In This Issue:

President's Perspective 2
Leonard A. Lauder's Historic $34M Gift 4
Lin Manuel Miranda Headlines Spring Commencement 6
Hunter's Graduates Are Going Places 8
Newman Scholarship Office's Secret Sauce 9
Hunter Establishes a BA in Japanese Studies 10
Who'll Get Hunter's Next Nobel Prize? 11
Happenings at Hunter 12
New Hunter Fights Anti-Semitism 14
New Silverstein Chair of Jewish Studies 15
Nancy Pelosi Awarded Alex Kohen's ERA Push 17
Carolyn Maloney's Athena Push 18
Jody Gottfried Arnhold Receives Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters 18
Patsy and Jay Baker Bridge United Campus 19
Education at Hunter 20
In Memoriam 22
Meet Foundation Board Member Alex Cohen 24

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

I have been a privilege beyond measure to lead this exceptional institution for the past 22 years, in effect, through the entire 21st century. My decision to leave our beloved Hunter College at the end of June 2023 is a bittersweet one, made easier by my complete confidence that Hunter is securely set to remain what the Princeton Review calls the crown jewel of CUNY.

Since 2001 — a period that coincides with the tenures of five governors and four mayors — we have accomplished so much together that it poses a challenge merely to list the many high points. Surely among them are the new schools and spaces we have built for our extraordinary students: the Silberman School of Social Work on a new East Harlem campus, and the creation of transformative new campus spaces like the Lerner & Toby Cooperman Library and Lauder House, and Larry Silverstein Student Success Center. We moved closer to our vision of making Hunter the public school of the arts by acquiring the Baker Theatre building on 67th Street and the Tribeca art studios and galleries. This physical growth came as we added MFAAs in Film, Dance, and Theatre and burnedished our storied Creative Writing, Art, and Music Master’s degrees.

I am so proud that we invested in our outstanding scientists by purchasing a research floor in the Weill Cornell Rehabe Research Center and partnering with the East Side medical institutions on translational science grants.

I point with particular pride to the remarkable restoration and transformation of the landmark Roosevelt House into a Public Policy Institute offering certificates in public policy and human rights that, together with outstanding community programs, reflect Hunter’s strong commitment to civic engagement. Most recently, we have celebrated the record-shattering $32 million gift from Leonard A. Lauder, whose extraordinary generosity establishes an endowment to train future health-care professionals at our acclaimed nursing school.

Together, utilizing the more than $530 million raised from donors since 2001, we have created or modernized many other facilities and programs that will continue to serve our Hunter community well into the future, and invested millions in scholarships and internship support to level the playing field for our extraordinary immigrant and first-generation college students.

We have proudly nurtured emerging college students at our Manhattan Hunter Science High School, a nationally ranked early college high school we created in 2003, and at my beloved Hunter College Elementary School and High School, of which I am a proud alumna.

For me, it has always been about all things Hunter.

But above all, it is hard to find words to describe my passion and love for our Hunter students. With our incredible Student Services team, we have invested in their success both in the classroom and in extracurricular programs. It is moving — but not surprising, given the talent and reactivity of these future leaders — that this investment has yielded spectacular results including two Rhodes Scholars, a Marshall, five Schwarzmaners, and many Luce, Fulbright, Truman, and Soros fellowships, and large numbers of acceptances at the nation’s leading graduate, medical, and law schools.

Given the popularity and success of our oversubscribed Macaulay Honors College, we created six additional freshman merit scholarship programs in the humanities and sciences. Each and every day, we demonstrate it is indeed possible to work, teach, and live in an environment that stimulates inquiry, cherishes diversity, and respects the rights of all. Our students come from 100 countries and speak 150 languages but share a commitment to learning and growing together at Hunter.

It has been thrilling to watch class after graduating class emerge as success stories in their own right, then give back to Hunter as board members and mentors, and contribute to the city as civic and business leaders, public officials, and philanthropists. Hunter alumni have made me proud and grateful for their devotion to the College’s motto of caring for the future. And I have loved being invited to their weddings and hugging their babies!

Hunter’s enrollment is gratefully high, and our graduation rates are strong, with academic standards that set us apart among public colleges. It was the indomitable spirit of our community that kept us connected and directed toward keeping our commitment to our students during the challenging online pandemic years. I will forever cherish what we accomplished under the most demanding circumstances, and I am delighted that we have emerged, back in person, a bustling campus with our students as hungry as ever to learn and grow. Let us never forget how we overcame this adversity together and thrived in its wake!

Clearly, these accomplishments would not have been possible without the phenomenal Hunter team, and I want to express my profound thanks to everyone with whom I have had the honor to work over the past two decades. Together, we have made a difference in the lives of each other and, most importantly, in the lives of our students. We helped them pursue and achieve the American dream that Hunter College has made attainable for so many generations of students.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to the faculty, students, professional and support staff, donors, board members, and alumni who join me in bledding Hunter purple. And I want to express my gratitude to Chancellor Felix V. Matos Rodriguez, the Central Office team, and the CUNY Trustees for their support.

As I embark on my next professional adventure, I will always keep Hunter in my heart and continue to live and breathe the college motto — mihi cura futuri — the care of the future is mine. With gratitude for the opportunity to serve the extraordinary Hunter community.

Schumer Cheers President Raab

Sen. Charles Schumer eulogized a standing ovation for Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab at the college’s winter commencement on January 19.

Schumer, who addressed the graduates with stories of his own college career, first asked President Raab to stay for a minute after she had introduced him so that he could mark her last winter commencement before she stepped down as Hunter president on June 30.

“She took over Hunter when it was a really good school 22 years ago,” Schumer said. “But with her brilliance, with her enormous energy, with her complete dedication to this school, and her big heart, she has made this one of the finest schools of higher education not just in New York, but in America. Let’s have a standing ovation for your great president!”

Schumer Cheers President Raab

Sen. Charles Schumer eulogized a standing ovation for Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab at the college’s winter commencement on January 19.

Schumer, who addressed the graduates with stories of his own college career, first asked President Raab to stay for a minute after she had introduced him so that he could mark her last winter commencement before she stepped down as Hunter president on June 30.

“She took over Hunter when it was a really good school 22 years ago,” Schumer said. “But with her brilliance, with her enormous energy, with her complete dedication to this school, and her big heart, she has made this one of the finest schools of higher education not just in New York, but in America. Let’s have a standing ovation for your great president!”

Schumer Cheers President Raab

Sen. Charles Schumer eulogized a standing ovation for Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab at the college’s winter commencement on January 19.

Schumer, who addressed the graduates with stories of his own college career, first asked President Raab to stay for a minute after she had introduced him so that he could mark her last winter commencement before she stepped down as Hunter president on June 30.

