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Macalester College

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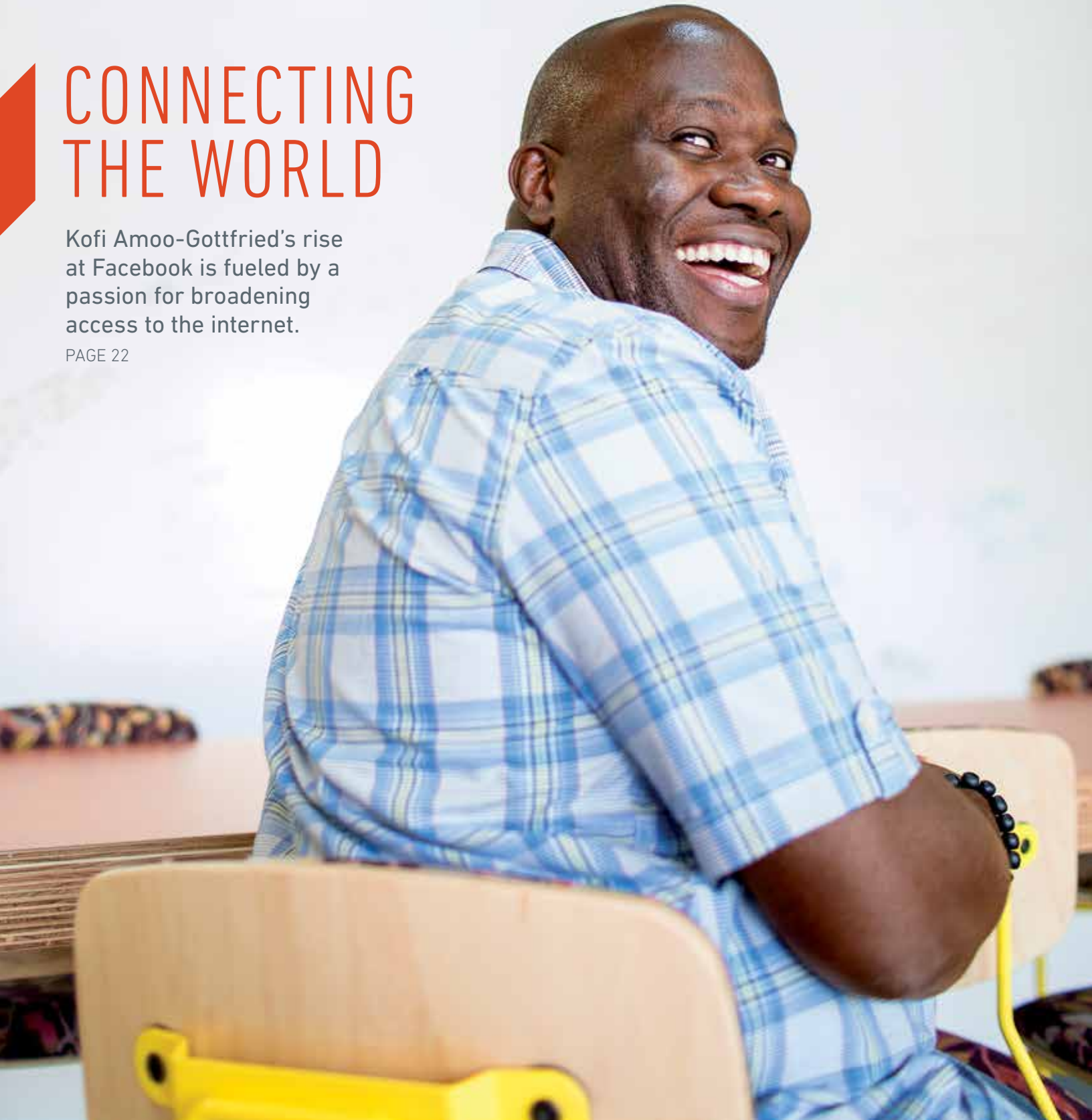
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TODAY

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Kofi Amoo-Gottfried's rise at Facebook is fueled by a passion for broadening access to the internet.

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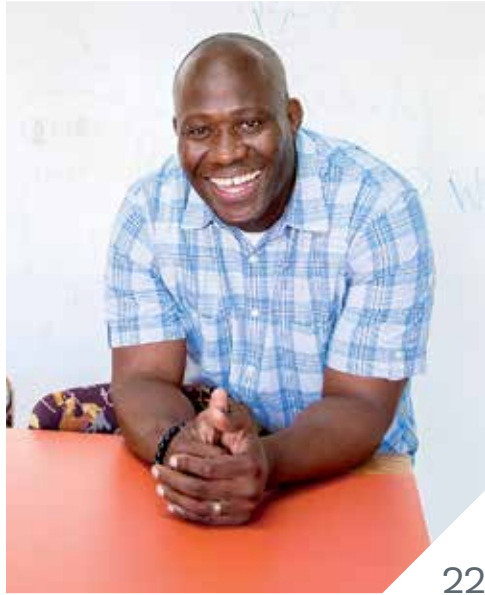
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Photo by Robert Houser



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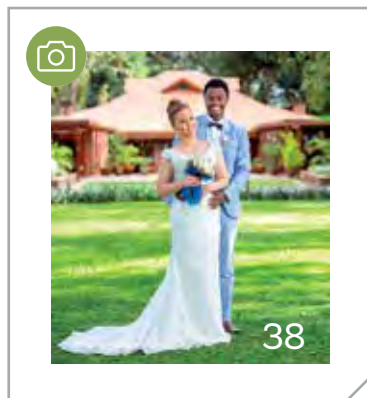
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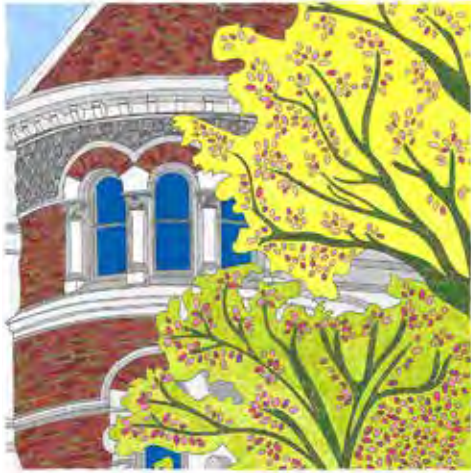
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In our Spring 2017 issue, we jumped on the adult coloring craze with an excerpt from our own Macalester coloring book—and readers were ready with pencils and markers. Pictured here: the springtime shades chosen by **Gabrielle Hernan '01**.

First-gen support

I was thrilled to read in the Summer 2017 issue about the Macalester Pathways program and Mac's participation in the Quest-Bridge program.

In recent years I've worked closely with low-income and first-generation college students. The research shows that robust financial assistance and support programs are critical to college persistence and graduation attainment for students from families without resources or knowledge about college.

Having been a low-income, first-generation college student myself, I know that all too well. Transitioning into life at Mac and getting through to graduation was extremely difficult. I struggled to believe that I belonged among my talented classmates who'd had access to more opportunities, struggled to believe I was good enough to sit alongside them, didn't know how—and was ashamed—to access resources that would help. I barely stayed afloat during my five years at Mac.

Fortunately, I graduated, helped in large part by supportive professors (special shout-outs to the geology department and Karin Aguilar-San Juan) and academic and personal counseling. But it was unbelievably trying.

I'm so pleased to read that Mac is crafting responsive programming to students like those I'm serving today, with backgrounds similar to mine. They're smart, capable, and resilient—and they deserve opportunities to learn at colleges like Macalester. But they need extra support to ensure that they know how valuable they are, how unique their experiences and abilities are, that they're not alone, and that the college community will help get them to graduation and beyond.

I encourage Mac to do all it can to recruit greater numbers of first-generation and low-income students. A Macalester degree will change their lives and their families' lives forever.

Erika Orsulak '03
Leavenworth, Wash.

Editor's note: Erika Orsulak is the director of education programs at the Community Foundation of North Central Washington.

On resilience

Thank you for "Fighting Scots," the piece on resilience in the Summer 2017 issue. Having recently completed treatment for stage III rectal cancer, I'm humbled to see stories of other Mac community members facing challenging conditions—though I'm not sure the title fits the piece. While I wouldn't presume to put words into the mouths of the featured individuals, I've noticed two common threads among these resilience stories. One, each individual came to recognize that challenging conditions don't discriminate—a difficult diagnosis, an accident, or other upheaval can happen to any of us. And two, each chose to acknowledge their circumstances rather than resist or deny them.

Each chose to face their experiences in order to grow and, in many cases, to figure out how to give back to others. The title of the piece doesn't do justice to these themes—while certainly these Scots have faced massive struggles, I saw stories of people embracing their realities and finding ways to grow and give back, not fighting their circumstances.

Annie Schulein-Fournier Calm '07
West Linn., Ore.

Name trends

I was amused by the piece "Hannahs vs. Rachels" in the Summer 2017 issue. It brought back memories of Highland dance classes at Mac in the early 1980s, when on many occasions a majority of the dancers in the studio working on their flings and sword dances were named "Lisa." I checked the 1981–82 Spotlight and found 21 people named Lisa (with one Liza in the midst of them). I wonder if there is even one Lisa in the student body of Mac today.

Lisa D. Schrenk '84
Albuquerque, N.M., and Tucson, Ariz.

Mondale and Mac tartan

What a pleasure to read of **Walter Mondale '50** in the Spring 2017 issue. In my sophomore year, several of us served on Humphrey's senatorial campaign. Political science became my major, leading to a lifetime of political activities.

We can thank Fritz for helping to bring the Macalester tartan to campus. In 1949, President Charles Turck negotiated an agreement with the head of the Scottish Macalester clan. Three young Mac students—**Bob Willard '50**, **Vern Steffer '50**, and Fritz Mondale—were going to England to study the British Parliamentary system. Turck enlisted the group to meet with Colonel Macalester in London to receive that permission.

The next year the beautiful tartan was featured in a variety of apparel—caps, scarves, vests, or whole suits—in the bookstore; Turck even had draperies made out of it for his Old Main office. The bagpipe band began shortly afterward, and then the Highland games to capture the Scottish heritage students now enjoy.

Janet Ranes Willard Burns '50
Denver, Colo.

LETTERS POLICY

We invite letters of 300 words or fewer. Letters may be edited for clarity, style, and space and will be published based on their relevance to issues discussed in *Macalester Today*. You can send letters to dejarlais@macalester.edu or to *Macalester Today*, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105.

A SIXTY-YEAR-OLD SMILING PUBLIC MAN

BY BRIAN ROSENBERG

The first time I read “Among School Children,” by William Butler Yeats, I was 19 years old and a sophomore in college.

**I walk through the long schoolroom questioning;
A kind old nun in a white hood replies;
The children learn to cipher and to sing,
To study reading—books and history,
To cut and sew, be neat in everything
In the best modern way—the children’s eyes
In momentary wonder stare upon
A sixty-year-old smiling public man.**

I remember, even then, finding something melancholy and quizzical in that powerful final line of the opening stanza. Surrounded by youth, the Nobel Laureate and literary icon is keenly aware of how his age and fame separate him from the children and of the degree to which he has become, in their eyes, less a person than a sort of beneficent walking statue. Implicit in the line is a question about the extent to which his public role has separated Yeats even from himself.

He might well have been thinking about another line from another English poet, Tennyson, whose restless Ulysses, back in Ithaca after his ten-year journey, laments the fact that “I am become a name.”

Yeats was 62 when that poem was published in 1927.

I am, as it happens, 62, far removed from that sophomore who read deep into the night, and now the line for me has an altogether different and deeper resonance.

I am not, alas, a famous poet, but I am, like the Yeats of that poem, a person separated by age and position from the youth by which I am surrounded. I confess that when I walk across campus and see students stare and point, when I step onto



another stage to address another crowd, I think pretty often about that line.

When I hear or read about “President Rosenberg” or “PBR” or “BriRo,” I wonder about the connection and disconnection between those masks and me—between the various titles I have become and the actual person I believe myself to be.

