INSIDE:

• Third Culture Kids
• Is journalism dead?
• Making street music

CAMP CAMERA

HOW TWO MACALESTER STUDENTS MADE PHOTOGRAPHY COME ALIVE FOR SOME HIGH SCHOOL KIDS.  | SEE PAGE 18 |
Features

Third Culture Kids 12
How Macalester helps its global citizens cope with college.

Camp Camera 18
Recipe for amazing photos: 10 Mac students, 9 high school students, and plenty of creativity

Is Journalism Dead? 22
As traditional media outlets fade away, media takes on a whole new meaning.

Mac Pride 28
Wearing our college on our backs (or fronts)

Street Music 30
Christopher Marianetti ’03 and Found Sound Nation work with people around the world to produce truly local music.

Key West Doc 34
Birdwatching brought Mark Whiteside ’72 to South Florida but his AIDS patients kept him there.

ON THE COVER: Leah Kriehle ’11 (left) and Lauryn Gutierrez ’11 ran Camp Camera last year at Macalester (photo by Sher Stoneman).
Departments

Letters 2
Household Words 3
Summit to St. Clair 4
BioBlitz, cyclists, scholarship winners, and a whole lot more.

Reunion 2011 10
Class Notes 36
Mac Weddings 40
In Memoriam 46
Grandstand 48

MACALESTER TODAY (Volume 99, Number 3)

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letters

Opera parents
We are the parents of Christopher Franklin ’90, the conductor, and wanted you to know what fun it was to get Macalester Today and read the article about our son and his work at the Minnesota Opera (“Opera Italiano,” Spring 2011). Your quotations are great! Christopher is currently conducting in Lima, Peru, and will surely enjoy the magazine when he gets home to Italy. We always enjoy this magazine—especially the international focus, which seems to mirror the college.

Joan H. Franklin P ’90
Pittsburgh, Penn.

Arabic impression
Thank you for writing about the awards received by three sociology students (“Go-go Dancers, Arabic, and YouTube,” Spring 2011). I was especially interested in the work of Evelyn Daugherty, whose paper examines the ways in which Arabic teaching practices have changed since the U.S. government’s interest in Arabic has increased in recent years. I teach Arabic at the University of Colorado, and was thrilled to see a student at Mac examining this subject. Thank you for another outstanding issue of the Macalester Today magazine. My wife, Emily Miller ’03, and I read it cover-to-cover as soon as it arrives.

Patrick D’Silva ’03
Boulder, Colo.

Great golf
I read with pleasure the account of her love affair with midlife golf that Vicki Holmsten ’75 wrote for your magazine (Grandstand, Spring 2011). My earliest memories of life on the Macalester campus include a gymnastics class in which Vicki and I distinguished ourselves by being the tallest and clumsiest among a remarkably unathletic group of women. While I was in medical school, a classmate from Africa arrived in my laboratory excitedly carrying a U.S. big city newspaper. “You asked about my country,” he said.

Know your tartan
Being a real Scot and not just a letterman for the 1950s era Macalester football team, I was concerned about the use of the word plaid to describe the kilts worn by the bagpipe band. The bagpipe band members wear not the McAlister plaid but rather the McAlister tartan. From what I understand, the word plaid comes from the Gaelic word for blanket, plaide, and refers to a garment worn like a scarf over the shoulder. I am certain that Colonel McAlister believed that the band would be wearing McAlister tartan kilts, which were, and still are, made in Scotland.

David H. Coulson ’54
Huntington Beach, Calif.

Correction
The publication notice for a book by Kimberley Brown ’74 (Books, Spring 2011), should have read as follows: Kimberley Brown ’74 and Shawn Smallman, Introduction to International and Global Studies (University of North Carolina, 2011). We apologize for the errors.

More Mac memories
I enjoyed reading about Mac traditions in your last issue (“Bagpipes and Bells,” Spring 2011). It definitely brought back memories of Macalester traditions from my time there. One tradition not mentioned was that of railing—sitting on or standing against the railings in front of the old Student Center. Many were the hours I spent railing between classes, chatting with others who passed by. I even contemplated a 24-hour rail during my senior year, but somehow I never got around to it. I also remember my roommates and I “borrowing” the college seal our freshman year and displaying it in our room in Kirk Hall; we did return it in the spring, however.

Brian Cromwell ’72
Wailua, Hawai‘i

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 llamid@macalester.edu or to Macalester Today, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105.

Random Mac Tweets

April 6: @JamieDresler: Most bike-friendly schools—U of M, Macalester make the list.
April 30: @fasselskier: My colleague at Macalester! Peter Bognanni wins LA Times award for first novel.
June 4: @Andrea cremer: One of my favorite things about working at a college with Scottish roots: when the pipers come out and play.

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Confessions of a Reluctant Blogger

BY BRIAN ROSENBERG

EDITOR’S NOTE: This column is taken from President Brian Rosenberg’s Commencement remarks, delivered to the Class of 2011 on May 14.

Despite the fact that I love to write and am more or less perpetually convinced that I have something worthwhile to say, I have until recently avoided blogging.

The world of blogs is not my world. It is an alien place where people with noms de plume like “hypnotoad53” and “yankeesuck” launch diatribes against the United Nations and Derek Jeter.

And yet—when I was invited by the editor of the Huffington Post education section to contribute, I was smitten. Arianna Huffington: the woman is on Real Time with Bill Maher almost every other week. AOL just paid more than $300 million for the Huffington Post, and we know that AOL never gets it wrong. How could I resist?

I did not resist. I blogged: an elegant little piece, I think, on the macroeconomic forces that have contributed to the rapid escalation of college prices. Well-researched, pithy, forceful, but not overly defensive. At the very least, an effort to present an alternative to the “hogwash,” misinformation, and personal attacks that seem to be overwhelming our ability to tune it all out? What, I ask myself, does leave me wondering about the effect this new virtual universe of bloggers and tweeters and Facebookies (my term) has on our public discourse. One hears a lot about the democratization of culture brought about by new technologies and the breakdown of longstanding barriers to communication. Fair enough. But maybe some of those barriers were there for a reason, and maybe not all of them are better off in ruins.

Do we as a society seem more informed and productive because of the explosion of unfettered virtual communication? Are we making wiser decisions? Have you ever looked at the comments that follow any online opinion piece?

I find comforting the notion of an editor who will, say, check the accuracy of factual claims before they appear in the online equivalent of print. These days that sentiment makes me feel rather like Mr. Darcy of Pride and Prejudice without the humongous estate. So my counsel to our graduating seniors is to aspire to a higher standard. Text and tweet and Twitter away, but remember what Macalester has taught you about the use of evidence, the virtue of a beautifully turned sentence, and civility in one’s interaction with others, whether real or virtual. Aspire to a higher standard, and you might, by example, inspire others to follow.

There is of course no going backward, no retreating from the current forms of communication, and certainly no predicting what new forms are around the corner. So what can come of this desire to present an alternative to the “hogwash,” misinformation, and personal attacks that seem to be overwhelming our ability to tune it all out? What, I ask myself as an erstwhile scholar of Victorian literature, would Charles Dickens do?

The answer, alas, is stark and unavoidable. He would, I have no doubt, start a blog.
Summit to St. Clair

International Development

It’s nothing new for Macalester to offer classes on international development themes. What is new is that starting this fall, students can sign up for a formal concentration in international development—an addition that helps satiate a growing student interest in working in the developing world.

“Many Mac students are drawn toward development because they want to apply their passion and energy toward making the world a better place,” says Kate Keleher ’13 (Winchester, Mass.) of the Macalester Development Group student organization. “But without a nuanced understanding, they may be overwhelmed or frustrated when they start working in the development field. This concentration encourages students to think critically and thoughtfully about subjects like microfinance, food aid, global environment, and fair trade.”

“It’s a good match for student interest,” says economics professor Amy Damon, the program’s director. Eight departments will contribute to international development coursework: anthropology, economics, educational studies, environmental studies, geography, history, political science, and sociology. Students must take six related classes from at least three of those departments. The concentration differs from the international studies major because it zeroes in on development rather than addressing a wider range of topics.

“My classmates are excited about this,” Keleher says. “I hope the concentration inspires students to pursue development initiatives in an even more informed and thoughtful way.”

GLOBAL ALUM NETWORK

International Development Concentration director Amy Damon will be creating an alumni network to help students find mentors and internships. Contact her at adamon@macalester.edu.

Frog and Flower Count

Each year hundreds of laypeople and scientists use sonar detectors, bug lights, live traps, and laptops to count and chronicle an area’s flora and fauna. This year the event—dubbed Minnesota BioBlitz—was held at Macalester’s Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area in Inver Grove Heights.

The biodiversity of our own backyards is amazing, according to biology professor and Ordway director Jerald Dosch: “At Ordway you can see everything from native mussels to wild turkeys and prairie plants to diverse forests.”

For 24 hours—from 5 p.m., June 10 to 5 p.m., June 11—volunteers of all ages worked alongside biologists to collect plants and insects and live-trap animals, which were then identified before being released back into the wild. Part contest, part festival, part scientific endeavor, BioBlitz’s goal is to count as many species of plants, animals, and fungi as possible in a particular area within a 24-hour period. But BioBlitz is also designed to increase the public’s awareness of the variety of life in their immediate neighborhood.

Past BioBlitz sites have included Crosby Farm Park in St. Paul and the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington. The 2011 Minnesota BioBlitz was co-sponsored by Macalester, the U of Minnesota’s Bell Museum of Natural History, the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, and the Mississippi River Fund.
Scholarship Winners
Macalester students collected lots of awards last spring, including three Fulbright grants and two Goldwater Scholarships.

- Jamila Humphrie ’11, a Hispanic studies and political science major, will assist an English as a Foreign Language teacher at a university or binational center in Brazil for her Fulbright. She’ll also work on an oral history project about how race and ethnicity have impacted the school system, classrooms, and teachers’ experiences in Brazil.

- Ruth Conkling ’11, a German studies and biology major Fulbright winner, will help teach American studies, including English, at a German high school. She’ll also investigate contemporary German literature and how Germans are reacting to their recent past, including the events surrounding WWII as well as German reunification.

- Julia Smith ’11, a Latin American studies and educational studies major, will spend her Fulbright year in Mexico investigating the relative effectiveness of different methods of ending poverty—microfinance and capital conversion.

- Madeline Marshall ’12 (Hayward, Wis.) and Colin Jarvis ’13 (St. Paul) were the college’s Goldwater Scholarship recipients. These $7,500 annual awards are given to students with outstanding potential who intend to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering.

