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THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE

GENERATIONS OF VALIANTS EFFECT CHANGE
Manhattanville College's Mission is to educate students to be ethical and socially responsible leaders in a global community.

We are committed to:

Ensuring the intellectual, ethical, and social development of each student within a community of engaged scholars and teachers;

Encouraging each student to develop as an independent and creative thinker in pursuing career and personal goals;

And providing a diverse, inclusive, and nurturing environment that develops in each student a commitment to service and leadership within a global community.

Manhattanville College is committed to equality of educational opportunity and is an equal opportunity employer. The College does not discriminate against current or prospective students and employees on the basis of race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin, religion, age, disability, or any other legally protected characteristic. This College policy is implemented in educational and admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs, and in employee-related programs.

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On the cover, left to right: Elaine Doviak Brenchley ’69, Joan Pellegrino Carter ’69, Katherine Hickey Fulham ’71, Linda Anne Sullivan Powers ’88, Victoria Steinier ’18, Dylan Hayes ’18, Lanasha Porter ’17, Erica Harris ’18, Jesse Cristofaro ’17, Iris Chadwick ’16, Billie Jefferson (standing) ’18, and Isabel Martinez ’16.
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Dear Alumni, Friends, Faculty, Staff, Parents, and Students,

The publication of the Manhattanville Magazine in spring has always afforded me the opportunity to write about growth and promise, the signature characteristics of the season, and the mainstays of any institution of higher learning worth its salt. At Manhattanville, growth and promise are in plentiful supply due to the unwavering commitment to our liberal arts roots and the College’s best traditions of academic excellence and social engagement.

Our magazine focuses on the theme of making the difference, on many levels. There is the difference Manhattanville makes for its students while they are here and the responsibility of our students and alumni to make a difference in the world, whether within the campus community or within the wider world after they leave Purchase. And importantly, there is the difference our alumni make to the College by giving back in myriad ways after they graduate.

Our cover, with photos of students past and present on the same beautiful staircase, once again juxtaposes those eras at Manhattanville. Several of today’s recent alumni are introduced in the article, “Pivot Point,” which focuses on their diverse interests, talents, and career paths. I think you will be impressed by the success of these young people within our community.

In this issue, we are also proud to introduce Dr. Lisa Krissoff Boehm, founding Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, reporting on the vision for the School, including the important launch of five-year, dual degree programs integrated with our existing departments and graduate schools. There are updates from the School of Education and the School of Business, underscoring the tremendously fertile academic environment on our campus.

This issue of the magazine will also update you on some of our extraordinary faculty members, longtime and brand new to the College, whose commitments to their fields of study are as inspirational to the community as the courses they teach. Of course, you will also see profiles of Manhattanville alumni who, in keeping with our tradition, are providing their service and expertise to their worlds, large and small.

The activity on campus is highlighted: from the second stimulating year of Castle Conversations, Manhattanville’s speaker series which continues to bring friends and neighbors to campus for lively discussions, to a preview of the third annual Manhattanville Athletics Hall of Fame class and ceremony planned for October of this year. All of these events are well worth a visit if you live in the area or can visit Purchase.

The article “Community in Action,” captures the essence of the successful and collegial process that identified Manhattanville’s next president. Led by Trustee Marcia DeWitt and a dedicated search committee made up of trustees, alumni, faculty, and students, the more than a year-long search not only yielded an excellent candidate, Dr. Michael Geisler, but also illustrated the strength and collaborative spirit of our community—one of which I am so proud to have been a part.

As you know, Jean M.F.A. ’14 and I will be leaving campus at the end of June, having enjoyed our five years at this fine institution. We often reflect on the fact that while we have served at a number of excellent colleges and universities, Manhattanville stands out as truly making a difference in the lives of its students. Whether they arrive fully committed to a field of study, or as eager “undecideds,” students here blossom and thrive under the warmth and energy of the entire faculty, staff, and alumni community. We have been honored by the establishment of The Jon and Jean Strauss Campus Preservation Fund to ensure the on-going beauty and historical preservation of the Manhattanville campus, and, of course, by the naming of Strauss Circle at the new campus entrance. We sincerely hope that during our time here, we have made a difference for the College, and we ask you to continue to do the same—intellectually, emotionally, and financially.

With appreciation and warm regards,

Jon C. Strauss, Ph.D.
President
Community in Action:
The success of Manhattanville’s presidential search reflects the strength of our community.

By Allison Scola
Manhattanville is engaged in a transformation. On campus there is an air of great anticipation and enthusiasm for the future, while at the same time, there is a deep sense of commitment to the essential elements on which the College was founded. The atmosphere, one where 40 percent of the full-time faculty have been appointed within the last five years, boasts a great sense of excitement.

Since his arrival in Purchase in fall 2011, Manhattanville’s retiring president, Jon Strauss, created an environment of stability. Along with administrators and faculty, he set the institution on a path of financial strength, strategic enrollment management, improved academic programs, and distinct physical improvements. “He’s given us the framework and support to be poised for the future,” Professor of History and Director of American Studies Colin Morris said.

Anticipating Strauss’ retirement, during the summer of 2014, the Board of Trustees set out to build upon Strauss’ groundwork and put into place a scheme to hire the College’s next leader. That June, the trustees met with Theodore E. Long of AGB Consulting, who led them through in-depth discussions to map out their vision for Manhattanville’s future. Board President Don Callahan ’78, P ’14 spoke with peer institutions about their past search processes and experiences, and he appointed Board of Trustees Vice Chair Marcia Pearce DeWitt ’69 to lead the Presidential Search Committee.

DeWitt got to work immediately, starting with interviewing over a hundred people about their thoughts regarding what kind of leadership Manhattanville needed. She spoke with past Manhattanville presidents, faculty, alumni, students, and fellow board members and determined that the fundamental requirement for the institution’s next leader was an understanding of “the intrinsic values that underpin Manhattanville College”—someone who would continue to ensure the intellectual, ethical, and social development of each student within the community of engaged scholars and teachers.

To reflect the outcome she understood the College’s constituencies wanted and needed, DeWitt fostered a process that promoted constructive discussions and holistic representation. She designed a committee made up of 11 individuals who would represent an array of stakeholders across the Manhattanville community. Over the course of late fall 2014 and early winter 2015 and after a series of town-hall-style meetings and elections, faculty, administrators, staff, and students appointed their nominees. DeWitt interviewed those individuals and selected the six trustees, three faculty members, one administrator, and one student to serve on the committee. She set out to ensure that the process was transparent and the communication about it was readily available to all parties interested.

In spring 2015, the Search Committee went to work. They chose and retained expert search firm Archer Martin Associates and set out to finalize a job description. They determined that a successful candidate would be a student-centered individual who could effectively steward institutional sustainability. He or she would have a strong history of leadership and planning as well as a proven record of fundraising. A terminal degree was preferred, but not required. Importantly, the candidate needed to be entrepreneurial, collaborative, communicative, and inspirational. “We are [also] looking for someone who can make us better known,” DeWitt said, explaining that the College wanted someone who could be a visible spokesperson locally, regionally, and nationally—someone who could position Manhattanville as a leader in celebrating liberal, experiential, and global learning for the 21st century.

Morris, who was one of three faculty members on the search committee, explained that the group “had the luxury of having a careful, thoughtful process thanks to the stability that Jon [Strauss] brought to the College. We had extensive discussions to talk about the process itself,” he said, adding, “before we met the candidates, [the Committee] became a communicative and collegial team."

Such an environment created an open and dynamic climate. “Everyone was so committed to our mission,” Morris said.

Student representative Chanda Pen ’17, a communication studies and political science major, explained that during her time on the search committee, she learned a great deal about the field of higher education and its current trends. She also learned how the Board of Trustees functions—more specifically, how much the members care. “They want to connect with students and faculty and staff. They want an understanding of everything going on at Manhattanville. They have a strong sense of Valiant pride,” Pen said.
True to Pen’s statement, in late August/early September, open forums with each constituency were held to discuss the qualities, talents, and experience needed for Manhattanville’s next president. Attendance was strong. The meetings, which illustrated the community’s significant commitment to and love for Manhattanville, offered articulate, forthcoming ideas that resulted in modifications of and additions to the "Presidential Leadership Profile," a comprehensive document made available to prospective candidates that extensively outlined not only what Manhattanville was seeking, but also who and what made up the institution.

Faculty were looking for someone who had real-life experience in higher education. Students sought a president who would be available to them and who has compassion. “I want a president who knows my name, cares about my future, and wants the best for Manhattanville,” Pen said.

By September, the Committee received close to 90 applications from professionals hailing from different industries including academia, business, and government. DeWitt described it as a “vibrant pool.” The number was narrowed by Nancy Martin and Lorna Edmundson of Archer Martin Associates to the 30 candidates they determined held the strongest credentials. Fourteen applicants were interviewed by the Search Committee by video conference or in person, and at the end of October, DeWitt reported through an email that every voice was heard, “Thus far, there has been unanimity among Search Committee members in choosing the leading candidates.”

Both Morris and Pen described a very collegial climate among committee members. “There were times when we completely disagreed,” Pen said. “There were different opinions, which is bound to happen with 11 people in the room. Everyone was willing to listen and were willing to push back, but also willing to understand each other’s position.”

Fellow Search Committee member Elizabeth McCormack ’44, who is currently on the Board of Trustees and served as Manhattanville’s president from 1966-1974, explained, “Often in these circumstances … each member representing their group speaks only to what is important to their constituency; however, here, each group representing each constituency was so united. Each individual not only represented their constituencies, but they were also very focused on representing the College, which isn’t always the truth.

“As we met candidates and interviewed candidates in various ways, the group was thinking and expressing itself differently, but always with the same message: Is this what Manhattanville College needs at this moment in its history?”

By mid-November, the Search Committee narrowed the pool to two candidates. An invitation was extended to the entire community to participate in three days of face-to-face round tables, town halls, and interviews with the finalists. From November 20 to 23, the Manhattanville community engaged wholeheartedly in the process, posing thoughtful questions and detailing its priorities. “The [Search] Committee made sure every voice was heard,” Pen said.

The candidate visits consisted of campus tours, interviews with the Search Committee and trustees, and forums with current students, senior administrators, and faculty. Both candidates participated in community receptions to which alumni and friends were invited. Attendees were encouraged to submit their thoughts through a secure online survey or paper evaluation forms. “The candidates really responded to our process. The fact that the Board was asking tough questions—our enthusiasm matched up with their enthusiasm,” DeWitt explained.

Morris reported, “Sessions were lively and engaged. There wasn’t a single person there who wasn’t actively participating on every level. The whole community was really invested in this and took it really seriously.”

After the weekend, the Search Committee gave its nomination to the Board of Trustees. “Our recommendation was unanimous. It was amazing,” McCormack said. “I’ve been on search committees for Swarthmore College and Hamilton College—We came to an agreement very quickly. It was a very rewarding experience.”

On December 10, an email was transmitted to the entire community announcing that Dr. Michael Geisler, Vice President for Risk and Compliance, Professor of German, and former Vice President for the Language Schools at Middlebury College will be the thirteenth president of Manhattanville College. “Michael is just the kind of person I hoped we’d find,” McCormack said.

“He had so many questions about students and student life. I found myself talking to him. It was as if he was already the president of Manhattanville,” Pen said. “He wanted to know what Manhattanville means to me.”

“Michael showed a passion for the school and the school’s mission. He showed a passion for partnering with Manhattanville,” DeWitt said.

“The Board and the Search Committee were unanimous. It feels right. Now we have a lot of work ahead of us,” DeWitt stated, explaining that for the next year or more the Search Committee in concert with guidance from Archer Martin will turn their attention to orienting Geisler to the community and helping him strategically set his priorities and course of action.

“It is an exciting time,” DeWitt said. “The commitment and the desire to make it a success is very strong.”

“The most important thing that I can say is that it was extraordinary in the sense that it was a very diverse group representing the faculty, board, students, alumni, and the administration. Each constituency was represented.”

Elizabeth McCormack ’44, Trustee and Manhattanville College President from 1966-1974
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Visionary Gift: Manhattanville Receives Largest Collection of Modern Artist’s Work

By Adrienne Anifant

Manhattanville College has become the owner of the largest collection of artwork and biographical material of the acclaimed modern artist, Manfred Schwartz. Throughout his life, Schwartz maintained a unique style and perspective that explored light, color, rhythm and their inherent musicality. His circle of friends, mentors, and influences included 20th century masters such as Braque, Duchamp, Rouault, Picasso, and Matisse.

Manhattanville alumnus Andrew Dellava ’73 donated more than 200 paintings, lithographs, original sketchbooks, drawings, and sketches. Schwartz’s cousin, Felice Berenson, gave personal family memorabilia that includes family photos of Schwartz, his letters, and various documents such as exhibition and museum announcements.

Dellava and Berenson are thrilled that Manhattanville is the recipient of Manfred Schwartz’s works. “His personal documents and photographs will provide the College community and its students with the most authoritative and complete ensemble of the artist’s work and life,” Dellava said.

Berenson became the custodian of Schwartz’s estate after his death and, subsequently, inherited his remaining works. She introduced Dellava to Schwartz when they first met. Dellava was instantly moved by the musicality of Schwartz’s magnum opus, “Celestials,” and he began to acquire the artist’s works. Dellava has worked for the past 20 years as the dairy marketing manager for Hoard’s Dairyman Magazine, the nation’s oldest and most renowned dairy publication. He said he was inspired to donate his Schwartz collection to his alma mater in appreciation of the quality liberal arts education he received while a student at Manhattanville.