Somehow, I have become that “sixty-year-old smiling public man.” How and when did that happen?

The challenge of such a situation, I have found, is striking the right balance between the public and the private, the position and the person. One can never forget the role: there are things that I simply cannot say or do, and things that I must say or do, because I am the President of Macalester College. I cannot lose my temper in public; I cannot speak to many political issues (I mess that one up from time to time); I cannot show vulnerability. I must smile as much as possible when I walk across campus; I must, always, speak with hope and enthusiasm about the college entrusted to my care; I must respond to

even the most intemperate of emails with a polite “thank you for writing.”

At the same time, I must allow students and faculty, alumni and trustees, to see at least some of the person beneath the persona; I must, even as I am playing my role, be honest; I must be as genuine as those around me will allow me to be. Leaders who fail to do this are generally unsuccessful.

Even writing this column is a peculiar wrestling match between my public and private selves. Am I neglecting my job by not writing about our newest academic program or fund raising or the latest crisis to threaten higher education? Or am I carrying out my job by revealing that I am a person who reads poetry and is transparent enough to share at least a few of his personal struggles? Am I being evasive or clever or subversive?

All I know for certain is that when the reminder came to write, for more than the fiftieth time, my column for *Macalester Today*, this is what I wanted to say.

At some point in the future I will stop being PBR and resume being simply BR. That will be interesting. I will discover whether the person who remains feels sufficient without a title and a role within which to be subsumed. Until then I will try to enjoy the mysteries of being in my sixties (unavoidable), smiling (sometimes), and public (to a degree) and know that the player and the part can make one another better. And I will continue to draw pleasure from Yeats, who ended “Among School Children” with one final piece of wisdom: *How can we know the dancer from the dance?* **M**

Brian Rosenberg is president of Macalester College.

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Studying Castro Through Computer Science

While conducting archival research at the University of Miami's Cuban Heritage Collection last summer, **Jennifer Arnold '19** (Waukegan, Ill.) stumbled across a pamphlet summarizing a speech by Fidel Castro, one given two years before he rose to power.

The discovery added to her search for insights into Cuban politics and culture. How did Castro garner so much support? How did his stances change over the years? Can you visually portray this using statistical models? Arnold, a history and computer science major, wanted to try. With support from Mac professors, she began analyzing Castro's speeches by applying statistical models, including topic visualization modeling, which processes long sets of documents and identifies dozens of "themes" using data mining.

Arnold's ongoing research is the focus of her Mellon Mays project, part of a program that aims to diversify the professoriate in areas where minorities have been historically underrepresented. Each year, the program selects five Macalester sophomores to begin preparing for graduate school. As a Mellon Mays fellow, Arnold designs her own project and receives funding for research and travel.

As a first-generation college student, Arnold initially had doubts about graduate school. But Macalester helped her envision it. "My work and the people I've met have encouraged me to pursue this," she said. "Everyone has treated me seriously as a historian and researcher. I'm very eager to continue exploring my interests through this work and sharing it with others." —Alexandra McLaughlin '16



Admissions in Africa

For decades, Mac's admissions staff has traveled the world to meet with prospective students. This year for the first time, the recruitment effort connected with a college access initiative in Ghana and Rwanda—thanks in part to an alumna who helped create the program.

In 2013, grad student **Helinna Ayalew '10** was part of a group of African students at Yale University who wanted to share their insights about attending college in the United States. That vision has grown into Yale Young African Scholars, a program that identifies, trains, and mentors African students as they pursue higher education in their home countries and all over the world. Each weeklong YYAS summer session brings together students from across the continent to introduce them to the col-

lege application process—and this year, staff invited representatives from colleges that support financial aid for international students.

Mac associate director of admissions **Elyan Paz** and colleagues from five other institutions led discussions with students, counselors, and educators on financial aid, case studies, and their respective colleges. (And Ayalew, now a YYAS project manager, wasn't the only Mac connection: The program also included students from the African Leadership Academy founded by **Fred Swaniker '99**.) "This program was a wonderful opportunity to meet students, counselors and teachers from around the continent," Paz says. "Our goals are the same: to educate and empower students."

MAC'S NEW LOOK

Beginning this fall (and reflected in this issue of *Macalester Today*), Macalester has an updated look that weaves together vibrant colors, logos, photography, language, and design. This identity creates a consistent, unified look for the entire Mac community, from prospective students sorting through stacks of college brochures to alumni celebrating their 50-Year Reunion. For more information, visit macalester.edu/communications/guidelines/faq—and see the column on p. 42 from Alumni Engagement executive director Katie Ladas.

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Trash Collection

Environmental studies major **Alyssa Erding '17** (Bloomington, Minn.) is shown here with the amazingly small amount of trash she generated in one semester. The waste reduction effort grew out of an assignment in ES professor Christie Manning's Psychology of Sustainable Behavior course.

"At first, the most common things in my trash jars were receipts and stickers," says Erding. "Receipts are not recyclable because they are thermal paper coated in BPA, so I started refusing

receipts at the store. Shopping the farmers market has largely mitigated the problem of produce stickers."

Her favorite anti-waste hacks? "Bring your own bags to the grocery store and the thrift store; bring your own takeout container for lunch, coffee, or the bakery. Swear off plastic bags. Buy used. The battle against waste will take all of us, making small changes, having small conversations, moving the mountain one pebble at a time."

PHOTO: DAVID J. TURNER

Astronomy Prodigies

Lilly Bratts-Kelly '20 (Urbana, Ill.) tells people she was a Cosmos kid—a fan of both the book and the 1980s documentary series. Inspired by the late scientist Carl Sagan, she spent last summer investigating solar flare events as part of a research group at Montana State University–Bozeman.

Bratts-Kelly is one of four first-year astronomy students who received coveted Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) last summer. "It is rare for a first-year student to secure an REU position," astronomy professor John Cannon says.

"For four students from the same class to do so is remarkable."

The other first-year astronomy students selected for REUs were **Alyssa Bulatek** (Park Ridge, Ill.); **Riley McGlasson** (Eden Prairie, Minn.); and **Andrew Mizener** (Omaha, Neb.). "Astronomy is one of the only fields of science where scientists study real phenomena that aren't within our reach—with the exception of meteorites," says Bulatek. "We can't bring our objects of study into a laboratory to look at them. I feel incredibly lucky to have been given this



PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOHN CANNON

REU experience."

On and off campus, more than 120 other Macalester students also conducted summer science research in areas of study ranging from Autism Spectrum Disorder in the Somali community to the fossils of the Upper Missouri River Breaks.

Livelier Library

This year, when DeWitt Wallace Library director Terri Fishel arrives at her office, she's ready for the entire second floor to look wildly different from how it looked the day before.

That's intentional—and it's a big change from Fishel's previous environment, when her office looked out into rows of quiet stacks. Over the summer, the 10,000-square-foot second floor was transformed into a multipurpose active hub for student learning, collaborating, and tinkering.

More than 100,000 volumes were relocated to the library's other floors, replaced by whiteboards on wheels, abundant charging stations, and plenty of flexible collaborative workspaces. The library's second floor previously held 80 chairs; the new layout seats up to 190 students in booths, comfortable chairs, and a long counter-height table that seats more than 20 people. ("We're bolting down as little as possible," says administration/finance vice president David Wheaton.)

One of the plan's highlights: the Idea Lab, which allows students to build, tinker, and learn by doing. Startup supplies include a sewing machine, spinning wheel, vinyl cutter, and 3D printer, but that list will evolve based on student use.

The second floor also features a 30-student active learning classroom and a space for students working with special collections and the archives. Four new group study rooms are equipped with technology to support virtual meetings and interviews, creating new opportunities for the Career Development Center. Each evening the entire floor is open for student use.



The project's vision stems from staff planning that coincided with the building's 25th anniversary in 2013. Many of the themes identified then also resonated this year with Macalester's expanding entrepreneurship program, which was looking for a new home and moved into the second floor as part of the renovation.

"Almost every academic library is transforming its spaces in some capacity," Fishel says. "Books aren't going away. They'll always remain an important part of the library and our services. But we are looking for different ways to showcase what we have and what we do for our community."

PHOTOS: DAVID J. TURNER

MAC SOCIAL



"In the past month that I've been here, I've only met one other person from Alabama." —@its_lidija
Visit Mac's social media hub at macalester.edu/macsocial to see more posts—and join in by using the #heymac hashtag when you post on Twitter or Instagram.

Kicking Off a New Year

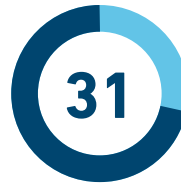
The annual opening convocation featured Gloria Perez '88, president and CEO of Jeremiah Program and one of the country's leading experts in using two-generation strategies to reduce poverty. Perez told the audience about her Mac experience, which launched her lifelong commitment to civic engagement and included a formative job at the Uptowner Café that taught her how to run a business. She encouraged students to cultivate a spirit of curiosity—and "when you find yourself in a position of power to be a connector or to open a door for someone, do it."



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CLASS OF 2021

Minnesota
Illinois
California | Most represented states



Most common last names | **Zhang**
Clark
Nguyen



Number of St. Paulites in the Class of 2021

Number of languages spoken at home | **44**

Median ACT score

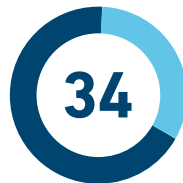
Smallest high school class: **1**
Seven home-schooled students

44 | Number of states represented, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico

Number of countries represented, by citizenship | **53**

Largest high school class: **1,013**
New Trier Township High School in Winnetka, Ill.

Emma
Hannah
Sam
Jack | Most common first names



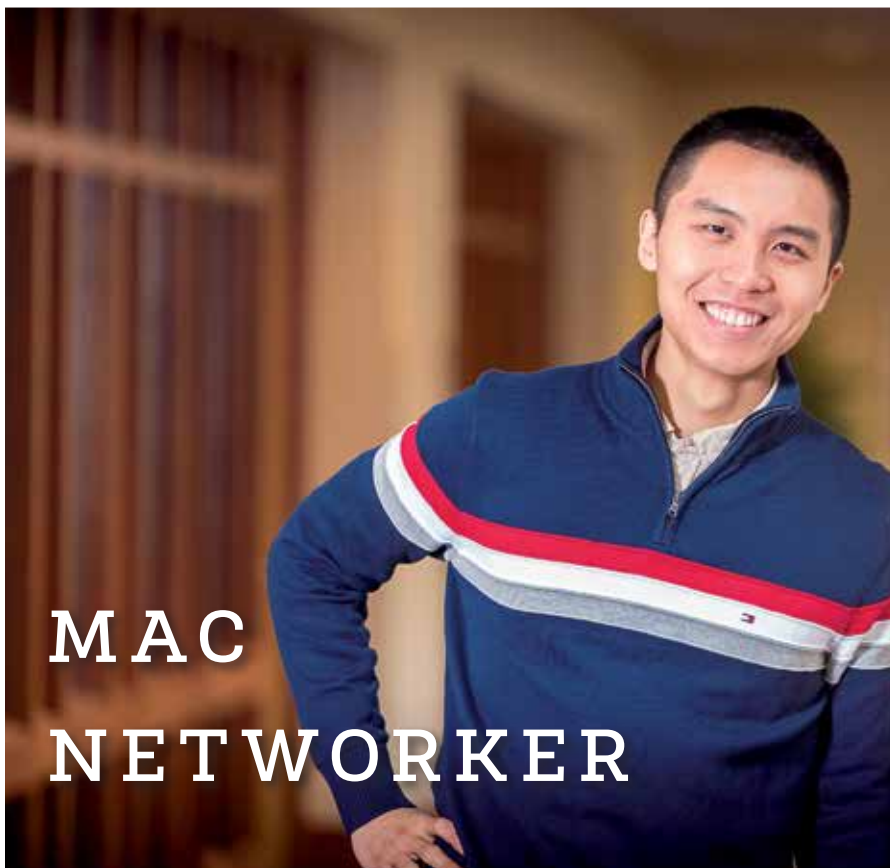
Farthest hometown from Mac: **Manzini, Swaziland**
(9,154 miles from St. Paul)

Percentage of U.S. students who are students of color, a college record

2000
Birth year of youngest student



Percentage that identify as first-generation college students



MAC NETWORKER

For plenty of Mac students, their first informational interview with an alum can be daunting. **Henry Zuo '17** (Guilin, China) remembers those nerves, but he's definitely in a position to tell students how quickly they disappear. When Zuo graduated in May with degrees in economics and math, he had spoken with more than 100 Mac alumni through his travels, internships, and telephone conversations. "Studying at Mac means more than just being on campus," says Zuo, now working for McKinsey & Co. in Minneapolis. "We exist within a much larger community of Mac alumni who are happy to give advice and share their insights. That's been a major highlight for me." (For more information about connecting with current students, visit macalester.edu/alumni/volunteer.)

