

At

HUNTER

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SUMMER
2003

Gala Honoring Levitt Raises \$750K for Roosevelt House



Martin McEvilly/The New York Daily News

President Roosevelt leaves his house on East 65th Street for a short visit to Hyde Park. The photo, from 1933, is a rarity: very few photos showed FDR's leg braces.

A gala reception and dinner honoring Arthur Levitt, Jr., former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, raised \$750,000 for the restoration of Roosevelt House and the transformation of the historic house into the Hunter College Public Policy Institute.

At the gala, held June 3 at the Plaza Hotel, Levitt received the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Distinguished Public Service Award, awarded jointly by Hunter College and the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

Commissioned nearly a century ago by Sara Delano Roosevelt as a gift for her son and daughter-in-law, Franklin and Eleanor, Roosevelt House was a home for the Roosevelt family for more than three decades and a beloved Hunter student center for nearly 50 years. However, owing to a lack of funds the landmarked building—a double townhouse located a few blocks from Hunter at 47-49 East 65th Street—fell into disrepair and was closed in 1992. **(continued on p. 4)**

Hunter Grads Star At Radio City

Radio City and its environs became a sea of purple on May 28th as more than 2,000 Hunter students in their purple caps and gowns eagerly awaited the signal to begin Hunter College's 187th commencement exercises.

Friends and family flooded the entranceway to Radio City Music Hall, a legendary showplace about to witness another unforgettable performance. The seats were filled, the lights were dimmed, and the soundtrack struck its first chord. Cameras flashed and the audience came to life with cheers and applause as Peter Lee, who received a bachelor's degree in nursing, welcomed the audience and introduced the procession led by President Jennifer J. Raab.

One of the high points of the afternoon was the keynote address delivered by New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr., the city's highest-ranking African-American official, who predicted that the graduates would be among the world's achievers.

Another major feature of the commencement exercises was the president's introduction of several outstanding students whose stories of challenge and accomplishment she related. [See story on



President Jennifer J. Raab presents the diploma earned by Anthony Fallone, who died in the 9/11 attacks, to Fallone's wife, Patricia. Looking on are the commencement speaker, New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr., and Klara Silverstein, chair of the Hunter College Foundation.

page 7.] And after citing the "extraordinary stories" of several individual "winners," the president said, addressing all the graduates: "Each one of you has an extraordinary story. **(continued on p. 6)**

2002-2003 Happenings at Hunter p. 2

Hunter's Art Department p. 5

Alumni Weekend p. 8

Foundation News p. 10

Alumni Association Activities

Class Notes p. 11

News from Student Services p. 12

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and the Alumni Association of Hunter College
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2002-2003 Happenings at Hunter



Paul F. Mueller, music director and conductor of the Hunter Symphony, introduces the orchestra to the audience at a winter concert in Hunter's Assembly Hall.



Speaking at a Presidential Roundtable this winter, Professor Emily Braun (Art) showed artwork to be used at a forthcoming exhibit at the Jewish Museum titled "The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons." Braun is guest curator of the exhibit. [See sidebar on page 5.]



The Rev. Al Sharpton, founder and president of the National Action Network, signs his new book, *Al on America*, after a discussion about the book held at Hunter.



Cutting the ribbon to inaugurate research laboratories for biology professors Derrick Brazill and Benjamin Ortiz are (l. to r.) Sidney A. McNairy, Jr., director for research infrastructure at the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR); President Jennifer J. Raab; Provost Richard Pizer; Professor Robert Dotin, director of the Research Centers in Minority Institutions Program at Hunter; and Professor Shirley Raps, chair of the biological sciences department. The labs are funded by a major grant from the NCRR with matching support from CUNY.



Gary Shteyngart, a 2002 graduate of Hunter's MFA program in creative writing and now an adjunct lecturer for the program, reads from his debut novel, *The Russian Debutante's Handbook*, at an event held last fall in the Lang Recital Hall.



A group of distinguished authors gathered at Hunter for a forum on "The Writing Life" moderated by Nancy Milford (3rd from left), acclaimed biographer and Distinguished Lecturer in Hunter's English department. With Milford are (l. to r.) Carol Brightman, Nora Ephron, Frances Kiernan, and Diane Johnson.

To see a list of the upcoming Fall 2003 events at Hunter, go to www.hunter.cuny.edu/news



In a ceremony held at the White House this spring, Professor Steven Greenbaum (Physics) was one of 10 individuals who received the 2002 U.S. Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics, Science and Engineering Mentoring.



Actor Christopher Reeve spoke at a panel on stem cell research, along with (l. to r.) journalist Claudia Dreifus, who moderated, and Hunter Distinguished Professor Marie Filbin (Biological Sciences). The panel was held at the Kaye Playhouse last fall.



Elena Kagan, the first woman to be named dean of the Harvard Law School and a graduate of Hunter College High School, was this year's honored alumna at the high school's graduation ceremony, held this June in the college assembly hall.



Professor Philip Alcabas (Health Sciences) was selected to give the 2003 TIAA-CREF Outstanding Faculty Lecture; his subject was "Selling the Unimaginable: Bioterrorism and Public Health." With Alcabas is Rosemary Markowski of TIAA-CREF.

The President's Perspective



“Just as many of our alumni have become leaders and pioneers in their fields, so will many of today’s students.”

We had a very successful 2002-3 academic year. The talent, energy, and determination of our faculty, students, and alumni are truly remarkable.

At our winter and spring commencements I highlighted some of the remarkable achievements of our students. So many of them surmount enormous odds to graduate. Many of you faced similar obstacles. But just as you did, today’s students do overcome these odds, thanks to their own determination and the care and concern of their professors, their families, and alumni and friends of the college. And just as many of our alumni have become leaders and pioneers in their fields, so will many of today’s students.

We have world-class faculty who in addition to their scholarship and teaching, take a real interest in mentoring our students so they can succeed. Physics Professor Steve Greenbaum received a prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics, Science, and Engineering Mentoring from the White House this past spring. He has inspired numerous students not only to graduate from Hunter, but to go on to become noted scientists. And many new, distinguished academics from Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania, Tulane, Yale, MIT, and NYU are choosing Hunter because they are attracted by the diversity of the student body and the opportunity to take an active part in our college community.

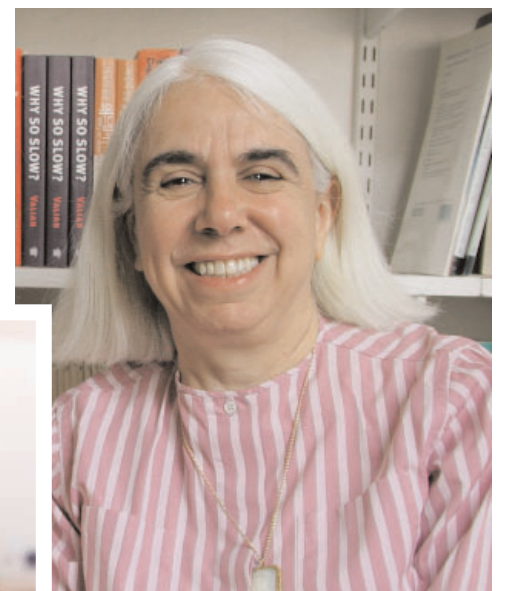
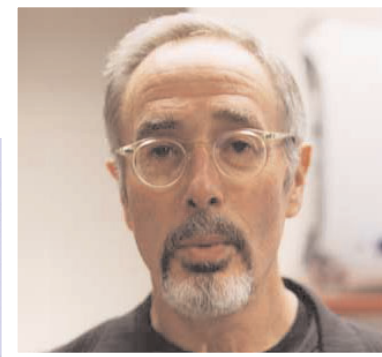
Hunter has had some noteworthy fundraising successes. In the month of June alone we raised more than \$1 million from two events: one to support Roosevelt House and the other for the Brookdale Center on Aging. There is a special connection between Hunter College and the Roosevelts. We are well on our way to bringing Roosevelt House back as a public policy institute and home for important discussions about domestic social problems.

We are deeply grateful for all the help you have given. Many computers in our classrooms, books in our libraries—and diplomas in students’ hands—would not have become realities without the help of our alumni. But because of the widespread economic forces challenging us, we need your support more than ever. Please join me in helping our students make the leap from dream to reality.

Jennifer J. Raab

Top Professors Honored

Hunter’s faculty includes professors whose research and creativity have broken new ground in their fields—and whose teaching has changed the lives of scores of students. In recognition of their extraordinary accomplishments, these topflight faculty members are named to special positions. Some are appointed to named professorships—positions endowed by generous friends of the college who wish to forward a particular academic area. Others are named Distinguished Professors, the highest academic rank in CUNY. Pictured here are five Hunter faculty who have been singled out for these academic honors in the past year.



Clockwise from right are: New named professors (left) Dixie Goss (Chemistry), the Gertrude B. Elion Scholar in Chemistry, and Louise DeSalvo, the Jenny Hunter Endowed Scholar for Creative Writing and Literature; new Distinguished Professors Nicholas Freudenberg (Urban Public Health), Stuart Ewen (Film and Media Studies), and Virginia Valian (Psychology).



