

**Celebrated Centennial**  
Eastman School looks to the next 100 years.

**Make It Memorable!**  
Rochester's annual celebration returns.

**What Makes a Great Coach?**  
Bill's offensive coordinator Brian Daboll '97 shares ideas.

# Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/FALL 2021

## Review

## Looking Back in Time

After working on NASA's latest major telescope, alumni like Lee Feinberg '87 are looking forward to images from 13.5 billion years ago.



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who you are as a musician  
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who you are as a human.

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# MELIORA

## Resilient Rochester: Meliora 2021

The Meliora letters were back on the Eastman Quad this fall (above) to welcome alumni, students, and families to the first large in-person event since the start of the pandemic. The weekend, Meliora 2021, featured the Class of 2020, whose members celebrated their long-delayed graduation in a University-wide ceremony at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre. *Photographs by J. Adam Fenster and others.*

**ON THE COVER:** Lee Feinberg '87, optical telescope element manager for NASA's next-generation James Webb Space Telescope. Photograph courtesy of NASA



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With the impending launch of NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, dozens of Rochester alumni and many faculty members who have contributed to the project are looking forward to seeing images from 13.5 billion years ago. *By Bob Marcotte*

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As the pandemic and social unrest add new stresses to the lives of students, Rochester broadens outreach and access to mental health programs and services. *By Jim Mandelaro*



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# Milestone Moments for a Bustling Campus

The celebration of the Eastman School of Music's centennial reminds us of the power of music and the pursuit of excellence as our campus looks to an energetic future.

By Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

This fall has been an eventful one at our University. We were thrilled to welcome all of our students back to campus. Last year many of our students were unable to join us in Rochester because of travel bans and visa issues. This fall many of those who were unable to join us in person last year joined us on campus along with a large first-year class. It's great to have the campus bustling, to have our sports teams competing nationally again, and to once again have live performances at the Eastman School of Music.

In October we invited the Class of 2020 back for a Meliora celebration that featured their much-belated commencement. The ceremony was held at beautiful Kodak Hall with award-winning actor Geena Davis as our speaker. The hall was filled to capacity with family and friends. That afternoon we all enjoyed time on Wilson Quad at Meliora village on an absolutely spectacular fall day.

We are very pleased this academic year also marks a true milestone in the history of the University of Rochester—100 years of the Eastman School of Music.

During our Meliora celebration, the recognition of Eastman's centennial coincided with a performance to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Garth Fagan Dance, the internationally recognized company located right here in Rochester. One of the weekend's highlights was a fabulous collaboration featuring Fagan dancers and Eastman ensembles.

Such thrilling performances remind us just how powerful music and the performing arts can be and how important they are for our sense of ourselves as human beings. As Jamal Rossi, the Joan and Martin Messinger Dean of the Eastman School of Music, noted when we kicked off Eastman's Centennial Celebration, if there was ever a time when we needed music in our lives, it is now, during the challenging period we find ourselves in.

Bringing that soul-stirring spirit to all Rochesterians was a driving impetus for the school's benefactor George Eastman. Conceived as a great project to share the power of art with the community, the Eastman School has grown to become an internationally acclaimed center



for performance excellence, academic achievement, musical entrepreneurship, and community engagement.

Among the Eastman School's earliest acts of community outreach was the Eastman Community Music School. Also founded in 1921, the school still offers music lessons, ensembles, classes, and workshops to community members of all ages and backgrounds. In recent years, more

**The Eastman School's story is an integral chapter in the larger story that defines Rochester as a University community, one in which faculty, students, staff, and friends... engage with one another to make the world better for all.**

contemporary programs have continued to enrich the community by sending student ensembles to perform in nursing homes and other nontraditional locations.

Ever the innovator, Eastman partnered with the Medical Center in 2019 to establish an outreach effort called Eastman Performing Arts Medicine. Through its four pillars of healing, caring, learning, and inspiration, the program offers medical care to performing artists and provides arts


enrichment and music therapy to patients through pioneering research.

Similarly, the Beal Institute for Film Music and Contemporary Media, named in recognition of the leadership support of the husband-wife team of Emmy-winning composer Jeff '85E and noted vocalist and University Trustee Joan Beal '84E, offers instruction and experiences in writing, producing, performing music for films, television, video games, and other new mediums.

These are wonderful examples of how members of our University community are always creating ways to be "ever better."

George Eastman wanted his music school to be deeply connected to the University, working closely with then President Rush Rhees to bring the school under the umbrella of the larger University. The inclusion of Eastman made Rochester a university in the true sense of an institution that's home to multiple schools and many perspectives and modes of inquiry. In each of our schools, people from all walks of life work together across the University to engage in the great questions and the pressing challenges of the era.

As our campus returns to in-person life, we're looking forward to sharing the history and the spirit of the Eastman School of Music. The school's story is an

integral chapter in the larger story that defines Rochester as a University community, one in which faculty, students, staff, and friends sharpen their ideas, pursue their inventiveness, and engage with one another to make the world we live in better for all. 

Contact President Mangelsdorf at [sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu](mailto:sarah.mangelsdorf@rochester.edu). Follow her on Instagram: [@urochestermangelsdorf](https://www.instagram.com/urochestermangelsdorf).



## Love for the Peace Corps

Regarding “The Toughest Job They Ever Loved” (Summer 2021).

Yup. In 1965, I joined the Peace Corps to avoid The War. Sent to a far northeast Thailand “hot spot” of communist insurgency. I was an interpreter with Thai Government/82 Airborne/Special Forces Counterinsurgency Program. In the accompanying photo, the Jeep was a Ford M151 from which, in a subsequent thrilling adventure, I was launched 100 feet into a rice paddy. Roadside witnesses described my flight as being like 007 James Bond in his Thunderball jet pack but spinning violently out of control. Underneath the Thai flag in the photo is my US Army ID. My name was read over Radio Hanoi (the closest big city) as a spy. Move along, Frodo.

*Jim Martin '65  
Rochester, New York*

Please don't forget your brothers and sisters at the Eastman School of Music who also served in the Peace Corps. I was in Group Four (1964–66) and served as a music teacher at Maburaka Secondary School for Girls in Sierra Leone, which had a conductorless choir just waiting for the right volunteer. And my one-time locker-mate, Peter Salaff '63E, the renowned violinist of the Cleveland Quartet, delayed what would be a celebrated career to volunteer in Chile.

I found so much joy and inspiration from the African adolescent girls and their willingness to learn. They showed tremendous generosity of spirit, having come to the school with very little besides themselves and a desire to better their English, complete high school, and perhaps go on to higher education.

I have kept in touch for over 55 years both by phone and sometimes in person with one of those students who went to college in the US and subsequently became a citizen here.

My Peace Corps experience was definitely one of the best of my life. It made me see what was really important—both in terms of what it means to live in a true democracy and also doing without the materialism of American life. I wasn't sure I wanted to be a teacher when I left Eastman, but by the time my tour was up in Sierra Leone, I was sure of it.

*Leigh Hamilton '64E  
Winooski, Vermont*



**PEACE CORPS: Jim Martin '65 in Thailand**

The story about the Peace Corps was a nice recollection of the service in the Peace Corps of many graduates of the U of R. I only wish the article had included mention of 1968 graduate Sandra Lee Taplin Smith among the early members of the Peace Corps noted in the introduction.

Sandy entered the Peace Corps after graduation with her husband, Fred Smith '67. After training, they were assigned to El Alto, Bolivia, about 13,000 feet above the city of La Paz. Tragically, she died there while helping with the construction of a school and instruction in sanitation and other projects.

She reportedly suffered a fatal brain injury brought on by work in the high altitude. Sandy's story is told in a virtual memorial to those who have died in service as Peace Corps Volunteers. See <https://fpcv.org/volunteers/sandra-smith>.

I had dated Sandy during my last two years at Rochester (1965–66). As an NROTC student, I was commissioned in the Marine Corps and eventually served in Vietnam.

Sandy and I would go separate ways and into different kinds of service—Sandy's every bit as honorable as those of us who put on US military uniforms in those turbulent times.

Sandy too needs to be remembered.

*Andres Vaart '66  
Reston, Virginia*

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Thank you for acknowledging the Peace Corps' 60th anniversary. The quote from the former volunteer Dillon Banerjee, regarding the diplomatic effectiveness of the Peace Corps, was captured in a quip from the Guatemala country director who swore us in.

Roughly quoted (it was over 30 years ago): "Peace Corps is the smiley pin on the lapel of US foreign policy."

Great friends, foreign and domestic, were made during my service.

*Curtis DeGasperi '83  
Seattle, Washington*

*The writer was Peace Corps volunteer from 1988 to 1990.*

I have always appreciated the articles in *Rochester Review*, including the article entitled "The Toughest Job They Ever Loved."

Unfortunately, I think there may have been an inadvertent insensitivity to racial bias. In several of the pictures, the U of R Peace Corps volunteer was identified, but it was never pointed out which individual was the volunteer. Rather than put in parentheses (far right), we are left to assume that the Caucasian individual was the U of R volunteer.

I am sure no slight was intended, but I think it is important to take extra precautions not to perpetuate inadvertent or unconscious bias.

*Scott Wimer '76  
Santa Monica, California*

### Inspiration of Stan Hattman

I was saddened to learn in the most recent issue of Stan Hattman's passing ("Those We Lost," Summer 2021). While the obituary spoke at length of Stan's scientific career, it really did not do justice to the impact that he had on the undergraduates at the University of Rochester.

Stan was a frequent presence at student events on the U of R campus. For many years, the University's catalog and brochure publications used a photo of Stan chatting with students on a basketball court. I recall that photo specifically because it was so emblematic of his interactions with undergraduates at the University.

I remember in particular that he was a strong advocate for the SUBS (Society of Undergraduate Biology Students) organization and attended many of the symposia, happy hours, and other events that we organized.

On a more personal note, Stan was my very first research mentor, and I spent

summer 1987 and my senior year working in his laboratory, studying gene expression in bacteriophage Mu.

At the time, I really was not a very good bench scientist—even by undergraduate standards—but he clearly saw potential in me that I did not. He pushed me to apply to prestigious PhD programs that I really did not expect I would be able to get into and mentored me through the admission process.

He lightheartedly encouraged me to go to MIT, his alma mater. In the end, even though I had been accepted at MIT, I chose to attend Princeton, but Stan was still unreservedly supportive of my decision.

When I visited the U of R campus some years later, I poked my head into Stan's office unannounced. Even though I had not kept in touch, he instantly recognized me and was genuinely warm and enthusiastic to see me.

Stan's mentorship of me and his dedication to the U of R's students served as an inspiration to me during my own career in academia.

*Gregory Hecht '88  
Mullica Hill, New Jersey*

*The author is a professor emeritus in the Department of Biological Sciences at Rowan University.*

### A Capitol Affair

Eastman alumni took up the challenge of identifying members of the Eastman Philharmonia who took part in a run-out tour to Washington, DC, in 1961 ("Capitol Concert," Class Notes, Summer 2021). While in DC, members of the orchestra, led by then director Howard Hanson, posed for a photo with members of Rochester's Washington delegation.

Linda Snedden-Smith '63E, who along with her husband, Bruce Smith '62, is a retired member of the Detroit Symphony, wrote to say that the photo includes only 34 of the 81 members of the orchestra. "I remember many of the Philharmonia members there," she wrote. She spotted the late Hyacinth Tlucek '64E, Marie Koscak Pooler '63E, Dick Kilmer '62E, '64E (MM), Margaret Harnish '63E, '64E (MM), the late Byron Hanson '63E, '65E (MM), Larry Campbell '62E, the late Norm Schweikert '61E, Janice Musgrove '63E.

Laurence Gibson '63E, '64E (MM) wrote to say he didn't make the trip, but he put names to faces for many of his classmates who did:

"Top row from left: John Landis '62E, John Hamilton '61E, '63E (MM), Byron



**HANSON GROUP:** Eastman alumni helped identify some of the members of the Eastman Philharmonia in a 1961 photo, taken when the orchestra, led by then school director Howard Hanson, posed on the steps of the Capitol.

Hanson '63E, '65E (MM), David Cowley '63E, Carter Enyeart '64E, Monte Hoffman '64E. Skip over the next three, then Richard Kilmer '61E, '64E (MM). Second from right is staffer Bob Sattler.

"Middle row, to right of Senator Kenneth Keating is Barbara Haffner '63E.

"Bottom row, second from left is Mary Greer '61E, '63E (MM), fourth is Sandra Flesher '60E, '66E (MM), and far right is Hyacinth Tlucek '64E."

"Keep the print coming," Laurence writes.

### Which Hall of Fame?

In a short biography of Jeremy Glick '93, one of the Rochester alumni who died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, we should have made clear that Glick was inducted into a Jewish Sports Hall of Fame administered by Jewish communities in the Rochester metropolitan area. The hall is not maintained by the University. For more information, visit [Rjs-hof.com](http://Rjs-hof.com).

—Scott Hauser

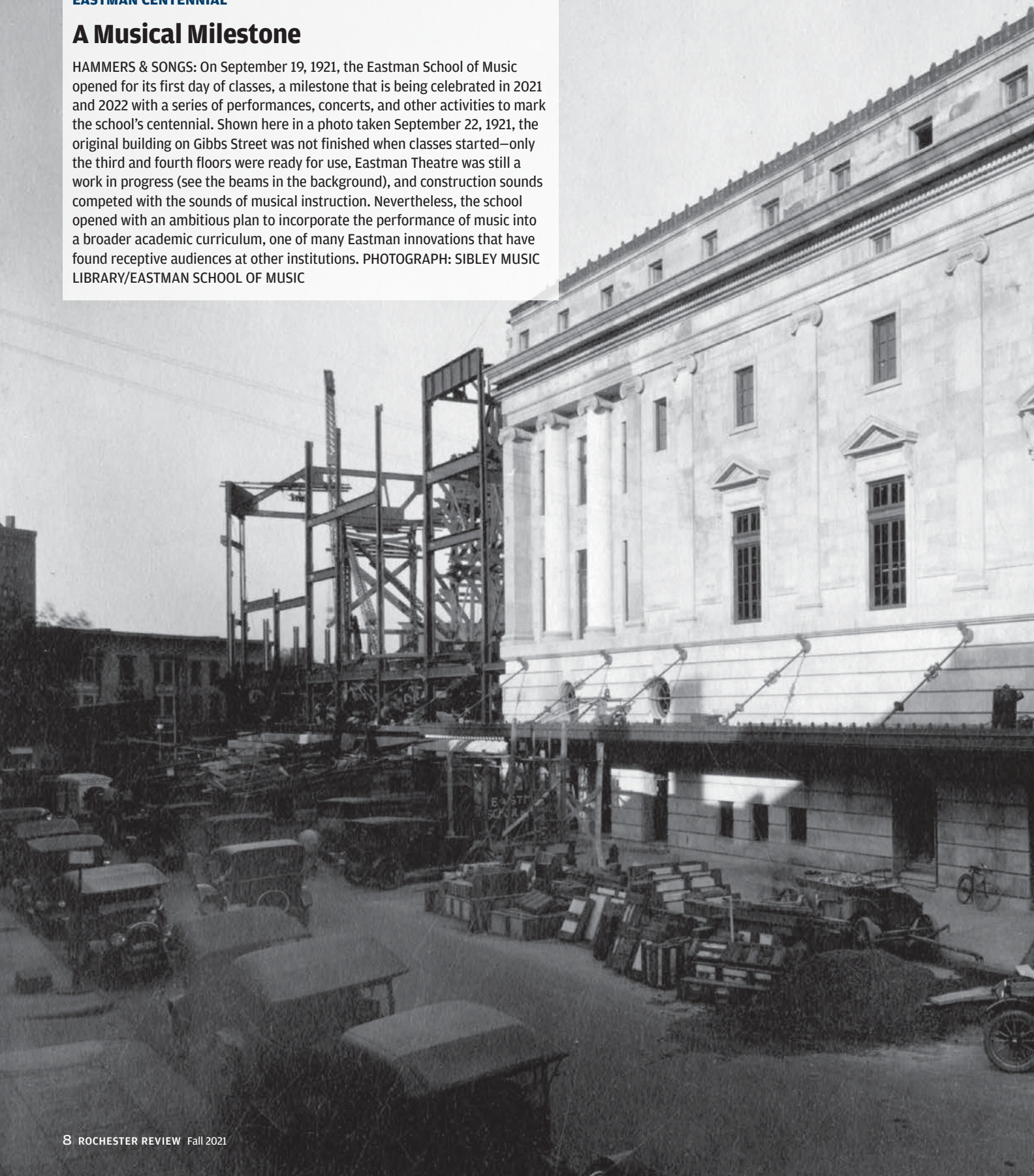
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## EASTMAN CENTENNIAL

### A Musical Milestone

**HAMMERS & SONGS:** On September 19, 1921, the Eastman School of Music opened for its first day of classes, a milestone that is being celebrated in 2021 and 2022 with a series of performances, concerts, and other activities to mark the school's centennial. Shown here in a photo taken September 22, 1921, the original building on Gibbs Street was not finished when classes started—only the third and fourth floors were ready for use, Eastman Theatre was still a work in progress (see the beams in the background), and construction sounds competed with the sounds of musical instruction. Nevertheless, the school opened with an ambitious plan to incorporate the performance of music into a broader academic curriculum, one of many Eastman innovations that have found receptive audiences at other institutions. PHOTOGRAPH: SIBLEY MUSIC LIBRARY/EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC









## Problem Sets

OPTICAL ALLUSION: A note card from the collection of optical scientist Rudolf Kingslake poses a question that the founding faculty member of the Institute of Optics had prepared for exams. Active in the institute for more than seven decades, Kingslake left the full-time faculty in 1937 to join Eastman Kodak, where he became internationally known for his work on the design of lenses and other optical research. He continued to teach part time at the institute, where his classes attracted students such as Nobelist Donna Strickland '89 (PhD). The cards are part of a collection that Kingslake kept on exam questions and design ideas. Kingslake died in 2003, just days after his wife, Hilda, who was a prominent figure in her own right in the optics community.

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER

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the primary spherical aberration  
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$$G_1 = \frac{1}{2} n^2 (n-1); \quad G_2 = \frac{1}{2} (2n+1)(n-1); \quad G_3$$

$$G_4 = \frac{(n+2)(n-1)}{2n};$$



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 ation of a thin lens,  
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$$- G_5 c c_1 r_1 + G_6 c r_1^2]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (3n+1)(n-1);$$

$$G_5 = 2(n^2-1)/n; \quad G_6 = (3n+2)(n-1)/2n$$

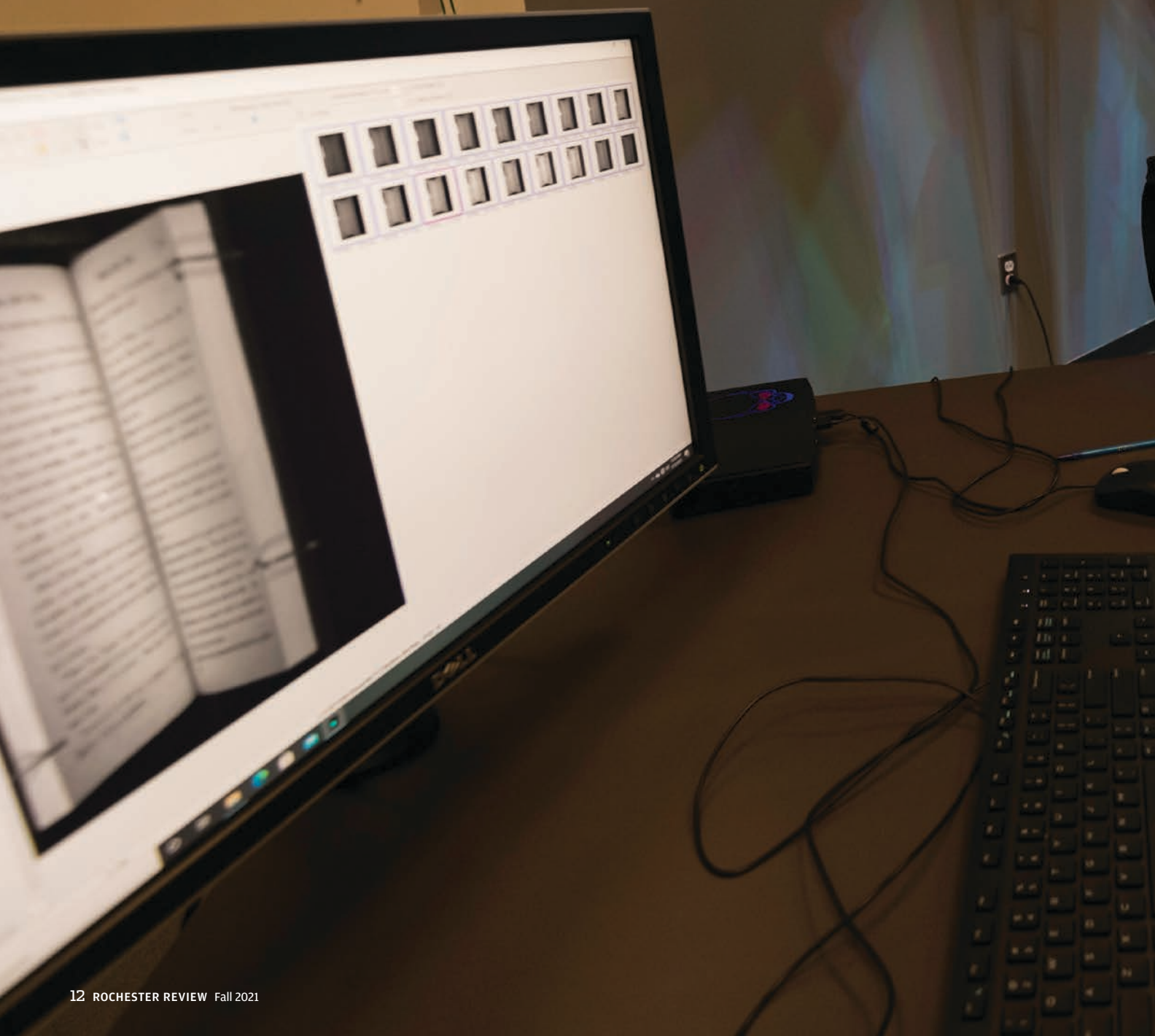


## DIGITAL HUMANITIES

# Thirty Degrees or Less

NOVEL IMAGING: Led by Gregory Heyworth, an associate professor of English and textual science, a team from the Lazarus Project tests an unprecedented imaging system on a dime novel in Ronald Rettner Hall. Heyworth, imaging scientists Ken Boydston and Keith Knox '70, '75 (PhD), and project manager Dale Stewart '70 have developed a method that uses a combination of imaging processes to capture legible digital images of manuscripts and similarly rare and fragile books without opening the items more than 30 degrees. The dime novel is one of more than 10,000 in a collection held by the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation. Because of the cheap paper the books were printed on, most would be destroyed if opened for reading.

PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER









# Ask the Archivist: What's the Story Behind Political Science's Cutler Lectures?

*A question for Melissa Mead, the John M. and Barbara Keil University Archivist and Rochester Collections Librarian.*

**As we mark the centenary of the Cutler Lectures, which are hosted by the political science department, we were wondering if you had information on the series. Who endowed the lectures? Who have some of the distinguished lecturers been? We'd be grateful for any background you could discover and share.**  
—Gerald Gamm, professor of political science and of history

In addition to his eponymous lecture series, the name of former Rochester mayor and architect James Goold Cutler (1848–1927) is perhaps most frequently associated at the University with Cutler Union, now part of the Memorial Art Gallery complex. Beyond Rochester, it is the Cutler mail chute—his invention to easily route letters in multistory buildings—that is most familiar.