“Manhattanville provided me with an incredible liberal arts education and, more importantly, prepared me to live life fully—intellectually, philosophically, emotionally,” Dellava said. “I cannot underestimate the immense impact my professors and classes at Manhattanville had on me in terms of understanding and realizing the value of artists, in all genres, on our civilization.”

Felice Berenson said the collection’s range will give students insight into the growth and development of the artist over his lifetime.

“It will be wonderful for students; they will see how Schwartz’s mind was working,” said Berenson. “If you can reach students with art, the art talks to them. You can never know what it will give them.”
Students in Manhattanville’s Museum Studies seminar have had the special opportunity to work hands-on with the Manfred Schwartz collection throughout the spring 2016 semester. In addition to cataloguing and archiving the collection’s more than 200 objects, students worked cooperatively to plan, design, and install the Schwartz exhibition in Manhattanville’s Berger Gallery for an exhibit that opened in April. Through the course, Manhattanville students gained the knowledge, experience, and skills necessary for pursuing a career in museums.

“It is an honor for Manhattanville to have received this very generous gift from Mr. Andrew Dellava ’73,” said Assistant Professor Deborah Saleeby-Mulligan in the Department of Art History. “It is not only the largest collection of Schwartz’s work, but also it represents all phases of the artist’s productive career from his early figurative work to his highly sought-after late abstract paintings known as the Etretat & Celestial series.”

Saleeby-Mulligan said this opportunity for students to study the original works of art is integral to the richness of their education at Manhattanville.

“The advantages of having access to a primary source of such high quality is invaluable,” said Saleeby-Mulligan.

Dellava is especially excited Manhattanville is the repository of Schwartz’s work and a focal point for the semester’s coursework.

“I am both honored and humbled that Manfred Schwartz is being studied and exhibited this semester,” said Dellava. In addition, he believes that a vibrant educational community, such as Manhattanville, is the perfect place for this collection.

“I wanted his work to live and breathe,” said Dellava. “Manfred Schwartz loved teaching and reaching out to someone else’s mind. We hope this collection does that. I hope it inspires students to see, to envision what lies beyond.”
Annie Gelfand '18
Majors: History, Sociology
Minor: Women's and Gender Studies

In just two years at Manhattanville, Annie Gelfand has made a substantial contribution to the campus community. A rising junior from Carmel, N.Y., with a double-major in history and sociology and a minor in women’s and gender studies, Gelfand is a member of Manhattanville’s Student-Faculty Alliance and helped to organize the college’s first Diversity Career Summit, with the aim of promoting inclusiveness on campus and in the workplace.

Much of her work has been with the student organization, Breaking the Silence, which is dedicated to “opening a dialogue about and raising awareness of rape culture and domestic violence,” she says. After spending last year as the group’s vice president, Gelfand will serve as president beginning with the fall 2016 semester. Breaking the Silence has sponsored a number of events, including a presentation on relationship violence by the Pace Women’s Justice Center and a screening of the documentary film “The Hunting Ground,” which addresses sexual assault on college campuses.

“Holding events on campus that address the reality of the prevalence of sexual assault on college campuses allows students to do things such as watch ‘The Hunting Ground’ in a community with similar concerns and which can act as a safe space for discussion,” Gelfand says.

Off campus, Gelfand has interned at PEACE OUTside Campus, where she gave presentations to high school students about transitioning to college safely. She has also served as a peer leader for a young women’s group at Green Chimneys, an organization that aims to help young people build connections with the natural world.

Gelfand notes that the Manhattanville community offers numerous opportunities for service. “I think that the Duchesne Center for Religion and Social Justice and the daily community service opportunities that it offers definitely foster civic engagement,” she says.

In addition, as a member of the Castle Scholar Honors Program, she is required to complete service projects centered on organizing the College’s Human Rights Awareness Day or Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Fair. She has also had a number of formative intellectual experiences through the Castle Scholars honors seminars.

“My freshman Castle Scholars seminar, ‘The Salem Witch Trials,’ taught by Professor Colin Morris opened my eyes to the different ways to approach looking at history after the years of dry high school history classes,” she says. “‘Social Theory Through the Arts’ with Professor Elizabeth Cherry, another Castle Scholars seminar, influenced the way that I look at and consume media, and was a really interesting way to be introduced to social theory.”

With half of her college career completed, Gelfand is looking forward to the next two years. “My experience at Manhattanville has been overwhelmingly positive,” she says. “The faculty and staff are incredibly supportive and have helped me grow and flourish as a student and member of the community.”
David Nielsen ’16
Major: English Literature

During his four years at Manhattanville, David Nielsen has occupied a variety of roles: Castle Scholar, resident advisor, peer mentor, and teacher’s assistant, all of which allowed him to make a considerable impact on his fellow students. But in his most recent position, student body president, Nielsen, an English literature major from Brewster, N.Y., has worked to implement substantive changes that will enhance the student experience for the Manhattanville community well into the future.

Among these changes was the establishment of an office for the Student Government Association (SGA) in Spellman Hall, the first-year residence hall. “To me, student government is all about making sure there is a shared governance of the College between its students and the administration,” Nielsen says. “Having an SGA office in a building for first-year students is very beneficial because it increases the chance of getting our first-year students engaged more immediately in their transition process.”

Nielsen also shepherded the drafting of an SGA constitution. “In past years SGA has not had a single, cohesive document that actually outlined the organization of the body,” he says. “We are proud to say that our newly written constitution will be brought to the Board of Trustees in June. This is a major step in the right direction for SGA.”

As satisfying as his SGA accomplishments have been, Nielsen is equally proud of his work as a resident advisor. “Being a resident advisor has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my college career,” he says. “I have learned so much about myself and about how equally important education outside of the classroom is for college students. For the past three years I have sponsored dozens of programs for the residential students at Manhattanville, and I can only hope that those programs have helped to make a difference on campus in one way or another.”

In the fall, Nielsen will begin graduate study at SUNY Buffalo State, working as a resident director while pursuing a master’s degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration—the next step on a career path for which Manhattanville has prepared him, intellectually and experientially.

“Manhattanville provided me with a very unique college experience,” he says. “The College’s Student Affairs Division has specifically offered me a wealth of different avenues to explore my various interests, and the values I have been exposed to through my sociology classes tie directly into the elements of social action mentioned in the College’s mission statement. Essentially, Manhattanville has empowered me to be a stronger student, a more vigorous agent of change, and a more holistic person all-around. I will always have Manhattanville to thank for that.”

Natcha Rummaneethorn ’16
Major: Biochemistry
Minor: Mathematics

Originally from Thailand, Natcha Rummaneethorn applied to Manhattanville on the advice of educators and counselors at her high school in Bangkok. Four years later, she has an “unforgettable” collection of memories, including playing in the snow with her friends during a snowstorm freshman year, a trip to Italy sponsored by the Department of Art History, and “too many” other memories that “it would take a whole textbook to fill up,” she says.

A biochemistry major with a minor in mathematics, Rummaneethorn has been active in the Manhattanville community and currently serves as treasurer of both the Tribeta Biological Honor Society and the American Chemical Society student groups on campus. She has also excelled academically, earning first place in the poster session of the Burke Medical Research Institute’s Summer Student Research Program for a poster detailing her research on the effect of the TMPyP4 molecule on adult neural stem cells.

Her thesis research at Manhattanville focuses on the organic compound D-limonene and its role as “a natural antibiotic,” she says, which could be used to counter hospital-based infections—work with implications for her future career as a medical doctor. After graduating this May, Rummaneethorn will be returning to Thailand for the summer before enrolling at St. George’s University School of Medicine in Grenada.

“Manhattanville has given me various opportunities that would be impossible for me to accomplish outside of this community, such as having a dinner with the president of the College every semester,” she says. “I was able to meet numerous outstanding Manhattanville students and faculty from different fields, construct close relationships with professors, and make a number of wonderful friends. I haven’t regretted a second I’ve spent here. Praise God for all of my accomplishments!”
By Robert Ast

James E. Jones

Faculty member since: 1990
Department: World Religions and African Studies
Education: B.S., Hampton University; M.A., Yale University; D.Min., Hartford Seminary
Manhattanville Activities: Current: Basma T. Wahhaj Scholarship Committee; Castle Scholars Faculty; First Year Program Faculty; Coordinator, Center for Middle East Understanding; Chair of World Religions; Doctoral Dissertation Advisor, School of Education; Founding/Current Advisor, MSA; Member, African Heritage/Black History Month Committee; Member, Holocaust Studies Committee; Former: Advisor, BSU; Faculty, Duchessne Alliance Launch Conference at Roehampton College, London, UK; Founding Chair of African Studies; Member, Faculty Council; Member, Faculty Review Committee; Member, Student Disciplinary Board; Title IX Investigator
For Fun: Read non-fiction, play/hang out with grandchildren.

Professor James Jones is a busy man. An associate professor of world religions with a concurrent appointment in the African Studies program, he is also the coordinator of Manhattanville’s Center for Middle East Understanding. Off campus, he is a noted civil rights advocate and an expert in mediation, diversity consulting, and prison chaplaincy. Yet there is a common thread among his various pursuits. “I went to seminary, and I consider myself a reflective practitioner,” he says. “I care deeply about ethics and social justice, and so I try to think deeply about them and act ethically and with justice both in the classroom and in the public sphere.

“Much of my work has been about two things: encouraging people to tolerate difference and to be civil. There’s been a loss of civility on both sides, the right and the left. I think it’s important to avoid the fundamentalist instinct to be literal and intolerant. A liberal arts education should teach people to actually listen, even to things that hurt your ears—I’ve heard a lot of them in my life—and to think deeply about them.”

In the 25 years Jones has taught at Manhattanville, the College has become “more dynamic and diverse,” he notes, citing changes in both the academic programs offered and the now-global student body.

“I’ve been blessed to be able to work with young people for a quarter century,” he says. “Right now is a very, very tough time to be growing up. We’re all overwhelmed by technology—there’s more information and less intelligence. Part of our responsibility is to help students step back and be ethically and socially responsible in the face of the many, many vectors confronting them.”

Connie Hogarth

Faculty member since: 1998
Department: Connie Hogarth Center for Social Action (a division of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology)
Education: B.S. and Ph.B., University of Chicago
Manhattanville Activities: Mentoring and organizing students toward social activism and progressive change “From Academics to Activism”
For Fun: Devotee of chamber music and ethnic and folk music; Formerly, modern dance; Reading mostly autobiographies and books about politics; Bird study and bird watching and feeding all year round.

As a child growing up in Brooklyn, Connie Hogarth learned the power of activism early.

“My father was a union man, and when I was 7 or 8, I would walk on the picket lines with him when we would picket for better conditions and wages,” she recalls. “Those particular issues were successful, and I developed a sense that activism works: if you get out there, express yourself, and move with other concerned people on what is deeply important, you can make change.”

Hogarth has had a long career applying that insight to a broad portfolio of causes. She
cofounded the Westchester People’s Action Committee (WESPAC) and served as its director for 22 years, focusing on “social action, war and peace, nonviolence, environmental and anti-nuclear issues, and justice—in the broadest sense of the word,” she says.

After she retired from WESPAC in 1996, two professors familiar with her work, David Eisenhower and Kenneth Pittman, approached her about joining the Manhattanville community, and the Connie Hogarth Center for Social Action was born. With its diverse slate of programming, including seminars, organized demonstrations, and candlelight vigils, the Center helps students move “from academics to social activism,” Hogarth notes.

The Center also aims to engage the public through lectures and cultural events featuring notable figures, many of whom are drawn from her expansive network of contacts, such as her late friend and frequent collaborator Pete Seeger. “Pete believed in the importance of making change through music and culture,” she says, noting that the Center’s annual peace concert will be renamed in his honor.

Now in her 90th year, Hogarth plans to slow down “soon, but not quite yet,” she says. In addition to her work with the Center, Hogarth remains heavily involved with the ACLU, the NAACP, and the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater organization. She also administers the Hogarth-Sacks Internship Fund, which offers stipends to Manhattanville students interning at nonprofit organizations.

The success of her efforts is crystallized in testimonials from Manhattanville alumni who worked with the Center. “They’ve been very moving, inspirational messages about the connection of their work at the Center and their careers in areas of social concern,” she says. “It’s been wonderful to see the extraordinary impact it’s had on students.”

**Katherine Bao**

**Faculty member since: 2013**

**Department:** Psychology

**Education:** B.A., University of Virginia; Ph.D., University of California, Riverside

**Manhattanville Activities:** Psi Chi (Psychology Honor Society) Advisor, member of the Pre-Health Advisory Committee

**For Fun:** I own two cats (Evie and Archer) with my husband, Jon, and in my spare time, I enjoy reading science fiction and fantasy books, drawing, and training my cats (For example, Evie joins me for walks around campus, and Archer plays fetch.).

When she first arrived at Manhattanville in 2013, Professor Katherine Bao was in for a surprise. “As a graduate student at UC Riverside, I didn’t even know what the Chancellor looked like, but as a new faculty member at Manhattanville, I was invited to dinner at the President’s cottage—multiple times!” she recalls. “I feel a sense of belonging not only within my department, but also within the College as a whole.”