Among the prominent figures at the Roosevelt House gala were (l. to r.): former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations William J. vanden Heuvel, a co-chair of the event; John Brademas, former president of New York University and a former congressman; Arthur Levitt, Jr., former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the evening's honoree; former U.S. Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci, chair of the gala; and Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab.

Gala Honoring Levitt Raises \$750K For Roosevelt House

(continued from p. 1)

President Jennifer J. Raab officially launched the renovation of Roosevelt House on March 24 at a kickoff breakfast attended by leaders of New York City's business, civic, education, and arts communities. At that meeting, held at Roosevelt House, she announced that the City University of New York (CUNY) had committed \$15 million for the renovation, which will cost an estimated \$20 million.

The restored Roosevelt House will house the Hunter College Public Policy Institute and will also serve as a much-needed facility for academic conferences, seminars, lectures, and other college functions.

Addressing the packed audience at the June 3 gala, President Raab said: "The Hunter College Public Policy Institute will make Roosevelt House a home again—a home to important discussions of domestic social problems, a place where faculty, students, and the community can come together to craft solutions to these problems and in so doing honor the legacy of one of the greatest presidents and first ladies in U.S. history."

Longtime Family Home

Completed in 1908, Roosevelt House was designed by Charles A. Platt, one of the most noted architects of the time. Sara Delano Roosevelt lived in No. 47 from 1908 until her death in 1941; and Franklin and Eleanor lived on and off in No. 49 until 1933, when they moved into the White House. It was at Roosevelt House that FDR learned in November 1932 that he had been elected president of the United States.

Among the house's most prominent features are the connecting doors between the two homes, which were installed on Sara's orders and enabled her to drop in unannounced on her son and daughter-in-law.

After Sara's death, the property was put up for sale. It was bought for \$50,000 by a citizens' group, which turned it over to Hunter, and was reopened in 1943 as the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House.

The first donor to the \$50,000 fund was FDR, who contributed \$1,000 of his own money. Eleanor Roosevelt, who had developed a relationship with Hunter in the early 1940s and

had given the 1942 commencement address, spoke at the dedication ceremony of the newly reopened building.

For nearly half a century Roosevelt House was a vital part of campus life, the site of colloquia, seminars, and social gatherings for students and faculty. "It was the spiritual and social home of Hunter College," said President Raab, "a place for serious discussion, personal reflection, and great celebration. Many a Hunter bride was married here.

"It was this love for Roosevelt House—so embedded in our Hunter alumni—that fostered the current restoration plans. For the past ten years, so many alumni have worked tirelessly to raise private money for restoration of the home. We are deeply indebted to their leadership and their dedication."

Arthur Levitt, in accepting the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Distinguished Service Award, said that when he was growing up, "The name Franklin Delano Roosevelt invoked an almost spiritual feeling in my house," and he added: "It is no accident that Hunter College is involved with Roosevelt House. Hunter College has stood for opportunity and tradition, which is also what FDR stood for."

In a similar vein, former U.S. Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci, the evening's chair, said, "Hunter College is an institution where many students are the first in their families to attend college, an institution where recent immigrants and returning students are pursuing their dreams to become part of the civic life of this nation. What better place could there be to house a domestic public policy institute dedicated to social, humanitarian, and civic issues?"

The award was presented to Levitt by Robert E. Rubin, former United States secretary of the treasury. Among the many other prominent figures at the event was William J. vanden Heuvel, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and a founder and former president of the Franklin and Eleanor

"Hunter College has stood for opportunity and tradition, which is what FDR stood for"—Arthur Levitt

Roosevelt Institute. President Raab called vanden Heuvel, who was a co-chair of the gala, "Hunter's partner in this dinner. He has brought his passion and his boundless energy to Hunter's efforts to restore Roosevelt House."

The restoration project will include installing new air conditioning and heating systems, new electrical wiring, and data ports for computer networks and Internet access; making the building accessible for the disabled; and constructing conference and lecture facilities. It is estimated that the work will take four years.

Eminent Architects

The renovation will be designed by the Polshek Partnership, architects of the William J. Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Ark.; the Rose Center for Earth and Space at the American Museum of Natural History; and the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center at New York University.

Another prominent New York firm, Higgins and Quasebarth, which specializes in preservation and conservation work, recently repaired, repointed, and cleaned the building's façade. A \$50,000 grant from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and a matching grant from the Hunter College Foundation financed the work on the exterior.

Roosevelt House was designated a New York City Landmark in 1973 and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places the following year. ■



Robert E. Rubin, former U. S. secretary of the treasury, presented the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Distinguished Public Service Award to Arthur Levitt.



Actor Alan Alda was one of the principal speakers at the gala.



More than 150 guests attended a kickoff breakfast held in March to launch the renovation of Roosevelt House. Major figures at the meeting, which took place in Roosevelt House, included (left) New York City Councilwoman Eva Moskowitz and (right) Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney.

Hunter's Art Department: A Recognized Force In International Art Arena

With the critical and popular successes of many of its recent exhibits, Hunter's art department continues to demonstrate its strength in two crucial areas: as an educator of artists and art professionals, and as a significant force on the contemporary art scene.

Hunter's most recent major exhibit, "Seeing Red: An International Exhibition of Nonobjective Painting," was seen by more than a thousand visitors, and received high marks from reviewers. A complex endeavor that brought together works from Europe and the United States, "Seeing Red" comprised two exhibits—one at Hunter's Leubsdorf Gallery

"Prospective students come to us from around the world. Our reputation grows continually because of our work."



Among the works on view at Hunter's acclaimed exhibit "Seeing Red" were (l. to r.): Joel Carreiro's "Echolalia," Richard Anuszkiewicz's "Metamorphosis—Blue Line on Red," and Robert Swain's "Untitled." The exhibit was curated by Associate Professor Gabriele Evertz of Hunter's art department and Dr. Michael Fehr, director of the Ernst-Osthaus Museum in Germany.

(January 30-May 3) and another at the college's Times Square Gallery (March 12-April 26)—along with a two-day symposium at the Goethe-Institut Inter Nationes New York (March 14 and 15).

A major review in the Weekend section of the *New York Times* called the exhibit "a beautiful installation" and used terms such as "standouts" and "a knockout painting" to describe individual artworks.

"Seeing Red" was only the most recent of dozens of Hunter exhibits that have garnered applause from both the critics and the public. Other acclaimed shows in the past year alone have included "Exotic Representation," a photography show that featured "an appealing group of international talents" (*The New Yorker*); "Doug Ohlson: Paintings from the Last Twenty Years," a retrospective of works by the renowned abstract artist (and former Hunter professor of art); and "Second Sight," which showcased artists who graduated from Hunter's MFA program from 1991-2001. "Second Sight" drew more than a thousand visitors as well as comments such as "distinctive and impressive" and "magical" (*New York Times*).

"Schools from many countries seek to emulate us," says Sanford Wurmfeld, Caroff Professor of Fine Art and chair of the art department. "For example, the Mohr Institute in Holland asked us to help develop their program, and that program has become a model for other Dutch art curricula.

Worldwide Reputation Grows

"Prospective students come to us from across the country and around the world," continues Wurmfeld. "We don't advertise, but our reputation grows continually because of our work. About 570 people applied for admission to our MFA program next year, with about a quarter of them coming from outside the United States. We accepted 69 of them."

The accomplishments of Hunter's arts graduates give ample evidence of how talented these emerging artists are—and how effectively Hunter has helped them hone their abilities. For example, although virtually all who have graduated in the last decade are young, many have already exhibited in the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, the Santa Monica Museum of Art, and galleries nationwide and in major European art centers.

Hunter students and graduates are expert exhibit organizers as well as gifted artists. Noting that current students often help to

curate Hunter shows, Wurmfeld stresses that coordinating the vision and skills of a curator with those of an artist "is one of the principal goals of our educational program, and distinguishes the Hunter MFA."

Hunter's department of art conducts programs on both the graduate and undergraduate level, and it offers majors in art history as well as studio art. The department operates in two locations—the main campus on East 68th Street and the MFA Studio Building on West 41st Street—and it mounts exhibits at its two galleries.

Chief among the department's many assets is its faculty—men and women who are not only first-rate teachers but also active, well-known professionals. Artworks by Hunter studio-art professors are in famed museums around the world, and Hunter's art historians have authored major books and exhibition catalogs and curated exhibitions in the world's most distinguished institutions. (See sidebar on this page.)

Another of the department's distinguishing elements, says Wurmfeld, is that its courses consist of far more than workshops designed to improve technique. "We integrate art theory, art history, and general liberal arts studies with studio-based courses," he explains. "We want students to foster their art with the aid of their growing critical and analytical skills and their understanding of the world about them."