Cutler's correspondence with President Rush Rhees reveals a strong personality with strongly held opinions. An April 3, 1920, letter in the University Archives from Cutler to Rhees proposes:

*It appears to me that the most useful contribution which I can make to promote the making of democracy safe for the world (to invert Mr. Wilson's aphorism) is to found in the University of Rochester, a course of lectures, designed to promote serious consideration, and consideration by as many people as possible, of certain points fundamental, and therefore, vital, to the permanence of constitutional government in the United States.*

Despite his reference to Woodrow Wilson, Cutler was not a great fan, noting, "I think the choice should fall upon a man who stands

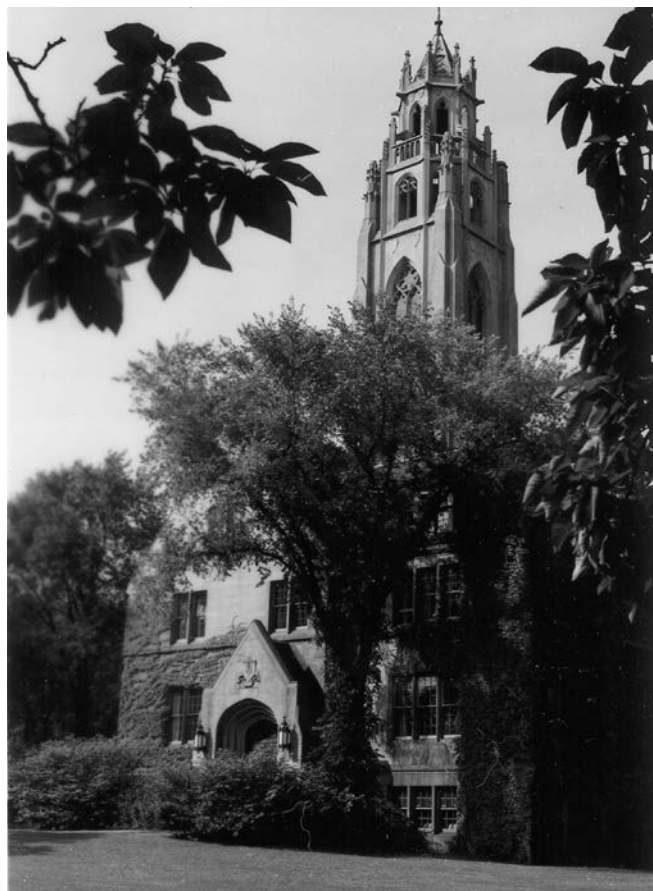
actively before the public as a loyal American citizen, sound on Constitutional government and not tainted in any way with Mr. Wilson's nebulous idealism."

Taking as his model the Stafford Little Lectures established at Princeton University in 1908 and launched by former President Grover Cleveland, Cutler wanted "to secure a man of commanding position, as the first lecturer, who will strike our keynote at the outset."

Rhees and Cutler exchanged the names of several possible speakers, including financier Otto Kahn and former US ambassador to Germany David Jayne Hill. Hill's status as Rhees's predecessor at Rochester was considered a disadvantage by Cutler, who felt that a "man less prominently associated with the University would be preferable."

The first speaker held two of the most commanding positions possible: William Howard Taft completed his only term as president of the United States in 1913 and was named chief justice of the US Supreme Court three months after delivering the inaugural Cutler Lecture on April 2, 1921.


While many early lectures were delivered by jurists and legislators—Hill would speak in 1926—it became more common to invite academics in later years.



**A MAN, A PLAN, A MORE PERFECT UNION:** Known as the namesakes for Cutler Union (above)—now part of the Memorial Art Gallery—James (inset) and Anna Cutler also provided support to establish a lecture series that celebrated its 100th anniversary this year and to create a scholarship for women students.

Exceptions were Heinrich Brüning, former chancellor of Germany (1938), and Mitchell Sharpe, finance minister of Canada (1966). The lecture fund has also supported conferences in honor of Rochester professors Richard Fenno (1997), Richard Niemi (2007), and Bingham Powell (2010).

Cutler and his wife, Anna, were strong supporters of women's education, and their legacy gift of \$2.6 million was used to establish the Anna G. Cutler Scholarship and to fund construction of the Cutler Union for the College for Women on the Prince Street Campus.

Though delayed a year by the pandemic, it was fitting that the 2021 speaker was Christina Wolbrecht, professor of political science and director of the Rooney Center for the Study of American Democracy at the University of Notre Dame, lecturing on "A Century of Votes for Women." 



For a list of past Cutler Lecture speakers and more Cutler history, visit <https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ATA-Fall2021>.



**Christin Napierkowski**  
Salem, Massachusetts



**Moez Boussarsar**  
Sousse, Tunisia



**Ana Maritsas**  
Kingston, New York



**Josh Jones**  
Dix Hills, New York



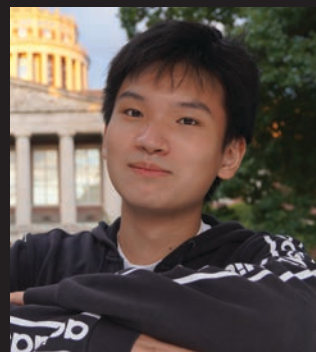
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**Janiah Piper**  
Washington, DC



**Abdi Osman**  
Seattle, Washington



**Natalie Kocsis**  
White Lake, Michigan

**CLASS OF 2025**

# Big Class on Campus

The College and the Eastman School welcome this year's first-year students.

A record 1,509 first-year students make up the College's Class of 2025.

The members of the class come from 50 countries and 40 states, the District of Columbia, and several territories.

"I'm astounded by the resilience these students have demonstrated in finding opportunities to grow and help others amidst a global pandemic," says Robert Alexander, dean of undergraduate admissions, financial aid, and enrollment management for Arts, Sciences & Engineering.

At the Eastman School of Music, the Class of 2025 includes 130 students from 26 states and seven countries.

Students from both the College and Eastman introduced themselves this summer on an Instagram account—see sample photos above—created by Maveline Nguyen '25 from Hanoi, Vietnam. Nguyen says she started the page because it helped "incoming students connect with each other on one of the most popular social media platforms with teenagers and young adults." **R**

—JIM MANDELARO



# Health Effects of Redlining Endure for Decades

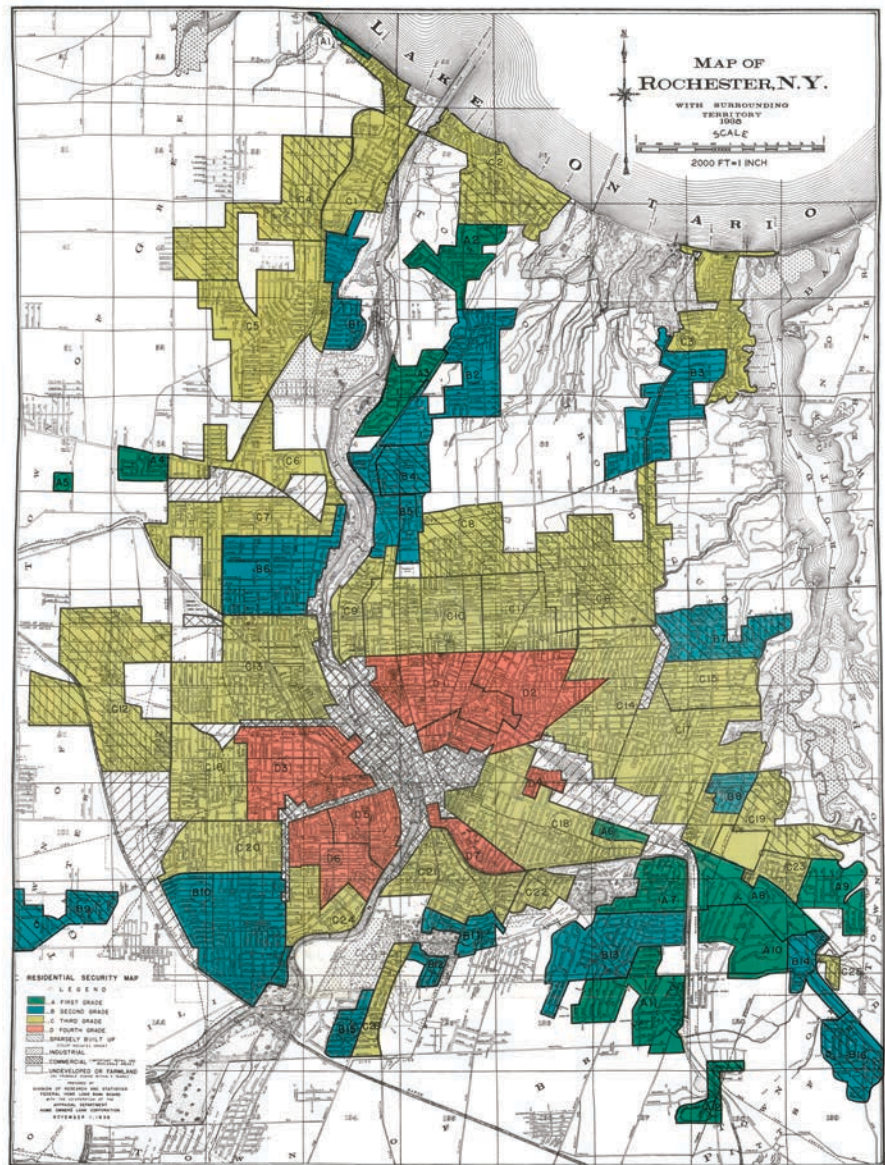
Housing policies established more than eight decades ago that effectively trapped people of color in low-income and segregated neighborhoods continue to have an impact on the health of residents. That's the conclusion of a study in the journal *JAMA Open Network* by Rochester researchers in obstetrics and gynecology and public health sciences.

“These findings suggest the potential influences of a system of profound structural inequity that ripple forward in time, with impacts that extend beyond measurable socioeconomic inequality,” says coauthor Elaine Hill, an economist in the Department of Public Health Sciences and leader of the Health and Environmental Economics Lab. “In our study population of a single midsized US city, historic redlining was associated with worse outcomes in pregnancy and childbirth experienced by Black women in the modern day.”

In the 1930s, the federal government created the Home Owners' Loan Corporation to rescue families about to default and to expand homeownership among the working and middle classes. Enlisting local real estate agents to assess risk, the corporation created thousands of color-coded maps of metropolitan areas, signifying risky areas in red. The presence of African Americans automatically earned a red designation—hence the term “redlining.” The maps were later adopted by the Federal Housing Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs to delineate areas where mortgages could be insured.

The redlining policies, which remained in effect until the 1960s, led to decades of community disinvestment, concentrated poverty, and denied residents the ability to build intergenerational wealth through home ownership. The health impacts of redlining have long been suspected, but the digitization of the original maps by the University of Richmond Mapping Inequality project has enabled researchers to examine more precisely the physical toll taken by such practices.

The Medical Center group—Hill along with Stephanie Hollenbach, Lorelei Thornburg, and Christopher Glantz of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology—focused on obstetric outcomes, using a New York State database of live births from 2005 to 2018. The team identified preterm births (less than 37 weeks) by zip code; demographic characteristics of individuals, including race; and community survey data from the US Census Bureau on income, poverty, and educational attainment.



**HAZARDOUS POLICIES:** Maps from a 1930s federal housing program show the origins of redlining—the demarcation of areas with Black residents as “hazardous” for the purpose of home loans.

Preterm births are associated with a range of outcomes, including a higher risk of developmental disorders as well as sudden infant death syndrome. Of the nearly 200,000 births during the period, preterm births occurred at a rate of 12.38 percent in so-called “hazardous” zip codes compared to 7.55 percent in areas labeled “best” or “still desirable.”

Women who lived in “hazardous” areas were at higher risk for maternal complications, including admission to a neonatal intensive care unit.

Coauthor Hollenbach says the study offers further evidence that a legacy of structural racism results in a disproportional burden of adverse pregnancy outcomes on Black women in the US.

“The fact that racially discriminatory home lending patterns from the 1940s are associated with contemporary preterm birth rates can inform us that the legacy of government-sanctioned discrimination persists to this day.”

—Mark Michaud



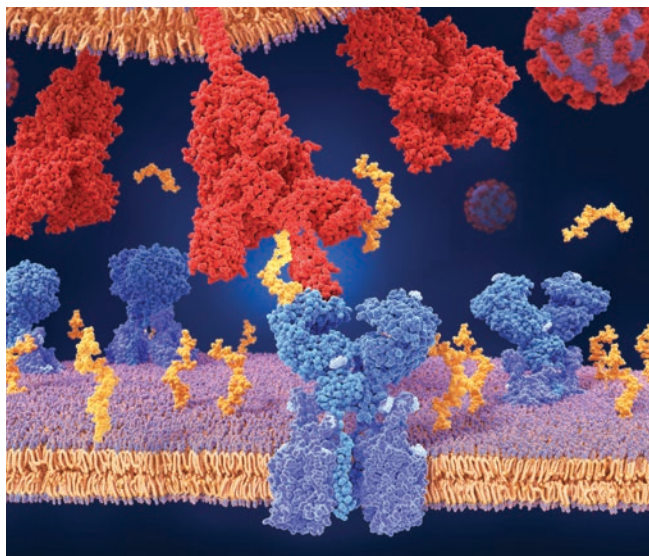
## Clues to Why COVID-19 Symptoms May Vary

COVID-19 is known to trigger a wide range of symptoms in people who have been infected, some lasting even long after individuals test negative for the virus. Yet the mechanisms by which COVID-19 causes such diverse complications remain poorly understood.

Seeking to understand the mechanisms, John (Jack) Werren, the Nathaniel and Helen Wisch Professor of Biology, along with Austin Varela '20 and Sammy Cheng '21, studied proteins that closely evolve with Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2), the receptor used by the SARS-CoV-2 virus to enter human cells.

In a paper published in the journal *PeerJ*, Werren and the team identified a number of candidate “protein partners” for ACE2 that have not previously been known as ACE2 interactors, but which could have direct bearing on the complications experienced by people infected with the virus.

For example, one hallmark of severe COVID-19 is abnormal blood coagulation throughout the body. The team found



**PROTEIN PARTNERS:** The receptor (blue) to which the coronavirus protein (red) binds may coevolve with other key proteins.

connections between ACE2 and key proteins involved in the coagulation pathway. Another protein, Clusterin, which plays a significant role in “quality control” in the blood, strongly coevolves with ACE2—implying that they interact with each other biologically.

“We propose that ACE2 has novel protein interactions that are disrupted during SARS-CoV-2

infection, contributing to the spectrum of COVID-19 pathologies,” Werren says.

“These candidate protein interactions will need to be validated,” he adds. “But if supported, our findings could inform development of better treatments and therapeutics for COVID-19 and chronic complications that may arise.”

—Lindsey Valich

## Bad Stress, Good Stress

Sweaty palms during a job interview. Stomach pains ahead of a final exam. Many people have experienced a classic stress response in new, unusual, or high-pressure circumstances.

But what if you could treat your stress response as a tool rather than an obstacle? Jeremy Jamieson, an associate professor of psychology and the principal investigator at the University’s Social Stress Lab, has trained adolescents and young adults at a community college to do just that.

“We use a type of ‘saying is believing’ approach whereby participants learn about the adaptive benefits of stress, and they are prompted to write about how it can help them achieve,” says Jamieson.

In the study, published in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, the team found that in addition to reducing anxiety, the “good stress” mind-set reset helped students score higher on tests, procrastinate less, stay enrolled in classes, and respond to academic challenges in a healthier way.

—Sandra Knispel

## Turning the Tide in Study of Ocean Currents

Ocean currents, propelled by kinetic energy from the wind, are the great moderators of Earth’s climate. By transferring heat from the equator to polar regions, the currents help make our planet habitable. And yet, the large-scale models used by scientists to study the complex system fail to accurately account for the impact of wind on the ocean’s most energetic components: swirling, mesoscale eddies.

In a paper in *Science Advances*, Hussein Aluie, associate professor of mechanical engineering, lead author Shikhar Rai, a PhD student in Aluie’s research group, and collaborators at Los Alamos National Laboratory describe how the wind, which propels larger currents, has the opposite effect on

eddies less than 260 kilometers in size. The result is a phenomenon called “eddy killing.”

The team applied a modeling approach called coarse graining—a method of simplification often used to simulate complex systems—to satellite imagery. Coarse-grained models provide a more detailed spatial analysis than is possible with methods used by most oceanographers, which concentrate on temporal fluctuations. Those methods either fail to account for the impact of eddy killing or provide wildly varying estimates.

“On the one hand the wind is making the ocean move, and yet it is killing the part of it that is the most energetic,” Aluie says.

The researchers hope that

the method will be adapted by oceanographers to further explore other factors that may influence eddy killing, and the role such eddies play in other

aspects of the oceans’ circulation, heat flow, salt concentrations, and up-welling of nutrients and marine organisms.

—Bob Marcotte



**EDDY KILLING?** Swirling ocean currents, or eddies, moderate climate.



ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST


# ‘Meet at the Rainbow’

A second phase of MAG’s Centennial Sculpture Park is one of several new campus projects.

A monumental 42-x-16 1/2-foot colorful metal rainbow will soon grace the lawn outside the Memorial Art Gallery. The work by noted Mexican artist Pia Camil, entitled *Lover’s Rainbow*, is just one of the pieces that will help anchor a second phase of the museum’s Centennial Sculpture Park.

The museum broke ground this fall on the project, work that will extend the park west to Prince Street and serve as a welcoming entrance to the museum from the School of the Arts (SOTA), part of the Rochester City School District. Artist Rashid Johnson, a key figure in the recent re-emergence of abstraction, was inspired by the Black and Brown students of SOTA and designed an elegantly curved sculpture as a physical and symbolic gateway inviting the larger community into the museum. Intended to create a community gathering space, the interior of the curve features nongendered, nonracialized faces, representing all people.

As with the original park, which opened in 2013, curators hope the second phase will offer the community iconic landmarks, the kind that prompt people to say “Let’s meet at MAG’s rainbow.”

The park is one of several campus projects that debuted this year. Others include the Sloan Performing Arts Center on the River Campus, providing needed space for theater, music, and dance programs; a space in Carlson Library for exploring extended reality (XR) technologies; and a revamped Gleason Library in Rush Rhees Library. 

**LATEST LIBRARIES:** With the opening of Studio X (below, right) in the Carlson Science and Engineering Library, students and faculty have a new space to explore immersive technologies. At Rush Rhees Library, Gleason Library (below) reopened after a renovation.





**SCULPTED BEAUTY:** Ground was broken this fall on a project to extend the Memorial Art Gallery's Centennial Sculpture Park. A rendering shows details of the project, including new works by Pia Camil (the rainbow in the background) and Rashid Johnson (the curved sculpture in the foreground). The second phase will extend the park to the west of the original museum building toward Prince Street and the Rochester City School District's School of the Arts.



**PERFORMING ARTS:** The opening of the Sloan Performing Arts Center this fall marks a new era for theater, music, and dance programs on the River Campus.





**CLASS CHARACTERS:** “One of the reasons why I love this class is that it draws an eclectic mix of students. You have a mathematician sitting next to a computer scientist, next to a Japanese studies student, next to a creative writer who wants to become an author of science fiction,” Bridges says.



#### COURSEWORK

## A Peek into JPNS 245: Japanese Science Fiction and Planetary Possible Futures

This fall students in JPNS 245: Japanese Science Fiction and Planetary Possible Futures are engaging with a variety of media—short stories, novels, films, manga, and anime—in an exploration of “the far-flung possible worlds imagined in Japanese science fiction.”

Taught by Will Bridges, an associate professor of Japanese, it has attracted students across disciplines. The course and all its materials are in English, and while its “home” is in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, it doubles as a course in the film and media studies program.

Japanese popular culture in general has broad appeal among students in the age bracket that makes up the overwhelming majority of Rochester undergraduates. Forms such as anime and manga have been wildly popular in the United States since at least the time Bridges was a high school student in Austin, Texas, in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

Bridges traces his interest in Japan back to his elementary school days, when a project piqued his interest in the nation’s recovery after

World War II. As a college student at the University of Texas, he took a class with Susan Napier (now at Tufts), one of the first scholars of Japanese literature to recognize “that we should consider anime and manga as objects of inquiry just as rich and deserving of study as any work of literature,” he says. Hooked on the field of Japanese literature and culture, Bridges decided to continue his studies in a doctoral program at Princeton.

There are benefits to teaching popular subject matter beyond the numbers of students who enroll.

“One of the reasons why I love this class is that it draws such an eclectic mix of students,” he says. “You have a mathematician sitting next to a computer scientist, next to a Japanese studies student, next to a creative writer who wants to become an author of science fiction.”

That can make for rich class discussions. “Some students will be very familiar with some of the scientific underpinnings of a given story, where there’s another student who will be more familiar with thinking

through literary analysis, another will know Japanese cultural history,” he says.

Science fiction is of particular interest to Bridges. It took off following World War II in many cultures, but especially in Japan. While Bridges includes precursors to post-World War II science fiction, the bulk of the course begins after the war, which, he says, “requires us to think about Japan’s place in the postwar world and how it’s envisioning its place in that world.”

Science fiction also speaks to Bridges’s interest in “imagined futures” more broadly. He has even proposed a new minor called

“imagination and forethought,” under consideration by the College Curriculum Committee as of late October.

“Science fiction is fundamentally interested in imagining possibilities and possible futures,” he says. In doing so, “it almost forces us to wrestle with which of these futures are preferable and which ones are undesirable—which, in turn, pushes us to think about the humanities as a field of study that not only helps us know things about the past and the present, but also gives us ways of thinking about possible futures.”

—Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

## ON THE SYLLABUS

### Japanese Science Fiction and Planetary Possible Futures

Fall 2021

William (Will) Bridges

Associate Professor of Japanese, Department of Modern Languages and Cultures

#### Astro Boy by Osamu Tezuka

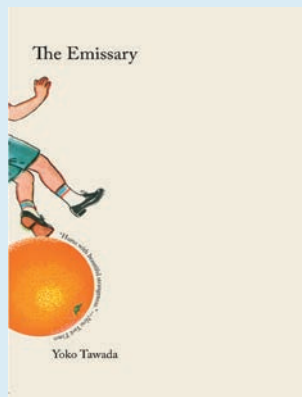
The Astro Boy series is an anime classic in which a scientist builds a robot to replace his son, who has been killed in a car accident. Dissatisfied, he discards Astro Boy, who is then adopted and raised by a loving father. Astro Boy shows that “being human is not about which parts you have; it’s about living up to a set of ideals,” says Bridges. “One thing the author is interested in is the creation of a global community—in which the Japanese, if they live up to a certain set of ideals, can be accepted as members of this global community, even if their ‘parts’ look different than some of the parts of the folks of other nations.”



The class focuses on the third volume of the series, in which a villain creates what he believes is the strongest robot in the world and attempts to destroy robots of other nations. He finds he needs Astro Boy, who shows him the need to be loving and kind. Says Bridges: “It’s almost impossible to read this work of Japanese science fiction without thinking, why is it that Japan is trying to serve as a kind of model for pacifism for the rest of the globe?”

#### The Emissary, by Tawada Yoko

The novel by Yoko, the final work in the course, is what Bridges calls a “bittersweet dystopia” written in the wake of the March 2011 earthquake and Fukushima nuclear plant disaster. A contamination of Earth leads to a mysterious mutation causing children to be born ill and at risk of death, while the elderly begin to grow stronger as they age. “Yoko has set up a literary world in which the older generations have to see the damage they



have done and what it does to the future generations,” Bridges says. “I leave students with this text because that is what I hope the course will do, and what science fiction does. It urges us to think about how our actions reverberate into the future. It forces us to consider what some of those reverberations might be, and how, in turn, we should act in the present. That’s kind of the culminating idea for the course.”

#### Films: Godzilla and Japan Sinks



Inclusion of the classic *Godzilla* (1954), in which a rampaging monster reflects Japan’s reeling from the nuclear destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, was a must, says Bridges.

*Japan Sinks* (2006), based on a 1973 novel, imagines shifting tectonic plates that lead to the sinking of Japan. The film, recently adapted into a Netflix anime series, “initiated a conversation in Japan about Japan’s place in the modern world and the possibility of its vanishing given its entry into a global community,” Bridges says.

#### About Will Bridges

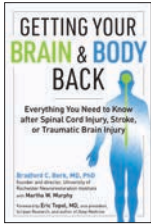
Bridges joined the Rochester faculty in fall 2017. An expert on modern Japanese literature and culture with an interest in cultural exchange, he’s the author of *Playing in the Shadows: Fictions of Race and Blackness in Postwar Japanese Literature* (University of Michigan Press, 2020). In addition to science fiction, his courses explore topics including anime, Japanese calligraphy and graphology, and modern Japanese literature. This fall he was recognized with a Goergen Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.



