



SPRING 2005

**THE MAGAZINE OF
QUEENS COLLEGE**

One Professor's Bold Experiment

Walking Toward Peace

In Unlikely Shoes

QUEENS COLLEGE IS **CUNY**



A Thoughtful Way to Honor Someone and Support Queens College Students

Celebrate a graduation, highlight a special occasion, or remember a parent or loved one with a truly unique gift: a commemorative brick. Queens College will be setting aside areas along its beautifully landscaped quadrangle, as well as in the newly designated Alumni Plaza, where your thoughtful gift will be seen daily by thousands of students, alumni and friends who visit the campus. Your contribution will also support scholarships for the next generation of Queens College students.

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One brick per form. If you would like your brick placed next to a friend's, please submit your orders together.

(Photo for illustrative purposes only; does not depict actual campus site.)



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COVER: A portion of Israel's separation barrier in the West Bank village of Abu Dis, near Jerusalem. (AP Photo/Kevin Frayer.)

PHOTOS: All photos by Nancy Bareis except Mike Ciesielski (p. 14).

MORE SCIENCE JOBS

The fall issue of Q featured the sciences and what you can do with a science degree. My experiences since leaving Queens in 1952 with a chemistry degree (and subsequently obtaining a PhD from the University of Cincinnati) add further examples. In my career I have gone from bench chemist to R&D management, to a not-for-profit organization promoting technology transfer, to recycling and energy recovery from waste, to government relations. In the latter I worked with various administrations and congresses on environmental policy, legislation, and regulation, trying to infuse some science into the deliberations. For the last 12 years or so I have been involved in international hazardous waste issues, heading industry delegations to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and a UN Convention for many years, traveling to 33 countries.

My wife, Cora Wolff Alter, who graduated from Queens in 1957 with a degree in music education, is still performing, singing with the Dixieland Jazz ensemble of the Frederick Orchestra and with Opera Bel Canto, a concert opera group in Washington, DC.

We are also both members of the curriculum advisory committee and pro bono faculty for the Institute for Learning in Retirement at Frederick Community College in Maryland. Curiosity and learning never retire. Both were instilled in us at Queens College.

Harvey and Cora Alter

WARTIME STORY

Sol Levine, my closest friend from the class of 1942 who died in 1996, was one of our alumni who achieved great things in his lifetime. He has even had an annual lecture series and a chair named after him at Harvard University, where he was a member of the University Professors Group. I would like to tell you an interesting story involving Sol, Leslie Behunek (also class of '42), and myself.

During the Second World War Sol and Les fought in General Terry Allen's Timber Wolf Division. At the end of the European war they were given a 30-day furlough after a long and tough campaign and were assigned to San Luis Obispo for additional training to ready

them for the amphibious assault on Japan. During that furlough they came to visit me in Oak Ridge, where I was employed as a senior research scientist on the Manhattan Project. They were extremely depressed at the thought of what they were in for, especially since they had just barely survived with a whole skin the European conflict.

I tried to comfort them, telling them not to worry, they would be OK. Here I was a civilian who had been stateside throughout the war telling them not to worry when I had not been through their hellish experience. You can imagine how upset they were with me. Because of security restrictions I could not disclose to them that I had learned through our grapevine that the atomic bomb test at Alamogordo was a success and that we would probably be using it soon to end the war with Japan.

What a great satisfaction it was for me when it was announced that we had dropped the bomb while Sol and Les were still visiting me in Oak Ridge. We all got pretty drunk that day. I felt a very personal satisfaction that my work with the Manhattan Project at Columbia University and Oak Ridge was perhaps instrumental in saving the lives of my two friends and classmates.

Benjamin Wiener '42

THINKERS WANTED

I thought retirement would be fun but, as it turns out, I have yet to test the waters. I ostensibly retired a couple of years ago to southern Delaware, but can't stay out of the maelstrom. I am currently writing a book on the media, am chair of the Southern Delaware Democrats, coordinator for the Progressive Democrats of Delaware, and working out the nonprofit status of a progressive think tank. We are currently looking for pro bono help for the DC-based think tank, people who can become our experts and research fellows. If interested, please send a resume to hubmaster@aol.com.

All of my inspiration came from Queens College's wonderful environment and way-above-average staff of committed teachers and guides on the highway of life. Thank you, Queens College.

Les A. Friedlieb, '59

We welcome letters about your memories of the college, what you are doing now, or even your opinion of our new design. Send them to Q Magazine, Queens College, CUNY, Kiely Hall 1307, Flushing, NY 11367.



ONCE AND FUTURE GRADS APPEAR IN CUNY ADS

"I had a wonderful education," says Susan Isaacs '65, author of ten best-selling novels, including *Compromising Positions* and the recent *Any Place I Hang My Hat*.

Isaacs, a member of the Queens College Foundation Board, is one of a number of prominent alumni featured in a new series of promotional ads for CUNY called "Investing in Futures @ City University." The ads pair outstanding current students with alumni who have provided strong financial support to their alma mater.



Susan Isaacs



Sofiya Akilova of the ads. A theater and English major, Akilova came to this country from Uzbekistan at age 7. After graduating from the Performing Arts High School, she wavered between a career in theater and one in medicine. "I realized I am more passionate about the humanities," says Akilova, who recently completed a run in the college's production of *The College Plays*. She expects to graduate in 2006 and work toward a graduate degree in theater.

"I enjoyed meeting an alum and getting some idea of what can happen to you after Queens College," she says of the recent photo-shoot.

"The college is getting fantastic students," says Isaacs, and that description certainly applies to Sofiya Akilova, a student in the Queens Honors College and Isaacs' partner in one

Lubin's Championship Season



Aline-Pascale Lubin

postseason play, only to be abruptly dropped from contention when several wins were disqualified over the question of a new player's eligibility. An investigation confirmed the player's eligibility and, just as abruptly, the Knights were back on top.

Then the team's star, NYCAC Player of the Year Anna Bondarenko, injured her ankle and the Knights fell to Dowling. A week later, with Bondarenko back, they swept Dowling in the Northeast Regional finals, moving into the Elite Eight of NCAA Division II for the second straight year. Although eliminated in the quarterfinal round, the team members, as *Newsday* noted recently, "have made a name for themselves in national volleyball circles."

For her remarkable season, Lubin, for the second consecutive year, was selected both

It was quite a season for QC women's volleyball and coach Aline-Pascale Lubin.

The defending New York Collegiate Athletic Conference champion Lady Knights were undefeated approaching

NYCAC Coach of the Year and American Volleyball Coaches Association Division II Northeast Coach of the Year.

Lubin honed her championship instincts at Newtown High School in nearby Elmhurst, where her teams won four league championships. She played for a year at QC, but a knee problem curtailed her collegiate playing career. Soon her ambitions as a player were overtaken by a desire to coach.

At a summer camp in upstate New York she met her husband, Karl Pierre. A former pro player and member of the Haitian national team, he now coaches the QC men's volleyball team.

Asked what led to the Lady Knights' last two outstanding seasons, Lubin credits "a good core of hard-working players. They had something you can't teach: wanting it. I've had stronger teams that fell short. But this team played up to its potential."

Like the borough they represent, the team is quite diverse, with players hailing from Venezuela, Kazakhstan, Jamaica, Ukraine, Serbia-Montenegro, Poland, and the West Indies. "They sometimes get cute and run plays in their own language," says Lubin. "But on the court we all speak the same language: volleyball."



Persepolis, Iran, 1935

PHOTOS FROM A BRILLIANT LIFE CUT SHORT

An exhibition of 100 photographs by Swiss photojournalist and cult figure Annemarie Schwarzenbach is on view at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum through June 2.

Celebrated abroad and the subject of films and books, Schwarzenbach (1908-1942) led a short but intense life marked by conflict, drug addiction, unhappy lesbian affairs, and prodigious talent as a photographer and author. Only recently has she become known beyond the German-speaking world. This exhibition—one of the first to present Schwarzenbach to the American public—documents her travels through Europe, the United States, and the Middle East during the 1930s. Included are photographs made by Schwarzenbach on her overland travels through Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan.



Winter Still Life

Exhibit of Still Life Paintings by Bruder at Art Center

Time and the Tabletop: Still Life Paintings, 1998–2004, an exhibition by the seminal American realist artist Harold Bruder, is on view at the Queens College Art Center through April 7. Praised as “an artist who was in the forefront of the American realist movement” and the recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Bruder has exhibited in major museums and galleries throughout the U.S., including 11 solo shows in New York City. As a professor in the college’s Art Department (1965–1995), Bruder inspired several generations of art students. Gallery hours: Mon-Thurs, 9 am to 8 pm; Fri, 9 am to 5 pm.

QUEENS STUDENT HELPS LAUNCH “CAMPAIGN FOR CUNY”



Andre Harding

When Chancellor Matthew Goldstein announced the \$2.6 billion “Campaign for the Colleges of the City University” in November, an Honors College student from Queens was on hand to put a human face on the ambitious undertaking.