Bao, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology, pays special attention to positive experiences. Much of her research focuses on happiness and, in particular, the phenomenon of hedonic adaptation.

“Many people believe that if they can just make one change—getting married, earning a raise, or buying their dream house—then they’ll be happy,” she notes. “But research shows that we tend to return to our typical, or ‘baseline,’ levels of happiness after most events, especially positive ones. Some of my research has focused on how to delay or prevent that return to baseline. By making people aware of the phenomenon, we may be able to limit the ‘I’ll be happy when...’ type of thinking, and finding ways to slow or prevent adaptation could allow people to enjoy their new spouses and houses and gadgets for longer.”

Bao is currently researching the relationship between pet ownership and happiness, in addition to teaching core psychology courses and classes on positive psychology and the psychology of emotion.

“With Manhattanville’s small class sizes, I can connect with the students in a much more meaningful way than in the 200-person classes I taught previously,” she says. “I also find that the students here are more willing to speak up and actively engage with the material. It makes teaching all the more enjoyable.”
The Manhattanville College Library has a treasure trove of photographs and written records documenting the College’s history. Lauren Ziarko, Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, has long felt these paper records do not fully express the chronicle and heart of the school. “You want to capture not only what happened, but also what people were experiencing and feeling at the time,” she said. Now, thanks to a thoughtful 50th Reunion Gift from the Class of 1963, the College has initiated the Manhattanville Oral History Project in order to add audio and video recordings of alumni and faculty to Manhattanville’s archives.

Class of 1963 co-chairs Diane Cummins and Carol Scafati said, “Once the Oral History Project was suggested, it was so obviously the right choice for our reunion gift because of our own presence at the crossroads of so many changes, from the role of women in society to the Civil Rights Movement to the Cuban Missile Crisis. We were witnesses, and it is vital to capture our living words. “Beyond the stories of a particular class, “Manhattanville’s story,” said Ziarko, “is a micro-history of America in the twentieth century,” but, while individual stories are lenses through which to view sweeping societal changes, they are also valuable and engaging in and of themselves. “Everyone has a story to tell,” she said, remembering an alumna who recounted growing up in Nazi Germany. Now, all members of the Manhattanville community can tell their stories in the Oral History Lab, a dedicated room on the library’s second floor outfitted with recording equipment. Following oral history practices pioneered by Columbia University, Ziarko prepares her questions so that the 30 to 90-minute session is a true conversation. She noted, especially draw reticent subjects out, such as “Tell me about an individual who impacted your life here,” and a quirky choice, “What was your favorite place on campus?”

Stories of alumnae from the Class of 1963 are among the completed oral histories thus far, and transcripts of some interviews are available to researchers by contacting the library. A common theme is an acknowledgement of the impact Manhattanville made on each interviewee. “The world changed radically while we were at Manhattanville, and what we learned . . . empowered us to go forward in our own way to make the world a better place,” affirmed Cummins and Scafati. But they were quick to acknowledge the Oral History Project “...isn’t just about recording the changes while we ourselves were there. After we graduated, change continued to impact the College: men were admitted, competitive sports became part of campus life . . . and students came from more and varied backgrounds.” The mission of the Oral History Project is not only to preserve the past, but also to serve as a bequest for Manhattanville’s future—spoken words will complement and enhance the visual history gallery of Heritage Hall.

In order for the Oral History Project to be the “true legacy to future students and to Manhattanville’s story” that the Class of 1963 envisioned, Ziarko said it must evolve to include faculty-led initiatives in which current students do oral history projects as part of their classes, making it an integral part of the liberal arts educational experience. “The goal is to get the recorders into the hands of the students,” she emphasized, “to have a conversation across generations,” which is, after all, the definition of oral history.

Document your memories! Alumni and faculty, you are invited to record your story for Manhattanville’s archives. Note that you can choose whether any or all of your story is private or public, and you will be able to edit the transcript of your recording. Contact Lauren Ziarko at lauren.ziarko@mville.edu or 914.323.5422 to schedule an appointment.

Help us bring Manhattanville’s history to life by supporting the Oral History Project. Please call us at (914) 323-5439 to make a gift today.
Manhattanville College had a taste of Hollywood when it welcomed back actor and former student James Badge Dale ’03 as the keynote speaker for the 175th Undergraduate Commencement on May 14.

First Lady Jean Strauss, M.F.A. ’14 served as the keynote speaker for the Graduate and Doctoral Ceremony on May 12, and alumnus Rev. Edward Mulraine ’92 was the Baccalaureate and Honors Convocation Speaker on May 13.

Undergraduate Commencement Speaker
JAMES BADGE DALE ’03

James Badge Dale’s acting career got an early start when he was cast in the role of Simon in the 1990 version of “Lord of the Flies.” Since then, he has gone on to star in movies and television. On the silver screen he played key roles in “The Departed,” “Iron Man 3,” “World War Z,” and most recently “13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi.” His television credits include starring roles in the third season of Fox’s “24,” AMC’s “Rubicon,” and on the HBO mini-series, “The Pacific.”

Dale’s performances have contributed to “The Departed” winning the 2006 National Board of Review Award for Best Acting by an Ensemble and “Nonames” winning the 2010 Copper Wing Award for Best Ensemble Acting. Dale has also been nominated for seven other awards throughout his career.

Graduate Commencement Speaker
JEAN STRAUSS, M.F.A. ’14

Jean Strauss is a documentary filmmaker, New York Times bestselling author, and legislative activist on post adoption issues, in addition to being first lady of Manhattanville College. She received the Emma Vilardi Humanitarian Award from the American Adoption Congress in 2009 and the Outstanding Service Provider in Adoption from the Adoption Initiative in 2012.

Strauss’ books include “Birthright: The Guide to Search and Reunion,” her memoir, “Beneath a Tall Tree,” and the New York Times best seller, “Forever Liesl: A memoir of The Sound of Music.” In addition to several short films, she has made two feature films “Adopted: For the Life of Me,” which premiered on PBS in 2010; and “A Simple Piece of Paper,” which premiered at the Cleveland International Film Festival in 2014. Her forthcoming films are “Joan Lind: America’s Sculler,” about the first U.S. woman to medal in rowing in the Olympic Games, and “Once Upon a Time in New Jersey,” which details Pam Hasegawa’s journey to get the state of New Jersey to release birth records to adopted citizens, which will happen in 2017.

Baccalaureate and Honors Convocation Speaker
REV. EDWARD MULRAINE ’92

Rev. Edward Mulraine is the pastor at Unity Baptist Tabernacle Church in Mount Vernon, N.Y., a position he has held since 2003. His gift for preaching began when he was 18, leading him to serve as minister of community uplift and outreach at Mount Vernon’s Grace Baptist Church under his mentor Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson.

Community activism has always been a part of Rev. Mulraine’s life. He has served on the school board in the Bronx, as president of the Bronx Williamsbridge NAACP, and vice president of the New York State Conference of NAACP Branches. In 2009, he founded Unity and Community Day, which brings clergy, elected officials, and local residents together to discuss social justice issues.

Rev. Mulraine also founded his own publishing company, E.A. Raine Publishing, LLC, which produced his most recent books, “The Gathering at Gethsemane” and “Something To Battle With: How to Beat Temptation, Cut Suffering and Live Happy.”

Recently Rev. Mulraine announced his candidacy for New York State Senate in the 36th Senate District.
A FAIR LADY

Shane Cashman, M.F.A. ’15 and Nancy Morana were married in the newly renovated Lady Chapel on March 26. Shane is currently an adjunct professor in the Undergraduate Creative Writing Program at Manhattanville. As for many students and members of the Manhattanville community who consider the Lady Chapel an inspiring place for meditation and studying, Shane relishes the space’s beauty and peaceful environment. Between its walls, Shane completed many pages of his master’s thesis and portions of a novel. Today, Shane continues to read, write, and edit his student’s work in the chapel, and once a semester, he teaches a class there with hopes that it inspires his students the way it has inspired him. When Shane proposed to Nancy, they agreed there was no place as unique and intimate as the Lady Chapel to host their nuptials.

TOUCHSTONE RETURNS TO PRINT

When spring semester 2013 came to an end, so did the printing of Touchstone, the Manhattanville College student-produced publication. Like many newspapers today, Touchstone continued, yet only in an online format. When Provost Lisa Dolling ’84 arrived on campus in July 2015 and discovered that the student newspaper, one on which she worked while an undergraduate, was no longer in print circulation, she moved to reinstate it. “The more I spoke with students,” she wrote in an email, “the more it became apparent that they truly needed to have a vehicle like this, not only to be able to voice their opinions and concerns, but also to boast and celebrate all the wonderful things happening at our College—both within and beyond our doors.” With the advisement of Bryce Bauer, who teaches journalism at Manhattanville, approximately 20 dedicated student reporters, editors, and graphic designers set out to inform the student body with “responsible journalism,” Franco Fino, Touchstone’s Executive Editor, said. During spring 2016 semester, Touchstone, which was established in 1948, was released monthly. “I have had several students and faculty members approach me to express their excitement,” said Fino. “Overall, there has not been anything but positive feedback. I’m looking forward to seeing how future Valiants will build upon what we have begun.”
ANNUAL DIVERSITY BREAKFAST CELEBRATES PEACE AND UNITY

On November 19, 2015 nearly 60 organizations gathered together for the 13th annual Thanksgiving Diversity Breakfast. Organized by the College’s Duchesne Center for Religion and Social Justice, the event included religious, non-religious, secular, and not-for-profit groups along with local and state politicians. It was co-sponsored by AJC Westchester, The Hudson River Presbytery, Mamaroneck United Methodist Church, Temple Sholom of Greater Greenwich, and Westchester Jewish Council. Manhattanville College chaplain and Duchesne Center director Rev. Wil Tyrrell said the breakfast, “... represents a great moment when we could bring together various religious and non-religious groups to talk about unity. It’s all about the notion of community service, the idea of engagement within our community, and how we can transform society to work together.” The morning event, which presented performances by two singing groups including the Quintessentials, honored three individuals who have tirelessly strengthened the local community: Monsignor Alan Detscher from St. Catherine of Siena Church, Joel Fridovich from New Rochelle Alternative High School, and Ayse Keskin from Turkish Cultural Center. Clifford Wolf, Co-chair of AJC Westchester and Fairfield Interreligious and Intergroup Relations, was also recognized for his years of service.

CASTLE SCHOLARS HONORS PROGRAM PRESENTS ACHIEVEMENT FAIR

On April 6, more than 80 students presented their work at this year’s Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Fair presented by the Castle Scholars Honors Program. In its sixth year, the fair, which is held in Reid Castle, aims to present outstanding papers, e-portfolios, short films, and musical and theater performances. “Presenting my senior thesis at the Research Fair was a great capstone experience for my academic career at Manhattanville,” said David Nielsen ’16, who gave his senior thesis presentation, “Definitions of Authenticity in Literature.”

CASTLE CONVERSATIONS CONTINUES TO INSPIRE AUDIENCES

Manhattanville’s public forum, Castle Conversations, continues to stimulate discussions about the world in which we live. This academic year, our community hosted luminaries Neil deGrasse Tyson, the Frederick P. Rose Director of Hayden Planetarium; Doris Kearns Goodwin, author and historian; David Brooks, New York Times columnist and political analyst; and Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple Computer, Inc. President of Manhattanville Jon C. Strauss said, “Castle Conversations is our way of reaching out to the community, building relationships, and sharing with our neighbors the ideas of the brightest minds in America.” Fall 2016 will host choreographer Twyla Tharp on Sept. 20 and restaurateur Danny Meyer on Nov. 29. For more details, visit CastleConversations.org.
“MY FAVORITE VOLUNTEERING SITE WAS DEFINITELY THE FOOD PANTRY. I SPENT HOURS COOKING AND PREPARING MEALS AND IT WAS SO MUCH FUN. IT WAS HARD WORK, BUT IT WAS REALLY REWARDING.”

-Alexandra Espinal ’16, one of six students who spent winter break volunteering in New Orleans through a program organized by Manhattanville’s Duchesne Center for Religion and Social Justice.

MELLON FOUNDATION AWARDS MANHATTANVILLE GRANT TO DEVELOP ATLAS, THE PORTFOLIO SYSTEM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

In summer 2015, Manhattanville was awarded a prestigious $100,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The funding, which is meant to augment technology offerings and faculty resources, research, and outreach over two years, is supporting the development of ATLAS, a new, multi-course e-portfolio program.

The grant has enabled Manhattanville to further distinguish itself as a college that effectively engages students in taking ownership of their academic and co-curricular experiences. Over the past year, College faculty earnestly revisited the Portfolio System, the award-winning program that has been a hallmark of a Manhattanville education since 1971. The outcome of their conscientious work is ATLAS, a series of coursework offered throughout one’s tenure at the College that offers undergraduates the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the history and mission of Manhattanville, examine their strengths and weaknesses, consider and document the skills and capabilities they are gaining through their liberal arts core courses, explore various programs of study, plan effectively for graduation and beyond, and create professional portfolios that integrate their learning and showcase their academic and co-curricular skills and accomplishments that can be applied to a career or advanced study.