PHOTO: DAVID J. TURNER



ATHLETICS

HISTORIC BASEBALL SEASON

Mac's baseball program enjoyed a historic season last spring, collecting 26 wins (which tied the program's record), winning the MIAC Playoff title, and advancing to the NCAA Midwest Regional Tournament for the first time. But head coach Matt Parrington and his team aren't resting on their laurels. The team is fully into its fall practice schedule to bring first-years into the program and prepare for spring competition. "We want our players to enjoy last year's success, but each year there's a different path to get there—there's no formula," Parrington says. "You hit the reset button and move forward. That was our mantra last year, whether things were going well or badly, and that's what we're doing now."



PROLIFIC PRODUCER

Working behind the scenes, **Roy Gabay '85** brings plays to life—both on and off Broadway.

BY NELL CASEY / PHOTO BY EVAN SUNG

Along the front hallway of Roy Gabay's brownstone, which sits on a tranquil, tree-lined block near Fort Greene Park in Brooklyn, N.Y., are framed posters of the plays he has worked on throughout his career as a theatrical producer and general manager. They visually narrate his involvement in some of the most captivating theatrical productions of the last three decades. Here is the poster for Eric Bogosian's fiery one-man show *Pounding Nails in the Floor with My Forehead*; there is Edie Falco looking solemn in Marsha Norman's *night, Mother*; here are John C. Reilly and Philip Seymour Hoffman locking horns in Sam Shepard's *True West*.

Gabay '85 loved theater from time he was a boy, when his mother regularly carted him into New York City from Connecticut to see plays. "It was instantaneous," says Gabay. "I kept thinking, 'What did they do to make this happen? How can I be a part of that?'" That feeling was bolstered when he saw *A Chorus Line* for his 14th birthday in 1977—"I can still see the whole thing in my head."

By the time he was a drama and speech major at Macalester, he knew this was his calling. He also knew he wanted to stay behind the scenes, where he could maintain more control than he could if he were onstage. "I don't think I knew what producer or manager meant when I graduated; I just knew that I had a passion for theater," he says. "For my senior project, I produced a show called *Digging to China*. I remember putting all the pieces together and thinking, 'Oh I guess I just produced it.'"

After Gabay graduated from Macalester, he stayed on in St. Paul for a couple of years, forming a small theater company called Third Coast Theater. This was before the Internet had transformed the world, and thus Gabay was able to take shrewd advantage of his hometown's proximity to Manhattan. On one of these trips, he saw Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*, then playing Off-Broadway at the Public Theater. One of the first plays to explore the AIDS epidemic, it was fast drawing attention and acclaim. In a move that presaged a financial model now standard in the industry, Gabay obtained the rights to *The Normal Heart* and brought it to Minneapolis. "I just rented a theater and put it on," Gabay recalls.

In 1988, Gabay moved to New York, where he rose through the ranks the old-fashioned way. "I had so many internships, I worked at various theaters, and I temped," he says. Along the way, he met investors who asked him to get in touch with them should he ever come across a play he'd like to produce.

That opportunity arose when Paula Vogel's *How I Learned to Drive*, about an obsessive relationship between a teenage girl and her uncle, opened at Manhattan's Off-Broadway Vineyard Theatre

in 1997. When the show was set to close, Gabay offered to raise the money to bring it to another theater for an open-ended run. He partnered with another producer and pulled it off: *How I Learned to Drive* moved to the Century Center for the Performing Arts, where it won the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and earned Gabay a main producing credit. After that, "people trusted me a little more," says Gabay. "People invest not only in a theatrical project but in the leader of the project."

Throughout, Gabay continued working as a theatrical general manager: negotiating contracts, securing theaters, and pulling together advertising and marketing, among other responsibilities. "Managing is a job and a career," explains Gabay. "You know what they say about producing: You can't make a living but you can make a killing. One *Hamilton* or *Chicago* and you've made it, but way more often what happens is the show closes early."

In 2003 Gabay started his own company, Roy Gabay Theatrical Production & Management. He has since renamed it Jumpstart Entertainment and taken on business partner Daniel Kuney. Along the way, Gabay also shifted from being the Play Guy to the Musical Guy. "*Rock of Ages* was one of the shows I worked on that turned the tide, as well as *Fela!*" he explains. "Recently, though, I've been thinking that I want to get back into plays."

In the meantime, the Musical Guy has a few more tricks up his sleeve, including his current show, *Bat out of Hell*, which opened in Toronto in October. He is serving as general manager on *Monsoon Wedding*, a musical based on director Mira Nair's 2001 smash film. (Nair is also directing the play.) Gabay is putting together the Broadway production of *Monsoon Wedding*, which ran until July at California's Berkeley Rep and he hopes will open on Broadway by fall 2018.

Another project he is looking forward to—though it remains in the early stages—is *The Scenario*, a musical set to three decades of hip-hop, produced by Russell Simmons and Universal Music Group. "It's an interesting idea, taking from the jukebox genre [of musicals, such as *Jersey Boys* and *Mamma Mia!*], which hasn't really been done with hip-hop yet," he says. "We'll see if the Broadway audience is going to come over for this." It could capture the same audience that flocked to *Hamilton*, but when it comes to plays, says Gabay, it's always a gamble.

"It's beyond frustrating sometimes that there is no clear path—but it's also good that things that shouldn't work, do work," Gabay says, still excited to roll the dice after all these years. "If it were easy to produce hits, it would be great, everybody would be rich—but it wouldn't be quite so much fun." **M**

Nell Casey is a New York writer and the editor of several books, including *The Journals of Spalding Gray*.

Theatrical REVIVAL

By early 2019, Mac will have a new home for the performing arts.

BY REBECCA DEJARLAIS ORTIZ '06

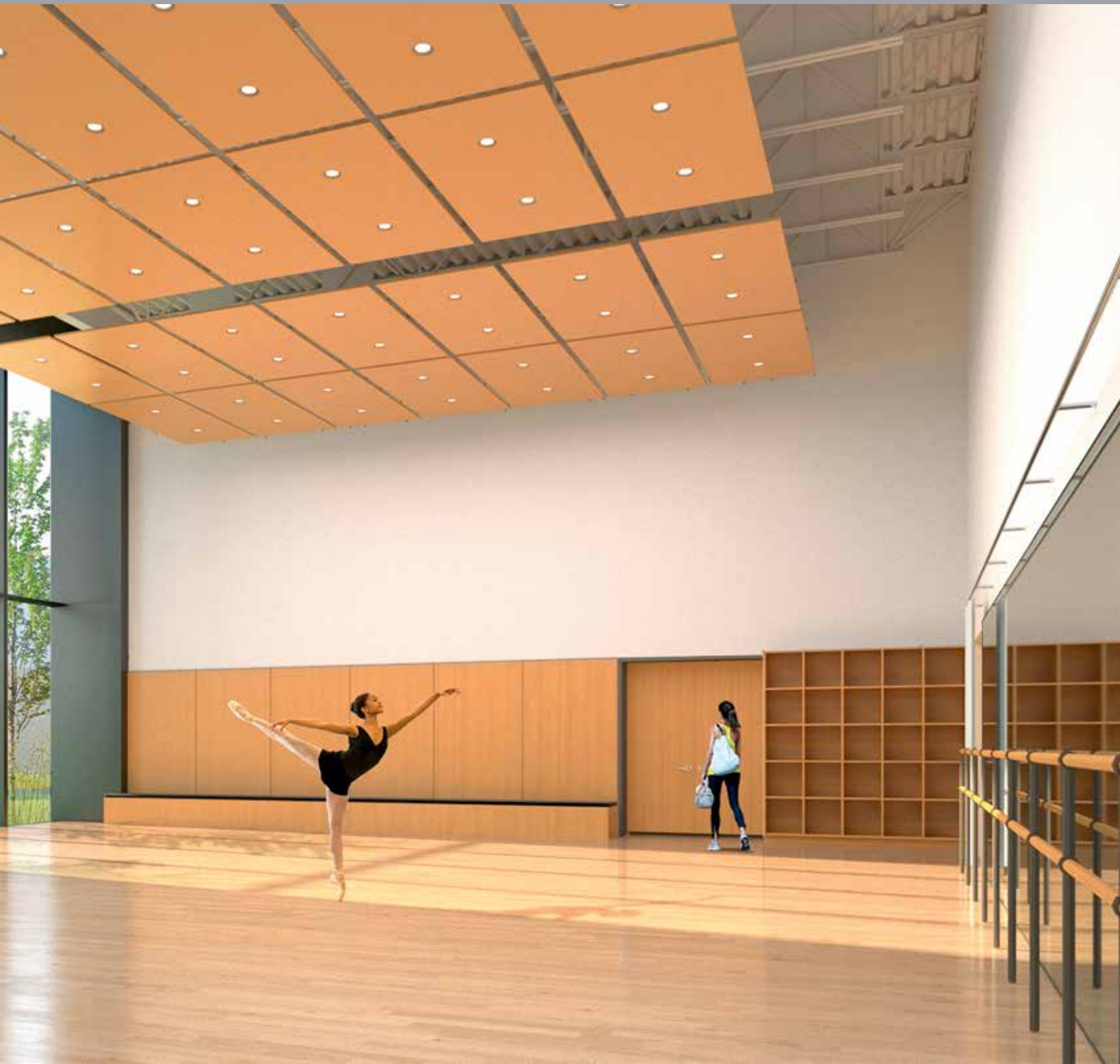
When **Emma Breslow '19** (Londonderry, N.H.) arrived at Macalester, she knew nothing about theater—let alone that she might develop a passion for it. But she enrolled in a theater class her first semester, and soon afterward wandered into the department's costume shop, hoping to apply her sewing skills. Before long she was volunteering there, a commitment that then turned into a work-study job.

Along the way, Breslow found a home. "The theater building is where I find myself when I don't know where to go but want to be somewhere," she says. "If I have 15 minutes until my next class and I'm nearby, I'm going to the theater building. Chances are good that I'll find a friend there or a professor who I've been meaning to talk with."

Beginning in November, Breslow's beloved community will be in flux until January 2019—but the result will be worth the wait. In that time, the existing theater building will be demolished and a new building will take its place—a transition that will transform experiences for theater and dance students at Macalester. It will create nine much-needed classrooms for general campus use, link the arts and sciences through a new skyway to Olin-Rice, add elevator access, and incorporate updated safety features. The building was designed by HGA Architects and Engineers, which was also responsible for the award-winning recent remodelings of the college's music and art buildings. The payment structure for the \$32-million project includes the college's \$10-million fundraising goal.

The plans for the new theater building emphasize the flexible use of each studio or classroom. "HGA has created a clever project that uses every inch of space very well," says new department chair Cláudia Tatinge Nascimento, who arrived on campus last summer. "We needed a versatile performance space that could accommodate different styles of theater and dance for the future. Every choice in the building is geared toward creating the best possible learning environment. Every room addresses innovations in the field of live and digital performance, so students will be better prepared to join the field when they graduate."





MAIN-LEVEL STUDIO: A 2,400-square-foot white studio features large windows that will admit ample natural light. It will be used primarily for dance classes and student showings, as well as lecture demonstrations. The studio is equipped to support classes in digital design and projections, a growing field of expertise in today's performing arts.