“She took over Hunter when it was a really good school 22 years ago,” Schumer said. “But with her brilliance, with her enormous energy, with her complete dedication to this school, and her big heart, she has made this one of the finest schools of higher education not just in New York, but in America. Let’s have a standing ovation for your great president!”

Schumer Cheers President Raab

Sen. Charles Schumer eulogized a standing ovation for Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab at the college’s winter commencement on January 19.

Schumer, who addressed the graduates with stories of his own college career, first asked President Raab to stay for a minute after she had introduced him so that he could mark her last winter commencement before she stepped down as Hunter president on June 30.

“She took over Hunter when it was a really good school 22 years ago,” Schumer said. “But with her brilliance, with her enormous energy, with her complete dedication to this school, and her big heart, she has made this one of the finest schools of higher education not just in New York, but in America. Let’s have a standing ovation for your great president!”
I t is one man’s stirring tribute to his late wife — and a lasting legacy for Hunter College and New York City.

A $52 million gift from Leonard A. Lauder in honor of Evelyn H. Lauder MCHS ’54, MC ’58, who died in 2011, has established the Evelyn Lauder Community Care Nurse Practitioner Program at the Hunter College School of Nursing.

The game-changing donation — the largest ever philanthropic gift to a single CUNY school — creates a partnership between Hunter’s School of Nursing and New York City Hospitals, the primary health care provider in the city’s underserved communities.

The gift allows Hunter’s Nursing School to move past the constraints of its publicly funded budget to provide for more faculty, state-of-the-art technology and equipment, and an expanded curriculum for the 650 nurse practitioner master’s students now enrolled — while creating a curriculum that will attract even more students.

Many Hunter College students hold down jobs while taking classes, but the $52 Evelyn H. Lauder Nurse Practitioner Fellows will receive $80,000 stipends to cover tuition and housing costs, freeing them up to focus strictly on their education, and fast-tracking the two-year program. On top of that, they will work alongside preceptors who will train them in one of the toughest health care environments in the country.

Game-changing learning techniques are also on deck: Hunter’s nurse practitioner students will simulate patient-nurse interactions with trained actors as their instructors look on from behind one-way mirrors. Ultimately, the program will create a pipeline of highly skilled nurse practitioners are key to improving access to quality care for all Americans, and I am proud to work with Hunter on this critical program.”

Lauder’s latest gift builds on the $10 million he gave to the Hunter’s School of Nursing in 2015, which created the Evelyn H. Lauder Nursing Fund, to support and enhance faculty, recruiting, research, and technology.

Many Hunter College students hold down jobs while taking classes, but the 25 Evelyn H. Lauder Nurse Practitioner Fellows will receive $80,000 stipends to cover tuition and housing costs, freeing them up to focus strictly on their education, and fast-tracking the two-year program. On top of that, they will work alongside preceptors who will train them in one of the toughest healthcare environments in the country.

Game-changing learning techniques are also on deck: Hunter’s nurse practitioner students will simulate patient-nurse interactions with trained actors as their instructors look on from behind one-way mirrors. Ultimately, the program will create a pipeline of highly skilled nurse practitioners are key to improving access to quality care for all Americans, and I am proud to work with Hunter on this critical program.”

Lauder’s latest gift builds on the $10 million he gave to the Hunter’s School of Nursing in 2015, which created the Evelyn H. Lauder Nursing Fund, to support and enhance faculty, recruiting, research, and technology.

Leonard A. Lauder’s Historic $52M Gift to Hunter

New Evelyn Launder Nurse Practitioner Program Off to a Flying Start

E ven though Hunter recently launched its newest program, the Evelyn Lauder Nurse Practitioner Fellowship Program, Hunter is already seeing immediate results. And it’s only a matter of time before the program begins to yield even greater outcomes.

In 2011, the Hunter College School of Nursing launched the first of its kind Nurse Practitioner Fellowship Program, in partnership with the community hospital, to provide funding for nurses who would work in underserved communities.

The program has seen success from the start, with over 50 students enrolled and 25 fellows already in the program. And now, with the addition of the Evelyn Lauder Fellowship, the program will be able to provide even more support to nurses who are dedicated to serving disadvantaged communities, improving the quality of life of those that need it the most.

The program is supported by a $52 million gift from Leonard A. Lauder, and it will train them in one of the toughest healthcare environments in the country.

Game-changing learning techniques are also on deck: Hunter’s nurse practitioner students will simulate patient-nurse interactions with trained actors as their instructors look on from behind one-way mirrors. Ultimately, the program will create a pipeline of highly skilled nurse practitioners are key to improving access to quality care for all Americans, and I am proud to work with Hunter on this critical program.”

Lauder’s latest gift builds on the $10 million he gave to the Hunter’s School of Nursing in 2015, which created the Evelyn H. Lauder Nursing Fund, to support and enhance faculty, recruiting, research, and technology.

Many Hunter College students hold down jobs while taking classes, but the 25 Evelyn H. Lauder Nurse Practitioner Fellows will receive $80,000 stipends to cover tuition and housing costs, freeing them up to focus strictly on their education, and fast-tracking the two-year program. On top of that, they will work alongside preceptors who will train them in one of the toughest healthcare environments in the country.

Game-changing learning techniques are also on deck: Hunter’s nurse practitioner students will simulate patient-nurse interactions with trained actors as their instructors look on from behind one-way mirrors. Ultimately, the program will create a pipeline of highly skilled nurse practitioners are key to improving access to quality care for all Americans, and I am proud to work with Hunter on this critical program.”

Lauder’s latest gift builds on the $10 million he gave to the Hunter’s School of Nursing in 2015, which created the Evelyn H. Lauder Nursing Fund, to support and enhance faculty, recruiting, research, and technology.

Many Hunter College students hold down jobs while taking classes, but the 25 Evelyn H. Lauder Nurse Practitioner Fellows will receive $80,000 stipends to cover tuition and housing costs, freeing them up to focus strictly on their education, and fast-tracking the two-year program. On top of that, they will work alongside preceptors who will train them in one of the toughest healthcare environments in the country.

Game-changing learning techniques are also on deck: Hunter’s nurse practitioner students will simulate patient-nurse interactions with trained actors as their instructors look on from behind one-way mirrors. Ultimately, the program will create a pipeline of highly skilled nurse practitioners are key to improving access to quality care for all Americans, and I am proud to work with Hunter on this critical program.”

Lauder’s latest gift builds on the $10 million he gave to the Hunter’s School of Nursing in 2015, which created the Evelyn H. Lauder Nursing Fund, to support and enhance faculty, recruiting, research, and technology.

Many Hunter College students hold down jobs while taking classes, but the 25 Evelyn H. Lauder Nurse Practitioner Fellows will receive $80,000 stipends to cover tuition and housing costs, freeing them up to focus strictly on their education, and fast-tracking the two-year program. On top of that, they will work alongside preceptors who will train them in one of the toughest healthcare environments in the country.