Marshall, a geology major, has conducted various geology research projects in the field and in classes. “The Goldwater is an encouraging and exciting award,” says Marshall. She hopes to earn a PhD in paleobiology.

Jarvis, an applied mathematics and computer science major, spent last summer conducting physics research at a low-energy particle accelerator at Jefferson National Laboratory in Newport News, Virginia. “I’m flattered that my potential as a scientist is being acknowledged,” says Jarvis. He plans to pursue a PhD in applied mathematics or computer science.

LAKE RIDERS

ASK NEW COLLEGE GRADUATES about their summer plans, and you’ll hear a range of responses—moving home, traveling, starting a new job. But this summer, five new Macalester graduates have chosen a more unusual route—one that will take them three months and 2,500 miles to complete.

These five from the Class of 2011 call themselves the Solidago Riders, and their goal is to circle the Great Lakes by bicycle to fundraise for Grand Aspirations, a Twin Cities youth empowerment nonprofit led by other Mac alumni. The Solidago Riders are Rose Holdorf (Corvallis, Ore.), Ainsley Judge (Barrington, R.I.), Jacqueline Kutvirt (Albuquerque, N.M.), Tressa Versteeg (Pella, Iowa), and Robin Major (Putney, Vt.). They’ll spend the summer fundraising and training before setting off in late summer.

Along the way, says Holdorf, they’re planning to document sustainability efforts, learn about environmental awareness, explore new communities, and make short films about the people and stories they encounter. Their ultimate goal is to assemble a feature-length documentary of their journey.

The trip idea has been percolating since last summer. Only two of the women have previously taken long cycling journeys, but they’re all avid bike commuters. They’ll carry their own gear, without assistance from a support vehicle.

Oh, and about that name: Solidago is another term for goldenrod, a ubiquitous genus of wildflower found in the Great Lakes region. The word was also chosen because it reminded the women of both solidarity and going places.
LOTS OF STUDENTS make 30-second YouTube videos in college, but how many make hour-long documentaries? That’s what James Christenson ’11 (Plymouth, Minn.) did this year, producing the documentary Local Motives, which examines the politics and business of high-speed, commuter, and light-rail expansion in Minnesota.

Inspired by an urban geography class with veteran professor David Lanegran ’63, Christenson did all the research for his film, along with the shooting, editing, and interviewing. He also wrote the Mellon Foundation grant that ultimately gained him $5,000 for a stipend and production expenses. He also earned two credits for the work he put in.

“I started off making silly movies with my friends in 8th grade,” says Christenson, a geography and political science major who is largely self-taught as a videographer. But after doing more videos in high school and college, including some music videos for local musicians and taking a class with media studies professor Clay Steinman, Christenson felt ready to take on a bigger project.

He ended up interviewing 40 people, including politicians, local residents, rail workers, and more. “One interview led to another and eventually I was talking to former U.S. Congressman Jim Oberstar,” he says. At the time Oberstar was one of the most powerful politicians in Washington, the longtime chair of the house transportation committee.

After five months of editing, which included recording a soundtrack written by his brother Joe Christenson ’11, and multiple consultations with Steinman, the film was ready to be shown to a Macalester audience this spring. It has also had hundreds of views on the video hosting website Vimeo, and Christenson hopes it will ultimately be shown at various film festivals; media studies professor John Kim is helping identify some appropriate ones.

“Documentary moviemaking is the most meaningful way for me to produce something that is both relevant to a broad audience and incorporates my interests,” says Christenson. “I got to work on a multi-disciplinary academic project that is at the crossroads of journalism and my desire to artistically express myself.”

Every summer the Macalester campus comes alive when 500 kids from the Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth (MITY) program show up. These brainy, energetic middle- and high-school students are on campus for two-week sessions in topics like Beginning Debate and Astrophysics. About one-third of them stay overnight in the dorms; the rest are local kids. But whether they’re slaving over a test tube or lugging around a TV camera, they take out time every day for the popular rec hour—which frequently involves activities like this 2010 water balloon toss.
Nice Ride

Mac just keeps getting greener. The latest fuel-saving innovation, instituted this summer, is to add a station for the Twin Cities public bike-sharing program Nice Ride. The program started last year in Minneapolis, where it enjoyed great success and only lost two bikes.

For a $60 membership ($30 for students) or a $5 daily membership, you can check out a bike from any station, use it for an errand or exercise, then return it to that station or one closer to your destination. Small trip fees are charged only if a bike is out for more than 30 minutes.

High Winds Fund, the Mac community relations program, gave Nice Ride a $30,000 grant to make the Grand Avenue station a reality. The Nice Ride bicycles are located in the same transit hub—between Snelling and Fairview Avenues—that holds the Hour Cars. "This is the busiest Hour Car hub in the Twin Cities and we expect similar success for Nice Ride," says High Winds director Tom Welna.

By summer’s end there will be stations from the Mississippi River to Victoria Street, and in 2012 Nice Ride plans to add stations to downtown St. Paul. Sustainability coordinator Suzanne Svanick Hansen expects staff to use the bikes mostly for errands and students to put them to many uses, including one-way trips to Minneapolis evening events.

LIKE MANY DISTANCE RUNNERS, Anna Schmitz ’14 (St. Paul) would pick cross-country over track most days. Nevertheless, her most memorable race of the year took place on the track on a dreary April night. Schmitz was ready to run the 5K with two teammates at 8 p.m., a time far later—and far darker—than she was used to, when the race was pushed back another hour to 9 p.m.

“We got on the line for the race, and the stadium lights were hitting the mist in a way that made it look beautiful instead of a really bad time to run,” Schmitz says. “We got out in it and all had really strong and fast, if extremely damp, races.”

That race may have been her favorite, but it was only one in a series of highlights in a standout first year for Schmitz, who plans to major in political science. In cross-country last fall she was one of the season’s top five runners and was named Rookie of the Year by her teammates. Her best 5K indoor time this winter was fast enough for ninth all-time best in Macalester’s indoor track history.

Schmitz calls her “smart, caring, goofy” teammates another highlight of her Mac experience. “I couldn’t ask for better teammates,” she says. Women’s cross-country and distance track coach Betsy Emerson notes that Schmitz adds to that culture. “Not only is Anna a great distance runner with potential to be a top runner in the conference, she also comes to practice every day with a positive and cheerful attitude, willing to work hard,” Emerson says. “She’s a huge contributor to our program.”
FOR SOMEONE WHO NEVER expected to be in politics, Kathy Kim ’12 (Bellevue, Wash.) has come far: Next fall she’ll begin her term as president of the Macalester College Student Government.

The economics major started her climb up the political ladder as a sophomore class representative on the student services committee. “I felt comfortable running for office here at Mac, where I know so many students and am connected to the experience,” she says. “Student government has allowed me to really get to know the college and be engaged in it.”

One of her first priorities will be to help determine what to do with the extra $75,000 MCSG discovered in its budget last spring. The fact that MCSG had significantly underspent its budget was controversial among students, some of whose organizations had their financial requests turned down. Deferring the decision to the fall “should make it a less heated discussion,” says Kim.

Because the money is a one-time windfall, she and other campus leaders are hoping that students will agree to spend it on a capital project such as renovating the Kirk Hall computer lab or renovating the basement of Dupre—something that would benefit all students. She’s also determined that the MCSG do a better job in the future with its bookkeeping and budget.

Another initiative Kim would like to see on campus is more programming around socioeconomic differences. A first-generation college student whose family emigrated from South Korea in the 1990s, Kim says Mac is good about addressing racial and international differences but not as strong on addressing class differences. She came to college, she says, wondering about “all kinds of simple questions that other high school graduates take for granted, like, What’s a major? What’s an adviser? What’s a thesis?”

Despite having declared an economics major, Kim fell in love with art history during a semester spent in Italy. “Museums are among the most effective ways to enact social change,” she says. To that end, her student job next year is fitting: she’ll be the Civic Engagement Center’s Arts for Social Change coordinator.

But before pursuing an arts career, Kim is considering the Peace Corps or Teach for America. As a scholarship student whose mother worked constantly at her crepe-making business (“family vacations were never a reality for us”), she feels “a strong responsibility to move on and forward to whatever I’m capable of doing.”

**“Dream” Grant Winners**

What could be more fun that a fully funded year of international study and travel? That’s what’s in store for Morgan Sleeper ’11 (Deland, Fla.) and Keren Yohannes ’11 (Louisville, Ky.), who were awarded Thomas J. Watson Fellowships—one-year grants for independent study and travel outside the United States.

The fellowships, awarded annually to 40 graduating college seniors from select private liberal arts schools, offer college graduates of “unusual promise” a year of independent, purposeful exploration and travel in international settings new to them to enhance their capacity for resourcefulness, imagination, openness, leadership, and participation in the world community.

The students are each awarded a $25,000 stipend to execute and evaluate a project over the year. Sleeper, a linguistics major, has developed a project called “Ceol agus Comhrá: Music and Language Revitalization in the Celtic Fringe,” which will take him to Wales, Scotland, Cornwall, Argentina, Isle of Man, Canada, France (Cape Breton), and Ireland. 

“I’ll be traveling to these Celtic nations and diaspora regions to look at all the ways people are using music to help revitalize the endangered Celtic languages,” says Sleeper.

For Yohannes, who majored in international studies, receiving the Watson was personal. “As the daughter of a refugee from Ethiopia, displacement and disability are central to my family’s history,” she says. The Watson “is the opportunity to witness firsthand the factors that shape the experiences of persons with disabilities in post-conflict states.” Yohannes’s project, “To Build a Ramp: Disability Rights in Post-Crisis Contexts,” will take her to Sierra Leone, Uganda, New Zealand, Thailand, and Jordan. There she will learn from organizations working with disabled people living in post-conflict states and countries of resettlement.
EXPANDING a peanut-processing business in Niger is the project for which a Macalester student has received a $10,000 grant. She returned this summer to her childhood home to help women there in their small peanut-processing business, allowing them to better provide for and educate their children.

Rayanatou Laouali ’12 received the grant under the Davis Projects for Peace initiative, funded by philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis. Her project was one of 122 selected in a competition held on more than 90 campuses, in which students design grassroots projects that they themselves will implement throughout the world.