# Books & Recordings

## Books

### Getting Your Brain and Body Back: Everything You Need to Know after Spinal Cord Injury, Stroke, or Traumatic Brain Injury



Reflecting on the spinal cord injury that left him a quadriplegic, former Medical Center CEO **Bradford Berk** '81M (MD/PhD) offers a user's manual for those suffering the physical and

mental health consequences of acute neurological injury. The book includes a foreword by **Eric Topol** '79M (MD). (*The Experiment*)

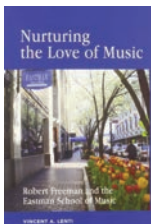
### A Concise Companion to Visual Culture



**A. Joan Saab**, the Susan B. Anthony Professor of Art and Art History at Rochester, joins scholars of film and photography **Aubrey Anable** '10 (PhD) and **Catherine Zuromskis** '06 (PhD) in

coediting an overview of the field of visual studies, with a focus on the role of Rochester's Graduate Program in Visual and Cultural Studies. (*Wiley-Blackwell*)

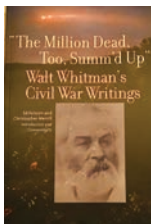
### Nurturing the Love of Music: Robert Freeman and the Eastman School of Music



In the third volume in his history of the Eastman School, Eastman historian and professor emeritus of piano **Vincent Lenti** offers an overview of growth and change during the tenure

of the school's fourth director (1972–1996). (*University of Rochester Press*)

### "The Million Dead, Too, Summ'd Up": Walt Whitman's Civil War Writings



**Ed Folsom** '76 (PhD), the Roy J. Carver Professor of English at the University of Iowa, and coauthor and editor Christopher Merrill offer commentary on 40 selections from among

Whitman's war writings. Folsom is the editor of the *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, codirector of the online Whitman Archive, and editor of the Iowa Whitman Series at the University of Iowa Press. (*University of Iowa Press*)

### American Anthem: A Song of Our Nation



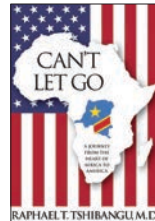
Grammy Award-winning songwriter and librettist **Gene Scheer** '81E, '82E (MM) joins with a team of illustrators to produce a picture book celebrating the beauty and diversity of the United States and inspired by Scheer's eponymous song, which he composed in 1998. The song has been performed for multiple presidents, as well as at the memorial service for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. President Joe Biden evoked the song's lyrics during his inaugural address in January 2021. (*Philomel Books*)

### Oil Palm: A Global History



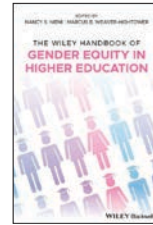
**Jonathan Robins** '10 (PhD), an associate professor of history at Michigan Technological University, tells the story of the oil palm across multiple centuries and continents, demonstrating how the fruits of an African palm tree became a key commodity in the story of global capitalism. (*University of North Carolina Press*)

### Can't Let Go: A Journey from the Heart of Africa to America



In a memoir animated by the themes of grace, destiny, and "love of family and country," **Raphael Tshibangu** '78M (MD), '82M (Res) recounts his journey from a childhood spent amid political, economic, and social upheaval in the then Belgian Congo (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo) to his career as a physician in the United States. Tshibangu is an obstetrician/gynecologist in Rochester and a clinical professor at the Medical Center in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. (*RTST Group*)

### The Wiley Handbook of Gender Equity in Higher Education



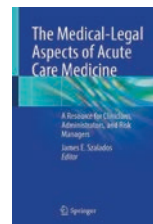
**Nancy Niemi** '84, '01W (PhD) coedits a review of current research on gender equity in higher education. The book devotes special attention to gender and higher education in a global context, gender equity in STEM fields, and gender segregation by major and its relationship to pay inequities. (*Wiley-Blackwell*)

### Medicine and Shariah: A Dialogue in Islamic Bioethics



**Aasim Padela** '08M (Res), a professor of emergency medicine, bioethics, and humanities at the Medical College of Wisconsin, edits a collection of essays by clinicians, Islamic studies experts, and Muslim theologians on Islamic bioethics. Padela is also coeditor of *Islam and Biomedicine*. (*University of Notre Dame Press*)

### The Medical-Legal Aspects of Acute Care Medicine: A Resource for Clinicians, Administrators, and Risk Managers



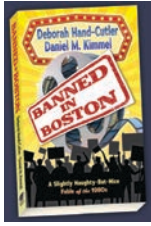
**James Szalados** '92M (Res) offers an overview of the ethical, regulatory, and legal issues relevant to clinical professionals in acute care medicine. Szalados is the director of neurocritical care for Rochester Regional Health, of surgical critical care at Rochester General Hospital, and an attorney and counselor at law in private legal practice. (*Springer*)

### The Papercutter



**Cindy Rizzo** '77 presents a young adult speculative fiction novel taking place after the United States has split into two countries, the God-Fearing States and the United Progressive Regions. The story is told through the eyes of three Jewish teenage narrators and examines issues of antisemitism, racism, resistance, and young adult identity. (*Bella Books*)

**Banned in Boston: A Slightly Naughty-but-Nice Fable of the 1980s**



In the comedic novel by **Daniel Kimmel** '77 and Deborah Hand-Cutler, a 1980s-era Boston anti-pornography group tries to stave off bankruptcy by secretly financing their own porn film and then publicly leading the protests against it. (*Black Horse Press*)

**Addressing Challenging Moments in Psychotherapy: Clinical Wisdom for Working with Individuals, Groups and Couples**



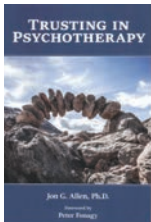
**Jerome Gans** '67M (MD) offers a guide for psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and those who teach and supervise psychotherapy. (*Routledge*)

**Jazz Improvisation Using Simple Melodic Embellishment**



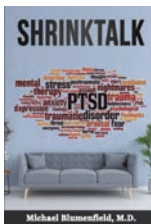
Saxophonist and composer **Mike Titlebaum** '91E, '92 (MM) offers an introduction to jazz improvisation. Titlebaum is an associate professor of music performance and the director of jazz studies at Ithaca College School of Music. (*Routledge/Taylor & Francis*)

**Trusting in Psychotherapy**



Integrating ethical thinking in philosophy with psychological science, **Jon Allen** '73 (PhD) explores what makes psychotherapists trustworthy. Allen retired in 2016 as a professor of psychiatry at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. (*American Psychiatric Association*)

**ShrinkTalk: Reflections and Writings of a Psychiatrist**



**Michael Blumenfeld** '60, a professor emeritus of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at New York Medical College, offers an insider's look at the world of psychiatric medicine. Topics include

ethical dilemmas psychiatrists face, effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health, and reflections on treating a variety of conditions. (*ShrinkTalk*)

**Letting Go: How Philanthropists and Impact Investors Can Do More Good by Giving Up Control**



**Ben Wrobel** '10, director of communications at Village Capital, coauthors a series of profiles of grantmakers who have shifted decision-making power from experts to people with lived experience of problems funders seek to solve. (*Independently published*)

**Recordings**

**The Recording Legacy of Artist-Teacher Cécile Genhart**



A 3-CD set of restored live recordings brings to light performances of Cécile Genhart, a professor of piano at Eastman from 1926 to 1971.

The set includes Genhart's recitals and radio broadcasts from between 1936 and 1961, several of which featured compositions by students including **William Bergsma** '42, '43E (MM), **Kent Kennan** '34E, '36E (MM), and **Robert Palmer** '38E, '39E (MM). (*American Matthey Association for Piano*)

**Three Tributes**



**Robert Freeman**, Eastman's director from 1972 to 1996, and his brother James, the Daniel Underhill Professor Emeritus of Music at Swarthmore College, collaborate in a tribute album in memory of their parents, **Henry** '30E and **Florence Knope Freeman** '30E, who studied double bass and violin at Eastman, respectively. The recording includes a piano quintet by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **Kevin Puts** '94E, '99E (DMA). (*Innova Recordings*)

**Occasionally**



Saxophonist and composer **Pat Donaher** '97 presents his fourth CD, featuring drummer Allison Miller, pianist Carmen Staaf, and bassist

Tony Scherr, and coproduced by **Jason Polise** '97E, '98E (MM). (*Pat Donaher*)

**Spring Garden**



Pianist and composer **Harold Danko**, a professor emeritus of jazz studies and contemporary media at Eastman, performs 10 compositions "harvesting my own garden growing directly from the *Rite of Spring*." Danko has long studied the iconic Stravinsky score as a source of inspiration. (*SteepleChase*)

**The Trio Reunited: One More Once**



The trio of **Bill Dobbins**, **Rich Thompson**, and **Bill Grimes** '82E (MM), '88E (DMA) reunites to perform originals and standards. The musicians performed often together in Rochester in the 1980s. Pianist Dobbins and drummer Thompson are members of the jazz and media studies department at Eastman and bassist Grimes is retired as a professor of jazz studies at Louisiana State University. (*Bill Grimes*)

**Where Only Stars Can Hear Us: Schubert Songs**



Grammy Award-winning tenor **Karim Sulayman** '98E performs Schubert lieder, accompanied by Yi-heng Yang. (*Avie*)

**Collaborations, Volume 2: Nästa Trappsteg (Next Step)**



Saxophonist **Miles Osland** '87E (MM), the director of jazz studies at the University of Kentucky, joins with his long-time collaborator, Swedish mallet virtuoso Anders Åstrand, who performs on vibraphone and marimba. (*Mark Records*)

*Books & Recordings is a compilation of recent work by University alumni, faculty, and staff. For inclusion in an upcoming issue, send the work's title, publisher, author or performer, a brief description, and a high-resolution cover image to Books & Recordings, Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044 or by email to rochrev@rochester.edu.*



## Analysis: University Is ‘Critical Engine’ for Region’s Economy

A new report finds that the University has more than doubled its impact on the region’s economy in the last 14 years.

Based on 2019 information, the analysis by the Center for Governmental Research also indicates that the University is the

largest private employer based in upstate New York and the seventh largest private employer in the state.

The report is the eighth in a series of biennial assessments by the center of the employment and payroll, capital expenditures, purchasing, student and visitor spending, and tax impact of the University, including UR Medicine and its affiliates.

The analysis finds that the job impact of the University—both in terms of direct employment and spillover effect—has more than doubled since CGR started compiling the reports in 2006 and sustains a total of nearly 68,000 jobs in the New York State economy.



**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** The University sustains nearly 68,000 jobs in the state economy and has doubled its impact in the last 14 years.

## Staff Recognized for Their Contributions

This year’s President’s Staff Awards—the Meliora Award, Lamar Riley Murphy Leadership Award, Witmer Award for Distinguished Service, and Staff Community Service Award—recognize several people and groups who went above and beyond during the past year.

Additionally, the 2020 Award, a special one-time honor awarded this year, recognizes employees for their extraordinary and heroic response to the COVID-19 crisis.

**“The 2020 Award, a special one-time honor awarded this year, recognizes employees for their extraordinary and heroic response to the COVID-19 crisis.”**

### 2020 Award

Three teams received the 2020 Award: the Coronavirus University Restart Team (CURT), University Emergency Operations Command (EOC), and UR Medicine COVID-19 Regional Command Center.

### Meliora Award

The award, which recognizes staff members whose work performance and dedication during the preceding few years exemplify the University’s motto, was presented to Wen Li, director of category management in Corporate Purchasing; the Post-Anesthesia Response Unit at Strong Memorial Hospital; the Employee Health Services Team at Strong Memorial Hospital; and the University Health Service Primary Care and Health Promotion Office.

### Lamar Riley Murphy Leadership Award

The award, which recognizes an individual who is an exemplary role model and who demonstrates innovative and proactive leadership, was presented to Shayne Hawkins, director of

medical surgical nursing at the Medical Center.

### The Witmer Award for Distinguished Service

The award, which is presented to staff members whose careers have been characterized by outstanding and sustained contributions to the University, was presented to Donald DiVita, director of clinical engineering at the Medical Center; Eileen Pullara, the academic operations manager for the Department of Computer Science in the Hajim School; and Maria Romana, the clinical director for Strong Ties in the Medical Center’s Department of Psychiatry.

### The Staff Community Service Award

The award, which honors a nonmanagement staff member whose commitment best exemplifies service to the University and the Greater Rochester community, was presented to Jacquelyn McGriff, a program assistant for Alumni Relations and Constituent Engagement.



Kathy Rideout

## Nursing Dean Announces Plans to Step Down

Kathy Rideout ’95W (EdD), who is credited with leading a period of growth and renewed prominence as dean of the School of Nursing for more than a decade, has announced plans to step down as the school’s top leader effective June 30, 2022.

A member of the nursing faculty for more than 35 years, Rideout was officially installed as the school’s fifth dean in 2012 after serving in an interim capacity the previous year. She was named a vice president at the Medical Center in 2013 and was appointed to a second five-year term as dean in 2017. She will return to her role on the faculty as a professor of clinical nursing and pediatrics at the conclusion of the academic year.

Carrying on in the tradition of the school’s founding dean, Loretta Ford, Rideout has been an influential voice in national discussions on nursing leadership and education.

At Rochester, she has overseen a period of substantial growth at the school. She has also been an advocate for more diversity and inclusion while continuing to practice clinically as a pediatric advanced practice nurse at Golisano Children’s Hospital.

A committee led by Eli Eliav, director of the Eastman Institute for Oral Health, will undertake a national search for a new dean.

## Acclaimed Soloist, Actor, and Activist Commemorated at Eastman

A bronze sculpture to commemorate the life and legacy of William Warfield '42E, '46E (MM), '88 (Honorary), one of the most acclaimed vocal artists of the late 20th century, has been installed at the Eastman School of Music. The sculpture, created by Rochester artist Shawn Dunwoody, was unveiled this fall during a ceremony in the courtyard of Eastman's Miller Center in downtown Rochester. The project was a collaboration of the William Warfield Scholarship Fund, Eastman and the University, Rochester Institute of Technology, and the City of Rochester.

Warfield grew up in Rochester and attended Rochester city schools before enrolling at Eastman. Best known for his portrayals of Porgy in Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* and of Joe in the 1951 MGM movie musical *Show Boat*, Warfield won a Grammy in 1984 for his narration of Aaron Copland's *A Lincoln Portrait*, accompanied by the Eastman Philharmonia.

He died in 2002 and is buried in Rochester's Mt. Hope Cemetery.



### NATIONAL HONORS

## Astrophysicist Receives Sagan Medal



Adam Frank

Adam Frank, the Helen F. and Fred H. Gowen Professor of Physics and Astronomy, has been awarded the 2021 Carl Sagan Medal for excellence in public communication in planetary science. Presented

by the Division for Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society, the award is named in honor of the late Cornell University astrophysicist, astronomer, and educator, who brought science to millions of people worldwide with his PBS series *Cosmos* and the 1980 book of the same name.

Frank cofounded the National Public Radio's 13.7 *Cosmos* and *Culture* blog and contributes frequently to the *New York Times*. He is also a regular on-air commentator for NPR's news show *All Things Considered* and contributes to the *Washington Post*, the *Atlantic*, *Scientific American*, and other publications.

## Engineer Named to 'Brilliant 10'



Michael Giacomelli

Michael Giacomelli, an assistant professor of biomedical engineering and of optics, has been included on *Popular Science* magazine's 2021 list of "The Brilliant 10: The most innovative up-and-coming minds in science."

The magazine cited Giacomelli's invention of a novel type of 3D imaging device that can be rolled into an operating room so that surgeons can detect in less than three minutes whether a biopsy is cancerous.

Funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health, Giacomelli's innovative microscope is being developed to detect nonmelanoma skin cancers.

Though less lethal than melanomas, non-melanoma skin cancers are more prevalent, resulting in 5 million biopsies and 1.5 million surgical procedures each year in the United States.

## RNA Biologist Receives Alpert Prize



Lynne Maquat

Lynne Maquat, the founding director of the Center for RNA Biology, has been awarded the Warren Alpert Foundation Prize for her discoveries in the field of RNA biology. Maquat, the J. Lowell Orbison

Distinguished Service Alumni Professor in Biochemistry and Biophysics, shares the prize with fellow RNA biologist Joan Steitz, the Sterling Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University.

Presented in recognition of work to improve the understanding, prevention, treatment, or cure of human disease, the prize has been administered by Harvard Medical School since 1987.

Maquat and Steitz also received the 2021 Wolf Prize in Medicine, an award they shared with RNA biologist Adrian Krainer of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory.

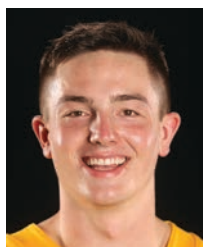


## SCHOLAR ATHLETES

# Yellowjacket Seniors Recognized for Excellence in Academics and Athletics



Brian Amabilino  
Perez



Caden Cole



Will Eisold



Adam Hopson



Eleanor  
Mancusi-Ungaro



Kudzai Mbinda



Julianna Okoniewski



Joseph Rende



Emma Schechter



Kailee Sowers



Amanda Strenk



Olivia Waysack

Twelve seniors who excelled both as athletes and as students were recognized this fall with Lysle (Spike) Garnish Scholar Awards from the Department of Athletics and Recreation.

Presented in memory of Garnish, a former coach and athletic trainer at Rochester from 1930 to 1948, the awards are presented on behalf of the Garnish Scholar Awards Committee, chaired by George VanderZwaag, executive director of athletics. In making the presentations before games this fall, VanderZwaag was joined by Gerald Gamm, a professor of political science and of history and the University's NCAA faculty athletic representative.

**Men's Basketball:** Brian Amabilino Perez, a biological sciences major from Sant Cugat Del Valles, Spain, was a two-time selection to the University Athletic Association's All-Academic Team.

**Football:** Caden Cole, a computer science major from Lehi, Utah, earned all-Liberty League honors in his first two years and was a first team all-UAA choice as a first-year student in 2018.

**Men's Soccer:** Will Eisold, an optical engineering major from Pipersville, Pennsylvania, excelled as a defender, saving potential goals in three consecutive NCAA playoff games. Rochester reached the Final Four that year, a first in program history.

**Men's Swimming and Diving:** Adam Hopson, a biological sciences major from Ithaca, New York, earned All-America honors on the 1-meter board as a junior. He was named a Scholar All-American by the College Swim Coaches Association of America. He also was named a Provost's Circle Scholar, a University award that recognizes academic and athletic excellence.

**Rowing:** Eleanor Mancusi-Ungaro, a chemistry and environmental sciences major from Marblehead, Massachusetts, was part of Rochester's novice-8 boat, which won the Liberty League novice-8 title, and she guided the second varsity 8 and second varsity-4 boats to success at the Berman Cup.

**Men's Track and Field:** Kudzai Mbinda, a chemical engineering major from Harare, Zimbabwe, broke the Rochester record for

the 60-meter dash indoors in 2020, part of a campaign in which he finished in the top eight a total of seven times.

**Women's Basketball:** Julianna Okoniewski, a brain and cognitive sciences major from Selkirk, New York, was named first team all-region in basketball by *D3hoops.com* as a sophomore and as a junior. She was the UAA Rookie of the Year as a first-year student and first team all-UAA as a sophomore.

**Baseball:** Joseph Rende, a political science major from Babylon, New York, played with two Liberty League championship teams, both of which advanced to the NCAA Division III playoffs. He was a first team all-Liberty League selection in 2021 and a second team all-region honoree. He was named all-region by *d3baseball.com* as well.

**Women's Soccer:** Emma Schechter, a data science major from Belleair, Florida, earned all-UAA and all-region honors in each of her first-year and sophomore seasons. In 2021, she was named as a Provost's Circle Scholar.

**Women's Soccer:** Kailee Sowers, a psychology major from Wheaton, Illinois, played with a team that advanced to the NCAA Division III playoffs in her first year and held 12 opponents to a goal or less. She was named as a Provost's Circle Scholar in 2021.

**Field Hockey:** Amanda Strenk, a chemical engineering major from Baldwinsville, New York, earned Liberty League Rookie of the Year honors in 2019, first team all-Liberty honors in 2020, and second team all-region honors from the coaches' association. She was honored for three straight years on the National Academic Squad by the coaches' association.

**Women's Tennis:** Olivia Waysack, an environmental health major from Las Vegas, led Rochester to a 5-0 record against Division III opposition. She took part in an advanced learning program in which students finish their studies with a bachelor's degree in environmental health or epidemiology and a master's degree in epidemiology. 📍

—DENNIS O'DONNELL



## NATIONAL ACCOLADE

# Softball Assistant Coach Scores Major Honor

Mary Karen Wheat earns recognition as assistant coach of the year.

By Dennis O'Donnell

After helping lead the Rochester softball team to its second appearance in the NCAA championship series this year in just her second year on the staff, assistant coach Mary Karen Wheat has earned national recognition.

Wheat, who joined the program in 2020, has been named the NFCA/Easton NCAA Division III Assistant Coach of the Year by the National Fast Pitch Coaches Association. She will be honored at the organization's national convention.

## Keep Up with the Yellowjackets

For the latest updates on Rochester athletics, including schedules, scores, live-streaming, and other news, visit [Uofrathletics.com](http://Uofrathletics.com).

Rochester reached the NCAA championship round in Salem, Virginia, in May, the second time the Yellowjackets have advanced that far. The team finished with a record of 35–10 and set a number of single-season offensive records.

Rochester won the Liberty League regular season title (22–3), then won the league's postseason tournament to secure an automatic bid to the playoffs.

The Yellowjackets were seeded third in a six-team regional and were unblemished in the regional.

In addition to her work with recruiting (12 players plus a Division I transfer), Wheat supports all on-field training.

Away from the field, Wheat handles the team's social media accounts, which played a major role in recruiting, and alumni and fan engagement.

Rochester's staff of Margaret Yerdon-Grange, Wheat, and assistant coach Brittany Grange '15, was named the NFCA Northeast Region Coaching Staff of the Year as well as the Liberty League Coaching Staff of the Year.

Before joining Rochester's program, Wheat was an assistant coach at RIT for four years. She pitched at Binghamton University (1998–2003) for two years at the Division II level and two years at the Division I level. She accumulated a career 1.81 ERA for 416 innings.

She earned a BA in human development from Binghamton. She has a BS in history and is certified in adolescent education from SUNY Brockport. [R](#)

**SOFTBALL CELEBRATION:** In her second season on the Rochester coaching staff, Wheat was named the national assistant coach of the year for her part in leading the Yellowjacket softball team to one of the best seasons in the program's history.





**AN EYE ON THE EARLY UNIVERSE:** An artist's rendering shows the fully deployed James Webb Space Telescope as the NASA observatory will appear when it reaches its orbit about 1 million miles from Earth. Set to be launched later this year, the telescope has been designed as a successor to the 30-year-old Hubble Space Telescope. The new observatory will be able to capture data from as far back in time as 13.5 billion years ago, when galaxies and stars were first forming.







# A Look Back in Time

As the James Webb Space Telescope heads toward its launch date, dozens of Rochester faculty and alumni who contributed to the project await images from 13.5 billion years ago.

*By Bob Marcotte*

**J**im Fienup already knows what to expect when the first images arrive from the James Webb Space Telescope. “They’ll look horrible,” says the Robert E. Hopkins Professor of Optics at Rochester.

And no wonder. The largest ever, 14,300-pound, space-based telescope will have to be folded like a drop-leaf table to fit into an Ariane rocket, then endure a bone-jarring liftoff later this year to reach orbit 940,000 miles from Earth and nearly 700,000 miles beyond the moon.

When Webb is deployed—when the telescope is unfolded, along with a sun shield nearly the size of a tennis court—the primary telescope’s 18 hexagonal mirrors will be out of alignment.

“They’re going to be way off, maybe by a millimeter of where they should be,” Fienup explains. “So, we’ll start getting these images that are horribly blurred.”

Only after the mirrors are aligned to within *one-ten-thousandth of a millimeter* will Webb be able to transmit what no human has ever seen before—remarkably clear infrared images from 13.5 billion years ago, when galaxies and stars were first forming.





**CRITICAL VISION:** “For an optical engineer, the project was about as interesting as one could ever imagine,” says Lee Feinberg ’87 about working on the Webb telescope. Working for NASA off and on since the 1990s, Feinberg returned in 2001 to work on the Webb project. For the past 20 years, he has held one of the Webb’s most important leadership roles, overseeing the overall development of the telescope, including some of its most critical technologies.