Game-changing learning techniques are also on deck: Hunter’s nurse practitioner students will simulate patient-nurse interactions with trained actors as their instructors look on from behind one-way mirrors. Ultimately, the program will create a pipeline of highly skilled nurse practitioners are key to improving access to quality care for all Americans, and I am proud to work with Hunter on this critical program.”

Lauder’s latest gift builds on the $10 million he gave to the Hunter’s School of Nursing in 2015, which created the Evelyn H. Lauder Nursing Fund, to support and enhance faculty, recruiting, research, and technology.
I graduated in May 2002 with a degree in Theatre, which, in New York's job market, is like showing up to a gunfight with... a degree in Theatre,” Miranda said to laughter, before describing his days of eating baked beans and pizza bagels in a leaky-roofed apartment next to the 1 train in upper Manhattan. He spoke of honing his craft while teaching seventh grade at Hunter College High School — and making ends meet by moving furniture and dancing at bar and bat mitzvahs. He and his friends couldn't afford cable television — so they'd head to his parents' house for a hot meal and to watch The Sopranos. He didn't have dental insurance, so he volunteered at a downtown dental school where he could get his teeth cleaned at a discounted rate. He said he drew lessons from the late composer Jonathan Larson — about young characters struggling to live and make art in 1990s New York City even as friends and lovers died of AIDS — and urged graduates to "do what you have to do that allows the most space for what you want to do." "What do you want to do? What do you want to do? Tomorrow is not promised." Miranda also sang an autobiographical song about youth, "Opening Doors," by the legendary composer Stephen Sondheim: "We're opening doors, shouting here we are. We're filling up days on a dime. That faraway shore's looking not too far. We're filling up days on a dime." Keep choosing life, and keep choosing connection. It will feel like you're running out of time. But in all likelihood, you've got plenty of time. It is among the great honors of my life that I get to spend this time with you on this most special of days. Congratulations to you, the Hunter Class of 2023, and I wish you all the luck today, tomorrow, and all the precious days of your life.”

— Lin-Manuel Miranda
Hunter’s Graduates Are Going Places!

She’s a Real-Life Indiana Jones

Abigail Human

B uilding prehistoric temples and uncovering ancient burial sites in Greece and participating in an archaeological dig in Sicily — becoming an expert in ancient burial practices and earning her BA in Classical archaeology — the study of ancient burial practices, tombs and the remains of their occupants, fulfilled a childhood dream. When Abigail was 3, her dad died of a drug overdose, leaving her and her mom in a difficult situation. Because Abigail loved animals, her mom scraped together enough money to buy a membership at the Bronx Zoo. Abigail especially loved the Madagascar exhibit. At Hunter, Abigail remembered how much she had loved the lemur at that exhibit, and took a Primateology course available at Hunter. Soon, she was studying primate nutrition, biology, and evolution at Hunter’s Primate Molecular Ecology Lab. It seemed as if Abigail was unbreakable, but then she got hit with COVID — twice. Still, she persevered, continuing her education after a stay in the hospital, and graduated with a 3.49 GPA in Human Biology. This fall, she will start a Ph.D. program in Evolutionary Anthropology at Duke University, and go on to study lemurids — in Madagascar.

In a First, a Hunter Student Is Awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship

For the first time ever, a Hunter College student has won a highly competitive Gates Cambridge Scholarship for study at the University of Cambridge in England.

Jannathul Chowdhury ’23 will head to the famed British university this fall to begin work on a two-year Master of Philosophy in Education. Chowdury, a Roosevelt Scholar with a 3.9 GPA, majored in History and Adolescent Social Studies at Hunter and one day wants to become the first chancellor of the New York City Department of Education in English. Established by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000, the Gates Cambridge Trust is the University of Cambridge’s flagship international postgraduate scholarship program, about 80 Gates Scholarships are awarded each year.

In other scholarship news, alumni Ndeye Ndione, Nicole Gonik, and Maiasha Uddin.

Ariana Ahmed has been named a James C. Gaither Junior Faculty Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace — the first Hunter student ever chosen for the honor and one of only 14 students selected nationwide. She is a Biology major with a concentration in Women and Gender Studies, won a coveted Barry Goldwater Scholarship. A McNulty Scholar, Uddin has conducted clinical, social psychology, and neuroscience research, and intends to pursue medicine.

O h, oh, the places they’ll go! Hunter College’s Class of 2023 featured a panoply of graduates who will go on to jobs at notable firms or continue their studies at top universities. From left, Arifma Ahmed, who was a Hunter Undergraduate Student Government president as well as president of the Mock Trial Society and co-president of the Queen Student Union, will become a business insights fellow at McKinsey & Company. Hunter Moran, a Macaulay Honors Student who is an outstanding scholar-athlete, will head to Cincinnati on a Fullbright Fellowship. The budding physician scientist, who participated in an advanced science research program at Hunter, will serve in Denmark as an epidemiology researcher. Afisaa Rahman, with a 3.9 GPA in Computer Science, will get her Ph.D. from the highly ranked tri-institutional Computational Biology program — a partnership between Memorial Sloan Kettering, Rockefeller University, and Weill Cornell Medical College. Nancy Collie-Beard received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship for a Ph.D. program in Neuroscience at Rutgers University.

Ariana Silva, a Political Science major with a minor in Human Rights, will go to American University for her master’s International Development and hopes to work at the United Nations.

Casey Walsh, a Macaulay Honors and McNulty Scholar who majored in Physics, will move to England to begin her Ph.D. in Materials Science at Sheffield Hallam University.

Secret Sauce: Inside Hunter’s Fellowship Office

Helping Hunter College students win fellowships and scholarships takes a lot more than just hitting the books. It requires a team effort. No one knows that better than Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab, who looked to the lives to build a program to turn Hunter into the fellowship-producing factory it has become. “We always knew Hunter had the talent to win more awards, and we just needed to put a team in place to make that happen,” Raab said. “Harvard and Yale do that, and we needed to do it, too.” To build that team, she went straight to the source, plunging Stephen Lassonde — who had more than 20 years of Ivy League experience — from Harvard in 2016 and making him the director of the new Hunter College Fellowship Office.

