advisor), he considers his QC education “an essential part of his development as a musician/composer” ... **Gary Lawson** was inducted by the Secretary of the Army as an honorary Night Stalker—the name for members of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. He was recognized for his service to members of the military, veterans, and children of military personnel who have died in service since 9/11 ... **1968:** **Lewis Wetstein** was



elected chief of staff of Kimball Medical Center in Lakewood, NJ. He is the governor from New Jersey to the American College of Surgeons, and chief of thoracic surgery at Kimball, Community, and Ocean Medical Centers in New Jersey ... **1969:** **Beverly Khnie Philip** lets no grass grow under her feet. A past president of the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia, she has been elected VP for scientific affairs of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. She and her husband, James, are professors of anaesthesia at Harvard Medical School, and Beverly also is founding director of the Day Surgery Unit at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. Recently this power couple trekked 19,371 feet to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, a feat that follows other treks they have made to the Annapurna Base Camp in Nepal and along the Inca Trail in Peru ... **1970:** **Michael Bronstein** was elected to the board of trustees for the Queens Botanical Garden. He also was named Outstanding CPA in Industry by the NYS Society of Certified Public Accountants ... **1971:** **George Schieren** received an honorary doctorate from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. For many years he has been an officer of the American Friends of the Hebrew University (AFHU), and he is a member of the university’s International Board of Governors. According to AFHU’s current president, the degree was awarded to honor George’s “intellectual acumen and the humanitarianism that has guided both his personal and professional life” ... **1971:** **Lawrence Stahl** writes, “Thanks for this opportunity to bring my classmates up to date. Proud to be a QC grad!” He is chief administrative law judge of the Baltimore County Office of Administrative Hearings. An attorney in Maryland for 35 years, he is active in local government and politics, and serves on the standing committee for group legal services of the American Bar Association ... **1972:** **Abraham Krieger** was named a 2013 Top Rated Lawyer in Banking and Finance Law by the Martin-Hubbell AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating ... **1973:** **Barbara**

CAMPUS POLITICS AND ROMANCE, 1943 STYLE

Ethel (Clancey) Doyle and Jim Doyle, politicians in the QC class of June 1943, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary recently in Lake Mary, Florida, where they now live. All 21 of their family members were there, along with some old friends from their time with the Catholic Press Association, where Jim was executive director for 30 years.

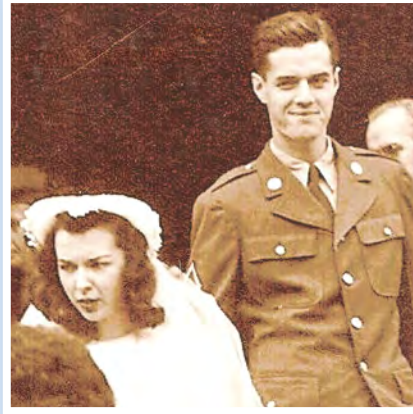
At Queens, Jim was class president and Ethel vice-president in their Junior year. As it turned out, they liked working together, and each other, started dating and fell in love. Jim was reelected their Senior year, but Ethel was defeated, presumably having lost her base because of their new alliance.

Jim was in a group of QC men who had earlier joined

the Army's Enlisted Reserve Corps. They had been told they could finish their college year, but that didn't happen, and they were called to active duty in March of 1943.

Ethel and Jim married that October, on an Army weekend pass. Ethel was slated to go to Syracuse University for a Political Science advanced degree but gave that up to be married. Jim, assigned to Military Intelligence, served in MacArthur's headquarters in the Pacific theater until the end of the war.

Sadly, Ethel never got to pursue her political career. Jim insists she could have become New York's first woman



On their wedding day in 1943, Jim smiles and waits in the background while Ethel chats with sorority sisters from Alpha Delta Pi—"working the crowd," as one of their sons, the essayist-novelist Brian Doyle, calls it.

Senator, long before Hillary Clinton and Kirsten Gillibrand. As old Kurt Vonnegut often said in the face of life's mysteries: So it goes.