Laouali grew up in Maradi, Niger, the poorest of eight provinces in Niger, which is in turn one of the world’s poorest countries. While visiting Maradi in 2009 and 2010, Laouali talked with women in the Hadin-Kay cooperative, a 10-member group that works together to hand-process about 70 kilos of peanuts per day. Hand roasting, peeling, and grinding peanuts for a local farmer earns them each about $2.25 per day, barely enough to survive on. Laouali felt compelled to help. Says Laouali, “With a grant from the Davis Projects for Peace, the cooperative can expand its business, allowing the women to buy their own peanuts, and to make and sell their own peanut oil, in addition to processing their clients’ peanuts. As a result, they’ll be able to double their daily income.”

Laouali is just the person to implement this project. She speaks Hausa, the same language as the women, and shares their culture, but is also a role model for the importance of education for girls. She is majoring in economics and applied math and statistics, and has taken on various internships to prepare herself to someday start a microfinance nonprofit in Niger. And she is undeterred by failure—this was the third year Laouali had applied to the highly competitive program.

Her project will include:
- Constructing an expanded work space with more equipment, e.g., peanut roasting pans
- Developing a more sophisticated accounting system and setting aside a portion of profits for maintenance and for investing in other community projects
- Holding woman-to-woman workshops on the topics of educating children, reducing mosquitoes and malaria, and creating a healthier environment.

“Peace is the ability to live in a state of security,” wrote Laouali in her proposal. “It begins with using one’s skills and strength to provide for basic livelihood needs, such as for food, housing and clothing. It is also the ability to prepare one’s children for a better future by giving them the right to go to school and be educated like other youth in developed countries.”

PROJECTS FOR PEACE
Kathryn Wasserman Davis launched the Projects for Peace in 2007 on her 100th birthday. She is the mother of Shelby M.C. Davis, who funds the Davis UWC Scholars Program, which involves more than 90 American colleges and universities, including Macalester. The Projects for Peace competition is open to students from those 90 colleges.
Mac Reunion 2011

More than 1,200 alumni and friends enjoyed three flawless June days as the Reunion community of 2011.

PHOTOS BY SHER STONEMAN
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

2011 Distinguished Citizens
David Bebb Jones ’56
Darwyn Linder ’61
Douglas W. Laube ’66
Marcia Zimmerman ’81
Paul Raushenbush ’86

2011 Charles. J. Turck Global Citizen Award
Kofi Annan ’61

Young Alumni Award
Danai Gurira ’01

2011 Alumni Service Award
Kate Havelin ’83

M Club Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees
Mark Abboud ’92, soccer
Adam Burke ’92, swimming
Nikki Epperson ’96, soccer
Brook Epperson ’98, soccer, basketball
Tawni Epperson ’99, soccer

WEB CONNECT: macalester.edu/reunion

LOOKING AHEAD TO REUNION 2012, JUNE 1–3

Milestone Years
1962 → 50 Years
1967 → 45 Years
1987 → 25 Years
2002 → 10 Years
2007 → 5 Years

Golden Scots
1957 → 55 Years
1952 → 60 Years
1947 → 65 Years

Cluster Years
1977-1978-1979
Where are you from?

It’s a simple conversation starter heard daily in dorm rooms, classrooms, and cafeteria lines. But for Esther Biesse ’13 the answer is complicated.

“Well, I was born in Paris,” says the psychology major. “But I have an American passport, which I use unless I’m traveling in the EU, and then it’s just easier to use that passport.” She goes on to list a series of previous known addresses, from New Delhi to Tunisia to Morocco, where her mother and father, a water treatment engineer for developing countries, now live.

“But we don’t own a house there,” she adds. “In fact, my mother is actually from North Minneapolis.” Her traveling papers are so well stamped that when an unsuspecting classmate asks Biesse where she’s from, “People who know me well just start to laugh,” she says.

International students now make up about 12 percent of the student body at Macalester College, which has been flying a United Nations flag on campus since 1950. But that demographic doesn’t include the growing number of students like Biesse and her sister Rachel Biesse ’12, who look like “domestic” students on paper, but who have passports that tell how truly global our economy—and their lives—have become. With families and relatives spread across continents, dual citizenship, and parents with jobs that range from international aid to mission work, each student’s story is entirely her own. Yet each also shares a label you may be hearing more about in years to come—Third Culture Kid.

“Third Culture Kids are typically defined as anyone who has lived in two distinctly different cultures before age 18,” says Mary Beth Lamb, a Minneapolis–based consultant who specializes in intercultural relations. The term was first coined by the late Michigan State University sociologist Ruth Useem, who studied how children of missionaries in India integrated aspects of their passport culture with that of their adopted homes, picking and choosing from the core values of both cultures to create a unique “third culture” of their own.
Though the experience of living abroad was once confined to “missionary kids,” “military brats,” and diplomatic elites, the advent of mass air travel and an increasingly global economy mean that as many as 20 million Americans now fit the description of “Third Culture Kid” or TCK for short. The sheer numbers may explain why there’s been a sudden rise in support groups, social networks, and self-help books for these so-called “global nomads.” Another factor: President Barack Obama—perhaps the most famous Third Culture Kid in recent history—has appointed several more TCKs to his administration, including advisor Valerie Jarrett, security advisor James L. Jones, and treasury secretary Timothy Geithner.

“Third Culture Kids tend to be most comfortable with other TCKs because they share many similarities, no matter where they’ve lived,” says Lamb. “They tend to have high levels of personal autonomy, openness, and resilience, and they’re okay with different viewpoints... they’re curious about the world, and they’ve got the ability to get things done. They are the 21st century citizens we all need to be.”

— MARY BETH LAMB, Intercultural Relations Consultant

“Third Culture Kids tend to have high levels of autonomy, openness, and resilience, and they’re okay with different viewpoints... they’re curious about the world, and they’ve got the ability to get things done. They are the 21st century citizens we all need to be.”

— MARY BETH LAMB, Intercultural Relations Consultant

Though his cell phone number comes from Austin, Texas, where his parents now live, Jan Walsh ‘13 spent his formative years in France, where his mother settled after leaving Poland. Fluent in English from years of bilingual education, Walsh’s understanding of American urban design was understandably limited when he came to Macalester.

On a shopping trip to a Roseville Target store—itself a source of wonder for many international students—he and some friends decided to catch a movie at the AMC Roseville, about a mile away. “In Paris, you’d just walk there, but it doesn’t work like that in the states,” says Walsh, who recalls how the group crossed the highway, climbed fences, and forged fields of snow to get to their destination. The experience was both “ridiculous” and a little disorienting for Walsh. “Even though I’m an American, I guess there are still some things about American culture that I don’t entirely embrace,” urban sprawl and lack of public transit being high on his list.

Navigating this unfamiliar terrain can be a challenge for many TCKs, which is why Macalester now encourages these students to take part in the Pre-orientation for International Students at the start of the school year. This two-day immersion session covers everything from how to avoid international cell phone charges, to understanding Minnesota’s underage drinking laws, to knowing what health insurance covers in the United States. Group discussions also explore the peculiar and profound cultural differences students must contend with if they’ve come from other parts of the world.

“Probably the strangest thing for me is how differently students treat their teachers,” says Cynthia Kunakom ‘13, a biology and Japanese major. Born in the United States to Thai parents, she attended a British school in Thailand before returning to the U.S. for her final year of high school. Though she found the behavior of many of her high school classmates
“rude,” she has grown to like how students can develop friendships with their professors here in America.

Public transportation was a surprise to Biesse, who spent most of her teenage years in Morocco: “The existence of buses that are not full just blew my mind,” she recalls. “The fact that I could travel by bus and be safe was a completely new experience.”

Understanding idiomatic English is another challenge for TCKs, who may not understand that “How are you?” is usually a rhetorical question, and “See you later” is not a promise. “One challenge is that while Americans are very open, the way they communicate can be superficial,” says Walsh. “You know, everyone you meet is ‘awesome.’”

Equally disorienting is the American obsession with sports, says Nolin Deloison-Baum ’12, a French-American who moves between both countries. “In France, they have soccer,” he says. “But here we’ve got six different sports you’re expected to be competent in.” In this new world, it’s no wonder some TCKs will try to blend in, “wearing the big Nike swoosh all over their clothes—overcompensating,” Deloison-Baum jokes.

“The existence of buses [in the U.S.] that are not full just blew my mind. The fact that I could travel by bus and be safe was a completely new experience.”
—Rachel Biesse ’12

## Following the curve

Although many of the orientation topics are all in good fun (a class called “Sarcasm 101” is a particular favorite), Aaron Colhapp, director of the International Student Program, also tries to prepare international and returning domestic students for the pitfalls they can expect as they transition to college—a journey some students refer to as “The Curve.”

“In many ways it’s the same trajectory that American students go through, just more extreme,” says Colhapp. For instance, the euphoria of arriving on campus is often followed by the sudden shock that everything around you is unfamiliar. “I remember being so overwhelmed that I went to Super America, bought two bags of chips and a bottle of Coke and stayed in my room for three days,” recalls Shahr Eberzhon ’12, a Davis Scholar from Israel who attended high school in Italy. “I was completely overwhelmed.”

Once the daily academic demands set in and the early bonding with roommates wears off, students may notice a common set of symptoms—among them, a quickness to anger, an obsession with cleanliness, feelings of loneliness, and frequent use of four-letter words. While these students may long to spend time with other people from their home country, they may also feel ashamed to be feeling down. “I think everybody hears Aaron talk about that curve and you think, ‘That’s not going to happen to me,” says Deloison-Baum. “But then it happens to you.”

“One of the issues for TCKs is that they’re often more sophisticated than their counterparts, and have had some really rich cultural experiences” that their peers, fresh from American high schools, prob-
Finding a balance

Shannon McDonald ’05 remembers that feeling well. Though she spent most of her childhood in Egypt, and traveled widely in the Middle East, the hardest move she ever made was to International Falls, Minnesota, where her family returned for her high school years. “Coming to Macalester was a relief,” she says. “It was awesome to be around people who [had lived abroad themselves] and didn’t make me feel like such an outsider.”

In fact, Macalester’s student body is so diverse that geography professor Bill Moseley no longer starts the first class of the year with the “where are you from?” ice-breaker he used to employ. “Now I say, tell me about the place you consider to be ‘home,’ because the fact is, many of students have lived in a variety of places,” Moseley says. “That’s just the nature of our economy.”