This marvel of engineering—this exquisite balancing of sheer bulk and exacting precision—owes much to Fienup. And to scores of other Rochester faculty members, students, and alumni who have contributed to the project.

Fienup and his team of PhD students developed the phase retrieval algorithms that can be used to finely tune the 18 hexagonal mirrors. The algorithms will compare the blurry images of a bright reference star taken by the telescope to how the star should actually appear—and adjust seven actuators on each of the mirrors accordingly.

And just in case the NASA team using the algorithms runs into unexpected difficulties, Fienup and his students will be standing by with even more robust algorithms they've developed specifically for worst-case scenarios.

To fully understand why the Webb telescope is so unique—and why Fienup and two other key contributors with Rochester ties became involved in its development—you first need to need to understand what happened with Webb's predecessor.

### **Hubble: We Have a Problem**

The Hubble Space Telescope, launched in 1990, has revolutionized astronomy with more than 1.4 million observations of stars, galaxies, and planets during its 31 years of operation.

However, the initial images that the Hubble telescope sent were blurry. Unlike the "horrible" initial images expected from Webb, Hubble's "nearsightedness" was *not* expected. NASA, coming off the *Challenger* space shuttle explosion four years earlier, faced a public relations disaster as politicians questioned the agency's competency and comedians made the telescope a butt of their jokes.

Duncan Moore '74 (PhD), the Rudolf and Hilda Kingslake Professor in Optical Engineering Science, was vacationing in Maine when he got a call from NASA to fly to Washington, DC, for a one-day meeting of experts to help figure out what went wrong.

"It seemed like there were a gazillion people there," Moore recalls. The problem was quickly traced to a miscalibration during the mirror's manufacture. Moore ended up chairing the Hubble Independent Optical Review Panel, which was formed to determine how the mirror shape differed from specifications and correct it. Against high technical odds, political machinations, and severe budget limits, the panel succeeded.

Fienup, then a scientist at the Environmental Research Institute of Michigan, also played an important role. He led a project that helped determine the telescope's exact aberrations by using phase retrieval algorithms to analyze Hubble's blurred images.

And Lee Feinberg '87, an Institute of Optics graduate who began working for NASA in 1991, helped conduct independent optical tests of the corrective optics and new instruments that were eventually installed on Hubble by space shuttle astronauts in 1993.

The contributions of Moore, Fienup, and Feinberg would be remembered by NASA when it came time to build Hubble's successor.

### **Webb: The Next-Generation Telescope**

Even before Hubble's launch, astronomers and engineers began thinking about a next-generation space-based telescope.

With a primary mirror surface area more than six times larger than Hubble's, Webb will have even greater light-gathering power and sensitivity for discerning faint stars and galaxies at the edges of time. Unlike the Hubble, which gathers images primarily at visible and ultraviolet wavelengths, Webb will gather infrared images.

That's important because the first luminous objects that formed in the universe emitted ultraviolet and visible light that has been stretched by the universe's expansion so that it reaches us today as infrared light. With its enhanced ability to detect infrared light, Webb will be able to peer even further back in time.

However, the telescope will need to be kept below -370 degrees Fahrenheit to capture infrared images. To accomplish that, the telescope must orbit at a point nearly one million miles from Earth, where it can be continually shielded from the light of the sun and from Earth and its moon.

The distance is too great for Webb to be serviced as easily and efficiently as Hubble was by space shuttle astronauts. Therefore, NASA must test every aspect of the Webb to launch even more carefully this time—and even at cryogenic temperatures.

Moore, who had recently completed a stint as associate director for technology in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, was named cochair of the Webb Telescope Optical Product Integrity Team in 2002 to help ensure that no shortcuts were taken. Fienup later joined him on the panel.

Feinberg, who had left NASA to work with a start-up company, was lured back shortly after the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Webb was getting a lot of funding, and John Mather, an eventual Nobel Prize winner,

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**With a primary mirror surface area more than six times larger than Hubble's, Webb will have even greater light-gathering power and sensitivity for discerning faint stars and galaxies at the edges of time.**

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**WEBB MANUFACTURING LEADER:** Laryssa Sharvan Densmore '83 directs more than 200 people working on Webb-related projects at Northrop Grumman, the prime contractor for the telescope.





**LINE OF INSIGHT:** Called upon by NASA in 1990 to lead an investigation to correct early problems with the Hubble Space Telescope, optical engineering professor Duncan Moore has remained part of the team working on Hubble's successor, the Webb Space Telescope.

was the project scientist, Feinberg says. "And for an optical engineer, the project was about as interesting as one could ever imagine."

In 2001, Feinberg was given one of the Webb project's most important leadership roles. He had no idea it would turn into a 20-year commitment.

### Webb: Near Crisis and Rising Costs

As Webb's optical telescope element manager, Feinberg has overseen the overall development of the telescope, including three critical technologies: lightweight mirrors, lightweight cryogenic structures, and wavefront sensing and control. He also cochaired a review board that chose beryllium as the material for the primary mirror and has been a significant contributor to the telescope flight and test architectures.

Feinberg proudly recalls how he and his team "worked crazy hours" to develop the new technologies in three and a half years. Actual fabrication of the mirrors, done by multiple contractors, kept him "traveling all over the country" for eight years, "figuring out how we were testing the mirrors, how they would all work together, and dealing with both management and engineering at the same time."

His most important contribution, Feinberg says, was successfully planning and overseeing the cryogenic testing of the telescope and

its optics. The ultimate testing took place in 2017 in a 90-foot-tall chamber at Johnson Space Center originally used for testing the Apollo spacecraft in the 1960s.

Just as cryo-stable temperatures were reached, Hurricane Harvey slammed into Houston with devastating force. It took "an amazing team effort" by 120 international engineers and scientists to keep the tests going, Feinberg later said. Four team members who owned "big Texas pickup trucks" shuttled people to and from the facility every 12 hours. The team had to deal with leaks, and some slept on the floor to prevent risks to the flight hardware. Through it all, the optics performed admirably.

However, amid all the successes, an increasing, demoralizing chorus of public criticism began in 2010 as the costs of the Webb project began to escalate dramatically.

"It was hard to have worked so hard on something and felt that we had done so many things right, only to get a lot of negative publicity for the increased cost," Feinberg says.

### Will Webb Be Worth It?

In April 2017, Duncan Moore sent a photograph to Rochester from the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. The message read: "I am standing in front of the James Webb Space Telescope—the replacement of Hubble. It is leaving Goddard in two weeks for testing at Johnson SFC. I started working on this in 2002 when the launch date was 2009 and the price was \$1.5B!"

A US Government Accountability Office report issued in May estimated the cost at \$9.7 billion. The report also cited yet another delay in the scheduled launch because of "anomalies" with the launch vehicle.

Even in 2002, it was clear to Moore, Fienup, and Feinberg that NASA had severely underestimated costs given the daunting scope of the project and the engineering challenges it entailed.

"I think there was a little bit of hopeful thinking early on," Feinberg says. "I had it in my mind that this is going to be a lot harder than they think."

"Remember, however, this is the first lightweight, segmented telescope NASA has ever built. There was no road map. We had to invent almost everything, from how we modeled it, to how we tested it. So how do you cost estimate something like that when you're literally inventing it as you go?"

Nonetheless, even fellow scientists in the field have expressed concerns that NASA is putting too many eggs in its Webb basket, at a cost to other projects.

Martin Elvis, an astrophysicist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, argued that "the dominance of a single mission like Webb can be a bad thing" in an interview with *Scientific American* in

## A University Community Effort

Here's a sampling of some of the University community members contributing to the Webb project:

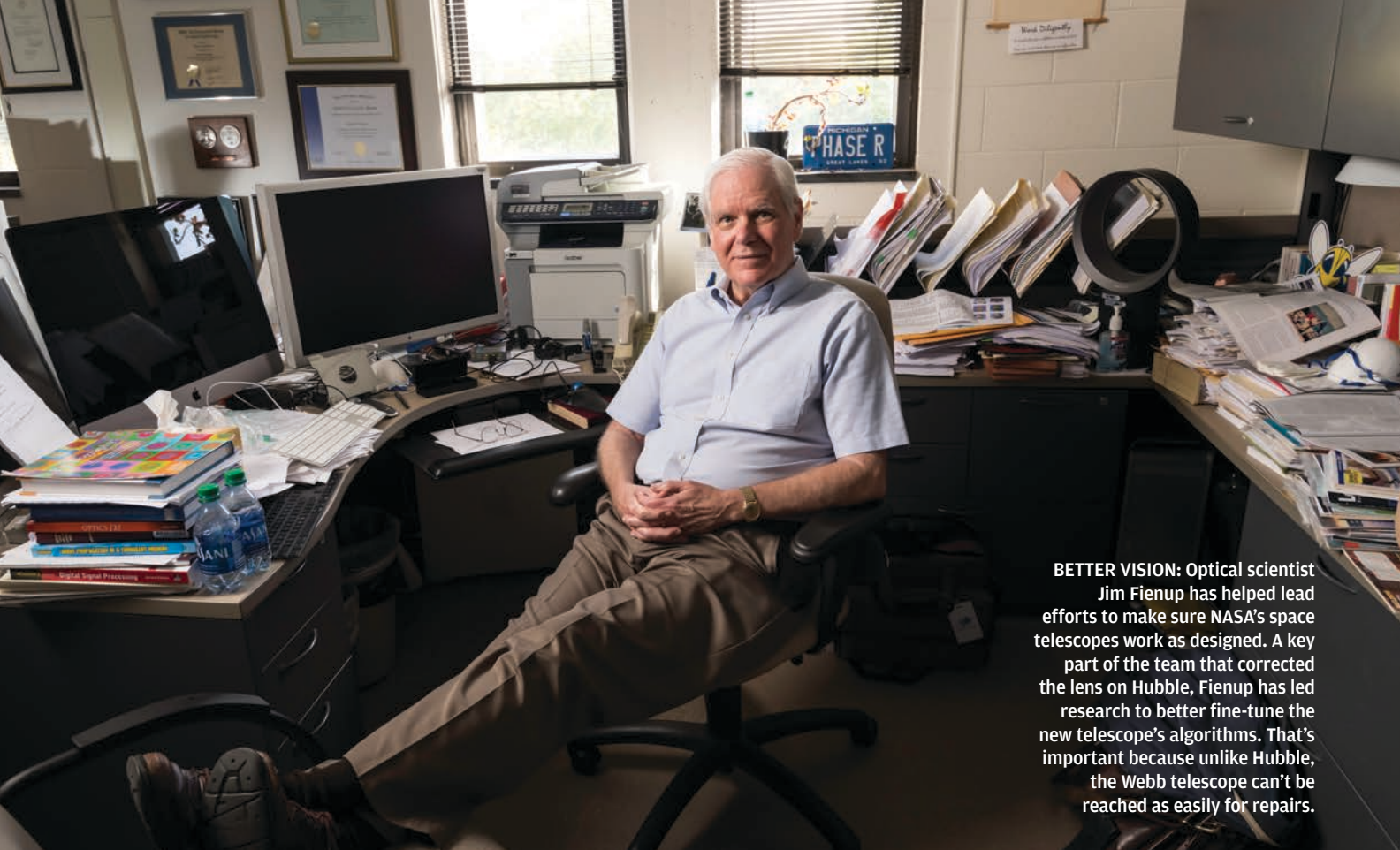
The Optical Product Integrity Team was cochaired by Duncan Moore '74 (PhD), the Rudolf and Hilda Kingslake Professor in Optical Engineering Science, along with Jim Wyant '69 (PhD), '21 (Honorary), founding dean of what is now the James C. Wyant College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona. Other members included Jim Fienup, the Robert E. Hopkins Professor of Optics;

Greg Forbes, a former optics professor; Roy Frieden '66 (PhD); and Robert Shannon '54, '57 (MA), '00 (Honorary).

Laryssa Sharvan Densmore '83 directs Mechanical Space Products and Manufacturing at Northrop Grumman, the prime contractor for the Webb project. In addition, Richard Rifelli '74, '77 (MS) has served as a lead systems engineer at Northrop Grumman, and Ben Weiss '04 (PhD), a systems engineering lead at the company, will be at the console at the Missions Operations Center in Baltimore

as a response coordinator. Lee Feinberg '87 is the optical telescope element manager, and Joe Howard '00 (PhD) is the lead optical designer. They are among 43 optics faculty, students, and alumni who have contributed to Webb, according to David Aronstein '02 (PhD), who wrote a chapter about their involvement for an update of optics professor Carlos Stroud's history of the Institute of Optics, *A Jewel in the Crown*. Aronstein, a former optical scientist at NASA, also worked on Webb.





**BETTER VISION:** Optical scientist Jim Fienup has helped lead efforts to make sure NASA's space telescopes work as designed. A key part of the team that corrected the lens on Hubble, Fienup has led research to better fine-tune the new telescope's algorithms. That's important because unlike Hubble, the Webb telescope can't be reached as easily for repairs.

2018. "It fosters a 'too big to fail' syndrome, where because it mustn't fail you can't realistically threaten it with cancellation, and people err on the side of caution to ensure it will succeed. More caution means more testing and more money, which you must provide to avoid failure, and so you get a feedback loop of inflating costs."

So, will Webb be worth it?

### The 'Webb' of Benefits

As with most "big science" projects, the research and development on the Webb telescope has helped lead to other discoveries as scientists have worked to address the challenges of such an ambitious undertaking.

Since joining the Institute of Optics in 2002, Fienup has received 16 years of continuous funding from NASA, totaling more than \$1.6 million, much of it to develop those more robust phase retrieval algorithms for the Webb project. Six of his PhD students have based their theses on research related to the Webb. Five of his students have subsequently gone to work for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Benefits like these have doubtless accrued at other universities across the country.

Feinberg cites other benefits. The project, for example, is "exciting young people into STEM [science, technology, engineering, and math] fields," he says. And if Webb performs as expected, 286 experiments and observations, proposed by scientists from around the world, will be performed with the telescope during its first year of operation.

"What is really striking is that every one of these observations feels like it could be its own mission," Feinberg says. In that light, he says,

the costs of Webb, when weighed against the cost of launching nearly 300 separate missions, become more reasonable.

Moore says he can understand why critics might disagree. "We have so many social things that we need to be doing. When you compare Webb to programs that cost in the trillions, \$10 billion, if that ends up being the cost, seems like small potatoes. But \$10 billion is a lot of money."

As an engineer, however, Moore says he is "extremely excited about the capabilities Webb will give us to look back further into time."

So are other members of the University community who are both grateful and proud that they've been able to contribute.

"To be a part of something of this magnitude is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," says mechanical engineering alumna Laryssa Sharvan Densmore '83, who is director of space products and manufacturing at Northrop Grumman, the primary contractor for Webb. "Webb will change the way we see the galaxies, unfold our past, and open our scientific aperture of understanding as it relates to astronomy, astrophysics, and our place within this universe."

Optics graduate Richard Rifelli '74, '77 (MS) has served as Northrop Grumman's lead systems engineer for the telescope since 2002. "To witness the development of this unique observatory from a concept to a fully functioning observatory has been remarkable," he says. "It truly has been an honor to work with so many talented people on this program.

"The science will be amazing!" 

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**As with most "big science" projects, the research and development on the Webb telescope has helped lead to other discoveries as scientists have worked to address the challenges of such an ambitious undertaking.**

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# *'More Than Ever Our Students Need Support'*

As the pandemic and social unrest add new stresses to the lives of students, Rochester broadens outreach and access to mental health programs and services.

*By Jim Mandelaro*





Everything hit Karenrose Kamala '24 at once last fall. The stress. The anxiety. The feeling that she didn't belong in college.

"I was taking classes online back home in Tanzania due to COVID-19, and it was incredibly difficult," she says. "My sleep schedule was off the rails, and I found it hard to connect to whatever was going on around campus. One economics class was really challenging, and I worried that economics wasn't for me. I felt very discouraged."

A classmate mentioned UR Connected, a peer-to-peer network run by University Health Service. The program pairs students who are feeling distressed with an undergraduate or graduate student who has received specialized training in how to support students who may be struggling. The students meet to discuss the issues, and the coach then directs the student to one of the University's appropriate mental health resources.

"My peer coach made me feel validated when it came to my academic capabilities," says Kamala, an economics and data science

double major. "The resources I learned about were incredibly valuable, and the program helped me feel more comfortable about speaking out when I'm struggling. That's a big deal, because coming from an African background, speaking out when struggling is seen as taboo."

UR Connected made such an impact on Kamala that she's now a peer coach in the program, helping others overcome the kinds of stress and anxiety the sophomore felt a year ago.

"Mental health is often ignored, even though it literally affects every aspect of someone's life," Kamala says. "If we are truly about being ever better, we have to do what we can in supporting students when it comes to mental health."

### Coping in the Time of COVID-19

The University has long-standing programs to help students who are facing stress, anxiety, or other mental health concerns (See "Find the Helpers," page 37).

But the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic created new stressors that affected the mental health of college students: closed campuses, mask mandates, physical distancing, and in many cases, a shift to online learning—not to mention concerns about the health and safety of family and loved ones. Amid the disruptions, the University has prioritized new programming and outreach to help address the mental health and well-being of its nearly 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

"Mental health has always been an important area of concern, but now more than ever our students need support," says Amy McDonald '99, '07N (MS), associate director of the UHS Health Promotion Office.

In recent years, the number of college students seeking help for mental health issues has steadily climbed across the nation, including at Rochester, according to Susan McDaniel, a clinical and family psychologist and the Dr. Laurie Sands Distinguished Professor of Families and Health in the University's Departments of Psychiatry and Family Medicine.

"It's due to many factors—political and social unrest, a greater awareness and willingness to report student mental health issues, and the role of social media in creating unrealistic social comparisons and amplifying problems," McDaniel says.

"With the pandemic came rapid change, remote learning, health anxiety, and social isolation for many. It has definitely been a stressful situation."

A 2020 study in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* looked at the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on the mental health of college students. A majority of the surveyed students—71 percent—reported increased stress, anxiety, and depressive thoughts. Many reported experiencing stressors such as difficulty concentrating, disrupted sleep, decreased social interactions, or increased concerns about academic performance.

Similarly, a 2020 National College Health Assessment of Rochester undergraduates conducted by UHS found that almost half of all students reported moderate levels of stress; a quarter reported high stress levels; and 42 percent said stress was having an impact on their academic performance. The numbers were slightly below national averages, but still significant.

Graduate students are also experiencing high levels of stress, though they face different challenges from most undergraduates. Graduate study is "a very intensive, focused path," says Melissa



**WALKING THE WALK:** Denise Yarbrough, director of religious and spiritual life at the Interfaith Chapel, performs a walking meditation on the chapel's indoor "labyrinth." She and other chaplains offer meditation walks there several times a month. With a view of the Genesee River just outside, "[walking] the labyrinth is a calming and restorative practice," she says.





**CONNECTED:** After receiving help from the peer-to-peer network UR Connected, Kamala, a double major in economics and data science from Tanzania, was inspired to become one of the network's trained peer coaches herself.

**“The resources I learned about were incredibly valuable, and the program helped me feel more comfortable about speaking out when I’m struggling. That’s a big deal, because coming from an African background, speaking out when struggling is seen as taboo.”**

**—Karenrose Kamala ’24**

Sturge-Apple, vice provost and University dean of graduate education. Graduate students typically live off campus from the get-go and spend much of their time in labs or libraries. Some are juggling careers and raising children. Those who arrive at graduate school on their own “come to a place like Rochester and don’t necessarily have roots here. They can feel alone.”

### Opening Up about Mental Health

The University Counseling Center has been at Rochester in some form since the 1960s. Today, UCC offers full-time students comprehensive initial assessments and individualized treatment plans. Those can include individual and group therapy, medication management, case management, and support for off-campus referrals. Therapists are licensed professionals from a variety of mental health disciplines, and there are also about 25 graduate students, interns, and postdoctoral fellows in training from psychology, social work, and psychiatry.

Anxiety has been the main mental health problem facing college

students for years—and the pandemic exacerbated it. In response, UCC launched a Counselor in Residence program in September. Trained and supervised by UCC-licensed staff, counselors in the program provide mental health support during evenings and weekends when UCC is closed.

“Students are open to seeking services,” says UCC director Brigid Cahill, who estimates that UCC sees 15 to 20 percent of Rochester students each year. “In fact, often [students] have been in therapy before coming to Rochester or have friends and family in therapy.”

One such student was Caitlyn Ascencio ’20, who is pursuing a master’s in school counseling at the Warner School of Education. Five years ago, she was “an overwhelmed, culture-shocked” first-year student on the day she spilled water on the brand-new laptop her parents had saved up to buy her. It’s an accident that would be upsetting to most students, regardless of circumstances. But for Ascencio, “my error consumed me and led me into a downward spiral I had never experienced before.”

Ascencio’s roommate grew concerned and recommended she visit UCC. That visit began a therapeutic journey that lasted through Ascencio’s undergraduate career.

“My therapist took on a cognitive-behavioral approach, which caused me to come face-to-face with many childhood traumas, life-altering events, and toxic thought patterns meant to be replaced with wholesome thought patterns and behaviors,” she says.

Ascencio’s roommate, in getting Ascencio to seek help, reflects a culture in which students are taking active roles in supporting their classmates and helping to open up the conversation about mental health.

Rachel Chen ’23, a neuroscience major from Seattle, Washington, is the president of the Rochester chapter of Active Minds, a national student organization geared toward increasing awareness of the mental health of college students.

“I joined my first year because I cared about destigmatizing mental health but wasn’t sure what I could do about it on campus,” Chen says. Active Minds has helped her “think more critically about my own mental health, and how I can support friends and family.”

The chapter’s Active Minds membership—about 25 College undergraduates—meets weekly. “We want to create a community where help-seeking is encouraged, and students feel comfortable speaking about mental health concerns,” Chen says.

Increased attention on student mental health means that people on campus who have long offered forms of counseling—though not mental health counseling as understood by clinicians—are realizing the important role they, too, play in supporting student mental health. The University’s Interfaith Chapel, for example, is staffed with chaplains ready to meet the needs of students, including those who are not religious or don’t belong to faith groups affiliated with the chapel.

“We offer a place of compassionate listening to anyone who walks through the door,” says Denise Yarbrough, director of religious and spiritual life at the chapel. “I’ve counseled students dealing with the emotional trauma of a romantic breakup, students who have just learned of the death of someone close to them, and students wrestling with the aftereffects of sexual encounters. Given the intense stress that many students experience, the chapel offers a place to relax and be nurtured.”

### A Mindful Campus

“We recognize the stress that our students are facing—the pressure to do more, to excel academically, and to be ever better,” says Rebecca Block ’18, a health educator at UHS.

Block also oversees the Mindful University Project, an initiative founded in 2018 to offer classes, retreats, and workshops on mindfulness practice. This past summer, the project launched a series of workshops for faculty and staff geared toward improving and supporting



student mental health. Although voluntary, 166 people took part in the workshops, which are being offered throughout the year.

Katherine Schaefer, an associate professor in the Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program, says it was helpful to share experiences with other faculty members facing new challenges in the COVID-19 era.

“I absolutely found that the pandemic forced me to be a more accessible teacher,” says Schaefer, who has been at the University since 2005. “Nobody who is stressed learns as effectively as they could. The reality of dealing with online teaching, sudden illness, and internet outages caused me to build in a lot of alternate ways for students to participate and catch up.”

**“Nobody who is stressed learns as effectively as they could. The reality of dealing with online teaching, sudden illness, and internet outages caused me to build in a lot of alternate ways for students to participate and catch up.”**

**—Katherine Schaefer, associate professor in the Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program**

Robert Loughridge, an instructor in the Program of Dance and Movement, also took part in the workshops. “Students seem more anxious these days,” he says. “The pandemic brought restrictions and cancellations of basic life structure, like attending class in person and graduation ceremonies. The losses resulted in a lot of grief.”


### **‘Be the Best We Can Be’**

In May, the University Coalition for Student Mental Health was formed at the recommendation of President Sarah Mangelsdorf and Sturge-Apple to assess the current state of mental health among Rochester students and make recommendations for improvement. A preliminary report is due to Mangelsdorf by December.