Exchange Programs Essential

One of the department's principal current goals is to expand its exchange programs. "We now have student exchange programs with art schools in London, Paris, Glasgow, Berlin, and Groningen (The Netherlands)," says Wurmfeld, "and our faculty are in active contact with art schools here and abroad. These programs are essential to our students' artistic and intellectual growth, and the department profits immensely from the exchange of ideas and techniques that grow out of these programs. We need to offer more research trips to our faculty and more travel scholarships to students."

The art department also plans to expand its technological offerings to students, both because "computers have become an important tool in painting, sculpture, and other artistic avenues" and because an increasing number of artists are interested in exploring the future of Web-based art.

"These plans" says Wurmfeld, "are very much in keeping with one of our longstanding goals: preparing our students to go out into the real world." ■

Among the many outstanding members of Hunter's art faculty are these:

William C. Agee is an internationally renowned art critic and historian. With subjects as varied as "Images of the Cosmos in Modern Art," "Color and the Modern Tradition," and "The Mona Lisa and the Romantic Tradition," he has lectured at the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, the National Gallery of Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Jeu de Paume (Paris). His articles—on photography, paintings, art movements, and much more—have appeared in *The New Criterion*, *Journal of the Archives of American Art*, *Arts Magazine*, *Art News*, *Art in America*, and many other journals. Agee has been director of the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston and an associate curator at the Whitney Museum and the Museum of Modern Art.

Emily Braun, who has written extensively on modern Italian art and fascist culture, has also published works on Renaissance architecture, late nineteenth-century European painting, twentieth-century American art, women's studies, Jewish history, and contemporary painting and sculpture. She is guest curator of an upcoming exhibition at the Jewish Museum, "The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons," and she is curator of the Leonard A. Lauder Collection and the Alex Hillman Family Foundation Collection. Braun, who has published in a host of influential art journals, is currently a Mel and Lois Tukman Fellow of the New York Public Library's Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers.

Nari Ward is barely 40 years old, but the accomplishments of this innovative sculptor belie his youth. He recently participated in the artist-in-residence program at the famed Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, where one reviewer said that his "thought-provoking installations...evoke new spatial perception in viewers." Ward, who has won several prestigious awards including a Guggenheim Fellowship, has exhibited at the Whitney Biennial, the Venice Biennale, the New Museum in New York, the Queens Museum of Art, the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Harlem Firehouse Space, and museums and galleries in Brazil, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland.

Sanford Wurmfeld, the chair of Hunter's department of art, is a renowned painter who has been exhibiting his works in major museums and galleries throughout the United States and Europe for more than three decades. One of his most significant recent works, Cyclorama—a 360-degree panoramic painting—has been exhibited in museums in Germany and Budapest, is currently on view at the Altoetting (Germany) Panorama, and will be shown next spring at the University of Edinburgh. Wurmfeld is shown here in his studio with several of his recent works.



Puerto Rico's First Woman Governor Keynotes January Commencement



In a packed Assembly Hall on January 23rd, President Jennifer J. Raab presided over Hunter's 186th commencement, a moving ceremony whose central theme was the importance of giving back to the community.

One of the highlights of the winter commencement exercises was the address given by Sila M. Calderon, the first woman governor of Puerto Rico, who was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Also honored during the ceremony was Sylvia Fishman, who received the President's Medal. Fishman, Hunter's longtime vice president of student affairs and dean of students, retired in fall 2002.

“You can revitalize and rebuild the very communities where you began your journeys”—Sila Calderon

Calling Calderon “the living embodiment of Hunter College’s mission of education, research, and service,” President Raab lauded the governor’s “commitment to public service, [her] passionate drive to improve public education, and [her] fight to pull people out of poverty,” and she added: “Estamos contigo en esa lucha” — “we are with you in this struggle.”

In her commencement address Calderon described Puerto Rico’s struggle vividly. “I have seen the face of poverty in Puerto Rico,” she said. “I have been to communities without electricity and running water, without sewers and sanitary systems. I have talked to families who live in homes so fragile they were afraid to sleep at night for fear their roofs would crumble on them.

“Poverty is the most unfair of limitations,” she told the visibly moved audience. “Its consequences are the cruelest of all.”

But, she stressed, “I have also seen what can happen when these communities release their energies by working together. I have witnessed the transformation that can occur when the freedom to change lives is made available through empowerment.

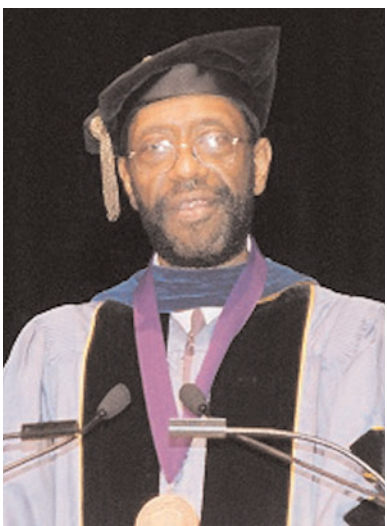
“We can all make a difference,” said Gov. Calderon, adding: “You can play a role in rebuilding and revitalizing the very communities where you began your journeys.”

In presenting the President’s Medal to Sylvia Fishman, President Raab called Fishman “a true citizen of Hunter College” and “a true champion of students.” Fishman had been vice president for student affairs and dean of students from 1979 until her retirement, and, said the president, “she made her mark on Hunter...with savvy, sensitivity, spunk and humor.” Fishman was instrumental in creating the Student Center, the Women’s Center, the Children’s Center, the Access Center for Students with Disabilities, and wellness education programs. President Raab pointed out also that “today, Sylvia is dressed like the rest of us in a cap and gown,” but “at previous graduations, looking to add some levity, she came as a peach, or a cheerleader, or a magician: a skill often called upon in her role as vice president.”

More than 1,200 graduate and undergraduate students received degrees during the winter commencement exercises. ■



Sylvia Fishman, vice president for student affairs and dean of students from 1979-2002, lauded as “a true citizen of Hunter College,” was awarded a President’s Medal at the January commencement. She retired last fall.



Bogart Leashore, who will retire in December from his post as dean of the Hunter College School of Social Work, received a President’s Medal at the May commencement. Leashore led HCSSW—one of the nation’s outstanding public social work schools—from 1991-2003.

Hunter Grads Star at Radio City (continued from p. 1)

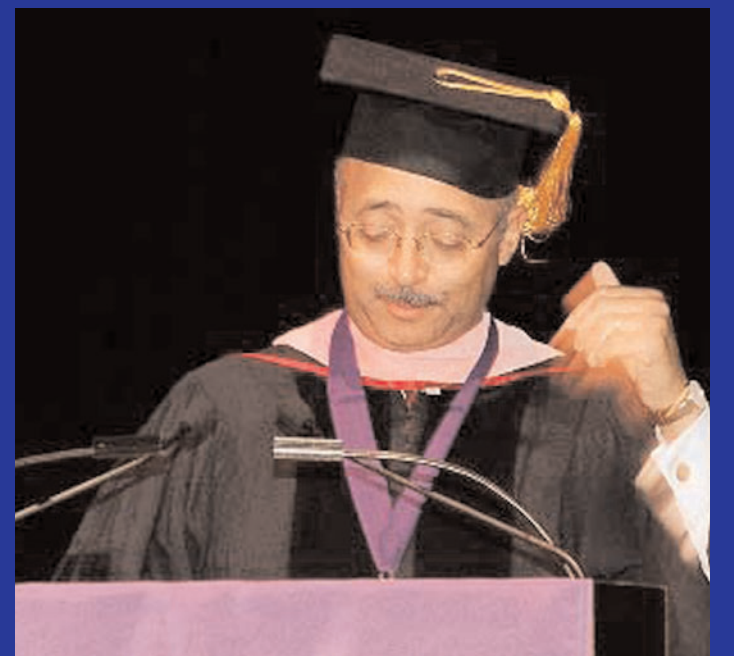
Each one of you has lived the Hunter dream. Many of you came to this country not knowing the language or the customs. Most of you struggled through financial difficulties and family and work obligations to finish college.”

The president also reminded the graduates that “you could not have done it without them”—friends and family—and she urged the audience to “celebrate all the families here today.” For her, she said, “one of the pleasures of presiding over graduation is seeing the joy of the families. Mothers look at their children in caps and gowns and see flashbacks of the ticklish toddler, the scared first-grader, and the high school soccer star. Immigrant fathers who struggled to make it in this country beam with pride as the first person in their family receives a college degree.”

In a moment combining solemnity and joy, the president conferred the first degree upon the late Anthony Fallone, a Hunter student who died on 9/11 while working at the World Trade Center. President Raab presented the diploma to his wife, Patricia Fallone, who received her own bachelor’s degree during the ceremony.

And in a deeply somber moment at the beginning of the ceremony, President Raab called for a moment of silence in memory of Romona Moore, a Hunter student who had recently been murdered. “Romona was a striver,” said the president, “an achiever, an active participant in the learning process. We have established a scholarship in her name and invite all to contribute.”