Anthropology professor Dianna Shandy says having Third Culture students in a classroom often helps expand the worldview of students who haven’t traveled as widely—and vice versa. “What I particularly appreciate is the chemistry between the student who grew up in rural Minnesota and the one who grew up in Brussels, Beirut, or Boston. There is a wonderful, productive intellectual tension that stems from a natural curiosity in terms of how the other sees the world,” she says. “In many cases, I think the rural Minnesota student wishes he’d grown up with that globetrotting dimension to his life; on the other hand, I think some of those Third Culture Kids are working through where to call ‘home,’ and seeing the world through a rural Minnesotan’s eyes helps in that quest to understand the self. Having these diverse perspectives on whatever topic we’re grappling with is a tremendous boon for a professor.”

Sharing these diverse perspectives is also the goal of a new campus group facilitated by the International Student Program dubbed “The America Project.” (a collision of America and the rest of the world, whose people understand the metric system). The program brings together domestic and international students to promote intercultural sensitivity with mediated group discussions about everything from family and politics to religion and race. Initiated last year, the project attracted 45 students to regular sessions. This year, the group is aiming to expand its membership and to cover more topics suggested by participants, such as humor, irony, and even mental health care.

Kunakom says discussions like this, in classrooms or with friends from similar backgrounds, have helped her to reconcile some of the conflicts she feels as she considers her future. Though she believes she’ll have more career opportunities in the United States, her parents tell her, “Remember, you’re from Thailand.” Actually, there are parts of my own culture in Thailand and U.S. culture that I don’t like that much, so I try to kind of balance between the two,” she says. “I see how multiculturalism is an advantage for me.”

Other students say that spanning cultures helps them notice qualities in each that natives might take for granted. For instance, Deloison-Baum recalls how his French counterparts found the Monica Lewinsky scandal in the 1990s “hilarious,” yet, as a citizen of both cultures, he wondered if there was something instructive about the American outcry. “Is there something I should learn about the American response—should I be concerned when a politician is dishonest?” he says.

This capacity to consider two viewpoints without rejecting either is one of the defining qualities of the Third Culture Kid. “It’s the reason TCKs can have jobs for life,” says Lamb. “They make some of the best international businesspeople because they’re great boundary spanners. If they get the support they need to make a successful transition through college, they have some of the greatest opportunities in the world.”

Fresh from earning a master’s degree in Migration and Refugee Studies at the American University in Cairo, McDonald is living in St. Paul with her aunt Margaret Kelberer ’77, herself a Third Culture Kid who spent most of...
her childhood in Beirut. When Kelberer came to Macalester “there was no talk of TCKs. I remember being very jealous of an international student friend who was assigned a host family. I wanted one, too!”

Kelberer and her niece often talk about how the excitement of living abroad can contribute to a lifelong sense of restlessness. “I’ve lived in the same house for 15 years and I still haven’t unpacked some of my bags, because I’m never sure I’m staying,” jokes Kelberer, a librarian and teacher at St. Paul Academy.

Watching the events of the Arab spring unfold, McDonald was surprised to find she felt homesick for Cairo as well as afraid of “missing out” on history being made. “Being a TCK definitely trains you to want to be where the action is,” she says. Now working for AmeriCorps’s Minnesota Reading Corp as a literacy tutor, McDonald says she’s happy to call St. Paul home. For now.

The lesson she’s learned as a Third Culture Kid: “You can feel at home in a lot of places.”

“There are parts of my own culture in Thailand and U.S. culture that I don’t like that much, so I try to kind of balance between the two. I see how multiculturalism is an advantage for me.”

— Cynthia Kunakom ‘13

LAURA BILLINGS COLEMAN is a regular contributor to Macalester Today and a writer at probonopress.org.
Recipe for amazing photos: 10 Mac students, 9 high school students, and plenty of creativity
[above] Women in Khayelitsha, Cape Town
WILLIAM CHILTON ’11

[below] Snow Day
MITSAY LEE
Age: 15
High School: Como, St. Paul

[top] Curious
KONGSHIA LEE
Age: 17
High School: Central, St. Paul

[below] Cloudy Shadows
CHARLIE VANG
Age: 16
High School: Southwest, Minneapolis
MacPics was a languishing student organization two years ago when Leah Krieble ’11 (Brooklyn, N.Y.) and Lauryn Gutierrez ’11 (Hickory, N.C.) got their hands on it. After re-chartering the organization, they decided to really kick-start it by organizing a photography class for high school kids enrolled in Youth-CARE, a Twin Cities nonprofit that directs services for urban youth.

Krieble had worked as a Youth-Care summer camp counselor and knew that the kids it served would love learning photography. So after Krieble and Gutierrez received an action grant from the Civic Engagement Center, the Camp Camera Youth Project came to Macalester last year.

For nine weeks, nine teenagers from St. Paul and Minneapolis came to campus for three-hour sessions with Krieble, Gutierrez, and other members of MacPics. Over those weeks they met with professional photographers, learned styles, vocabulary, and techniques of photography, and took lots of photos, among other activities. They used both film and digital cameras, and even learned to print from negatives.

The Camp Camera student staff were helped along the way by Media Services staff, Krieble’s three-credit Educational Studies internship, and of course that...
Civic Engagement Center action grant. YouthCare provided student transportation and dinner for participants.

“The kids were so excited and produced outstanding images,” says Krieble. “In the program evaluations, both the Mac students and the YouthCARE kids noted how much they had enjoyed learning about each other’s lives and exploring photography.”

The program’s culmination was a proper exhibit of high school and Mac student photos at the Minneapolis gallery Hennes Art Company, complete with a grand opening sponsored by the Macal-ester Program Board.

Best of all, Krieble and Gutierrez recruited some underclassmen to help with Camp Camera, Mac students who have promised to keep it going into the future.

(top) Pingyao Farmers Market
ERIC LIVDAHL ’11

(bottom left) Fireworks
LEAH KRIEBLE ’11
Brooklyn, N.Y.

(bottom right) Wither
WENDY HANG
Age: 16
High School: Johnson, St. Paul
Is Journalism Dead?
Not necessarily, say Mac media experts.

When people predict that the media as we know it is dying, that Tweets and Facebook updates will soon replace newspaper headlines and TV newscasts, Stephen Smith ’82 takes it all in stride.
It’s not that he isn’t interested in the media’s fate: As executive editor and host of American Radio Works, the documentary unit of American Public Media, Smith’s professional life is focused around the fourth estate. It’s just that after more that a quarter century in journalism, such dire predictions give him a serious case of déjà vu.

“The death of any particular form of media has been predicted many times,” he says. “Radio was supposed to kill the printed word. Television was supposed to kill radio. The Web was supposed to kill broadcasting. You can’t deny that the media is evolving right now, that the players are being shifted, but to look for any Titanic–sized disaster looming doesn’t strike me as being rooted in history. Certainly things are changing and there are a lot of growing pains going on in the industry, but ultimately citizen-produced content is not going to completely replace professional journalism.”

Is Smith’s confidence in traditional media forms misplaced? John Kim, assistant professor of media and cultural studies, believes that a clear shift is happening in the industry, from classic “detached” news reporting sponsored by large media conglomerates to eyewitness reports produced by independent witnesses on the scene of news events. “The greater expansion in the media is not going to be in traditional forms of journalism, but rather in alternative forms, like community-based blogs, social networking, interactive communication,” he says. “New media is reshaping the nature of journalism.”

It’s that very reshaping that excites Howard Sinker ’78. A reporter at the Minneapolis StarTribune since 1979 and a sports producer on the paper’s website since 2008, he’s seen his industry undergo many transformations. But none have been more revolutionary than those brought on by the Internet, and more recently by powerful social networking tools like Twitter. For a few years in the mid 2000s, things were looking bleak at the StarTribune, where a shrinking advertising base forced union contract buyouts and hiring freezes. But in recent years, Sinker says, he and his colleagues have been developing innovative ways to respond to their audiences’ changing expectations. Things are starting to look up.

“We should’ve been adapting like this years earlier,” says Sinker, also a lecturer in the Media and Cultural Studies Department, “but we’re finally catching up, figuring out where we fit in this new media environment. Today at the StarTribune we’re turning the equation upside down. Many of our news stories start out as tweets. You write your 140 characters saying, ‘Here’s what’s happening. Here’s the link to the story on the Web.’ Readers are responding positively. Five years ago, if my son had told me he wanted to be a journalist, I wouldn’t have had any hope for him. Now the transition is moving in a positive direction, and I think we’re going to make it out the other side.”

ESTABLISHED journalists may see a reason for optimism, but it can still be a struggle for young media wannabes hoping to break into the industry. The very upheaval and downsizing that’s creating exciting new opportunities for veterans like Sinker and Smith has also meant that media outlets are doing more work with fewer employees. Good journalism jobs can be hard to find.

Ask Jane Turk ’02, a college instructor and media historian completing her doctoral work in communications at Columbia University. She has taught at a number of institutions, including Lake Forest College and DePaul University. “Journalism is a tough field to break into,” Turk says. “And it’s even tougher now. You have to work really hard and scramble to get the few jobs that are out there. The saddest part of my teaching career is when I have to sit down my promising students and tell them that journalism is changing, that the Progressive Era and the Muckrakers are history, that the jobs are few, and their dreams may have to take a different form.”

But where some people see scarcity, others see opportunity. In his commencement speech to the University of California-Berkeley Journalism School’s Class of 2011, Robert Krulwich, host of the public radio science program “Radiolab,” took a decidedly optimistic tone about these graduates’ hopes for future employment. The radical shifts currently occurring in the media don’t have to mean the death of an industry, he argued. They can mean opportunity for innovation, invention, and change. “You are stepping into a world that is riper, more pregnant with newness, new ideas, new beats, new opportunities than most generations of journalists before you,” Krulwich told the graduates. “You are lucky to be you, very lucky, though you may not be feeling it at the moment.”

Although she’s not quite that optimistic about journalism job prospects, Turk does agree that an industry-wide shift provides a receptive environment for entrepreneurs to introduce unique products and publications into a marketplace primed for innovation. She also believes that larger media organizations are entering a new era of growth and centralization, a trend that may limit the range of voices readily available to consumers.

“From a cultural historian’s perspective, what I see is not the death of journalism but an increasing shift to larger, more centralized news sources like the New York Times, large cable networks, and public radio,” Turk says. “It’s important that space remains for independent voices. To a large extent, that seems to be a role that the Web can effectively play.”

“The death of any particular form of media has been predicted many times,” Smith says. “RADIO was supposed to kill the printed word. TELEVISION was supposed to kill radio. THE WEB was supposed to kill broadcasting. But you can’t deny that the media is evolving right now.”
Still Living the Dream

Through most of his college career, Daniel Kerwin ’10 knew he wanted to become a newspaper journalist—even though everyone advised him against it. “Back in my first newswriting courses, everyone was talking about how newspapers were dying,” he recalls. “Maybe that’s the case, but when I graduated I still sent my resume to a bunch of papers around Minnesota. I wanted to work at a daily. To see my name in print was my goal.”