The coalition’s members, including two students, represent key administrative and academic units with the goal of enhancing both the mental health resources available on campus and students’ knowledge of them. That awareness is crucial.

“We have a lot of good things going here,” says McDaniel, who serves as coalition chair. “We want to make sure people can access us and know what their possibilities are.”

Mangelsdorf’s mission for the coalition is clear, McDaniel says. “We need to do our very best to understand students’ needs in our current challenging environment—what services are meeting students’ needs, where are the gaps, and where can we do better?”

With virtually all University students vaccinated against COVID-19, McDaniel hopes the stress and anxiety posed by the pandemic will ease. “Kindness and connection with each other, and a significant dose of self-care, can result in resilience as we move through this challenging period and learn all we can from it,” she says. “We want to be the best we can be.” 

**A DOGGED COMMITMENT:** While traditional mental health counseling services have expanded, other approaches to reducing anxiety have joined the mix. Rooney is among the Paws for Stress Relief therapy dogs whose regular visits with students are sponsored by UHS.



## **Find the Helpers**

Peer counseling, mindful practice, therapy dogs, 24/7 care—Rochester’s support for student mental health takes place in many spaces and in many forms.

### **University Counseling Center** ([Rochester.edu/uhs/ucc/](https://rochester.edu/uhs/ucc/))

Existing under the umbrella of University Health Service, UCC is staffed with licensed therapists as well as graduate students, interns, and postdoctoral fellows in training from psychology, social work, and psychiatry. UCC provides comprehensive initial assessments and individualized treatment plans for full-time students. In September, UCC launched a counselor-in-residence program to make support available on evenings and weekends, making UCC a 24/7 operation.

### **Interfaith Chapel** ([Rochester.edu/chapel/](https://rochester.edu/chapel/))

Chaplains in multiple faith communities are ready to meet any student, whether affiliated with a community or not. Students who are experiencing stress or in a crisis are encouraged to stop in, with no appointment necessary. The chapel also offers walking meditations and this year has welcomed a fully certified therapy dog, Sasha.

### **CARE Network** ([Rochester.edu/care/](https://rochester.edu/care/))

A University community member who is concerned about the well-being of a student can make a CARE referral. Once received by CARE staff, a referral may begin an appropriate, sensitive plan of outreach to the student who is potentially in crisis, putting the student in touch with resources and support.

### **UR Connected** ([Rochester.edu/uhs/healthpromotion/urconnected/](https://rochester.edu/uhs/healthpromotion/urconnected/))

A peer-to-peer network run by University Health Service, the program pairs students who are feeling distressed with an undergraduate or graduate student who has received specialized training—called a coach—for discussion and referral to resources.

### **Mindfulness University Project** ([Rochester.edu/mindful/](https://rochester.edu/mindful/))

Established in 2018 with the financial support of two alumni, the project offers introductory and advanced meditation classes, relax-and-renew retreats, yoga, and educational workshops. Students can attend live or recorded meditations on the project’s Instagram and YouTube channel, as well as participate in popup events around campus.



# Resilient *Rochester*

**Meliora 2021, the first large event for alumni, students, and families since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, featured the Class of 2020.**



**HATS OFF TO YOU:** Malu Satheesh '20, Sarah Pursell '20, Neha Narayan '20, Shania Ali '20, Hannah Perry '20, and Shalini Shah '20 toss their graduation caps into the air on the Eastman Quadrangle following the University-wide Class of 2020 Commencement.





The Class of 2020 will forever remember the graduation ceremony in May 2020 that wasn't. But after this fall's "One University" Commencement, members of the Class of 2020 from all University units who walked across the stage of Kodak Hall at the historic Eastman Theatre can cherish the ceremony that was—and that placed them, their accomplishments, and their resilience at the center of a reimagined University tradition.

Although COVID-19 protocols limited this year's in-person attendance to current students, alumni from the Classes of 2020 and 2021, and their families, Meliora 2021 programming—most of which was available via livestream—drew thousands of participants to rewind, reunite, and reconnect. [▶](#)



**A LEAGUE OF HER OWN:** Academy Award-winning actor, Olympic-level archer, United Nations special envoy, and gender equality advocate Geena Davis receives the Eastman Medal for achievements and service that embody the University's highest ideals. Afterward, during her commencement address, she told graduates, "Yours is the generation that is going to save the planet. Thank you in advance for all the good work you will do, you ferocious warriors."



**PERFORMING ARTS PILLARS:** Garth Fagan—renowned choreographer and founder and artistic director of Garth Fagan Dance—receives the Eastman School of Music's Luminary Award from President Sarah Mangelsdorf. The award recognizes Fagan's extraordinary service to music and the arts at the community and national levels. This year is not only Eastman's centennial, but also marks 50 years since Fagan founded his internationally acclaimed Rochester-based dance company.





**O, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO!** Jermal Greenwood '24 (right) poses for a photo with his brother, Jabar, for mom Ruth Ann Turner-Greenwood at the Meliora Letters on Eastman Quad.

**ECON CONVOS:** This year's Experience Rochester speakers—Narayana Kocherlakota, the Lionel A. McKenzie Professor of Economics (center); Clifford Smith Jr., the Louise and Henry Epstein Emeritus Professor of Finance and Economics (right); and moderator Sevin Yeltekin, dean of the Simon Business School (left)—brought their expertise to bear during a discussion about the global economic outlook after COVID-19. “I think the recovery has, in many ways, gone surprisingly well,” said Kocherlakota. “But we still have a long way to go on this.”

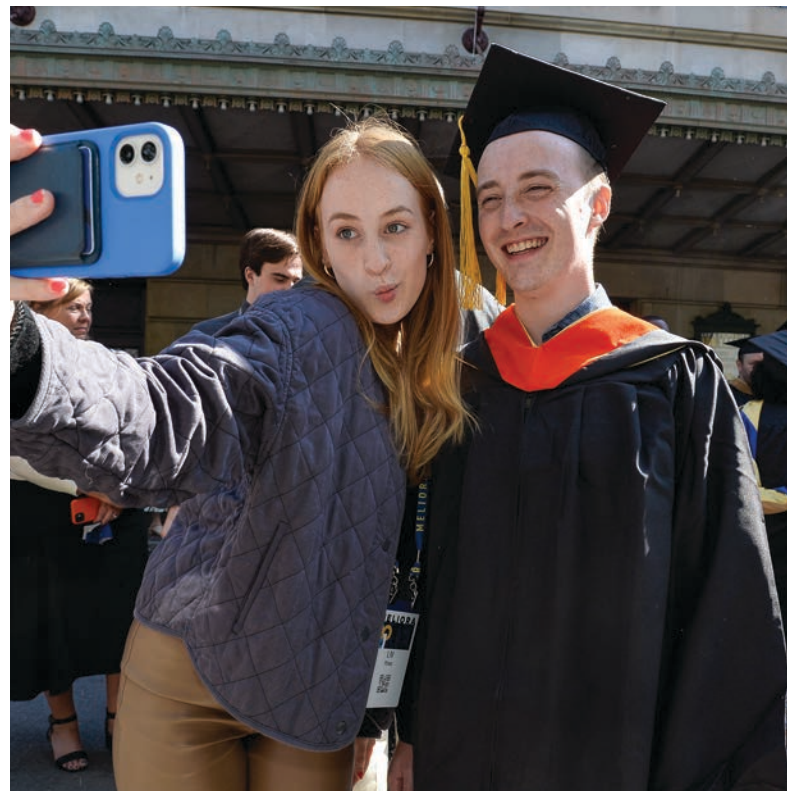




**IT'S CHO TIME:** Comedian, actor, advocate, and author Margaret Cho performs to a full house in the Palestra.



**FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS:** Gabe Hart '25 performs with the Strong Jugglers, the University's official student juggling club, during an outdoor nighttime performance in Dandelion Square on the Wilson Quadrangle.



**A SISTER'S SALUTE:** Noah Pines '20 stands for a selfie with his sister, Liv, following the University-wide Class of 2020 Commencement at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre.





**BRIAN DABOLL '97**

## What Makes a Great Coach?

The much admired offensive coordinator for the Buffalo Bills says relationships are key.

Interview by Jim Mandelaro

After leading the Buffalo Bills to a record-setting season in 2020, offensive coordinator **Brian Daboll** '97 has emerged as a top candidate to become a future head coach in the National Football League.

"Daboll continues to cement his status as an offensive mastermind capable of creating mismatches anywhere on the field," wrote Conor Orr in *Sports Illustrated* in September.

Daboll has been calling offensive plays for the Bills since 2018 and last year was named the Associated Press's NFL Assistant Coach of the Year after the Bills set franchise records for points (501) and touchdowns (60), finished second in the league in total yards (6,343), and advanced to the American Football Conference championship for the first time since 1993. Daboll interviewed for head coaching vacancies with the New York Jets

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**OFFENSIVE RECORDS:** Joining the Buffalo Bills in 2018 as offensive coordinator, Daboll helped lead the team to the 2020 conference championship—the team's first since 1993—as the Bills set franchise records for points in a season and touchdowns along the way.

and Los Angeles Chargers but ultimately remained in Buffalo—his hometown.

Daboll's coaching path began after his playing career ended abruptly at Rochester. The economics major suffered a career-ending injury after a helmet-to-helmet collision playing defensive back his junior year. Daboll hung up his cleats and grabbed a clipboard.

"I hung around my senior year and worked with the coaches," he says. "I loved it."

He has coached for various college and NFL teams over the past 24 years, winning five Super Bowl rings with the New England Patriots and a college national championship with the University of Alabama.

Daboll has won respect and affection from players as well as observers of the game.

"Daboll's one of the greatest dudes I've ever been around and one of the greatest coaches I've ever been around," Bills quarterback Josh Allen told reporters in July at training camp.

### Who was the first coach who made an impact on you?

Coach Jerry Smith and the coaches at St. Francis High School [in Hamburg, New York]. They were instrumental in developing some



of the philosophies I believe in. They were smart, they were tough, and they taught us how to win on and off the field.

**What skills or life lessons did you learn at Rochester?**

I learned time management, problem solving, and how to develop relationships.

**You've been an assistant under two legends—Bill Belichick with the Patriots and Nick Saban at Alabama. How are they different, and how are they similar?**

Both are committed to the organization and have core principles and values they believe in. They are definitely very similar. I would say the main difference is that Nick is probably a better dresser.

**How is coaching professional athletes different from coaching in college or even high school and grade school?**

Some things are similar, but when you are working with college or even younger athletes, you are developing the player, but you are also developing the person. You're helping them with their life skills, and you need to be a mentor. That's the main difference.

**Does a great coach have to be a good cop as well as a bad cop? To know how to soothe players as well?**

Yes, I think it all starts with relationships. You really have to get to know your players. Players don't care how much you know until

they know how much you care. Taking time and investing in people helps down the road when adversity strikes.

**Are you a boss, a friend or confidante, or all of the above to your players?**

I'd like to say that I'm a leader. You have to develop relationships with your players, but you also have to set a standard and an expectation that you are going to hold them accountable to. Once a player can trust you and you earn their respect, they're more accountable to you.

**What are qualities all great coaches have in common, whether it's football, soccer, field hockey, or any sport?**

We talk about how "calm breeds calm," and I think that's important in today's age—being able to stay levelheaded when things aren't going well and then being able to help players and your fellow coaches deal with adversity. With all the social media and new technology out there, it's a different world from when I grew up. You need to be able to embrace that and help them deal with adversity. That takes a lot of time and dedication.

You also have to know what you're talking about, and the players have to believe that you know. You have to find a way to communicate with players so they can understand. You have to be authentic. You can adapt and learn things from coaches that you've worked with in the past, but the minute you try to be someone else, people can see right through that. 📍



**ALWAYS A YELLOWJACKET:** Daboll played as a defensive back on the football team at Rochester before an injury during his junior year sidelined him, and he became a volunteer with the coaching staff.



MERCY ASIEDU '14

# Changemaker in Engineering and Medicine

An award-winning inventor and an entrepreneur aims to improve the preventive and diagnostic health care tools available in developing nations.

By Bob Marcotte

**Mercy Asiedu '14** knows all too well the staggering human toll that results from the lack of basic health care in developing countries.

“Diagnostic and preventative medicine is really lacking,” says Asiedu, whose own family members in Ghana have paid the price. “People die and we don’t even know why.”

One of her aunts died, apparently of pancreatic cancer, because her illness went undiagnosed. Another aunt died when nobody noticed she was aspirating while in childbirth. A grandmother succumbed to diabetes because of the lack of proper monitoring and shortages of medications.

“That’s what inspired me to go into medical devices and diagnostics,” says Asiedu, a postdoctoral research scientist at MIT, whose efforts to address health care problems in sub-Saharan Africa earned her an inaugural Patrick J. McGovern Tech for Humanity Changemakers award from the Computer History Museum earlier this year.

The award will support two start-up companies Asiedu has launched. Both use advances in machine learning to provide preventative and diagnostic health care to chronic disease victims in sub-Saharan Africa.

One of the companies, Calla Health, is about to market an FDA-cleared, low-cost, portable cervical cancer screening device, the Pocket Colposcope, for use by midwives or community health workers. Asiedu developed AI-based algorithms for the device as part of her PhD research to enable automated risk assessment. Asiedu is also leading efforts to develop and commercialize a version of the cervical cancer screening device that women can use to screen themselves.

The other company, GAPhealth, cofounded with Bintou Kaira, a chemical engineer from Gambia, is developing a data-driven, personalized mobile app designed to make it easier for patients with noncommunicable diseases to monitor their symptoms and connect by telehealth with doctors when they need help. The mobile app, inspired by both cofounders watching their mothers struggle with diabetes, is set to be piloted in Ghana and Gambia this year.

Asiedu was born and raised in a small village near Kumasi, one of Ghana’s largest cities, where her father, an agricultural research scientist, and her mother, a former IT specialist, were employed.

In junior high school, Asiedu aspired to be a fashion designer. However, at her mother’s urging, she pursued a science track in high school because of the better career opportunities it offered. “I found that I really enjoyed it,” Asiedu says.

She initially planned to stay in Ghana to attend medical school. The Zawadi Africa Education Fund scholarship, however, gave Asiedu an opportunity to apply to select undergraduate programs



Mercy Asiedu '14

in the United States. The biomedical engineering program at Rochester caught her eye because of its high ranking and because of the support of all-tuition-paid Renaissance and Global Merit scholarships that the University offered. Despite her uncertainties about studying in the US, she followed her mother’s advice and accepted.

Asiedu found an academic home in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. She soon switched her focus from medical school to biomedical engineering, with a focus in biomechanics and medical devices. “I really enjoyed the artistic combination with science and medicine. You have to be imaginative when creating solutions,” she says. Amy Lerner, an associate professor of biomedical engineering, “was one of the most amazing mentors I have had—just very thoughtful and approachable with

how she worked with her students, which is something I really appreciated as an undergraduate and even more so now.” Asiedu says.

Drawing on the lessons she learned from her coursework in biomechanics and her senior design project at Rochester, Asiedu began developing the cervical cancer self-screening device as part of her PhD research at Duke University. She worked from concept through prototyping and had opportunities to conduct clinical trials in Peru and Ghana. She is pursuing her postdoc at MIT to further understand how new machine-learning techniques can be applied to large medical data sets, which will help her companies.

Asiedu is currently taking a six-month maternity leave from her postdoc. Her baby boy is the first child for Asiedu and her husband, Jonah, a former research scientist at Duke, who also now works for a start-up company.

As a woman and person of color, Asiedu is doubly representative of large segments of the population who remain underrepresented in STEM fields.

At Duke, she was founder and president of the African Graduate and Professional Students Association, which created mentorship programs for minority and African undergraduates. She also gives talks to high school students about her experiences, encouraging women and minorities in particular to consider science and engineering.

Her advice: “Dedicate time to studying what you are passionate about but also be kind to yourself. When you are in fields like biomedical engineering or pursuing a PhD, and you find it really challenging, you are tempted to think, because you are a minority, that you are the only person going through those challenges. But you should realize that *most people* in those programs find them challenging. You just have to make it through by keeping the end goal in mind. Having a support group and community that can encourage you to keep going when the going gets tough is especially important.”



SEIJI YAMASHITA '20, '20E

# Two Lenses to View the World

A multimedia journalist and jazz pianist finds connections between two vocations.

By Kristine Kappel Thompson

**Seiji Yamashita** '20, '20E took to the piano quickly at age 5. At age 14, he discovered his passion for jazz. The son of first-generation Americans from Japan, Yamashita says that the musical art form with roots in Black America resonates with him.

“Jazz is full of feeling, emotion, and purpose—it speaks a language that represents a community and resonates with so many people in that community and beyond it,” he says. “It’s given me an ideology and a lens through which to view the world.”

These days he finds “journalism does that, too.”

At Rochester, Yamashita earned a degree in international relations through Arts, Sciences & Engineering and a degree in jazz piano performance from the Eastman School of Music. Then he headed to New York City to study at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism. He earned a master’s degree from the school last spring.

Since arriving in New York, he’s taken in the Big Apple’s prolific jazz scene while crafting multimedia stories about race and class; about artists, musicians, and working-class people; and about the governmental institutions and other large systems that all too often leave people behind.

“The number of hate crimes and protests held since the onset of the pandemic illustrates the need for more stories—and more compassion for—those who look and live differently,” Yamashita says.

In a little over a year, he’s established himself with an impressive body of work. A focus of his has been Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. In the aftermath of the 2020 election, he covered the quest of AAPI activists to unify their diverse communities into a powerful political bloc. When eight spa workers—six of whom were women of Asian descent—were shot and killed in Atlanta last March, he documented the reactions of New Yorkers in the context of growing awareness outside the AAPI communities of anti-Asian hate crimes. And in one video profile, he tells the story of a medical student of Thai descent who strives to overcome trauma after she was verbally and physically assaulted on a New York City street.

Yamashita immersed himself in the local community when he was at Rochester as well. He became an AmeriCorps Urban Fellow; performed every Sunday at Destiny Preparation Church, a nondenominational, multicultural place of worship in downtown Rochester; was the keyboard player in the church’s gospel band; and wrote for the *Campus Times*.

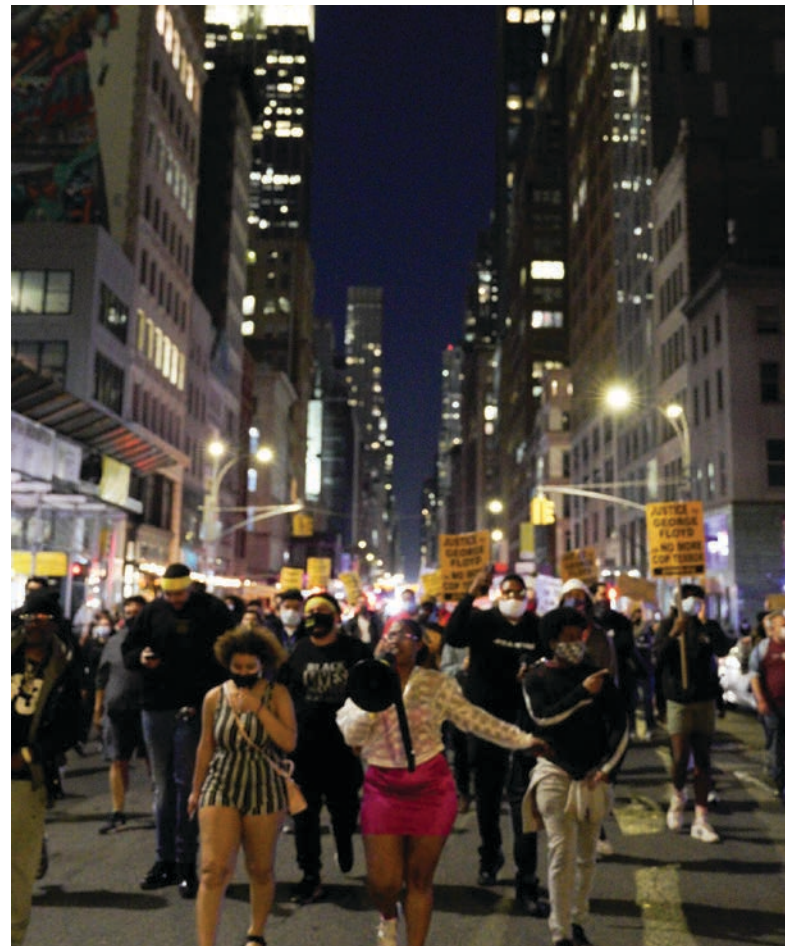
“All of these experiences helped me get to know the Rochester community—often parts of it that I wouldn’t have known without making the effort to get out there,” he says, noting that the importance of community engagement and service was instilled in him at a young age, through his parents and at his San Jose, California, high school.

And while the communities he covers may be complex, his mission as a journalist is clear cut.

“I want my stories to help readers see that there are so many people out there who need to be treated better,” he says. “It’s really as simple as that.”



**SEEING THE WORLD:** Like music, journalism offers a way to view the world, says Yamashita.



**POWER OF PROTEST:** Yamashita documented protests in New York City after Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was found guilty of murdering George Floyd.



## ALUMNI LEADERS

# Meet the Black Alumni Network

Rochester's newest affinity group works to support Black alumni and students with mentoring, networking, and supporting programs in equity, diversity and inclusion.

By Kristine Kappel Thompson

In December, the University of Rochester's Black Alumni Network will celebrate its first anniversary as an official affinity network. Its mission is to unite, engage, and empower Black alumni, students, staff, parents, and friends and to foster and promote an inclusive community where those of the African diaspora know that they belong.

"Having a name for the group is important," says **Ashley Campbell '09, '10W (MS)**, one of the network's three global

**"We are no longer an unofficial group that's blended in with one of the multicultural groups. We are the Black Alumni Network and it's meaningful to articulate that."**

*—Ashley Campbell '09, '10W (MS)*



Ashley Campbell

cochairs and director of equity, diversity, and inclusivity integration, education, and programming within the University's Office of Equity and Inclusion. "We are no longer an unofficial group that's blended in with one of the multicultural groups," says Campbell, who holds a PhD in transformational studies. "We are the Black Alumni Network, and it's meaningful to articulate that."

Campbell and the other cochairs—University Trustee **Emerson Fullwood** and **Gina Cuyler '92M (MD), '95M (Res)**—collaboratively lead the network. They work closely with the network's leadership volunteers across three committees and the Office of Alumni and Constituent Engagement. Together, they create programs designed for the University's Black community; develop mentoring and career networking opportunities; and encourage philanthropic support of key equity, diversity, and inclusion goals.

Cuyler, a practicing physician and founder of Comprehension Internal Medicine, says that for many Black alumni, the experience at Rochester was not always what it could and should have been.

"We recognize that and are working with each other and with the University to identify ways to improve what and how we do things, celebrate successes, and truly live the values that this institution and all of us so fervently believe in," she says. "We are dedicated to supporting each other, advancing professional opportunities, and accelerating change where it is needed, especially around inequities and racism."

Network members facilitate candid conversations that address social justice issues within the context of the University's mission. Specifically, the network has played a key role in developing and leading some of the University's programs centered on equity, diversity, and inclusion, such as the virtual monthly series, REAL—Rochester's Equity and Access Leadership—Conversations.

One example of how the network has influenced programming for alumni and friends occurred during the summer of 2020 when the University held its first-ever event to honor Juneteenth, the nationally celebrated day that marks the full emancipation of enslaved people in the US. The inaugural event brought more than 100 Black alumni, students, faculty, and staff together at a pivotal time of racial reckoning. The event resulted in a written report, summarizing the attendees' equity, diversity, and inclusion recommendations that was shared with University leadership to help influence positive change. The program also paved the way for an annual Juneteenth Celebration to take place, with 2021 offering a monthlong suite of programs for support and reflection and to celebrate Black excellence.

The "Keep on Pushin': Juneteenth and the Evolution of Emancipation" REAL Conversations event held on June 18 kicked off the second annual celebration. President Sarah Mangelsdorf welcomed attendees; **Wade Norwood '85** offered an invocation; **Jazmine Saunders '22E** gave a vocal performance; and **Scot Brown '89**, an associate professor of African American studies and history at UCLA, presented the keynote address and guided the audience through a tradition of African heritage, the Nguzo Saba.