In his keynote address, Comptroller Thompson called on the students “never to forget how good you feel right now.” He also urged them “never to let anyone tell you that you don’t have what it takes to accomplish your goals” and always to remember the essential need for “truth and integrity” in life. Citing Oprah Winfrey’s conviction that there are two types of people—those who make things happen and those who wonder what happened—he declared that “Hunter’s class of 2003 will make things happen.”



City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr. giving the keynote address at the May commencement ceremony.

President Raab bestowed the President’s Medal on Comptroller Thompson for his continued commitment to public service and his concern for New York. As president of the board of education, she said, Thompson “fought on behalf of over one million children in our public schools,” and he “continues to promote the interests of New Yorkers as the city’s chief fiscal officer—aggressively seeking savings, rooting out fraud and abuse, and making sure all people and all boroughs are treated fairly.”

President Raab also awarded a President’s Medal to Bogart Leashore, who will retire from his position as dean of the Hunter College School of Social Work in December. Noting that HCSSW is New York’s leading public school of social work, President Raab said that Leashore, the school’s dean since 1991, has “skillfully guided our school as we adapted to changes in social needs, innovations in technology, and new approaches to training our community leaders.”

Also honored was Dr. Sidney McNairy, director for research infrastructure in the National Center for Research Resources of the National Institutes of Health, who received an honorary doctorate of humane letters. A longtime leader in the NIH, the nation’s premier biomedical research organization, Dr. McNairy is widely considered the driving force behind a number of innovative programs that have helped to strengthen biomedical research in the United States. In addition, McNairy has played a key leadership role in the federal Research Centers in Minority Institutions program, which, said President Raab, has helped “ensure that scientific learning and research flourish at Hunter College.” ■

Living the Hunter Dream

Hundreds of remarkable stories walk across the stage during a Hunter commencement ceremony. Each one of the new graduates has an extraordinary story, each one has lived the Hunter dream.

Here are a few of Hunter's extraordinary stories: the stories of six graduates of the classes of January 2003 and May 2003 who have lived the Hunter dream and will go on to build new stories of extraordinary achievement—achievement that will benefit themselves, their families, and the community, in which they will surely play leading roles.



Frank Akwaa (May '03)

Frank Akwaa plans to specialize in medical oncology, partly because certain forms of cancer are prevalent among minorities, and also because “one can get a new perspective on humanity from working with cancer patients.”

Frank will take a major step toward his goal this fall, when he begins classes at the University of Rochester Medical School, but he has really been training to be a doctor since he was a child in his native Ghana, where his brothers and sisters ran to him whenever they got hurt.

“I think I always wanted to be a doctor,” he recalls, “but my interest grew when one of my sisters was seriously ill. I visited her in the hospital every day and was always asking the doctor questions. I also got a lot of encouragement from my great-uncle, who was a surgeon and ran a free clinic in a village. I saw how gratifying it was to take care of people.”

Frank came to New York to continue his education and he entered Hunter. He quickly found his new school “excellent.”

“The professors are very accessible, and they’re dedicated mentors. I also think the diversity is great. It’s personally enriching, and it’s very useful for a future doctor, who’s going to be treating patients from all backgrounds.”

Hunter also developed Frank’s interest in research, and he has been working in one of the college’s biology labs for a year-and-a-half. He has also been part of the MBRs (Minority Biomedical Research Support) program at Hunter funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Like most Hunter students, Frank has had to work while attending school—he has been a cashier in a gas station and a clerk in a library, sometimes both at the same time—but despite this schedule he graduated with a 3.7 GPA and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.



Elisa Anders (Jan. '03)

Working as a police officer in New York City requires special strengths and talents—especially since 9/11, and especially for a woman.

Graduating with a 4.0 from the Thomas Hunter Honors Program also requires special strengths and talents.

Elisa Anders, a police sergeant whose job has included dealing with prostitution, narcotics, and the nightmare of ground zero, has done both.

Elisa’s first career was in theater and film, but despite some modest success as an actor, she wanted a career change. “I love the work of acting,” she says, “but I wanted to help people in some more direct way.”

She took the police department exam and was hired in 1995.

But Elisa had still another goal: “I wanted to further my education. I love going to classes, tossing around new ideas, keeping my brain cells alive.” She entered Hunter in 1997, and over the next six years she juggled work and school, working full time and “finding little niches of time when I could take courses.” She majored in sociology and special honors and minored in psychology—and found that her studies gave her “a deeper understanding of social issues and have helped me to see the nuances in the situations I deal with at work.”

Following 9/11 Elisa worked 17-hour shifts on the dig team at ground zero, where she lost two colleagues from her precinct. She was going to drop her classes that semester but her professors persuaded her not to; they also urged her to fulfill one of her class assignments by writing about her 9/11 experiences. She followed their advice, and she found that writing “was a psychological aid for me.”

Police work continues to offer special challenges to women, says Elisa— “femaleness is still noticed, and you still have to be twice as tough to gain control”—but, she adds, “I don’t let that stop me.”

Elisa was studying for the police sergeant’s exam while also studying at Hunter. She was promoted to sergeant in August 2000.



Melissa Colon (May '03)

Melissa Colon’s parents struggled and saved to make sure that Melissa would have the education they never had.

But then Melissa’s father had to go on disability, and her mother lost her job. The family was afraid that they would be unable to pay for Melissa’s education.

Melissa, however, was determined to complete her studies—and to graduate on time. She carried a full schedule of courses throughout her Hunter career—she felt that delaying her graduation “just wasn’t an option”—and she constantly divided her time between school and the various jobs that enabled her to earn a living. During her junior year she held three jobs simultaneously.

Yet despite this daunting schedule, Melissa graduated with a 3.7 GPA and academic honors in her department, was elected to the Golden Key International Honor Society, and was a member of the Latino Honor Society.

A political science major, Melissa says that she found her professors “extremely knowledgeable, and great mentors,” and her courses “highly challenging.” She also enjoyed the mix of courses: she spent a year in the Public Service Scholar Program, which prepares students for public-service careers, and she found that the program’s “hands-on internship work was a great corollary to the more theoretical studies emphasized in classroom courses.”

While she was at Hunter, Melissa was, at various times, a waitress, a research assistant, a clerk in a ticket agency, and an intern in both governmental and nonprofit agencies, but this year she plans to hold only one job. She is joining the New York City Urban Fellows Program, which annually selects only 25 future public-service professionals for these fellowships. The program will provide a full-time city job for nine months, and Melissa then plans to go on to law school.

Melissa is the first in her family to complete college. Her family, she says, “are beside themselves with pride.”



Peter Lee (May '03)

Peter Lee admits that he was “a pretty bad student in high school.”

However, he says, “when I was a senior in high school, I realized I needed to build a new future,” and after he was admitted to Hunter’s SEEK Program, he was “determined to use the opportunity” given to him.

SEEK (Search for Education, Elevation, and Knowledge) is a college program for educationally and economically disadvantaged students. It admits students with a high school diploma (or the equivalent) and offers them an orientation course, group and individual tutoring, personal and academic counseling, and other supportive services. SEEK students pursue a standard college curriculum and can avail themselves of SEEK’s services throughout their college career.

“The program provides a lot of resources such as computer labs,” says Peter, “but what was most important was the personal attention and counseling from the faculty.”

Hoping to be a nurse, Peter began by taking the general education (pre-nursing) sequence required by the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing: a two-year program including about 30 credits in the humanities and social sciences—and a heavy dose of science and math.

Thanks to SEEK’s assistance and his own hard work, Peter got good grades in the pre-nursing sequence and was accepted into Hunter-Bellevue’s professional nursing program—one of the most rigorous and prestigious nursing programs in the nation. But he now faced a new challenge. Though he had always done well in science courses, “the nursing school demands a totally different way of learning; it focuses on *utilizing* scientific knowledge, and it includes clinical work.”

While dealing with this new challenge, Peter also devoted considerable time to community activities. As president of the National Student Nurses Association he led drives to obtain books for Hunter’s day care center, a breast cancer walk, (continued on p. 12)



New graduates wave thanks to their families and friends for their years of encouragement and support.

Alumni Weekend

Alumni Association Names 19 to Hall of Fame

The Alumni Association of Hunter College has named the following 19 alumni—leaders in education, public service, social service, health care, the arts, law, and community relations—to the Hall of Fame.



William Bell (MSW '95), named commissioner of the New York City Administration for Children's Services by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, previously served as deputy commissioner and has long been a highly respected name in the field of child welfare. His many awards include the Child Welfare League of America's Merit Award for Outstanding Leadership in Children's Services.

Cynthia E. Burke (BA '55) was a teacher and librarian for 33 years, then embarked on a second career as a singer. She has given recitals at Town Hall, Weill Hall, Cami Hall, Hunter College, and many other venues, and has appeared with the New School Opera Workshop, the Bronx Opera Company, and the New York Lyric Opera Company. Burke is a longtime leader of the Wistarians Alumni Chapter of the college.