Working in small seminar groups under the guidance of dedicated instructors, students from first-year to senior-year utilize the wide range of resources the College offers including the Center for Career Development, the Duchesne Center for Religion and Social Justice, student peer mentors, professional and faculty advisors, and alumni volunteers. The mission is to offer students a structure through which they can explore fields in which they might major or minor and professions they may wish to pursue.

Going beyond the Portfolio System, which was required, but noncredit bearing, ATLAS, which is an optional course of study and credit bearing, encourages students to “chart their course.” Undergraduates are guided by dedicated faculty members through direct instruction over all four years of their degree programs. The instructors lead students in organizing their personal reflections and milestones and closely advise them as they prepare to showcase their achievements and talents upon graduation.

The freshman course, titled Passport, prompts students to explore major possibilities, learn about the resources at Manhattanville, and begin investigating career paths. Students learn the value of a liberal arts education and how it can be applied to their futures. During the course, the length of which—one semester or two—is currently being considered, freshmen identify the goals of their college experience.

Pathfinder is the name of the fall-semester sophomore year course. Students are expected to hold informational interviews with professionals in various fields and to build a network among their classmates and College alumni. The career exploration in which they engage during Pathfinder prompts major selection and associated academic planning.

For junior year, students participate in Compass, a spring semester class that focuses on how one can apply classroom knowledge to solve practical, real-world problems. They are given assignments that encourage participating in co-curricular experiences, developing leadership and teambuilding skills, and illustrating their creative and academic work.

In the fall of senior year, the course Pursuit prepares students to present themselves to the professional world. Pursuit requires students to prepare their resumes and portfolios as well as participate in mock-interviews and career-focused internships.

Currently, a 1-credit course for students engaged in study-abroad programs is being developed. It will guide participants through reflections on their international experiences—while they are experiencing them. Faculty hope the assignments and discussions will prompt students to grow and retain even more from these life-altering opportunities.

“I’m very excited about Atlas and what I believe it offers to our students,” Christine Dehne, Professor of Communications and Media and one of ATLAS’ principal architects, says. “The benefits of our students’ engagement in our initial courses are clear. They’re making connections between their liberal arts foundation and their plans for the future.”
Lisa Boehm was looking for the perfect place to land. She had served as a dean at both Worcester State University and Emmanuel College in Massachusetts and sought to plant roots at a similar small liberal arts college where she could make an impact. When she learned of the founding deanship position at Manhattanville College’s newly formed School of Arts and Sciences, it matched exactly what she was looking for.

With experience developing curricula across many disciplines at both the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as having served as a dean, director of a large honors program, and a professor of history and urban studies, Boehm’s credentials and background are perfectly suited for shaping the burgeoning School of Arts and Sciences as well as for establishing the deanship itself. In fact, she spends much of her time educating the community about her role and how it benefits faculty and students.

Believing her deanship is a 24-hour experience, Boehm, who lives on campus, attends student performances, professor’s lectures, and visits biology labs. She invites faculty, staff, and students to stop by her office on the first floor of Brownson. “I like being able to be part of everything,” she says.

The School of Arts and Sciences is comprised of 21 departments including all of the undergraduate fields as well as the Master of Fine Arts in creative writing. Boehm is charged not only with overseeing departmental affairs, but also guiding everything from curriculum design and development to supervising and mentoring department chairs and faculty members. She is also responsible for sorting out detailed academic policies such as how to assign incomplete grades to streamlining degree requirements. Since arriving on campus in August 2015, Boehm has come to understand Manhattanville’s student-centered mission and how to support it. She says, “If the faculty are fulfilling their own dreams—if they are happy—then that translates to exciting benefits for students in the classroom.”

Over fall and spring semesters, Boehm worked with faculty to create the School’s bylaws and goals. She assisted the Core Curriculum Committee with the implementation of the new core curriculum. Inspired by the symbols represented on the College’s seal and the themes of Manhattanville’s mission, they composed a charter called the Four Pillars of Inquiry that is meant to guide students of the School of Arts and Sciences: inventor, international citizen, interpreter, and innovator.

An important initiative that Boehm, who is an oral historian, is leading is creating dual degree programs. With an eye towards attracting a new population of students to the College, she is investigating how existing or new undergraduate programs can partner with the Manhattanville School of Business and School of Education graduate programs to create 5-year bachelor to master degree tracks. For example, students who are enrolled in the B.A./B.S. program in management would be on course to earn a master’s degree in international management, business leadership, marketing communications management, human resource management, or sports business management.

Although just short of a year on campus, it is clear Boehm understands the core values of the Manhattanville experience. “It’s a place where students can come and realize how smart they are. You can’t hide in the back of the class here. We’re going to put you through the paces,” she promises. “If you need to strengthen your writing, your professor will tell you, ‘I think you can write better.’ We make sure the students graduate with a really strong background.

“Just like a great dinner—when you prepare it slowly and take your time, it’s a whole different thing. You can’t make a good meal quickly. It takes time. Education is the same way, and I am making it my business to make sure people know about Manhattanville’s approach and what we’re cooking up here.”
The Business of Bonding

By Nancy J. Brandwein

Two years ago Manhattanville College rebranded its school of professional studies Manhattanville School of Business (MSB), and since, the institution has become an integral partner to the business community it serves. Located in a hub of the Tri-state region’s Fortune 100/500 corporations, MSB has become an important resource for those seeking graduate, adult undergraduate, and professional programs. “The School of Business is a proven gem for Westchester—we have deep roots in the community, and our classrooms are centers of networking and industry connections,” says Jean Mann, Director of Marketing and Enrollment Services. “Classes are small and highly interactive, and our faculty and students come from area organizations. Our curriculum and lessons are driven by industry or organizational needs.”

A sales professional with the San Diego Padres, Sports Business Management Master’s Program alumna Julia Winter, M.S. ’11, concurs, saying, “The faculty and alumni do an outstanding job incorporating and introducing the local community into the school’s academic program, which in turn creates opportunities for both the businesses and the students.” While a student, Winter landed an internship with the help of Manhattanville at the United States Tennis Association in their White Plains office.

While the Sports Business Management master’s program often draws students with just a few years of work experience, other degrees attract seasoned professionals to Manhattanville, often from the many companies just a few miles away. Astrit “Al” Rugovac, a vice president at financial firm BTIG, was initially attracted to Manhattanville because it was a 15 minute commute from his previous place of business; however, once matriculated, “I was so pleased with Manhattanville I recommended it to my colleagues and four of them enrolled as well,” he explained. “Getting my M.S. in finance helped me better understand the clients’ requests, made my response to clients more accurate … and helped me become a better presenter…”

Although convenient location and class times coupled with a practical curriculum are attractions for students like Rugovac, as Dr. Anthony R. Davidson, Dean, emphasizes, “Our practitioner faculty ensure the curriculum is relevant and meets the current and future demands of global and local business.” For Rugovac, though, Manhattanville provided more than community connections; it provided a community.

A father of three, Rugovac’s youngest child was seriously ill and hospitalized on and off for three months while he was completing his final thesis. He praised Professor Bozidar Jovanovic, Program Director Laura Persky, and the people working in the Manhattanville library for “… assisting me through the process. Their help and guidance is the reason I did so well on my thesis and one of the reasons I never used the issues in my personal life to give up.” Community comes full circle, and the exceptional Manhattanville experience is what pulls alumni back to lead promotional events or even teach.

School of Business, Sports Business Management alumna Julia Winter, M.S. ’11 is a sales professional with the San Diego Padres.

School of Business, Finance alumnus, Astrit “Al” Rugovac, M.S. ’16, with Professor Bozidar Jovanovic.
Starting in 2013, Manhattanville’s School of Education offered the first Advanced Certificate Program in Education for Sustainability in the tri-state area. Dr. Sherie McClam, Program Director, has many reasons to be proud of the curriculum, but foremost among them is how aligned it is to Manhattanville’s mission: to educate students to be ethical and socially-responsible leaders in a global community.

Located at the nexus between environmental studies, economics, and social sciences, sustainability, claims Dr. McClam, is not a “topic” but a goal. In this five-course program, McClam helps students “see problems from these multiple perspectives and bring them to bear...so that we can make the best choices that we possibly can”—and, hopefully, become agents of change in schools, organizations, institutions, and communities.

The first cohort of seven students graduated in June 2014 and has already gone on to do amazing things. Retired teacher Alan Cass is now Director of Education for the Children’s Environmental Literacy Fund. Lakeland middle school teacher Christina Connors brought in a community supported agriculture program and spearheaded a drive to eliminate Styrofoam from cafeterias.

What excites McClam most is the number of students who take the first class as an elective toward their Master of Arts in Teaching science (M.A.T.) and “get hooked.” For example, while finishing the prerequisites for her M.A.T. towards physics teaching, Cheryl Orifici completed the program, switched to an M.Ed. and then went on to bring social responsibility to educational technology firm, EduTek.

From teachers to professionals working in the education field, McClam hopes to grow the program so that more students will move from visionaries to change agents. The next step is to garner funding in order to award scholarships to deserving teachers and nonprofit professionals who want to bring the vital goal of sustainability to their schools and communities.
Bill Lahart '81

Bill Lahart made contributions on multiple surfaces as one of Manhattanville College’s first three-sport male athletes, playing four years on the men’s soccer, men’s basketball and baseball teams, and also excelled in the classroom as Manhattanville’s first CoSIDA Academic All-American during his time on campus from 1977-81.

Lahart was a four-year starter on the basketball court for the Valiants, playing every one of Manhattanville’s 108 games. As a freshman, he posted the fifth-best single-season free-throw percentage in school history by hitting 61-of-72 attempts (.847) and helped the team to its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance. He had his best season overall as a sophomore, averaging 9.9 points per game on 51.0 percent shooting, including scoring a team-high 18 points in the NCAA Tournament against Saint Lawrence.

Off the court, he earned CoSIDA Academic All-America second-team recognition as a sophomore and remained Manhattanville’s only male student-athlete to earn the national recognition until 2011. In four seasons, he scored 859 points as a Valiant and graduated second in program history with 315 assists, and currently ranks 11th in career assists and fifth in games played.

Lahart captained the basketball team during his senior season and also was a two-year captain of the Valiant men’s soccer team and a senior-year leader on the baseball team as well.

Bob Lasbury ’96

As the first and only graduate of Manhattanville College to be drafted by a big-four professional sports franchise, Bob Lasbury set the bar for excellence as a member of the Valiant baseball team from 1991-93.

After a difficult freshman year, Lasbury starred for the Valiants in his final two seasons, posting a 1.40 earned run average with 68 strikeouts and a .195 opponents’ batting average in addition to being a .331 hitter with 20 runs batted in at the plate. In 1993, he was named the Skyline Conference Co-Pitcher of the Year and Manhattanville’s Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year after posting a 3-1 record with a 1.22 ERA, 44 strikeouts and only five walks, and still ranks second in ERA, first in walks per nine innings and 10th in strikeouts on the school single-season list.

After his junior year, the two-time team captain left school after being picked in the 14th round (408th overall) of the MLB Draft by the Colorado Rockies, in the same round as All-Star closer Keith Foulke and ahead of future major leaguers Jermaine Dye, Richie Sexson, and Paul Lo Duca.

In addition, Lasbury was a three-year letterwinner on the basketball court for Manhattanville, scoring 615 points in 77 games (8.0 ppg) and adding 288 rebounds and 226 assists. Despite leaving school early to play professionally, Lasbury returned to campus to earn his degree in mathematics in 1996.
Tammy (McGurk) Comstock excelled in three sports during her time at Manhattanville College from 1993-97, pacing the Valiant softball team to a pair of Hudson Valley Women’s Athletic Conference championships while also leaving her mark with the women’s basketball and volleyball teams.

McGurk was a multi-sport athlete, but she made her biggest mark on the softball field. She finished her career with a program-record .521 on-base percentage and still ranks second in career batting average (.441) and slugging percentage (.676) and 10th in runs batted in (79). She was named Manhattanville’s Female Athlete of the Year as a junior after hitting .409 with a 2.95 ERA, and then followed up with a more impressive senior year, when she hit .507 (36 of 71) with a .588 on-base percentage in addition to going 9-2 with a 1.69 ERA and five shutouts in 74.2 innings.

On the basketball court, McGurk earned a pair of All-Hudson Valley Women’s Athletic Conference honors and ranking in the program’s top 10 in multiple categories as a four-year starter. A versatile player that played every position on the court, she ranks sixth in program history with 814 rebounds, fifth in steals (200), 10th in blocks (42), and 11th in assists (225). She was remarkably consistent on the glass, averaging 8.8 rebounds per game in each of her first three seasons and then averaging 8.6 caroms per contest as a senior to become the only player to lead the team in rebounding for four straight years.

McGurk showed her versatility by playing one season on the volleyball court as well as a sophomore, leading the team with 143 kills and setting a school single-season standard with 160 blocks that still stands today.

Judy Murphy was one of the first athletic stars of Manhattanville College during the early to mid-1940s, playing four years on the varsity field hockey and women’s basketball teams in addition to three years on the women’s lacrosse team and even one year of varsity tennis.

Coming to Manhattanville having never played field hockey or lacrosse and having no expectation to play any sports, she was picked out of gym class to play on the College’s varsity field hockey team as a freshman and also picked up lacrosse soon after, quickly becoming one of (if not the) most well-regarded athlete on Manhattanville’s campus. Murphy was praised in her senior yearbook as “our star on the hockey field, the basketball court and the lacrosse team” and “a delight to the college.”