In many regards, Andre Harding is the personification of those goals. He offered his experience in the Honors College as an

example of what CUNY students have done in recent years and, with proper financial support, can continue to do. A graduate of the High School of Economics and Finance in lower Manhattan, Harding recounted how he experimented with a chemistry major at Queens before switching to history, in which he’s considering earning a PhD. During his sophomore year he landed an internship with Smith-Barney and, more recently, has worked in a Bronx assemblyman’s office.

He spoke eloquently of his fellow CUNY students, some of whom juggle work, family, and other responsibilities while pursuing an education. “They’re determined and tough. These are people who take the education and training that they receive and put it to good use.”

Expected to be completed over eight years, this first universitywide campaign will encompass 19 separate campaigns keyed to the needs of each CUNY college. The university is encouraging all the colleges to expand their fund-raising efforts and will offer resources and marketing assistance.

This ambitious fund-raising goal, noted Goldstein, is made possible because of the academic renewal that has taken place at CUNY in the past decade.

Finding the Fat in America’s Eating Habits

Americans, by all accounts, are getting fatter, and Ashima Kant (Family, Nutrition & Exercise Sciences) wants to find out why.

“We don’t think our activity levels have changed a whole lot. It’s not that we are less active than we used to be,” she says in explaining the impetus for her new two-year study, *Trends in Food Consumption Patterns of Americans*, for which she has received a grant of \$154,000 from the National Institutes of Health.

Using food consumption data gleaned from a series of National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES) conducted over the last three decades, Kant hopes to gain a better understanding as to why obesity is spreading throughout our culture. “My study looks at changes in diet-related behavior from 1971 to 2002. What proportion of our calories are we consuming during the evening compared to 1971? Are we eating bigger meals? Are we eating different kinds of food? Are the foods’ nutrient densities or calorie densities different? Are the patterns in which foods are combined different? How long is our meal time? Are we consuming fewer or more meals?”

Kant is looking at a representative sample of the U.S. population “so whatever conclusions we draw we can apply nationwide.”



AWARD FOR POWDERMAKER

Powdermaker Hall, the college’s state-of-the-art classroom building, has won the hearts of more than students. The Queens Chamber of Commerce recently announced that Powdermaker finished first in its Annual Building Awards Competition. In accepting the award, President James Muyskens noted that “Because of the partnership between the State of New York Dormitory Authority and CUNY, the borough of Queens now has one of the finest classroom buildings in the nation.”

Created in the aftermath of Sept. 11, Mark Rosenblum's novel education project on the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has drawn national attention for its fundamental challenge that Jewish and Muslim students see the conflict from the other side's point of view.

Walking Toward Peace in Unlikely Shoes

By **BOB SUTER**





“On both sides there are so many attacks, there are so many incidents. I don’t really think it has a long-term effect on history. But I guess it has an emotional effect.”

—Ezra Herskovits

“When I grew up, two things were in the window of our modest little place in Park Forest,” recalls Mark Rosenblum of his childhood in Chicago’s suburbs. “We had a picture of Ben Gurion and a picture of Adlai Stevenson.”

One is remembered as a tireless champion for the creation of a Jewish homeland, the other as an advocate of reason in settling conflicts between nations. This, perhaps, tells much about why Rosenblum labors indefatigably for a cause others might consider futile: creating a bridge of understanding between Jews and Muslims in the Middle East.

Nearly three years ago, Rosenblum, a history professor and director of the college’s Michael Harrington Center for Democratic Values and Social Change, began collaborating with Jack Zevin (Secondary Education) and Michael Krasner (Political Science) on a public education project. This ultimately led to his designing and teaching a course which takes a radically different approach to exploring the conflict in the Middle East.

Debating last fall, “The Middle East and America: Clash of Civilizations or Meeting of the Minds,” includes films, readings, lectures, and guest speakers with firsthand experience in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Its most controversial element—which has garnered considerable media attention, including a feature nationally

broadcast on the CBS Evening News January 8—is its requirement that Jewish and Muslim students immerse themselves in the opposing group’s history relative to the Middle East conflict and construct a compelling “narrative” that supports the opposing viewpoint. It’s a process Rosenblum calls “walking in the other’s shoes.”

TAKING THE FIRST STEPS

It comes as no surprise to learn that in 2003 Rosenblum received a Queens College President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. A visitor to his class quickly notices that he connects with his students in a way other instructors might envy. The students are attentive and well prepared, and he has an easy rapport with them. To achieve the necessary balance for the class, Rosenblum actively solicited the six Muslim, five Jewish, and four Christian students. Also attending are an assistant principal and six teachers of world studies and history courses from Queens public high schools. They observe in hopes of learning more about the Middle East conflict and, ultimately, to find a compelling way to teach the topic to their own students.

Twelve senior auditors from the community also attend. They are mostly Jewish and include a holocaust survivor. One woman has an even more startling history: born in Germany in the 1930s, she had been a member of the Hitler Youth. The revelations of the holocaust at the war’s end jolted her into a lifetime commitment to Israel, including service in the Israeli army.

Class begins with an announcement that the course’s final guest speaker, the Middle East desk officer from the White House, will be visiting on December 19. Then it’s on to the important work of the final two classes: students reading their

narratives. This is the culmination of weeks of immersion in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Rosenblum’s constant admonishments to balance every partisan observation with a counter-argument.

Alternating between pro-Palestinian and pro-Israeli speakers, students offer detailed arguments supported by particular incidents and historical analysis—arguments they might never have imagined themselves making. Each presentation is followed by a critique from other class members with occasional prodding from Rosenblum.

In the course of his narrative, Iman Khan, a Muslim student, bravely mentions how his belief in the Palestinian cause was shaken after two members of the Israeli security forces who roamed into Ramallah were seized by Palestinians and lynched. “It was a turning point for me to see how Palestinians joined in, were happy about it; it almost seemed festive.”

In the follow-up discussion, Ezra Herskovits, a Jewish student, responds, “On both sides there are so many attacks, there are so many incidents. I don’t really think it has a long-term effect on history. But I guess it has an emotional effect.”

Time allows for a half-dozen more presentations. One Muslim student, Sadia Mohammed, has so much material to offer in support of the Israeli side she rushes to cover it all within her allotted time.

After class Gisele Adamski, one of the senior auditors, is obviously moved by what she just witnessed. “I’m pleased by how much they learned, how much they picked

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“I only saw things from my perspective. Being able to understand the other side makes you that much closer to seeing peace.”

—Sadia Mohammed



Images this page from the CBS Evening News broadcast

A legendary figure from New York's past steps forward to promote a new CUNY institute at Queens College to help preserve the city's environmental future.

NURTURING THE CITY'S nature

By **BOB SUTER**

Mention the name Theodore Kheel to many New Yorkers and they will easily identify him as the man who helped mediate many of the great labor conflicts of the last half century. But in recent years Kheel, who recently turned 90, has turned his attention to a conflict even greater than that between labor and management: the battle between Earth and its seven billion inhabitants. "In the long run," Kheel believes, "the destruction of the environment through industrial development is more serious than terrorism."

To help mediate this conflict, Kheel's foundation, Nurture New York's Nature (NNYN), is donating \$1 million to help fund a City University urban environmental institute that will be based at Queens College. The donation is made possible through the largesse of environmental artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude, who have given NNYN an exclusive, worldwide royalty-free license to use their intellectual property rights from their latest public installation, *The Gates Project for Central Park*, to raise money.

Queens is the logical place for this new institute as it is already home to the highly respected School of Earth and Environmental Sciences and the Center for the Biology of Natural Systems, founded by renowned environmentalist Barry Commoner.

"For Queens College, the Institute to Nurture New York's Nature truly is a match made in heaven," says President James Muyskens. "It builds on our resources, including our own eminent scientists, and focuses on the challenges of living in an urban environment. A lot of us living in the city hardly notice the wetlands around us, or the birds or the marshes."

Announced November 30 by CUNY

Chancellor Matthew Goldstein, the Institute to Nurture New York's Nature will promote sound management of the city's natural resources; conduct and sponsor research on such pressing topics as the region's changing climate and aquasphere (wetlands, shorelines, etc.); educate the community, including elementary and secondary school teachers, about the urban natural environment; organize conferences for specialists and the public; and work closely with policymakers, government officials, and scientists to preserve New York's natural environment. It will draw on resources from all 19 CUNY campuses.

Mediating on Nature's Behalf

Theodore Kheel has devoted much of his energy to environmental problems ever since he attended the United Nations

Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. "Fifty years ago," Kheel observes, "less than one-third of the population lived in urban areas; by 2007 more than one-half of the earth's people will be living in cities with populations of a million or more. This alliance of NNYN and CUNY's Institute to Nurture New York's Nature will improve our relationship with the city." His hope is that the CUNY program will become a model for other urban universities.

New Faculty for the New Institute

While the institute is still very much in the formative phase, with its location on campus yet to be determined and a nationwide search for a director to be held,

continued on page 13



John Waldman (left) and George Hendrey are the first faculty to be hired for the new urban environmental institute at Queens College.