That approach includes the design of the main performance space. Instead of a traditional proscenium layout, the theater and dance faculty opted for a flexible performance space with hinged galleries that will create different seating configurations for every production. That layout opened more square footage possibilities throughout the building, including expanded studios with large windows and a restructured lobby area with plenty of seating for gathering and an intentional link to the music department. “The new facility will bring more light, more access, and more connection—both around our department and with the rest of campus,” says theater professor Harry Waters Jr. “There are so many possibilities.”

When the new building opens in time for the spring 2019 semester, Emma Breslow and her classmates will be starting their final term at Mac. They’re already imagining how it will feel to wrap up their theater education in the new space. As for Breslow, she hopes to juggle sewing costumes with acting in that spring’s main stage production—the building’s first and her last. **M**

EXTERIOR VIEW: The new building extends farther to the south than the current one, but preserves its interior courtyard. Like other buildings in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, it features an exterior design element suggestive of the art being created within. Pictured here are gold details that echo the folds in a theater curtain or an actor’s costume.

For more on getting involved with this project, email Christine Solso at solso@macalester.edu



MAIN STAGE: The flexible performance space can be arranged in numerous playing area and seating configurations. “It will give students new ways to connect with the audience—that will be true not only for the actors on stage, but also for the designers working on lighting, sets, and costumes,” says Harry Waters Jr. “They’ll get a new understanding of how theater can work in different venues.” Instead of building sets on stage between productions, students will work on them in the adjacent scene shop, moving them into the theater when they’re ready for a production to open. The downstairs black box theater will host acting, directing, and lighting design classes, as well as theater and dance student showings. State-of-the-art soundproofing and acoustics will allow productions and classes to run simultaneously in the building.

THEATER COMMONS: A new box office and lobby will open into the Lowe Dayton Arts Commons, which will serve as a gathering space for theater and dance audiences as well as for spectators attending music and arts events. The theater commons’ location also reinforces the link among the theater and dance program and music and studio art buildings in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center. The lobby and mezzanine hallways on both floors incorporate plenty of seating for meeting and collaborating.



GOLDEN SCOTS

They knew Macalester during the Great Depression and World War II. Where did life take these alumni?



Gail Kaufman Clark (second from left, standing next to piano) with her Macalester housemates



Gail Kaufman Clark at the piano where she teaches lessons today

BY REBECCA DEJARLAIS ORTIZ '06

There are 30,000 Macalester alumni around the world today—and roughly 300 of them graduated in 1948 or earlier. That means it has been 70 years or more since they walked across the stage at Commencement and received their diplomas. How did Macalester College shape them, and what are they passionate about now? How is the world different from the years when they were students at 1600 Grand? We talked to five alumni ranging in age from 90 to 102 about what they've seen, what they've done, and what they remember.

Gail Kaufman Clark '48

Gail Kaufman Clark '48 majored in music at Macalester and earned a master's degree in piano performance at Northwestern University. She taught music in Faribault, Minn., and Casper, Wyo., having been recruited by a friend of her Macalester advisor, Hollis Johnson. After they married in 1954, she and her husband were transferred to the Denver suburbs for his Texaco career. "In 1959

we bought the house I'm living in now," she says. Clark, a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, is a past president of the Colorado State Music Teachers Association and was named that organization's Teacher of the Year in 2012.

"I teach piano lessons every weekday. In the late afternoon, my dog, Lolly—my seventh standard poodle—knows it's teaching time.

We go into the studio, and Lolly lies on the bay window seat. I turned 90 in March, and I've cut back my teaching load. I only teach 20 students now. I don't take on new students unless they're current students' siblings. My youngest student is six, and his mother was one of my best students. I still have a soft spot in my heart for middle schoolers. They just need understanding; they need to know that you're interested in them. But I don't entertain my students. We work, even the six-year-olds.

I haven't kept a list of everyone I've taught over the years, and that's one of my regrets. I do stay in touch with some of my former students. When I hear from people I've taught, it's just the icing on the cake.

“One winter my friends and I needed a car to drive to Rochester for a church service. [Former Macalester president] James Wallace lent us his car. I was driving, and in icy conditions, I slid off the road and into a fence. I never saw a bill.” —Howard Gustafson '36

I got talked into teaching again by another piano instructor when my youngest child was 18 months old. I had to get a babysitter, but I figured the kids could stand three lessons a day—I told her I'd start in the fall if she could find 15 students for me. I had never taught a beginner, so I spent the summer researching how to work with that level.

I've seen a lot of changes over the years. Because of my teaching, I see how busy kids are now, all the time. They're so scheduled, and getting them to all of their destinations is practically a full-time job. They do tae kwon do, soccer, drama—the same kid does everything. A couple of years ago I taught a girl who got up for swimming at 5 a.m., and when she'd come to her piano lesson at 5 p.m. she hadn't been home yet. She'd just be exhausted. They're so terribly tired—and because their days are so divided, they can't be really good at what they like to do. A generation ago, my students had time to practice, time to excel in piano.

When my husband got ill, I said, 'I'm going to keep doing two things: teaching and playing bridge.' Besides spending time with friends, bridge is brain exercise for me. It's important to have friends and be with people—and it's also tremendously important to be able to enjoy being alone, which kids today have trouble with. The piano helps with that. I still play quite a bit.

If I weren't teaching, I'd be twiddling my thumbs. I feel so fortunate that I've been able to continue teaching as much as I want. I was married, I had three daughters, and my husband was wonderful—but teaching is my way of life.”

“We wore dresses and skirts. We only wore slacks when it was below zero, and nobody would have worn shorts. You had to be back in your dorm by 10:30 on weeknights and midnight on weekends. And there were no men allowed on the women's dorm floors. You'd hear someone yell 'Man on second!' if a man had to deliver something to the second floor.”

—Gail Kaufman Clark '48



Howard Gustafson is in the back row, third from left.

Howard Gustafson '36

On a Sunday morning in South St. Paul, Minn., there's a din coming from Clark-Grace United Church of Christ's social hall, where the congregation gathers for refreshments after the morning service. Their most senior member, though, is late for fellowship: **Howard Gustafson '36** is still in the sanctuary, finishing his ushering duties.

That's typical, say the people in what Gustafson calls his church family. "He's the first one here and the last one to leave," says church member Linda Grotto. Gustafson—who turned 102 in June—started volunteering as an usher after his wife, Norma Jean, died in 2004, and his friends encouraged him to maintain social connections at church. Nearly every week, he turns on the lights and sound system, lights the candles, and then extinguishes those candles and locks the doors before leaving.



Howard Gustafson

Gustafson grew up within walking distance of Macalester, which made attending Mac an easy choice for both him and his brother, **Oscar '40**. Gustafson studied science, led a campus lab, and graduated at age 20. His father worked as a mail carrier, so Gustafson followed him into that career, the U.S. Postal Service offering a rare steady job back in 1938. Howard worked as a postal clerk until retirement, except for three years working in hospital labs in Wales and England for the U.S. Army during World War II.

Back in St. Paul after the war, Gustafson met **Norma Jean Bryan '49** at a folk dance class. The two married in 1951, bought a South St. Paul house, and raised two daughters there.

Gustafson still lives in that home today, having only recently stopped mowing his neighbors' lawns and clearing snow off their driveways. ("I had to set the example for the neighborhood," he says.) Gustafson remains active, though: Last spring's yardwork chores included spreading three dozen bags of mulch over his gardens. He's also passionate about woodworking and has produced nearly 300 pieces in his basement workshop.

And, of course, he attends nearly every Clark-Grace event. "Howard tells me stories about Macalester's people, some of which I typically associate with campus building names," says Mac staff member **Suzanne Savanick Hansen**, another Clark-Grace member. "He ushers every week and dances to the music in the back of the pews."

Gordon Deegan '46

Gordon Deegan '46 returned to campus last year for his 70th Reunion—and he's hoping to make it to his 75th, too. "I don't know how I'll get there, but I'm planning on coming," says Deegan, who also will return to Minnesota next year for his grandson's veterinary school graduation.

The avid traveler grew up in Minnesota, majored in political science, and moved to California for a job at Carlmont High School in Belmont, Calif., where he taught Spanish and German for nearly 30 years. Although the Bay Area has been his home for decades, his life journey also included two years in the Navy, jobs with the Senate and Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C., teaching stints in Minnesota and North Dakota, and work as a vice consul in the U.S. Foreign Service in Germany and Cuba.

"In 1933, my father took us to the Chicago World's Fair. At the time, that was the farthest I'd ever been away from our farm outside North Mankato, Minnesota. I've always had an interest in travel and other people, though. Our farm didn't get electricity until 1938, and for laundry my mother used a washing machine that was powered by a large handle that had to be pushed back and forth manually. When I was home from school, that was my job. I thought that was boring, so while I did that chore, I'd get out my atlas and start 'traveling,' each load of laundry taking me, in my dreams, to distant places.

Macalester opened up the world to me. Though the college itself was still insular—most students were from Minnesota, North Dakota, or Iowa—that international spirit was a part of college life. My first trip out of the United States was to Winnipeg as a Mac student for the Canadian American Conference. When we were students, Macalester became an Army Air Corps training site, and we had to

clear out of the dorms to make room for them. I moved into a house on Wheeler Avenue with my friend **Felipe Garcia-Beraza '44**. After I got out of the Navy, I visited Felipe in Mexico in 1948.

I've changed a lot in the 70 years since I graduated, and a great deal of that growth is due to my time at Macalester. I've spoken three languages and studied another five. I've traveled to three dozen countries and 45 states. There's still a lot on my list that I'm not going to see. If I could get up and go right now, I would travel to Argentina and Chile, or maybe to Australia. At this moment, I don't have anything to read—and I'm thinking, what am I going to do with myself? I'm trying to learn more, to be awakened.

I hope Macalester keeps that spirit, the idea that we're put on



Gordon Deegan at Reunion 2016



Gordon Deegan at the piano

"My best friend was Margaret Johnson Kiriluk '46, and from sophomore year on, we took every course together. In American Government with Hubert Humphrey, we sat in the front row and gossiped. One day, he'd had enough, and he called us to order and to listen for a change."

—Gordon Deegan '46

this earth to do something worthwhile and to make the world a little better than when we arrived. I'm so awed by that principle. Today's students are wonderful people—they're filled with the same feeling we had in the 1940s. They're looking forward in the same way.

There's no secret to a long life: just hang on. You can't do anything to control it. And I'm faced with thinking about it a lot. Maybe I've got five minutes left, maybe I have five or 10 years. Either way, it's limited. I'm trying to live the best way I can. Don't think that I'm an angel—I've had a lot of fun, and I'm glad for it. My whole life has been a learning process. And I think that's fine."

Frances Tripp Bell '39

Fran Bell's Macalester education may have taken up only 4 percent of her life, but that does not diminish its impact. Fran's family includes 25 Mac alumni—including Fran '39 and her late husband Art '40, all four of their children, and both sets of their parents.

Long before Fran and Art started college, they met because of their parents' Mac friendships. The two began dating on campus, then worked together at a summer camp near Chicago. Fran majored in biology and psychology; Art studied psychology. While Art finished college, Fran studied social work at Northwestern University and worked in Chicago. In 1941 they married at Westminster Church in Minneapolis—and stayed married for 72 years, until Art's death four years ago.

Early in their marriage Art spent more than two years in Europe during World War II. While he was away, Fran and their son David '65 lived with her parents.

Art's work took the Bells to North Dakota and then back to the Twin Cities, where he was president of Ministers Life and Casualty Insurance. Their family

grew: Rick '68 and Kathy '70 were born in North Dakota; Mary '76 was born in Minneapolis. Fran and Art loved walking around and swimming in nearby Lake Minnetonka as they raised their children. ("And we liked dancing," she says. "Even as old people, we liked to dance.") After their youngest child started junior high, Fran taught at a local nursery. Both Fran and Art were regular volunteers around the Twin Cities.