Kerwin landed a job as a sports reporter at the Worthington Daily Globe in Worthington, Minnesota, population 12,000. Although the Daily Globe has a website, his readers are more interested in the paper’s print edition, Kerwin says. “We put everything in the paper plus extra stuff online, but most people don’t go there,” he adds. “Out here, folks are still most comfortable getting their news from the printed page.”

Although Kerwin is fluent in the technology required to post stories, photos, and video online, he and his fellow reporters still direct most of their energy toward writing stories for the print edition. “We talk about putting more content up online,” he says, “but we really aren’t getting much reader feedback about that.”

Five years ago, when Eliot Brown ’06 was preparing to graduate from Macalester, the former Mac Weekly editor was determined to get a job at a daily newspaper, even though it felt like jumping aboard a sinking ship. “At the time, it seemed like a decent question to ask if newspapers were going to be around much longer,” he says. “Now it seems like papers aren’t actually going to go away, at least not right away. And even if they are, being a newspaper reporter is a fun job. Why not stick with it until it runs its course?”

Brown’s fun job hasn’t lost its appeal. His first position on a daily was as a reporter for the New York Observer; last December he landed a spot as a real estate reporter for the Wall Street Journal. In New York, anyway, the newspaper business still feels solid enough.

Perhaps because print continues to hold a dominant position in the New York marketplace, Brown’s employers thus far have encouraged—but not required—reporters to participate in online technology. At many other publications, online participation is required. “Editors want more updates and blog fodder,” he says. “A few years ago it looked like there was going to be a bigger push to do videos with our stories. I’ve done a couple, but not that many. The shift I’m seeing is a focus on writing for the blogs and finding different ways to make our stories interactive.”

At the Poynter Institute, a St. Petersburg, Florida-based organization that trains journalists, faculty member Regina McCombs leads seminars designed to help participants stay up-to-date in the latest technology. She says that journalists need to diversify their skills if they want to survive—and thrive—in the digital revolution. “What we teach is not that you have to do everything, but you have to do more than one thing,” McCombs says. “If you want to be a writer, that’s fine. But you have to not just say, ‘I will write for newspapers,’ you have to be comfortable with many platforms and understand what makes them different from one another. To make yourself appealing to current and potential employers, you’ve got to be able to get out there and represent yourself in more than one area of technology.”

Ian Trontz ’92, assistant metro editor at the New York Times, says that at his flagship newspaper, the online and print areas still function fairly independently: “We actually have a whole separate operation in charge of making sure that reporters are participating in social media, encouraging them to tweet, for instance. No one is required to do it, though we are strongly encouraged.”

Does this shift toward a more active online presence signify that even old-guard newspapers like the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal are preparing for their own demise? Although Brown and Trontz believe their publications play a key role in American democracy, both can imagine a day when print is passé and their papers exist only online, read on laptops, smart phones, or tablets. Still, that doesn’t mean that the news won’t continue to be reported by professional journalists. A tweet can only take you so far.

“The day could come when there is no such thing as a printed newspaper,” Trontz admits. “I think that’s a strong possibility.
[New York Times publisher] Arthur Sulzberger only half-jokingly says that we are not going to be printing newspapers at some point. This is a big deal coming from him. But that doesn’t mean the end of traditional media. Just because we’re presenting the news on a different platform doesn’t have to mean bad things. It just means different things. It means quicker leads, more updating, more context, and more resources. This is already happening. It’s only going to happen more. And that’s good for journalism.”

Print? Who needs print?

While traditional media work to respond and adapt to a new online reality, a bumper crop of Web-only publications is sprouting up around the country, giving young journalists an opportunity to practice their craft on a powerful platform that seems poised to take over the media marketplace.

Jessie Pascoe ’01 is associate editor at MetroMix New York. She and her four coworkers cover NYC events, theater, and style happenings for this online-only entertainment publication. “I’ve been swept up in the online thing,” Pascoe says. “Traditional media has rushed to embrace all those new media platforms, and I’m right here in the middle of everything. There’s this rush to not be left behind that causes everyone in the media to react to the latest thing so quickly. It’s chaotic, but it’s also fun. No one knows where the cards will fall but they’re determined to be there to pick them up.”

Gabby Warshawer ’01—managing editor of Brownstoner Brooklyn, an online publication focused on real-estate transactions in New York’s most populous borough—is excited by the movement toward independent, nonprofit Web-based publications featuring strong reporting on serious topics. If more of these publications can make it, Warshawer predicts a media renaissance, an opportunity for idealistic young journalists to make a difference in the world. Even if the Web eventually becomes the dominant media format, high-quality unbiased journalism can still survive, she says.

“And that this is a way that the Web can bridge traditional formats with Web-based approaches,” Warshawer continues. “With the demise of smaller papers, there are big news holes to be filled in terms of local reporting, and an audience that could attract the attention of advertisers.” One organization that has stepped in to capitalize on this opportunity is the new national hyperlocal web network Patch.com, with its fleet of online-only reporters based in communities across the country. Enthusies Warshawer: “The fit is perfect, and that change feels really exciting.”
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Only the supple survive

THOSE WHO’VE MADE IT through the media meltdown say that the secret to their survival has been a willingness to adapt to shifts in technology, to invent new ways of presenting the news—and to recognize the distinct advantages of their chosen medium. Smith, the radio booster, is excited about the possibilities of new technology that will stream audio directly to a remote listening device. Already, a large percentage of his audience listens to his American Radio Works documentaries on podcast. Adding the option of immediate play any time will further broaden the listener base.

This highlights one of radio’s unique advantages, one reason Smith doesn’t see it going away any time soon. “Radio is the only format you can consume while doing something else,” he says. “You can drive a car, make a sandwich, run around the lake. You can’t read a newspaper, text, or use a GPS while driving a car, but you can listen to the radio.”

It’s understandable that the continued aftershocks triggered by the online earthquake could make journalists, advertisers, and even news consumers feel jittery. But Smith believes that we just need to allow enough time for the dust to settle. “There are many forms of creative survival that media types are engaged in at the moment,” he says. “We may be in a process of major reorganization and change that will lead to something we can’t quite envision, but the world will still go on, and it will still involve professionals doing journalism.”

ANDY STEINER ’90 writes for many local and national publications. She is a regular contributor to Macalester Today.

As Western media outlets adapt to a new Web-driven reality, media sources in other parts of the world are discovering the Internet’s unique power to quickly spread news of social movements. In environments in which the media are state run and out of touch with popular opinion, the uncensored voice of the people yields remarkable influence.

This spring, when Heba Amin ’02 saw that the most reliable news about the political revolution sweeping her native Egypt was coming from tweets posted by citizens, she decided that the mainstream Egyptian news media had become irrelevant. Amin, who now lives in Berlin, is a new media artist whose most recent work juxtaposes excerpts from social media messages collected before the fall of the Mubarak regime with photos of abandoned structures in Cairo that represent the long-lasting effects of a corrupt dictatorship.

As an Egyptian living abroad, Amin experienced much of the Arab Spring through Facebook and Twitter, two sources that she quickly grew to consider more reliable and up-to-the-minute than information coming from traditional news outlets. “Facebook and Twitter will redefine more traditional forms of media,” she says. “This was quite obvious to me during the Egyptian revolution, when bloggers were dispersing ‘news’ before the ‘News.’ Traditional media outlets could not keep up with the speed of events, so they themselves resorted to Twitter users and bloggers as information sources. In a country like Egypt, where traditional media is controlled by the state, social media has become a substitute and a platform for providing people with a voice.”

Once silent, says Amin, that voice was heard around the world. —ANDY STEINER ’90
We can’t help but notice that every year more and more Macalester students are wearing their school pride on their backs. Of course there’s still a little confusion as to whether our school colors are maroon or orange and blue, but whatever the hue, our students are true—to their school.
Christopher Marianetti ’03 working with students at the Brooklyn Community Arts and Media (BCAM) High School in Brooklyn, New York. These kids, part of a 10th grade Spanish class, were asked to create original songs that other students could use to help them learn basic Spanish.
“Have you ever heard an Indian water buffalo?” composer Christopher Marianetti ‘03 asks before making a sound somewhere between a horse’s neigh and a trombone’s downward slide. “It’s insane. It sounds like a creature from another planet,” he laughs.

Sounds like this one are the unconventional notes in Marianetti’s musical universe, and recording and arranging them in meaningful ways are the foundation of his approach to composing music. Where most composers stick to major and minor chords, he imagines recorded sounds he’s collected on different continents: desks in Brooklyn scraping against linoleum; hands beating rhythmically on a worn snare drum in an artists’ café in Zimbabwe; a musician on a Manhattan street corner recalling events from his itinerant past.

Marianetti isn’t the first musician to challenge conventional assumptions about what music is and how it should be composed. Minimalists like Steve Reich and Philip Glass have done that as well. But he is quickly emerging as a leader in using this approach to music making as a tool for building and connecting communities around the world.

He’s doing this through Found Sound Nation, a New York City–based nonprofit he cofounded with fellow New York musician Jeremy Thal. Found Sound Nation, Marianetti says, is like a traveling sound squad. In short-term visits to sites around the world, they work with youth and communities to collaboratively create music; help people understand the principles of computer-based sound recording and engineering; build the infrastructure and expertise necessary to produce, record, and remix sound; and produce an initial project. In two short years, Marianetti has worked with groups as diverse as juvenile detention center youth in New York and meditation teachers at a Northern India ashram.

Inspiration for the organization came from an experience Marianetti had in Milan, Italy, shortly after his Macalester graduation. He was studying composition at the city’s International Academy of Music, immersed in a world of music that seemed abstract and theoretical. “Something felt like it was missing from my musical life,” he explains. “I wanted to do something more social with my music.”

His wish was about to be granted. Hearing of Marianetti’s interest in sound recording, the conservatory director’s wife asked him if he wanted to work with a group of first graders she taught at a local elementary school. In the two weeks of class-

Top photos: BCAM students recording with Found Sound Nation. Bottom photo: Marianetti recording meditation talks at Ashram Paryavaran Vidyalaya school in Northern India.
Chris and BCAM students producing and editing audio.
room time that followed, Marianetti recorded the students making all sorts of sounds, vocal and otherwise. Then, after importing the sounds into his computer, he had the students visually arrange the color-coded sounds in their own sequences on a projected screen. Using music software and the projections as his guide, he spliced together the recordings into a song.

