



HUNTER

WINTER '08/'09

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This is the first issue of *At Hunter* in a new magazine format. We've changed from the old large-page, double-fold format because we believe it gives *At Hunter* an up-to-date look and is easier to handle and read.

Our size may have changed, but not our content. We've increased the number of pages to give you just as many articles about people and events at the college, just as many color photographs and just as much alumni news.

We hope you like our new look. If you'd like to comment, please call 212.772.4070 or e-mail us at alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu



THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Ever since its founding in 1870 as one of the first institutions of higher learning in America dedicated to the education of women, Hunter College has been an innovator. This great tradition endures as we continue to establish more "firsts."

One of these firsts is the public artwork *Infinite Light* that was installed on September 25 on the exterior of the pedestrian bridges that connect our main buildings. Created by the French artist Laurent Grasso, the piece consists of the words *day for night* repeated several times and illuminated in fluorescent neon tubes. The neon's blue tint is similar to the filters filmmakers use to simulate nighttime during the day.

Infinite Light was installed in connection with a special exhibition at the Hunter Art Galleries, *to: Night — Contemporary Representations of the Night*. The exhibit was curated by Joachim Pissarro, Mara Hoberman and Julia Moreno. That, in turn, coincided with a widely praised exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art, *Van Gogh and the Colors of the Night*, which was curated by Pissarro, Hunter's Bershad Professor of Art History and director of the Hunter Galleries.

Yet another first came on October 23 when we held the Hunter College Foundation Board of Trustees' Inaugural Gala. Two outstanding alumni — Abbe Raven, president and CEO of A&E Television Networks, and Joel A. Katz, the nation's foremost entertainment-industry lawyer — received our new Bridge to Achievement Award. The funds raised by this exciting event will help hundreds of Hunter students cross their own bridges to achievement.

The Gala will become an annual event — one that celebrates Hunter's commitment to excellence and innovation in higher education.

Jennifer J. Raab

Rita & Burton Goldberg Establish an MFA in Playwriting

Even though her major was social work, Hunter alumna Rita Goldberg ('46) always found herself taking electives in the theatre and literature departments. Now, more than 60 years after graduating, Goldberg and her equally arts-smitten husband are founding a program of their own: the Rita and Burton Goldberg MFA in Playwriting at Hunter College.

Thanks to their substantial gift, New York City will gain another much-needed playwriting program.

The Hunter program will be one of the most innovative of its kind in the country, owing to a unique set of requirements including staged readings and full productions of every student's work. Acclaimed playwright and Hunter professor Tina Howe will head curriculum development.

One of the few other existing programs owes much of its success to the Goldbergs: Since 2003, they have been the namesakes of the dramatic writing program at New York University's

Tisch School of the Arts. But Hunter's will be the first program they have started from scratch, and they could not be more excited.

"NYU has been a very positive experience, and we love the personal involvement," said Mrs. Goldberg. "We are both products of the city system" — Mr. Goldberg earned his BA and MA from Brooklyn College — "and we decided it was time to return and do something similar at Hunter."

Along with lengthy and successful careers in real estate and special education counseling, the Goldbergs have made theatregoing a lifelong endeavor.

"We saw the first production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*," said Mrs. Goldberg. "Brando was overwhelming." So was the original *Death of a Salesman*, said Mr. Goldberg.

"Theatre has a lot of poetry in it. It's the best possible way to understand the human condition," he said.

Noted playwright Howe says faculty

in the theatre department have long dreamed of offering an MFA.

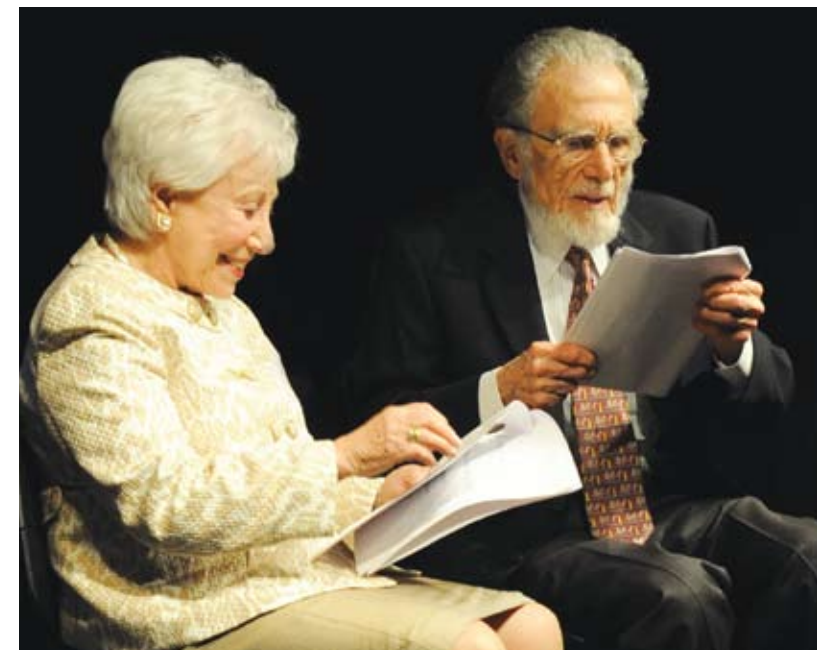
"After all, here we are, an eminent public institution smack in the middle of the most vital theatre town in the

grandchildren, the Goldbergs may yet carve themselves new careers in the theatre.

At a recent event celebrating their donation and the dedication of a new



▲ President Jennifer J. Raab celebrates the new MFA with Rita Goldberg (l) and noted playwright Tina Howe.



country. When Rita and Burton joined us in this dream, we were off and running. Sustained by their faith and enthusiasm, we'll be able to offer the next generation of playwrights an unheard of opportunity — an affordable MFA under the guidance of the most exciting artists working in the theatre today."

Helping young playwrights is nothing new to Mrs. Goldberg, a founding board member of the Lark Play Development Center, which provides resources and support for American and international playwrights. And after 60 years of marriage, four children, and six

rehearsal studio in their honor, Rita and Burton became the star attractions, as they performed *The Bald Soprano Comes to New York*, a short play by Howe. When an impressed audience member suggested that they find themselves an agent, they both shrugged, their eyes twinkling.

"We'll see," they said in unison.

Theatre is the best possible way to understand the human condition.

— Burton Goldberg

◀ The Goldbergs display their acting chops.



NEW PUBLIC HEALTH SCHOOL FOCUSES ON HEALTHIER CITIES

ates “with the skills and knowledge to help eliminate the serious disparities in urban health care facing the poor, minorities and immigrants, while also preparing future faculty and addressing staffing shortages in the public health workforce that will accompany the aging of baby boomers.”

Dr. Kenneth Olden envisions the proposed CUNY School of Public Health, to be housed at Hunter, as an “epicenter” of urban public health research.

“When people think about the leaders in public health, I want them to think of Hunter and of the City University of New York,” said Olden, a renowned cancer researcher who is the founding dean of CUNY’s School of Public Health.

The public health undergraduate and master’s programs, currently at Hunter, Brooklyn, and Lehman Colleges — along with the doctoral programs at the Graduate Center and Hunter — will be joined under a university-wide public health school. Olden said that the school is poised to turn out gradu-

ates “with the skills and knowledge to help eliminate the serious disparities in urban health care facing the poor, minorities and immigrants, while also preparing future faculty and addressing staffing shortages in the public health workforce that will accompany the aging of baby boomers.”

Students enrolled in the CUNY School of Public Health, which could be granted accreditation as early as 2011, can work toward a master of public health or a master of science degree with a specialization in epidemiology, biostatistics, social and behavioral sciences, health care administration and policy, or environmental health sciences. They can also earn a doctorate in public health. Classes will be offered at Brookdale and at other CUNY campuses.

Given the school’s Manhattan location, Olden, a former director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), said he expected that it would draw students “who live and work in the very urban communities it is designed to serve.”

He said urbanization is among the

three most pressing public health trends — the other two being the aging of the American populace and the growing disparities in health care. The public health curriculum would address the nexus of these three issues, he said.

His appointment by CUNY’s Board of Trustees was made at the recommendation of Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab.

“Under Dr. Olden’s leadership CUNY and Hunter College are well positioned to establish a world-class School of Public Health given our strong existing programs in the field and the University’s great strengths in the natural and social sciences that underlie public health,” President Raab said.

its Cancer Center and chairman of the Department of Oncology.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from Knoxville College, a master’s in genetics from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate in cell biology and biochemistry from Temple University. He did post-doctoral work and taught at Harvard Medical School, and went on to conduct research at the National Cancer Institute.

“Dr. Olden is a distinguished scientific leader and cancer researcher who displays an unwavering commitment to public health. He brings an impressive combination of national and, indeed, international experience and service to the country to this vitally important and new initiative,” said Chancellor Goldstein.