Jim Doyle

Bonner (MA) published *Inspiring Generosity* (Wisdom Publications), on the quality of generosity and some contemporary individuals who exemplify it. A former executive in museums, education, and the nonprofit sector, Barbara serves on numerous nonprofit boards and specializes in consulting on ways to help organizations thrive, including through their fundraising . . .

1973: David George has retired from teaching and performing music as well as service with the National Guard (including at Ground Zero). He moved from New York to southern Florida because, he writes, "I could enjoy a home where I could have my own garden. Since moving to Florida I have planted about 25 trees around my property along with many flowering plants. I also have a collection of about 35 orchids" . . . **1974: Mike Rhea** copyrighted "Professor Mike's 5-Day English Review," a curriculum he developed while teaching airmen at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. Mike teaches at Wesley College, also

in Dover . . . **Gail Uellendahl** received the 2013 President's Award for Teaching Excellence at California Lutheran University. Gail, who is a practicing licensed psychologist, chairs the counseling and guidance department in CLU's Graduate School of Education. As the first in her family to graduate from college, she has been especially active on behalf of first-generation students and other underrepresented groups in higher education . . . **Marlene Weidenbaum** had an exhibition of pastel paintings, titled *The New Hudson River School: Painting in the 19th Century Tradition*, held at the Mark Gruber Gallery in New Paltz, NY . . . **1976: David Kenneth Waldman** received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 1st Annual Community Awareness Banquet hosted by the Sacrit Devahood Incorporation in Montclair, NJ. He is founding president and CEO of To Love Children Educational Foundation International . . . **1978 Suzanne Kesselman Ponsot** is executive

director of the Greater New York Region of American Friends of the Hebrew University. She is spearheading its fundraising, an area where she has helped many nonprofits achieve their goals. Suzanne and her family live in Chappaqua, NY . . . **1979: Amy Losak** is a public relations executive, but her passion the past couple of years has been sharing her mother's haiku with the city's children. Her mother Sydel Rosenberg, who was a NY public school teacher, also was a published poet and charter member of the Haiku Society of America. Amy has partnered with two organizations to produce interactive installations that paired her mother's poems with the visual arts—at the Children's Museum of the Arts, which created a "PoeTree," and at P.S. 163 Arthur A. Schomburg School, in the Bronx. She also worked with the Poets House on a free haiku-writing workshop for children . . . **1980: Chester Mitchell** published his second book, *The Healing Road to Heaven: Walking*

with God from Pain to Peace. Chester is founder and lead pastor of Capital Community Church in Ashburn, VA, where he lives with his wife, Marion. He also partners with the Lighthouse of the Valley Church in Stockton, CA, where he is bishop

. . . **1981: Richard Barakat** is deputy physician-in-chief for the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Regional Care Network and Alliance, located in New York. He also is president-elect of the Society of Gynecology Oncology and the International Gynecologic Cancer Society . . .

Peter Biging is a partner in the Manhattan office of Goldberg Segalla. His practice focuses on professional liability work . . .

1982: Rachel Dahill-Fuchel is executive director of academic support for District 79 of the NYC Department of Education. Her mother, Dr. Judith Fuchel, who taught secondary education and psychology and worked as a counselor for many years at Queens College until her retirement, passed away on December 23 "after a long and fulfilling life." Former colleagues and students who remember either Judy or Rachel and wish to be in touch may contact Rachel at rdahill@schools.nyc.gov . . .

1984: Joe Brancaccio was honored at the college's 2013 golf outing dinner. A lieutenant with the NYPD, he earned a citation from New York State for his role at Ground Zero on September 11, where he threw himself into efforts to save as many people as possible—providing triage services, looking for people trapped in the World Trade Center, and offering transportation to emergency personnel. Besides his police career, he has been a throws coach at QC for the past five seasons; with his help the men's track and field team won the 2013 East Coast Conference championship . . .