QUEENS COLLEGE

SPRING FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Your guide to the best
of the arts in Queens



Clockwise from top left: Soh Daiko: Japanese Taiko Drummers, May 7; Louis Armstrong; Winter Still Life, oil, 2000-01, by Harold Bruder; LeFrak Center; Annemarie Schwarzenbach: Photographs and Writings, 1933-1940; Joyce Carol Oates





Persepolis, Iran, 1935 by Annemarie Schwarzenbach

FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 1–APRIL 7, 2005

Time and the Tabletop: Still Life Paintings by Harold Bruder, 1998–2004

Recent work by an influential American realist, Professor Emeritus of Art, Queens College, 1965–1995.

Queens College Art Center
Rosenthal Library, 6th Floor
Gallery Hours: Mon–Thurs, 9 am–8 pm;
Fri, 9 am–5 pm.

Closed weekends and holidays.

Co-sponsored by the Queens College Art Dept.

FEBRUARY 7–JUNE 2, 2005

Annemarie Schwarzenbach: Photographs and Writings, 1933–1940

Photographs by Swiss author and photographer Annemarie Schwarzenbach, whose historic images of the 1930s depict the Nazi uprising, the Great Depression in America, and her travels in Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and other Middle Eastern territories.

Godwin-Ternbach Museum
405 Klapper Hall, 4th floor

Public symposium Sat, March 19, 10 am–5 pm.

For further information and schedules call 718-997-4724. Hours: Mon–Thurs, 11 am–7 pm; Sat, 11 am–5 pm.

FEBRUARY 19–MAY 15, 2005

What's New: Recent Acquisitions from the Louis Armstrong Archives

Louis Armstrong House Museum

The Museum is located at 34-56 107th Street, Corona. Hours: Tues–Fri, 10 am–5 pm; Sat–Sun, 12 noon–5 pm.

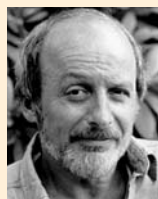
For information, call 718-478-8274.



22 TUES

Queens College Evening Readings

400th Anniversary Celebration of Don Quixote with E.L. Doctorow, Norman Rush, and James Wood, moderated by Leonard Lopate



E.L. Doctorow

E. L. DOCTOROW is the National Book Award-winning author of *The Book of Daniel*, *Ragtime*, *Billy Bathgate*, and *Sweet Land Stories*. NORMAN RUSH is the National Book Award-winning author of *Whites*, *Mating*, and *Mortals*. JAMES

WOOD is the author of *The Broken Estate* and *The Irresponsible Self*.

Music Building, 7 pm; \$15.

For ticket information, call 718-997-4646.

26 SAT

Chamber Music with Harpsichord

Raymond Erickson, harpsichord, and students of the Copland School of Music. Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, Falla concerto for six instruments, and works by Kraft, Scarlatti, and Mozart.

Flushing Town Hall, 8 pm; \$10.

For information, call 718-463-7700.

MARCH

6 SUN

Venice Baroque Orchestra

The Venice Baroque Orchestra has become an important new force in the field of period-instruments performance.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm; \$34/\$32 seniors, students, QC alumni, and staff.

For tickets or information, call 718-793-8080.



The Heath Brothers Band

12 SAT

The Heath Brothers Band featuring Jeb Patton on piano

Joining the legendary Heath Brothers—Jimmy on sax, drummer Tootie, and Percy on bass—is Jeb Patton, one of the hottest young jazz pianists on the New York scene.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 8 pm; \$22/\$20 seniors, students, QC alumni, and staff.

For tickets or information, call 718-793-8080.

15 TUES

Queens College Evening Readings

Joyce Carol Oates with Leonard Lopate

JOYCE CAROL OATES is the National Book Award-winning author of *them*, *We Were the Mulvaney*s, and *I Am No One You Know*. Ms. Oates will also be interviewed by Leonard Lopate.

Music Building, 7 pm; \$10.

For ticket information, call 718-997-4646.



Beauty and the Beast

20 SUN

Newsday Family Theatre Beauty and the Beast

American Family Theatre's award-winning production incorporates multidimensional sets, dazzling costumes, state-of-the-art sound, and original music.

Colden Auditorium, 2 pm; \$12.

For tickets or information, call 718-793-8080.

22 TUES

Queens College Evening Readings

Ian Buruma and Louis Menand
Moderated by Leonard Lopate

IAN BURUMA is the author of *Anglomani*a, *Bad Elements*, and *Occidentalism: The Idea of the West in the Minds of Its Enemies*.

LOUIS MENAND is the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Metaphysical Club* and *American Studies*.

Music Building, 7 pm; \$10.

For ticket information, call 718-997-4646.

APRIL

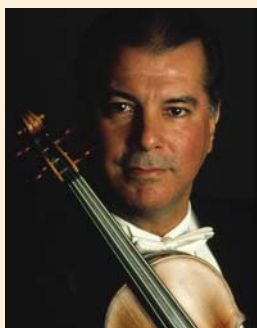
2 SAT

Tango Jazz Fusion Featuring Golden Eye Tango Dancers

Experience the sensuous rhythms of Latin jazz with renowned Flamenco dancer Mayte Vincens and her dance troupe, under the baton of noted Latin jazz performer and composer, Michael Philip Mossman.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 8 pm; \$22/\$20 seniors, students, QC alumni, and staff.

For tickets or information, call 718-793-8080.



3 SUN Elmar Oliveira, violin

With his unsurpassed combination of impeccable artistry and old-world elegance, Elmar Oliveira has taken his place as one of the most

commanding violinists of our time.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm; \$34/\$32 seniors, students, QC alumni, and staff. For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.

8-10 FRI-SUN

Musical *The Pajama Game*

Directed by Charles Repole.

Goldstein Theatre. Fri & Sat, 8 pm; Sun, 3 pm; \$17/\$14 QC students, staff, alumni, seniors, Sat; \$15/\$12 QC students, staff, alumni, seniors, Fri & Sun. For tickets, call 718-793-8080.

10 SUN

Newsday Family Theatre Russian American Kids Circus

A breathtaking spectacle performed entirely by boys and girls ages 6 to 16. Call now for the best seats to this family favorite.

Colden Auditorium, 2 pm; \$12.

For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.

APRIL 12-JULY 14, 2005

Suzanne Benton: Face & Figure – Selected Works, 1955–2005

Sculpture, multimedia works, paintings, drawings, prints and metal masks by a strikingly humanitarian, multicultural artist, and Queens College alumna (Suzanne Elkins, BA 1956). Queens College Art Center Rosenthal Library, 6th Floor Gallery Talk and Reception: Tues, April 12, 5–8 pm. Gallery Hours: Mon–Thurs, 9 am–8 pm; Fri, 9 am–5 pm. Closed weekends and holidays. After May 30, call for summer hours, 718-997-3770.



Anarkali, steel & bronze, 1994

14-17 THURS-SUN

Musical *The Pajama Game*

Directed by Charles Repole.

Goldstein Theatre. Thurs, 7 pm; Fri & Sat, 8 pm; Sun, 3 pm; \$17/\$14 QC students, staff, alumni, seniors, Sat; \$15/\$12 QC students, staff, alumni, seniors, Thurs, Fri & Sun. For tickets, call 718-793-8080.

16 SAT

Ahn Trio: *Ahn-Plugged*

Don't miss this innovative performance geared especially for families by the three Seoul sisters – Lucia on piano, Angella on violin, and Maria on cello.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm; \$12.

For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.



Ahn Trio

Ahn Trio, piano trio

The musicians continue their exploration of contemporary classical music, giving first life to pieces by composers such as Yedida, Wreede, Nyman, and Balakrishnan.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 8 pm; \$34/\$32, seniors, students, alumni, and staff.

For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.

Jazz and the Concert World

Classical works of the 20th century that reflect the influence of jazz. Featuring Michael Mossman (trumpet) and Antonio Hart (saxophone), directors, and the Copland School's Nota Bene 20th-Century Ensemble, Michael Lipsey (percussion), director.

Flushing Town Hall, 8 pm; \$10

For information, call 718-463-7700.

17 SUN

KidsClassics: Percussion

This interactive hour-long concert teaches youngsters about percussion instruments in a fun way. Recommended for children ages 5–10.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm; \$12.

Pre-concert activities begin at 2 pm.

For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.

21 THURS

Queens College Evening Readings

A Roundtable on the Art of Writing with Edward Hirsch, Richard Howard, and Adam Zagajewski

EDWARD HIRSCH is the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author of *Wild Gratitude*, *On Love*, and *Lay Back the Darkness*.

RICHARD HOWARD is the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Inner Voices: Selected Poems, 1963–2003* and *Paper Trail: Selected Prose, 1965–2003*.

ADAM ZAGAJEWSKI is the 2004 Neustadt International Prize-winning author of *Another Beauty: New & Selected Poems*, and *A Defense of Ardor: Essays*.

Music Building, 7 pm; \$10.

For information, call 718-997-4646.

MAY

1 SUN

David Finckel and Wu Han, cello and piano

Garnering superlatives from the press and public, David Finckel and Wu Han have emerged as one of the most popular cello-piano duos on the musical scene today.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm; \$34/\$32, seniors, students, alumni, and staff.

For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.



Han and Finckel

5-8 THURS-SUN

Student Choreographers' Showcase

The Performance Space, Rathaus Hall. Thurs & Fri, 8 pm; Sat, 2 pm & 8 pm; Sun, 3 pm; \$6. For tickets, call 718-997-2788.