I’m building a school that’s going to be here 100 years from now. — Kenneth Olden



PROUD ALUMNA ESTABLISHES NURSING DEANSHIP

Joan Hansen Grabe (‘60) says her years at Hunter High School and Hunter College were transformative.

“Hunter took a girl from the Bronx and gave her a first-class education,” Grabe said. “I really do bleed (Hunter) purple.”

That allegiance led Grabe to endow a deanship at Hunter’s School of Nursing, reestablished this year as a freestanding school within the College. “We should attract the best and the brightest, and turn out more highly educated nursing

professionals who can teach and serve as administrators and practitioners—nurses who work in the community, not just in hospitals,” she said.

Grabe and her husband, Bill, have decided in recent years to focus their philanthropic efforts in two areas: conservation and education.

“We felt we could do more by concentrating on specific things,” said Grabe, who has worked as a nurse at Planned Parenthood and in hospitals and schools.

In 2005, the four Grabe children endowed a Hunter Mother’s Day

Scholarship to honor their mother. Grabe has requested that their gift go to a nursing student who embodies the spirit of Grabe’s friend and Hunter classmate, Ellen Lloyd Gallagher. Gallagher, who earned her doctorate in nursing while raising seven children, died in 1999 of a brain tumor. “She was so devoted to nursing, to her family, and to her friends,” Grabe said.

Grabe said she has “high hopes” that, under the leadership of Dr. Gebbie, the nursing program will increase its capacity while maintaining its high standards.



NURSING DEAN’S PRODUCTIVE JOURNEY FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TO HUNTER

PUBLIC HEALTH AT HUNTER COLLEGE

There’s a nationwide nursing shortage — and Hunter is heeding the call to graduate more nurses to serve as health care workers, administrators, teachers, researchers and educators. This fall, Hunter established its School of Nursing as an entity separate from Hunter’s Schools of the Health Professions, which had long housed its nursing programs.

At the helm of the repositioned school is its acting dean, Kristine Gebbie, who has been influential in developing HIV/AIDS policy for more than two decades — serving under President Clinton in 1993–1994 as the nation’s first ‘AIDS czar’.

“The reconstitution of the School of Nursing sends a message that Hunter takes nursing seriously,” Gebbie said. “This is an exciting opportunity to work with a school that is committed to the City of New York and to the 21st century.”

Joan Grabe (‘60), who graduated from Hunter College High School and went on to earn a bachelor of science in nursing at Hunter, endowed the nursing deanship (See story on p. 4).

In her new role as the acting Joan Grabe Dean of the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, Gebbie plans to incorporate more of the latest health sciences technology into the curricula, and to grow Hunter’s nursing programs.

“There isn’t any area of nursing

practice that has enough nurses,” she said. The challenge is not getting people interested in the field — Hunter is receiving record numbers of highly qualified applicants to its nursing program, she said. The challenge is to find ways to accommodate more faculty, specialized teaching labs and students.

In addition, Gebbie said she wants to increase the number of nurses with bachelor’s degrees who go on to graduate-level health sciences studies, and to raise awareness of the wide range of nursing careers — despite the monolithic way that nurses are portrayed on many prime-time medical dramas. “The nice thing about a nursing degree is how flexible it is,” she said. “You can work in a hospital or you can do research; you can move up in hospital management; you can work as a visiting nurse or for a public health department or at a school... It’s very intellectually demanding.”

Gebbie comes to Hunter from Columbia University, where she has worked since leaving the White House. Most recently, she served as Columbia’s Elizabeth Standish Gill Professor of Nursing and the director of the University’s Center for Health Policy. In recent years her research has focused on the emergency preparedness and the response protocols of the public health workforce.

Prior to being appointed the Federal AIDS Coordinator, Gebbie was secretary of the Department of Health for the State of Washington and, before that, served as a public health administrator for the State of Oregon. She was a member of the first Presidential Committee on AIDS, formed in 1987 by

President Reagan, and has chaired the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on the Prevention of HIV Infection.

“Under Dr. Gebbie’s leadership, Hunter College is positioned to graduate the nursing professionals who will be the leading caregivers, administra-

of nursing from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., a master’s degree of nursing from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a doctorate of public health from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Gebbie said she’s been impressed by the Hunter community. “The



▲ Dean Gebbie with her former boss, President Bill Clinton

tors and researchers of the future,” Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab said. “The School of Nursing will benefit greatly from Dr. Gebbie’s health policy expertise.”

Gebbie holds a bachelor’s degree

students ask probing, forward-looking questions,” she said. I don’t think it’s going to be that difficult to find a path forward to an even stronger school.”

Public Art Installation Lights Up Hunter



white photographs by Jen DeNike. But it was *Infinite Light* — manufactured at a Tribeca neon studio — that garnered the most attention. “Although the neon is turned on 24 hours a day, it really begins to glow around dusk,” Hoberman said. “If

I am leaving the office around 6 p.m., I always see students and passersby stopping to look up and admire the neon.”

She added: “The amount of time and effort that it took to mount Laurent Grasso’s *Infinite Light* on the Hunter bridges means that the school is dedicated to the arts and to sharing its artistic projects with the community.”

◀ NYC Councilman Dan Garodnick with Professor Joachim Pissarro at the *to: Night* opening



Hunter’s iconic pedestrian bridges are aglow — thanks to the arrival of the largest public art installation in the College’s history. Massive neon letters that repeatedly spell out the phrase *day for night* adorn the exterior of the College’s third-floor glass walkways. The phrase refers to a movie-making technique used during daylight hours to produce the illusion of a nighttime scene.

French artist Laurent Grasso’s installation, called *Infinite Light*, was put up in connection with *to: Night* — *Contemporary Representations of the Night* at Hunter’s art galleries. Showcasing 80 mostly contemporary works depicting the nighttime theme in disparate ways, the exhibit was mounted at Hunter’s Bertha and Karl Leubsdorf Art Gallery on East 68th. and at the College’s Times Square gallery.



▲ *Infinite Light* artist Laurent Grasso

Grasso was recently awarded the prestigious 2008 Prix Marcel Duchamp. The award is given annually to a promising young artist; the winner

receives prize money and additional funding for an exhibition to be held at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris.

“We are pleased that, in addition to bringing this sculpture to the residents and visitors of the Upper East Side, we are also bringing important public attention to Hunter College’s role as a cultural force in the city, as well as to our phenomenal art program,” Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab said during the September 25 opening reception of the show and inaugural lighting of *Infinite Light*. “At Hunter, we are proud to train the next generation of artists, art historians, and curators — at a fraction of the cost of other graduate programs around the city.”

Joachim Pissarro, Hunter’s Bershad Professor of Art History and Director of the Hunter College Galleries, curated the show with Mara Hoberman and

Julia Moreno. Hoberman is a master’s student in art history at Hunter, and Moreno is working toward her PhD in art history at the Sorbonne in Paris.

Just four days before the opening of *to: Night*, a similarly themed art show curated by Pissarro — *Van Gogh and the Colors of Night* — opened at the Museum of Modern Art. The MoMA exhibit showcased Vincent van Gogh’s various techniques for depicting nighttime.

In an essay published in the *to: Night* catalog, Pissarro wrote, “Were van Gogh alive today, how would he conceive of the nocturnal reality, and through what kind of media would he investigate it? Over forty artists provide elements of the answer to this particular conundrum.”

In advance of the *to: Night* opening, Grasso, speaking about his instal-

lation and its Lexington Avenue backdrop, told *The New York Times*: “The transparency of the bridge for me is very interesting, because it’s like the letters are in suspension with the sky behind.”

At the opening celebration, held in front of Hunter’s West Building, college staff handed out popcorn and glow-in-the-dark bracelets and

necklaces. The Hunter College Jazz Ensemble entertained the hundreds of people who came out to see the lighting, and then many in the crowd boarded open-air buses headed to Hunter’s Times Square gallery.

The pieces that made up *to: Night* employed a wide range of media. Artwork included a suspended fiberglass sphere by Russell Crotty, an oil painting of Times Square by Yvonne Jacquette, a four-minute film by Marc Swanson and Neil Gust, and a series of black-and-

to: Night curators Julia Moreno (l) and Mara Hoberman (r) oversee the production of *Infinite Light* with Hunter Art Galleries’ Tracy Adler. ▶



We are bringing important public attention to Hunter College’s role as a cultural force in the city. — Jennifer J. Raab

MEDIA STUDIES AT HUNTER

PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING PROFESSORS GIVE HUNTER JOURNALISM STUDENTS AN EDGE



▲ Pulitzer Prize-winning professor Karen Hunter with Reverend Sharpton

Those who dream of a career in journalism need the technical proficiency to navigate the proliferating new media. Yet they must also be grounded in old-fashioned newsgathering — reporting, interviewing, investigating and writing. The fundamentals still apply.

That's where Hunter journalism students have an advantage over the competition. Not only does the College offer an extraordinary range

of media courses, but, in addition, its professors include two Pulitzer Prize winners: Bernard L. Stein and Karen Hunter.