Ernesto Butcher (BA '67) is the chief operating officer of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, whose facilities include the George Washington Bridge, the Holland and Lincoln Tunnels, JFK International Airport, and ports in New York and New Jersey. In the aftermath of 9/11, Butcher, who has been with the Port Authority since 1971, played a crucial role in restoring the operations of the authority.

Julia Jeter Cleckley (BA '76), who has 26 years of military service and has served full time with the Army National Guard Bureau since 1987, was promoted to brigadier general in 2002, becoming the first African-American woman to be promoted from full colonel to flag officer in the guard. Now serving as a special assistant to the director of the Army National Guard, she is one of three one-star generals among the 42,000 women in the guard.



Oscar Cohen (BA '63) served the Lexington School for the Deaf and the Lexington Center for the Deaf as a teacher, principal, superintendent, and chief executive officer for more than 35 years. Following his retirement from the school, he was named executive director of the Polo Ralph Lauren Foundation, which aids philanthropic programs in education, health care in medically underserved communities, and the arts. Cohen has a PhD from Columbia University Teachers College.

Anthony DeCurtis (BA '74) is probably one of the few rock critics in America with a doctorate. A contributing editor for *Rolling Stone* magazine and the host of a weekly online interview series, he has authored or edited several important books on rock & roll and has written articles for the *New York Times* and *New York Magazine*. DeCurtis has a PhD in American literature from Indiana University.



Betty Golomb (BA '43), a dedicated Hunter alumna, is a member of the board of directors of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund as well as an active participant in the Friends of the Hunter College Art Galleries and the Hunter Symphony Benefit Committee. Golomb has also worked for many years on behalf of Jewish immigrants to the United States from the former Soviet Union, helping them to become acculturated to life in the U.S., and she is on the executive committee of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

George Guidall (MSW '93), actor and audiobook narrator, has recorded more than 640 books for audio and has won the Audie Award from the Audio Publishers Association twice: in 1999 for his recorded reading of Wally Lamb's *I Know This Much is True* and in 2000 for John Irving's *A Widow for One Year*. He has also played leading roles on and off Broadway—and has appeared in films, prime-time television, and the major daytime dramas.



Bernice Worman Hauser (BA '53, MS '56), an educator and consultant on issues concerning adoption, was the founder and leader of a series of workshops on adoption at New York's 92nd Street Y. She has been a featured speaker at adoption agencies in New York and other cities and has written numerous magazine articles on adoption. She was also an elementary-school teacher for more than 20 years.



Joel Katz (BA '66), a nationally recognized leader in the field of entertainment law, represents such renowned artists as Willie Nelson, Sheryl Crow, and Christina Aguilera and many of the world's best known producers, record labels, and concert promoters. In 1971 he founded what became one of the country's largest entertainment-law firms, and in 1998 he merged his practice with an international law firm where he is now chair of the national entertainment practice. He is immediate past chairman of the American Bar Association's entertainment and sports law section.

Jacqueline Kostic (MSN '85) is the vice president for nursing at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, an internationally renowned center for orthopedic surgery. Kostic has been a leader in efforts to provide educational and growth opportunities for nurses and she has worked tirelessly on initiatives to assure top-quality care for hospital patients. Kostic, who is president and executive board member of the New York Chapter of the American Organization of Nurse Executives, played a key role in the establishment and development of the Hunter-Bellevue Nursing Alumni Chapter.

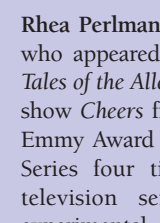


Sandra B. Lewenson (BSN '71), known throughout the nursing profession as a leading educator and scholar, is a professor and associate dean at Pace University's Lienhard School of Nursing. Among her books is *Taking Charge: Nursing, Suffrage and Feminism, 1873-1920*, which won an award for scholarship in nursing. She is a member of the American Academy of Nursing, the highest honor in the profession.

Marjorie Lightman (BA '61, MA '69) is a public policy consultant and researcher whose clients include such organizations as the International Center in Washington, the Center for Integrative Medicine, and the Women's Research and Educational Institute. Lightman is the former executive director of the International League of Human Rights.



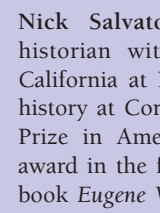
Cao K. O. (MSW '83) arrived in the U.S. from Vietnam with little knowledge of English and went on to earn degrees from two highly selective schools (Cornell and the Hunter College School of Social Work). He is currently executive director of the Asian American Federation of New York, which aids Asian Americans through public policy initiatives and social service programs, and he is also vice chairman of the 9/11 Services Group.



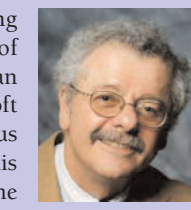
Rhea Perlman (BA '68) is an award-winning actress who appeared most recently in the Broadway play *Tales of the Allergist's Wife*. A star on the hit television show *Cheers* from 1983-1992, Perlman received the Emmy Award for Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series four times. She has also acted in other television series and in Off-Broadway plays, experimental theater, and improvisational groups. Perlman and her husband, actor Danny DeVito, established the DeVito Perlman Family Foundation in 1995, and Perlman is involved in a number of other initiatives to aid children.



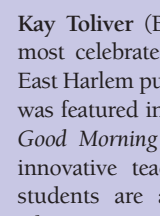
Lawrence Rinder (MA '90) is one of the most influential figures on the world art scene: he has been curator of contemporary art at the Whitney Museum of American Art since 2000 and was chief curator of the 2002 Whitney Biennial. He has been a curator at the Berkeley Art Museum and the founding director of the California College of Arts and Crafts exhibition institute.



Nick Salvatore (BA '68), an award-winning historian with a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley, is a professor of American history at Cornell University. He won the Bancroft Prize in American History, the most prestigious award in the field, as well as other awards, for his book *Eugene V. Debs: Socialist and Citizen*; and the New England History Association's Outstanding Book Prize for his book *We All Got History: The Memory Books of Amos Webber*.



Steven P. Segal (BA '65) has an international reputation as an educator, researcher, and advocate in the fields of mental health and social welfare. Currently a professor of social welfare and the director of the Mental Health and Social Welfare Research Group at the University of California at Berkeley, Segal has been a visiting professor, researcher, and conference speaker on five continents.



Kay Toliver (BA '67, MA '71), one of the country's most celebrated teachers, taught mathematics at an East Harlem public school for more than 30 years. She was featured in the award-winning PBS documentary *Good Morning Miss Toliver*, which focused on her innovative teaching approaches, and she and her students are also featured in *The Eddie Files*, a television series that deals with the ways students learn key math concepts. Toliver, who has won awards from national, state, and local education bodies, is currently the senior faculty member at a TV channel directed at educators.



Congratulations to the recipients of two special awards presented by the Alumni Association:



Judith Klein Crist (BA '41), recipient of the Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement, is one of the world's most celebrated film critics. The author of four books on film, Crist has been film and drama critic for the *New York Herald Tribune*; film and theater critic for the *Today Show*; and film critic for *TV Guide*, *New York Magazine*, *Saturday Review*, *Coming Attractions*, and *Columbia Magazine*. She has taught journalism at Hunter, Sarah Lawrence College, and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism, and hosts a film festival in Tarrytown, NY.



Ursula D. Mahoney (BA '54), the recipient of the Alumni Award for Service to the Association and College, was president of the association from 1999-2002. She has served as chair of the alumni mentoring committee of the Public Service Scholars Program and a member of the boards of the Alumni Association, the Hunter Foundation, and the Scholarship and Welfare Fund. Her career in photography and journalism has included positions with the *Saturday Evening Post* and the *New York Times*, where she was the Travel Section photo editor until her retirement in 2001.

Alumni Weekend

A Celebration of Hunter Past, Present, and Future

Discussing the Class of 1933 Memory Book are (l. to r.) Alumni Association President Jacqueline Wilson ('51); President Jennifer J. Raab; and Dorothy Epstein ('33), class coordinator and editor of the Memory Book.



Farsighted plans for the future, warm memories of the past, and steadfast support for Hunter were among the hallmarks of Alumni Weekend, which took place on Friday and Saturday, May 2-3.

An annual event that is one of the high points of the Alumni Association's calendar, the weekend began with the induction ceremony for new members of the Hall of Fame, held Friday evening in the West Building Lobby on the 68th Street campus. This year was the first time the ceremony was held on campus—an important innovation highlighted by President Jennifer J. Raab, who expressed her pleasure “that we are hosting this ceremony in the college this year.” [See article on new inductees below.]

Pointing to the “breadth and diversity of the achievements” of the Hall of Fame members—who include artists and arts critics, educators, health professionals, researchers, and civic leaders—President Raab said, “Who knows who will be in the Hall of Fame in 30 years,” as she went on to detail the accomplishments of some current students in the room: a geography major who helped build schools in the remote highlands of her native Peru; and “some of the amazing members of our new Honors College, such as the student with a combined SAT score of 1530 who turned down Cornell in favor of Hunter.”