Building the office was one thing, but it was another to get prestigious awards. “The latest gift will help us expand our reach and identify more students who will be eligible for scholarships and fellowships,” Lassonde said. “It truly is the gift that keeps on giving.” Lassonde, meanwhile, has written the book on earning scholarships: Helping Your Students Write Their Personal Statement. Framing the Narrative for Fellowships and Other Opportunities (Rowlett) will be out next year!
Hunter College’s strong program in Japanese language and culture offers students the opportunity to learn about Japanese studies and culture, as well as participate in exchange programs and cultural events. Students have the chance to visit Japan and other international institutions, including the Consulate General of Japan and the Japan Foundation. The curriculum builds on Hunter’s tradition of excellence in Japanese studies and reflects the passionate support of our students and friends in the Japanese and Japanese-studies communities, especially the Consulate General of Japan and the Japan Foundation. Hunter students have the opportunity to participate in many cultural activities, including the annual Japan Day parade and extracurricular events such as the Japan Day parade. Hunter students have the opportunity to learn about Japanese studies and culture, as well as participate in exchange programs and cultural events. Students have the chance to visit Japan and other international institutions, including the Consulate General of Japan and the Japan Foundation. The curriculum builds on Hunter’s tradition of excellence in Japanese studies and reflects the passionate support of our students and friends in the Japanese and Japanese-studies communities, especially the Consulate General of Japan and the Japan Foundation. Hunter students have the opportunity to participate in many cultural activities, including the annual Japan Day parade and extracurricular events such as the Japan Day parade.
Reporters Maggie Haberman (right) and Bob Hardt discuss her book *Confidence Man: The Making of Donald Trump and the Breaking of America* at the annual Jack Newfield Lecture at Hunter’s Kaye Playhouse.

President Raab (center) displays her Gold Honor Medal from the National Institute of Social Sciences with fellow awardees astronomer Neil deGrasse Tyson (second from right) and Mount Sinai epidemiologist Dr. Philip J. Landrigan (left) as NISS President Frederick R. Larson looks on.

President Raab (center) with Brooklyn Museum Director Anne Pasternak (left) and her daughter, online sensation Paris Starn MA ’23.

Hunter Theatre Professor Asher Grodman (left), who famously plays a pantsless character on *Ghosts*, gives flowers to his student Kalissa Persaud — after she gifted him a pair of Hunter sweatpants.

Supermodel and best-selling author Emily Ratajkowski, in her address at the Winter Commencement, told graduates to “prioritize joy.”

Kermit Roosevelt, author of *The Nation That Never Was: Reconstructing America’s Story*, at Roosevelt House in front of a portrait of cousin Eleanor.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jennifer Egan reads from her novel *The Candy House* during Hunter’s Distinguished Writers Series in April.

(From left) Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, Congressmem- ber Jerry Nadler, Assemblymember Alex Boree (HCHS ’09), President Raab, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, and Assemblymember Eddie Gibbs at Boree’s swearing in at Hunter in February.
Council Awards $50,000 to Hunter College to Continue Fighting Anti-Semitism

C

emy Council members presented Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab with a $50,000 check to expand an innovative campaign fighting anti-Semitism on college campuses. Hunter has been leading the charge against such attacks. The college engages students through its Multi-Faith Center and its Cooper Fellows—a cohort of Jewish and non-Jewish students studying ways to prevent anti-Semitism. “Our goal has always been to reach out not just to Jewish students, but to all students on campus,” President Raab said. “By ensuring everyone understands the horrors of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, we can make certain that history does not repeat itself.”

Council Member and Hunter alum Eric Dinowitz MSE ’09 and City Council Majority Leader Keith Powers presented the check to Raab on April 17. The money is provided through Council Speaker Adrienne Adams’ new Hate Freedom and Justice Council. “Making friendships across ethnicities is the most effective tool for combating hatred and anti-Semitism,” she said. “These funds support a center that is building bridges, fighting hatred, and making sure that Jewish voices remain strong and proud at Hunter and CUNY.”

Leah Garrett's Exciting Approach to Jewish Studies

Larry and Klara Silverstein Give Hunter College $2M for Jewish Studies Chair

Hunter College has received a $2 million gift from Larry and Klara Silverstein to create the Silverstein Chair and Director of Jewish Studies, President Jennifer J. Raab announced. “Under Leah Garrett’s leadership, this funding will deepen the impact of our Jewish Studies Center, which has been so successful at engaging students of all faiths with vibrant courses and fascinating extracurricular programming. The more students understand the contributions of Jewish culture and the horrors of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, the more we can ensure that history does not repeat itself. ”

Larry and Klara Silverstein.

Klara Silverstein ’34, MA ’56, a former Hunter College Foundation Board chair, praised President Raab’s leadership. “We’ve been so pleased to participate in President Raab’s restoration of Hunter as a center that is building bridges, fighting hatred, and making sure that Jewish voices remain strong and proud at Hunter and CUNY.”

Leah Garrett’s new Silverstein Chair and Director of Jewish Studies is on a mission to fight anti-Semitism through education. Professor Leah Garrett explains her goal is to give as many students as possible a taste of Jewish studies, with a focus on providing an immersive experience in Jewish history. “It’s crucial that we have the center not only to show our students and staff that Jewish culture is intrinsic to world culture, but also to have a strong, proud bulwark in the fight against anti-Semitism in New York City,” she said.

She has already put into place a vibrant curricular programming that includes a monthly lecture series bringing world-renowned scholars to Hunter; regular events at the Roosevelt House on topics such as Jewish women at Hunter; and walking tours of iconic Jewish locations around the city where students can get a taste of classic Jewish cuisine. A native New Yorker, Garrett has a doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary, did postgraduate studies at Oxford, and received a Fulbright Fellowship to Tel Aviv University. Her award-winning scholarship consists of books, including her most recent, the best seller, “I Troop: The Secret Jewish Commandos of World War II.”

Eva Brust Cooper receives certificate.

Eva Brust Cooper Fellowship Program, a project of Hunter's Jewish Studies Center — received certificates and met with Eva Cooper HCHS ’32, MA ’38. A Hungarian-born Holocaust survivor who funded the program in order to stop the spread of hatred here, Eva Cooper spent part of her childhood hiding on farms and moving by night to escape deportation to Hitler’s death camps. Eva Cooper’s compelling life story — and her extraordinary and timely gift — have helped so many students understand how to counter anti-Semitism and hatred more generally,” said Leah Garrett, who heads the program. The Cooper Fellows attended four seminars on anti-Semitism, learning methods to counteract hatred and practical ways to speak up against bigotry.

They visited the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., where they toured exhibits on the roots of Nazism and the “Final Solution” and walked through a cattle car that carried thousands of Jews to death camps.

Along the way, they discussed topics such as racial anti-Semitism, Jewish responses to persecution, America’s role in World War II, and more recent genocides, such as the 2017 massacre in Burma of the Rohingya Muslims.

The Silversteins have given more than $9 million to Hunter, including endowing the Larry and Klara Silverstein Student Success Center on the seventh floor of the Leon & Toby Cooperman library.
Hunter Honors Nancy Pelosi With Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Distinguished Leadership

Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab awarded House Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi with the Eleanor Roosevelt Distinguished Leadership Award during a June 8 ceremony at the Kaye Playhouse. Pelosi, the first female House speaker and arguably the most effective one of this century, became just the second person to receive the award, following Hillary Clinton in 2019 — which President Raab created the Eleanor Roosevelt Award — following Hillary Clinton in 2019.