Stein is the publisher emeritus of the *Riverdale Press*, the Bronx weekly for which he won a Pulitzer for editorial writing in 1998. A former editor and publisher of that paper, he puts his experience in — and dedication to — community journalism to work in his classes.

Under his editorship, Stein's

students produce a free weekly newspaper, *The Hunts Point Express*, which covers what he describes as “one of the poorest neighborhoods in the city, maybe in the nation.” The underlying concept is that every community needs a paper to cover local issues. The result is that a Bronx neighborhood that couldn't normally support a newspaper now has its own firsthand source of essential information.

“The students work incredibly hard at it,” said Stein, who has been teaching journalism at Hunter since 2005. “Sometimes they write six versions of a story before I'll use it, but they don't give up. They really feel accountable to the readership, and they are imbued with a strong sense of social justice.”

Hunts Points clearly appreciates what it's getting. *The Express* flies off the newsstands so fast that the press run was increased recently from 2,000 a week to 3,000. It's a safe bet that no other paper in the nation just experienced a 50 percent increase in circulation.

Tracy Neiman, a Hunter student who recently won a CUNY-sponsored Murray Kempton Award for Journalism, said that Stein, her basic reporting professor, has helped her become a better reporter and writer. “One of the most important teachings Professor Stein left me with is this: Everyone is interesting, and everyone has a story to tell,” Neiman said. “I think about this often, especially when I'm lacking article ideas or inspiration.”

Karen Hunter won her share of a Pulitzer in 1999 while a member of the *Daily News* editorial board. That same year she and her colleagues captured journalism's other top prize, the Polk Award, a rare double feat. She was also the first African-American woman at the *Daily News* to become a news columnist.

Hunter has co-authored five



▲ Professor Bernard Stein

New York Times best-selling books, including those written with Queen Latifah and Wendy Williams. She also co-wrote books with Al Sharpton and L.L. Cool J. Last year, Simon & Schuster/Pocket Books launched a Karen Hunter Publishing imprint.

Since she joined the Hunter faculty in 2002, her teaching has reflected her dedication to excellence. “My approach,” she said, “is to give my students the skills to be able to walk into any newsroom in the world and work.”

But that's only the beginning of her lessons. She stresses the work ethic — “show up every day, follow instructions, deliver on deadline.” And she instills confidence. “I have them going out and interviewing people throughout the semester to get used to asking questions of strangers. Communicating is our business, and the more students are well versed in the art of getting people to open up, the more successful they will be in the media — and beyond.”

[Students] really feel accountable to the readership, and they are imbued with a strong sense of social justice.
— Bernard Stein

MEDIA STUDIES STUDENTS TAKE HISTORIC REPORTING TRIP

Hunter student journalist Kisha Allison was issued a press pass that provided her access to the Democratic National Convention, held in August at Denver's Pepsi Center. But it was the time that she spent outside of the convention center — speaking with Americans who traveled hundreds of miles to commemorate Barack Obama's historic nomination, or to air their grievances about everything from veterans' benefits to gay rights — that Allison will remember as the highlight of the recent reporting trip she made with two of her Hunter classmates.

“The most interesting part was getting to find out what people want from the next president — what they think Barack Obama can provide, and what they think he can't provide,” said Allison, a 21-year-old senior.

While in Denver, Allison and her Hunter peers — juniors Jacqueline Fernandez, 20, and Jonathan Mena, 25 — covered the nominating convention for *The Hunter Word*, a campus-based online magazine. The three media studies majors, worked almost around the clock, posting stories to the site, writing web log entries, reporting podcasts, and editing and uploading video feeds.

Allison, a Brooklyn native, said many of the people she interviewed were impressed that college journalists from the East Coast had traveled on assignment to the convention. “They were enthusiastic that I was working for a student publication,” she said. “They're tired of Fox and CNN. They want more down-to-earth coverage.”

Student engagement funds from Hunter, provided by the President's

Office, contributed to the students' expenses. The trio also received funds from New American Media and the Ford Foundation. New American Media, a nationwide umbrella group for ethnic news organizations, arranged convention press passes for the Hunter students.

“We were delighted to help make this opportunity possible for three hard-working student journalists,” said Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab. “We are proud of the persistence and professionalism they showed while reporting in Denver.”

Greggory Morris, an assistant professor of film and media studies at Hunter who teaches a class on multimedia ethnic reporting, was invited by New America Media to attend the convention with several students. Morris said he chose Allison, Fernandez, and Mena for the trip because they had “demonstrated a very clear interest in ethnic/immigrant news and community issues, and they were very talented.”

The students said they tried without success to obtain press passes to cover the Republican National Convention — held in St. Paul, Minn., the week after the Democratic National Convention.

Fernandez said that covering the Democratic convention taught her lessons that she couldn't possibly have picked up in a classroom. “The best way to learn something is to literally be thrown into situations where you are completely unsure of yourself, and if you're able to overcome those moments of complete vulnerability, then you've got it.”

She said she was energized by the challenge of competing with thousands of professional journalists for stories. Reporting live via the Web



▲ From left, Kisha Allison, Jonathan Mena, and Jacqueline Fernandez with their reporting gear at the Democratic National Convention

after sneaking on to the convention floor and interviewing New York City Council Member John Liu, were among the highlights of the event, she said.

“I always thought I had an idea of how fast the pace was or how stressful it could be,” Fernandez, who grew up in Los Angeles, said. “But I never experienced it in that high of a dose. I felt that I made a lot of mistakes at the DNC and, because of that experience, I was able to learn so much more about myself and my capabilities. As a result, I will definitely pursue a career in journalism after graduation.”

Mena, who, with Allison, had traveled to New Hampshire last winter to cover the presidential primary contests, said that his recent reporting trips solidified his decision to go into journalism after graduation. “We got to talk to so many people who do this for a living, and hear about their passion for it,” said Mena, a Brooklyn native.

Morris said he was impressed by the professional-quality work that his students completed at the convention. “I believe this trip opened new vistas for teaching journalism to students, as the real world of journalism is radically changing,” he said.

The most interesting part was getting to find out what people want from the next president — what they think Barack Obama can provide, and what they think he can't provide.

— Kisha Allison

Hunter Honors Outstanding Alumni At Inaugural Gala

More than 500 guests filled the ballroom of The Plaza on October 23rd to celebrate the recipients of the Hunter College Foundation's inaugural "Bridge to Achievement Awards." Abbe Raven (MA '77) and Joel Katz (BA '66) were honored for their commitment to education and their phenomenal accomplishments in their fields. The awards gala, which will become an annual tradition, raised more than \$800,000 to support Hunter College students.

Katz thanked Hunter for "accepting the challenge of providing excellence in education to students with great minds, great desires, and great dreams."

"The Hunter College inaugural gala was a great success, both in terms of money raised and as a wonderful and entertaining event of its own," said President Jennifer J. Raab, who served as the evening's host. "We celebrated Hunter with music, video, and the honoring of two of its outstanding alumni — Abbe Raven and Joel Katz. The benefits will last far longer than a single evening, and we look forward to

building on our success at next year's gala."

Hunter alumna Klara Silverstein, chair of the Gala and chair of the Hunter College Foundation, began the evening by acknowledging President Raab and the Hunter "renaissance," as well as the pride she takes in her own two Hunter degrees. President Raab then took the stage to welcome the guests and to introduce a new video documenting the human and academic diversity of Hunter.

Bill Kurtis — former CBS news anchor and the host of A&E's hit shows *Investigative Reports*, *American Justice*, and *Cold Case Files* — introduced Raven, president and CEO of A&E Television Networks. Raven has built some of the most powerful brands in television, including A&E and the History and Bio channels. In 2007 she received the prestigious Preserve America Award from First Lady Laura Bush for her outstanding commitment to historic preservation. Raven provides Hunter students with valuable internships at A&E, inspiring them with her own story of working her way from the bottom to the pinnacle of her profession.

"What my Hunter and my New York public school education gave me was experience in the real world," said Raven as she accepted the award. "It shaped me as a leader and as a person. It has been the key to my success. That is why this girl from Queens is so proud to be a Hunter graduate."

Joel Katz is Chair of Global Media and Entertainment Practice at the

prestigious law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP, and is consistently ranked as one of the most influential lawyers in America. In 2005, he endowed the Joel

minds, great desires, and great dreams." Both Raven and Katz were honored with videos highlighting their major accomplishments and featuring



▲ Gala honorees Joel Katz (l) and Abbe Raven (r) celebrate with President Jennifer J. Raab and A&E star Bill Kurtis.

A. Katz Scholarship Fund at Hunter for students struggling academically due to financial circumstances. In introducing Katz, Rev. Al Sharpton, his friend and client, described how he first heard about the famed lawyer.

"James Brown ... told me when I was very young, 'There's a man named Joel Katz. You can trust him. He gives lawyering a good name,'" said Sharpton.