The Alumni Weekend continued Saturday at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, where reunions of this year's milestone classes (years ending in 3 and 8) were followed by the gala 133rd Birthday Luncheon. Highlights of the luncheon included the introduction of the new inductees into the Hall of Fame and the presentation of special alumni awards to film and theater critic Judith Crist and alumni leader Ursula Mahoney [see article at left].

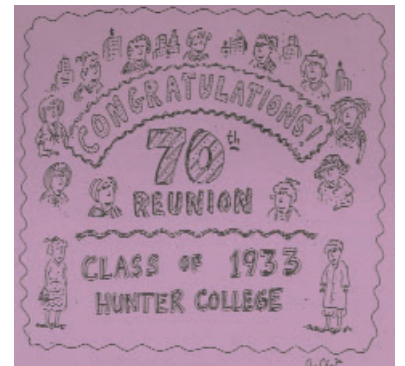
“Hunter's mission persists over generations and connects every table in this room today,” said President Raab, pointing to the similarities between “the stories of the alums from 1933, 1953,

1978, and 1993—and the stories of those in the class of 2003.” Among the alumni she cited was 1933 graduate Alice Lanier, “who came to this country from Constantinople as a stranger, having survived World War I. Her teacher in her homeland cautioned her against going to America, telling her she would ‘get lost among the millions,’ but instead of getting lost, Alice found Hunter.

“Alice had the opportunity to interview Amelia Earhart for the campus publication,” continued President Raab, “and Earhart told Alice that all careers were open to her. Hunter helped open those doors for Alice and all her classmates, just as it is opening doors for the class of 2003.”

The story President Raab related is told in detail—by Alice Lanier herself—in one of the most moving materials to come out of the weekend, the Class of 1933 Memory Book. A compilation of personal reminiscences, poems, photographs, and historical tabulations of the class's accomplishments, the book provides a poignant and inspiring overview of the class that President Raab characterized as “Hunter's most loyal alums. Rain or shine this class has had a reunion—every year—for 70 years.” The president paid particular tribute to two longtime leaders of the class of '33: Gertrude Groden, who died last year and had been class president for 40 years and treasurer of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund for 25 years; and Dorothy Epstein, class coordinator, editor of the Memory Book, and a generous Hunter benefactor whose many contributions include the establishment of the Dorothy Epstein Chair in Latin American History.

Among the themes heard from alumni throughout the weekend were their continued loyalty to their alma mater and their lifelong gratitude to the college for the difference it had made in their lives. As President Raab said: “Hunter has taken people who thought they had no chance and turned their worlds around—and many of them have turned our worlds around in the process.” ■



A special feature of the Class of 1933 Memory Book is the lively cover, illustrated by famed *New Yorker* cartoonist Roz Chast, whose mother, Elizabeth Chast, is a '33 graduate.

Hunter College Foundation Chair Klara Silverstein ('54), 2nd from left, visits members of the Class of '28—the oldest milestone class represented at the luncheon—as they celebrate their class's 75th anniversary. With Mrs. Silverstein are, l. to r., Janet White Loeb ('28), Mamie Horowitz Cesla ('28), and Evelyn Rose Perlman ('28).



Foundation News

Board Elects Frankfurt, Honors Resnik and Arroyo

Attorney Michael P. Frankfurt ('57) was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Hunter College Foundation at the board's June meeting.

A graduate of the University of Virginia's law school as well as Hunter, Frankfurt is senior partner and a founding partner of one of the most prominent entertainment/media law firms in the United States, the New York-based Frankfurt Kurmit Klein & Selz. His wide experience has included representing and counseling executives and creative professionals in advertising, commercial film, television, publishing, graphic and fine arts and new-media companies as well as other businesses. Frankfurt was inducted into the Alumni Association's Hall of Fame in 1997 in recognition of his achievements as a lawyer, and two years earlier he was named to the Hunter Athletic Hall of Fame in tribute to his record as a Hunter track star.

Long a loyal supporter of his alma mater, Frankfurt has been a member of the board of the Alumni Association and has held a number of offices on the association's board.

"Michael Frankfurt will be a wonderful addition to the talents that we already have on the foundation board," said Klara Silverstein, chair of the foundation.

In another important recent action, the Hunter College Foundation Board recognized the outstanding service of two of its longtime members, opera stars Regina Resnik ('42) and Martina Arroyo ('56), both of whom completed three three-year terms on the foundation board. To recognize exceptional service to the Hunter College Foundation, the board established a new position—trustee emeritus—and elected both Arroyo and Resnik to the position, which will give these two legendary singers the opportunity to advise and counsel the board in the future.

Hunter Supporters Give Significant Gifts

One of the college's most important sources of financial strength, the Hunter College Foundation raises funds to meet Hunter's growing—and most urgent—needs. Through the Annual Fund, which raises unrestricted funds, and through major and planned gifts from individuals and support from corporations and foundations, the foundation helps provide financial resources for student scholarships; lecture series and other scholarly programs; faculty development; and laboratories, teaching equipment, and other needed facilities.

During the past year several alumni and other friends of Hunter have made a number of significant gifts to the foundation and college. To highlight a few: **Lillian Epps ('35)** bequeathed **\$219,000** for general unrestricted support....**Florence Belsky ('42)**, **Helene Goldfarb ('51)**, and **Pearl Auerbach ('47)** made charitable gift annuities totaling **\$170,000**.... Former Prof. **Rosalind Tough** bequeathed **\$100,000** for scholarship aid....**The Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation** gave **\$60,000** to be used for nursing scholarships....**TIAA-CREF** donated **\$15,000** over two years in support of a lecture by an outstanding faculty member... **Milestone Classes** contributed nearly **\$90,000** for scholarships this year....An **anonymous** supporter of the college gave **\$50,000** for scholarships.

If you are interested in supporting the college with a gift to the Hunter College Foundation, please contact: John Brundage, director of development and annual giving, at (212) 650-3774 or by e-mail: John.Brundage@hunter.cuny.edu.

2002-2003 Annual Fund

June 30 brought another Annual Fund campaign to a successful conclusion. We were pleased to see that even in difficult economic times our alumni support remains strong. We were also pleased to receive many gifts from first-time contributors to the fund. Among the most generous contributions we received was a major gift from actor/alumna **Rhea Perlman ('68)**, who has just been named to the Alumni Association's Hall of Fame and was awarded an honorary degree at the June 2002 commencement.

THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HUNTER COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK Article VII-Section 5

The Committee shall invite all active members of the Association to send to the Committee Chair by December first, suggestions for nominees for any or all offices to be filled in the coming year, together with the qualifications of these nominees. At the meeting of the Association in January, the Nominating Committee shall inform the Association of the names of the candidates for all posts that are to be filled at the ensuing election in May, of the candidates' qualifications, and shall give assurance that each candidate is willing to serve, if elected. Nominations for 7 members to serve as Directors should be received by December 1, 2003. Send nominations to: Nominating Committee, Alumni Association of Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW WEB PAGE!



Hunter has just launched a new Alumni Web Page. With the click of a mouse you'll find links to information about alumni professional and personal milestones, alumni chapters and interest groups, our major publications, and the newest scientific and creative triumphs of our faculty and students—and much, much more. Visit us today and often at:

www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni

Call for Nominations 2004 Hunter College Hall of Fame

Each year the Alumni Association selects and honors graduates who have distinguished themselves in a variety of fields and services by inducting them into the Hall of Fame.

The 2004 Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place on Friday, April 23, in the West Lobby of the 68th Street Campus, where the plaques with the names of all the inductees have been placed on a wall of honor.

The Association welcomes nominations of noteworthy graduates for consideration.

Please send your nominations to:

2004 Hall of Fame Committee
Alumni Association of Hunter College
695 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021
Fax: (212) 772-4074
E-mail: alumni@hunter.cuny.edu

Hunter Honors Dobrof



Dr. Rose Dobrof, founding director of Hunter's Brookdale Center on Aging, was honored at the center's annual spring gala, held June 16 at the Essex House in Manhattan. The event was attended by 350 people and raised more than \$350,000 to support Brookdale and for the establishment of the Rose Dobrof Executive Directorship of the Brookdale Center on Aging. The first appointee to the position is Dr. Dennis L. Kodner.

S & W Annual Meeting



Roslyn Levin (at lectern), past president of the Florida West Coast Chapter, announces the chapter's annual gift to the Scholarship and Welfare Fund. With her is Hadassah Gold, president of S & W.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

The Alumni Association of Hunter College cordially invites you and your guests to the

134th Birthday Luncheon
Saturday, April 24, 2004
SHERATON NEW YORK HOTEL AND TOWERS

If your graduation year ends in 4 or 9, you will be celebrating a Milestone Year and you will receive a separate invitation early next spring, but please put this date on your 2004 calendar now and plan to attend this important event.

Please keep us—and your fellow alumni—informed about your accomplishments by sending your news to: Class Notes, *At Hunter*, Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021. Owing to space limitations, we cannot publish all submissions, but please visit our Web site at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni for these and other class notes.

1940s

Doris Hering ('41), a longtime editor and reviewer for *Dance Magazine*, received the 2002 Martha Hill Prize for Lifetime Achievement from the Martha Hill Dance Fund.