7 SAT

Soh Daiko: Japanese Taiko Drummers

Celebrate Asian Heritage Month with Soh Daiko, whose startling and invigorating drumming also features movement and choreography.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm; \$12.

For ticket information, call 718-793-8080.



Michael Feinstein

7^{SAT}

An Evening with Michael Feinstein

An unparalleled interpreter of music legends and a captivating performer, composer, and arranger of his own original compositions. A co-presentation of Colden Center with Queens Theatre in the Park.

Colden Auditorium, 8 pm; \$38 orch., \$34 mezz./\$34, \$30 seniors, students, QC alumni, staff, QTIP Members. For tickets or information, call 718-793-8080.

12-15^{THURS-SUN}

Spring Play "For Colored Girls . . ."

By Ntozake Shange

The Little Theatre, King 115. Thurs, 7 pm; Fri, 8 pm; Sat, 2 pm & 8 pm; Sun, 3 pm; \$14/\$11 QCID, seniors, alumni. For tickets, call 718-997-2788.

14^{SAT}

The Queens College Choral Society Spring Concert

Brahms' German Requiem

Colden Auditorium, 8 pm.
For information, call 718-997-3800.

15^{SUN}

KidsClassics: Tutti

Teaches children classical music in a fun way. ClassicTalk Program Guide filled with games and puzzles is included. Recommended for children ages 5-10.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm; \$12. A preconcert party with treats begins at 2 pm. For tickets or information, call 718-793-8080.

21^{SAT}

The Copland School of Music Chamber Orchestra

Charles Neidich, conductor. Masterpieces from the Classical Era and from the recent past.

Flushing Town Hall, 8 pm; \$10.
For information, call 718-463-7700.

MAY 21-AUGUST 14, 2005

Armstrong and Africa

Louis Armstrong House Museum
The Museum is located at 34-56 107th Street, Corona. Hours: Tues-Fri, 10 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun, 12 noon-5 pm.
For information, call 718-478-8274.

This calendar is only a partial list of spring events. For complete listings, see individual department web sites or visit www.qc.cuny.edu. Programs are subject to change. Call ahead for confirmation of artists, dates, and times.

Aaron Copland School of Music

The Aaron Copland School of Music presents an exciting series of mostly free events featuring faculty, students, alumni, and distinguished guests. To receive a complete Music Calendar, send your name and address to the School of Music office (Music Building, Room 203A). For information, call 718-997-3800 or go to the Events Calendar at www.qc.cuny.edu

Colden Center for the Performing Arts

Colden Center for the Performing Arts has been offering a sophisticated range of classical music, jazz, contemporary entertainment, and children's events since 1961. Colden Center is comprised of the 2,127-seat Colden Auditorium and the 489-seat LeFrak Concert Hall, a recital hall boasting state-of-the-art acoustics and recording facilities. Both venues are available for rental year-round.

Box Office Hours: Mon, 10 am-4 pm; Wed, 12 noon-8 pm; Fri, 12-4 pm; Sat, 10 am-2 pm. Discounts are available for groups, seniors, students, and alumni. For information, to receive a season brochure, or to be placed on our email list, please call 718-793-8080, or visit www.coldencenter.org

Drama, Theatre & Dance

The Drama, Theatre & Dance Department produces four mainstage productions each season: a musical or opera (co-produced with the School of Music), a classical play, a contemporary or world premiere production, and a dance concert. These are directed by our faculty and guest artists.

For information, call the Arts Hotline at 718-997-3075.

Godwin-Ternbach Museum Klapper Hall, Room 405

The Godwin-Ternbach Museum is a professional not-for-profit art museum unique in Queens with a comprehensive permanent collection of 3,500 objects, ranging from the ancient world to the present day. Recently we have received over 500 gifts of objects from alumni and friends of the museum. To make a donation of art, please call 718-997-4724.

Hours: Mon-Thurs, 11 am-7 pm; Sat, 11 am-5 pm. For information, call 718-997-4724 or visit www.qc.cuny.edu/art/gtmus.html

Louis Armstrong House 34-56 107th Street, Corona

Louis Armstrong was an international celebrity who chose to settle with his wife in a modest house in Corona, Queens. This haven from the road is where Louis entertained friends and neighbors, and created a remarkable record of his life through his writings, collages, and home recordings. The Louis Armstrong House Museum offers hourly tours, interpretive exhibits, a gift shop, and special events in the Armstrong garden.

Hours: Tues-Fri, 10 am-5 pm; Sat & Sun, 12 noon-5 pm; closed on some holidays. Admission: adults: \$8; seniors, students, and children: \$6; group rate: \$6; current members: Free. Group tours are available. For information, call 718-478-8274, or visit www.satchmo.net

The Louis Armstrong Archives Benjamin Rosenthal Library, Room 332

The Louis Armstrong Archives is the home of Louis and Lucille Armstrong's personal belongings: 1,600 sound recordings, 650 home-recorded audio tapes in hand-decorated tape boxes, 86 scrapbooks, 5,000 photographs, 270 sets of big band parts, 120 awards and plaques, and much more.

Hours: Open by appointment. For more information, call 718-997-3670 or visit www.satchmo.net

Queens College Art Center Rosenthal Library, 6th Floor

The Queens College Art Center welcomes you to its seventeenth season in the Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library. The program features a variety of exhibitions of modern and contemporary art, presenting the works of both emerging and established artists in diverse media.

Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9 am-8 pm; Fri, 9 am-5 pm. Closed weekends and holidays. After May 30, call for summer hours. For information, please call 718-997-3770, or visit www.qc.cuny.edu/Library/art/artcenter.html

Queens College Evening Readings

Queens College Evening Readings celebrates its 29th Anniversary Season of readings and interviews with some of the greatest living writers in the world.

For information, call 718-997-4646, or visit www.qc.cuny.edu/readings. To order Season Tickets, call the Colden Center Box Office at 718-793-8080.

SAVE THE DATE! QUEENS SUMMER FEST Sunday, July 31

Enjoy a day of music, dance, and food on the Quad at Queens College. From noon to dusk. For information, call 718-544-2996

Queens College is moving ahead with the initiative. In September the college hired two scientists who will have critical roles in advancing the institute's goals.

John Waldman (Biology) spent 20 years with the Hudson River Foundation and is an expert on the environment and management of New York Harbor and the Hudson River Estuary. He is the author of *Heartbeats in the Muck*, a history of the Hudson River.

A self-described "CUNY product" who got his undergraduate education at Lehman College and his PhD at the CUNY Graduate Center, Waldman believes he was selected for this project because "I had had

this in-your-own-backyard experience with our endlessly fascinating and challenging water bodies and can bring that to the students here and help develop a research program, too."

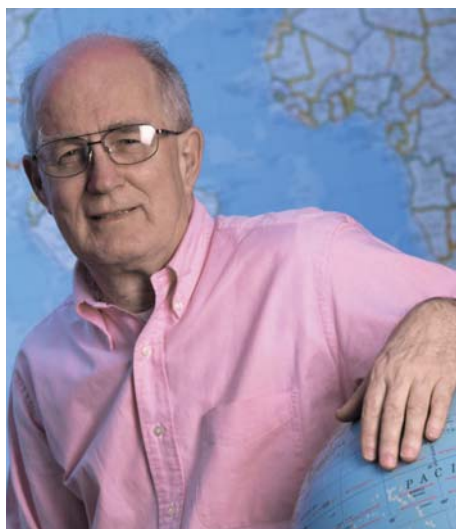
Waldman, who is teaching a graduate seminar this semester on "Urban Conservation Biology," has contact with both grass-roots and national environmental organizations. "We want to listen to all and take a rational middle-ground role," he says. "It's also up to us to become effective in tapping available funds from private foundations and government agencies."

The other new hire, George Hendrey (Earth and Environmental Sciences), was previously senior ecologist at Brookhaven

National Laboratory. His work on atmospheric contaminants led to a proposal for the Urban Atmospheric Observatory being developed in New York City, a project supported by the departments of Defense and Homeland Security.

"As the global population continues to increase, the mega-cities of the world—New York being one of them—are going to have a larger and larger environmental impact regionally and globally," says Hendrey. "I see Nurturing New York's Nature as a matter of educating New Yorkers about what they have—the environment that surrounds them and the importance of that environment." **Q**

IN MEMORIAM



David Syrett

The Queens College community was saddened by the sudden passing October 18 of Distinguished Professor of History David Syrett, who died of cardiac arrest just outside his home in Leonia, NJ. He was 65.

"Bluff" is the word history chair Frank Warren used to describe Syrett's teaching style which, he explained, *Webster's* defines as "roughly, but good-naturedly frank, unceremonious, outspoken." His students and colleagues loved him for these qualities, Warren said.

A prodigious author and researcher, Syrett attained an international reputation for his writings on the British Navy during the 18th and 20th centuries and his study of the American War of Independence. He published ten books (with four more in press) and over 80 articles. Among his most notable works are *The Royal Navy in North*

American Waters During the American Revolution and *The Defeat of the German U-Boats*, for which he analyzed some 49,000 decrypted German communications.