President Raab said that Pelosi’s “unmatched public-policy savvy, her unparalleled public-policy savvy, her unparalleled public-policy savvy,” said President Raab, “is showing our fellows how to get things done.”

She thanked President Raab for her stellar leadership and her tireless concern for the well-being of Hunter students, praising the college with a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt: “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

A new exhibit, Roosevelt House: Saving a National Treasure for a New Generation, breaks down the history of the building from its construction, to its use as the birthplace of the New Deal, to its fall into disrepair, and finally, its rescue by Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab. It is free to the public and will be on display through the fall at Roosevelt House, at 47-49 E. 65th St. between Madison and Park Avenues.

Eleanor Roosevelt, who shared a commitment to equality and opportunity for all, said Jessica Neuwirth, distinguished lecturer at Roosevelt House and the Rita E. Hauser Director of its Human Rights Program. “With her unparalleled public policy savvy, she is showing our fellows how to get things done.”

On March 14, Equal Pay Day, Maloney joined Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, Congress Member Debbie Dingell (D-MI), a host of feminist luminaries, and Thomas Costa of the Government Accountability Office to introduce the GAO’s most recent report on the male-female pay gap.

A petition kick-off event featured Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, feminist leaders Gloria Steinem and Eleanor Smeal, Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, feminist leaders Gloria Steinem and Eleanor Smeal, and Eleanor Roosevelt, who shared a commitment to equality and opportunity for all. Maloney also took several students to Washington, D.C., on Feb. 28 to witness the historic Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the ERA in almost 40 years.

Maloney introduced a bill in the House to recognize ratification of the ERA before she exited Congress at the end of 2022.

Carolyn Maloney Joins Hunter, Pushes Equal Rights for Women

As the Eleanor Roosevelt Distinguished Leader in Residence at the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute, former Congress Member Carolyn Maloney is giving her students a hands-on course on how to organize to achieve women’s equality.

“Eleanor exemplifies the legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, who shared a commitment to equality and opportunity for all,” said Jessica Neuwirth, distinguished lecturer at Roosevelt House and the Rita E. Hauser Director of its Human Rights Program. “With her unparalleled public-policy savvy, she is showing our fellows how to get things done.”

On March 14, Equal Pay Day, Maloney joined Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, Congress Member Debbie Dingell (D-MI), a host of feminist luminaries, and Thomas Costa of the Government Accountability Office to introduce the GAO’s most recent report on the male-female pay gap.

In April, Maloney’s students — a cohort of Eva Kastan Grove Fellows — launched a national petition demanding that Congress take steps to make the Equal Rights Amendment the law of the land.

A petition kick-off event featured Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, feminist leaders Gloria Steinem and Eleanor Smeal, President Raab, and others — and brought plenty of press for the cause.

President Raab honored Maloney on June 8 with an honorary doctorate of humane letters for a 30-year congressional career that included such landmark achievements as the Second Avenue Subway, regulating the credit-card industry, spearheading federal aid for 9/11 victims, and advocating for gun control, equal rights, and health care.

“I’m so privileged to be leading the rising generation to activism, and Hunter’s Grove Fellows are clearly the cream of the crop,” said Maloney.

Maloney also took several students to Washington, D.C., on Feb. 28 to witness the historic Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the ERA in almost 40 years. Maloney introduced a bill in the House to recognize ratification of the ERA before she exited Congress at the end of 2022.

Eleanor Roosevelt, who shared a commitment to equality and opportunity for all, said Jessica Neuwirth, distinguished lecturer at Roosevelt House and the Rita E. Hauser Director of its Human Rights Program. “With her unparalleled public policy savvy, she is showing our fellows how to get things done.”

On March 14, Equal Pay Day, Maloney joined Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, Congress Member Debbie Dingell (D-MI), a host of feminist luminaries, and Thomas Costa of the Government Accountability Office to introduce the GAO’s most recent report on the male-female pay gap.

In April, Maloney’s students — a cohort of Eva Kastan Grove Fellows — launched a national petition demanding that Congress take steps to make the Equal Rights Amendment the law of the land.

A petition kick-off event featured Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, feminist leaders Gloria Steinem and Eleanor Smeal, President Raab, and others — and brought plenty of press for the cause.

President Raab honored Maloney on June 8 with an honorary doctorate of humane letters for a 30-year congressional career that included such landmark achievements as the Second Avenue Subway, regulating the credit-card industry, spearheading federal aid for 9/11 victims, and advocating for gun control, equal rights, and health care.

“I’m so privileged to be leading the rising generation to activism, and Hunter’s Grove Fellows are clearly the cream of the crop,” said Maloney.

Maloney also took several students to Washington, D.C., on Feb. 28 to witness the historic Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the ERA in almost 40 years. Maloney introduced a bill in the House to recognize ratification of the ERA before she exited Congress at the end of 2022.

Eleanor Roosevelt, who shared a commitment to equality and opportunity for all, said Jessica Neuwirth, distinguished lecturer at Roosevelt House and the Rita E. Hauser Director of its Human Rights Program. “With her unparalleled public policy savvy, she is showing our fellows how to get things done.”

On March 14, Equal Pay Day, Maloney joined Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, Congress Member Debbie Dingell (D-MI), a host of feminist luminaries, and Thomas Costa of the Government Accountability Office to introduce the GAO’s most recent report on the male-female pay gap.

In April, Maloney’s students — a cohort of Eva Kastan Grove Fellows — launched a national petition demanding that Congress take steps to make the Equal Rights Amendment the law of the land.

A petition kick-off event featured Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, feminist leaders Gloria Steinem and Eleanor Smeal, President Raab, and others — and brought plenty of press for the cause.

President Raab honored Maloney on June 8 with an honorary doctorate of humane letters for a 30-year congressional career that included such landmark achievements as the Second Avenue Subway, regulating the credit-card industry, spearheading federal aid for 9/11 victims, and advocating for gun control, equal rights, and health care.

“I’m so privileged to be leading the rising generation to activism, and Hunter’s Grove Fellows are clearly the cream of the crop,” said Maloney.

Maloney also took several students to Washington, D.C., on Feb. 28 to witness the historic Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the ERA in almost 40 years. Maloney introduced a bill in the House to recognize ratification of the ERA before she exited Congress at the end of 2022.

Eleanor Roosevelt, who shared a commitment to equality and opportunity for all, said Jessica Neuwirth, distinguished lecturer at Roosevelt House and the Rita E. Hauser Director of its Human Rights Program. “With her unparalleled public policy savvy, she is showing our fellows how to get things done.”