Actor **Ruby Dee** ('44) recently completed a run of the play *Saint Lucy's Eyes* in Atlanta.



1950s

Discover Magazine named **Mildred S. Dresselhaus** ('51) one of "The Most Important Women in Science." Dresselhaus, who is Institute Professor of Physics and Electrical Engineering at MIT, has been director of the Office of Science at the U.S. Department of Energy, president of the American Physical Society, and president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Trial lawyer **Martin Garbus** ('55) has joined the New York-based law firm of Davis & Gilbert LLP.

1960s

Page S. Morahan ('64) is a professor of microbiology and immunology at Drexel University College of Medicine and founding director of the National Center of Leadership in Academic Medicine at Drexel.

Denise Richardson ('69), producer and host of "Living Healthy Living Well," a weekly New York radio show, also co-hosts pledge drives on Channel 13, New York City's PBS channel.

1970s

Maria Palandra ('73), superintendent of schools in Elmont, NY, received a New York State Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award, given to individuals who have helped advance civil or human rights.

William L. Vazquez ('73) is the newly appointed executive director of West Hudson Hospital in Kearny, NJ.

Syracuse University's College of Law has appointed **Lowell L. Lustig** ('75) associate dean for development.

Malachy Corrigan ('77, '79), director of the New York Fire Department's counseling services unit, was named "Hero of the Month" by the *New York Daily News* in December. Following the attack on the World Trade Center, Corrigan launched a counseling program that has assisted thousands of people, including firefighters, their families, and their survivors.

1980s

Edythe S. Schwartz ('80), executive director of the Putnam (NY) Family and Community Services, has been elected co-president of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services, a statewide coalition of providers and clients of community rehabilitation programs.

Elsa Callender ('82) was recently named interim pastor of Baiting Hollow Congregational Church in Baiting Hollow, NY.

Ron Gee ('82) and **Gar Wang** ('82) recently exhibited their paintings, drawings, and sculptures at The Gallery at Port Call, a gallery in Warwick, NY.

John Timoney ('82) has been the police chief of the City of Miami (FL) since January 2. Timoney was Philadelphia's police commissioner from 1998-2001 and served from 1969-1996 in the New York City Police Department, rising to the rank of first deputy commissioner.

Patricia Lamanna ('83) of Wappinger Falls, NY, has been listed in the 2002 edition of *Who's Who Among American Teachers*.

"Tablets," a show of new work by artist **Rene Pierre Allain** ('86), was on view at the Drabinsky Gallery in Toronto this spring.

Arlie Petters ('86), a professor of mathematics at Duke University, recently received the first Blackwell-Tapia Prize, awarded by the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute for excellence in mathematics and for serving as a role model to minorities underrepresented in mathematics and science.

Teikyo Post University in Waterbury, CT, has appointed **Ruby Corby** ('87) an assistant professor of psychology.

Photographs by **Ricky Powell** ('87) were recently displayed in The Proletariat, an art gallery in Houston. Powell's work has been published in two books: *Oh Snap! The Rap Photography of Ricky Powell* (St. Martin's Press, 1998), containing pictures Powell took when he toured with the rap band the Beastie Boys; and *The Rickford Files: Classic New York Photography* (St. Martin's Griffin, 1999).

Yvonne Graham ('88) was appointed Brooklyn deputy borough president this January. Her post includes overseeing education, health, and human services for the borough.

Tracy Myers ('89) became co-curator of the Carnegie Museum of Art's Heinz Architectural Center at the beginning of the year.

1990s

Multimedia artist **Oliver Herring** ('91) is exhibiting a multiscreen video performance titled "Spit Reverse" at the Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art.

Stephen Mamula ('92) is an instructor of music in the department of art history and music at Fordham University.

John Springston ('93) is director of field operations for the Long Island-based Ambient Group, Inc., a national consultancy that deals with environmental and water-treatment issues.

Audrey S. Weiner ('93) has been named president and CEO of the Jewish Home and Hospital Lifecare System. The system, which includes facilities in Manhattan, the Bronx, and Westchester, is one of the largest nonprofit geriatric centers in the country.

A one-man show of works by video artist **Paul Pfeiffer** ('94) is on view at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's List Visual Arts Center exhibit. The show is being jointly produced with the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

The Queens (NY) Museum of Art's center at the Bulova Corporate Center recently showcased "Cosmic View of Queens, An Arcade Project," an installation by artist **Ezra Shales** ('96).

The Hudson River Museum in Yonkers, NY, is currently featuring an exhibit by **Jose A. Betancourt** ('99) titled "The Lost Houses of Yonkers."

2000s

Devon Burton ('00) heads her own business, Zero Chaos, a professional organizing service based in Queens, NY.

The Journal of Drug Education recently carried an article coauthored by **Monair J. Hamilton** ('00), (right) who is now a doctoral student and teaching fellow at Kent State University in Ohio. The article is titled "Effects of Social Norm Feedback Campaign on the Drinking Norms and Behavior of Division I Student-Athletes."

JoAnne Growney ('02), whose poetry has been published in the Bloomsburg (PA) University's *Carver Magazine* and other publications, is leading poetry workshops in Bloomsburg.



Loyal Alumni Association chapters throughout the country work to strengthen the college and help its students. Shown here, Jacqueline Wilson (center), Alumni Association president, accepts a check for the Scholarship and Welfare Fund from the Southern California Chapter during her visit to the chapter this winter. Presenting the check are Ellen Lowe (left), chapter president, and Martha Zoloth, chapter treasurer.

Alumni Association Activities

SEPTEMBER

The **San Diego Chapter** is planning a fabulous gourmet luncheon in September. Judging by the enthusiasm generated in the past, the luncheon should be a huge success. For more information about this or any other chapter activities, please call Rhoda Leopold at (858) 613-9022 or e-mail rho4realestate@aol.com

The **New Haven Chapter** will be having its annual lunch on **September 20** at Brazi's at 12 PM. Leah Stambler, PhD, of Western Connecticut University in Danbury will speak about Jewish women Nobel laureates. For more information please contact Emily Sosnow at (203) 230-9251.

OCTOBER

The **Long Island Chapter** will hold its annual lunch on **October 16**. For more information please contact Rhona Goldman at (516) 599-2719 or RhonaGoldman@earthlink.net.

The **Florida Gulf Coast Chapter's** next board meeting is on **Friday, October 17**, at Club Villas II Community Room in Palm Aire. Please contact Carol Buchanan at (941) 379-0232.

The **NY Capital District Chapter** is having a luncheon on **October 19** at the Butcher Block in Colonie, NY. For more information please contact Mae Stark at (845) 338-3446.

NOVEMBER

The **Staten Island Chapter** will have its Fall Fling on **November 11**. Please contact Clare Drinnen, (718) 356-1250, for more information.

The **Florida Gulf Coast's** annual membership meeting will take place on **Wednesday, November 12**, 1:30 PM, at the Fruitville Branch of the Sarasota Library.

DECEMBER

The **New Haven Chapter** will be having a pot luck brunch, date to be announced. Contact Emily Sosnow at (203) 230-9251 for more information.

JANUARY

The **Florida Gulf Coast's** annual luncheon is on **Saturday, January 31, 2004**, at 11:30 AM. It will be held at Michaels on East, 1212 East Avenue South, Sarasota. For reservations call Adrea Seligsohn at (941) 907-3213 or Carol Buchanan at (941) 379-0232.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A new fiction writing workshop is forming in New York City, and welcomes new and published authors. An organizational meeting will be held **Thursday, September 11**, at 6:30 PM. For more information, please contact Joyce Greenfield at (212) 725-0402.

The **Alumni Association's Book Club** continues to meet and is entering its fifth year of readings and discussions. The club meets on the third Wednesday of every month in the Archives Room of the Hunter College Library from 7 – 8:30 PM. The next meeting will be on **September 17** and the book is *The Reader* by B. Schlink. For a list of future meetings and books to be discussed, contact the Alumni Office at (212) 772-4087.

The **New England Chapter** held its 49th Annual Dinner on May 30 at the Wellesley College Club. For information about future events, contact Janet Bryant at (617) 965-9094 or janbry7@aol.com.

IN MEMORIAM

OLGA KULBITSKY ('35) taught in Hunter's department of physical education until her retirement in 1972. Professor Kulbitsky was honored throughout her career for her contributions to dance and physical education.

FELICE M. LIPPERT ('51), co-founder of Weight Watchers, most recently was chair of the Weight Watchers Foundation, which promotes nutrition education. A member of Hunter's Hall of Fame, she gave generous support to Hunter through her gifts to the Annual Fund and the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing.

ALBINA ("BINNIE") MCCULLOUGH ('55), of Syosset, NY, died on June 17, 2003.

LILY RUSSIANOFF ('44), an alumna of Hunter High School as well as the college, was an accountant and political activist. She is survived by her sons Ira and Gene, the senior staff attorney for the New York Public Interest Group and the Straphangers Campaign, and two grandchildren.