"A veritable dynamo in terms of scholarship," said Richard L. DiNardo of his former mentor, with whom he later co-authored *The Commissioned Sea Officers of the Royal Navy, 1775–1783*, which has become the reference work on the subject most often used in Britain. Syrett, he also noted, was the first American to have his work published by the British Navy Records Society.

Tough and demanding, Syrett was always willing to put in the time needed to get his students through orals and dissertations, said DiNardo. "Professor Syrett truly exemplified the meaning of the German term *Doktorvater* [Doctor father]."

Syrett's knowledge of the British, American, and Canadian archives in his areas of study was near legendary. "His work was original, based on archival research that enabled him to look afresh even on subjects that had been the object of considerable study," said Jon Sumida, holder of the Major General Matthew C. Horner Chair of Military Theory at the U.S. Marine Corps University in Quantico, VA. "For David Syrett, historical scholarship was both a discipline and an intelligent expression about things that matter."

In 1985 Syrett was cited in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* as one of a handful of scholars who were elevating military history "out of its exile in the history offices of the armed forces and into increasing acceptance and respectability in academic departments."

"The old military history was gunshot history," Syrett said in the article. "The new military history is looking at the social,

political, and institutional roles the military plays in our society, and at the way social, political, and economic factors influence military affairs."

"Prof. Syrett was one of the half-dozen most distinguished practitioners of military history in the United States today, and the best in naval history," said Richard Kohn, professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "His articles were model interpretative gems, always addressed to a major point in an important historiographical problem. His *Siege and Capture of Havana* gave us the precedents for 20th-century warfare that are still raising consciousness in the historical profession and the armed services; here Syrett was years ahead of the rest of us."

The son of a historian, Syrett grew up in Manhattan. A 1961 graduate of Columbia University, he received his MA there in 1964. Syrett earned his PhD from the University of London in 1966 and joined the faculty at Queens College. He also taught at the CUNY Graduate Center, and in 2000 was named distinguished professor by CUNY. He also served as John F. Morrison Professor of Military History for the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Leavenworth, KS, and visiting professor of history at Rutgers College.

Syrett is survived by his wife, Elena Frangakis-Syrett, also a history professor at the college and the Graduate Center, three sons, two grandchildren, and two brothers.

A history scholarship prize is being established in his honor. Donations may be made to the David Syrett Memorial Fund, Queens College, Office of Development, Flushing, NY 11367.

The Port Authority's Chief Engineer:

'70 FRANK Lombardi

By BOB SUTER

If you work in a tall building, it's your worst nightmare. You're traveling in an elevator when it suddenly stops between floors. It happened to Frank Lombardi '70 on February 26, 1993 in Tower One of the World Trade Center. A massive car bomb had just exploded in the basement parking garage. He and eight fellow passengers didn't know this. "Within ten minutes we began to see soot and smoky material falling from the ceiling fan opening within the car," Lombardi recalls.



Frank Lombardi with Pattie Keough, his executive assistant, at Ground Zero in February 2002.

They managed to open the elevator doors and, using keys, pocket knives, a steel cover pried from a control panel, and Lombardi's money clip, began to score a hole in the thick gypsum wall. Lombardi laughs now, recalling how the hole they created led into

a bathroom. As the group exited through the hole, they had to be careful not to step in the toilet. "We were able to get out, see what we looked like in the mirror, and walk down 58 flights. Then I was involved in the recovery and, later, the rebuilding effort."

Two years later, Lombardi capped a 24-year rise through the ranks at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey when he was named chief engineer. "Anything to do with engineering and construction," Lombardi declares, "that's my

responsibility: to make sure projects are designed, built to code and in compliance with approved engineering standards.”

The Port Authority is responsible for huge infrastructure projects that have a dramatic impact on the lives and livelihoods of millions of people, such as the recent reconstruction of JFK International Airport with its futuristic light-rail system. Lombardi directs the agency’s in-house engineering staff of 670 employees and an equivalent number of consultants. They implement the PA’s multibillion dollar capital and operating programs and ensure the safe operation of PA facilities, which include the metropolitan area’s airports, bus terminals, and seaport facilities, as well as the PATH train system and all bridges and tunnels linking New York and New Jersey.

A FUTURE FORMED IN QUEENS

The father of two grown children, Lombardi lives in Howard Beach with his wife, Christine. The recipient of many awards, he is frequently in demand as a speaker by professional groups around the country. His professional memberships include the Society of American Military Engineers, the Moles, and the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. He also serves on the board of consultants for the department of civil engineering at Manhattan College, the board of managers of the Columbia Engineering School Alumni Association, and the board of directors of the Salvatori Educational Center on the Built Environment.

By his own account, Lombardi has had a remarkable career for someone whose family emigrated from a small town near Naples, Italy, when he was only seven.

“We didn’t have the money for me to go to a school like Manhattan College or NYU,” he recalls. “And Queens offered this preliminary engineering curriculum. It was nearby and the tuition was nominal, a registration fee. The more expensive items were books, and there was a bookstore across the street where you could purchase used books and sell them back. That’s how tight things were.”

The engineering curriculum Lombardi enrolled in was a cooperative arrangement

between Queens and NYU whereby students would spend three years pursuing liberal arts at Queens and two years studying engineering at NYU. Lombardi graduated in 1970 with both a BA from Queens and a degree in civil engineering from NYU. (The program still exists, offering a 2-2 arrangement with City College and a 3-2 arrangement with Columbia University.)

His study of the liberal arts at Queens, Lombardi feels, was a perfect complement to his engineering studies. “Learning how to open up the technical mind in a broader context was very rewarding,” he notes. “The liberal arts prepared me for being a supervisor and being able to speak in front of a group of people.”

Lombardi is committed to seeing that future generations of young people, perhaps lacking in advantages as he was, have the opportunity to pursue engineering as a career path. This is reflected in his work as a member of the board of directors of the Salvatori Educational Center, a nonprofit educational center at City College dedicated to helping inner-city youth appreciate science and mathematics through hands-on study of bridges and other structures. He has also expressed an interest in making himself available to Queens College students who are considering engineering, “to have them ask me any questions associated with the field.”

A LIFE-SAVING DECISION

Inevitably, those questions touch upon the World Trade Center, prompting him to offer an anecdote about how a design decision he participated in after the ’93 bombing ultimately saved his life. It involved a renovation of the lobby of the Vista Hotel (by 9/11 it had become the Marriott), which was part of the center complex.

“We had installed 80-inch steel girders to support an enlarged entrance area. This entailed opening up a portion of the second floor so that more natural light could enter the hotel lobby,” he explains. “On 9/11 after we were hit in Tower One, we started to move down after checking all of the 72nd floor and helping a couple of people get out of an elevator. We wound up in the lobby

of the Marriott at street level.

“About a dozen PA people and firemen were walking to find a place where we could sit and talk about what we should be doing next. We didn’t know that Tower Two had also been hit earlier and was collapsing on the hotel.”

The lobby windows suddenly exploded inward. “A tremendous force of wind picked us all up and flung us in the direction we were walking. I thought: ‘This is it!’ Everything went dark. I reached down. I felt my limbs. Everything was intact.”

Eventually, he worked his way south on West Street to Battery Park: “And that’s when I looked back. Where was Two? I couldn’t understand what had happened.” He did understand what had saved his life: the redesign of the lobby. “Acting like an umbrella, the girders we had installed after the ’93 bombing were the reason the 12 of us survived.”

REBUILDING GROUND ZERO

Today, from a temporary office on Park Avenue South, Lombardi finds himself again committed to rebuilding at the World Trade Center site, but on a scale no one could have previously imagined. He was involved in the construction of the recently reopened interim PATH terminal which, when fully reconstructed, will display a wing-like motif that suggests a phoenix rising from the ashes of Ground Zero.

As he explains it, the massive undertaking that remains is still in the site-planning stages of determining how to “geometrically fix” the locations and shapes of buildings within the 16-acre site. “I’m not actively involved until the final design gets underway and we’re able to see something on paper,” he says. “We can then look at the issues of life safety and code compliance.”

But while Lombardi can speak at length in dry, technical terms of the challenges of rebuilding, he still acknowledges that, for him, having lost 84 colleagues (some were friends), it can never be a truly dispassionate exercise: “I still have skin in the game here,” he says. “There’s an emotional bond.”

Q alumni NOTES

1946: Alfred Di Lascia has been teaching philosophy at Manhattan College since 1949. He has dedicated his scholarly life to the philosophical thought and political activity of Luigi Sturzo, for whom he worked while he was a student at QC and Sturzo was in exile from fascist Italy (1944–46).