After thanking his friends, family, and colleagues, Katz thanked Hunter "for giving so many students the opportunity to study and to learn with so little financial cost and for accepting the challenge of providing excellence in education to students with great

personal testimonies from friends and colleagues. President Raab also singled out several outstanding students and alumni, including past and current Joel Katz scholars and A&E interns. Other notable gala attendees included *Sopranos* actor Dominic Chianese, NYC Comptroller William Thompson, former NYC Mayor David Dinkins, Assemblyman Jonathan Bing, NYC Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta, Republican strategist Ed Rollins, and Ambassador William vanden Heuvel. Country western singer and songwriter Phil Vassar provided the night's musical entertainment.



Country western star Phil Vassar entertains the packed crowd in the Plaza ballroom. ▶



▲ Gala Chair Klara Silverstein kicks off the evening.



▲ Former mayor David Dinkins and legendary soprano Martina Arroyo get re-acquainted.



▲ Sisters and Hunter alumnae Barbara Dickstein (l) and Lucille Kaufman



▲ Businessman George Lindemann (l) with State Assemblyman Jonathan Bing



▲ Hunter board member Leona Chanin (l) with prominent fundraiser Naomi Levine



▲ Phil Vassar performs the final song of the evening.

HAPPENINGS AT HUNTER

FALL '08



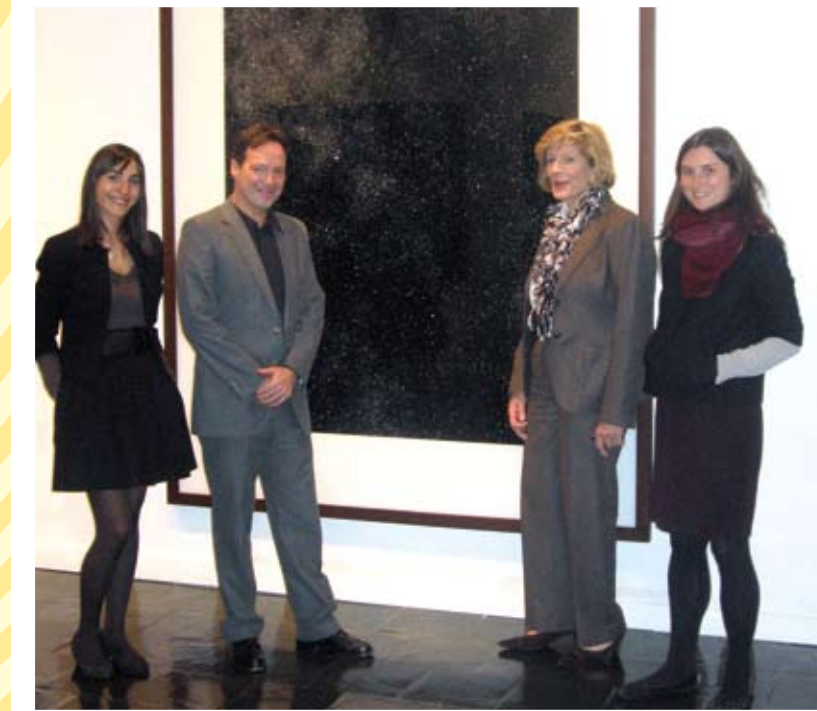
◀ Sopranos star Dominic Chianese greets film professor Annette Insdorf at the Hunter College Foundation's Inaugural Gala. (See pages 10 & 11.)



▲ Gala award presenter Rev. Al Sharpton with NYC Comptroller Bill Thompson



▲ Author and historian Robert Schlesinger reads from his new book at an event sponsored by the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute.



▲ to: Night curators Julia Moreno (l), Joachim Pissarro, and Mara Hoberman (r) give a private tour of the exhibition to MOMA president emerita Agnes Gund.



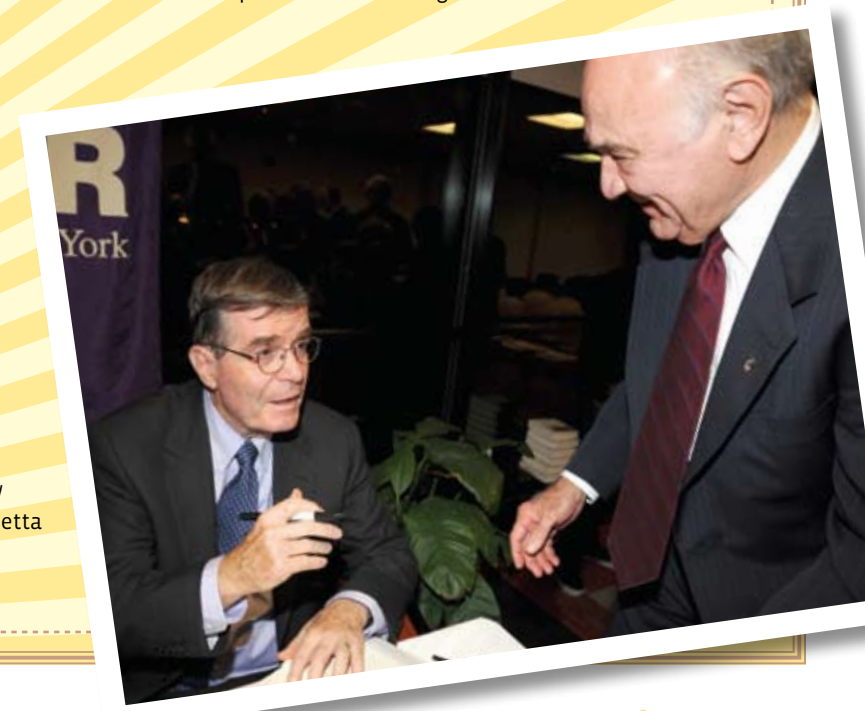
▲ Gala guests Ed Rollins and Shari Scharfer-Rollins get ready for the main event.



▲ House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Representative Carolyn Maloney spoke about their recently published books, careers and women's progress in general at a discussion hosted by Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab.



▲ Dr. Johnetta Cole (l) and Professor Lani Guinier lead a "Conversation on Diversity" at the Kaye Playhouse.



JFK adviser Ted Sorensen signs a copy of his new book for NYC Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta after a discussion of his book at Hunter. ▶

From Hunter To the Ivy League & Beyond

As these six young adults prove, there's no limit to what Hunter alumni can do. All agree that their Hunter education prepared them well for graduate work at some of the world's most prestigious universities.

Gregory Smulewicz-Zucker: Change of Plans en Route to Cambridge

When applying to college, Manhattan native Gregory Smulewicz-Zucker ('08) said his main criterion was staying in New York — and enrolling in Hunter allowed him to do so. Smulewicz-Zucker, 24, planned on transferring to another school after a couple of semesters, but once he “discovered all that Hunter had to offer,” he changed his mind.



▲ Gregory Smulewicz-Zucker

While at Hunter, he studied philosophy and history and was in the Thomas Hunter Honors Program. “Hunter’s faculty is one of the best kept secrets in academia,” said Smulewicz-Zucker, who is now pursuing his master’s degree in political thought and intellectual history at Cambridge University. “They challenged me intellectually

and were incredibly supportive of my application to Cambridge.”

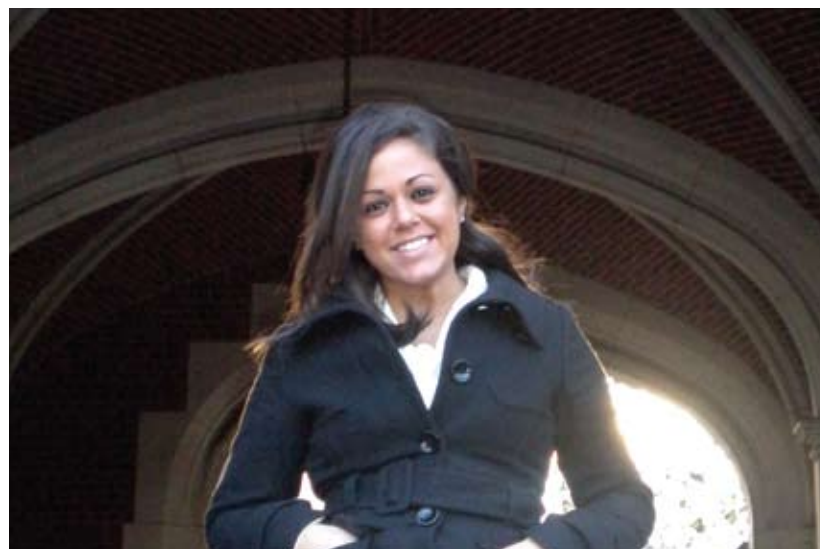
Of his Hunter classmates, he added, “Hunter also has some of the most intellectually committed and socially conscious students I have ever encountered. Ideas matter to Hunter’s faculty and students. It was exciting to share the classroom with those people.”