“I was surprised at how weird, complex, and original the music was,” Marianetti says. New career possibilities entered his head along with the haunting music. Several years later, back in the United States, Marianetti visited students in the Bronx classroom of Soshana Daniels ’03, whom he’d run into at one of his concerts. What started as three kids banging on a table in classroom-turned-recording studio grew, in a matter of days, into more than 30 kids producing an album of original musical recordings. Found Sound Nation was born.

Since its inception, Found Sound Nation has helped youth activists from New York and Philadelphia record their experiences on a service-learning trip to New Orleans. It has created performance art pieces related to HIV/AIDS with youth at the Harare International Festival of the Arts in Zimbabwe; recorded CDs of original music with youth and adults in New York public schools, hospitals, and juvenile detention centers. And it has recorded a dynamic guide to meditation with teachers at the Ashram Paryavaran Vidyalaya school in the Northern Indian Himalayan region of Uttarakhand.

Teaching communities to recognize the taken-for-granted sounds unique to their environment is a big part of his work, says Marianetti. “A lot of artists talk about discovering their voice or finding their sound,” he says. “I think this can also mean going to an institution or neighborhood and asking, ‘What is the sound of this place?’”

Having worked with groups on four continents to answer that question, Marianetti says his organization’s next goal is to encourage sharing across different sound communities to create an imagined musical nation that transcends geographical, linguistic, and political borders. This summer, Found Sound Nation will travel to Haiti, where, as part of the country’s long-term recovery plan, the Ciné Institute is attempting to rebuild and expand its film industry. Marianetti and collaborators will help the Haitians produce and record music for their latest films, and also create a sound library for the institute’s filmmakers. But when their work is complete, the institute’s sound library won’t just have sounds from a Caribbean island. It will come fully stocked with giggles from New Orleans, drumbeats from Harare, chair scraping from Milan—and, of course, the whinnying cry of one North Indian water buffalo.

**Top photo:** Marianetti recording “Play Me I’m Yours,” a street piano art project, in New York. **Bottom photo:** Found Sound Nation staff members (from left) Chris Marianetti, Ricardo Nigaglioni, Elena Moon Park, and Jeremy Thal.

**WEB CONNECT:** [www.foundsoundnation.org/blog/mac](http://www.foundsoundnation.org/blog/mac)

**DANNY LACHANCE** is a New York-based freelance writer.
Key West Doc

Bird-watching brought Mark Whiteside ’72 to South Florida but his AIDS patients kept him there.

BY ELIZABETH FOY LARSEN → PHOTO BY CHRISTY TRANSIER

IT WAS BIRDS THAT FIRST BROUGHT MARK WHITESIDE ’72 to South Florida. In 1979 the Kansas City native and internal medicine resident spotted a rare Key West Quail Dove in the Everglades, so he returned the following year for another birding expedition, tacking on a professional visit to a Miami hospital.

Whiteside had developed an interest in tropical medicine after attending a lecture about the parasitic illness called Chagas disease. When he asked the lecturer which path he should follow to pursue that interest, he was told he could join the military, get a master’s degree in public health, or complete an infectious diseases fellowship.

Choosing the third option, Whiteside used his birding trip to interview for an infectious disease fellowship at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami Beach. At the time he was thinking solely about tropical diseases, and had no idea that he’d soon become an expert on a mysterious illness just starting to burn its way through Miami’s gay community.

By the early 1980s Whiteside—who by now had also earned a master’s in public health—and a medical partner were operating a treatment center for infectious disease in Miami and began to notice that many of their patients were sexually active gay men suffering from weight loss, skin cancer, and yeast infections in the mouth.

Those symptoms, of course, would soon become associated with AIDS. In fact, Whiteside and his partner found themselves doing AIDS-related treatment before the disease even had a formal name. “We became the experts at diagnosing the opportunistic infections we now know are associated with AIDS long before we knew what HIV was,” says Whiteside. “We watched incredibly sick patients die before we knew that it was from AIDS.”

Although they didn’t know the cause of the symptoms, the medical partners understood that their patients were at severe risk from a frequently fatal illness. With the stakes so high, Whiteside was moved to design one of the country’s first AIDS screening programs at his Miami clinic. “We saw tens of thousands of individuals,” he says. “We had an extensive history form, we asked about everything from sexual practices to travel. We gave physical exams looking for weight loss, large lymph nodes, and other opportunistic infections. We looked for low white cell blood counts, tested for syphilis and intestinal parasites. At the end we could tell the patient if he had AIDS, even though there was no test for it.”

Equally important, Whiteside began advising patients about the crucial importance of using condoms. “At that point, we knew that anal intercourse was a risk factor,” he says. “We were arguably the first group in the country to counsel our patients about safe sex.”

One day, a gay man came into their practice and asked Whiteside to bring his work to Key West, where many of the man’s friends were getting sick. Whiteside set up a weekend clinic there, commuting for several years before moving permanently to the island in 1987. There he remains, raising a young family with his wife, Lilla, a physical therapist.

Macalester helped lead him to his career choice, says Whiteside, because the college’s science requirement introduced him—then an English and psychology student—to biology. “I wasn’t one of those kids who had always wanted to attend medical school,” he admits. “I went to Macalester primarily because my sister, Esther Thorson ’69, P’97, went there. I just followed my interests and Macalester allowed me to do that. Macalester gave me more than an education—it taught me how to think.”

Whiteside needed all of Mac’s influence and his own brainpower to forge his way through “one of the most significant and important epidemics of our age,” he says. “I saw AIDS go from a devastating disease to a chronic illness. It’s remarkable the advances we’ve made. The first 15 years of HIV were dreadful. People were dying left and right. But since the late ’90s the treatment has improved. Today in Key West, 80 percent of our treated HIV patients have undetectable levels of the virus and are living normal lives. You can have so much impact in this kind of medicine.”

Whiteside’s life in South Florida has also allowed him to continue his passion for birding. He served as president of the Florida Keys Audubon Society for six years and has been active in promoting shade-grown coffee, which protects the habitat of tropical and wintering birds. “Birding is a great outlet for me,” he says. “I tell my patients if I didn’t run three times a week and go bird watching every chance I got, I would have lost my mind a long time ago.”

ELIZABETH FOY LARSEN is a Minneapolis writer and frequent contributor to Macalester Today.
Mark Whiteside’72 has found birding a great recreational contrast to his intense medical practice.
Eight outstanding alumni honored at Reunion.

**CHARLES J. TURCK GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD**

Kofi Annan ’61 may have graduated from Macalester 50 years ago, but his mark on campus has been a lasting one. Annan’s most recent trip back to Mac was for inaugural events for the Institute for Global Citizenship in 2009. During that visit, he raised the UN flag on campus and spoke to a crowd of almost 2,000 Macalester community members. “We all have the power to make choices; we should never doubt that,” he told them. “We can choose to be silent and turn away, or we can step forward and take action.” Annan came to Macalester from Ghana and became a state champion orator and track team member before leaving with a degree in economics. After graduation and graduate school, he joined the United Nations’ World Health Organization in 1962, worked as Ghana’s director of tourism, and returned to the UN in the late 1980s. There he served as UN Secretary-General from 1997 to 2006 and, along with the UN, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2001 for founding the Global AIDS and Health Fund to support developing countries. Today he serves on the Institute for Global Citizenship’s Global Advisory Board as well as other organizations with international and African focuses. He lives in Switzerland.

**DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS**

David Bebb Jones ’56 found his vocation as a Presbyterian minister and his wife, Ann Beran Jones ’57, at Macalester. After leaving Mac, he attended McCormick Theological Seminary and then spent 39 years as the pastor of three Presbyterian churches in Illinois, most recently in the Chicago suburb of Western Springs. Jones served on the McCormick Theological Seminary Board of Trustees and was moderator of the Chicago Presbyterian in 1977. In 1965 Jones participated in the Selma, Alabama, March for Voting Rights with Martin Luther King Jr. He then cofounded the Tazewell County Human Relations Commission to address racial discrimination and chaired the Interorganizational Task Force for Community Organizations, which advocated for racial minority organizations throughout Illinois. Jones seeks justice for Palestinians and served as convener of the Presbyterian Middle East Task Force. He also helped to develop a covenant between the Chicago Presbytery and Chicago area Muslims to seek mutual understanding. David and Ann have been involved in the ecumenical movement, attending Parliaments of the World’s Religions in South Africa and Spain. Finally, Jones is a longtime supporter of the ordination of gay and lesbian ministers.

Darwyn Linder ’61 describes his career in turning points, starting in 1959 when then-Math Department Chair Ezra Camp offered him an assistantship and invited him to stay at Macalester instead of transferring to an engineering program. Linder accepted and thrived with the close faculty interaction, a model he would carry with him. Linder entered a graduate mathematics program but learned math wasn’t his calling. He thought back to his summers guiding youth canoe trips, where the group dynamics fascinated him. Before long, he enrolled in a PhD psychology program. Linder went on to teach at Duke University before tackling one of his biggest challenges at Arizona State University, where he moved in 1972 to serve as the founding director of the Social Psychology Graduate Training Program. There Linder has guided many students through their undergraduate honors theses and graduate work. “The fun part of the work is watching students become capable and independent.” He also implemented cooperative learning programs in ASU’s undergraduate engineering program. Linder has published extensively in top psychological research journals, coauthored an introductory psychology textbook, and served as department chair for 8 of the 33 years he spent at ASU.