Today Fran remains active at her senior housing complex in

the western suburbs of Minneapolis. Three times a week, she takes a morning fitness class at the complex, and twice a week she heads to The Marsh fitness center—she's a 32-year charter member—for a water exercise class and visits with friends. She also attends a weekly Bible study group and knits with friends—often joined by her daughter Kathy—using a needle Art made her. She donates afghans, socks, and finger puppets to Gillette children's hospital patients.

Last summer Fran celebrated her 100th birthday, surrounded by friends and family—and plenty of Macalester connections. "Mac means an awful lot to our family," she says. "We had a wonderful time there."



Frances Tripp Bell

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MACALESTER ARCHIVES, GREG HELGESON



Fran Bell with her husband, Art, at Reunion 2010

Lowell Gess '42

In August, **Lowell Gess '42** returned from his fifth trip to Sierra Leone in two years. Gess has traveled to Africa nearly 200 times since beginning his work as a medical missionary in 1952. A philosophy major at Mac, Gess's education also included seminary, medical school, and an ophthalmology residency—as well as countless lessons in the Sierra Leone hospital he and his late wife, Ruth, founded, now a hub for Ebola virus research and treatment.

"I was only 11 when I felt called to be a medical missionary. That led to Macalester, then seminary, then back to medical school. In 1952, my family and I went to Nigeria, then we were sent to Sierra Leone so I could practice as a general surgeon. We saw so much blindness there that I asked an ophthalmologist friend to join us. He sent a book and a set of eye instruments. We began practicing on pig and cow eyes, and then began doing successful eye surgeries. I was the only person doing eye surgery in a country of six million.

I came home to do an ophthalmology residency, then went back and established the eye work. Our family spent 18 years in Africa, and for 33 years after that, my wife and I would return for three months a year to do eye work. We started the Kissy United Methodist Church Hospital in Sierra Leone in 1982, and when Ebola struck, our little church

hospital became the center for treatment. When we weren't there, 40 board-certified ophthalmologists took turns keeping our hospital going. Now it's a place WHO and Doctors Without Borders look to for eye outreach.

In recent years, we've learned that after Ebola patients recover, they can still harbor the virus in their eyes. Eye problems are a common complication of the virus, but if active Ebola is still in the eye, no one can help survivors without putting the surgical team in danger. Our goal was to see how long the Ebola virus stayed in the eye.

The recent results are wonderful—exactly what we've been praying for. We found that after 18 months, there was no virus left in the eyes. That meant people who were blinded by complications could be operated on. In the past year, our team has been able to do cataract surgery. The people who had survived Ebola weren't the old people—they were children. With these eye operations, children have been able to return to school.

At Mac, I didn't want to be a medical doctor—I avoided anything pre-med! But I needed a science course to graduate, so I

took geology with Professor Alexander, and that made an impact on me. When I was on my way to seminary in Chicago, I realized I wasn't sure I'd make much of a pastor. I did three years of seminary but also took all the [science] classes I had avoided at Macal-



Lowell Gess in 1942



Lowell Gess at Reunion 2017

PHOTO: DAVID J. TURNER

“When I was at Macalester, church services were mandatory. In my class, I was the one who had to record who attended and who didn’t. I was bribed sometimes to list someone as present.”

—Lowell Gess ’42

ester, then served two years as a pastor and went on to medical school at Washington University. Macalester students—now and back then—are prepared to go out into the world and have a base from which they can really move. I’m eternally grateful for what Macalester did for me.

I was a hockey player in college, playing right wing. On December 7, 1941, I remember looking around the room, surrounded by the hockey team. We were seniors. One year later, our entire first line was gone. The goalie was gone, one of the defencemen was gone. And there I was, alive. I was told they needed me to go to seminary instead of serving in the war. While my friends had given their lives, I was alive. I don’t think anyone now realizes what the conditions were like for us during those years. When I was a pastor, the war ended, but I could hardly walk a block without seeing gold stars on the windows.

Before one trip to Africa, my wife was ill, so my grandson (**Christopher Boehlke ’97**) offered to come along. After awhile, he got interested in the clinic and staff, and then what I was doing in surgery. He went back to Minneapolis and ended up completing an eye residency. Three of my grandchildren are ophthalmologists now.

I’m in my 97th year. I have been in such good shape—I work on a computer, I walk and drive where I want to go. I drove down from Alexandria to Reunion in my own car. But when you’re this age, you have to be a little sensible.

When I was in Sierra Leone recently, I fixed things up so they’d have operating microscopes and equipment with backups that should last a few years. Emory University Hospitals wants to invest in programs and equipment there. An organization is building a new pediatric eye hospital at Kissy UMC beginning in January, and we’re reserving a place for Emory’s equipment in the original building. Seeing what has happened there in my lifetime is hardly believable.” **M**

Rebecca DeJarlais Ortiz ’06 is the editor of *Macalester Today*.



Lowell Gess speaking at a post-Ebola symposium in Sierra Leone



Lowell Gess adjusting the operating microscope at the hospital he founded in Sierra Leone

CONNECT-

Kofi Amoo-Gottfried's rise at Facebook is fueled by

ING THE

a passion for broadening access to the internet.

WORLD

BY LYNETTE LAMB / PHOTOS BY ROBERT HOUSER

When **Kofi Amoo-Gottfried '01** arrived on the Macalester campus from Ghana in 1997, he had never used the Internet. Today he works in the very center of that world, as head of brand and consumer marketing for the social media behemoth Facebook.

His 20-year journey has included a surprising summer internship, many years as an ad man, and several journeys back to Africa to share his skills and knowledge—all of which ultimately brought him here, to Facebook's sprawling campus overlooking a flat, marshy section of San Francisco Bay near Menlo Park.

It's a long way from Accra, as Amoo-Gottfried is the first to concede. But Facebook's mission—to open up and connect the world—fits well with his own values. Indeed, until he was named to his current position—replacing fellow Mac alum **Rebecca Van Dyck '91**—he was head of consumer marketing for the company's internet.org division, which has as its goal to help connect the millions of people around the world who lack Internet access.

In his 15 months with internet.org, Amoo-Gottfried traveled to India, Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Kenya, the Philippines, Myanmar, and other

countries to make affordable Internet a reality in places formerly bypassed by technology. By installing Express Wi-Fi hot spots, beaming internet from the sky via satellites and high-altitude, long-endurance planes, and creating something they call the Free Basics platform to lower the costs of Internet access, "internet.org is exploring innovative ways to get the unconnected half of the world online," he says.

Free Basics provides people with access to useful content such as news, employment, health, education, and local information without data charges, using phones and 2G connections. "It's all really difficult technologically, but there's an inspiring end in mind for what we're trying to accomplish for people," says Amoo-Gottfried.

Shortly before leaving his job at internet.org, he returned to Nigeria and Ghana to capture stories of how people were using internet.org services and checked out a pilot Express Wi-Fi hot-spot installation just a mile from his childhood home. "It's a passion project," says Amoo-Gottfried, "and it continues to be one of the most exciting Facebook initiatives for me."





An advertising internship after Amoo-Gottfried's junior year at Mac changed his outlook. "I said to myself, 'I love this and I want to do it for my career,'" says Amoo-Gottfried, pictured here at Facebook's offices.

“I’m deeply cognizant of the impact of the internet and its social mission. We want to make the world more open and connected, and give people the power to share.”

—Kofi Amoo-Gottfried '01

Groomed for leadership

Despite his intense interest in the initiative, Amoo-Gottfried’s stint at internet.org was never meant to be a long-term one, says predecessor Van Dyck. “I hired Kofi with the idea that he could be my successor,” she says. “He has proven to be an amazing rock star and has excelled beyond anyone’s expectations.”

She singles out his skills in strategizing, motivating, leading, and inspiring his staff “to create beautiful and smart ideas that build strong relationships between the consumer and the company he represents.”

Amoo-Gottfried, in turn, credits a large part of Facebook’s success, as well as his own, to the company’s lack of hierarchy and its emphasis on empowering employees. “We’re incredibly data driven, always figuring out what’s best for the people who use our products,” he says. “We’re in a constant learning environment, which enables autonomy among the staff.”

Becoming an ad man

At Macalester, Amoo-Gottfried was an economics major and initially planned to pursue an investment banking or consulting path after graduation. But at a job fair his junior year, he encountered a recruiter from the venerable Chicago advertising agency Leo Burnett, who told him about an open internship interview slot later that morning. He aced the interview, landed the internship, and learned to love the ad biz. By summer’s end, “I said to myself, ‘I love this and I want to do it for my career.’”

Leo Burnett offered Amoo-Gottfried a full-time job upon graduation and he stayed there for six years before moving on to Wieden + Kennedy, Bacardi, and Publicis Ghana, where he helped build the first Publicis ad agency in Africa from the ground up.

Giving back

Publicis Ghana and Facebook’s internet.org represent two work-related examples of Amoo-Gottfried making contributions around the globe. And although too humble to mention it himself, his former boss Van Dyck lists several of his volunteer commitments, including being a board member for Mindful, a creative agency in Ghana; a board member for Population Services International, a global nonprofit health organization operating in over 60 countries; and an advisory board member for Golden Baobab, which gives an annual award for the best African literature featuring African children as heroes. He is also a key member of Facebook’s diversity initiatives, Van Dyck adds, leading efforts to bring more varied voices into Facebook’s marketing department.

At home

When he’s not working—and Amoo-Gottfried describes his hefty 50- to 60-hour work week as “pretty good” for the tech world—he lives near the beach in Half Moon Bay, over the coastal range from Facebook headquarters. He is married to his Macalester sweetheart, Kate Amoo-Gottfried '00; the couple is raising two sons, Marlowe, 3-½, and Miles, 2.

He found Macalester—and ultimately his wife and career path—through his uncle, former UN Secretary-General **Kofi Annan '61**—“the more famous Kofi,” as Amoo-Gottfried calls him. Annan is his mother’s twin. In typical low-key fashion, as a student Amoo-Gottfried didn’t tell his Mac friends about his connection to one of the college’s best known alums—until his uncle came to campus in 1998 to deliver the Commencement address. “At first even my now-wife didn’t believe me,” he laughs.

But the Kofis have something more important in common than their names: their desire to open up the world to all its citizens. Kofi senior said it like this: “Knowledge is power. Information is liberating.” His nephew, working at the very nexus of new media, puts it this way: “I’m deeply cognizant of the impact of the internet and its social mission. We want to make the world more open and connected, and give people the power to share.” **M**

Lynette Lamb, a Minneapolis freelance writer/editor, is the former editor of *Macalester Today*.

THE FACEBOOK WALL
What's on your mind?



Making the
Most of

Your Money

Alumni experts offer advice on managing your money and planning for the future—whether you just graduated or are ready to retire.



Fundamentally, financial literacy isn't complicated. Typically defined as the skills and knowledge that allow you to make smart decisions about your resources, financial literacy involves goals and plans for saving, planning, budgeting, investing, buying insurance, and so on—and sticking to them. Unfortunately, it's not all that simple in practice, as America's high levels of debt and low levels of savings evince.



"These things are simple to understand but hard to do," notes **Ed Deutschlander '93**, CEO of Minneapolis-based North Star Resource Group, one of the country's largest independent privately held financial advisory firms. The problem, he adds, is "we think we have plenty of time. I will get around to doing it. I will save more starting next year."

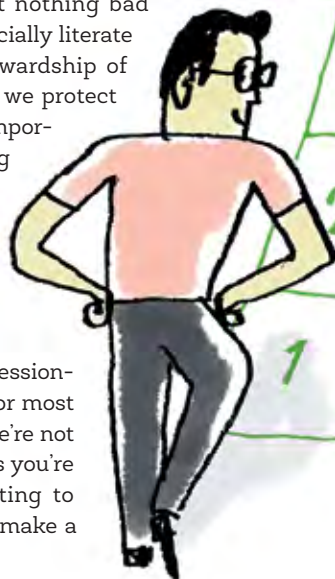
As **Meloni Hallock '70**, managing director and partner at Acacia Wealth Advisors at HighTower, puts it, "Save more and spend less. You need to spend less than you make. It's not rocket science, right?" So what makes it so difficult for so many of us? "There's the lust for whatever you don't have," says Hallock. "We're surrounded by innumerable objects of desire, and innumerable images of how the other half (or at least the top 1 percent) lives."