Upon completion of his master’s degree, Smulewicz-Zucker plans to work toward a PhD at Cambridge or at another university.

Taina Borrero: Princetonian Shaped by Hunter

Hunter not only prepared Taina Borrero ('06) to excel at the venerable Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton, it also gave her a leg up on many of her graduate school classmates who attended elite private colleges, she said. “In addition to the rigorous academics that Hunter and CUNY provide, I was surrounded by people of all different ages, cultures, and religions,” she said. “It provided some of that real-world experience that is necessary for graduate school and the workforce. I’m at a unique advantage.”

While attending Hunter, where she studied political science, Borrero interned in Senator Hillary Clinton’s press office. After graduation, she spent two years working as the external affairs coordinator in the office of Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab. “The combination of working in Senator Clinton’s office and in President Raab’s office on higher



▲ Taina Borrero

education policy-related issues had a huge influence on me,” Borrero said.

After she completes her master’s degree in public affairs in 2010, Borrero hopes to get a job working for the City of New York. She’s also consider-



ing law school, and she hasn’t ruled out a run for elected office.

Tasha Branford: Studying Law at Stanford

Harlem native Tasha Branford ('06) spent most of her life traveling by subway. Now, she gets across town — and across the leafy Stanford University campus — on her bicycle.

Branford, who studied political science and religion at Hunter, is now a first-year law student at Stanford, in Palo Alto, CA. There, she said she is encountering some of the same material introduced to her in Hunter political science professor Walter Volkomer’s law class.

◀ Tasha Branford

Choosing Hunter for her undergraduate education made sense, according to Branford. “I got a high-quality education at a fraction of the cost” of private school, she said. “Hunter brought me where I am today — and I’m happy where I am.”

Branford, 27, said that after law school, she plans to become a criminal prosecutor.

Carolyn Ly: From Best Buy to Yale, via Hunter

After completing some course work at the University of Minnesota, Carolyn Ly ('07) took time off from school to reevaluate her career path. She accepted a job as a manager at the electronics chain store Best Buy. She worked there for three years before deciding to finish her undergraduate studies. Ly, now 28, said she chose Hunter because it offered strong liberal arts programs at a price that she could afford.

A sociology major, Ly said she was encouraged to pursue her doctorate in the field by one of her Hunter professors, Erica Chito Childs. “She was a mentor and role model who helped to change the course of my life,” said Ly, who graduated cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. “Erica helped me realize that graduate school was an option for me.”

Now at Yale, the Minneapolis native



▲ Carolyn Ly

is focusing her studies in such areas as race and ethnicity, ethnography, and issues related to inequality and urban poverty. Upon completion of her PhD, Ly said she hopes to work as a sociology professor who inspires critical thinking. She also wants to be the kind of mentor to her students that Chito Childs was to her, Ly said.

David Tempel: Ready for Harvard

Hunter alumnus David Tempel ('07)

said his undergraduate education has proven invaluable at Harvard, where he is working toward his PhD in physics. “Under the mentorship of Hunter Professor Neepa Maitra,” said Tempel, 25, “I was introduced to many methods and advanced concepts that have helped me jump into the program here at Harvard.”

“Neepa has shown me that it is possible to be brilliant and driven in your work, but still be a warm, caring and wonderful person,” he added.

Tempel’s grandmother went to Hunter and his mother is a Hunter professor of social work. While at the college, Tempel took physics classes through the CUNY Graduate Center that enabled him to place out of some required classes at Harvard. Less than two years into the Harvard doctoral program, he’s completed his coursework — and is doing research on chemical and condensed-matter physics.

Once he gets his PhD, he plans to do postdoctoral research in theoretical physics, after which he hopes to join a university faculty.

◀ David Tempel



Anna Kouremenos: Laying the Groundwork for Oxford

Anna Kouremenos ('07) recalls that her professors at Hunter encouraged her to do fieldwork at archaeological sites and museums abroad. Those experiences — combined with Hunter’s rigorous academics — gave her the background necessary to get into a competitive PhD program in classical archaeology at the University of Oxford in England, she said.

“The broad focus of the anthropology program, in combination with the special honors curriculum, prepared me to conduct advanced academic work,” said Kouremenos, who graduated with a BA/MA in anthropology.

While at Hunter, she spent a month in Rome, taking classics professor Robert White’s class in Roman civilization. “His teaching style and



▲ Anna Kouremenos

enthusiasm for the subject inspired me,” she said.

Kouremenos, who grew up in Athens, Greece, and New York City, plans to write her dissertation on acculturation processes in Roman Crete. She said a career in academia is in her future.

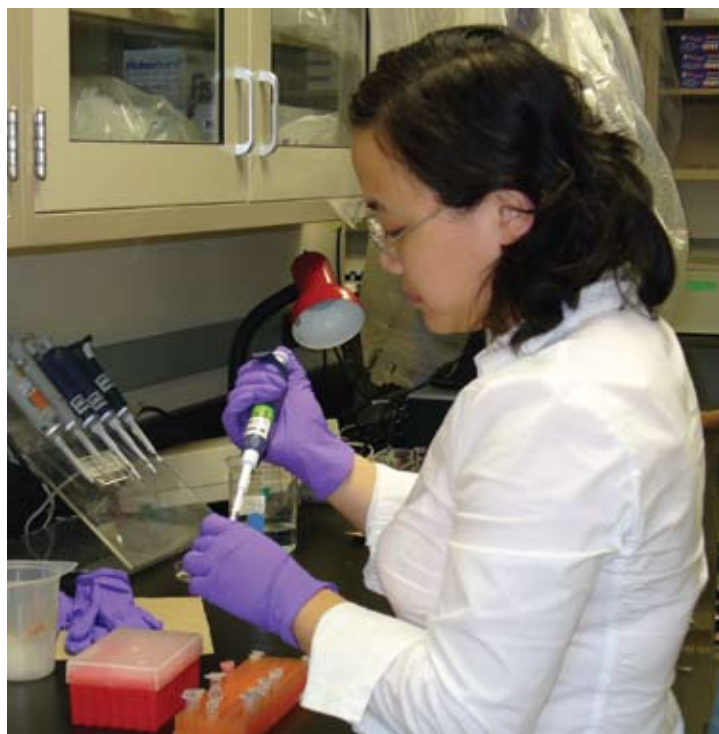
Hunter to Grant PhDs In Sciences & Public Health

Governor David A. Paterson and the New York State Board of Regents have approved a historic restructuring of the way CUNY awards doctoral degrees in the sciences, and the changes will bring Hunter College added prestige and new sources of funding for research.

The restructuring, which is part of CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein's Decade of Science initiative, empowers Hunter to grant doctoral degrees in the sciences jointly with the University. Previously, all PhDs throughout the CUNY system were granted by the University's Graduate School and University Center.

"As a PhD-granting institution, Hunter will extend its influence as a national leader in the sciences and public health," said Hunter Provost Vita Rabinowitz. "Our new status is a tribute to the extraordinary research conducted by our faculty and graduate students whose cutting-edge achievements in biology, chemistry, physics, biochemistry and public health are transforming Hunter into a renowned authority in these increasingly critical fields of study."

City College will receive the same status as Hunter. CCNY and Hunter, which together educate 50 percent of CUNY's doctoral students, will grant PhDs jointly with the Graduate Center in biology, chemistry, biochemistry and physics. Additionally, Hunter will offer a joint PhD in public health. It is expected that other senior colleges, including Brooklyn, Queens and the College of Staten Island, will participate in the joint-degree doctoral program as they strengthen their



▲ The Chancellor's Decade of Science initiative empowers Hunter to grant PhDs in the sciences.

commitment to high-level sciences.

One of the major benefits of the new joint-PhD plan is that it enhances Hunter's ability to showcase its work to government and private funders. The college will now have access to federal research grants, for example, that are available only to PhD-granting institutions.

In explaining the impetus behind the restructuring, William P. Kelly, president of the Graduate Center, said that Hunter and the other senior colleges "have built the labs, hired faculty and used their resources to support doctoral students,

but they have received no formal credit because of the way the system was set up in the 1960s."

The initiative brings with it another important benefit for Hunter and its graduate students. Governor Paterson and the Regents approved significant new financial support for science doctoral candidates, including 90 new fellowship packages offering free tuition, \$24,000 stipends and health benefits over five years.

Chancellor Goldstein's Decade of Science initiative, which was launched in 2005, includes \$1 billion in capital construction to modernize and build campus science facilities. The initiative also makes it possible to hire more than 100 new science faculty across the University.

After Albany gave the plan its approval, Chancellor Goldstein said: "This is a historic moment for this University. We are giving our faculty the tools they need to attract really first-rate students. We are hiring more science faculty from many of the most extraordinary institutions. This makes CUNY colleges truly competitive on a national level."

The changes will not affect Hunter's graduate programs in the humanities and social sciences, and PhDs in those fields will continue to be granted by CUNY's Graduate Center. This "consortial approach" will remain in place, Graduate Center President Kelly explained, because it "has worked well"; CUNY doctoral programs in the humanities and social sciences are regularly ranked among the best in the nation.