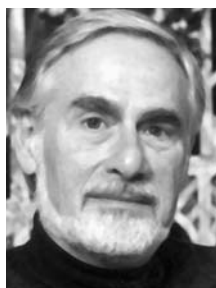


In 1971 Alfred won first prize in an international contest sponsored by the Institute Luigi Sturzo in Rome for a book he wrote on Sturzo's thought. Alfred reports that "When I first read in the *NY Times* about James Muyskens' appointment as president of QC, I immediately rejoiced and chiefly for two reasons: 1) I am an alumnus and treasure fond memories of my life-enhancing learning at the college under the inspiration of such legendary professors as John Goheen and Carl Hempel (Philosophy), Gregory Razran (Psychology), and Joseph Machlis (Music). 2) Jim was one of my colleagues and chairperson at Hunter College in the early seventies and I remember him vividly as one of the finest and most gentle and understanding colleagues imaginable" . . . **1948: John Ross**, the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at Stanford University, received the 2004 Theodore William Richards Medal for conspicuous achievement in chemistry. John has made fundamental contributions in the theoretical and experimental study of chemical kinetics in complex reaction systems. After graduating from Queens, he went to MIT, receiving his PhD in 1951. After a year as a postdoctoral fellow at Yale, he joined the chemistry faculty at Brown University. In 1966 he moved back to MIT, where he served several terms as head of the chemistry department. In 1980 he moved to Stanford University, where he remained until his retirement in 2001 . . . **1954: Jack Block** is the author of *Understanding History: Its Meaning*

and *Processes* (Research Publication, 2004), a guide to the processes of history, research, historical methods, and historiography . . . **1957:**

Barbara Federgreen Anderson recently retired as coordinator of San Francisco's city-run mental health program for transgenders. She continues to have a private practice focusing on general mental health concerns and sexual dysfunction; writes on transgender issues, and trains clinicians in these subjects. "Our children and grandchildren are distributed between Scotland and New Jersey, so travel takes up a fair amount of our leisure time," Barbara notes. "I recently attended my 50th reunion of grads from Jamaica High School and look forward to QC's 50th in '07." Classmates can reach Barbara at basu62@aol.com . . . **1958: Jean-Bernard**

Bucky is the director of the Center for Technology in the Arts and Humanities (CTAH) at Williams College, where he has been since 1974. CTAH helps faculty explore the uses of innovative technologies in their teaching and research. In addition to teaching, Jean-Bernard has directed professional theatre productions around the country, including StageWest, the Williamstown Theatre Festival, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Michigan Opera Theatre, and the San Francisco Opera. Jean-Bernard received his MS from New York University and his MFA in theatre and directing from Carnegie-Mellon University . . . **1961: Mark Willner** received a Spirit of Anne Frank Award from the Anne Frank Center USA. The award recognized his involvement with Holocaust studies at Midwood High School and Temple Emanu-El Religious School, as well as his work on *Global Studies: Volume II*, the only history textbook in the United States that features a whole chapter devoted to the Holocaust. Mark is the assistant principal at Midwood High School at Brooklyn College. He lives in Manhattan with his wife, Sheila . . . **1962: Alice**



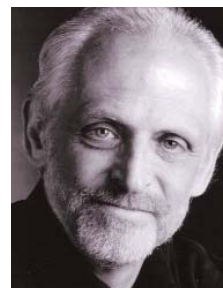
Eisenberg Mattison's fourth novel, *The Wedding of the Two-Headed Woman*, was recently published by Morrow. Alice, whose stories and essays have appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Best American Short Stories*, *The Pushcart Prize*, and elsewhere, teaches fiction in the MFA program at Bennington College in Vermont. She lives in New Haven, CT . . . **1964:** After 32 years of



teaching gym in New York City elementary schools, **Leonard Grossman** decided to try his hand at acting. Among his credits, he was an extra in the film *Pollack*, which starred Ed Harris, and was a stand-in for Mayor Ed Koch in *Marriage Guide*

for *Single Men*. Leonard, who lives in Manhattan, has also appeared in a number of films made by graduate students at Columbia and New York University . . . **1965: Michael Gottlieb** is associate director for science for the Grand Challenges in Global Health initiative at the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health. This grant-making program focuses on increasing research on diseases in the developing world. Previously Michael was at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), where he was chief of the parasitology and international programs branch. Prior to this, Michael was an associate professor in the department of immunology and infectious diseases at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. The author of more than 50 articles and book chapters, he has received the NIH Director's Award for his efforts in developing the international tropical disease research program, and twice received the Department of Health & Human Services Secretary's Award for his efforts in genomics research. A native of New York City, Michael received his PhD in biology from the CUNY Graduate Center. He lives in Owings Mills, MD, with his wife, Joan (MS Education, 1972). They have two daughters . . .

1968: William Westney, after winning the Geneva International Competition and other concert-pianist awards, and after many years of teaching and performing, has written a book: *The Perfect Wrong Note* (Amadeus Press, 2003). A synthesis of his ideas about learning, perfectionism, and healthy self-integration through music, it has been described by reviewers as "rewarding and refreshing" (*American Record Guide*). The arts section of the *New York Times* published an extensive article in 1997 on Bill's unique performance



workshops, which have been given around the world. Since 1978 he has been artist-in-residence and distinguished professor at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX. The QC music faculty, Bill notes, "taught me how to welcome challenges, formulate goals, and be accountable—I owe them a lot!" . . . **1969: Deborah**

Gewertz is the co-author (with husband Frederick Errington) of *Yali's Question: Sugar, Culture, and History* (University of Chicago Press, 2004). She is the G. Henry Whitcomb Professor of Anthropology at Amherst College in Massachu-



FRANK WARD

Let's keep IN TOUCH

Want to be informed by email of important happenings at the college? Then go to www.qc.cuny.edu/QC_Foundation/ and click on Register for Email, and complete the form.

setts. Deborah, who has done much fieldwork in Papua New Guinea as well as in Rock Creek, Montana, received her PhD in anthropology from the CUNY Graduate Center in 1977 . . .

1975: Michael Poust is retired and living in Columbia County, where the Korean War veteran now teaches rifle marksmanship to high school girls. For many years he lectured at the City University and had a practice as a psychotherapist. He holds a master's in public health from New York University and is a MENSA member. Michael would like to hear from old friends and classmates at Box 551, Manor Rock Road, Craryville, NY 12521

. . . **1979: Shoshana T. Bookson**, a senior partner in the law firm of Shandell, Blitz, Blitz & Bookson in Manhattan, was recently named president of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, only the fourth woman to hold this position. She is the daughter of former state senator Paul Bookson, who used to bring her up to Albany for the start of every session. Shoshana graduated from Cardozo Law School in 1982. She and her husband, physician Saul Stromer, have three children . . . **Frank Supovitz** is the author of *The Sports Event Management & Marketing Playbook* (Wiley & Sons). He is group VP of events and entertainment for the National Hockey League, and recently received an honorary doctor of business administration degree in sports, entertainment, and event management from Johnson & Wales University . . . **1982:**

Peter Calandra (MA '95), a composer for television and movies, recently scored a movie, *Unknown Soldier*, that won the top prize at the Los Angeles Film Festival. It also won the top prize at the Philly Film fest in the spring of 2004 . . . **1985: Daphne Gleit-Caduri**, a pediatrician in Commack, NY, is president of the Suffolk Pediatric Society. She was featured in a November article in *Newsday* concerning the shortage of meningitis vaccine . . . **1986: Beverley Sib-**



bles is senior VP and chief accounting officer of Household International, Inc. She leads all accounting activities for the company. Prior to joining the company, Beverley served as executive VP and chief financial officer for

EMC Mortgage, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bear Stearns. Prior to that, she was a partner in the financial services practice of Deloitte & Touche, LLP . . . **1989: Susan E. Canter** has been appointed general counsel of Project Renewal, Inc., an organization that runs programs to renew the lives of homeless people who are also coping with mental illness and/or addiction to drugs or alcohol. Project Renewal provides everything homeless people need to move from the streets to independent living . . .

1996: Mark Brecker and his brother Bruce must now believe that ice cream is the way to a

woman's heart. The co-founders of Max & Mina's Homemade Ice Cream and Ices, a kosher ice cream parlor in Flushing known for such flavors as lox, corn on the cob, and pizza, the brothers were named two of the nation's top 50 bachelors by *People* magazine in 2002. They became interested in ice cream after discovering some (more traditional) ice cream recipes in the attic of their grandfather, who was a chemist. Mark, who graduated with a major in Urban Studies and a minor in Business and Liberal Arts, says his ideal woman would be "willing to try garlic ice cream." The brothers have experimented with close to 600 different flavors, about 50 of which are offered at any one time. And yes, you can get chocolate and vanilla . . . **1997: Leigh Harrison** recently released her first CD of mostly original material, *Eclectic Chanteuse* (SongCrew Records), available at www.CDBaby.com. Leigh,

who hosts a monthly open mic for poets and musicians at the Back Fence in Greenwich Village, received the 2004 Vault Award as Best Female Singer-Songwriter. She has taught several poetry workshops through QC's ACE program and is the author of two volumes of poetry, *Tour de Farce* (New Spirit Press) and *Our Harps Upon the Willows* (Cross-Cultural Communications).

You can check out Leigh's music, poetry, and artwork at www.leighharrison.com . . . **2001: Javier Torres Cortes** received the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission Award for saving a five-year-old autistic boy from drowning in the East River. Javier saw Jonathan Flores floating face down and being swept along by a strong current toward a power plant. He went into the 42-degree water and swam out 20 feet, secured Jonathan, and attempted to return to the pier. Spectators threw him a life ring and then an

REVISITING QUEENS COLLEGE'S FIRST RHODES SCHOLAR



"I always intended to go to Queens College and Harvard Law School, and I never saw anything incongruous in that," says Raymond Paretzky '83.