On March 14, Equal Pay Day, Maloney joined Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, Congress Member Debbie Dingell (D-MI), a host of feminist luminaries, and Thomas Costa of the Government Accountability Office to introduce the GAO’s most recent report on the male-female pay gap.

In April, Maloney’s students — a cohort of Eva Kastan Grove Fellows — launched a national petition demanding that Congress take steps to make the Equal Rights Amendment the law of the land.

A petition kick-off event featured Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, feminist leaders Gloria Steinem and Eleanor Smeal, President Raab, and others — and brought plenty of press for the cause.

President Raab honored Maloney on June 8 with an honorary doctorate of humane letters for a 30-year congressional career that included such landmark achievements as the Second Avenue Subway, regulating the credit-card industry, spearheading federal aid for 9/11 victims, and advocating for gun control, equal rights, and health care.

“I’m so privileged to be leading the rising generation to activism, and Hunter’s Grove Fellows are clearly the cream of the crop,” said Maloney.

Maloney also took several students to Washington, D.C., on Feb. 28 to witness the historic Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the ERA in almost 40 years. Maloney introduced a bill in the House to recognize ratification of the ERA before she exited Congress at the end of 2022.
THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

President Raab Presents Dance Icon Jody Gottfried Arnhold with Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

President Raab. “Her leadership has truly been a game changer for Hunter, and we are so grateful for her tireless advocacy and all that she has done to advance dance education.” The Bakers — Patty ’82, a Hunter alumnus, and Jay, a retired investment banker — have been involved with Hunter for decades, and their generosity has helped to make the arts a reality at the university.

Hunter College Inaugurates the Baker Bridge, Uniting the School’s Main Campus

The Bakers are bridge builders in so many ways,” President Jennifer J. Raab said. “They connect students to opportunity and achievement.” The Bakers — Patty ’82, a Hunter College Foundation trustee and the chair of the Theatre Advisory Board, and Jay, a retail wizard — made it all possible nearly 10 years ago when their donation provided the funds needed to buy the building, once used as a school, from the Archdiocese of New York. The bridge leads from the East Building into the new Gruber Lounge, an inviting space for students to relax that features 19th-century columns and Guastavino tile vaults with colorful, modernist tufted furniture funded by Harriet Gruber ’81.

“Harriet Gruber — one of the Theatre Advisory Board’s earliest members — generously supported the renovation of the lounge area. “These incredible people helped make our Theatre Department one of the most extraordinary programs in the country,” President Raab said. “They have made our vision of being the public school of the arts a reality.”

Harper Montgomery Named Bershad Professor and Director of Hunter’s Art Galleries

Harper Montgomery, a leading expert in Latin American art, is the new Bershad Professor of Art History and Director of the Hunter College Art Galleries. In the dual post, Montgomery will lead Hunter’s Certificate Program in Advanced Curatorial Studies, which provides training to students planning to work in museums and galleries. Montgomery, formerly the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Distinguished Lecturer in Latin American Art, succeeds the retiring Joaquin Pissarro. “Under Harper Montgomery’s leadership, the mission of the Hunter galleries will flourish,” Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab said. “We thank Joaquin Pissarro for his inspirational teaching and the many exciting exhibitions he mounted.” At the Hunter galleries, students work with private and public collections, prominent curators, outside scholars, working artists, and in partnerships with institutions such as the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, the Museum of Modern Art, and the New Museum.

The Harriet Gruber Lounge sports comfortable seating.

The Bakers celebrate the opening of the Baker Bridge.

The Bakers — Patty ’82, a Hunter alumnus, and Jay, a retired investment banker — have been involved with Hunter for decades, and their generosity has helped to make the arts a reality at the university.

President Raab. “Her leadership has truly been a game changer for Hunter, and we are so grateful for her tireless advocacy and all that she has done to advance dance education.” The Bakers — Patty ’82, a Hunter alumnus, and Jay, a retired investment banker — have been involved with Hunter for decades, and their generosity has helped to make the arts a reality at the university.

Hunter College Inaugurates the Baker Bridge, Uniting the School’s Main Campus

The campus is connected! Since Patty and Jay Baker’s $15 million donation enabled Hunter College to transform a landmark Upper East Side townhouse into the Baker Theatre Building, there has been one thing missing: a way to get there without going outside. Now, that link exists: a bridge from the Baker Building to the East Building at 68th and Lexington.

“The Bakers are bridge builders in so many ways,” President Jennifer J. Raab said. “They connect students to opportunity and achievement.”

The Bakers — Patty ’82, a Hunter College Foundation trustee and the chair of the Theatre Advisory Board, and Jay, a retail wizard — made it all possible nearly 10 years ago when their donation provided the funds needed to buy the building, once used as a school, from the Archdiocese of New York. The bridge leads from the East Building into the new Gruber Lounge, an inviting space for students to relax that features 19th-century columns and Guastavino tile vaults with colorful, modernist tufted furniture funded by Harriet Gruber ’81.

“Harriet Gruber — one of the Theatre Advisory Board’s earliest members — generously supported the renovation of the lounge area. “These incredible people helped make our Theatre Department one of the most extraordinary programs in the country,” President Raab said. “They have made our vision of being the public school of the arts a reality.”

Harriet Gruber (second from right) and family with President Raab at the lounge opening.

The Harriet Gruber Lounge sports comfortable seating.
EDUCATION AT HUNTER

Hunter Dedicates Early Childhood Classroom Named for Elise C. Tepper and Family

Hunter School of Education students have a new classroom for early childhood teaching, thanks to the generosity of Elise Tepper ’56 and her family.

The $350,000 gift outfitted the Elise C. Tepper and Family Early Childhood Classroom in Hunter’s West Building with state-of-the-art furniture, toys, and books to teach language skills to kids in preschool through second grade.

“This is truly the gift that keeps on giving,” Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab said at the ribbon-cutting in February. “Every aspect of this classroom’s design allows children to explore literacy in a culturally relevant setting.”

Tepper studied early childhood at Hunter, taught kindergarten after college, and volunteered for countless hours at her local library, so supporting a developmentally appropriate classroom was a natural. “This will be a fantastic place for our students to learn the ABCs of becoming a teacher,” said Tepper, who has two grandchildren who attended Hunter.

Interim Silverstein Dean of the School of Education Jennifer Tuten noted that Thomas Hunter started the college in 1870 to promote teacher excellence. “This classroom will support the children as they acquire this knowledge.”

Pesky’s Fund Learning Lab Director

Thanks to a $310,000 gift from the late Wendy ’62 and Alan Pesky, the Hunter College Learning Lab has a new director, Rhonda Bondie, who will catapult the School of Education’s research arm to new heights.

“We are thrilled to have Professor Bondie, a world-class educator, at the helm of the learning lab,” Interim Silverstein Dean of the School of Education Jennifer Tuten said. “Her great reach will enable us to disseminate more broadly the many insights and data from the lab.”