1985: Lawrence Drucker has built an international clientele for his litigation practice in intellectual property, especially involving new technologies like robotics, digital watermarking, market research software, and web design platforms. He is a partner at Winston & Strawn LLP . . . **1986: Eileen Green-Doyle** (MSEd) published *Water . . . Changing the Flow* (ETG Publishing), a

QUEENS ALUMNI NOTES

Albert Z. Kapikian '52



Albert Z. Kapikian died on February 24 at the age of 83. He will be remembered as a dedicated physician and researcher

whose work benefited millions around the world.

In 1957 Albert joined the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and ten years later became chief of the epidemiology section of the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases at NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a position he held for 45 years. His specialty was viruses, and over his long career he pursued some of the most common and debilitating forms—in particular, those responsible for highly contagious stomach and intestinal diseases. He discovered the first norovirus, which is responsible for

acute epidemic gastroenteritis and a major cause of life-threatening epidemic diarrhea in adults worldwide. He identified the hepatitis A virus, and pinpointed the virus behind hepatitis C. He was the first U.S. researcher to detect the human rotavirus, a leading cause of severe diarrhea in children that accounts for more than 400,000 deaths each year, mostly in developing countries. With colleagues, he formulated an anti-rotavirus vaccine, and headed the development of low-cost, second-generation vaccines licensed to pharmaceutical companies in Brazil, China, and India.

Albert's achievements earned him both high professional esteem and prestigious awards, including the Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal. A profile of Albert previously appeared in the Fall–Winter 2008 issue of this magazine.

selection of water-themed photographs by women from groups around the world affiliated with the Federation of American Women's Clubs. As Federation coordinator in Ireland, England, and Scotland, Eileen compiled the book for an international project to raise money for clean, safe water and wells in Cambodia, while raising awareness of the global water crisis. She has long been active in international philanthropy and development, including as a volunteer with the Maryknoll mission in Bangkok ... **1991: David Siev** coauthored *Operation: Blue Christmas* with his wife, Victoria. It tells the story of how Dave and fellow police officers in Brooklyn's Snyder Avenue stationhouse organized charitable work for children. Dave, a lieutenant in the NYPD, is a recipient of the Police Combat Cross, which is the department's second-highest honor. ... **1993: Natalie Stiene Harnett** recently published her debut novel, *The Hollow Ground* (St. Martin's Press), which is set among the deadly coal fires of 1960s Pennsylvania ... **Rob Jennings** is busy as a reporter for the *New Jersey Herald* and a contributor to

WRNJ Radio. He recently published a Shoptalk column in *Editor & Publisher*, and also has appeared on MSNBC and National Public Radio. Rob lives in New Jersey with his wife, Catherine, and two sons ... **1996: Sarah Rosenberg Hofstetter** writes, "I credit QC with providing me with (1) the tools and skills to help me get a job, (2) tremendous exposure to the diversity of NYC, (3) an amazing internship at the *New York Times* through the journalism program that taught me both professional and networking skills, and (4) the opportunity to meet the man I married, **Adam Hofstetter '96**. I just want to say thank you for those opportunities." Eighteen years after graduating magna cum laude in sociology with a minor in journalism, Sarah is CEO of 360i, rated one of the top advertising agencies in the country by *Advertising Age* and named one of the Best Places to Work by *Crain's New York* ... **1998: Maria Jimenez** (MSEd '03) took her seventh graders to the New York Metro Young Entrepreneur Showcase, where they won the prizes for Best Technology and Audience Favorite. Maria