Perhaps the biggest financial danger we face is our own optimism. Human beings tend to assume there's always time, and that nothing bad will happen to us. Being financially literate involves more than good stewardship of our funds. It's also about how we protect the well-being of those most important to us. That requires, among other things, building good habits—and planning for bad luck.

The First Steps

Your twenties are a time of professional and personal exploration. For most of us, it's a time in life where we're not making a lot of money. Still, as you're getting established and starting to support yourself, you need to make a financial plan.

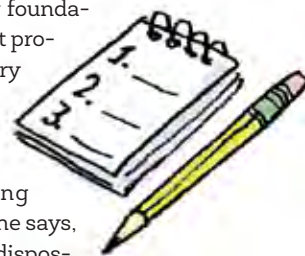


+ Don't delay. Start saving and planning right away. **Erik Jackson '05**, a Denver-based financial planner, suggests asking yourself questions such as these: What do I want to be able to do



at certain points in my life? When do I want to retire? Although these aren't questions you can answer definitively in your twenties, it pays to start thinking early.

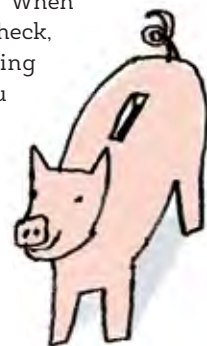
+ Create a budget. It's a way to create "a strong foundation," says **Diya Luke '01**, a corporate investment professional in the Atlanta office of global advisory and management firm Willis Towers Watson.



After covering your monthly expenses, putting aside savings, and making loan payments, she says, budget "the more disposable forms of income" so that you're living within your means.

"Several years ago, our family took a year off to travel around the world," Luke recalls. "We were able to do that only because we had planned for it." The planning she and her husband have done provides them with the flexibility to take on interesting opportunities as they arise.

+ Plan for retirement. "When you get your first paycheck, you should be thinking about how much you can allocate to retirement," Luke says. There are plenty of opportunities to maximize your participation in workplace retirement accounts, especially if your employer matches contributions to a 401(k) plan or health savings account. "If you're not taking advantage of those things, even in your 20s, you're leaving money on the table," she says.



Online resources can help you calculate how much money you will need for retirement. If you set aside \$200 a month for retirement starting at age 25, with a return of 6 percent per year, you'll have nearly \$109,000 by age 65. If your employer matches that amount, of course, your money is doubled. Consider this a kind of "modest-case" scenario. As your income climbs, you'll want to put aside more money. If you have a job without a pension—and that's the case with more and more of us—you'll need to do so.

The Middle of the Journey

As you enter your thirties, responsibilities increase. That often means home, children, and some new debt—and more opportunities to save and invest. There are also plenty of risks to face and manage.

+ Consider working with a financial advisor.

As life gets more complicated, so too do our finances. To help sort through the options, it can be helpful to get outside expertise. Planners can assist with tax management strategies, kids' education funds, and retirement investments. Deutschlander sees himself as "more of a life planner than a financial planner." He helps clients understand how they can express their values through their money and how they can give back—to their community, family, and the world.

Many aspects of financial management can be confusing for non-experts. For instance: Wills are not the only option for designating beneficiaries for your estate. Wills are subject to probate, which can be slow and costly for your heirs. Trusts and transfer on death (TOD) plans bypass the probate process and can provide tax-reduction benefits, though these options also have their drawbacks. A financial planner can help you sort through the pros and cons of each.



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sees himself as "more of a life planner than a financial planner." He helps clients understand how they can express their values through their money and how they can give back—to their community, family, and the world.

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+ Take care of yourself. "Ultimately, no matter how much money you have, if you don't have your health, you're not going to be able to live life to the fullest," Hallock says. Having a lot of money won't overcome a lifetime of bad health habits. To Hallock, "physical and fiscal fitness should go hand in hand."



+ Be attentive to the risks that could affect your family. But bad things, of course, can happen even to people in good physical shape. You can do everything "right"—and still have something go tragically wrong.

Think it can't happen to you? Jackson tells of a client in his forties who died in a car accident shortly after his wife gave birth to twins. Fortunately, he had taken out a life insurance policy. "If that had not been there, it would have made it very difficult" for his family, says Jackson. Even people without children should consider life insurance because if one partner dies, the other can be left in dire straits.

But an even more likely occurrence among younger people is disability. People in their thirties, forties, and fifties can suddenly find themselves facing a cancer diagnosis or a career-ending stroke. Death, disability, sickness—good financial planning, Deutschlander says, "factors these in" and helps you and your dependents manage those risks.



+ Build a cash cushion. You should have readily available an easily accessible sum of money, particularly in case you or your spouse should suddenly



lose a job. People in their thirties and forties are advised to have enough cash on hand to cover three to six months' worth of expenses. That will

give you the time you need to find a new job or another income source.

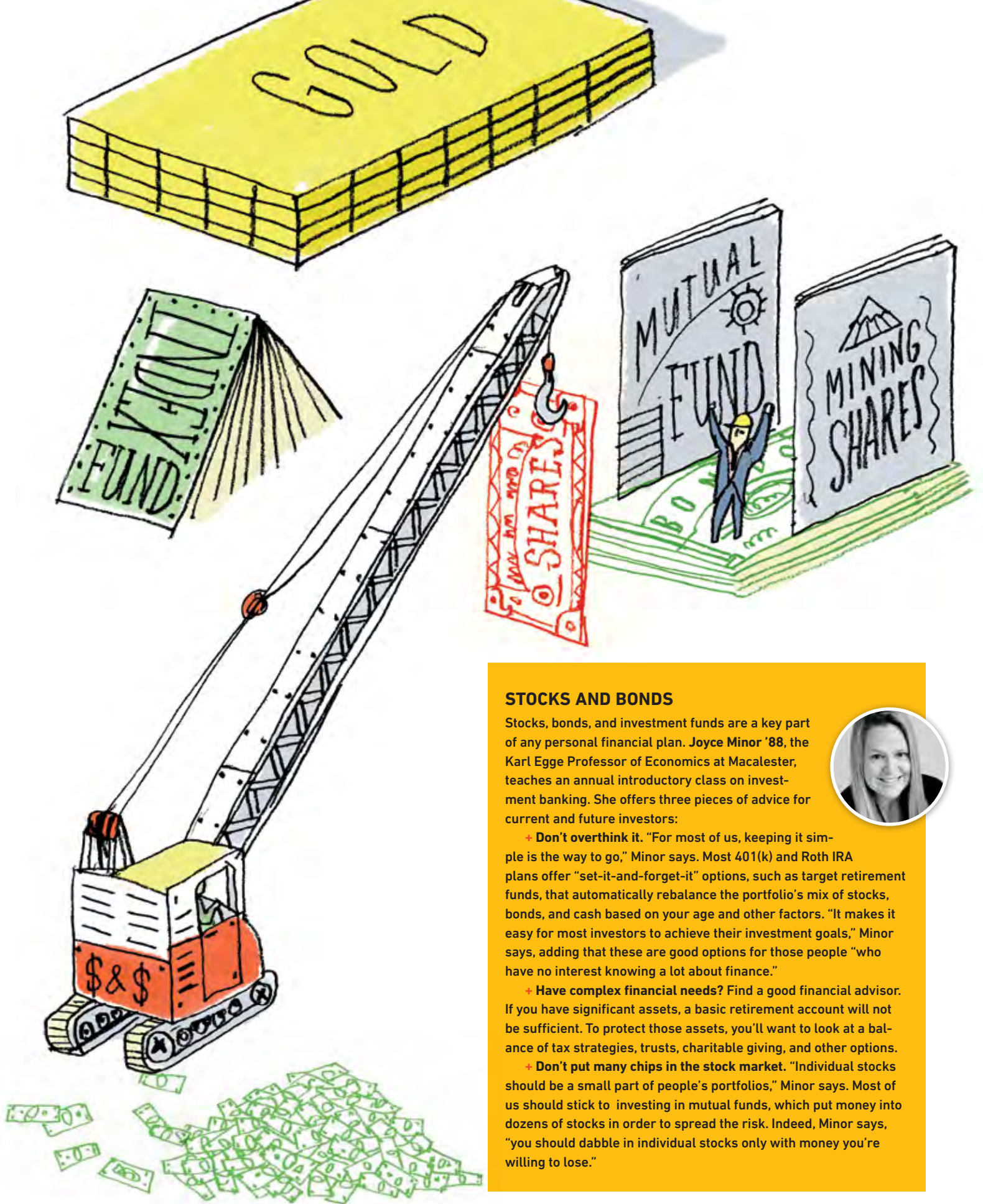
In establishing that backup cache of cash, Luke suggests considering your livelihood and the volatility of your sources of cash. Do you have a salaried position, or is your main income less predictable? If the latter, she suggests building a bigger cushion to help fund unexpected expenses.

+ Take on debt—but cautiously. The

daughter of Indian parents, Luke grew up in Egypt, India, Belgium, Japan, and the United States. The first debt her parents took on was the mortgage they took out when they moved to the U.S. As Luke puts it, "taking on debt was not mainstream," for her family or for their culture. After she graduated from Mac, she was surprised to learn she had a terrible credit score because she had never taken on—and paid off—any debt. "I've learned since that low-cost debt can be good, especially when you're using it for investments such as education or housing." That's why Luke recommends "embracing debt as your friend, as long as you do it in a measured manner, and understand the cost of the debt you're taking on."



But how much debt is "good"? General guidelines are not always optimal, says Deutschlander, citing a common one, the 28/36 rule: Do not spend more than 28 percent of gross income on monthly housing costs nor more than 36 percent of gross income on total debt service, which includes car payments and student loans.



STOCKS AND BONDS

Stocks, bonds, and investment funds are a key part of any personal financial plan. Joyce Minor '88, the Karl Egge Professor of Economics at Macalester, teaches an annual introductory class on investment banking. She offers three pieces of advice for current and future investors:



- + **Don't overthink it.** "For most of us, keeping it simple is the way to go," Minor says. Most 401(k) and Roth IRA plans offer "set-it-and-forget-it" options, such as target retirement funds, that automatically rebalance the portfolio's mix of stocks, bonds, and cash based on your age and other factors. "It makes it easy for most investors to achieve their investment goals," Minor says, adding that these are good options for those people "who have no interest knowing a lot about finance."

- + **Have complex financial needs?** Find a good financial advisor. If you have significant assets, a basic retirement account will not be sufficient. To protect those assets, you'll want to look at a balance of tax strategies, trusts, charitable giving, and other options.

- + **Don't put many chips in the stock market.** "Individual stocks should be a small part of people's portfolios," Minor says. Most of us should stick to investing in mutual funds, which put money into dozens of stocks in order to spread the risk. Indeed, Minor says, "you should dabble in individual stocks only with money you're willing to lose."



To that standard guideline Deutschlander adds this caveat: Debt enables you to receive something today, but will reduce your ability to spend future income. From his perspective, a “reasonable” amount of debt is defined as “as little as possible.”

That said, the one form of debt you absolutely should avoid is credit card debt. It’s not clear that Americans have learned this lesson. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau and the Federal Reserve released in August noted that the average American household has \$16,425 in credit card debt, an amount that has risen 10 percent since 2013. A household with that level of debt, making a monthly payment of \$500 a month, would rack up interest payments of \$6,503. Immediate gratification has its consequences.

After a 30-year career in banking and the leather business in New York and his native Brazil, Lehmann retired and now devotes his time to helping others, including at-risk kids in Florida. One of his goals is to guide them in developing good money habits, including budgeting and planning. “When they get into the workforce, [this financial savvy] does make a huge difference,” Lehmann says.

+ Talk to your entire family about money. As Deutschlander notes, “the topic of money is intimidating” to many families. But avoiding it can be financially and emotionally costly later on.