While he accomplished the first half

of the course he had decided upon as a teenager, Robert Picken, chair of QC's Romance Languages Department, had other plans for this English major. Paretzky received a note from Picken asking him to come to his office. "I didn't know what it was about," recalls Paretzky. "I was a French minor but I never had him as a professor. He may have known of me through the student-faculty senate. Professor Picken said every few years he suggested to a student that he apply for the Rhodes Scholarship. He, himself, was a Rhodes Scholar. I really hadn't considered it. I was planning to go straight to law school. But I didn't see any harm in applying."

He did apply and he got it, becoming QC's first Rhodes Scholar. Paretzky is quick to give his alma mater much of the credit for preparing him for the rigorous Rhodes vetting process, which put him in competition with students from the country's top schools. "Being from Queens definitely set me apart. At the New York State finals, I think there were 15 of us interviewed, including four from Harvard." The group was winnowed to two: a student from Harvard and Paretzky. Paretzky prevailed.

Besides his academic accomplishments, Paretzky believes the Rhodes committee was impressed with his extracurricular activities. He was editor of the Jewish newspaper *Ha-Or* and was involved in other campus Jewish organizations. "I was vice president of the Student Association and before that a senator," he says. "It helped me with the Rhodes because it made for a very well-rounded application."

After two years at Oxford, where he studied English language and literature, Paretzky elected to go to Yale Law School instead of Harvard. Then he spent a year clerking for Douglas P. Woodlock, U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Massachusetts, before setting off on a six-month world tour.

After his travels Paretzky settled in Washington, DC, and began working for a general litigation firm. Today, he practices international trade law for McDermott, Will and Emery in DC. He and his wife, Karen Zacharia, an executive with Verizon, live in Bethesda, MD, and have two sons.

Paretzky returns to campus fairly often as his mother still lives in the area. He particularly remembers returning in 1998 when the college paid tribute to 100 of its most illustrious alumni. "There were a lot of obvious music and show business types like Paul Simon and Jerry Seinfeld and a lot of business types being honored. I think I was one of the few who made the list by virtue of what they had done while at Queens."

electrical cord that he was able to hold onto until the police came and removed him and Jonathan from the river. They were taken to the hospital, suffering from mild hypothermia, scrapes, and bruises. Jonathan and Javier both recovered . . .

2002: Last fall **Paul Branca's** work was part of the Queens International Exhibit at the Queens Museum of Art, and will be represented in group shows in Paris and Berlin this year. He cites James Saslow and Liliana Porter of the Art Department as being among the professors who most inspired him

WE REMEMBER

1942: Celso-Ramón García

1945: Theodore Bauer

1950: Javier Adrianzen

1954: Stanley Jarolem

1955: Harold Murray

1956: Gladys de Persia Wagenfeil

1960: Marilyn Teich Rosenbaum

1964: Ruth Cleary-Dolan (née Reisiger)

1966: Evelyn Zuckerman Cohen

1986: Jean Peale

Marie M. Daly '42

The college recently learned of the death of Marie M. Daly, a 1942 honors graduate who became the first African American woman to receive a PhD in chemistry. She died Oct. 28, 2003 at the age of 83.

Daly grew up in Corona, Queens, and attended Hunter College HS with the intention of going on to Hunter College. But, as she explained in a 1988 letter to QC President Shirley Strum Kenny: "By the time I graduated from Hunter High, Queens College had opened, giving me an opportunity to attend an excellent college with a smaller student body, a shorter commuting distance, and a campus!"

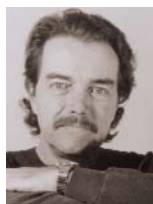
Daly obtained her MS from NYU in 1943 and her PhD in chemistry from Columbia University in 1948. She taught briefly at Howard University before joining the Rockefeller Institute as a visiting investigator. She later taught at Columbia's College of Physicians & Surgeons and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Daly was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the American Chemical Society.

In 1988 Daly contacted the college to create a scholarship to benefit black students studying physical sciences. In her letter to President Kenny she said, "I have referred to my contribution as a gift, but it may more accurately be described as a debt. . . . My days at college were shadowed by the specter of World War II and the impact it would have on my generation, but I was happy at Queens. My studies were stimulating, I was developing the basis for a satisfying career, and I made friendships that have lasted a lifetime." Her gift became the Ivan C. Daly and Helen H. Daly Scholarship.

Daly is survived by her husband, Vincent.

Jolyon Hofsted

Jolyon Hofsted, a professor of art who taught at the college for 37 years and headed the ceramics program, died of cancer on October 12. He came to New York in the early 1960s on a full Max Beckman Memorial Scholarship to the Brooklyn Museum Art School and quickly became a full-time instructor at the school, as well as director from 1969 to 1973. A believer in the restorative power of art, Hofsted set up arts programs in a number of prisons, including Riker's Island.



Hofsted's works in clay and bronze were featured in 23 one-person shows in New York, and more than 100 invitational exhibitions. His art can be found in numerous collections, including the Museum of Modern Art in Kyoto, the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York City, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Maryland Institute of Art in Baltimore. His book *Ceramics*, printed in six editions and four languages, is considered a definitive text in its field.

Jolyon Hofsted is survived by his wife of 22 years, Janet Hofsted, of Woodstock, NY; his mother, two sons, a stepson, and two grandsons.

Mervyn Meggitt

Mervyn Meggitt, distinguished professor of anthropology emeritus, died on November 13, 2004. He was born in 1924 in Warwick, Australia. Following military service with the Royal Australian Navy (1942-46), he enrolled at the University of Sydney, receiving his BA in psychology and anthropology in 1953 and his PhD in anthropology in 1960. He taught at the University of Sydney and the University of Michigan before joining Queens College in 1967, teaching here until his retirement in 1993. Meggitt served as chair of the department from 1968 to 1970 and as executive officer of the CUNY PhD program in anthropology from 1970 to 1973. He was named distinguished professor in 1980.

The author of eight books and over 40 articles, Meggitt is best known for his fieldwork among the Walbiri in Central Australia and among the Enga of the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea. His detailed description of Walbiri social organization in his book *Desert People* and his account of New Guinea warfare in *Blood Is Their Argument* have become anthropological classics.

ALUMNI NEWS

Next Alumni Trip: Normandy



The next trip for alumni, to Normandy, France, will take place this summer from July 18-26. The trip includes three meals a day, accommodations at the Grand Hotel de l'Esperance in Lisieux, and day trips to Bayeux and the Bayeux Tapestry, Monet's home and studio in Giverny, Rouen, Mount-St-Michel and the D-Day battle sites. Informative educational talks include the history and food of the region, Impressionism and the Normandy invasion. Many thanks to Dave Guskin for coordinating these trips. For further information, call Alumni Holidays 1-800-323-7373.

Donation for Books

Donate for Books is a program that allows you to help generations of students and faculty while honoring a family member, colleague, or friend. A \$50 gift to the Rosenthal Library entitles you to choose a subject area for a new book the library will purchase. The library will insert a special bookplate inside with the name of the donor and the honoree, and promptly acknowledge the gift to both. To get a Donate for Books form, visit www.qc.cuny.edu/Library/ and click on "Book Donations" under "Support the Library."

Q Magazine Updates

Check the college's Web site this May for a Web-only update of Q.

Save the Dates

Class of '55: Be part of the Golden Jubilee procession at Commencement on June 2. Watch the mail for your invitation

Homecoming will take place on October 1. Check the fall issue of Q magazine for your invitation and registration form.

Missing Alumni

We have lost touch with many of our over 100,000 alumni. In most cases they did not let us know when they moved. Addresses can be updated online by going to www.qc.cuny.edu/QC_Foundation. If you know alumni who do not hear from the college, please let us know.

Send Us Your News!

We want to hear more from graduates—especially our recent graduates. Tell us where you are and what you are doing, and enclose a photo. Be sure to let us know when you move. Mail to: Alumni News, Office of Alumni Affairs, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Boulevard, Flushing, NY 11367

Phone: 718-997-3930 Fax: 718-997-3924 Email: alumni@qc.edu

Look for us on the Web. We are always adding information about news at the college and upcoming events. And be sure to click on Entertainment Alumni Updates. You will be pleasantly surprised.

Alumni Affairs Web site: www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni_affairs

Student Government: A Model for World Leaders?

According to Zeeshan Suhail, vice president of the Student Association, he and president Elliot Schimel “spend more time working together than we spend at home. The majority of our day is not spent in classes; it’s spent in the office working with each other.”

Despite the seemingly intractable divisions that plague relations between many Muslims and Jews worldwide, that this amiable pair—who like to refer to Queens College as “the Middle East of the Northeast”—can work together and virtually live together on a daily basis without any hint of hostility is, by their account, not exactly remarkable—at least at Queens College.

Says Schimel, “Our student government has such diversity. Zeeshan is Muslim and I’m Jewish, and I am learning so much about Muslim culture and vice versa. For example, I saw Zeeshan going through Ramadan, and he saw me celebrating Chanukah.”