Manhattanville played games primarily against club teams and a few local colleges in the 1940s, and also was one of two college lacrosse teams to receive an invitation to participate in a New York State Tournament at which she received honorable mention recognition. After college, Murphy also played tennis at the national level, participating in multiple tournaments around the country.

For more information on the Manhattanville Athletics Hall of Fame, or to submit a nomination for the Class of 2017, visit www.govaliants.com/halloffame.
Manhattanville alumni are an extraordinarily varied group, engaged in an extraordinarily broad range of endeavors. But they have at least one thing in common: all testify to the impact that Manhattanville has had on their lives and careers.

Much of that impact derives from the College’s commitment to diversity. In addition to welcoming students from a wide range of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds—according to Lisa Boehm, Dean of Arts and Sciences, many are the first in their families to attend college—the College also hosts a large contingent of international students. “It’s a very dynamic campus,” says Nada Halloway, an assistant professor of English who teaches courses in international literature and is herself from Sierra Leone. Small class sizes ensure that students are able to engage deeply with one another and with professors, guaranteeing that opinions will be challenged and horizons broadened. “We seek people of different backgrounds, and we want to hear different viewpoints,” says Boehm.

But the Manhattanville effect also derives from a holistic, mission-driven liberal arts education that is grounded in the College’s historic commitment to social justice and seeks to inform and enrich the whole person.

Morals and ethics are not just discussed in religion and philosophy classes, says Halloway, but are woven throughout the curriculum. Students are not only encouraged to engage in community service through the Duchesne Center, but actually receive credit for it. Furthermore, next fall, adds Boehm, the College will introduce a new curricular model that challenges all students to be investigators, inventors, interpreters, and international citizens. Oriented around broad areas of inquiry—Global Systems and Civilizations, Creative and Aesthetic Thought—the new model will only deepen students’ exposure to a range of disciplines, from visual art to physical science, and it will continue the College’s emphasis on practical skills and career preparation, as exemplified by its robust internship programs and comprehensive Center for Career Development.

It all adds up to a college experience that prepares students not only for successful careers, but also for lives of meaning and purpose. As the alumni featured here will attest, it’s an approach that gets results.
QUIRICO PEREZ ’11

As an associate on the Latin American investment banking team at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Quirico Perez provides strategic advice to global Fortune 500 companies that are transforming themselves through complex transactions like mergers and acquisitions. But it is clear that the most life-altering decision Perez himself ever made was the one that led him to Purchase.

Born and raised in the Dominican Republic, Perez was drawn to Manhattanville by its diversity, by its focus on community service and campus life—and by the prospect of an academic and social environment that would force him to leave his comfort zone. Following an internship in global corporate investment banking, Perez spent a semester abroad on the European Union Program, traveling across the continent and experiencing firsthand the social and cultural differences between member countries. “It was an opportunity to discover the world,” he says.

Perez says that Manhattanville taught him how to connect with people whose backgrounds and perspectives differed radically from his own—a skill he relies upon daily, as he helps clients from around the world strike deals with the biggest players in the Latin American financial industry. “It may seem like a numbers business, but make no mistake: this is a relationship business,” says the former finance major. The global perspective he acquired at the College has also been invaluable, since he is often called upon to work with firms that are scattered from London to Sydney, Buenos Aires to Hong Kong.

Those kinds of major international transactions are light years from the small local ones he suspects he would be working on had he stayed in the D.R. And it all began with his decision to attend Manhattanville. “It was a transformational journey,” he says.

AMANDA MINCK ’10, M.A.T. ’11

Growing up in White Plains, Amanda Minck always knew that she wanted to be a teacher—and Manhattanville helped make that dream come true.

Minck, who teaches English language arts to seventh graders at the Quality Charter School in the Bronx, credits the College’s accelerated, five-year B.A./M.A.T. Dual Degree Honors Program with giving her both the confidence and the skills to do her job. (Minck earned her bachelor’s in English and her master’s in secondary English education.) It is a demanding one—many of her students face learning disabilities or other challenges—but also an intensely rewarding one. “You get to know where kids struggle, and where they shine,” Minck says. “And seeing them begin to shine where they used to struggle reminds me why I do this.”

But rigorous training was not all that Minck got from her Manhattanville experience. She also became deeply invested in the Manhattanville commitment to service.

Minck especially values the four years she spent as president of her class and the many hours she spent doing volunteer work through the Duchesne Center—in particular, the “midnight runs” she took down to the city, where she helped distribute supplies (food, clothing, toiletries) to homeless shelters in the dead of winter.

“I learned such compassion,” says Minck, who now strives to bring that same attitude into the classroom. She also strives to give her students a taste of the variety and breadth of experience that the liberal arts gave to her—broadening their horizons and exposing them to different cultures, for example, through a wide range of books and stories.

“Manhattanville not only supported my career goals, it shaped my life,” she says. “I can honestly say that I don’t know who I would be, or where I would be, if I hadn’t gone to Manhattanville.”

AMANDA KIS ’07

Amanda Kis admits that she did not initially plan to go to Manhattanville; as a Westchester native, she wanted to explore more distant pastures. As soon as she set foot on campus, however, it felt like home. Now, says Kis, who holds a management position at the media and entertainment giant NBC Universal, she cannot even imagine what her life would be like had she not enrolled. “It was the best four years of my life,” she says.

Kis is especially grateful for the diverse range of experiences and opportunities the College afforded her. Though she started off bent on a career in theater and dance, Manhattanville’s liberal arts curriculum quickly opened her eyes to a whole new world of possibilities. By her junior year, Kis was majoring in political science with a concentration in legal studies and planned to attend law school after graduation. But an internship at WABC-TV in New York City, arranged through the Center for Career Development, convinced her to pursue a career in television instead, and she has never looked back.

Kis landed a job at Katz Media Group in Manhattan and worked part-time as a reporter for Lewisboro TV before moving to NBCUniversal, where she quickly rose to a supervisory position, training and managing a team of people responsible for scheduling commercials and sponsorships. Today, she is inventory manager for the news division, a job that entails developing strategies for maximizing profits from commercial advertising.

Kis says that Manhattanville prepared her well for the demands of corporate life: the intense coursework and broad range of activities made her comfortable multitasking under pressure, while her position as president of the student government honed her leadership skills. Now she has her sights on an executive position at NBCUniversal—and thanks to Manhattanville, she is well on her way to achieving it.
Manhattanville Celebrates 175 Years
marks 175 years since The Academy of the Sacred Heart, the school from which Manhattanville College evolved, was founded on the Lower East Side of New York City. On August 3, 1841 the Academy of the Sacred Heart opened at 412 Houston Street. It was an all-girls school under the direction of the Catholic religious order, the Society of the Sacred Heart. During the first year, 30 pupils were enrolled of which 11 were boarders. Tuition was $250.

The school relocated briefly to Astoria, Queens before eventually moving in 1847 to the small town of Manhattanville in the northern section Manhattan Island. At the time, New York City was still 8 miles to the south. An alumna later reflected on the school’s setting saying, “There was then no Convent Avenue, only wide, wild fields stretching as far as the eye could distinguish anything, and in no way suggesting the city life nor the bustling thoroughfares of years to come.” To distinguish itself from other Sacred Heart Schools, the Academy became known as Manhattanville.

The mission of the early Manhattanville Academy was in keeping with 19th century society. According to an 1860 advertisement, “This institution, in its plan of education, unites every advantage that can be derived from a punctual and conscientious care bestowed upon its pupils, in every branch of science becoming their sex. Propriety of deportment, politeness, personal neatness, and the principles of morality are the objects of unceasing assiduity.”

Students took courses in Christian philosophy, ancient and modern history, literature, English, French, mathematics, natural sciences as well as needlework. An 1888 New York Times article stated that the Academy was, “loved not only for its sacred associations but for the solidity and thoroughness of the methods employed in its secular as well as religious instruction.”

Parents from around the world selected Manhattanville for their daughters. The 19th century ledgers reveal home addresses from around Europe and North America. The majority of international students came from Latin America. Manhattanville drew students from around the region including Mexico, Cuba, Costa Rica, and Puerto Rico.

By the Civil War the student population grew to 280 students. This included the daughters of Horace Greeley and Civil War generals William Tecumseh Sherman, Samuel Sturgis, and John Schofield. Other Academy alumnae included Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy and Leita Montgomery White, future wife of Chief Justice Edward White. Actress Tallulah Bankhead briefly attended during her youth as well.

In 1880, the Academy introduced a new option of study. After receiving a high school diploma, students could stay on for an additional 2 years of coursework in the “First” and “Superior” classes. In essence, Manhattanville formed its own junior college for women and foreshadowed our future in higher education. This would come to fruition with the founding of the College in 1917. We will be celebrating the centennial of Manhattanville College in 2017.
The Academy of the Sacred Heart opened at 412 Houston Street
On May 17, 1841, eight members of the Society of the Sacred Heart travelled from St. Louis, Mo. to open a new convent school in New York City. For $2,600 per year, they rented a former finishing school at the corner of Houston and Mulberry Streets, just one block from the Old St. Patrick’s Cathedral. On August 3, 1841 the Academy of the Sacred Heart opened at 412 Houston Street. Tuition the first year was $250. There were a total of 30 pupils of which 11 were boarders.

Class of 1869
Since the opening of the New York academy, parents from around the world selected Manhattanville for their daughters. 19th century ledgers reveal home addresses from around Europe and North America. Over the decades, the majority of international students came from Latin America. Manhattanville attracted students from Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico, and Peru. Faustina de Latorre, pictured standing upper right, was among the 60 Academy students from Cuba.

1841
The Academy of the Sacred Heart moved to the Lorillard Estate in the village of Manhattanville
On February 17, 1847, the school moved to the Lorillard Estate in the village of Manhattanville, a farming village located in northern Manhattan Island. In deeds from the period, the property is listed as, “8 miles north of New York City.”

1847

1869

1882
Class of 1882
In 1911, Katherine Ryan Gibbs of the Class of 1882 (seated far right) founded the first secretarial school for women. Over the course of the 20th century, Gibbs Schools expanded through the eastern United States, providing training for thousands of professional women.
Students playing tennis on the front lawn, c. 1887
An alumna would later reflect upon the peaceful setting of Manhattanville during the mid-1880s saying, “There was then no Convent Avenue, only wide, wild fields stretching as far as the eye could distinguish anything, and in no way suggesting the city life nor the bustling thoroughfares of years to come.

The New Academy
While there was discussion of the Academy moving to Westchester County, the Society of the Sacred Heart ultimately decided to rebuild on the same foundation. The new building was dedicated September 29, 1889.

The Academy Library c. 1905
The New York Times wrote that the Academy was, “the pride of the diocese, and was loved not only for its sacred associations but for the solidity and thoroughness of the methods employed in its secular as well as religious instruction.”

August 13, 1888 Fire
On August 13, 1888, a fire begun by a workman’s lamp destroyed the Academy. Though no one was injured, over $1 million of damage was reported. Assistance to the Academy poured in from neighboring institutions including the Christian Brothers of Manhattan College and the Jewish Hospital in Harlem. The Academy spent the next year housed rent-free on the nearby Otendorfer estate on Riverside Drive and 136th street.

Members of the class of 1899
In 1880, the Academy introduced a new option for students. After receiving a high school diploma, students could stay on for an additional two years of coursework in the “First” and “Superior” classes. In essence, Manhattanville formed its own junior college for women and foreshadowed the College’s future in higher education.
Education is the key to rising against prejudice. The more we know of man’s doing and thinking throughout time and throughout the world’s extent, the more we understand that beauty and goodness and truth are not the monopoly of any age nor of any group nor of any race.

- Manhattanville President Grace Dammann, R.S.C.J.

Students prepare for a performance, c. 1911. When not studying, Academy students staged elaborate plays performed on the front lawn. The world of the Manhattanville Academy was a place where devotion coexisted with whimsy.

1911

1916

1917

1920s

1937

1938

Academy Student and Sister, c. 1916

During the 1920s and 1930s, the College established itself as an institution of higher learning uniquely dedicated to social justice, community engagement, and the development of women leaders.

During the 1930s, long before the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, Manhattanville College made national headlines for its commitment to racial justice and equality, a commitment that was severely tested in 1938, when the first African-American student was admitted. While responses to integrating the student body were mixed, the vast majority praised Manhattanville for its courageous action. At the Alumni Reunion that year, President Grace Dammann, R.S.C.J. gave an impassioned speech, entitled “Principals vs. Prejudices,” declaring the initial criticism of Manhattanville’s bold move an opportunity to “open hearts and minds.”
In 1952, the growing college moved from uptown Manhattan to its current location in Purchase, N.Y., occupying the former estate of Whitelaw Reid, long-time publisher and editor of The New York Tribune who also served as minister to France and ambassador to Great Britain.

By 1966, the College became officially nondenominational.

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies (GPS) was founded in 1993.

The College became coeducational in 1971. That same year, funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Portfolio System was developed.

In 2013, the Rose Institute for Learning and Literacy was established with a $1.2 million gift from alumna Sandra Priest Rose ’73.