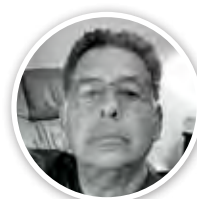
+ Regularly re-evaluate your financial position.

Though she did not spend her career in personal financial planning, former corporate financial consultant **Sharon Hewitt '73** does see many parallels between the two fields. One example: Just as a company does, a family should annually evaluate its financial situation to see how its financial plan is proceeding—and how it might need to be modified. Having a financial plan is essential—but that plan needs to be flexible as your life changes.



+ Talk to your kids about money. Although Hewitt had a successful career in financial services and consulting, working with international banks before retiring in 2014, she still wishes her school-teacher parents had talked with her about money and personal finance as she was growing up: “I would have started some good financial practices earlier.” For one thing, says Hewitt, she would have started saving as soon as she got her first job so she wouldn’t have had to catch up later.

Imparting good financial habits to kids is something close to the heart of **Andre Lehmann '71**.



STUDENT LOANS

Repaying student loans is one of the biggest financial challenges faced by many recent grads. Macalester’s Office of Admissions and Financial Aid offers advice on handling loan repayments.

Office staff spend at least an hour discussing with student borrowers their rights and responsibilities, says **Brian Lindeman '89**, assistant vice president of admissions and financial aid. Mostly, he says, “we want them to know they need to pay attention.”

Most notably, Lindeman tells students to pay attention to communications from their lenders. And if they do find themselves having trouble repaying student loans, he says, they should communicate with the lender earlier rather than later. Late payments can lead to additional fees and lower credit scores. And being delinquent can be even costlier, in both senses.

Repayment options are plentiful, Lindeman notes. If you’re unemployed or otherwise in financial straits, there are options. In short: “Be proactive. Don’t avoid it, hoping it will go away.”





In middle age, many people are financially supporting not only their children but also their parents. What's needed, Deuschlander believes, is "multi-generational planning," something "unfortunately, very few people talk about." Your parents, for instance, may one day require long-term care. (So might you or your spouse.) Though still expensive, it's less costly to buy long-term care insurance as early as possible.

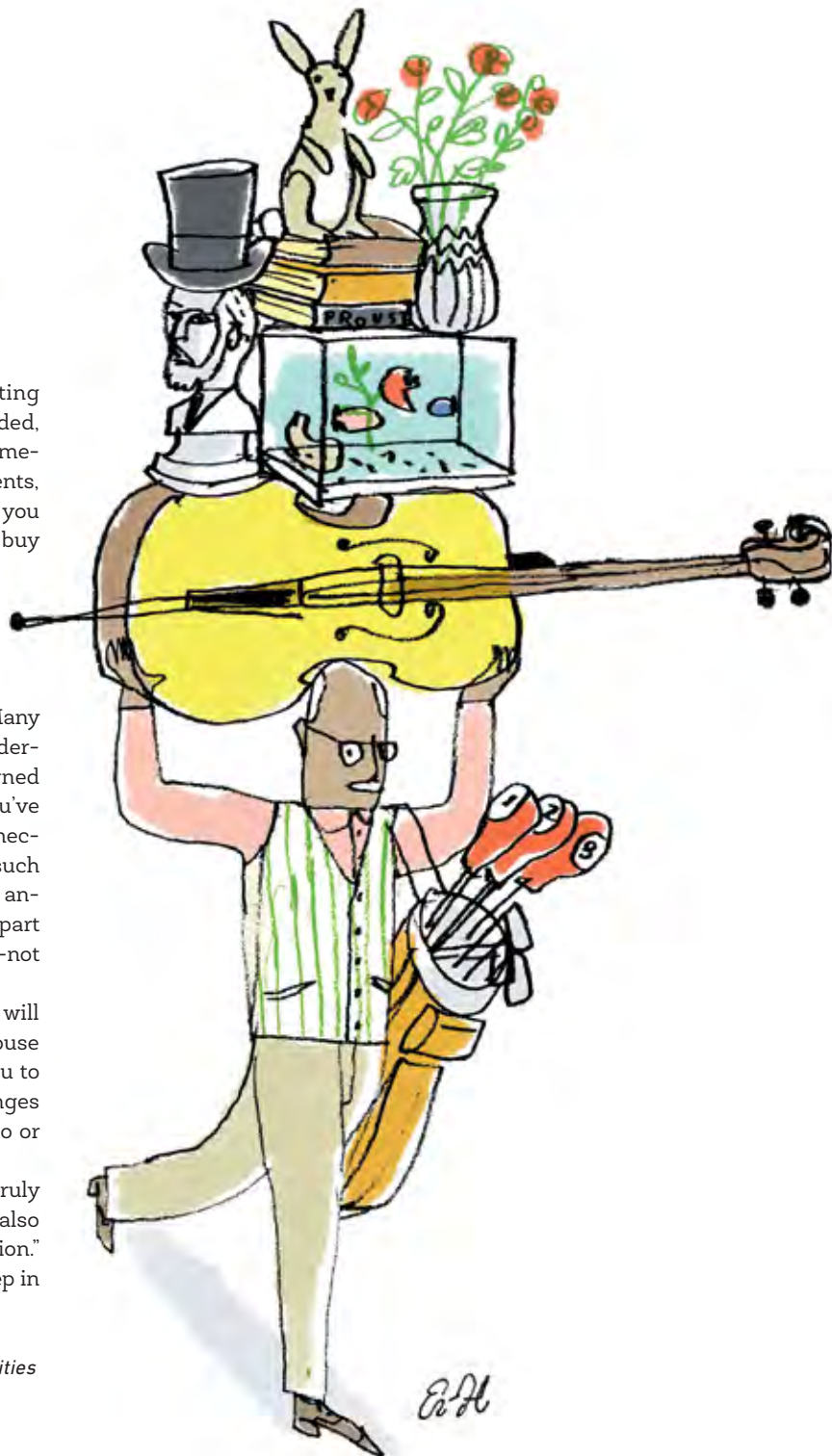
Towards Retirement and Beyond

Will you have enough money for a comfortable retirement? Many people are counting on Social Security—"an often misunderstood component," Deuschlander says. "It was never designed to be the sole source of income for one's retirement." If you've saved and planned, working with financial advisors when necessary, you should be able to access needed income from such sources as retirement account dispersals and life insurance annuities. You might also want to continue working, at least part time. If you've planned well, you'll work because you want to—not because you have to.

Death is another financial consideration. Keeping your will up to date is crucial. Factors such as the death of your spouse or partner, remarriage, and grandchildren could require you to change your beneficiaries. Not keeping up with these changes might mean that your money won't go where you wish it to or could result in unintended familial enmity.

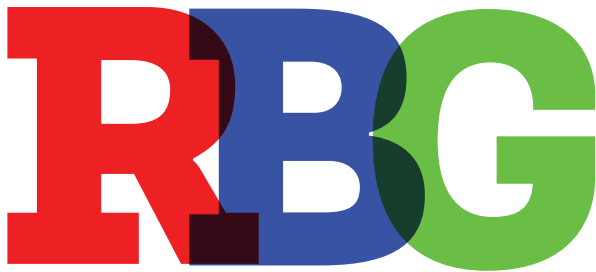
Financial literacy can help you live a good life. But to truly reach your goals, says financial advisor Hallock, "you will also want to share what you have, and prepare the next generation." To achieve that kind of legacy, you need to prepare. And keep in mind that proverb about the best-laid plans. **M**

Gene Rebeck is the Northern Minnesota correspondent for *Twin Cities Business* magazine.





Learning from Notorious



Beth Neitzel '03 just wrapped up a clerkship with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

BY MARLA HOLT / PHOTO BY TRACEY BROWN

Sometimes attorney **Beth Neitzel '03** seems a bit surprised by her own success. From attending Macalester to earning a Fulbright fellowship to attending law school at Stanford, she's enjoyed more accomplishments than she once thought possible.

But the real cherry on top? That was the last year, which she spent clerking for revered U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Of course, Neitzel has worked hard for these opportunities. She transferred to Macalester from the University of Minnesota, where she'd been "passively participating in my education," and transformed at Mac into a student who skipped Springfest to study, earned a 4.0, and graduated first in her class.

"I don't recommend it," she laughs. "By senior year, my parents were offering to pay me to earn lower grades." But Neitzel's academic prowess and work ethic did not go unnoticed. Political science professor David Blaney persuaded her to write a senior honors thesis, an experience she calls the "hardest and most rewarding thing I had ever done."

Then Dean of Students Laurie Hamre encouraged Neitzel to apply for the Fulbright, which supported a postgraduate year at La Universidad de los Andes in Bogota, an experience that confirmed her decision to work toward a political science PhD at Berkeley. At the time, Neitzel had never considered a law career, she says, as her short stint as an immigration paralegal had given her the false impression that "legal practice was all paperwork and technicalities." But once again, Neitzel's life surprised her.

She had nearly finished her PhD in 2009 when she began to question whether a career in political science academia was the

right fit. Meanwhile, Neitzel's interest in public law and the role of courts had grown. Taking a risk, she enrolled at Stanford Law School and soon discovered she loved everything about law, from the thinking-on-her-feet oral arguments to writing briefs.

A bit of luck and some advantageous connections gained her two post-graduation clerkships—the first with Judge Diana Motz of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the second with Judge David Tatel at the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals, whom she'd argued before in Stanford's moot court competition. While interviewing with Tatel, she learned he is a Macalester parent with an honorary doctorate from the college.

Tatel is close to Justice Ginsburg, so it was with his recommendation that Neitzel applied for and earned the Supreme Court clerkship, which she completed in July.

While much of the work Neitzel did for Ginsburg remains confidential, her primary responsibilities were divided among three areas: evaluating cases for merit of the Court's attention (Neitzel herself wrote more than 200 evaluations); handling emergency applications to stay lower courts' mandates; and writing briefs and bench memos for merits cases, which the Supreme Court hears while in session. She also occasionally drafted opinions with Justice Ginsburg, whom Neitzel has long considered a personal hero.

"She has an extraordinary gift of persuasion and effectiveness, while remaining understated and diplomatic at all times. She believes you will not persuade others to your position if you show anger or impatience or frustration," Neitzel says. "That's been an important lesson for me, not just in law but in life." [M](#)

Marla Holt is a freelance writer based in Owatonna, Minn.

1936

Kathleen Larkin Peterson, 99, of St. Paul died June 12, 2015. She is survived by two daughters (including **Mary Williams '62**), a son, 11 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

1938

Betty Peterson Tripp, 100, died May 31, 2017. She is survived by four daughters, 11 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

1944

Muriel Owen Bartz, 94, of Clackamas, Ore., died May 30, 2017. She worked for Guardian Life Insurance Company. After retiring from the San Diego County Office of Education, she was elected a personnel commissioner for the organization. Mrs. Bartz is survived by three children, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

1946

Marion Primeau Kole, 92, died July 21, 2017.

Thomas A. Lincoln, 92, of Gallatin, Tenn., died May 28, 2017. He was medical director at Oak Ridge National Laboratory from 1953 to 1978 and retired from Union Carbide Corporation in 1986 as corporate medical director. During his career, Dr. Lincoln wrote hundreds of newspaper articles and several books. He is survived by his wife, Pat, two daughters, a granddaughter, and brother **Harry Lincoln '44**.

Gloria Richardson Wright, 92, of St. Paul died July 23, 2015. She is survived by four children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a brother.

1947

Beth Stegmeir Walters, 92, of Willow River, Minn., died April 3, 2017. She taught high

school and retired in 2016 after eight years as a secretary for Sonshine Closet in Moose Lake, Minn. Mrs. Walters is survived by a daughter, two sons, and seven grandchildren.

Charles S. Wood, 94, of Bloomington, Minn., died June 17, 2017. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. During the 1950s and 1960s, Mr. Wood sang lead roles with the St. Paul Civic Opera Association, Minneapolis Civic Opera, Minneapolis Symphony Pops Concerts, and St. Paul Pops. He also sang tenor in a solo quartet at Temple Israel in Minneapolis for 30 years, sang the national anthem at Minnesota Vikings football games for 17 years, and directed three different pop choral groups. He was a music teacher at schools in Goodhue, Minneapolis, and Bloomington, Minn., where he produced and directed operettas and musicals. Mr. Wood is survived by his wife, **Evelyn Hausker Wood '47**, and two daughters.