Even before running for office, the two decided they would give high priority to the problems of international students—regardless of origin. Schimel, who has strong ties to several Jewish groups, went to bat for all international students when he went to Albany on Lobbying Day to protest recent tuition increases that he says



Zeeshan Suhail (l) and Elliot Schimel

And it’s not just because their clubs are on the same floor or they’re students on the same campus. It’s because they have a lot of shared history.”

“You have the Catholic Newman Center, Hillel, and the Muslim Student Association all in the same ten-foot radius and right across from each other,” continues Schimel. “You can walk into Hillel and see the Jewish kids and the Muslim kids playing ping-pong with each other because they feel comfortable.”

“Sometimes I stop and think: Why would you ever put a Muslim club in front of a Jewish club?” says Suhail. “It’s pretty obvious why it works out so well. Because they play up the similarities in their backgrounds and they forget about the differences they have.”

make these students “pay almost as much as they would for private school.”

Diplomacy is something of a family affair for Suhail, whose father is a diplomat posted to the Pakistan Mission to the U.N. “If you just go to the second floor of the student union,” he observes, “all the religious clubs are housed together. Their first interaction is just bumping into each other. But it grows from there. They develop close friendships.

continued from page 7

up—what happened, what led to everything. I thought they did a wonderful job.” Referring to Iman’s narrative, she offers, “I am a holocaust survivor and I’m glad he brought it up—why they [Jews] needed a homeland. And this wasn’t a Jewish boy. I was very, very impressed.”

For his part, Iman, whose heritage is Bangladeshi, observes, “I find that the more I learn about the other side, the more I am learning about my own side.”

DECADES DEVOTED TO DIALOGUE

Since the 1980s Rosenblum has combined academic research and policy analysis with direct involvement in resolving the Middle East conflict. He attended the Madrid Peace Conference in 1991 and has monitored all subsequent peace talks. He has organized and moderated six major conferences with leaders of the PLO and Israeli national figures; hosted a roundtable discussion series, “From the Battlefield to the Negotiating Table,” on U.S. television; and founded the Israeli-Palestinian Youth Dialogue program, which brought together Palestinian and Israeli junior high and high school students.

Rosenblum has also had a long association with Peace Now, a pro-peace group founded in Israel in 1978 by former Israeli military officers. He describes them as “Machiavellian doves”—very tough and security oriented, but also very pragmatic in

their desire to reach an accommodation with the Palestinians. In his work with this group, Rosenblum became a bridge when Israel enacted a law (now defunct) that forbade direct dialogue with the PLO. “I found myself playing a facilitating role, bringing messages back and forth—not violating the Israeli law but finding those open spaces where I could bring together those in the PLO who had begun to reject violence with peace-minded Israelis.” Perhaps in recognition of this work, the *Forward* newspaper selected Rosenblum as one of the 50 most influential American Jews.

The author of scholarly and popular articles, Rosenblum has appeared as a Middle East analyst on many networks, including CNN, CBS, NBC, and National Public Radio. He has met with virtually all the major players in the region, including Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, King Abdullah II, Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, and Syrian cabinet ministers and foreign ministry officials. He had a two-hour meeting with President Bush in 2001 and met numerous times with PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat, including sessions at his largely gutted compound in Ramallah. He has also often met with Arafat’s successor, the recently elected president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas.

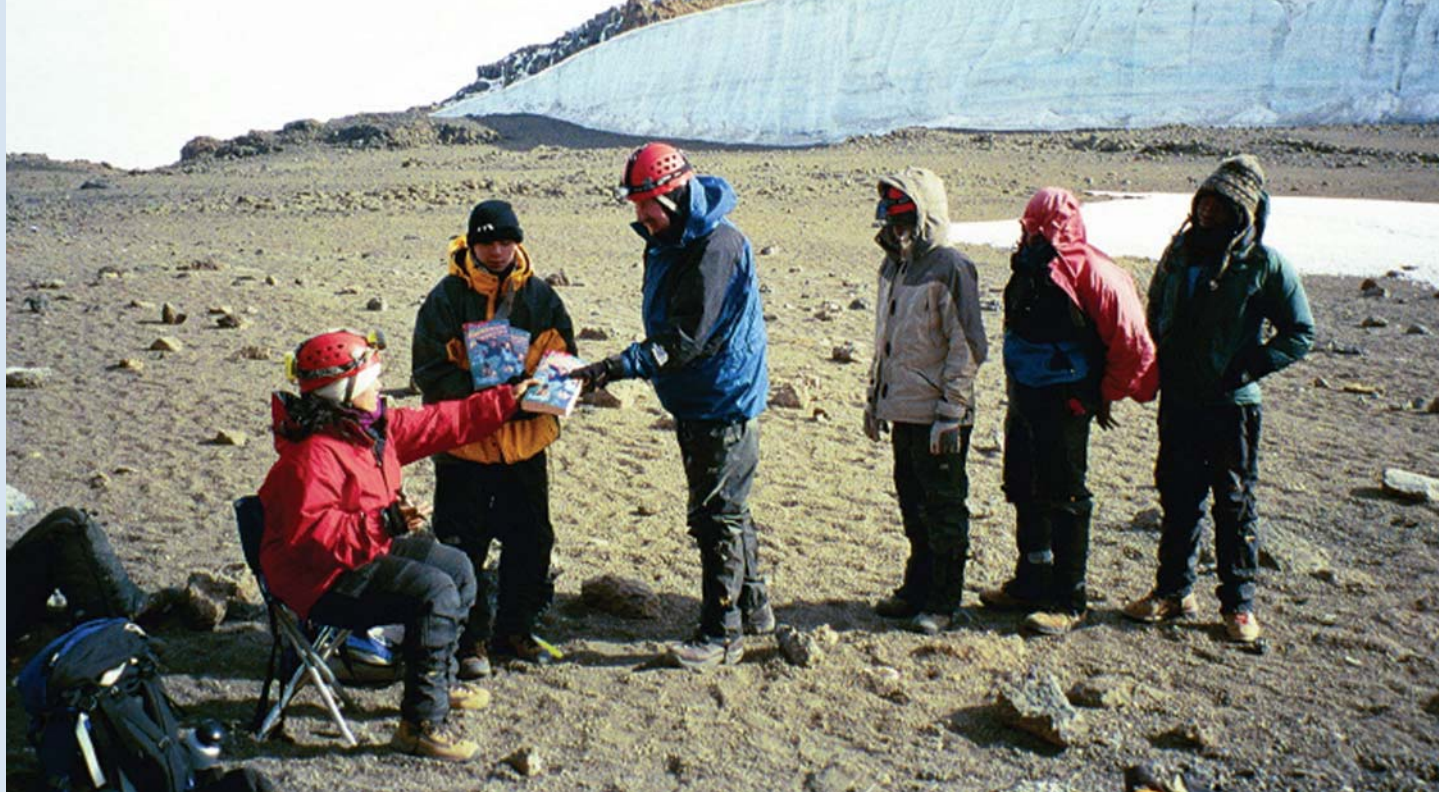
In his many years at Queens, Rosenblum has addressed the Middle East conflict in different ways, but he attributes his new, more radical approach to two pivotal incidents. The first was the collapse of the

peace negotiations initiated by President Clinton in July 2000. These ended, he recalls, “not with a whimper, but with a horrific bang of murder and mayhem as Israelis and Palestinians returned to the battlefield. It dragged on and then, bang! one year later, the second incident, September 11, 2001. The Middle East had come to visit us in a very unexpected and deadly way.”

These events, combined with increased friction between Jewish and Muslim students (“They felt they had to present a public relations campaign which presented their side as totally righteous and the other side with complete ridicule”), forced Rosenblum to think about “What do I do as an educator? How do I teach about this with an increasingly diverse student population?”

The answer, as played out in his classroom, may be viewed as a logical progression, given Rosenblum’s years of devotion to maintaining a dialogue between opposing factions, even in the face of open hostilities. Ultimately, he hopes his work at Queens becomes the foundation “for the creation of a learning community” where the lessons of his class would extend through undergraduates, senior citizens, high school teachers, and their students. Ideally, he would like to be able to bring Israeli and Palestinian high school students to serve as mentors in both his classes and others in New York City.

“The point is,” he says in a calm, deliberate tone that belies the urgency of his cause, “to bring the Middle East here in a more systematic and positive way.” **Q**



Hemingway may have written about the snows of Kilimanjaro, but it took a Queens College graduate to hold the first ever book signing on top of that famous mountain, according to the 2005 edition of *Ripley's Believe It or Not*. **Fran Capo '81**, who already holds the record for World's Fastest Talking Female at 603.32 words a minute (that's the Gettysburg Address about two-and-a-half times), held a book signing at the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro on July 10, 2004 to celebrate the publication of *Adrenaline Adventures: Dream It, Read It, Do It!* Next to the seated Fran is her son, Spencer Patterson, who has an entry of his own in *Ripley's* for World's Youngest Comic. Mother and son climbed the 19,340-foot mountain in 15-degree weather. Fran says she hopes Spencer will follow in her footsteps one more time and attend Queens College.



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