To better serve its students and career-minded professionals in the Westchester region and beyond, GPS reorganized and renamed itself Manhattanville School of Business in 2014.
Sheila M. Smythe Society

Giving Has Its Perks
The Sheila M. Smythe Society celebrates the College’s most faithful and dedicated contributors and currently has over 1,200 members: members who understand the difference they make and know that Manhattanville relies on their support each year. To qualify for membership, simply make a gift of an amount that’s right for you, for two or more years in a row. For more information, or to request your giving history, contact Karissa K. Miles, Participation Officer, at karissa.miles@mville.edu or 914-323-5112.

Mother Eleanor O’Byrne Society

Leaving a Legacy for Students that Lasts for Generations
The Mother Eleanor O’Byrne Society recognizes and honors generous individuals who have made a commitment to the future of Manhattanville College through charitable provisions included in their estate plans. By remembering the College with a planned gift, you are ensuring that the legacy you leave is designated to an area that is most meaningful to you. Your gift can set a powerful example for others to emulate. To learn more about gift planning, please email the Office of Institutional Advancement & Alumni at development@mville.edu or call (914) 323-5439.
Connecting: Making New Manhattanville Memories

ALUMNI NEWS
Elizabeth Fahey ’74

In nearly four decades as a lawyer, Elizabeth Fahey has had a diverse, accomplished career, which has led her to the Massachusetts Superior Court, where she currently serves as associate justice, as well as to destinations farther afield.

Fahey was appointed to the bench in 1999, after previously working as an assistant district attorney and then as a defense attorney in civil cases. In fact, she had just helped to establish a civil litigation firm as a founding partner when she received notice of her appointment.

“I had put my name forward, but you never know when the governor is going to call you,” Fahey says. Her background as both a prosecutor and defense attorney served her well. “There was certainly a learning curve,” she notes, “but I was an unusual appointment, I think, because I had a fair amount of both civil and criminal trial experience.”

While on the bench, Fahey has participated in a number of judicial exchange programs, traveling to China, Cuba, France, Macedonia, and Mongolia, in order to learn more about their respective legal systems and provide insight about American judicial practices. Her most enlightening and challenging exposure to international law, however, came when she took a leave of absence to serve as a judge in the war crimes chamber of the State Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo from 2007 to 2008.

“I had always had an interest in war crimes, but it never occurred to me that I would get to work in that field,” she says. She learned of the opportunity through a conversation with the chief justice of the Massachusetts Appeals Court, who had previously served as an international judge for the United Nations in East Timor, and decided quickly. “I made two phone calls: to my mother and my chief justice,” she says. “They were both fine with it, so I said, ‘Yes, please.’”

Fahey served as one of the chamber’s three judges—two international, one Bosnian. Proceedings were conducted in both English and Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, with the aid of interpreters and headsets. Hearing cases more than a decade after the war ended, Fahey recalls being struck by the fact that horrific crimes had been perpetrated by neighbors and others known to the victims. “I distinctly remember one man saying, ‘Mirko, you know what you did to my family—I lost my son and my wife,’” she says. “He was not the only one who personally knew the name of the accused.”

Back in the U.S., Fahey spoke about her time in Bosnia-Herzegovina at a number of panels, including an institute for emerging women leaders from post-conflict societies sponsored by the Women in Public Service Project. She also began to teach courses in trial practice, first at Northeastern Law School and then at Boston University Law School. “I’m not telling war stories just to tell stories,” she says. “There’s
a purpose. I try to give them examples of motions that went poorly, ones that went well. I enjoy working with young people; they keep you young.”

Reflecting on her time at Manhattanville, she notes that the experience extends beyond the years she spent on campus. “The friends I made have been long-lasting,” she says. “Some of my best friends today are people I went to college with. Manhattanville is much more than a moment. It’s a part of my life.”

Meredith Estess Hulbert ‘84

Meredith Estess Hulbert’s life was already well on its way when it changed forever. She had started a family and was working in the fashion industry in 1998 when her sister Jenifer was diagnosed with A.L.S., amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Jenifer Estess was a theater and film producer, and another sister, Valerie, was a copywriter. The sisters had once considered starting a production company; instead, they founded an organization, Project A.L.S., which has raised more than $75 million to support research into A.L.S.

“We had always wanted to work together,” Meredith notes. “We just never thought it would be in these circumstances.” Project A.L.S. pioneered a results-oriented model for medical research. In order to receive grant funding, researchers are required to work in collaboration with experts in other fields and the Project A.L.S. research advisory board, ensuring a multipronged, multidisciplinary approach to curing A.L.S. Jenifer passed away in 2003, but the organization remains very much a family operation. Valerie serves as director of research, while Meredith, as president, is responsible for fundraising. In addition, some of the organization’s earliest donors—often drawn from the entertainment industry, thanks to Jenifer’s connections—are still actively involved.

“We have incredible support from individual donors who have remained true to what we do,” Meredith says. “A lot of the people who were involved with us from the beginning remain with us. They just are with us—people like Julianna Margulies, Ben Stiller, Katie Couric. They have been there from the first days, and they just really believe in the science.”

May was A.L.S. Awareness Month, and Project A.L.S. sponsored a Don’t Talkathon, in which individuals pledge to temporarily take a vow of silence in recognition of A.L.S.’ devastating effect on speech ability. Project A.L.S. has also launched a new initiative, Women and the Brain, to bring attention to the fact that women are disproportionately affected by neurodegenerative diseases and to address the disparity in research on women.

Brain disease is a huge global health problem,” Meredith says. “By 2025, one out of every 25 women in the U.S. is going to be diagnosed with a brain disease. Everybody we love is going to be touched by it. We started Women and the Brain because women have made great strides in understanding heart health, reproductive health, and breast health, but they’re not looking at the brain. The brain is the last frontier.”

Rosemary James ’91

Currently the supervisory attorney advisor of the intellectual property practice at the Department of Homeland Security, Rosemary James has had a distinguished legal career—one that began, rather obliquely, in the Manhattanville art history department. As an art history major, she wrote her thesis under the guidance of Professor Gillian Hannum on Jacob Lawrence’s Migration Series paintings and planned to pursue a Ph.D., but, in evaluating possible research areas, found that “nothing really resonated with me,” she says. Instead, a conversation with Professor Laura Kaufman, then department chair, led her to consider law school.

“It came as a little bit of a shock to me,” James says. “[Hannum and Kaufman] saw something in me that I had not fully come to terms with. I enjoy the intellectual rigor that goes with practicing law; I don’t think I have the personality type people associate with lawyers, but this is definitely the right path for me.”

After graduating from Albany Law School, James worked at the firm of Hogan Lovells. “In a law firm, there’s a rigor about how you have to perform,” she notes. “You’re given a discrete task: do some research, write a memo, and present it to a senior attorney. Then they take what you’ve written, rip it to shreds, and send you back to start over. There’s a training to a level of excellence.”

James subsequently worked in a variety of legal settings, including serving as in-house counsel at Verizon during its formation as a result of the merger of Bell Atlantic and GTE, before joining the Department of Homeland Security. “The thing I love most about being in government is that the work is relevant to the American public,” she says. “I’m working on things I see in the newspaper. I’ve drafted the language for a bill that was going through committee, and then seen that language end up in the legislation that

“The thing I love most about being in government is that the work is relevant to the American public.”

Rosemary James ’91
was enacted. It’s gratifying to see the impact of the projects I work on; I have the sense of doing something for the public good.”

At the Department of Homeland Security, James leads the intellectual property practice, which oversees the patent process for all of the research and development initiated by the department, as well as contracts for products and services the department uses and its representation in films, television, and other media. While she now supervises a number of attorneys, initially she was the sole member of the practice; moreover, she built the office while taking a demanding slate of undergraduate physics courses at George Washington University, a requirement for certification as a patent attorney.

“I loved math and had a math minor at Manhattanville, so I had the prerequisites for physics,” James says. “But I had never taken any science classes in college—even when they were speaking English it had to be translated to me.”

James took two courses per semester, including labs, often during the workday—“They don’t offer the classes for physics majors at night,” she notes—while managing her responsibilities at Homeland Security. She worked with tutors and eventually reached a point where “a light bulb went off,” she says. “It was humbling, but I never contemplated giving up. I just didn’t see it as an option, and I think that made the difference.”

After completing the coursework, James passed the patent bar—a testament not only to her perseverance, but to what she learned, academically and otherwise, from her college experience. At Manhattanville she made lasting friendships—“We partied as hard as we worked,” she says—and developed an expanded sense of the world and her own capabilities. Living in an international dorm during her sophomore year was especially formative. “Although I grew up with people from different places, it was never on the level where you’re living with them every day,” she says. “To me, it was just beautiful to celebrate people’s differences and get to know them; it opened my mind and experience.”

The close-knit atmosphere at Manhattanville also helped her to realize just how much she could accomplish. “I had never really had people who believed in me and thought that I could do anything,” she says. “But at Manhattanville I had professors who I felt cared about me and knew me by name, and I felt that I was part of a community where I belonged; all of those things build your confidence. I had a lot of people who believed in me and thought I could do anything—the moment I knew they thought that, I knew I could succeed.”

James Lindsay ’93

“Students are coming to schools ready to be mobile learners, and far too often they walk into their schools and essentially walk back in time,” James Lindsay says. “The teacher is the sage on the stage—the only person who has any sort of ability to get, deliver, and validate knowledge. That’s not the world we need to shepherd our students toward; I don’t want to graduate students who know only how to follow a teacher.”

Lindsay speaks from a position of knowledge. After graduating from Manhattanville, he began working as an English teacher and spent years honing his pedagogy. Based in Texas, he taught for 14 years, primarily in the Dallas area, and in 2003 he was honored as Teacher of the Year for the Highland Park Independent School District. As his teaching began to attract increasing notice, he had a number of opportunities to extend his pedagogical approach beyond his own classroom.

“My content and my curriculum were being sought out by others, and I became a teacher of best practices,” he says. In 2006, he served as the chair of the revision committee for the Lighthouse Initiative, a program offered by the Texas Education Agency that aimed to help middle- and high-school teachers develop curricula in alignment with both Texas assessment measures and the Advanced Placement (AP) curriculum. He also began working with the College Board to consult with teachers of AP English courses, a role that eventually led to his transitioning away from teaching.

“The College Board asked me to come on board full time as one of their K-12 account managers, working on advanced academics and college readiness,” he says. After two years, he became director of state and district strategy and outreach, working with educational offices at all levels, from individual schools to statewide agencies, to develop programs and secure grant funding to further institutional goals.

“Working on strategic initiatives is not an easy lift,” he notes. “You have to collaborate with schools and districts to identify what they want to do five years from now and figure out how to get there.”

In his current position, as a K-12 account executive at Apple, Lindsay combines his expertise in strategic planning with a focus on educational technology. In contrast to the teacher-centered, sage-on-the-stage model, Lindsay works to foster a distributed, student-driven classroom in which technology is not a singular event, but “a mode of learning,” he notes, in which students can “find what they need, learn what they need, create
something, and then teach it to others,”
resulting in a “much richer, more integrated experience.”

Lindsay’s shift from the classroom has also enabled him to engage with a broad range of educational settings, including schools with fewer resources. One of the schools he serves in Harlingen, Texas recently became a partner school in ConnectEd, a White House initiative that seeks to enhance the technological infrastructure of American schools, addressing everything from broadband wireless to personal technology to software applications. Apple has joined the initiative with a $100 million pledge focusing on underserved areas; every student and every teacher at Zavala Elementary School in Harlingen has received an iPad, and classrooms will be outfitted with Apple TVs and MacBook Airs for teachers. Lindsay will also be a resource, “working shoulder to shoulder with schools that want to do this and do it well,” he says, “so that they can scale themselves up to where they want to be.”

Lindsay’s career has required a diverse array of skills, many of which he cultivated at Manhattanville. After transferring from Hofstra, Lindsay pursued a course of study that included an English major and a double minor in education and theatre. “Going to Manhattanville allowed me to pursue a humanities-based degree, skill set, and mentality,” Lindsay says. “I was able to sculpt the program that I wanted to study.” Lindsay was also very active in club leadership roles and served as an R.A. “I still tell people my favorite job was being an R.A.,” he says. “It was a great layer to my education. Because I graduated as a versatile learner with leadership skills, and I didn’t have to rebuild new skill sets in order to have a career. It was more than a foundation; it was a training ground. Manhattanville was an absolutely fabulous experience for me.”

Michelle Aquino ’06

Michelle Aquino’s commitment to a socially driven career began at Manhattanville. Aquino, currently a member of the Alumni Association Board, was very involved on campus, serving in student government in a variety of roles, including senior class president, and participating in a number of community outreach and service projects. “I was always very active,” she recalls. “March of Dimes walks, midnight runs, breast cancer awareness—any volunteer opportunity I could do, I would seek out.”

After earning a master’s degree in nonprofit management from The New School and interning with the Clinton Foundation and AFS-USA, which administers student exchange programs, Aquino took a position at the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research and worked there for six years. “I worked in development, learning all the different facets of fundraising, and I discovered I enjoyed the events side,” she says. “A lot of people want to feel like they’re part of a community, and attending these events helps them to do so. They can get an update about what’s going on or meet an individual who is being impacted by the organization’s work. It’s a personal connection, rather than getting something in the mail or seeing a story on social media. There’s a different kind of stewardship opportunity.”