This is a historic moment for this University. We are giving our faculty the tools they need to attract first-rate students.

—Chancellor
Matthew Goldstein



My FAVORITE PROFESSOR

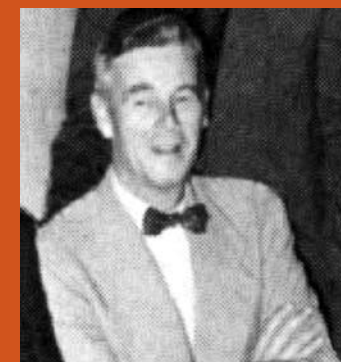
MEMBERS OF THE HUNTER COMMUNITY SHARE THEIR MEMORIES ABOUT THE HUNTER COLLEGE PROFESSORS WHO PROVED INSPIRING AND INFLUENTIAL

"I have had many fine professors at Hunter, but my favorite was **Vincent Aita**, who taught music history. During my senior year, he suggested that I study for a master's degree with the outstanding musicologist Alfred Einstein. Dr. Einstein had managed to get out of Germany in time to escape Hitler's persecution, and was teaching at Smith College. Since I could not afford to attend a private institution, Professor Aita suggested that I apply for a fellowship. I did, and obtained the funds. Dr. Einstein directed my work on French Renaissance music, and recommended me for further studies, and for financial help from various sources. And so I became a musicologist."

—Isabelle Cazeaux '45

"While at Hunter, I enrolled in Italian literature courses, and it was there that I met Professor **Joseph Tusiani**. His lectures rivaled any great thespian performance. He would captivate the class with his presentations, making the pages of Dante's *Divine Comedy* come to life in our minds and hearts. I can still recall running from swimming class with wet hair so as not to miss a single moment of his instruction."

—Anna Verrilli Villacara '61



▲ Professor Emile Anders

"I have fond memories of a very dapper, kind professor named **Emile Anders**, who directed the Hunter College choir when I was an undergraduate. I sang in the choir from 1958-1962. Professor Anders arranged exchange concerts with schools such as West Point, Rensselaer Polytechnic, Harvard, Hamilton, and many other all-male schools. He taught us to sing well, but also imparted many Old World manners and ideas."

—Frances Nobiletti Gilleland '62

"Communications Professor **F. Fulton Ross** took a group of us and brought us into the world of intercollegiate debate. Our team, with its shoestring budget, would face teams whose members had years of experience

and, so it was said, debate scholarships. But Dr. Ross wouldn't allow us to quit. He insisted that the basis of debate — thinking on our feet and learning to analyze policy — was essential to life itself. We knew virtually nothing about debate when we started. In the end, when we unexpectedly won a New York State championship, we learned life lessons that would stay with us far beyond our years at Hunter."

—Gabe Miller '86



▲ Professor Valerie Jaudon

"I majored in art, and one of my painting professors, **Valerie Jaudon**, was very helpful. She guided students with constructive criticism, and she encouraged peer feedback. Even in the basic classes, she gave us the

freedom to choose our own subjects. Professor Jaudon had been commissioned by the transit department to create artwork for city subway stations. She was inspirational. I thought if she made it, maybe I could, too."

—Laura Spencer '01



▲ Professor Erica Chito Childs

"Sociology Professor **Erica Chito Childs** — I took her 'Sociology of the Family' class — has been particularly influential. She explains herself very well, and is always willing to help after hours. She even volunteered to be my mentor as I prepare to apply for PhD programs in sociology at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and other schools."

—Blanchi Roblero '09

Class of 1959 Plans 50th Reunion with 3-day Celebration

The Class of 1959 will celebrate its 50th milestone with a three-day reunion, May 1-3, 2009. There will be campus tours, a 1950s-themed welcome reception and a dinner cruise around Manhattan Island, all culminating at Hunter's annual Birthday Luncheon at the Grand Hyatt in Midtown.

Reunions are all about seeing old friends. If you've lost touch, tell us whom you want to see. We'll try to let them know you are looking for them. If you've been missing 1959 reunion updates, send us your name and current address and we'll add you to our class roster. For more details, please contact HunterCollege59@aol.com.

Hunter To Publish 2009 Alumni Directory

We are pleased to announce that we are updating the Hunter College alumni directory, which is scheduled for release in summer 2009. We have partnered with Harris Connect, Inc., the leading alumni directory publisher, to publish the most comprehensive Hunter alumni directory to date. Representatives from Harris Connect will be reaching out to alumni to verify contact information for inclusion in the directory. We would appreciate your taking a few moments to review the contact information we have for you. Thank you for your assistance.

CLASS NOTES

1940s

Liane Russell (BA '45) is a recipient of the Enrico Fermi Award, which she received for her contributions to genetics and radiation biology. Her findings have furthered the study of mutations in mammals and genetic risk assessment. She was inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame in 1979.



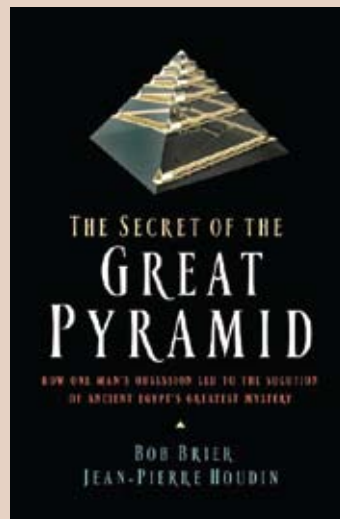
courtesy of IrishEcho

The founder of the Hunter College Gaelic Society, **Mary Holt Moore (BA '48)**, is among the *Irish Echo* newspaper's "Best of the Bronx" 2008 honorees.

1950s

Artist and critic **Suzi Gablik (BA '55)** was the featured speaker at an event sponsored by Black Mountain College Museum and Art Center in Asheville, NC, and the Humanities Program at University of North Carolina, Asheville. The talk, *Art Without the Isms*, was held at UNC, Asheville. It coincided with the museum and art center's yearlong series of exhibitions dedicated to women at the UNC campus.

1960s



The Secret of the Great Pyramid, a new book co-authored by Egyptologist **Bob Brier (BA '64)**, was published by Collins. The book, which presents a new theory on the construction of the Great Pyramid of Giza, inspired a National Geographic Channel special. Brier, a senior research fellow at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University, will appear in the television special.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing appointed **Myra Broadway (BS '67)**, executive director of the Maine State Board of Nursing. Broadway served in the United States Air Force Nurse Corps on both active duty and in the Reserves, retiring as a Colonel in 1998.

Ira Goldknoff (BA '67) is the chief scientific officer and the director of proteomics of Texas-based Power3 Medical Products. The company specializes in the development of diagnostic blood tests for the early detection of breast cancer and neurodegenerative diseases.



Nancy Rabstajnek Nichols (BA '67) was recently named to the board of directors of The New York Pops, an independent symphonic pop orchestra. Nichols is the senior vice president of external affairs at the public relations firm Weber Shandwick.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting named **Susan Tave Zelman (BA '68)** senior vice president for education and children's content. Since 1999, Zelman served as Ohio's Superintendent of Public Instruction. She also serves as an advisory board member of the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching and is a founding member of the Ohio Council of Professors of Educational Administration. She earned a PhD and a master's in education from the University of Michigan.

1970s

Vivian A. Maese (BA '76) has been named general counsel and corporate secretary at BIDS Trading. She will provide strategic leadership and legal counsel for the New York-based broker-dealer and its board of directors.

Marc Cherna (MSW '78) was a recipient of the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics Coleman Award for Excellence in Community Service. The Coleman Award recognizes outstanding community leaders for their contributions to the Western Pennsylvania region. Cherna has been the director of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services for 10 years.

Daddy: An Absolutely Authentic Fake Memoir, a book by **Andrea Troy (MS '78)**, was published recently by iUniverse.

1980s



An image from Snapshots in Time

Robert Yoskowitz (MA '81), a professor at Union County College, is the curator of the exhibition, *Snapshots in Time: Vernacular Photography from the past 75 Years*, in Cranford, N.J. Last year, he co-curated *Vernacular to the Masters* at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA.



Nursing administrator **Maria Brennan (MA '84)** received the 2008 New Jersey Governor's Nursing Merit Award. Brennan is the chief nursing officer at St. Joseph's Healthcare System and vice president of patient care services at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, NJ. The award celebrates excellence in nursing, compassion in care, and technical proficiency.

Joseph Rutkowski (Advanced Certification '87) is the director of instrumental music for Great Neck North Secondary Schools on Long Island. Since 1991, he has conducted the schools' Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Band at venues including Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center.

Jeremiah H. Candrea (MA '88) has joined the law firm of Troutman Sanders LLP as a partner in its Zoning and Land Use practice group.