teaches entrepreneurship, or how to think ahead to become your own boss ... **1999: Kimberly Larkin** played Sarah Lincoln in *Honestly Abe*, and appeared as Miss Bunny in the premiere of *Molly Bloom-Lately* for the New York Children's Theater Festival. A member of the faculty at the Long Island High School for the Arts, she also teaches widely in the borough and is the music theatre workshop director for QC's Musical Theatre Summer Workshop ... **Kenneth Ryesky** (MLS), a former IRS estate-tax lawyer who teaches taxation and business law at QC, testified at an IRS rule-making hearing on proposed regulations affecting adjunct faculty under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ... **2001: Nelson Nigel** is CEO of Head Exposed, which provides advice to small companies on marketing to and negotiating contracts with major corporations, the government, and the construction industry, all of which rely on the procurement of essential goods and services through outside vendors ... **2005: Tito Muñoz** is the new music director of the Phoenix Symphony. Despite his youth, he has already been in demand internationally as a conductor of orchestras, operas, and ballets. Copland School Director Ed Smaldone recalls that "It was in 2003 or 2004 that the QC Orchestra, led by Maestro Maurice Peress, was giving a concert at Flushing Town Hall. Toward the end of the concert, Prof. Peress announced that there was a change in the program. The orchestra would repeat their performance of a work played earlier in the evening: Mozart's Overture to *Le Nozze de Figaro*. He then turned and (completely unannounced and without warning) handed his baton to Tito, who was sitting in the second violin section. He had not led a single rehearsal of the work with the orchestra, but he had met with and been mentored by Prof. Peress on numerous occasions. Tito's face registered a moment of genuine surprise, and then, without skipping a beat, he put down his violin, walked to the podium, and took command of the moment. He proceeded to raise that baton and lead the orchestra in a splendid,

lively, and carefully controlled performance of this four-minute work. He was probably 20 years old at the time" ... **2006: Eric DiVito** (MA) released his second album, *The Second Time Around*, under the Canadian label Pioneer Jazz Collective. Eric plays guitar in clubs, on stage, and even on cruise ships. *Downbeat* magazine noted that Eric "exhibits a head turning gift for penning originals that deftly balance the heart with the head." He has been teaching in the NYC public school system since 2006 ... **2006: Andrae Murchison** (MA) went on an international tour with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, playing in Switzerland, Germany, Russia, and Israel. He also joined the Skatalites as trombonist for the legendary band ... **2007: Henry Kielmanowicz** (MFA '13) maintains a studio/laboratory in Brooklyn—Henuoosh Fine Art—where he creates installations from trash. He had a one-night-only installation in February at Brooklyn Fire Proof Gallery ... **2008: Daniil Deych** double-majored in physics and film studies, and has been pursuing both professionally since graduation. He teaches physics at QC, and also has a Facebook page and Kickstarter campaign going for a short film he hopes to make called *Rescue* ... **Emmy Perryman** (MLS) lives in Detroit, where she is the mastermind behind the Detroit Project (www.facebook.com/emmanuelleperryman), a unique effort to photograph and celebrate the city's people and their favorite places. Recently her photography, which can be seen online (www.dripbook.com/Emmanuelle/), has taken her to New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, and China ... **2013: Jacob Appel** (MFA) published his second novel, *The Biology of Luck*, and his first short story collection, *Scouting for the Reaper* ... **Melanie Bonich** won second place in the College Student/Professional Division of the 2013 American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music. As a winner of this competition Melanie, who graduated summa cum laude with a BA in violin performance, performed in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall on March 29.

IN MEMORIAM

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Joan Callinicos Beletsis (MLS) '74
Colin P. Bolger '78
Patrick William Dent '60
William Drakert '52
Ellen Finnegan '63
Monique Mann Freshman '60
Gloria Abramowitz Herman '56
Ellen Stauffer LiBretto (MLS) '70
Leonard I. Morgenbesser '71
Anita M. Palumbo '48
Norma S. Rees '52
Anna Ridolfo '54
Kenneth S. Ronai '43
Lisa C. Roslyn '01
Marianna Santangelo Rotondo '47
Marion Obenchain Sutter '42
Herbert Van Brink '56

Dorothy Prigotsky Vale '44
Alan G. Vorwald '47

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William Green and Leo Kraft

Two of the college's longest serving and most popular teachers, both alumni, recently passed away.

William Green '49

Professor Emeritus of English William Green passed away on November 13, 2013, at the age of 87. A dedicated member of the college community, he taught at QC for 53 years, retiring in 2010.