1948

Norman L. Trout, 90, died March 14, 2015, in Fort Collins, Colo. He served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II and worked in sales with the 3M Company for 34 years. Mr. Trout is survived by his wife, Barbara, a daughter, two sons, 12 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

1949

Louise C. Lundorff, 90, of Grand Rapids, Minn., died June 15, 2017. She worked as a resource teacher in Thompson, Manitoba, and led workshops for teachers in Canada and the United States and under the auspices of the International Reading Association. Mrs. Lundorff is survived by a daughter, two sons, six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Jean Brown Sargent, 90, of St. Paul died May 31, 2017. She is survived by her husband, **James**

REUNION 2018, JUNE 8-10



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Joining a planning committee is a great way to connect with classmates, create new memories, and share your passion for Mac. Committees are forming for these class years: 2013, 2008, 1998, 1993, 1988, 1982-84 (a cluster Reunion), 1978, and 1973. We're also seeking volunteers for our milestone Golden Scots Reunions for the classes of 1963, 1958, and 1953 and earlier.

Learn more at macalester.edu/reunion, or contact the Alumni Engagement Office at alumnioffice@macalester.edu or 651-696-6295.

IN MEMORIAM

Sargent '50, a daughter, three sons, 15 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a brother.

1950

Robert W. Broos, 91, of Crystal Lake, Ill., died June 24, 2017. He served in the U.S. Army and was a technical director with H.B. Fuller Company for more than 40 years. Mr. Broos is survived by his wife, **Shirley Gilstad Broos '49**, two sons, two grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

Mary Roessel Engel, 88, of Bismarck, N.D., died Aug. 4, 2017. She taught Spanish at Bismarck High School and volunteered as a Spanish interpreter with the local police department and other government agencies. After her retirement, Mrs. Engel earned a master's degree in teaching English as a second language and began working with refugees and immigrants through the North Dakota Adult Learning Center. She published the book *Kitchen-Tested ELL Games and Activities* in 2013. Mrs. Engel is survived by four sons, 11 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Robert D. Field, 90, died July 22, 2017. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and worked for more than 40 years in the investment business. Mr. Field is survived by two daughters, two sons, nine grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a brother.

Donna Meddaugh Sommer, 89, of Palo Alto, Calif., died July 9, 2017. She taught and practiced pediatric medicine at the University of Chicago until 1966, subsequently practicing with Permanente Medical Group in Hayward, Calif., until her retirement in 1990. In 1955, Dr. Sommer was part of a surgical team that successfully separated a pair of conjoined twins with a common liver. Dr. Sommer is survived by her husband, John, a son, two grandchildren, and sister **Janice Meddaugh Christensen '51**.

1951

Bonita Warren Conditt, 87, of Waupaca, Wis., died May 7, 2017. She is survived by her husband, Marion, a daughter, two sons (including **Calvin Conditt '82**), seven grandchildren, and six siblings (including **Elizabeth Warren Moede '52** and **David Warren '57**).

Shirley Flynn Johnson, 88, of Maplewood, Minn., died April 20, 2017. She was a librarian and taught English and art. Mrs. Johnson is survived by two daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Richard L. Stanton, 87, of Apple Valley, Minn., and Big Timber, Mont., died Jan. 9, 2017. He is survived by his wife, **Janelyn Patten Stanton '50**, two daughters, four grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

1953

Barbara Neal Courts, 85, of St. Louis Park, Minn., died Nov. 11, 2016. She retired after a 31-year career as an elementary school teacher. Mrs. Courts is survived by a daughter, two sons, two grandsons, and two sisters.

Patricia Winchell Glassing, 84, died June 5, 2016. She taught American literature and journalism at high schools in Owatonna and Edina, Minn. After moving to Montana in 1970, Mrs. Glassing worked and bowled at Jubilee Lanes and Fireside Lanes. She was inducted into the Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 1998 and served as the WBA's president for four years. Mrs. Glassing and her husband, Robert, had four sons.

Charles R. "Bob" Parsons, 86, of White Bear Lake, Minn., died Aug. 10, 2017. He served in the U.S. Army and worked for the State of Minnesota for 30 years. Mr. Parsons is survived by his wife, Joan.

Lee S. Vincent, 85, died March 19, 2017. After serving as chief of pediatrics for two years at Larson Air Force Base in Washington state, Dr. Vincent opened a private practice in Bellevue, Wash., in 1962, and co-founded Pediatric Associates in 1964. He also helped found Youth East-side Services, a local program for at-risk youth. Dr. Vincent is survived by two daughters, son **Steven Vincent '80**, and three grandchildren.

1954

Richard H. Stright died Aug. 15, 2017. He served in the U.S. Army, taught science in Roseville, Minn., and worked as a contractor and builder in the Forest Lake, Minn., area. Mr. Stright is survived by three sons, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

1955

Beverly Lee Brand, 84, of South St. Paul, Minn., died June 1, 2017. She was a teacher and office worker. Mrs. Brand is survived by her husband, Dean, two daughters, two sons, and six grandchildren.

Pauline Thellin Dahlquist, 83, died July 22, 2017. After graduating from the University of Colorado School of Physical Therapy, Mrs. Dahlquist helped many of her patients train for the Special Olympics. She is survived by her husband, Arlen, two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren, and sister **Dor-rine Thellin McClelland '53**.

1956

Louise Person Sater, 82, of Eagan, Minn., died July 24, 2017. After teaching second grade for nine years in St. Paul and Bloomington, Minn., Mrs. Sater became a full-time homemaker. She is survived by her husband, Jack, two daughters, and four grandchildren.

Sandra Bullis Wayne, 83, died May 24, 2017. She was a homemaker and retired from Southwest Airlines in 2000 as a

reservation agent. Mrs. Wayne is survived by two sons and three grandchildren.

1957

Trudy Sacks Bombardier, 82, of Vadnais Heights, Minn., died Aug. 13, 2017. She is survived by a son and a brother.

Karl L. Kaufman, 82, of Cloquet, Minn., died May 29, 2017. He served as a dentist in the U.S. Air Force for five and a half years, attaining the rank of captain. He then practiced dentistry in Cloquet for 30 years. Mr. Kaufman also performed as Binny the Clown in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife, **Joanne Rawn Kaufman '58**, two sons, and six grandchildren.

1959

James A. Rohne, 83, of Harrisonburg, Va., died July 28, 2017. As a Presbyterian minister, he served congregations in Louisville, Ky., Charlottesville, Va., and Covington, Va. After retiring in 1998, he continued to serve as interim pastor at several congregations. Mr. Rohne is survived by his wife, Marian, two daughters, a son, a sister, and two brothers.

Arthur R. Tinge, 81, of Belleville, Ill., died Sept. 13, 2015. He was a minister for more than 50 years, and spent the last 37 years of his career at Christ United Church of Christ in Belleville. Mr. Tinge had four sons, 10 grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

1960

Merwyn A. Hayes, 79, died Aug. 21, 2017, in Winston-Salem, N.C. After teaching at the University of Illinois and the University of Georgia, Mr. Hayes became professor of communications at Wake Forest University, where he was also a debate coach and associate dean of the Babcock Graduate School of Management. He later formed and served as chief executive officer of the Hayes Group, which provided consulting and

coaching services to more than 500 companies over 41 years. Mr. Hayes is survived by his wife, Marge, a daughter, a son, and a grandson.

1961

Anita G. Clingman, 79, of St. Paul died May 28, 2017. She is survived by two daughters, a son, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

1963

Terry J. Williams, 76, of Shoreview, Minn., died Aug. 15, 2017. He worked for the Bloomington Parks and Recreation department for 31 years. Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, **Barbara Johnson Williams '63**, a daughter, a son, a sister, and two brothers (including **Lance Williams '67**).

1964

Ardath M. Larson, 75, of Morris, Minn., died June 15, 2017. She was a schoolteacher in Bison, S.D., and worked as a librarian at the University of Minnesota-Morris until 2004. Ms. Larson is survived by a brother.

1968

William P. Wenstrom, 68, of Trinidad, Colo., died March 11, 2014.

1970

Rosemary Goltz Kalm, 68, of Cottage Grove, Minn., died Dec. 30, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Rick, a son, a granddaughter, a sister, and two brothers.

George C. Pappas, 69, of Minneapolis died Aug. 7, 2017. He is survived by his mother and a brother.

1972

Janeth Cotter Hernandez, 67, of Maple Grove, Minn., died May 8, 2017. She is survived by her husband, Jose, daughter **Lourdes Hernandez-Dayton '01**, a son, and a sister.

// OTHER LOSSES



R. Ellis Dye, professor emeritus of German and Russian studies at Macalester, died July 21, 2017, at the age of 81. He lived in St. Paul. During his 40 years at Macalester, he was named DeWitt Wallace Professor of German, chaired the department for many years, and received the Burlington Northern Award for Excellence in Teaching. An expert on the German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Prof. Dye served as president of the Goethe Society of North America and book review editor of *The Goethe Yearbook*. He is survived by his wife, Carol, four daughters (including **Marianne Dye '86** and **Martha Dye '89**), and five grandchildren.

1975

Louisa E. Chapman, 64, of Atlanta died Aug. 21, 2017. After researching chemical carcinogenesis, practicing geriatric and general medicine, and serving as medical director of a medium-security men's work prison, Dr. Chapman joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 1988. During nearly 30 years with the CDC, she helped advance the science of infectious disease, joined in numerous emergency response efforts, and served as a reviewer and consultant for many government agencies. Internationally recognized as an expert on viral epidemiology, Dr. Chapman authored more than 140 scientific publications and received numerous honors for her work. The recipient of Macalester's Alumni Service Award in 2009, she also served on the college's Alumni Board, volunteered on Reunion committees, and organized Atlanta alumni gatherings. She is survived by a sister and two brothers.

1977

Kevin U. Boyd, 62, died Aug. 18, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Kim, four children, and two granddaughters.

1979

Kirby M. Law, 60, of St. Paul died June 4, 2017. He worked in commercial banking, most recently with US Bank, and served as treasurer of the Minnesota Historical Society's executive committee. In 1995, Mr. Law completed a 1,100-mile solo kayak trip along the coast of Norway. He is survived by his wife, **Annette Hansen '81**, his father **James Law '51**, two sons, and sister **Jane Law '82**.

1984

Stephen E. Girard, 55, died May 19, 2017. He was an amateur political cartoonist. Mr. Girard is survived by two sisters and a brother.

1985

Scott "Froggy" Whitlock, 60, of Aspen, Colo., died on July 7, 2017. He tended bar at the Eagles Club in Aspen. According to *The Aspen Times*, Mr. Whitlock, who played in and served as an umpire for Aspen's recreational leagues, was the "self-appointed softball guru of the Roaring Fork Valley."

1989

Patrick S. Dugan, 50, of Battle Creek, Mich., died July 31, 2017. He worked in his family business for many years. Mr. Dugan is survived by his mother and a brother.

2004

Andrew W. Barron, 35, died June 5, 2017, in Broomfield, Colo. He worked in the startup community in Denver. Mr. Barron is survived by his parents, his grandfather, and a brother.



PHOTO: MIKE HABERMANN

An enduring penchant for plaid

The Traditions, one of Macalester's a capella groups, performs in the old student union's Cochran Lounge in May 1989.

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Adrianna Jereb '18 (left) is getting ready to graduate—and her sister Jenna '21 is just beginning her own Mac experience. In a letter to Jenna and her classmates, Adrianna remembers settling into life on campus. "In all this newness, you are not alone," she writes. "By the time December rolls around, Macalester will have become second nature. It might start to feel like your second home as you begin to recognize the stream of faces you pass between the campus center and the library. You will realize how much you have grown when the campus you once got lost in begins to feel like a cocoon." (Visit macalester.edu/lettertomysister to read the rest of Adrianna's letter.)