Nikki Odlivak (MA '88) was named president and CEO of the Community Agency for Senior Citizens in Staten Island's St. George neighborhood.

1990s

Daniel Ezell (MA '95), a music teacher and vocal director at East Rockaway High School on Long Island, was among 25 teachers selected from around the country to participate in *JS Bach in the Baroque and the Enlightenment*, an institute sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The New York-based Maxim Group LLC, an investment banking, securities and wealth management firm, appointed **George Sayan (BA '95)** managing director of Equity Capital Markets.

Concert organist **Namyong Pak (BA, MA '99)** lives in Honolulu, where she is an organist at the Community Church of Honolulu, handbell director at Harris United Methodist Church, and music director and organist at Logos Korean Church. Pak, whose piano repertoire book was published this year by the Sejong Cultural Society, is also a board member of the American Guild of Organists.

2000s

The Contemporary Art Center of Virginia is exhibiting the works of **Johnston Foster (MFA '05)** as part of *Johnston Foster: Altered Beast*. Foster creates art from cast-off clothes, traffic cones, trash bins, carpet, siding and other materials. The exhibit runs through the end of the year. Foster teaches in Richmond, VA at Virginia Commonwealth University and the Governor's School of the Arts.



Dana Donadio (BA '06) was named decorative arts researcher at the international antiques dealer Carlton Hobbs LLC in New York. Donadio comes to this position from Doyle New York, an auctioneer and appraiser of fine art, jewelry, furniture and decorations.

Kinkead Contemporary, a Culver City-based gallery, hosted an exhibition of paintings by **Ben Grasso (MFA '06)**. Among the images featured in the show, *Close to Home*, is that of a beehive attacked by paper airplanes.

Kalman Zeiger (BA '06) is the co-founder and owner of Spirit Courier, a New York-based bicycle messenger service.

Clare Monahan Ferramosca, (MS'07) is a special education teacher supervisor at Important Steps, Inc., in New York. She is also the lead behavior consultant at the Special Needs Activity Center for Kids (SNACK), an after-school socialization and recreational program for children with special needs.

The Smithsonian Institution is releasing *Irish Pirate Ballads & Other Songs of the Sea*, a CD by **Dan Milner (BA '07)**. The CD will be available in February 2009.

Spring Luncheon – Save the Date

The Alumni Association of Hunter College will hold its annual Birthday Luncheon on Sunday, May 3, 2009, at the Grand Hyatt in Midtown Manhattan.

Alumni Chapters

Reconnect with fellow Hunter alumni. Start an alumni chapter in your area.

Contact Hunter's Alumni Relations Office for more information.

Call 212.772.4087 or email alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu

Did You Work on the Hunter Arrow?

Alan Richman (BA '60), a former editor of the *Hunter Arrow*, is interested in organizing a reunion of the newspaper's staff. Those who worked on the paper in any year, in any capacity can reach Richman at arkr@optonline.net



STUDENTS REALIZE DREAMS WITH MOTHER'S DAY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Hawaii native Timothy Edwards was working at a Home Depot in Honolulu when he decided to follow his dream and study dance in New York City. It was a long way to come and a challenging journey, but thanks to a generous gift from Jody Gottfried Arnold to Hunter College's Mother's Day Scholarship Fund, Edwards is realizing his goals.

The highly successful Mother's Day Scholarship Fund has raised \$1.8

million for full scholarships since it was founded in 2004. Hunter launched the program as a way for children and grandchildren to honor generations of mothers who attended Hunter in pursuit of higher education and personal and career development.

Arnold, a dance instructor, created a scholarship for dance students in honor of her late mother, Lenora Marcus Gottfried ('35).

Susan DeRenzo Nestler and her

sisters Linda, Lisa and Anne created a scholarship in honor of their late mother, Dorothy DeRenzo ('47). The scholarship was granted to Jennifer Milosavljevic, who will graduate in June 2009 and plans to attend law school.

For more information on donating to the Mother's Day Scholarship Fund, contact Institutional Advancement at 212.650.3956 or email mothersday@hunter.cuny.edu.



▲ Scholarship donor Jody Gottfried Arnold meets dance student Timothy Edwards and fellow student Siomara Bridges.



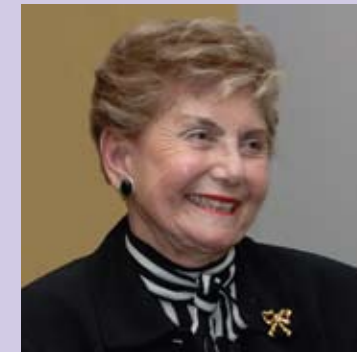
▲ Donor Susan DeRenzo Nestler poses with scholarship recipient Jennifer Milosavljevic. Milosavljevic, in a letter thanking the DeRenzo family, explains that her parents came to the United States from a poor farming town in Serbia, and that she'll be the first in her family to graduate college. Milosavljevic is an honors student and works at the NY Bar Association. When her mother, a hotel housekeeper, was injured and diagnosed with cancer, it threatened Milosavljevic's ability to stay at Hunter, until a "Mother's Day" scholarship came along.

My sisters and I created a scholarship in honor of our mother who always told us what a tremendous influence Hunter had on her life. We couldn't think of a greater tribute than to help support the next generation of bright, hard-working, ambitious Hunter undergraduates. I found it inspiring to meet our scholarship recipient and to see firsthand how our gift made a difference in her education.

— Susan DeRenzo Nestler

IN MEMORIAM

Helen Galland '45



Helen Galland, whose career in retail blazed a trail for other female executives, died September 1 at age 83.

Upon graduating from Hunter, where she earned a degree in psychology, Galland became a sales assistant at Lord & Taylor. She joined Bonwit Teller as a millinery buyer — working her way up to senior vice president and general merchandise manager by the time she left the company in 1975.

She went on to serve at the helm of Wamsutta Trucraft Home Fashions before returning to Bonwit in 1980 as its president. During her tenure, the store, which has since closed, gained traction with career women. In 1983, she left to open Helen Galland Associates, a marketing and consulting firm.

Galland maintained close ties with her alma mater: She was a founding member of the Hunter College Foundation and was a longtime benefactor of the school. In 2006, she was among two alumnae honored for their gifts to renovate the school's library.

She also funded the Galland In-

ternships program, which provides grants to Hunter students allowing them to work over the summer in the public or nonprofit sector for organizations that would be otherwise unable to pay them.

Louise Mead Tricard '58

Athlete and sports historian Louise Mead Tricard, an inductee of the Hunter Athletic Hall of Fame, died on September 30 at the age of 72.

While at Hunter, the Bronx native was a member of the field hockey and track and field teams. She also competed in running events at the 1959 U.S. Pan-American Games, where she set a national, indoor record for the 440-yard dash.

Tricard was a longtime advocate for high school track and field programs for girls. She wrote two books, *American Women's Track and Field, 1895-1980* and *American Women's Track and Field, 1981-2000*. She led a successful campaign to get rid of the "no false start" rule that disqualified athletes for a single false start.

At age 64, the lifelong sprinter completed her first and only marathon.

Sylvia Bassin '60

A longtime administrator for the New York City Housing Authority, Sylvia Bassin died June 15, 2007, in Lake Forest, CA. She was 88.

The Bronx-born Bassin attended Hunter College, but financial constraints forced her to leave school so that she could work full time as a dental assistant. During World War II, Bassin went to work for the

Veterans Administration, first in Washington and later in New York.

Bassin ultimately re-enrolled at Hunter, and earned her bachelor's degree in geography in 1960. She worked for the city's Housing Authority for 25 years — retiring as a manager of the Vladeck Houses in Lower Manhattan.

Joseph Shenker '62



Joseph Shenker, a Hunter alumnus who also served as an acting president of Hunter College, died on September 20. He was 68.

In 1979, he became the acting president of Hunter, succeeding Jacqueline Grennan Wexler. Shenker served in this role for about a year — until Donna Shalala was appointed the college's 10th president.

For nearly two decades, he was an administrator at CUNY's community colleges. In 1970, at the age of 29, he was named acting president of Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn, and a year later he became the founding president of Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College in Queens. While there, he founded two high schools in the borough, and

served as the dean of community colleges for CUNY.

In 1988, he was appointed provost of the Bank Street College of Education, and in 1995 was named provost of the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University, a position he held until July.

Shenker earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in economics at Hunter. He also received a doctorate in education from Teachers College at Columbia University.

Terence Tolbert '93

Terence Tolbert, the state director in Nevada for the presidential campaign of Barack Obama, died on November 2 — two days before Election Day. He was 44.

Tolbert, a Harlem native who studied political science and philosophy at Hunter, had been on leave from his job as chief lobbyist for the New York City Department of Education in Albany and Washington.

In 2005, Tolbert worked on Mayor Bloomberg's re-election campaign as a liaison to various religious, cultural and ethnic groups. He had also served as the New York state director for John Edwards's 2004 presidential campaign, and as the Nevada state director for America Coming Together.