From the Fox Foundation, Aquino moved to buildOn, which directs service-learning programs in the U.S. and builds schools internationally, and then to her current position at the One Love Foundation. Created to honor Yeardley Love, a University of Virginia student beaten to death by her ex-boyfriend, One Love seeks to educate young people about relationship violence. The organization focuses on the college-student population, and Aquino works to bring its film “Escalation,” to campuses all over the country, including Manhattanville. Love played lacrosse at Virginia, and the organization has made a concerted effort to reach out to student-athletes.

“Last semester, all the student-athletes at Manhattanville participated in our workshop, and One Love is working to get more of the student population and administrators involved and create greater awareness of One Love on campus,” she says. “Being able to bring One Love on campus has been really special for me because it ensures that students are educated and aware of such an important issue.”

2016 graduate Michelle Aquino’s commitment to a socially driven career began at Manhattanville.
ALUMNI EVENT RECAP

Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is a global day dedicated to giving back. On Tues., Dec. 1, 2015, over 100 members of the Manhattanville community participated in #GivingTuesday festivities by attending an event, encouraging others to get involved, or giving back in support of the Fund for Manhattanville.

Castle Conversations on Dec. 2, 2015 with Doris Kearns Goodwin


Castle Conversations on Feb. 16 with David Brooks

Manhattanville College’s Castle Conversations series kicked off its 2016 season with a talk from New York Times columnist and political analyst on “PBS NewsHour” David Brooks. Brooks is the author of several books, including “The Road to Character,” published in 2015. The event was hosted by Elliott Forrest, host of WQXR radio’s Afternoon Drive.

Castle Conversations on April 5 with Steve Wozniak

Steve Wozniak, the co-founder of Apple, visited Manhattanville College as part of the College’s Castle Conversations series to speak about his career and the current state of the tech industry. The event was hosted by Manoush Zomorodi, host and managing editor of the WNYC show “Note to Self.”
Women’s Leadership Institute
June 3, 2015 – The Women’s Leadership Institute at The Manhattanville School of Business held its first annual conference - Empowering Women Through Leadership Development. The one-day summit took place on Manhattanville’s campus and featured top female business leaders, interactive workshops, and a networking reception designed to enhance professionals’ leadership skills and inspire them to reach their fullest potential.

Fall Fest’Ville on Saturday, October 24, 2015
Alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends were invited to campus to celebrate the Manhattanville experience. They watched a volleyball game, enjoyed music on the Quad, and of course, attended the annual Alumni Beer Garden.

5 Under 25 Event on Nov. 12, 2015
The Student Alumni Association coordinated a 5 Under 25 Panel, led by Iris Chadwick ’16. 30 people attended a very engaging discussion where alumni panelists shared their stories with current students. Panelists: Mia Alicata ’14, Karla Boza ’15, Melissa Goncalves ’13, David Noel ’13, Antonio Ramos ’15

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Lisa M. Dolling, Ph.D. ’84 was welcomed home.
Alumni, faculty, staff, and students gathered at the Castle on Nov. 7, 2015 for a special celebration to welcome home alumna and new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Lisa M. Dolling, Ph.D. Pictured here are members of the Class of ’84.
ALUMNI EVENT RECAP

Current Manhattanville students were inducted into Phi Sigma Tau, the International Honor Society in Philosophy, during the annual Mary T. Clark lecture.

The lecture was hosted by Dr. Siobhan Nash-Marshall, Mary T. Clark Chair of Christian Philosophy. This year’s lecture took place on April 4 and featured Joseph Koterski S.J., Philosophy Department, Fordham University, Editor-in-Chief, International Philosophy Quarterly. His talk was on the topic of “Lying and Loyalties.”

In the photo:
Joseph Koterski S.J., Philosophy Department, Fordham University,
Galina Stiler, Dr. Darlene Gandolfi, Chemistry Department Chair,
Dr. Siobhan Nash-Marshall, Mary T. Clark Chair of Christian Philosophy,
Ella Tokay ’12, Jesse Juarez ’16, Abbi Parenteau ’17, Rebecca Stroud ’16, Jasmine Quetell ’17, Heather Kranich ’18, Stephanie Havens ’17, Ashley Noda ’16, Reuben Salcedo ’17, Chloe Gauthier ’16, Dylan Hayes ’18, Gabriella Jackman ’17, Harrison Meesschaert ’17, Shaniya Jones ’18, Grant Spaeth ’16, Wasuru Vihokrut ’17.

Mary T. Clark Reception, from left to right: Diane Cummins ’63, Maureen Kindilen, Dr. Siobhan Nash-Marshall, Mary T. Clark Chair of Christian Philosophy, and Richard Cummins.

Strauss Celebration / Wall Dedication Ceremony
On April 21, Manhattanville alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends of the College were invited to campus to celebrate the Strauss Legacy. After five years of service (2011-2016) to the Manhattanville community, the College thanked President Jon C. Strauss and First Lady Jean A. Strauss. The day included a 5K run/walk around campus, outdoor entertainment and food, a naming ceremony for Strauss Circle, and a special evening reception.

The campus community gathered for the official unveiling of Strauss Circle, the newly landscaped and outfitted Manhattanville College entrance dedicated to Jon and Jean Strauss in recognition of their outstanding leadership and service to the College. In attendance (pictured) for the dedication were Elizabeth (Betty) Brown ’58, Jack Brown, Sr. Grace Butler ’64, Daphne Root ’44, and Barbara Kullen Esq. ’63.
“From his first day on the job Joe was a shining star! It was evident that he loved Manhattanville and was dedicated to its well-being. He has given of his time. He was married here. He set up retreat days so the Board could come together to identify our mission and formulate the road map and plan that would lead us to where we needed to go. Joe is smart: he listens well, leads well, and advises well. Working with him and getting to know him has been a privilege.”
-Katherine Santone-LaPorta ’59

“Joe Narus exemplifies the ethos of our college—building a meaningful career and personal life and giving unflagging support as an alumnus for more than 30 years. As president of the Alumni Association Board, he has generously given his time, energy, and ideas in a period of change and growth. It has been an honor and pleasure to work with him, guided by his collaborative and spirited leadership. He is a loyal friend of the College, and an always-welcome emeritus for all of us now taking the helm on the Alumni Association Board.”
-Heidi Fuhrman ’80, Incoming President, Alumni Association Board
Meet Mandi Raz Sabanos

Manhattanville Young Alumni Association (MYAS)
Committee Member

Graduation Year: 2008
Major/Minor: Political Science (major), Legal Studies (concentration), Asian Studies (minor)
Today: Senior Development Officer, International Crisis Group

Why did you choose Manhattanville?
I grew up in Texas and knew I wanted to go out of state for college. I was drawn to Manhattanville because it is a safe suburban campus, with several degree options that interested me, and with access to all that New York City has to offer. I was a bit nervous to study so far away from home, yet I knew I would have small classes and faculty who would know who I was and check in on me from time to time. Also, I was amazed that such a small school had students from all over the country and world, and I wanted to meet them!

How did you get involved with MYAS?
I went to a Reunion Weekend and realized that I could be doing a lot more to help the school than I was. I decided to get involved with MYAS to see where I could help out personally or professionally, and also to reconnect with old classmates and meet new alumni at MYAS events and meetings.

What are some of your goals as a committee member of the Young Alumni Society?
I would like to see the alumni group grow and attract more graduates to get actively involved. Having an active alumni community is extremely important to the health of any school, and Manhattanville is no different. I always enjoyed the diversity of the student body, and today, I hope to help MYAS find more ways to link alumni together after graduation, not only for those of us still in the New York area, but also for all alumni around the world.

How can Manhattanville better engage its alumni?
I think Manhattanville does a great job of including alumni at existing events, including Reunion Weekends, etc. However, I think we could better streamline our messaging to alumni regarding how they can participate if they cannot make it back to campus and why participating is so important.

What do you think is the role of alumni in events and happenings at the College?
It is important for alumni to show support for Manhattanville by attending events, mentoring current students, and making annual contributions. It is also important for alumni to help connect the school to their networks in meaningful ways, either by bringing new speakers to campus, making connections with potential partner organizations, or helping students secure internships and jobs, etc.

What is your favorite place on campus?
A hard question! I think I would have to say the first floor of the Castle and the terrace gardens. My internship all through school and my first full-time job after graduation were in the Admissions Office in the Castle, so I have a lot of fond memories in and around the Castle (and I know some of the best secret passageways!).

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Many thanks to our departing board members for their time and commitment:
Enrique Benitez, II '96
Elizabeth Ronnenberg Brown '58
Cheryl B. Hill '73
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Read board member bios and how to get involved at www.mville.edu/alumniboard
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In November, SALLY EKENBERG MOSHER ’56 released a new CD of electronic improvisation titled “Soundings,” which was recorded with two partners. Her harpsichord and other compositions have been performed throughout the U.S. Information about the recording, other musical activities, and her artwork can be found on NewMixMusic.com. Mosher continues to paint, and her work “Extrapolations” graces the cover of her new recording. She also works as a real estate investor.

In December, KAREN RENZULLI LYNCH ’67 opened an additional office for her law practice in West Hartford Center, Conn. She has offices throughout the Hartford area, including downtown Hartford, Rocky Hill, Windsor, and Berlin, Conn. She continues to focus her practice on estate planning and administration and probate matters. She was reappointed to the Membership Board of the American Bar Association General Practice, Solo and Small Firms Division.

Ann King Miller ’59 arrived at the Kookooland Book Launch event on March 24 at the Cosmopolitan Club in New York City, picked up the 2015 issue of Manhattanville Magazine and excitedly said while pointing at the cover, “Oh, that’s me!”

Phyllis Grissim Theroux ’61 explains that her roots are in two locations: Ashland, Va., where she lives with her husband, Ragan, of 11 years, and California, where her children and grandchildren live. She enjoys writing, teaching, visiting with friends in the Chesapeake Bay region, eating while reading, and the pleasure of her husband’s company.

In her widely successful TED Talk, “How to Make a Profit While Making a Difference,” Audrey Choi, CEO of Morgan Stanley’s Institute for Sustainable Investing and daughter of SOOK NYUL CHOI ’62, shared her thoughts on why sustainable investing has the power to create change. Audrey Choi is a thought leader on how finance can be harnessed to address public policy challenges.

ELIZABETH KITAMURA ’66 is currently teaching and promoting cultural activities in Japan. Her daughters Emily (33) and Erica (25) are married, and Emily has a 15-month old boy named Frederic. Her son Eugene (39) is job-hunting.

HELEN FARRELL RYAN ’68 and husband Dan welcomed two new granddaughters in 2015, Bridget Brophy Finegan, daughter of Meghan and Connor Finegan, and Georgia Margaret Ryan, daughter of Daniel and Nicole Ryan. They enjoy getting together from time to time with BARBARA ANN MCGUIRE COOK ’68 and husband David at their home in Warren, Conn. with other Manhattanville alums.
1970s

Former appeals lawyer SALLY WEINRAUB '71 is celebrating her 95th birthday in grand fashion with the simultaneous release of the first four books in her new mystery series. “Six Weeks’ Time,” “Murder on the Intrepid,” “Death of a Goddess,” and “Murder at the Mikvah” mark the debut of British-born sleuth Emily Lewis, an appeals lawyer in New York. For more information, visit sallyweinraub.com.

In 2015, SUSAN ANTILLA ’76, as founding journalism fellow at TheStreet Foundation, wrote investigative financial columns explaining how gains in workplace gender equity can be illusory and how a double standard in the behavior of men and women remains. She also wrote freelance articles for “The New York Times DealBook.” Recognition for her work included the Excellence in Journalism award from The Society of the Silurians, a New York City press club, and first place in the at-large competition for the National Federation of Press Women, for her stories on sex discrimination and financial abuse of the elderly.

The American Society of Business Press Editors awarded her first place in the commentary category for her series “Policing the Brokers.” Most recently, the Society of American Business Editors and Writers (SABEW) presented her with its Best in Business award for digital commentary in 2015.

JOSEPH T. SCHIPPA B.M. ’78, M.A.T. ’81, PH.D. was appointed to the position of director of pupil personnel services for the Edgemont Union Free School District in Scarsdale, N.Y. In this position, he provides leadership to special education and related services as well as to the guidance and counseling department.

1980s

LIZ (WILLIAMS) HARRISON ’81 moved back to Montana to take a position as major gifts officer for Planned Parenthood of Montana. She lives in Bozeman and is enjoying the beautiful surroundings. She will graduate with her Masters in Spiritual Guidance from Sofia University in June 2016.

This May, JESUS JAILE-MARTI ’83, M.D., Chief of the Division of Neonatology at White Plains Hospital, was named a 2016 Westchester Magazine Healthcare Hero. Considered a crusader for tiny babies, Jaile-Marti has overseen the care of fragile newborns for more than 20 years.

ROB SHEIFFELE ’83 received an emmy award nomination for his work on the CBS syndicated daytime talk show, “The Doctors.” Sheiffele joined the show in 2013 as supervising producer.

1990s

MATTHEW MACALUSO, M.ED. ’98 has published a book titled “Pull Your Head Out of Your Assumptions: What Teachers Know About Teaching.” The book is a series of interviews with 17 teachers and administrators from the Northeast U.S. The candid and brutally honest commentary provides readers with thought provoking insight about the realities of teaching in the modern classroom. It is published by Page Publishing and is ideal for parents, student teachers, and active teachers as a lens into what veteran educators know about their craft. Macaluso has been teaching since 1998 and is currently a high school history and social studies teacher in Somers, Conn. This is his first book.