Douglas W. Laube ’66 has had a life and career woven around three parts—physician, teacher, and volunteer. As a physician, Laube is a nationally recognized expert in obstetrics and gynecology. He was named president of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 2006. Last spring Laube was selected as one of ten Jefferson Science Fellows for 2010–11, and spent the year working for USAID in the Office of Population and Reproductive Health and in the Office of Maternal and Child Health of the Bureau for Global Health, where he provided policy consultation on international maternal health programs. As a teacher—at the University of Iowa’s medical school and at the University of Wisconsin’s Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology—Laube won numerous awards. His devotion to education was such that he earned a master’s degree in health science education to improve his teaching. Throughout his years in academic medicine, Laube has volunteered at maternal, walk-in, and free clinics. He has been instrumental in developing educational programs in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Afghanistan, and consulted on a project with six Central American countries on medical residency curricula. He also has volunteered with Physicians for Reproductive Choice and the Centering Health Care Institute.
Marcia Zimmerman ’81 was a sophomore at Macalester when she attended an event at Hebrew House featuring a woman en route to becoming a rabbi. “That was the first time I had ever met a woman on that path,” she says. “I call that the beginning.” Zimmerman pursued rabbinic studies at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and was ordained in 1988. She joined Temple Israel in Minneapolis that year and was named senior rabbi in 2001, the first woman to serve as senior rabbi of one of the 10 largest synagogues in the United States. Zimmerman is also the president of the Minnesota Religious Coalition for Reproductive Rights. During her time at Macalester, Zimmerman majored in sociology and was head of the Hebrew House her senior year. Her high school was 70 percent Jewish, and she says being at Macalester strengthened her faith because she had to explain Judaism to students who weren’t familiar with the religion. “It’s part of why I do intense, meaningful interfaith work now,” Zimmerman says. “Macalester opened doors for me that I never could have imagined, and the liberal arts education opened my mind to incredible experiences of learning.” At Macalester, Zimmerman also met her husband, Frank Hornstein ’81. They have three children, including Rebecca Hornstein ’13.

Paul Raushenbush ’86 has long played a key part of the national conversation about religion, from launching the religion section of The Huffington Post to working as an original editor of beliefnet.com. In his work as senior religion editor of The Huffington Post, Raushenbush emphasizes interfaith understanding and civil discourse. At Princeton University, where he worked until recently, he served as associate dean of religious life and the chapel and co-director of the Program on Religion, Diplomacy, and International Relations at the Liechtenstein Institute. He was also president of the Association of College and University Religious Affairs. In 2007, Raushenbush, an ordained American Baptist minister, edited the 100th anniversary edition of his great-grandfather’s book Christianity and the Social Crisis. Five years ago he started a national interfaith conference called Coming Together, which Macalester students attend annually. Indeed, Macalester’s Multifaith Council grew out of the experience students had at the conference. “All over the country,” says Macalester chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith, “that event spurred dialogue and deeper understanding of the need for religious diversity.” While at Macalester, Raushenbush, a religion major, cultivated a deep international perspective that he daily applies to his work.

YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Danai Gurira ’01 only graduated from Macalester a decade ago, but has already extensively used her gifts as an actor and playwright to promote international understanding. Her plays, including Eclipsed, In the Continuum, and The Convert, focus on Africa, exploring issues such as HIV/AIDS in women, civil war in Liberia, and Zimbabwe’s struggle for independence. In the Continuum, which germinated as her Macalester honors project, won the Helen Hayes Award for best lead actress and an Obie Award for playwriting. Eclipsed won best new play at the 2010 Helen Hayes Awards and Gurira won best playwright at the NAACP Theater Awards last year. The Convert, the first of a planned trilogy about her native Zimbabwe, will premiere soon at Princeton University. She recently received a prestigious National Endowment for the Arts grant in support of the trilogy, and is a commissioned playwright with the Yale Repertory Theater. “My plays all deal with political issues and contemporary African experiences,” says Gurira. “I find great joy in giving voice to the experiences of those rarely heard from.” Gurira also excels as an actor, having starred in the 2008 film The Visitor, on Broadway in August Wilson’s Joe Turner’s Come and Gone, and in a recurring role on HBO’s Treme, set in post-Katrina New Orleans.

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Kate Havelin ’83 believes that you never know where your opportunities will come from. Mac connections helped her find her first jobs at a newspaper in Fargo and at KTCA-TV. Then, for more than a decade, she produced news stories and shows for WCCO-TV. Since leaving TV, she has written 18 non-fiction books, including two this year on historical fashion. It’s difficult to imagine how she has made time for a parallel volunteer career, but she has. Havelin has served on every one of her Macalester Reunion committees. She has hosted first-year course dinners for at least four years. She has helped Mac students prepare for the future by speaking to classes and serving on career panels. She also volunteers in the broader community. For seven years, she and her family provided emergency foster care for families needing a safe place for their children. She also volunteers at the National Park Service’s Mississippi River Visitor Center and at St. Paul’s Jackson Preparatory Magnet School. In addition, Havelin is well known in political circles as someone who, in true Macalester fashion, not only knows the issues, but also devotes hours to phone-banking and door-knocking to effect the change she wishes to see in the world.

WEB CONNECT: 2012 nominations now open at macalester.edu/alumni/alumniawards.
DEMYSTIFYING THE ALUMNI BOARD | BY KAHELD HABAYEB ’03

“You’re on the Alumni Board? Is that part of the Board of Trustees?”

Who the Alumni Board is and what exactly we do appears to be a mystery for many alumni, at least for those who know that we exist. Some of you may have bumped into us around campus during Reunion, seen us at local chapter events, or heard us welcoming students at an alternative high school in Washington, D.C.

Numerous recent alumni received National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, including Charles Brenner (cognitive psychology, Washington University), Aleece Colehour ’09 (ecology, University of California-Davis), Alexander Nereson (geology, University of New Mexico), and Suzannah Szumowski ’09 (cell biology, University of California-San Diego). Kai Bosworth (geography, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities) received honorable mentions.

Andrew Anastasi is on an AmeriCorps assignment with Critical Exposure, working with students at an alternative high school in Washington, D.C.

The Alumni Board’s mission is to involve alumni and students in a lifelong relationship with Macalester College to ensure that the Mac experience never ends. The Alumni Board’s 35 members are alumni and students representing every generation and region in the United States. We meet on campus several times a year to plan programs and activities focused on forging connections between alumni and the college.

The board conducts its work through standing committees focused on Student Support, Alumni Engagement, Development, and Nominations, Citations, and Bylaws, as well as short-term task forces that address pressing issues. Specifically:

- **Student Support Committee** fosters connections between Macalester alumni and current students and enhances the students’ experiences both on and off campus. The committee plans annual events and activities for students in each class;
- **Alumni Engagement Committee** engages alumni through regional events and activities, and through recruiting and encouraging participation in volunteer activities;
- **Development Committee** works closely with the Annual Fund on various initiatives focused on increasing alumni giving to the school;
- **Nominations, Citations, and Bylaws Committee** reviews nominations for the alumni awards and makes final recommendations to the board. This committee also reviews nominations for vacant seats on the Alumni Board and recommends alumni representatives for the Board of Trustees.

As the college, its student body, and its alumni population evolve, so too does the work of the Alumni Board. We are currently focused on initiatives to strengthen the value of the Macalester brand, and we aim to accomplish this by building the alumni network through stronger regional chapters and a robust alumni volunteer program; connecting alumni and students through career mentoring and guidance; increasing alumni participation in the Annual Fund; and increasing the visibility of the Alumni Board.

We work to expand and strengthen the alumni network, allowing more professors to connect students with career opportunities via alumni, and shaping regional chapters into forums where alumni can come together to mentor and network with one another. We aim to create ample opportunities for alumni to volunteer and make Macalester a consistent part of their lives.

Through our work, we hope that you, our fellow alumni, will have a strong sense of pride and loyalty when you think of Mac. We encourage you to give back to the college, both financially and by volunteering your time. Ultimately, we strive to be a board that each of you wants to be a part of, because you recognize that the Macalester experience—your Macalester experience—was something truly special.

KHALED HABAYEB ’03 is president of the Macalester Alumni Board.
BOOKS


Floyd J. Hall ’74, Les Copains S’amusent (available from Xlibris, 2011)

Duchess Harris, associate professor of American studies, Black Feminist Politics from Kennedy to Obama (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)

Nik Heikkila ’99, Winter of the Snowfox (Available from Amazon, 2011)

Alison Hyslop ’87, Chemistry: The Molecular Nature of Matter (Wiley and Sons, 2011)


Kathryn Lykken Klos ’68, The Storyteller and In the Chillest Land (2011, paperback and Kindle)

Reverend Roger Wolsey ’90, Kissing Fish: Christianity for People Who Don’t Like Christianity (2011, available at progressivechristianitybook.com)


Journey Through Vietnam

Featuring Professor Adrienne Christiansen

February 8–23, 2012

Join Macalester alumni and Professor Adrienne Christiansen for an unforgettable journey to Vietnam, a country that captivates travelers with its enduring traditions, breathtaking natural beauty, and warm hospitality. Our small group of no more than 24 Macalester alumni and friends will visit the capital city of Hanoi, see Ha Long Bay, fly to Da Nang to tour the acclaimed Cham Museum, visit the village of Ho An, where cars are prohibited, explore a rural farming community, drive to the ancient imperial capital of Hue, cruise the Perfume River, and conclude the journey in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon).

Space is limited. Contact the Alumni Office at alumnioffice@macalester.edu or 651-696-6295 for more information.
**In Memoriam**

Dr. John B. Davis, Jr., who served as Macalester’s 13th president from 1975 to 1984 and led the college out of debt and into financial stability, died July 5, 2011. He was 89.

“John B. Davis is among a small handful of individuals who have made the greatest difference in the life of Macalester College,” said Macalester President Brian Rosenberg. “He will be sorely missed but never forgotten.”

Born in Haverhill, Mass., Davis received his undergraduate degree in history from the University of New Hampshire and went on to receive both his master’s and doctorate from Harvard University’s School of Education.

He came to Minnesota from Massachusetts in 1967 to be superintendent of Minneapolis Public Schools and received praise for his leadership in desegregation, community education, and alternative programming.

He served as president of the Minnesota Private College Council from 1979 to 1981 and was acting president of Minnesota State University, Mankato in 1992. He was also chairman of the board for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and served on several other boards, including Cowles Media Co., Walker Art Center, and Northwestern National Life Company.

Macalester was $2 million in debt when Davis took office in 1975. By the time he left, Macalester had regained its financial stability, improved its ability to recruit excellent faculty and students, and increased the number of academic majors, strengthening its academic standards and reputation in the community.

He once told student protesters occupying his outer office, “The U.S. Constitution protects the rights of its people to assemble. I applaud your exercise of that right…. Please have a good day.”

Davis is remembered for his spirit of inclusion and optimism, insightfulness and compassion. He left an enduring legacy on this campus and will be greatly missed.

**1939**
Phyllis Noltimier Deane, 94, died May 11, 2011, in Mineral Wells, Texas. She is survived by 2 daughters, a son, 14 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

**1941**
Carol Will Boguhn, 91, died Sept. 19, 2010. She was a retired employee of the State of Michigan. Mrs. Boguhn is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and a brother.