Tolbert previously worked as chief of staff for Harlem Democratic Assemblyman Keith L.T. Wright. He is survived by his wife, CUNY Trustee Freida Foster-Tolbert.

HUNTER REMEMBERS...

Rose K. Levski '27
Pauline Ladin Koenig '41

Jane Weiss Hochberger '45
Angela O'Dowd Schleier '51

Berta Tucci '51
Alice V. Cotter '52

Camilla M. Schwieger '65
Diane Silver-Unger '67



By Helene D. Goldfarb
President of S&W

The Scholarship and Welfare Fund of the Alumni Association will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2009! We have come a long way from our beginnings in 1949 when ten alumnae got together and each contributed \$100. At that time, Hunter charged no tuition and books were free, but many students still found it difficult to pay for carfare, food and clothing. That first year, our grants totaled \$430.

In 2007-2008, the Fund gave more than \$1 million to students. With a small staff consisting of an executive director, a financial assistant,

THE SCHOLARSHIP & WELFARE FUND CELEBRATES ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

and a work study student, supported by a dedicated group of volunteers, our accomplishments have been extraordinary.

How did we get from \$1,000 in 1949 to well over \$19 million in 2008? In those early days, undergraduates and alumnae sold magazine subscriptions and sent fundraising letters to members of the Hunter community and alums. Over the years, most of our donations have come from Hunter graduates, their families and friends.

The majority of students we help are undergraduates who apply through the Financial Aid Office. This past fall, 400 students each received \$500 for the first semester and will receive another \$500 for the second semester if they continue to achieve at least a 3.0 GPA and are enrolled for a minimum of 12 credits.

Incoming freshmen are invited to apply for financial assistance. Top high school graduates who have indicated that they wish to attend Hunter are identified by the Admissions Office. They are offered full tuition scholarships for four years as long as they continue to meet the requirements of the Fund. This October, we welcomed 20 new students into the Hunter Scholars Program. Some were also lucky enough to receive dormitory scholarships.

We do not forget our graduating seniors. At the end of their lower senior year, all eligible students can apply for scholarships for graduate work at any school in the world. Our grant recipients are pursuing advanced degrees in law, medicine, environmental science, nursing, mathematics and accounting. If a student starts at Hunter as a

Hunter Scholar, receives four years of tuition assistance, followed by support for the first year of graduate school with little or no debt, then that is an amazing accomplishment.

S&W also provides assistance to students who did not attend Hunter but who wish to pursue their master's here. We have established 11 scholarships for the first year of graduate study in education, arts and science, social work, nursing and public health. We also provide aid to students working toward their MFA in creative writing, fine arts, and integrated media arts.

If you would like to help, call us at 212.772.4092. I invite you to visit the Wall of Honor on the third floor in the East Building to view the names of those who have endowed scholarships. I urge you to consider joining that very distinguished list.

10 QUESTIONS FOR...

Rupal Oza

Associate Professor of Geography & Director of the Women and Gender Studies Program

Rupal Oza is a scholar of both geography and gender studies, and much of her work centers on the nexus of those two fields. She teaches such courses as "Globalization and Gender" and "Gender and Geography," and is the author of the 2006 book, *The Making of Neoliberal India: Nationalism, Gender, and the Paradoxes of Globalization*.

A native of India, Dr. Oza earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geography from Kirori Mal College of the University of Delhi and Temple University, respectively. She holds a doctorate in geography from Rutgers University, and has taught at Georgetown University and Mount Holyoke College.

Oza said she was thrilled to join the Hunter faculty in 2001, partly because it is a public college. Access to higher education should be a right — not a privilege, she said.

- 1 If you weren't teaching at Hunter, what do you think you would be doing?**
I would be working for a nonprofit organization on social justice issues — specifically, labor issues and issues of gender and justice.
- 2 What do you like most about teaching at Hunter?**
I'm always impressed with the students. They are incredibly astute, and they have a sophisticated understanding of the world around them. They have taught me to clearly explain complex concepts without compromising the complexity of the issues that I am teaching.
- 3 What are some lessons that you try to impart to your students?**
I teach them to always question, to remember history, and to believe that they can participate in creating a more just world.
- 4 How do you balance your academic career with your social life?**
It's easy to get so wrapped up in your academic pursuits that they take over your entire life. My family and friends have kept me grounded and given me an incredible perspective on what is real.
- 5 What do you like to do when you're not teaching?**
Research takes up a significant amount of my time. When I do get some time, I work with collectives engaged in social justice issues, such as helping construction workers to organize. I also enjoy meeting friends and watching movies.
- 6 As the director of Hunter's Women and Gender Studies Program, what do you see as the greatest challenges facing women in contemporary American society?**
Even today, women are paid less than men, and there is staggering violence against women — usually from within the home. Women's labor, paid and unpaid, continues to be taken for granted. More broadly, the terms of the debate about women in the United States (as evidenced by the elections) and around the world (as evidenced by debates about Muslim women) are so remarkably narrow.
- 7 What can be done to overcome these challenges?**
We need a fuller, more vibrant and rigorous debate about what and whom is served by keeping the terms of the debate so narrow. There needs to be a commitment to fundamentally challenging misogyny in this country. Any serious effort to address these issues, I firmly believe, begins at schools and colleges.
- 8 What are you currently working on?**
My new project looks at the creation of special economic zones in India. I am concerned about economic policies that disenfranchise people of their land and livelihood.
- 9 What brought you to America?**
I grew up in different cities in India, including New Delhi, Bombay, and Hyderabad. I came here in 1991 to go to graduate school, but I go back frequently. Like most immigrants, I am a product of two cultures. When I'm in New York, I miss everything about India — the signs, the smells, the people, the languages, and the newspapers. When I'm in India, I miss everything about New York.
- 10 What's one thing that your students might be surprised to learn about you?**
I am afraid of roller coasters. I don't like scary movies.

MARY P. DOLCIANI HALLORAN FOUNDATION ENDOWS PROFESSORSHIP

The Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation gave a major boost to Hunter's Mathematics and Statistics Department with a generous gift endowing a professor's seat in Dolciani's name.

Since 1985, the Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation has given Hunter \$1,110,000. The Foundation's recent \$525,000 endowment was celebrated at an event at Hunter on October 16.

"We are honored to have our first endowed chair named after Mary P. Dolciani, who was a legend at Hunter as well as throughout the mathematics field," said Ada Peluso, Chair of Hunter's Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Now Hunter can recruit "an internationally-recognized scholar," Peluso said.

Dolciani was a pioneer for women in math. She taught at Hunter for more than 20 years, and earned her BA from Hunter and a PhD

from Cornell University. She later studied at Oxford and Princeton, and joined the Hunter faculty in 1955,

The Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation is proud to endow a mathematics professorship to perpetuate [Dolciani's] memory, her spirit for learning and her commitment to Hunter College.

— Denise Halloran



▲ Barry Cherkas was one of many math and statistics professors at a recent event to celebrate the generous gift of Denise Halloran, CEO of the Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation.

eventually rising to the job of provost. In 1974, Dolciani was named dean for academic development at the City University of New York. She returned to teach at Hunter in 1980.

Dolciani developed City University's first multimedia mathematics-learning laboratory. She directed national

institutes for math teachers.

"Dr. Dolciani Halloran devoted her life to teaching math. She loved doing it at Hunter," said Denise Halloran, Dolciani's step daughter and CEO of the Foundation. "She authored over 40 mathematics textbooks, yet said she was always learning from her students."



Foundation Board Member **Anshu Prasad:**

Building Hunter Campus Schools' Endowment

Anshu Prasad, a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees since October, 2007, says his Hunter College High School education was “a gift.”

“People pay a lot of money for the exceptional education we received just by virtue of getting through the entrance process,” said Prasad, who graduated from high school in 1993, and went on to earn degrees at Cornell and Oxford Universities. “Now I’m paying for that privilege of attending Hunter with my time, and with whatever resources I can bring to the board.”

Prasad serves on the Board’s Hunter College Campus Schools Cabinet Committee, which is working on starting an endowment for Hunter College Elementary School and Hunter College High School. Interest from the endowment could go toward capital projects and enable the schools to hire additional educators, he said.

Prasad brings with him substantial business skills: He is a director in the consulting firm A.T. Kearney’s Procurement and Analytics Group. Previously, he helped to grow a start-up consulting business — opening and managing the company’s offices in London and Paris. During the course of his career, Prasad has worked with consumer product firms in Latin America, heavy manufacturing firms in Europe, and retailers in Asia Pacific.

He said that joining the board has given him a newfound appreciation for the range of issues that college presidents and trustees encounter — from fundraising to working with the city, state, and federal government, from attracting new faculty to developing long-term strategic plans.

Prasad is married to Sayu Bhojwani, a philanthropy consultant. They live in Manhattan with their 3-year-old daughter, Yadna.



I’m paying for that privilege of attending Hunter High School with my time and ... resources.

— Anshu Prasad

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