“It’s a lasting tribute to Wendy’s memory,” said Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab.

Before her death last year at age 81, Pesky for years supported efforts to help children with learning disabilities, and she was especially impressed with Hunter’s approach. Bondie will study the effect of a Hunter program in which novice teachers spend a year tutoring students with learning disabilities.

An educator with long experience in urban classrooms, she comes to Hunter from Harvard, where she developed technology that helps teachers foster early literacy.

Hunter Celebrates the Opening of Lounge in Honor of Black Studies Great John Henrik Clarke

Hunter College officially opened the John Henrik Clarke Study Lounge at the ribbon cutting at the Leon and Toby Cooperman Library on April 20.

The lounge, with spectacular views of Manhattan, honors the late John Henrik Clarke, a founder and the first chair of Hunter’s Black and Puerto Rican Studies Department (now the Department of African & Puerto Rican/Latino Studies) who taught at the college from 1969 to 1986.

“This institution was so much a part of John Henrik Clarke’s life and his legacy,” said Dean John Rose ’88. “Today we name this beautiful space for a man who loved this city, its people, and especially Hunter College.”

The lounge was the fruit of a years-long fund-raising campaign by Rose and the Witananas, a group of education, law, business, government, and public service.

The ceremony was filled with music, as Ralph Carter, who played Michael on Good Times, led the gathering in the anthem Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing.

Joyce Jones followed with an inspiring drum solo before Devynity MC ’07 enfolded the crowd with the beauti- ful spoken-word poem about Clarke. “He was driven by his commitment… Persistent… His life’s work was dedicated to confirming our existence… Our light — indeed our brilliance… This pioneer in education who dug beneath to see beyond us our reality… Because of Dr. John Henrik Clarke, I am armed more than adequately… Proud and I am honored to be a descendant of his legacy.”

Other speakers were Profes- sors Mark Payne ’82 and Anthony Browne of the African & Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Department, Rose, and James E. Conyers ’85.

A largely self-taught product of the Jim Crow South, Clarke was an heir of the Harlem Renaissance who sought to correct the predomi- nant notion in academia that the cultures and thought of people of African descent were unworthy of serious study.

A beloved mentor to generations of students, Clarke founded the Afri- can Heritage Studies Association and the Black Caucus of the African Studies Association.

He wrote or edited more than 30 books, including appreciations of Malcolm X and Marcus Garvey.

Two Hunter Professors Named to Academy of Arts and Sciences

W e’d like to thank the academy! Distinguished Professor of Psychology Virginia Valian and Philosophy Professor Linda Martin Alcoff have been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the academy announced recently.

The academy promotes excellence in the liberal arts, sciences, global affairs, and democracy.

“I am absolutely thrilled that the academy has recognized the achievements of these wonderful scholars and beloved teachers,” said President Jennifer J. Raab, herself a member of the academy, having been elected to it in 2016. “It’s yet another sign of Hunter’s promi- nence among academic institutions, not only in America, but across the world.”

Valian, an expert on gender equity and the psychology of language, directs the Language Acquisition Research Center and the Gender Equity Project at the Graduate Center.

Hunter. She also is a member of the doctoral faculties of Psychology, Linguistics, and Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Alcoff, who also teaches at the CUNY Graduate Center and writes on race and gender, is a past presi- dent of the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division.

Her recent books include Race and Resistance: Understanding the Complexities of Sexual Viola- tion (Polity 2018), The Future of Whiteness (Wiley 2015), and Visible Identities: Race, Gender, and the Self (Oxford University Press 2006), which won the Franz Fanon Award.
In Memoriam

**Leona Chanin, HCHS '34, HC '38**

Leona Chanin HCHS '34, HC '38 — a founding Hunter College Foundation board member whose million-dollar grant funded the Leona & Harry Chanin Language Center — died in Palm Beach, Fla., on Feb. 2, 2022 at age 103. Chanin inspired generations of alumni through her philanthropy. She was a prominent giver not only to Hunter, but also to a variety of Jewish causes. Hunter inducted Chanin into its Hall of Fame in 1979 and awarded her an honorary doctorate in 1994. She also was a champion and supporter of the Hunter College High School Library and the restoration of Roosevelt House. Leona was always an amazing presence at events on campus,” Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab said. “Her legacy will live on in our students’ success.”

**Jane Oppenheim, HCHS '44, HC '47**

Charlotte K. Frank, MS ED ’66, who took what she learned at Hunter’s School of Education and created an American classroom instruction, died on May 26, 2022 in Manhattan at age 93. The daughter of unlettered Eastern European Jewish immigrants, Frank was already a teacher when she came to pursue her master’s at Hunter. She later earned a doctorate from New York University. Tapped in 1980 to oversee curriculum and instruction for the New York City Board of Education, Frank overhauled the schools with an eye toward increasing equity and countering racial prejudice.

**Phyllis L. Kossoff '46**

Phyllis L. Kossoff ’46 — whose endowed lecture series at the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute has drawn Supreme Court justices, a Nobel Prize laureate, and other notables — died Nov. 15, 2022 in New York at age 96.

A teacher by training, Kossoff began advocating and raising money for medical research in the late 1950s — when her infant daughter Stephanie was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis. Her advocacy for children stricken by the disease led to her induction into Hunter’s Hall of Fame in 1997. Kossoff championed the revival of Roosevelt House, and soon endowed a lecture series in order to bring, as she wrote, “leading figures in public life for conversation and reflection on pressing issues.”

**Jane Oppenheim, HCHS '44, HC '47**

Jane Oppenheim, HCHS ’44, HC ’47 — a founding Hunter College Alumni Association board member who headed the Hall of Fame Committee, died on June 10, 2021 in Scranton, Penn. Oppenheim herself was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1992 and received Hunter’s Outstanding Community Service Award in 2010. She served on the Hunter College Foundation Board from 2003 to 2021 and was a charter member of the Theatre Advisory Board. She was a devoted supporter of Hunter’s library, the Theatre Department and the Mother’s Day Scholarship Fund.

**Eva Kastan Grove ’58**

Eva Kastan Grove ’58, who endowed a scholarship program at the Roosevelt House Institute for Public Policy at Hunter College that provides training for young advocates interested in public service, died May 31 at her home in Los Altos Hills, Calif., at age 87. Kastan Grove’s $9 million gift also funds scholarships and internships, with a preference to students who are immigrants, the children of immigrants, or are undocumented.