"Through the Juneteenth programming, we built community and gained healing—all of this solidified a real family feeling among the University's Black community," adds Campbell. "This





Emerson Fullwood



Gina Cuyler

underscored for us that we aren't alone, that we are all in this together, and that we have much to honor and be proud of. And even though we might not have all gone to college together at the same time, we share a common connection with this University, and we share a common history associated with our Blackness."

"The Black Alumni Network provides such an important resource to the University," says Fullwood, a retired senior executive from Xerox and parent of a Rochester medical school graduate. "Those in the network have a long connection with the University—for many, it's where they started their journey into higher education and it's where they continue to learn, grow, and have a chance to support students and alumni of color, perhaps in ways that have never existed before. This is a formative time for the network, and I am honored to be a part of it."

People can get involved in the network through regional professional and social activities and by mentoring students and hosting and attending virtual and in-person (in adherence with the University's COVID-19 guidelines) programs. All members of the University community are encouraged to volunteer, mentor, and connect with others on The Meliora Collective and through the University's Black Alumni Network Facebook page. [B](#)

Learn more about the Black Alumni Network: [uofr.us/BlackAlumniNetwork](https://uofr.us/BlackAlumniNetwork) or contact Amari Tevell Simpson, associate director of Affinity Networks and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at [amari.simpson@rochester.edu](mailto:amari.simpson@rochester.edu).

## A Network of Support

Introducing some of the key leaders of the Black Alumni Network.

### Global Cochairs

Ashley Campbell '09, '10W (MS)  
Gina Cuyler '92M (MD), '95M (Res)  
Emerson Fullwood, University Trustee

### Philanthropy Committee Cochairs

Nila Bragg '88  
Lance Drummond '85S (MBA), University Trustee  
Mario Simpson '99

### Mentoring & Career Networking Committee Cochairs

Sean Allen '11S (MS)  
Anansa Benbow '15  
Marilynn Patterson Grant '75, '82W (MS)  
Marquis Harrison '07  
Curtis Johnson '88, University Trustee

### Program Committee Cochairs / Regional Leaders

**Metro NYC**  
Guirlaine Belizaire '91  
**Rochester**  
Yvette Conyers '07N  
Anika Simone Johnson '18W (EdD)  
**Washington, DC**  
Jermell Powell '07 (MS)  
**Philadelphia**  
Sanul Corrielus '98M (MD)

# Class Notes



**COMEDIC CAST:** The 1967 Co-Kast production of the musical comedy *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* was a stellar production, according to the *Campus Times*. Long a key part of campus life, such theatrical productions can be staged in a new, dedicated performance space as the Sloan Performing Arts Center opened this fall on the River Campus (see page 19). Recognize anyone? Email us at [rochrev@rochester.edu](mailto:rochrev@rochester.edu).

## College

### ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

**1941 George Mullen** (see '66.)

**1946 Norman Francis** '52 (PhD), "a loyal alumnus of the University of Rochester, has died at age 98," writes his daughter **Cynthia Francis Gensheimer** '74. "Dad was born in Rochester and graduated from Benjamin Franklin High School—the first in his family to graduate from high school. Since Dad lived so long and remained cogent, I had ample opportunity to interview him and accumulate colorful stories about his growing up Jewish in Rochester, his service in the Navy, and his student years in high school and at the University of Rochester. He worked his way through college," writes Cynthia, "beginning as a night student, and went on to have a distinguished career as a nuclear physicist. He was one of several members of his extended family to graduate from the University of Rochester, as did some of his high school friends."

**1948 Ed Colodny** (see '50).

**1949 Margery (Marge) Leet Wemyss** (see '50).

**1950 John Wermuth** sends an update: "Living alone after losing Marilyn on the Ides of March in 2019 but managing well. Five kids and ten grands are frosting on the life-long cake! At 93, still secretary for my Harvard MBA class and program chairman for Golden K Kiwanis. Keeping in touch with classmate **Ed Colodny** '48 and with **Margery (Marge) Leet Wemyss** '49 in Burbank. The days at U of R meant so much in dozens of ways, and the memories come back happily . . . even the 'working your way through college mode.' Keep on smiling, friends; it costs nothing but can mean a lot to both parties!"

**1957 Robert (Bob) Edgerton** '63 (PhD) died in November 2020, writes his wife, **Elizabeth Lowe Edgerton** '59. They met at the University and were wed in New York City the year Elizabeth graduated. Bob earned his

BS in physics and his PhD in optics and taught physics at university and high school levels in Minnesota, New York, and Maine before settling in Michigan. After teaching for many years, he worked in industry, where he developed solar energy technology in Michigan and optical coatings in California. Elizabeth and Bob moved to Seattle after he retired in 1994 to be closer to family and friends.

**1959 Elizabeth Lowe Edgerton** (see '57).

**1960 Michael Blumenfield**, a psychiatrist in private practice in California and the Sidney E. Frank Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at New York Medical College, has written a new book, *ShrinkTalk: Reflections and Writings of a Psychiatrist* (ShrinkTalk Publishing). Michael writes, "It is based on my experience over many years in the field of psychiatry. It covers a wide variety of subjects, such as ethical dilemmas that psychiatrists can face, dealing with anxiety, panic, depres-

sion, suicidal thoughts, sexuality, autism, post-traumatic stress, and psychological issues in regard to the coronavirus epidemic as well as various medical conditions, my interactions with two US presidents, and many other subjects." . . . **Thomas Grubb** gave a Zoom-based master class in French song, presented in July by the Art Song Preservation Society of New York. The textbook he published in 1979, *Singing in French: A Manual of French Diction & French Vocal Repertoire* (Schirmer Books/Macmillan), established Thomas as a leading authority on both subjects.

## Abbreviations

|            |                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>E</b>   | Eastman School of Music          |
| <b>M</b>   | School of Medicine and Dentistry |
| <b>N</b>   | School of Nursing                |
| <b>S</b>   | Simon Business School            |
| <b>W</b>   | Warner School of Education       |
| <b>Mas</b> | Master's degree                  |
| <b>RC</b>  | River Campus                     |
| <b>Res</b> | Medical Center residency         |
| <b>Flw</b> | Postdoctoral fellowship          |
| <b>Pdc</b> | Postdoctoral certificate         |



... **Jeanie Maddox Sy '61N** writes, "My granddaughter Campbell Jean Sy is a member of the Class of 2025. I am so proud. Look for her on the lacrosse team."

**1962 Stephen Malley** writes, "After graduating in 1962, I attended UCLA Law School. I continue to practice law in Los Angeles, having specialized for decades in international tax and related planning. My wife, Laurie, (a fourth-generation Californian) and I celebrated our 50th anniversary this year with our three daughters and five grandchildren. After quitting flying a plane many years ago, I remain an avid sailor, with many miles offshore, but now I sail the California Coast—and thank you to do so. My days at the U of R, perhaps too many spent at Todd Hall, remain a fond and so important memory. I hope to see a grandchild there." ... **Roger Rochat** received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Family Planning at its annual meeting in October in recognition of a career dedicated to advancing the science of abortion and contraception and to supporting others to do the same. The society shares a reflection from Roger on his work: "Since 1970, I have sought to prevent maternal deaths from abortion

in the US and internationally. Over those decades, I have recruited and mentored hundreds of public health professionals who share my passion for reproductive health, women's rights, and access to safe and legal abortion. During the past 18 years, I have supported and endowed GEMMA, the Global Elimination of Maternal Mortality from Abortion fund. The studies GEMMA recipients have produced are innovative, low cost, informative, and relevant to public policy. Together, we can eliminate maternal mortality from abortion." ... **Patricia Wagner Wheeler '65W** (EdM) has published two new books with Luminare Press: *Amazon, The Golden Eagle: Her Story of Overcoming a Tough Start* (2020) and *Musical Laughs: Notes to Brighten Up Your Day* (2021). *Amazon*, written for ages eight and up and told from the eagle's point of view, is the true story of an eagle nestling injured in a 700-foot fall from a cliff nest and rescued by a veterinarian hiking in the same remote southeastern Oregon area. *Musical Laughs* was made possible by the coronavirus pandemic: during months of stay-at-home restrictions, Patricia assembled into a book a large collection of music jokes she had written or been given over a period of 30 years.

**1964 Richard Davis**, a retired electrical engineer and fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has written *Bear* (Page Publishing), "a postapocalyptic geopolitical sci-fi thriller centered on the hostile mining of Earth's natural resources by an alien force." The book leans into the science—hope of stopping the plunder rests on an overlooked discovery of a new source of antimatter—and is meant to appeal to readers of sci-fi and military fiction alike. ... **Marvin Sachs '85W** (EdD) sends an update: "In June of 2020 I completed 30 years on the Brighton (New York) Central School District Board of Education," he writes. "It was the best of times and sometimes the worst of times but always a challenge." He adds that he enjoyed meeting a lot of interesting people along the way.

**1966** In July, a bridge in Hanson, Massachusetts, was dedicated to the late **Mary (Gret) Mullen Lozeau** in recognition of her life of gratitude, connection, service, and kindness to others as an educator and for her involvement in civic and non-profit activities. The many family members and friends at the ceremony and reception included her husband of 48 years, Gerry Lozeau; their four children, **Gregory '03**,

Timothy, **Teresa Lozeau Santalucia '95**, and Gabrielle Lozeau Crane; and Gret and Gerry's nine grandchildren. More than 30 Mullen relatives are Rochester alumni, including Mary's father, **George Mullen '41**, who died in 1994. Gret's husband sends a photograph of, from left, Gregory, Timothy, himself, Teresa, and Gabrielle at the bridge. ...

**Janet Fisher Silverstein** writes that she and her husband, Burt, "just got back from doing a safari in Kenya followed by hiking to the gorillas in the jungles of Rwanda. I retired from my job as professor of pediatric endocrinology on June 30, and Burt retired from his cardiology practice. While at the University of Florida, I founded a 'Pediatric After Hours' clinic staffed by private and university pediatricians from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. so families didn't need to go to the emergency rooms to be seen for nonemergent illnesses at night. I also started a transgender clinic staffed by pediatric endocrinologists, a psychologist, and a patient advocate (who is transgender). We also work closely with Equality Florida to deal with school issues that affect our patients."

**1968 Gary Mount** writes, "Pursuing undergraduate education part time in the University School of Liberal & Applied Studies (night school) in the early '60s allowed me the flexibility to work and study part time to prepare for a career in social work. Although U of R didn't have a Department of Sociology, University School allowed me to put together courses in psychology and political science for a major in social science. Electives outside my major included four courses in Spanish conversation in the Department of Linguistics so that I could work with Spanish-speaking clients after graduation. Although I was a night school student, I could enroll for day classes, too. I had courses with outstanding faculty members, including Richard Fenno, Arthur Goldberg, Hayden White, Edward Wiig, Ralph Barocas, David Ellkind, and Kenneth Johnson. After graduate school at Albany, I returned to U of R to work for five years in the Department of Psychiatry as a psychotherapist. Later, at another mental health clinic, I volunteered through the Alumni Association job network to help undergraduates learn about careers in mental health fields. I also had the opportunity to serve

*Continued on page 52*



**1966 Lozeau**

**BY THE NUMBERS:  
REUNION MEMORIES**

**What Do Alumni  
Talk about When  
They Talk about  
Reunion?**

Todd Union?  
CLARC? Starbucks?  
It depends on  
when you were on  
campus.

As reunion activities moved online this fall, members of the classes that normally would have gathered on campus still spent plenty of time reminiscing about their time as students.

In an effort to share some of those memories, reunion classes were asked to contribute to digital class memory books, in which classmates updated each other on their lives since graduation.

Organizing memory books has long been a key activity for milestone reunion classes, but this year, every reunion class was able to participate, an initiative that will continue for future reunions.

The entries for the books include a common set of information that each member of the classes is asked to fill out and a common set of prompts designed to get reunion-goers thinking about their time on campus and since graduation.

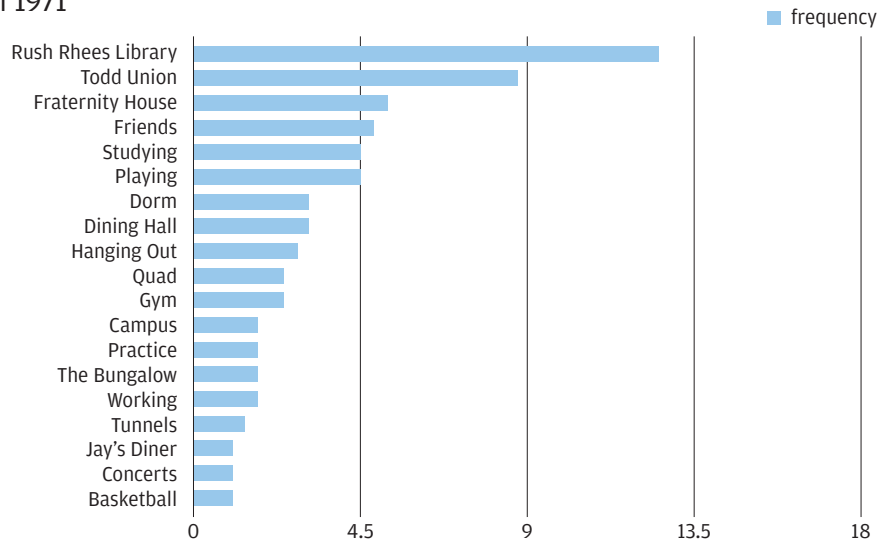
To explore how campus has changed, we conducted a do-it-yourself word count of the answers to the prompt “When I wasn’t in class, you could find me . . .” You can see the most common words from the responses for three classes—1971 (50th reunion); 1996 (25th); 2011 (10th)—in the charts at right.

Full books for members of each class, along with more information, are available to members of each class at <http://uofr.us/digitalclassbooks>.

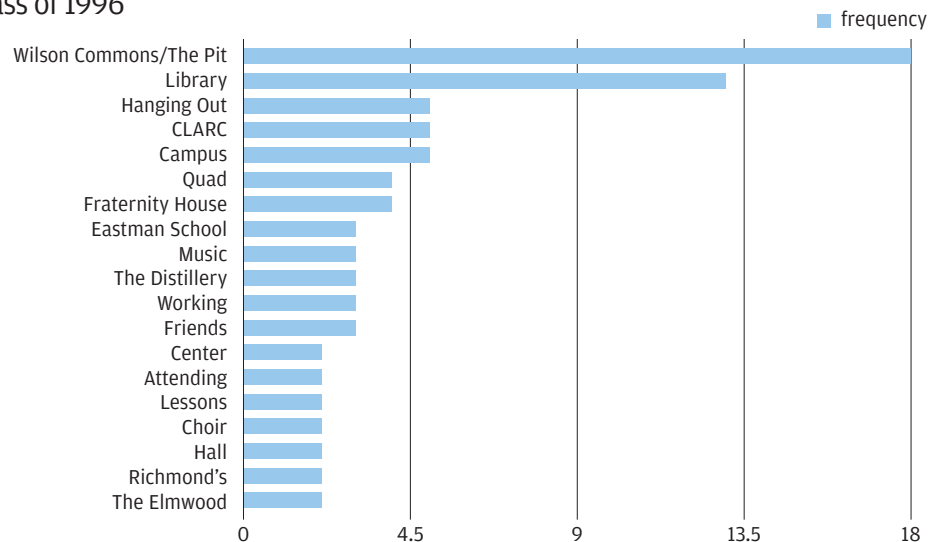
Books for next fall’s reunion—the years ending in 7 and 2—will be available for submissions in spring 2022. 📖

**When I wasn’t in class you could find me . . .**

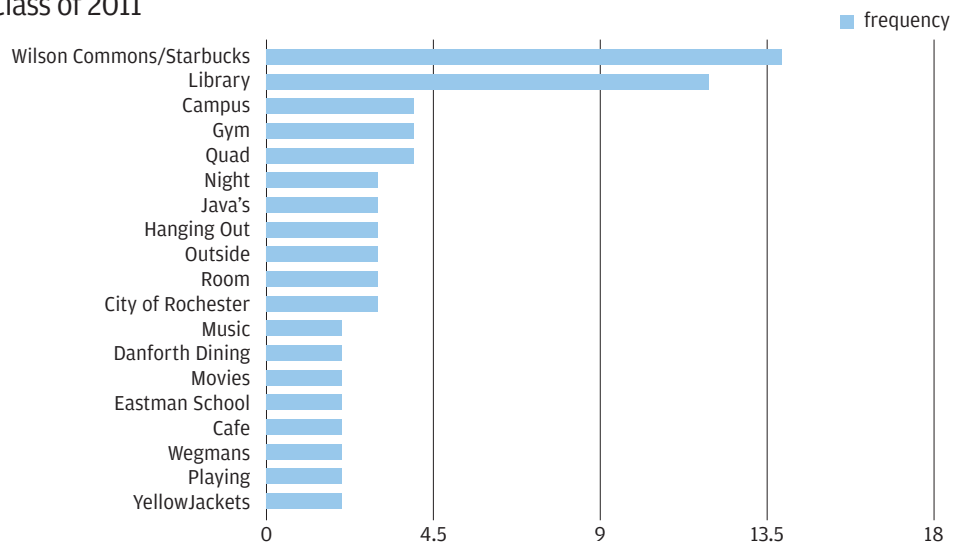
Class of 1971



Class of 1996



Class of 2011





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UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER  
**ALUMNI**



Continued from page 49  
on the adjunct faculty in the nursing school to mentor graduate student nurses in psychiatric nursing. After 33 years in social work, many thanks to U of R for offering so many opportunities.”

**1970 J. Sanford (Sandy) Schwartz** died in June, writes **Ann Weiss** '71. In offering her own recollections and those of some of Sandy's colleagues, Ann writes: “At Rochester, [Sandy] was president of our Student Senate—and in 1970 (his senior and my junior year), because of Kent State students killed by the National Guard and the bombing of Cambodia, Sandy convinced our Arts & Sciences faculty that year (probably the only time in U of R history!) to make finals ‘optional’ and, instead, he organized teach-ins on the Eastman Quad. After earning an MD from the University of Pennsylvania, he became well known for his research on health services, health economics, and health policy; for the way he cared about and mentored students (and pretty much, everyone); and for his compassionate, ‘get involved’ approach to people he met—especially those with a problem (medical or otherwise). He was always ready to offer practical advice, terrific medical referrals, and concrete actions, very often accompanied by his (very funny but gentle) jokes. Although he was a ‘superstar’ and a valued member of a number of national medical and health policy committees, Sandy was modest to a fault—he was always more interested in what YOU were doing than telling you about his latest accomplishments (or those of his impressive family). Dr. Donald Berwick (whom I do not know) wrote, ‘I find it impossible to think of Sandy without smiling. In decades of work in clinical care, academic medicine, and public policy, I have encountered no other colleague with a combination of grace, humor, and warmth equal to his . . . He was a true scholar, immensely perceptive, with an enormous curiosity and a bias toward fresh thinking.’ One more anecdote, from Dr. Hal Sox (whom I also do not know): ‘Fine mind, big heart . . . It’s a lesson usually learned late in life, but he was always a quick study.’” Sandy was married to **Susan Beer Schwartz** '73 at the time of his death. Ann adds, “feel free to write to me privately at [annweiss18@hotmail.com](mailto:annweiss18@hotmail.com) and I will share your notes with Sue



1976 Taylor

and the rest of his family. It would be my honor!”

**1971 Philip Lewin** writes that he has released the final novel in his Oz-inspired series. All published by Nikidik Press and illustrated by Theresa Brandon, *The Spellcasters of Oz* (2021), *The Master Crafters of Oz* (2009), and *The Witch Queen of Oz* (2005) explore the origin of magic in the Land of Oz. . . . **Ann Weiss** (see '70).

**1973 Len Joy** '74S (MBA) has a fourth novel in the works. *Dry Heat* (BQB Publishing) is scheduled to be released next March. . . . **Susan Beer Schwartz** (see '70).

**1974 Cynthia Francis Gensheimer** (see '46).

**1976 Ron Taylor** '77S (MBA) sends a photograph of “brothers-in-law enjoying a Maine beach vaca-

tion with the next generation of UR alums.” Pictured are (seated) Ron, left, and **Dave Crowley** '78, '79S (MBA), and standing, **Kyra Battaglia** '19, **Jeff Taylor** '18, **Alex Crowley** '19, and **Sandy Loomis** '18.”

**1977 Sheldon Glassman** (see '12). . . . **Daniel Kimmel** writes, “My latest novel, *Banned in Boston* (Black Horse Press), coauthored with Deborah Hand-Cutler, has just come out. It’s a comedy set in the 1980s where a Boston antipornography group tries to stave off bankruptcy by secretly financing their own dirty movie and then publicly leading the protests against it.” . . . **Cindy Rizzo** has written a young adult speculative fiction novel, *The Papercutter* (Bella Books). She writes that the story “takes place after the United States has split into two countries and depicts that world through the eyes of three Jewish teenage narrators: two in the ‘God Fearing States’

and one in the ‘United Progressive Regions.’ The book examines the themes of antisemitism, racism, resistance, and young adult identity.” . . . **Joanne Wigod** writes, “I might be insane, but I started my echo career during the pandemic. I left the wine business after 40-plus years and opened an Assisted Living Locators franchise in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. I help seniors and their families source assisted living, independent living, memory care, and in-home health care at no cost to them. I became a certified senior advisor and dementia-care certified. While my focus is Maryland, I work with a network of people throughout the United States and can help anyone almost anywhere. While not as glamorous as my previous career, I find it extremely rewarding.”

**1978 Dave Crowley** '79S (MBA) (see '76). . . . **Mark Weintraub**



writes that he “has happily retired after 36 years of practicing law, including 25 years spent defending your constitutional rights as part of the Office of the Federal Public Defender for Oregon.”

**1979 Steven Goldberg**, an attorney with Downey Brand, a law firm with offices in Sacramento, San Francisco, Stockton, and Reno, has been named a 2021 Top Lawyer by *Sacramento Magazine* in the energy and natural resources and environmental specialties.

**1981 Jill Mestel Squyres**, a clinical psychologist in private practice, sends news of her August wedding to Jonathon Groubert in Arvada, Colorado. She writes, “Jon is a graduate of SUNY Albany and Pace University Law School. It’s wonderful to be with another ex-pat New Yorker who’s also fallen in love with Colorado. My dear U of R friend/roommate **Suzie Weaver** ’82 flew out for our wedding. In addition to the simple joy of celebrating such a special occasion, the happiness associated with bringing together friends and family for this happy event after so many months of pandemic and quarantine was especially sweet. The wedding and reception were held out of doors and everyone was vaccinated, so we were able to enjoy ourselves without worrying about spreading COVID-19. An excellent time was had by all.”

**1982 Suzie Weaver** (see ’81).

**1983 Brendan Delay** writes, “I visited [my] childhood friend Executive Professor Paul Shanahan at the Simon School Commencement.” Brendan’s son Sean came along and posed for a photo in front of the Eastman Quadrangle flagpole.



1981 Squyres

**1984 Scott Evans** sends news that he has had his short story “Glue Guns in Paradise” accepted for publication in the science fiction magazine *Shoreline of Infinity*. . . . **Nancy Peckham Niemi** ’01W (PhD), provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore since 2019, writes, “I am delighted to share news of my recent publication.” *The Wiley Handbook of Gender Equity in Higher Education* (Wiley-Blackwell), coedited with Marcus Weaver-Hightower, was published last December.

**1987 Jeffrey Stone** ’91M (MD) writes that he received the Florida Radiological Society Gold Medal award for outstanding achievement and dedication to the science and art of diagnostic and therapeutic radiology in July. The award was presented at the society’s annual meeting in Orlando, Florida. Jeffrey is pictured at the event with his wife, **Carolyn Palko Stone**. . . . **Lloyd Palum**, an adjunct professor at the Goergen Institute for Data Science, has been named president of Rochester-based Vnomics Corp. He has been with the company since 2013, most recently as vice president of engineering and chief technology officer. The company offers technology that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to improve fuel efficiency in heavy-duty vehicles. Lloyd holds five patents in software and wireless communications and has published numerous technical articles. He is a frequent speaker at trucking industry conferences on fuel efficiency and data analytics.