A specialist in Shakespeare and theatre, Bill taught courses on Shakespeare, modern British and American drama, musical theatre, and popular entertainment.

In his passion for the performing arts, Bill was the consummate New Yorker. His father, a clarinetist in the NBC Symphony under Arturo Toscanini, taught him to play. During World War II Bill was in the U.S. Navy Band and played at many public functions, including the funeral of President Franklin Roosevelt. Until recently he was performing as a clarinetist with the Queensborough Symphonic Band.

Among his activities, Bill volunteered with the Friends of the QC Library. Donations in Bill's name may be made to the Queens College Foundation and specified for the library.

Leo Kraft '45

Professor Emeritus of Music Leo Kraft passed away suddenly on April 30. A Brooklyn native, he studied composition under Karol Rathaus at QC and with Roger Sessions at Princeton. He had taught at the college since 1947, becoming a full professor and chairman; even after retirement in 1989, he remained an active friend and mentor to students and faculty. Among his professional achievements, he served as president of the American Music Center. His numerous books on music theory became instant standards, and remain so.

Kraft was a learned and prodigious composer of chamber, orchestral, piano, vocal, band, and electronic music, producing work that is both performed and recorded in the United States and abroad. On the occasion of his 90th birthday in 2012, the Center for Jewish History hosted a virtuoso concert featuring many of his compositions with Jewish themes. A beloved member of the college community, Kraft has been filmed, interviewed, and toasted in recent years by QC graduates, students, and faculty. Donations in Leo's name may be made to the Queens College Foundation and specified for the Copland School.

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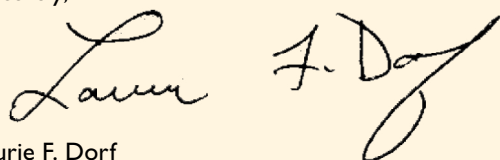
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KELLY CHAN majors in both Communication Disorders and Psychology, with hopes of pursuing a career as a Speech Language Pathologist to work with children who have Autism and Down Syndrome. Nearly seven years ago, Kelly joined the Key Club, the high school branch of Kiwanis, where she learned the meaning of selflessness through service. When she got to Queens College, she joined Circle K to continue her journey in the organization. She became its president and brought membership up from four to 46 members. After giving Circle K a presence on campus, she furthered her leadership role by becoming the Lieutenant Governor of the Brooklyn–Queens Division of Circle K, and she is currently serving as the District Governor for New York State. As a scholarship recipient, Kelly says, “The scholarship was much appreciated, and it contributed to my motivation to continue as a servant-leader as well as a professional Speech Pathologist who can one day provide the gift of communication to children.”

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Scholarship Recipient

ANTHONY LICARI is pursuing a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences with a minor in Dietetics. He aspires to be a registered dietician with his own practice. Anthony currently works as a Physical Therapy Aide. He was a performer in the Drama, Theatre & Dance Department's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. In his spare time, he volunteers helping children with disabilities. He also is a black belt in karate. Says Anthony, "Having scholarship support lessens the financial burden I have with my student loans and allows me to concentrate on my studies."



Scholarship Recipient

JULIE ITTY '13 received a degree in Neuroscience and Psychology with a minor in Chemistry. As a research assistant in Dr. Justin Storbeck's Affective Neuroscience Laboratory, she completed her honors thesis on the implications of emotion on retention and relearning. In her spare time, she enjoyed volunteering and shadowing physicians at Long Island Jewish Medical Center to learn more about the medical field. "Being a scholarship recipient has allowed me to utilize many of the resources and opportunities that Queens College has to offer. Not only have I been able to major in fields that I enjoy, but I have also been able to explore other passions related to the medical field. As an aspiring physician, I hope to have a positive impact on the lives of others and improve public health. Thank you again for your generous contribution. Your gift has made it possible for me to move closer to attaining my future goals." Julie has been accepted to and will be attending medical school on Long Island.