A child refugee from Nazi Austria, Kastan Grove spent her youth in Bolivia and moved to New York at age 18 with her family. At Hunter, she spent many hours at Roosevelt House, which the Roosevelt family deeded to the college in 1943 and the college used for social activities. She met her husband, former Intel chairman Andrew Grove, himself an immigrant from Hungary, when he was a student at City College. “Hunter opened the doors to America for me,” she said. Kastan Grove dedicated her life to giving back, guided by Hunter’s motto, mihi cura cura — the care of the future is mine. An activist by nature who volunteered, marched, and wrote op-eds, Kastan Grove supported Hunter’s Immigrant Student Success Center for first-generation Americans and immigrants. “Eva Kastan Grove understood that those reaching for the American Dream must constantly advocate to ensure their rights and freedoms,” said Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab. “Her legacy is a cadre of graduates with the finest education in the nation, many of whom work in top public-policy positions. We will miss her greatly.”

**Charlotte K. Frank, MS ED ’66**

The Hunter College Hall of Famer brought new thinking to reading and math instruction and modernized sex education. In 1968, Frank brought her knowledge to the educational publishing company McGraw Hill, from which she retired as senior vice president. The Hunter College Hall of Fame inducted Frank into its Hall of Fame in 1997.

**Phyllis L. Kossoff ’46**

Phyllis was a teacher’s teacher.” When he was in his office, he was always facing the door, meeting everyone to walk in and chat.” He made everyone feel valuable.” Those were some of the heartfelt reminiscences members of the Hunter family shared at a memorial for Robert “Bob” Stanley, a widely respected faculty member who chaired the Department of Communications and helped build the Film & Media Department into an internationally recognized powerhouse.

Stanley, who taught at Hunter College for more than 40 years, died last October. He was 82. “As a scholar, teacher, and author in the media world, Bob was behind the camera, so to speak,” said Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab. “But to those who knew and admired him, Bob was truly a star.”

Stanley, who introduced generations of students to the study of modern media, was an accomplished scholar who wrote several of the most-used books in university film courses, including Media Studies: A Cultural-Historical Approach (2002), Making Sense of Movies: Filmmaking in the Hollywood Style (2002), and The Celluloid Empire: A History of the American Motion Picture Industry (1978). He served for many years as a judge for the International Emmy Awards of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

Speaker after speaker rose to extol his retirement, his scholarship, his dedication, and his witty sense of humor. Stanley was an innovator, incorporating film, video, and sound clips into his lectures. He tirelessly championed the first-time efforts of Hunter’s fledgling Hunter Community Remembers Beloved Film Professor Bob Stanley

**Eva Kastan Grove ’58**

Hunter opened the doors to America for me.” She was a teacher’s teacher.” When he was in his office, he was always facing the door, meeting everyone to walk in and chat.” He made everyone feel valuable.” Those were some of the heartfelt reminiscences members of the Hunter family shared at a memorial for Robert “Bob” Stanley, a widely respected faculty member who chaired the Department of Communications and helped build the Film & Media Department into an internationally recognized powerhouse.

Stanley, who taught at Hunter College for more than 40 years, died last October. He was 82. “As a scholar, teacher, and author in the media world, Bob was behind the camera, so to speak,” said Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab. “But to those who knew and admired him, Bob was truly a star.”

Stanley, who introduced generations of students to the study of modern media, was an accomplished scholar who wrote several of the most-used books in university film courses, including Media Studies: A Cultural-Historical Approach (2002), Making Sense of Movies: Filmmaking in the Hollywood Style (2002), and The Celluloid Empire: A History of the American Motion Picture Industry (1978). He served for many years as a judge for the International Emmy Awards of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

Speaker after speaker rose to extol his retirement, his scholarship, his dedication, and his witty sense of humor. Stanley was an innovator, incorporating film, video, and sound clips into his lectures. He tirelessly championed the first-time efforts of Hunter’s fledgling Hunter Community Remembers Beloved Film Professor Bob Stanley
Alex Kohen HCHS ’05, MHC ’09, a two-time Hunter alumnus and now, board member, truly bleeds Hunter purple. As a student at Hunter College High School, where he commuted to and from Queens, Kohen’s academic prowess, commitment to service and community, as well as his leadership potential began to shine. Outside of the classroom — where he naturally excelled — Kohen spent his spare time volunteering at an environmental center, and at the Jewish cultural awareness club. He also became active in student government.

So when Kohen enrolled as a Macaulay Scholar at Hunter College in 2005 — one of the earliest cohorts — it was no surprise that he quickly became a student leader on campus. He served as Undergraduate Student Government finance commissioner, vice president, and eventually, president. He was also a member of the steering committee for the Middle States Commission of Higher Education.

He worked with education policy expert Professor Joseph Viteritti researching how high schools can improve college access for low-income students — interviewing students, faculty, and administrators at the brand-new Manhattan Hunter Science High School.

He twice participated in a winter study abroad in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil — a historic venue, as the primary port of the African slave trade — and learned Portuguese. As a senior, he interned at Blacksmith NYC, a music company that manages artists.

That’s when he discovered that he didn’t want to go into entertainment law. “It helped me close doors that I didn’t want to open,” Kohen said.

Kohen graduated co- valedictorian, Phi Beta Kappa, and summa cum laude with a degree in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Urban Studies, and Political Science, and went on to earn his law degree from New York University Law School, armed with a clearer focus, thanks to Hunter’s Pre-Law Program, in 2012. Within a year, he became active with the program as an alum, serving as a mentor to help ensure future Hunter students would benefit from the programming, courses, and internships.

It was natural to quickly give back to the school that had given him so much. So when Kohen — who worked closely with President Jennifer J. Raab, as both an undergraduate student leader and as an alum with the Pre-Law Program — approached her about his interest in becoming involved on boards, she stopped him in his tracks.

“I had been inquiring about the possibility of joining a different board, and she said, ‘Why would you join a different board? I am about to ask you to join this one!’”

Since joining the Hunter College Foundation Board in 2014, Kohen has served on both the audit and investment committees. He quickly partnered with Abhinav “Anshu” Prasad, a fellow HCHS graduate and chair of the audit committee, to ensure the board paid close attention to furthering the interests of the Hunter College Campus Schools in addition to those of the college.

He has also set his sights on forging the bonds of Hunter’s Macaulay Honors College alumni with their alma mater. He is the leading voice on reconnecting those alumni to the school that enabled them to achieve the American Dream. His mission is to create a Hunter Macaulay network, encouraging alumni like himself to give back both philanthropically as well as by mentoring and providing opportunities for the next generation.

Now a director at BNP Paribas, a French international banking group with assets valued at $2.8 trillion, Kohen recently stepped up to chair the HCF investment committee at a critical time with the advent of the $52 million gift from Leonard A. Lauder and an endowment that has grown to $180 million.

“It is an honor beyond measure to serve the school that changed my life,” said Kohen. “To do so at such a historic moment, with the transformative gift from Leonard A. Lauder, is a testament to the power of being a part of the Hunter College family. They provide you with the tools to make a difference, and they nurture you to become the very leaders who will ensure that legacy lives on for countless future Hunter students.”