LUCY (LEAH LEVY) SIMKOWITZ ('35) came to this country from Russia at the age of 10 with her widowed mother and made the English language her own. She is survived by her husband, Isidore B. Simkowitz, and their four children, nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Ayravainen Spearheading Changes in Student Services

A New York City Marathon poster lies propped against her office wall. Eija Ayravainen, Hunter's new vice president for student affairs and dean of students, has run the marathon 15 times. Did she always finish the race? "Yes, even if it meant crawling the last few miles," she answers.

Ayravainen was named to her new post last September following the retirement of longtime student services head Sylvia Fishman.

Setting goals and keeping focused is nothing new for Ayravainen, whose challenging mission is to widen and improve the range of services that Hunter students receive.

The mandate facing the new vice president grows out of the findings of the advisory committee on student services convened last year by President Jennifer J. Raab. As one result of the committee's recommendations, the offices of admissions, financial aid, pre-admission services, and the registrar now report to the vice president for student affairs. The aim is to provide stronger and more coordinated support to students.

"Students' welfare is not the responsibility of just one office," says Ayravainen, adding, "It's very exciting to work with many areas of the college so that, together, we are all helping to improve services to students."

Ayravainen's own background has prepared her well for assisting Hunter students—many foreign-born, and nearly all living very complicated lives. Arriving in Brooklyn from Finland at age 13—her earliest years were spent on her parents' farm—Ayravainen spoke no English. School was "incomprehensible," she recalls, and ESL courses weren't offered. Discouraged at first, Ayravainen was determined to learn English, and she met her goal by "imitating people and watching a lot of television."

Less than a decade after arriving in this country with no English at all, Ayravainen earned a Hunter BA ('70) in speech communication and then an MA ('72) in the same field.

At Hunter, Ayravainen also met and married Robert Henry Stanley, a professor of film and media studies here. Their daughter, Katri, is a freshman at Cornell.

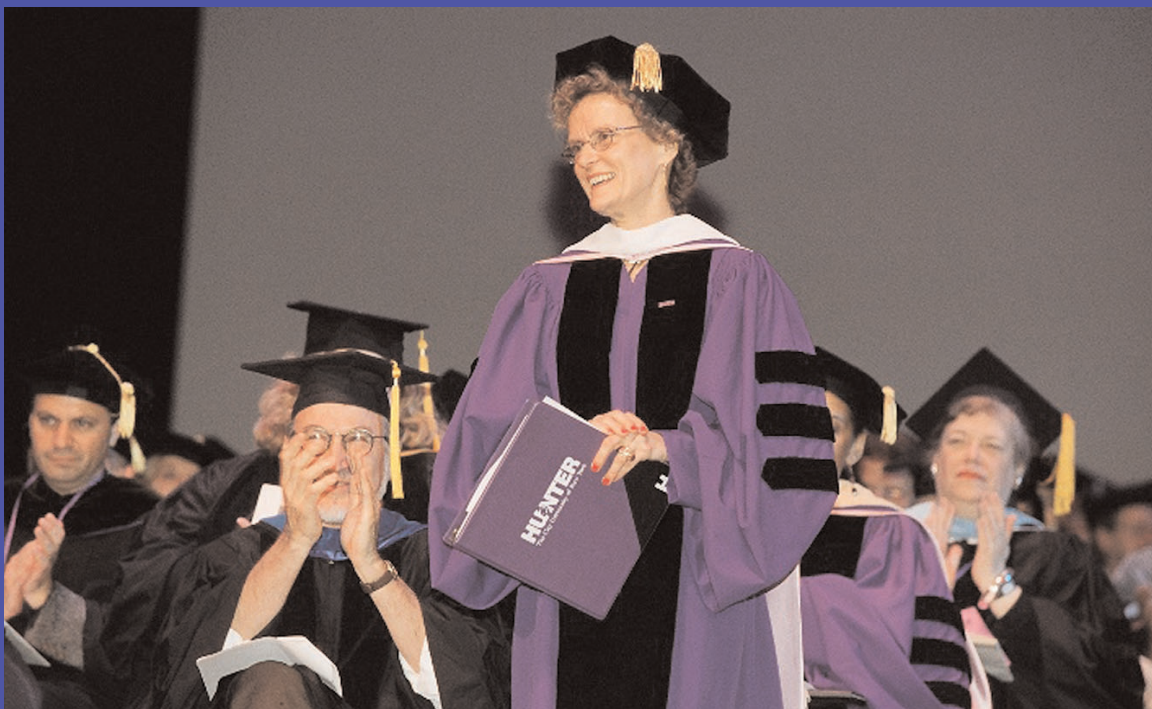
"I came to Hunter and never left," says Ayravainen, who has taught here for 32 years. She also served as deputy chair of the former communications department and directed the department's student advising.

Named assistant provost in 1996, Ayravainen became involved with many aspects of student academic life including testing, recruiting, and admissions. She oversaw College NOW, a CUNY program that brings qualified high school students to campus to take credit-bearing courses and experience other aspects of college life. She also was responsible for the Freshman Block program, which offers a sequence of theme-related courses the first semester and builds a sense of community among freshmen who attend the courses together.

"What has kept me at Hunter all these years," says Ayravainen, "is having the dream, and then the ability, to help students succeed. I feel I can personally make changes that can improve students' lives." ■



Less than a decade after arriving in this country with no English at all, Ayravainen earned a Hunter BA ('70) in speech communication and then an MA ('72) in the same field.



Vice President Ayravainen greets the graduates and their families at the May commencement ceremonies.

Living the Hunter Dream (cont. from p. 7)

and food drives for City Harvest.

At the May commencement Peter received his bachelor of science in nursing. He graduated with a 3.43 GPA, won nearly 20 prestigious awards and scholarships, and is about to begin working as a nurse at Mount Sinai Hospital. He did what he was determined to do when he was a senior in high school: he built a new future for himself.



Arkadiy Palvanov (Jan. '03)

When Arkadiy Palvanov came to the United States from Uzbekistan 11 years ago, he was "overwhelmed by the big streets, the big buildings, the big variety of cars"—and afraid to go to school, because he knew no English. His first step was to take ESL courses.

He now has a BA in biology, with a minor in chemistry, and has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa: he graduated with a 4.0.

At the same time that he was carrying an extremely demanding course load, Arkadiy was also tutoring students in Hunter's Dolciani Math Center and doing volunteer work at St. John's Hospital in Queens. In his last semester at Hunter he also worked as a laboratory technician in a college biology lab.

But a herculean schedule was nothing new for Arkadiy, who was a math tutor in high school while he was also adjusting to a new language and a new country, taking college-level classes, and getting A's in most of his courses.

Arkadiy has wanted to be a doctor since he was a child, and his hope now is to use his abilities and energies "to do something that will save a lot of lives; I want to be a person people will turn to for help." He is waiting to hear back from the medical schools he has applied to, and in the meantime he is continuing to work in a Hunter bio lab and in the math center.

When Arkadiy Palvanov first arrived in New York with his family, the city had a great impact on him. Judging from his achievements so far, it seems highly likely that this energetic, intelligent, and dedicated future doctor will, himself, soon make an impact on the city and nation that he now calls home.



Henry Ye (Jan. '03)

Henry Ye, the youngest of seven children in a poor family in rural China, left China when he was 13 to work in his brother's grocery store in Panama. He later left for the United States in the hope of pursuing a higher education.

Today, some 15 years after arriving in New York, he holds an MSW degree from the Hunter College School of Social Work—and the National Association of Social Workers 2003 award for outstanding achievement in social work.

Henry entered HCSSW in 2000, enrolling in a program that allows students to continue working full time while earning the MSW. Before starting at Hunter, he had been working for several years in a variety of social-service jobs.

Henry became a social worker, he relates, because "I care about people who are living in pain and want to help them find their way to happiness."

While he was at Hunter, Henry submitted a grant proposal to the Lutheran Disaster Response Fund to start a program to help Chinese immigrants in New York who had been acutely affected by 9/11 and its aftermath.

The grant proposal was accepted, and in November 2002 the Lutheran Family and Community Services New Life Center was opened in downtown Manhattan, with Henry at its head. The center provides counseling, legal services, referrals to other agencies, and information. "Many immigrants aren't aware of the services available to them," says Henry, who adds: "That's particularly true of the newest Chinese immigrant group, the Fujianese, who only know their own dialect and can't read the Chinese-language materials that are usually given to newcomers. So one of our jobs has been to produce pamphlets that these new immigrants can understand.

"Sometimes the work can seem kind of overwhelming," says Henry, "but it's worth it. We're giving a real service, and we give people hope." ■

At Hunter is published by the Office of the President and the Office of Institutional Advancement of Hunter College. Please send comments and suggestions to Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, Room E1301, New York, NY 10021; or telephone (212) 772-4070; or e-mail: publications@hunter.cuny.edu. For mailing address changes, please call (212) 772-4087 or e-mail: linda.ercin@hunter.cuny.edu.