**1990 John Sotomayor**, president and CEO of Sotomayor Media Creations, writes: “My start-up magazine, *Embrace*, the first-ever LGBTQ



1983 Delay



1987 Stone



1990 Sotomayor

magazine member of the Florida Magazine Association, received the highest honors at the 2021 Charlie Awards held in Sarasota, including Magazine of the Year.” *Embrace* received a total of 22 awards at the July gala, including eight first-place, six second-place, and seven third-place. The Charlie (first-place) Awards included Best New Magazine, Best Overall Magazine, and Best Overall Writing; Silver Awards included Best Overall Design and

Best Digital Innovator. John adds, “*Embrace* made FMA history as a first-time LGBTQ magazine member and winner as well as the most awarded start-up magazine in the history of the organization established in 1957. This is the second time *Embrace* made history this year, being the first-ever LGBTQ publication to be granted membership with the Associated Church Press, established in 1916, and having won two national awards, both for



**CLASS NOTES**

Magazine News Story.” John, second from right, is on stage after receiving the Magazine of the Year award; an *Embrace* magazine cover is projected on-screen in the background.

**1991** After 30 years in the US Navy, **David Kemp** retired in June at the rank of captain. He writes: “We celebrated with a small ceremony for family and friends in Arlington, Virginia. I was thrilled that my UR roommate and fellow NROTC alumni, **Don Schuessler**, was able to join

us.” David also sends a pair of then-and-now photographs: one from commissioning day at the Memorial Art Gallery in May 1991 (from left, **Tim Jones** ’00S (MBA), Don, **Pat Cochran**, **Scott Fuller**, **Dave Barber**, and David) and from David’s retirement ceremony in May of this year (Don, left, and David in uniform). . . . **Tamara Kretow Winton** sends a photo from her most recent “five-family yearly vacation” mini-reunion. “For the past 15 years,” she writes, “the following 1991 UR grads

have been vacationing together, with their families, in Corolla, North Carolina: (left to right) **Rob Blumer**, **Jeff Newman**, **Richard Alexander**, **Ed Trabulsi**, **Rob Winton**, and me. Rob B. lives outside Syracuse, Jeff in Virginia, Richard in Long Island, Ed in the Jersey side of Philly, and Rob and I in Westchester, New York.”

**1994** **Grace Bacon Garcia**, a partner at Morrison Mahoney in Boston, has been named president-elect of the Massachusetts Bar Association

for its 2021-22 membership year, which began September 1. She was the bar association’s vice president in 2020-21 and is a member of its executive management board and budget and finance committee. Grace also is a member of the bar’s COVID response task force and cochairs its attorney well-being committee. . . . **Dennis Tucker** writes that he was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel, the highest title of honor bestowed by the governor of Kentucky, by Gov. Andy Beshear in



**1991 Kemp (then and now)**



**1991 Winton**



March. The distinction recognizes an individual's noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to community, state, and nation. Dennis was commended for his career in book publishing and his promotion of Kentucky's role in American numismatics. His weekly column for Whitman Publishing's *Coin Update* online, "From the Colonel's Desk," explores the state's rich connections to coins, tokens, medals, paper money, private currency, and related artifacts. As publisher at Whitman since 2004, Dennis specializes in books on numismatics, banking and financial history, the American presidency, US political and military history, and other nonfiction topics. He has advised three US Treasury secretaries on coinage and medals as the numismatic specialist in the department's Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

**1995 Teresa Lozeau Santalucia** (see '66).

**1998 Kristina Curro** writes, "I am delighted to report that I earned my PhD from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, was awarded tenure, and was elected chair of the communication sciences and disorders department at Worcester State University in Massachusetts. If there are UR students or alumni interesting in learning more about audiology or speech-language pathology, I encourage you to reach out."

**1999 Genesee Adkins** sends an update: "In June I joined WSP USA, a globally recognized leading professional services firm, as a vice president and senior director of planning in the Puget Sound region," she writes. "I'll be working to grow and evolve our planning practice across the Pacific Northwest for transportation, environmental, urban space, and other exciting projects." Prior to joining WSP USA, Genesee was director of infrastructure initiatives and external affairs at HDR and before that was chief of staff for Seattle's transportation department.

**2001 Aasim Padela** '08M (Res) is a coeditor of the book *Islam and Biomedicine* and editor of the book *Medicine and Shariah: A Dialogue in Islamic Bioethics* (University of Notre Dame Press). In *Medicine and Shariah*, experts from various fields, including clinicians, Islamic studies experts, and Muslim theologians,



**2009 Schott and Smith**

apply various analytic, empirical, and normative lenses to examine the interaction between biomedical knowledge (represented by physicians) and Islamic law (represented by jurists) in Islamic bioethical deliberation. Aasim is a professor of emergency medicine, bioethics, and humanities at the Medical College of Wisconsin and director of the Initiative on Islam and Medicine.

**2002 Brie Blumenreich Entel** writes that she has been promoted to vice president of marketing for Sodexo in North America. In the role, she explains, she will "lead all marketing activities for a \$1B portfolio in the rapidly transforming energy sector." Prior to the promotion, she was a senior director of service (product) development and market- ing with the company.

**2003 Gregory Lozeau** (see '66).

**2004 Daniel Kamins**, director of employee engagement and volunteerism at Metlife, has joined CHC: Creating Healthier Communities, a new corporate leadership council formed to bring communities, nonprofits, and businesses together around a shared commitment to better health and well-being.

**2006 Tess Troha-Thompson** writes that she has been named chief of staff at New Blue Interactive, a political digital fundraising and communications firm in Washington, DC, specializing in Democratic campaigns, progressive organizations, and nonprofits. She manages the senior leadership team, oversees

professional staff development, and guides client teams in digital fundraising and engagement strategy for candidates and nonprofits.

**2009 Diana Hitzig** (see '15 Simon). . . . **Alexandra Schott** and **Gregory Smith** wed in August 2020 in New Canaan, Connecticut. "We met during the first workshop for Math 171 our freshman year," Alexandra writes, "and both ended up majoring in math. We currently live in Annapolis, Maryland, as I am a Navy dentist stationed at the United States Naval Academy." Wedding guests included **Sarah Lynch** '07, **Andrew Spink** '10, **Michelle Handis** '10W (MS), and **Lowell (Scott) Smith** '72. . . . **Peter Yeh** '13S (MBA) has been promoted to director at ToneyKorf Partners, a New York City-based national con-



sulting firm with a focus on the health care industry. Peter has been with the firm since 2019.

**2010 Sarah Hyser-Straub**, an attorney with the McNees Wallace & Nurick law firm in the litigation and white-collar defense practice groups, has been named a *Central Penn Business Journal* 2021 Forty Under 40 recipient. Honorees are selected based on professional accomplishments, community service, and commitment to inspiring change. Sarah litigates white collar crime cases and complex commercial disputes, defends public and private entities in civil rights cases, represents witnesses before the grand jury, conducts internal investigations, and provides guidance on internal corporate compliance. She also serves her community as a member of the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg's Junior Board Executive Committee and the Harrisburg Rotary Club. . . . **Ben**

**Wrobel**, director of communications at Village Capital, is a coauthor of *Letting Go: How Philanthropists and Impact Investors Can Do More Good by Giving Up Control* (Independently published). Ben profiles grantmakers and investors who have chosen to shift decision-making power away from traditional experts to people with lived experience of the problem the funders wish to solve.

**2012 Page Levy Glassman** writes that she and **James Glassman** welcomed a baby girl, Elle Meadow Glassman, in August. Elle's grandfather, **Sheldon Glassman**, is Class of 1977." . . . **Andrew Polec** (see '16E).

**2013 Helen Zhibing Huang '13E** (see '16E). . . **Marisa Straub** and **James (Jamie) Maslek '15** were married last year. Marisa writes, "We got married in a small, intimate ceremony on June 6, 2020, but had the big party on our wedding anniversary this year with lots of our UROC family." Courtesy of Cassi V Photography, they send a picture from the anniversary party of themselves with friends from the Sigma Nu fraternity and the Ballet Performance Group.

**2015 Erik Laurin** writes, "A close group of friends from the Class of 2015 were able to reunite safely (all vaccinated) for the 4th of July weekend at my home near Albany, New York. From left to right are **Fukumi Oriksa**, me, **Liz Klinger**, **Nik**



2013 Straub and Maslek

**Malmström, Kara King**, and **Harika Kunchala**. We hope to be with all of our friends soon!" . . . **James (Jamie) Maslek** (see '13).

**2016 Nick Feuer** is the chief technology officer of Project OWL, a small business focused on simple wireless technology. Project OWL won first place in the fifth annual xTechSearch competition. The xTech program hosts Army-sponsored competitions among small and non-traditional businesses that can propose innovative solutions to technological challenges faced by soldiers on the front lines. Project OWL proposed a way to get critical, cheap, and simple communication technology into the hands of more soldiers. Finals were held in Washington, DC, at the end of August, with the winner announced in September. A cash prize was awarded to Project OWL to continue the development of its business and technology, affording the company potential follow-on work with the Army.

**2017 Julia Curtis** and **Rocco Porcellio** celebrated their first anniversary last June in downtown Rochester. Julia writes, "We consider ourselves lucky to count many members of the University community among our friends and family." In attendance were (from left) **Tommy Oddo '22**, **Meg Curtis**



2012 Glassman

'22, **Elizabeth Willman '21M** (Res), **Martha Porcellio**, **David Fink**, **Nancy Porcellio '81N**, **Courtney Kuhn**, **Sharon Porcellio '79**, **Joseph Kubarek '79**, **Brian Leonard**, **Julia**, **Rocco**, **Allie Trachtenberg**, **Jordan Rabinowitz '18**, '19 (MS), **Samantha Lienert**, **Suzanne Cook '79N**, **Aurek Ransom**, and **Kathleen Cook '82**, and **Ted Curtis '93** (MA).

. . . **Natalya Tausanovitch** has joined the New England Foundation for the Arts in Boston as its Creative Economy program administrator. NEFA is a regional partner for the National Endowment for the Arts as well as New England's state arts agencies and private foundations. Natalya previously served as a programs and database manager at the





2015 Laurin



2017 Weiss



2017 Curtis and Porcellio

community-based nonprofit English At Large, where she supported ESOL programs for adult English language learners.

**2017 Tyler Weiss** writes, "**Madilynne (Madi) Lee** '18 (who was starting goalkeeper for the women's soccer team at Rochester) and I reconnected to

coach the men's varsity teams at Julia R. Masterman High School in Philadelphia. I am attaching a photo of one of our first training sessions together as we start the season seeking new goals for a team who have never won anything." Tyler adds that the school is number one for academics in Pennsylvania and 16th in the country.

**2018 Madilynne (Madi) Lee** (see '17)... **Sandy Loomis** (see '76)... **Jeff Taylor** (see '76).

**2019 Kyra Battaglia** (see '76)... **Alex Crowley** (see '76)... **Meghan Jordan** '20W (MS) wrote over the summer, "I have accepted a new position in institutional research at Brandeis University

and will be moving to the Boston area!"

## Graduate ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

**1952 Norman Francis** (PhD) (see '46 College).



**1957 Alice Holloway Young** (Mas), '69W (EdD) was honored by the Rochester City School District in July when the Board of Education voted to change the name of School No. 3, Nathaniel Rochester Middle School, to the Dr. Alice Holloway Young School of Excellence. The school is at the corner of Adams and Frederick Douglass Streets in the historic Third Ward; its student body is overwhelmingly Black and Latino. The move comes after the district was petitioned to change the name because city founder Colonel Nathaniel Rochester owned enslaved people and engaged in the slave trade. Alice, one of five people nominated for the recognition, became the district's first Black principal when she was appointed in 1962 and pioneered the district's Urban-Suburban Interdistrict Transfer Program, which exists to this day. An honorary trustee of Monroe Community College, she was a founding member of that board.

**1963 Robert (Bob) Edgerton** (PhD) (see '57 College).

**1970 Robert Skoglund** (MA) writes that he has "finally made the big time by being listed on Roadside America." You can see Robert and his roadside attraction at [Roadsideamerica.com/story/70879](http://Roadsideamerica.com/story/70879). Robert, who lives in St. George, Maine, continues, "We live in a unique part of the planet. Every day of the year we set a new



1970 Skoglund

record because it is always one or two degrees colder on that day than it has ever been before."

**1973 Jon Allen** (PhD), a retired professor of psychiatry in the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, has written *Trusting in Psychotherapy* (American Psychological Association). Jon writes, "The book integrates ethical thinking in philosophy with psychological science, advocating a focus on what makes psychotherapists trustworthy."

**1976 Ed Folsom** (PhD), the Roy J. Carver Professor of English at the University of Iowa, has coauthored, with poet, essayist, and journalist Christopher Merrill, "*The Million Dead, Too, Summ'd Up*": *Walt Whitman's Civil War Writings* (University of Iowa Press). Ed is also editor of the *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, codirector of the online Whitman Archive, and editor of the Iowa Whitman Series at the University of Iowa Press.

**1996 Jim Cain** (PhD), the author of 16 community- and team-building texts, has published *Connection without Contact: Techniques for Creating Social Connection while Maintaining Physical Distance* (Healthy Learning). The book provides guidance to minimize risk at in-person gatherings, even during a pandemic.

**2010 Jonathan Robins** (PhD), an associate professor of history at Michigan Technological University, has written *Oil Palm: A Global History* (UNC Press). By telling the story of the oil palm across multiple centuries and continents, Jonathan demonstrates how the fruits of an African palm tree became a key commodity in the story of global capitalism beginning in the eras of slavery and imperialism, persisting through decolonization, and stretching to the present day.

## Eastman School of Music

**1959** Bassist **Ron Carter** '10 (Honorary) performed with his quartet, featuring Renee Rosnes, Jimmy Greene, and Payton Crossley, at the 2021 Sony Presents Blue Note Jazz Festival in New York City in August.

**1968 Steve Gadd** '17 (Honorary) has written his first drum book, *Gaddiments* (Hudson Music), in which he presents a series of rudimental passages inspired by his time in drum corps and love of the rudiments. He designed the layout and detail of each page specifically to make it clear and easy to read. A full set of accompanying video lessons with Steve demonstrating each exercise is available online for streaming and downloading.

**1970 Geary Larrick** (MM) sends an update: he and his wife, Lydia, have moved to suburban Chicago from central Wisconsin. Geary writes that he "attended Eastman 1967-70, 1980, and moved from Rochester to Stevens Point, Wisconsin, in 1969." He adds that he and Lydia moved to be close to their daughter, son-in-law, and two grandsons and that he and Lydia celebrated 40 years of marriage in August.

**1978 Steven Smith** (DMA), a pianist and professor emeritus at Penn State University, writes that he "continues to perform after seven years of retirement and 15 months of pandemic isolation. In April I played recitals for the Texas Surgical Society in Austin and for the Village at Penn State. In June, I presented a new video for the Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association's online conference Rubato: Bending Time. In March 2020, I gave one of the last prepandemic performances in central Pennsylvania, with the Nittany Valley Symphony playing Beethoven's First Concerto."

**1980** Chicago-based mentalist performer and speaker **Sidney Friedman** has received the Dunninger Memorial Award from the Psychic Entertainers Association, a 43-year-old international organization for the magical arts. The award, named for the 1950's TV and radio mentalist Joseph Dunninger, is considered the highest honor in mentalism; previous recipients include Uri Geller, Derren Brown, the Amazing Kreskin, Ross Johnson, and Marc Salem. Sidney writes, "This prize is akin to an Oscar or Grammy . . . or maybe it's more like the J.D. Power & Associates award for automobile salesman of the year; but seriously, it is something special, and I feel blessed and fortunate. It is a part of my journey to spread miracles. Knowing its history, I hope to live up to the honor." . . . **Richard**



1983 McGuire

**Kravchak** joined the School of Arts and Letters at the College of Southern Nevada in July as dean. The college is the nation's seventh largest community college, with more than 50,000 students, 18,000 of whom are enrolled in programs that Richard will directly supervise. He previously served in various capacities at the University of Southern Mississippi, most recently as the dean's coordinator for performing arts. He continues to perform internationally as an oboist, having performed in Europe, Asia, and throughout the Americas.

**1983 Kristen Shiner McGuire** (MM), an associate professor in professional practice at the Nazareth College School of Music in Rochester, sends an update: "I am in my 37th year as coordinator of percussion studies at Nazareth; in addition, as of 2020, I have taken on the role of program director for music business. In 2021 I was awarded the collegewide honor of a Distinction in Teaching Award." She performs as marimbist with the Rita Collective and in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and Marimba Band.

**1989 Rick DiMuzio** (MM), a longtime professor at the Berklee College of Music, has released his second CD as a leader, *Time Travelers* (CD Baby), which features him on tenor and soprano saxophone and includes nine of his original compositions. He teaches ear training, improvisation, saxophone, and ensembles at Berklee, and he has represented the college on recruiting trips throughout the United States, South America, Asia, and Europe.



**1991** Saxophonist and composer **Mike Titlebaum** '92 (MM), an associate professor of music performance and the director of jazz studies at Ithaca College School of Music, writes that he has published a new book, *Jazz Improvisation Using Simple Melodic Embellishment* (Routledge/Taylor and Francis), with companion accompaniment recordings.

**1996** **Helen Pridmore** (DMA) has taken early retirement from her position as associate professor of music at the University of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. She continues to be active as a new-music performer and has resumed in-person performances following the postponement of some in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. Helen is also developing three new mixed-media performance projects for premiere in 2022.

**1997** **Patrick (Pat) Donaher** writes that he released his fourth CD, *Occasionally* (CD Baby), featuring drummer Allison Miller, pianist Carmen Staaf, and bassist Tony Scherr. "The album was coproduced by **Jason Polise** '98, '99 (MM)," writes Pat, "and features a set of my compositions that were gifts for weddings, births, and deaths. It is available at [Patdonaher.bandcamp.com](http://Patdonaher.bandcamp.com)."

**1998** **Jason Polise** '99 (MM) (see '97).

**2001** Flutist **Margaret (Meg) Sippey** (MM) joined the Omaha Symphony in July as the senior vice president and general manager, a new role in the organization. She will work closely with the president and CEO and the music director to implement long-range artistic vision and policies. Meg also will provide leadership and strategic direction to the artistic, education, community engagement, production, digital strategy, and orchestra operations teams. Before joining the Omaha Symphony, she was the director of artistic planning and general manager at the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. . . . **Kang (Joshua) Tan**, associate conductor of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and principal conductor of the Singapore National Youth Orchestra, was featured in a short film, *Engaging Youth with a Personal Touch*, part of the Audience Engagement series from the Culture Academy Singapore. Joshua

discusses the importance of making cultural art forms accessible and personalized with Lee Ee Wurn, the program director for the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre.

**2005** **Aubrie Willaert** (MM) has joined the Eastman School as the executive director of advancement. She will provide leadership and direction for all aspects of Eastman's fundraising and alumni engagement efforts and will support the school's Centennial Campaign. Aubrie returns to Rochester from DePaul University, where she served as director of development for the music school, leading its fundraising efforts, stewardship strategy, and engagement opportunities. Before joining DePaul, Aubrie spent more than a decade serving prominent performing arts organizations, including Ford's Theatre Society, Washington National Opera, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

**2007** **Analisa Leaming** (see '16).

**2008** Pianist **Young Hyun Cho** (DMA), an associate professor of piano at Michigan State University, has released her debut recording, *Beethoven's Last Three Piano Sonatas* (Sony Classical).

**2010** **Jennifer Ronyak** (PhD), an assistant professor of musicology in the Institute for Music Aesthetics at the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz in Austria, joins the music faculty at the University of Oxford as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual European Fellow for the 2021-22 academic year. She will research classical composers who have mined philosophical works for musical material. The author of numerous journal articles, book chapters, and the book *Intimacy, Performance, and the Lied in the Early Nineteenth Century* (Indiana University Press), Jennifer is coediting a book in progress, *The Lied at the Crossroads of Performance and Musicology*.

**2011** **Natalie Ballenger** (see '16). . . . Composer, songwriter, and producer **Michaela Eremiášová** (PhD), an adjunct faculty member at the Colburn School in Los Angeles since 2016 and a 2013 ASCAP Foundation Rudolf Nissim Prize recipient, was interviewed in May by the Alliance for Women Film Composers.

## Tireless Advocate

**Lisa Norwood** '86, '95W (MS), the longtime assistant dean at the Hajim School, retires.



**STUDENT SUCCESS:** Known for helping Hajim students, Norwood was a fixture at the school, guiding undergraduates and helping them find opportunities to succeed.

For the first time in nearly three decades, undergraduates at the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences will be shepherded through their programs by someone other than Lisa Norwood '86, '95W (MS).

Norwood, who has served as assistant dean for undergraduate education at Hajim since the 1990s, retired at the end of August.

Over the course of her career as a mentor and advocate for students, Norwood is credited with leading efforts to increase the number of women, underrepresented minorities, low-income, and first-generation students in Rochester's engineering programs.

In recognition of her commitment to the school and its students, Norwood has received the Hajim School's Outstanding Staff Award and Dottie Welch awards as well as the University's Witmer and Meliora awards.

In a message to the Hajim community, Dean Wendi Heinzelman said, "No one has worked harder or more successfully than Lisa to foster diversity at the Hajim School. . . . In addition to being a tireless advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion, Lisa has been an inspiring mentor to countless students, an innovative administrator, and an enthusiastic ambassador for our University." 

*The Hajim School has established a site to recognize Norwood's commitment to students and the academic excellence of the school. For more, visit [uofr.us/LisaNorwoodFund](http://uofr.us/LisaNorwoodFund).*

## Celebrating a Legendary Coach

Former University swimmers, a diver, team managers, and their partners gathered to celebrate and honor professor emeritus of athletics and recreation **William (Buzz) Boomer '63W (EdM)** at the Vermont home of Maureen and **Mark Delaney '82** in May.

Boomer, an All-American soccer player as a student at Springfield College, served as coach for three different sports at Rochester: men's soccer, 1964–69; assistant varsity coach for field events with the men's track program, 1962–69; and men's swimming and diving, 1962–90.

**Bob Walker '75** and **Sol Israel '77** write that swimming and diving were sports that Coach Boomer “had never participated in before—becoming a highly innovative, inspirational, and successful coach until his retirement in 1992.” Remarkably, Boomer “went on to coach numerous Olympic swimmers and become one of the leading authorities in the world in the development of the sport.”

Former swimmers, divers, and their families initiated the William (Buzz) Boomer Endowment for Swimming, formally established in 2008 to support the Rochester men's and women's swimming and diving programs, as well as the recreation program, which Boomer led from 1970 to 1992.

Pictured in the photograph by **Georg Nadorff '85, '87 (MS)** are (front row, left to right) **David Hunt '80, Sally Fischbeck '73, James Pawelczyk '82, John (Jack) Kennell '82, Anne Dean;**



**SWIMMING MEET-UP:** Alumni of the Yellowjacket swimming and diving program gathered to honor Coach William (Buzz) Boomer—pictured in the center, holding Rocky—who coached both men's teams from 1962 to 1990 (as well as men's soccer and track in the 1960s).

(second row) **John Kruse '82, '89M (PHD), '90M (MD)**, Georg, Coach Boomer, **Bob Walker**, Christine Eichelberger, Maureen Delaney, Debra Kraemer, Jackie Israel; (third row) Lisa Ring, **William Ring '83, '85W (MS), Clare Westropp Evancie '76, Harry Falk '76, '77S (MBA), Sol Israel, James Eichelberger '83, '87M (MD), '93M (Flw), William Ebsary '81, Mark Delaney '82, Jeffrey Hirsch '86;** (back row) Deena Crossmore, **Kevin Uy '87, '93S (MBA), Edward Crossmore '69, John Evancie '75,** Rick Boomer, and **David Drummond '82.** Also attending were **Robert Farmer '82** and **Ken Witterholt '82.** 📷

The interview is available online at [theawfc.com/spotlight/michaela-eremiasova/](http://theawfc.com/spotlight/michaela-eremiasova/).

**2012 Yi-Yang Chen '20 (DMA)** writes that he has joined the University of Kansas School of Music as an assistant professor of piano. Yi-Yang started his teaching career at East Tennessee State University after winning the Washington International Competition in 2017. He is also the artistic director for the Appalachian Music Festival, where he is launching the yearlong online master series for all instruments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The vision for the online program, writes Yi-Yang, is “to provide a plethora of opportunities to achieve goals and the highest level of music amidst COVID-19 and other issues. The online master classes allow stu-

dents to receive teaching from music professors and international artists in addition to their lessons with their current teachers.