Wilbur A. Boler, 93, died April 22, 2011, in Bloomington, Minn. Mr. Boler is survived by his wife, Dorothy Holland Boler ’42, a daughter, three sons (including James Boler ’45), eight grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

**1943**
Roland R. DeLapp, 89, of Bloomington, Minn., died March 19, 2011. Mr. DeLapp is survived by three daughters, a son, six grandchildren (including Reed DeLapp ’03 and Holly Harris ’00), and three great-grandchildren.

**1945**
Patricia Pugh Erickson, 88, died April 24, 2011, in Peshtigo, Wis. She is survived by two daughters, five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and a sister.

**1946**
William G. “Jack” Bugbee, 87, of Payneville, Minn., died March 27, 2011. Mr. Bugbee is survived by his wife, Audrey, a daughter, four sons, three grandchildren, and a sister.

William C. Nelson, 86, of Grand Forks, N.D., died April 2, 2011. Dr. Nelson is survived by his wife, Ruth Anne, a daughter, four sons, eight grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

**1947**
Virginia Baran Burns, 86, died Sept. 20, 2010, in San Diego. She is survived by a daughter and a son.

**1948**
Eleanor Anderson Clubb, 84, of Fort Myers, Fla., died April 15, 2010. Elizabeth Stempel Mandehr, 83, died March 9, 2011. She was a public administrator.

Patricia Warford Mickelson, 85, of Eagan, Minn., died May 12, 2011. Mrs. Mickelson is survived by her husband, Otto, two daughters, and two grandsons.

Robert H. Nelson, 90, of St. Peter, Minn., died Feb. 28, 2011. Dr. Nelson is survived by his wife, Jeanette Johnson Nelson ’48, two daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two stepchildren, two step-grandchildren, two sisters, and two brothers.

Betty Wood Stein, 84, of Champlin, Minn., died April 6, 2011. Mrs. Stein is survived by her husband, Bill, two daughters, a son, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Isabel Fudge Wood, 84, of Arlington Heights, Ill., died Jan. 5, 2011. She was a retired schoolteacher. Mrs. Wood is survived by 3 sons, 3 stepsons, and 13 grandchildren.

**1949**
Patricia Larson Borgeson, 85, of Richfield, Minn., died May 5, 2011. Mrs. Borgeson is survived by her husband, Wesley, three daughters, and 2 grandchildren.

William D. Bowell, 90, died April 19, 2011, in Minneapolis. He was inducted into the French Legion of Honor for his service as a paratrooper in World War II. With his wife, Lillian Flattan Bowell ’49, Mr. Bowell founded Padelford Packet Boat Co., which has taken passengers on cruises of the St. Paul riverfront since 1969. He was a founder and first president of the Passenger Vessel Association and founder of the Capt. William D. Bowell, Sr. Rivers Library at the National Rivers Hall of Fame in Dubuque, Iowa. Macalester College presented him with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 2006. Mr. Bowell is survived by his wife, two daughters, a son, eight grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, two sisters, a brother, and partner Dorothy Calabrese.

Carol VanSlyke Lazo, 83, died March 18, 2011. She is survived by four children, four grandchildren, and two step-grandchildren.

Yoshie Nishioki Osaka, 82, of Santa Clara, Calif., died Aug. 31, 2010. She is survived by her husband, Walter, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

**1950**
Jacqueline Seedorff Burlingame, 82, of Roseville, Minn., died Jan. 1, 2011. She is survived by her husband, Wayne, two daughters, and two grandsons.

Marilyn Maltby Howe, 82, of Glencoe, Minn., died Feb. 3, 2011. She is survived by her husband, Bob, two daughters, and four grandchildren.
John B. Mauer, 89, died March 17, 2011. Mr. Mauer is survived by his wife, Shirley, three sons, seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, four sisters, and three brothers.

Harriet Blubaugh Paske, 83, of Venice, Fla., died Feb. 17, 2011. Mrs. Paske is survived by her husband, Gordon, two sons, and two grandchildren.

Albert E. Ranum, 84, of Stillwater, Minn., died April 4, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Chalsma Ranum '52, sons Grant Ranum '79, Karl Nickeson-Ranum '82, and Eric Ranum '84, and three grandchildren.

M.G. “Jerry” Wiessner of Lodi, Calif., died Dec. 14, 2010. Mr. Wiessner is survived by his wife, Dorothy, three daughters, 15 grandchildren, a great-grandchild, and 2 brothers.

Richard E. Prosser, 83, of Roseville, Minn., died Feb. 10, 2011. Mr. Prosser is survived by his second wife, Alyce Ostergren Pederson, four daughters, two sons, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

James A. Pederson, 82, of Rosemount, Minn., died April 26, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Alyce Ostergren Pederson ‘53, four daughters, two sons, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

James B. Prosser, 83, of Roseville, Minn., died Feb. 20, 2011. Mr. Prosser is survived by his second wife, Helen Hilgeman Prosser ‘51, a daughter, two sons, six grandchildren, two stepchildren, and four step-grandchildren.

Caroline Thomson Ward, 80, of White Bear Lake, Minn., died April 2, 2011. Mrs. Ward is survived by her husband, Robert, a daughter, a son, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Mary Plachte Weiss, 78, of St. Paul, Minn., died Nov. 30, 2009. She is survived by three daughters, two sons, 17 grandchildren, and a brother.

Johnnie J. Crisler, 64, of Minneapolis died Jan. 9, 2010. She is survived by five sisters and two brothers.

Mary Isaacson Lemke, 76, died May 1, 2011, in Phoenix. Mrs. Lemke is survived by two sons, a grandson, a sister, and a brother.

Beverly Chyrklund Taubert, 82, of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., died April 27, 2011.

James A. Pederson, 82, of Stillwater, Minn., died April 4, 2011. Mr. Pederson is survived by his wife, Ruth Chalsma Ranum ‘52, sons Grant Ranum ‘79, Karl Nickeson-Ranum ‘82, and Eric Ranum ‘84, and three grandchildren.

William H. Wright, 82, died March 9, 2011. He served in the Marine Corps. Mr. Wright is survived by his wife, Ann, a daughter, three sons, six grandchildren, and a sister.

George W. Bauman, 78, died Feb. 19, 2011, in Oak Park Heights, Minn.

Edward Abdella, 86, of Roseville, Minn., died Oct. 6, 2010. Mr. Abdella is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Espeland Abdella ‘46, a daughter, two sons, and a brother.

William J. Hempel, 77, of Marine on St. Croix, Minn., died March 12, 2011. He retired as a partner from the law firm of Dorsey & Whitney and served as chief deputy attorney general of Minnesota from 1967 to 1968. Mr. Hempel also served as a trustee of Macalester and received the college’s Distinguished Citizen Award. He is survived by his wife, Kay, two daughters, a son, three grandchildren, and brother Keith Hempel ‘60.

William H. Kaiser, 81, of Edina, Minn., died May 13, 2011. Mr. Kaiser is survived by six sons, 16 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and a sister.

Duane C. O’Malley, 76, of Rochester, Minn., died Nov. 9, 2010. Mr. O’Malley is survived by his wife, Darlene, and three daughters.

Earline Johnson Trnka, 74, of Roseville, Minn., died Aug. 20, 2010. She is survived by a daughter, a son, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a sister.

Aage R. Clausen, 78, died Jan. 14, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Clausen is survived by a son and a brother.

Mary Isaacson Lemke, 76, died May 1, 2011, in Phoenix. Mrs. Lemke is survived by two sons, a grandson, a sister, and a brother.

Beverly Chyrklund Taubert, 82, of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., died April 27, 2011.
Curious Jorge

BY SUSANNAH HANSEN ’04

AFTER SPENDING 16 YEARS studying and speaking Spanish, I decided to branch out linguistically this year and find a Portuguese class. So, for much of last year, my Saturday mornings were occupied with trying to imitate nasally òe’s and breathy rr’s instead of deciphering slang-laced Chilean speech patterns.

In a recent lesson on the future tense, we were introduced to Jorge, an extremely inquisitive Brazilian fellow (perhaps a Macalester graduate?) who was contemplating his future. He asked himself, where will I be five years from now? Will I be working? Will I still be in the same city? Will I have children? Will my life be easier or harder? How will my health be? Will my siblings still be far away? Will I study more? Will I specialize? Will I speak more languages? Will the world have resolved its big problems? Will the environment be better?

My classmates burst out laughing at this string of seemingly unrelated questions and the strong doubts Jorge expressed. I chuckled, too, but mostly in sympathy. I can relate to Jorge, having asked myself nearly all of these questions sometime in the past week. Although my cynical self recognizes that the world will probably not have resolved its big problems in the next five years, those other questions continue to hover, especially as I contemplate my impending departure from Chile and my transition home. I am approaching, in the words of poet Shel Silverstein, “the place where the sidewalk ends/but before the street begins.” In a few weeks I will pack up my suitcases, sweep out my apartment, and board a plane heading north.

I will return to a colder climate, excited to see family and catch up with friends. But I will also arrive in Boston, a city I’ve seen little of in the past 10 years, having bounced around the Western hemisphere studying, teaching, working, and exploring unfamiliar places and ways to live. At the end of this month, I’ll also be unemployed and homeless. Just how much have the GREs changed in the past five years?

Contemplating my time in Chile, I realize that I’m staring down the same lesson I should have learned back in February, when a giant earthquake delayed my move to this country. The enormous shifting of tectonic plates in southern Chile disrupted life for much of the country, and residents in the South continue to pick up the pieces while also dealing with the uncertainty that comes from living in an earthquake-prone area.

Meanwhile, I’ve gotten used to the aftershocks that occasionally rattle Santiago, but find it harder to leave so many of life’s bigger questions unanswered. Despite my recent migratory tendencies, I still haven’t learned to be comfortable with uncertainty, with the inevitable tremors and aftershocks that we all experience in life. I prefer to plan and make backup plans and maybe worry too much about the future rather than the here and now.

If anything, this year has given me the chance to relinquish some control, even if just a little. And in those moments when I’m not successful, I’ll worry about my carbon footprint, or potential graduate school programs, or perhaps I’ll study French with my imaginary friend, Jorge. I’ll also do my best to invoke the Chilean sensibility for living in the moment and having the patience to let the future unfold. I will try, as Shel Silverstein wrote, to “walk with a walk that is measured and slow and go where the chalk white arrows go”—wherever that may be.

SUSANNAH HANSEN ’04, a sociology and Spanish major at Macalester, wrote this essay in December 2010 as her year as a Fulbright Scholar in Santiago, Chile, was drawing to a close. She is still in the place where the sidewalk ends, living in the Boston area, teaching, and contemplating the GREs.
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