COLIN CRAWFORD, M. ED. ’99 has been named chairman of the social studies department at St. John’s College High School in Washington, D.C.

2000s

Since June 2015, PHILLIP BERG ’04 has served as executive director of Morris Automated Information Network in Morristown, N.J. In August 2013, Phillip married Cara Scotto. The couple lives in Midland Park, N.J.

ADAM RODRIGUEZ ’02 was appointed Westchester County’s director of real estate by County Executive Robert P. Astorino.

LINDA SIMONE, M.A.W. ’04 was one of 12 poets whose poems appeared on San Antonio public transportation during April, National Poetry Month, as part of VIA’s Poetry on the Move program. Her poem, “Teahouse of the Texas Moon,” is forthcoming in an anthology of poems to be published in 2016 by Dos Gatos Press.

2010s

KIERSTEN M. SCHRAKE, ESQ. ’10 graduated from Pace University School of Law in May 2015 earning her Juris Doctorate. Kiersten passed the New York State Bar Exam in October and joined Jansen & Ressler, a family and matrimonial law firm, in White Plains, N.Y. Kiersten was admitted to the New York State Bar as an attorney in January 2016 and now practices family and matrimonial law, which has always been her dream career.

ANNAISSA VICENCIO, M.A., M.T.-B.C. ’10 is a Music Therapist-Board Certified and graduate of the Master of Arts in Music Therapy program at New York University. Her thesis was titled Transpersonal Approaches to Music Therapy in Neurorehabilitation and Medical Settings. Annalisssa works with NAMI Westchester and offers inspirational speaking workshops via her business, Whole Health Power. As an integrative nutrition and eating psychology recovery coach, Annalisssa helps busy professionals and those with insulin resistance leverage the relationship with food and body toward sustainable change and holistic health. For more information, contact Annalisssa at annie@wholehealthpower.com or 914-481-2283.

MARGARET GOFF ’14 successfully defended her Arizona State University master’s thesis project titled “Keeping Our Kids Out of Prison: The Case for Restorative Justice in Schools.”
Congratulations

Congratulations on the births of:
- David Bennett Tyree Jr. (aka “Ben”), son of Emily Bell Tyree and of David Tyree ’92
- Dempsey Jo Scanlon, daughter of Pat Scanlon ’03, M.S. ’09 and Catherine A. Scanlon, M.S. ’12

Congratulations on the engagements of:
- Catherine Carroll ’08 and Drew Pepin
- Kate Taveras ’15 and Sean Collins

Congratulations on the marriages of:
- Alessandra Padula ’10 and Marco Cortina
- Emily Jill Eyerman and Gregory Evan Schneider, M.A. ’12

Congratulations on the vows of:
- Kayleen Lugo ’15 and Eliseao Lugo ’01

Condolences

Condolences are offered to the families of:
- Deborah A. Roman ’33
- Florence H. Druckerbrod ’38
- Margaret Larkin ’38
- Marea C. Stapleton ’39
- Dorothy Connolly ’39
- Adele C. Bogart ’41, sister of Consuelo Calvan ’33 (RIP)
- Anne S. Johntgen ’41, sister of Elizabeth Sweeney ’37 (RIP) and Helen R. Sweeney ’63 (RIP)
- Catherine Quinan Kind ’41, sister of Mary M. Cottida ’35
- Eileen Morrissey ’41, sister of Kathleen P. Molloy ’45
- Adele Brady Flannery ’42
- Nancy R. Gulliver ’42
- Leona Michiels, M.M. ’42
- Mary C. Craigmie ’43
- Ann D. Curtin ’43
- Encarna Duran ’43, aunt of Gerardo E. Hernandez ’75 and Rafael Hernandez ’75, sister of Marimanta V. Fernandez ’44 (RIP) and Carmen M. Valdes ’44 (RIP), cousin of Encarna Duran ’43 (RIP), and daughter of Gerardo E. Hernandez ’75 and Reafael Hernandez ’75, cousin of Encarna V. Quinnan ’64 and Grace M. Valdes ’64
- Margaret W. Everett ’43, mother of Marie Louise Hallenbeck ’70, step mother of Florence L. Everett ’70, sister of Mary L. Orteig ’70, and Grace M. Valdes ’64
- Margaret W. Everett ’43, mother of beneficiaries of Maria Louise Hallenbeck ’70, step mother of Florence L. Everett ’70, sister of Mary L. Orteig ’70, and Grace M. Valdes ’64
- Olga M. Lawson ’43, daughter of Frances Markey ’21 (RIP), sister of Joan M. Steele ’49
- Ann E. Foley ’44
- Lucille Tillman ’44
- Helen E. Steinbinder ’44
- Carmen M. Valdes ’44, sister of Encarna Duran ’43 (RIP) and Marimanta V. Hernandez ’44 (RIP), aunt of Gerardo E. Hernandez ’75 and Reafael Hernandez ’75, cousin of Encarna V. Quinnan ’64 and Grace M. Valdes ’64
- Constance Duffy Corroon ’46, sister of Jane Burt ’44 (RIP), sister of Mary Helen Marie ’37 (RIP), cousin of Jean Duffy ’45 (RIP), cousin of Mary Kelleher ’41 (RIP), and cousin of Kathleen Belinga ’70
- Joanne Maneval ’46
- Anne McVoy Murray ’46, sister of Marie B. Drohan ’44 (RIP), sister-in-law of Marie Harris ’40 (RIP), Margot M. O’Mara ’58, Anne M. O’Neill ’46 (RIP), and Jane Sheridan ’48 (RIP), and aunt of Thomas M. Harris ’75
- Mary Alice Brendle ’47
- Joan Coleman ’47, sister of Margery LaPorte ’46
- Helen H. Driscoll ’47
- Nadia Gerrity ’47, mother of Elizabeth E. Bardwell ’91
- Joan C. Kirby, R.S.C.J. ’47, sister of Cecilia K. Mullin ’51 and Mary E. Wooters ’46 (RIP)
- Catherine Mansfield ’47, sister of Dorothy A. Grandfield ’43, aunt of Dorothy E. Grandfield ’69
- Jeanne B. McKeon ’47, mother of Susan McKeon ’72 and Patricia M. Warshaw ’73
- Katherine K. Ullman ’47, sister-in-law of Patricia Kiernan ’44 (RIP), aunt of Mia K. Laughlin ’70
- Maryanne Boilin Cain ’48, mother of Carol A. Meeks ’72
- Marian Carey ’48
- Margaret Wolf ’48
- Margaret E. Andre ’49
- Agnes H. Barry ’49
- Mary Jane Fitzpatrick ’49
- Doris A. Franzago ’49
- Eileen T. Kurtz ’49
- Sr. Frances Murphy ’49
- Patricia M. O’Regan ’49, cousin of Margaret Mia ’55
- Joan Cordis Westhues, M.M. ’49
- Helen O. Williams ’49
- Elise M. Robyn ’50
- Kathleen Welsh ’50, grandmother of Katie Welsh McSorley ’73
- Mary A. Purdy ’51
- Mary A. Purdy ’51, sister of Jean K. Rizzo ’58
- Josephine Moit Boeschenstein ’52
- Patricia F. Richards ’52, aunt of Lisa Kaminski ’73
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- Elena B. Verhave ’72
- Virginia A. Reed ’73
- Alma Arrington Brown, M.A.T. ’74
- Patrick P. Maloney ’76, husband of Susan C. Maloney ’76
- Joan Messenger, M.A.T. ’76
- Mary Fred Miller ’76
- Joyce B. Kanze ’79, mother of Nora K. Manuele ’84
- Cecilia R. O’Toole, M.A.T. ’80
- John Savage, M.A. ’86
- Tara B. Breed ’92
- Alison R. Aldredge, M.A.T. ’97
- Steven M. Towler, M.A.T. ’97
- Jessie D. Thomson ’98
- Curtis Dywer, M.A.T. ’00
- Amanda L. Coleman ’01
- James D. Dougherty, M.A. ’03

Condolences are offered on the deaths of the husbands of:
- Mary Reilly McNeill ’59 (John McNeill)
- Sheila Haggerty Turner ’60 (Davis “Scotty” Turner)
- Kathleen McClelland Kane ’61 (James McClelland)

Condolences are offered on the deaths of the mothers of:
- Lori Gage, M.S. ’02
- Nora Manuela
- Nancy O’Connell ’74

Condolences are offered on the deaths of the fathers of:
- Theresa Kelleher ’71, Professor
- Ani Khachian ’86

Condolences are offered on the deaths of faculty/staff/board member/friend/trustee:
- Ms. Al Constance H. Moore, grandmother of Mario J. Laurenti ’11
- Mr. Walter Sonneborn, Friend of the College
- Mr. Robert C. Cullen, Trustee
- Mrs. Linda Bertuzzi, Staff
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The Poetry Society of America

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Katy Tucci ’05  
Vice President, Wealth Manager  
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In July 2015, **Linda Pistecchia Kirkpatrick ’99** was elected to the Manhattanville Board of Trustees. As a senior vice president at MasterCard, Linda is responsible for business development and account management efforts with the largest retailers in the country. Prior to her current position, Linda served as chief of staff to MasterCard’s C.F.O., where she worked on the company’s I.P.O. and helped to establish the investor relations function at the corporation. Linda began working at MasterCard in 2000 after interning with the company while a student at Manhattanville. As an employee, Linda has been very involved with the establishment of a MasterCard scholarship fund at the College that aims to support students from underrepresented populations.

**Steven E. Waldinger, Esq. ’85** was elected to the Manhattanville Board of Trustees in July 2015. Since graduating from the College in 1985, Steve has remained involved in different capacities over the years including as a former Alumni Association Board member, reunion committee member, and job shadow host volunteer for the Center for Career Development. A graduate of New York Law School, Steven has practiced law at Shapiro Gettinger & Waldinger, LLP since 1988, and became partner in 1998. He is a civil litigator, whose experience includes advising boards and litigating actions against unit owners, homeowners, and shareholders to enforce bylaws and rules and regulations. He is also a past president of the Northern Westchester Bar Association, and was just named a 2016 New York Metro Super Lawyer.

In July 2015, **Sheila Falvey Finnerty ’87** was elected to the Manhattanville Board of Trustees. She has been involved at the College as an alumni volunteer in different ways. Prior to becoming a trustee, Sheila served on the Alumni Association Board as vice president and was also a member of the President’s Advisory Council. After graduating from Manhattanville, Sheila earned her M.B.A. in finance from NYU Stern School of Business. Currently, Sheila is senior vice president and manager of leveraged investments at Liberty Mutual Investments. She came to Liberty Mutual in 2005 from Morgan Stanley Investment Management, where she had been a managing director as well as head of the Morgan Stanley Investment Management Global High Yield Team. She holds the designation of chartered financial analyst.

**Victor Scipioni ’92** was elected in July 2015 to the Manhattanville Board of Trustees. Vic graduated from Manhattanville with a degree in management in 1992. During his time at the College, he played varsity basketball for four years and has remained involved with Manhattanville Athletics as an alumnus. Vic serves on the Athletics Hall of Fame committee and plays a key role in planning an annual golf outing fundraiser. Vic is the vice president of mutual fund equity trading at Neuberger Berman. He joined the firm in 1997, and now he leads their international trading division and is a member of the domestic trading team. In addition, Vic is a partner in the Atlantic Cigar Company with his brother, Paul Scipioni ’94.

**Dr. Irving Wladawsky-Berger** was elected to the Manhattanville Board of Trustees in February 2016. Dr. Wladawsky-Berger was introduced to the College by Provost Lisa Dolling. He delivered the first lecture in the Provost’s Distinguished Lecture Series with his talk, “The Changing Nature of Innovation in our 21st Century Digital Society.” Dr. Wladawsky-Berger retired in 2007 after a 37-year long career at IBM, where he was responsible for identifying emerging technologies and marketplace developments critical to the future of the information technology industry and organizing appropriate activities in and outside IBM in order to capitalize on them. He was also responsible for IBM’s university relations office and for the IBM Academy of Technology, where he served as chairman of the board of governors. Currently, Irving is an adviser at MasterCard and a member of the Board of Directors of Inno360, and CNRI and the Advisory Board of USC’s Annenberg Innovation Lab. In addition, he is a regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal’s C.I.O. Journal, and writes a weekly blog, irvingwb.com. He has received numerous awards for his accomplishments in engineering, served on various boards in different capacities, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as well as a fellow of London’s Royal Society of Arts. Dr. Wladawsky-Berger’s wife, Cheryl Karpf, is a graduate of Manhattenville’s Master of Arts in Writing program.
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On Friday, April 11, Dave Farber, Distinguished Career Professor of Computer Science and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University, spoke about the ongoing conflict between the technology industry and the government regarding the use of encryption in devices such as tablets and smartphones. The event, which was held in Reid Castle's West Room, was one of the Provost's Distinguished Lecture Series, a new series hosted by Provost Lisa Dolling. In November, students and the Manhattanville community enjoyed “The Changing Nature of Innovation in Our Digital Society” presented by Dr. Irving Wladawsky-Berger, Chairman Emeritus of the IBM Academy of Technology. In February, award winning science writer and journalist John Horgan spoke on his latest book, “The End of War.”