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JACOB SCHLUSSELBERG '13 studied Finance and Economics with a minor in Business & the Liberal Arts. He was a peer mentor in the Queens College Hillel as well as president of the Golden Key Honor Society. Jacob enjoys volunteering for Ohel, an organization for individuals with special needs. He also likes reading for the Torah scroll in his synagogue. Jacob hopes to attend business school and obtain an MBA. "Being a scholarship recipient has not only helped me financially, but it has

also been an inspiration to excel in my studies. I feel confident and encouraged that the education I am receiving will enable me to attain my future goals."

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Scholarship Recipient

ELISSA JULIA OLIVERA is pursuing a dual degree in Environmental Science and Elementary Education, with a concentration in Honors in the Math and Sciences. As a Queens Macaulay Honors College student, Elissa participates as a co-director of the Queens College Planning Committee, and serves as a member of the Geology Club, the Golden Key Honor Society, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. As a student researcher with the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences,

she has participated in a scientific research expedition and has been published in the *LIS Environmental Newsletter*. In her spare time she has completed two education internships, which gave her the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC in support of educational public media. Elissa aspires to become an elementary school principal after gaining experience as a certified grade 1–6 teacher. She attributes most of her opportunities to the scholarship she was given. “Queens College has given me more than I could ever have asked for out of my college experience. My family and I are so eternally grateful for the financial help awarded to me.”

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The Queens College community mourns the loss of all of our alumni and friends who have passed away since our last publication. Included here are several supporters of our mission who, through their generosity and spirit, have left Queens College a better place.

Elmer Beberfall

A retired attorney and longtime Flushing resident, Mr. Beberfall enjoyed auditing classes at QC. With his wife, Flora '72, and daughter, Susan '77, he established a scholarship in QC's history department for exceptional students.

Dr. Ray Finkelstein '55

An active alumnus at QC's Long Island events, Dr. Finkelstein was a chiropractor for 42 years. He was also a founder of Bikes for Freedom, which provided bicycles to the needy.

Dr. Elizabeth Keitel

Ms. Keitel had a successful career as a music professor at Yale and as a nonprofit consultant. She established a fund at QC in honor of

her late husband, Claude V. Palisca '43, and was an avid and generous supporter of the Copland School throughout her life.

Dr. Edward R. Lerner

Dr. Lerner was a music professor at QC from 1962–92, and also served as chair. His son, George, established the Edward R. Lerner Fellowship at the Copland School and the Adele Lerner Prize in Chamber Music in memory of his mother.

Elsie Holmelund Minarik '42

After studying psychology and art at QC, Ms. Minarik worked as a reporter and then a first-grade teacher on Long Island. She went on to become a success-

ful author who created the world-renowned and beloved *Little Bear* series of children's books.

Leslie Scherr '59

A retired attorney, Mr. Scherr received his JD from Columbia Law School. He was a longtime supporter of the QC library and gave his time and resources to numerous other charities. His family has started a scholarship fund in his honor to support Queens College students.

David B. Schwartz '42 and Edgar N. Gilbert '43

After World War II veterans, Mr. Schwartz was a retired social work administrator in the DC area, and Mr. Gilbert was a successful research math-

ematician who specialized in information theory.

Leo Shear '53

Mr. Shear was an active alumnus and supporter of QC, and a past member of the Queens College Foundation board. A longtime resident of Great Neck, he had a successful career as an investment executive at Prudential and Dun & Bradstreet.

Joan Rigney Sullivan '53

Ms. Sullivan recently marched at Commencement in honor of her class's 60th anniversary. A former NYC public school teacher, she was married to Robert J. Sullivan '57.

William Ungar

Mr. Ungar was a tireless supporter of QC. A Holocaust survivor who founded National Envelope Corporation in 1952, he received an honorary degree at QC's Commencement in 2005. With his late wife, Jerry '82, he established a professorship in Jewish Studies.

Dr. Henry J. Walker '51

Dr. Walker received both a BA and MA from QC, and went on to be a history professor at Hofstra and a dean at SUNY Farmingdale. His late brothers, Donald '56 and David '52, were also professors, with David teaching in the Copland School for many years.

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