**2013 Helen Zhibing Huang '13RC** (see '16).

**2015** Trombonist and educator **Brendan Lanighan** has accepted the position of director of bands at Williamsville East High School in suburban Buffalo. Brendan won the International Trombone Festival J. J. Johnson Solo Competition in 2017, performed as a member of the Glenn Miller Orchestra, and received an MM in jazz studies from the Juilliard School.

**2016 Zachary Peterson (MM)**, the director of graduate advising and services at Eastman, sends a

photo from the 2021 Lotte Lenya Competition in which **Andrew Polec '12RC** won first prize and **Helen Zhibing Huang '13, '13RC** was a finalist. Zachary adds, “I am pleased to report that there was a group of ESM/UR alumni present, both performing and attending the events. In addition to the individuals in the photo, **Analisa Leaming '07** performed in the Lotte Lenya Songbook Recital and previously served as a judge for the semifinal round.” Pictured are, back row, from left, Kim Kowalke, Eastman School professor emeritus of musicology and a professor emeritus of music in the Arthur Satz Department of Music in the College, Zachary (one of this year's competition accompanists), Andrew, **Angela Cucci Rice '03, Kary Haddad '04, '06 (MA),** and Paul Hopper '09; and in front, left,

**Natalie Ballenger '11**, who also performed in the Lotte Lenya Songbook Recital, and Helen.

**2018** Based on a live-performance video submission, **Nikolette (Nikki) LaBonte '21 (MM)** was the only American horn player admitted as a participant to the in-person 70th ARD International Music Competition in Munich in September. Nikki, who was the acting principal horn of the Ft. Worth Symphony in Texas from 2019 until this fall, returned to Rochester to resume her position as associate/assistant/utility horn of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and has begun DMA studies at Eastman. . . . **Adam Sadberry**, the acting principal flutist with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, was a winner of the Ambassador Prize in the 2021 Concert Artists





2016 Peterson

Guild competition. Adam was honored for his “radiant, lyrical playing and his commitment to expanding the Black diaspora in the classical music world through promoting equity, representation, music education, and commissioning music that tells stories of the Black diaspora.” Ambassador Prize winners receive North American management with CAG, a New York debut performance, and participation in CAG’s leadership development program.

**2020 Yi-Yang Chen** (DMA) (see '12).

**2021 Julianna Darby** (MM) won the audition for second clarinet in the Evansville (Indiana) Philharmonic Orchestra. . . . **Nikolette (Nikki) LaBonte** (MM) (see '18).

## School of Medicine and Dentistry

**1967 Jerome Gans** (MD), a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Group Psychotherapy Association and of the American Psychiatric Association, has written *Addressing Challenging Moments in Psychotherapy: Clinical Wisdom for Working with Individuals, Groups*

and *Couples* (Routledge), released in September. Now retired, he was for many years a part-time associate clinical professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and maintained a private practice for 48 years. Jerome writes that his new book will “be of interest to psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and those who teach and supervise psychotherapy.”

**1974 John Vanek** (MD) writes, “I’ve retired from medicine and am pursuing a second career as a mystery author. The fourth book in my Father Jake Austin Mystery Series, *Bedeveled* (Coffeetown Press), was recently released worldwide in paperback and e-book. The first three books in the series, *DEROS*, *Miracles*, and *Absolution*, are also available in large-print hardbound editions from Thorndike Press. Father Jake Austin is a 21st-century Father Brown with hints of PBS’s *Grantchester*. I hope you’ll pick up a copy and support me on my crazy new journey.”

**1978 Raphael Tshibangu** (MD), '82 (Res), a practicing obstetrician and gynecologist in Rochester; a fellow of the American College of Ob-Gyn; and the founding and managing partner of Southeast Obstetrics and Gynecology, where he

has remained since 1991, has published his first book, *Can’t Let Go: A Journey from the Heart of Africa to America* (RTST Group), a memoir. In it, he chronicles his journey—against the backdrop of monumental political, economic, and social changes—across continents and oceans, a journey that would take him from his humble yet proud beginnings to realizing his adolescent dream of becoming a medical doctor.

**1979 Ralph Shipley** (MD) retired in 2020 as a professor emeritus of radiology after 36 years on the faculty of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

**1981 Bradford Berk** (MD, PhD), director of the University of Rochester Neurorestoration Institute, Distinguished University Professor, and former CEO of the Medical Center, has written *Getting Your Brain and Body Back: Everything You Need to Know after Spinal Cord Injury, Stroke, or Traumatic Brain Injury* (The Experiment). In it, he reflects on the spinal cord injury that left him a quadriplegic and details his experience—as a doctor and as a patient—to create a manual for those suffering the physical and mental health consequences of acute neurological injury.

**1982 Raphael Tshibangu** (Res) (see '79).

**1991 Jeffrey Stone** (MD) (see '87 College).

**1992 James Szalados** (Res), director of neurocritical care for Rochester Regional Health, director of surgical critical care at Rochester General Hospital, and an attorney and counselor at law in private legal practice, has published *The Medical-Legal Aspects of Acute Care Medicine: A Resource for Clinicians, Administrators, and Risk Managers* (Springer). The book offers an overview of complex ethical, regulatory, and legal issues relevant to clinical health care professionals in acute care medicine.

**2008 Aasim Padela** (Res) (see '01 College).

## School of Nursing

**1961 Jeanie Maddox Sy** (see '60 College).

## Simon Business School

**1974 Len Joy** (MBA) (see '73 College).

**1977 Ron Taylor** (MBA) (see '76 College).

**1979 John Caligiuri** (MBA) has released *Face One’s Demons* (Guardian Tree), the concluding book in his Cocytus science fiction series. “The four-book series,” he writes, “explores what it means to be human in a galactic society that deems our very existence a crime.” . . . **Dave Crowley** (MBA) (see '76 College).

**1991 Paulo Goes** (PhD) has been named dean of the A. B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University. He was previously dean and the Halle Chair in Leadership of the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona, where he was the Salter Distinguished Professor of Management and Technology and led the management information systems department before taking over as dean. He also cofounded and codirected INSITE: Center for Business Intelligence and Analytics at the college.

**2000 Tim Jones** (MBA) (see '91 College).

**2009 Molly Hildebrandt Martin** (MS) writes, "In May of this year, I joined Blueprint Income as head of product." Acquired by MassMutual in February, Blueprint Income provides an online marketplace where consumers can purchase retirement income products directly and through partner companies.

**2013 Peter Yeh** (MBA) (see '09 College).

**2015 Benjamin Ochrym** (MBA) writes that he was recently named managing director of Wilmington Trust Global Capital Markets, focusing on asset-backed-securities structured finance. He adds that he lives on Manhattan's Upper West Side with his fiancée, **Diana Hitzig '09**.

**2019 Dominique McKinnon** (MBA) has joined Steadfast City Economic & Community Partners in Rochester as senior analyst and director of business operations. The St. Louis-based organization, which serves as a consultant for community development, recently added the Rochester office to serve the Northeast.

## Warner School of Education

**1963 William (Buzz) Boomer** (EdM) (see '75 College).

**1965 Patricia Wagner Wheeler** (PhD) (see '62 College).

**1969 Alice Holloway Young** (EdD) (see '57 Graduate).

**1985 Marvin Sachs** (EdD) (see '64 College).

**2001 Nancy Peckham Niemi** (PhD) (see '84 College).

**2016 Vicki Sapp** (PhD) has been named chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer for the State University of New York at Fredonia. Before the appointment, she was director of student engagement, diversity, and inclusion and an assistant professor in the Department of Medical Education at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine in Scranton, Pennsylvania. She has more than 20 years of experience in higher education, with 15 directly focused on inclusion, diversity, equity, access, and social justice. Early in her career, she served at SUNY Fredonia as a residence

hall director. She has taught at Rochester, Canisius College, the University at Buffalo, and SUNY Cortland. Other career appointments include director of community and organizational development at the University of Rhode Island, assistant director of Residential Life and Housing Services at the University of Rochester, associate director of the Intercultural and Diversity Center at the University at Buffalo, and coordinator for multicultural affairs at SUNY Cortland. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta and has served as a member on several boards, including the Geisinger Diversity and Inclusion Council, Black Scranton Project Center for Arts and Culture, Northeastern Pennsylvania Diversity Education Consortium, and the NEPA Rainbow Alliance.

**2020 Meghan Jordan** (MS) (see '19 College).

## In Memoriam Faculty

**Robert Boeckman Jr.**, professor emeritus in the Department of Chemistry, died in September. The inaugural holder of the Marshall D. Gates Professorship, Boeckman chaired the

department from 2003 to 2013. He joined Rochester's faculty in 1980 and established one of the largest research groups in the chemistry department. He retired in 2019.

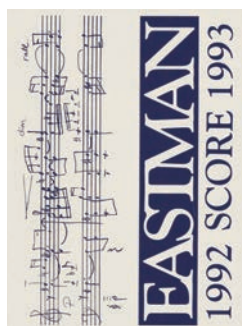
**Kenneth DeHaven**, a former chair of the orthopaedics and a pioneer in sports medicine, died in June. In 1975, DeHaven joined Rochester's Medical Center, where he founded URM's program in athletic medicine, and he took a leading role in developing the use of arthroscopy to repair injuries, particularly in the knees of athletes. He later served as senior associate dean for clinical affairs and director of URM's Faculty Practice Group. He retired in 2013.

**H. Lawrence (Larry) Helfer**, a professor emeritus of astronomy died in April. After joining the faculty in 1958, Helfer carried out fundamental, groundbreaking studies during the 1950s and 1960s. His scientific interests extended from highly theoretical work to observational investigations, research that bridged broad scales, from planetary to cosmological. He retired as an active faculty member in 1999, becoming a professor emeritus and a senior faculty associate.

## UNIVERSITY HISTORY

### Got a Story to Share?

An online exhibition shows the history of Rochester's student publications and asks members of the University community to share their own archives.



If you've ever wondered what Rochester students thought of taking classes on Saturday morning in 1886 or want to remind yourself what your classmates looked like when you knew them on campus, a new exhibition from the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation is a good place to start.

The exhibition, *We'll Tell Our Story: 160 Years of Student Publications*, provides a history of the University from the point of view of student writers, editors, photographers, and other

creatives who participated in Rochester's many campus publications.

Part of an effort to digitize and make available the resources in University Archives, the exhibition includes newspapers, yearbooks, literary publications, humor magazines, and other material from the earliest student newspaper in 1873 to the most recent 2021 journal.

While the collection is fairly comprehensive, it's not entirely complete. The Libraries would be interested in hearing from those who have copies at home, particularly copies of more recent publications, they would be willing to donate. <https://rbscpexhibits.lib.rochester.edu/exhibits/show/wtos>.



**Charles Merriam III**, a former professor and chair of electrical engineering, died in August 2020. Merriam joined the University in 1971 to chair what is now the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. After serving as chair, he was on the faculty until he retired in 2001.

**Malcolm Savedoff**, a professor emeritus of astronomy, died in April. Credited as the first astronomer to be appointed to what is now the Department of Physics and Astronomy, Savedoff held a joint appointment at the Institute of Optics. He conducted fundamental research in astrophysics. He also helped lay the groundwork for the establishment of the University's C.E. Kenneth Mees Observatory, located south of Rochester. He retired in 1991.

## Alumni

**Barbara Barnard Smith** '43E (MM), July 2021

**Jean Gunn Simmons** '44N, May 2021

**Doris E. Reed** '46E, April 2021

**Donald E. Diehl** '47, July 2021

**Jane Roberts Pastel** '47, June 2021

**August Miale** '49, '55M (MD), May 2021

**Shirley Kelly Griggs** '49, '50N, June 2021

**Jeanne Scott Hoose** '49N, June 2021

**Maybelle Dilorenzo Sehm** '49N, June 2021

**Robert A. Wykes** '49E, '49E (MA), June 2021

**Robert H. Brandow** '50, July 2021

**Joan Osborn Brown** '50, May 2021

**Nancy Wyrrough Hartman** '50E, August 2021

**Donald E. Kirchhoff** '50W (Mas), July 2021

**Carol Morse VanHoesen** '50E, August 2021

**Jacqueline Sherman Eber** '51, '60W (MA), July 2021

**Robert M. Greendyke** '51, '55M (MD), June 2021

**James A. Manning** '51M (Res), July 2021

**Audrey Brown McIntosh** '51N, April 2021

**Nancy Selinger Summers** '51E (MA), August 2021

**Warren van Bronkhorst** '51E (MM), '59E (DMA), July 2021

**Robert J. Zullo** '51M (Res), August 2021

**Charleen Helmbrecht Gutmann** '52E, June 2021

**Jeanne C. Hadfield** '52N (Diploma), July 2021

**Jack Richard Holter** '52, June 2021

**Rose Ann Cowell Nichols** '52E, August 2021

**Marilyn Guillet Ott** '52M (MS), June 2021

**Edward M. Sioma** '52, June 2021

**Clarendon E. Van Norman** '52E, April 2021

**Louise Nyberg Burr** '53E, June 2021

**Elinor Wilson Fisk** '53, June 2021

**Leon Hurwitz** '53M (PhD), July 2021

**Darrell L. Johnston** '53E (MM), May 2021

**Gretel Y. Shanley** '53E, '55E (MM), March 2020

**Glenn E. Watkins** '53E (PhD), June 2021

**Donald A. Yap** '53E, '54E (MM), April 2021

**Barry C. Dutcher** '54, '58 (MS), June 2021

**Rodney R. Ingham** '54, August 2021

**Helen Foley Knapp** '54, June 2021

**Laura Hickman Pullen** '54N, July 2021

**Phyllis Shaughnessy** '54N (Dpl), June 2021

**Donald J. Brady** '55, June 2021

**Frank B. Magill** '55M (Res), May 2021

**Donald C. Schek** '55M (MD), July 2021

**Lou Stanley Young** '55, June 2021

**John J. Bundschuh** '56, July 2021

**Richard C. Cook** '56, July 2021

**James F. Crum** '56, June 2021

**Cynthia Grissom Letarte** '56, '57N, June 2021

**Patricia Devine Muirhead** '56N, June 2021

**Patricia Bartlett Albanese** '57E, August 2021

**Robert W. Greeley** '57, October 2020

**Charles D. Whittier** '57, June 2021

**John R. Doud** '58M (MD), May 2021

**Richard C. Hapeman** '58, August 2021

**Norman L. Pollock** '58, July 2021

**Frank Sidorfsky** '58E (MM), '74E (DMA), March 2020

**Douglas G. Williams** '58M (MD), '66M (Res), August 2021

**Jerome A. Bovenzi** '59, '69W (MA), June 2021

**K. Grace Harrop** '59E (MM), July 2021

**Jon M. Hassell** '59E, '60E (MM), June 2021

**Donald R. Huene** '59M (MD), '67M (Res), July 2021

**Paul L. Ruben** '59, '60 (MS), July 2021

**Jane Willis Schultz** '59N (Dpl), '59N, August 2021

**Nancy Keeler Wilson** '59, May 2021

**Reginald J. Andlaw** '60D (Pdc), '61D (MS), March 2021

**Richard B. Balsley** '60, August 2021

**Suzanne Evans Neckers** '60, June 2021

**David M. Richey** '60E, June 2021

**Margaret Griffith Ward** '60, August 2021

**Ruth M. Blekken** '61, June 2021

**Edward R. Kimmel** '61, '63 (MS), January 2021

**Carol Balch Morrison** '61, November 2019

**Donald E. Alhart** '62, July 2021

**Ambrose A. Hochrein** '62, '64 (MS), July 2021

**Kenneth C. Landall** '62, August 2021

**Thomas E. Lynch** '62, '69S (MBA), August 2021

**Barbara Sracnek Smillie** '62E, July 2021

**Diane Wehner Toulson** '62E, June 2021

**Frederick Dischinger** '63M (Res), June 2021

**Patricia A. Rusk** '63E, July 2021

**Robert S. Babcock** '64, July 2021

**Kenneth A. Borgus** '64, June 2021

**Stuart G. Carter** '64, June 2021

**Nancy Gorham Farina** '64, August 2021

**Daniel J. O'Donovan** '64M (PhD), May 2021

**Walter A. Orłowski** '64M (Flw), '69M (PhD), July 2021

**Judith Gorton Parkinson** '64E (MM), May 2021

**Elizabeth A. Veale** '64, June 2021

**Hiroko Holtfreter** '65 (PhD), March 2021

**John P. Spare** '65, August 2021

**David D. Strimple** '65, June 2021

**Catherine Bavalack Amato** '66N, August 2021

**Robert A. Bell** '66, June 2021

**Barry W. Frieder** '66, July 2021

**Lowell E. Glick** '66, March 2020

**John E. Myhill** '66, September 2020

**Robert A. Schoenberg** '66, August 2021

**Carol M. Dansky** '67, August 2021

**Jack M. Goronkin** '67, July 2021

**Susan Knight Keenan** '67, '86W (Mas)

**John C. Shank** '67, June 2021

**Connie Clay Rochelle-Woodley** '68E (MM), July 2021

**Albert C. Crofton** '69S (MBA), June 2021

**Robert J. Donough** '69, July 2021

**James E. Kennedy** '69D (MS), '69D (Pdc), July 2021

**J. Sanford Schwartz** '70, June 2021

**Patricia Cober Ashbrook** '71W (MA), May 2021

**Richard L. Higley** '71, July 2020

**Gary W. Lamphere** '71M (MD), June 2021

**Patricia Pragacz Looney** '71, '78W (Mas), June 2021

**Kenichi Yamaga** '71M (Flw), December 2020

**Valerie Garabedian Kalwas** '72E, August 2021

**Terry F. Cashmore** '73M (MD), June 2021

**Kathleen Root Chandler** '73, May 2021

**Daniel E. Zlotowitz** '73, November 2020

**Mary Sherwood Aldoretta** '74, June 2021

**Donald J. Edge** '74 (PhD), June 2021

**Joseph J. Wender** '74, April 2021

**Eleanor Nicolai McQuillen** '75M (Res), May 2021

**Robert Werner** '75M (Res), November 2020

**Marilyn A. Belli** '76N, '83N (MS), July 2021

**Michael D. Falkoff** '76M (Res), July 2021

**Richard J. Kievit** '76S (MBA), August 2021

**Andrew C. John** '77M (MD), July 2021

**James M. Burke** '78M (MD), June 2021

**William A. Duncan** '80, May 2021

**Ronald I. Groth** '80, '82 (MS), August 2021

**James R. Burton** '82S (MBA), July 2021

**Mary Stritzel-Townsley** '82S (MBA), July 2021

**Cecily Kramer Bodnar** '83W (MS), February 2021

**Nelson J. Christiansen** '83, July 2021

**William K. Fancher** '83S (MBA), June 2021

**Bennett C. Davis** '84W (MS), June 2021

**Ann Lavery Richards** '85W (MS), June 2021

**Lonnie R. Slapar** '88D, May 2021

**Thomas McGinty** '89, August 2021

**Maria Dario Nizza** '90, May 2021

**Mary Katharine Norton** '90, July 2021

**Andrew F. Rowell** '91, June 2021

**Richard C. Brown** '94D, June 2021

**Rubina Usman Saigol** '95W (PhD), August 2021

**Kyle L. Welch** '99N, August 2021

**Deborah S. Trout** '01, '02 (MA), June 2021

**Jill Stauffer Maney** '02 (PhD), July 2021

**Kenneth K. Conte** '04S (MBA), February 2021

**Charles Bistrong** '20, June 2021

**Vatsal Agarwal** '21, July 2021

## Strike Up the Band

Joining band or orchestra in your 60s? Your 70s? Even 80s? Sue Ames '81N (MS) shares what she's learned in more than 15 years with Eastman-Rochester New Horizons.

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

New Horizons Program

*Editor's note:* The New Horizons program for adult musicians celebrated its 30th birthday in 2021. Founded at the Eastman School of Music, it has grown to nearly 200 chapters around North America and Australia.

**I was in the band through high school, where I played the clarinet, and I sang in the choir.** And as I look back, those were two of my favorite activities. But when high school finished, I thought, "Well, you know, that's it." I did sing in the choir in college a little bit but never continued the clarinet and didn't really think too much about it. Then, before I retired, I saw this article in the paper about New Horizons, and I thought, "Wow, I guess maybe I could get the clarinet out again." So, I cut the article out and put it in my file of activities I would do when I retired. And when I retired in 2005, I immediately got involved with New Horizons.

**New Horizons was started 30 years ago at Eastman by Roy Ernst, who is now a professor emeritus.** His idea was to offer retired people at any level, including the beginner, the opportunity to play a musical instrument as part of an ensemble. But there is no minimum age, and New Horizons programs are all over the United States and Canada and in Australia.

**Our Rochester group is affiliated with the Eastman Community Music School. We have more than 200 people involved, who are part of one or more of 15 ensembles, as well as a chorus, for participants at all different levels.** The beauty of the program is that many people who join New Horizons have no musical background. We get a lot of people who say, "Oh, I always wanted to play

### Sue Ames '81N (MS)

*Retired associate professor of nursing, Monroe Community College*

Clarinetist, Eastman-Rochester New Horizons (Rocnewhorizons.org) concert band

**Favorite performance number:** "'Stars and Stripes Forever.' I'm in the band, so we do a lot of marches. I love it when we play 'Stars and Stripes'—it's so invigorating. So that's a favorite for me. That's a favorite for a lot of people."



the trumpet, or the violin"—whatever. Many others are like me, having played in school and are now picking up their instrument again. And then there are some who have been playing all along.

**When I first picked up a clarinet again, it felt familiar. I remembered how to put it together, how to put the reed on, and how to play and be part of a band. The biggest challenge was getting my embouchure back.** That's your mouth position. You have to build those muscles up again. Because I was new, I had no idea what level of play I was at. I started in the Green Band, which is for beginners. I did that for a year and it got me back in the groove. Then I moved on up to our concert band, which is our intermediate level.

**We rehearse two days a week. One day we're in full band and the other we're in sectionals, where we have mentors who are Eastman students. It's so wonderful the relationship we develop with them.** It's kind of funny for them when they first start with us, because most of us are old enough to be their grandparents. And we just hang on every word that they share with us. We benefit from their knowledge and expertise. And they benefit from us because they see that life can be exciting and full when you're older.

**I do wish I played better. Many people in New Horizons, myself included, take lessons on the side. But a strong current throughout the program is, in Roy's words, "your best is good enough."** There's a social component, too. During rehearsals we have a break— a coffee hour—so that people can mix. We've all developed friendships that extend beyond coming to rehearsals and playing concerts.

**There is something special about playing in a group. You can play individually, but playing in a group is like a team sport.** We come together, we learn our parts, we listen to each other, we listen across the ensemble, and we have to work with a conductor. Then there's game-day support when we have a concert. We all want to do well, and we get really focused—into the zone, so to speak.

**We encounter challenges that come with aging, of course.** We have people who've gotten special glasses, and one of our members, in his 90s, carries his tuba in on a cart. Our wind is not the same as our mentors from Eastman. But we persevere. The benefits are physical and mental. It keeps us engaged in life. 🎷





PAYING IT FORWARD

## While paying tribute to the past.

"The University of Rochester gave me an excellent medical education. I remember what it was like to be a student paying daunting tuition bills. By establishing an endowed scholarship in memory of my grandfather, as well as funding a George Eastman Circle term scholarship, I directly support medical students at a time they need it most. Recently I decided to include the University as a beneficiary of my estate so that my term scholarship will carry on as an endowed scholarship in the future. It was an easy thing to do. Giving back has renewed and strengthened my connection to a chapter of my life that was very important."

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#### FIRST-YEAR FORMALITIES

### Medical Examination

**SELF STUDY:** Minhaj Rahman, a first-year medical student from Stamford, Connecticut, takes a class selfie after this fall's Dr. Robert L. and Lillian H. Brent White Coat Ceremony for the School of Medicine and Dentistry's Class of 2025. The annual ceremony, held this year at the Larry and Cindy Bloch Alumni and Advancement Center, marks the formal introduction of the class into the study and practice of medicine. **PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER**