



ALUMNI NOTES 2019

ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF FIORELLO H. LAGUARDIA HS OF MUSIC & ART AND PERFORMING ARTS



"A family of artists that represented all walks of life and cultures, were accepting and encouraging of one another and demonstrated what people should be like, what America should be like, what the world should be like." – Rudy Valentine (M&A '67)







"I loved the freedom of going to school where people could be whatever they wanted to be, that the creative side of us was as important as the academic." – Laurie J. Greenwald



"Going to LaGuardia was a blessing."

Marlon Wayans (LaG '90)



I would not be frank or human if I did not take pride in this institution and its students.

> – Mayor Fiorello Henry LaGuardia, 1939

DID YOU KNOW?

The bust of Toscanini that once graced the halls of the High School of Music & Art now stands guard opposite the entrance to LaGuardia's Concert Hall.



1,300 HEAR CONCERT OF ARTS HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Augment Chorus for All-Bach Program

With Mayor La Guardia sharing honors with their parents, the students of the High School of Music and Art gave their eighth semiannual concert last night at the school auditorium, 135th Street and Convent Avenue, before a capacity house of 1.300 persons.

The Mayor was present to hear the all-Bach symphonic and choral program and to present to the school a bronze bust of Arturo Toscanini by Onorio Ruotolo. The parents set a precedent when seventy-five of their number joined with 175 students in the singing of a selection from the St. Matthew Passion.

The Mayor, who spoke during the intermission, was introduced by Walter Scheiber, 17-year-old vice president of the student governing body. The Toscanini bust was accepted for the school by Marian Dolinsky, 13, a freshman. The Mayor lauded Toscanini as

The Mayor lauded Toscanini as "one of the greatest musicians living today," and said he should serve as "an inspiration to the talented young musicians of this school." He then praised the principal of the school, Benjamin M. Steigman and the faculty.

Steigman, and the faculty. "I would not be frank or human," said the Mayor, "if I did not take pride in this institution and its students. Among the pleasant memories I will take away with me when I leave City Hall will be this school. One of the things I want to be remembered by as the years go by is the High School of Music and Art."

At the close of the concert, which lasted nearly two hours, a group of students persuaded the Mayor to visit the art gallery on the upper floors. The concert included the playing of the Brandenburg concerto grosso No. 3, in G major; the Overture No. 3, in D major; the toccata and fugue, in D minor, and six choral works.

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MERGER PROPOSED FOR ARTS SCHOOLS

A merger of the High School of Music and Art with the High School of Performing Arts was proposed yesterday. It was also suggested that the consolidated school be adjacent to The Lincoln Center For The Performing Arts.

Dr. William Schuman, president of the Juilliard School of Music, advanced the proposal at exercises at the High School of Music and Art commemorating the birth of the late Fiorello H. LaGuardia on Dec. 11, 1882.

The High School of Music and Art, at Convent Avenue and 135th Street, was established in 1936 after a fight led by Mr. LaGuardia as Mayor. It now has 2,000 pupils, who pursue a full academic course in addition to their specialties in the arts.

On the other hand, the High School of Performing Arts at 120 West Forty-sixth Street offers only vocational courses now to its 600 students.

Dr. Schuman said that the schools, if merged, could take over the present structure of the High School of Commerce at 155 West Sixty-fifth Street at the northern end of the Lincoln Center Complex, A new Lincoln Square High School, strictly academic, is scheduled to use the site.

> Chr New Hork Times Published: December 12, 1958 Copyright © The New York Times

WE'RE Please LIKE and FOLLOW us at facebook.com/AlumniandFriends and on Instagram @lagalumniandfriends. Stay up-to-date on alumni news, reunion information, and event details. Keep an eye out for FREE tickets to LaGuardia performances!



THANK YOU FROM ALUMNI & FRIENDS (A&F)

Dear Friends,

When I entered LaGuardia in 1985 I was part of the second incoming class at the "new building." My classmates and I have the distinction of being the first to audition at the LaGuardia building, which was not quite finished. The Concert Hall wasn't completed until my senior year and some performances took place on the lobby steps leading to the mezzanine level, but the LaG/M&A/PA spirit was passionate and strong. I just celebrated my amazing 30th reunion and September 2019 marks the 35th anniversary of the doors opening to LaGuardia! There will be fun events surrounding this milestone so please be on the lookout.

30 years ago I never would have imagined that I'd be back at the "new building" five days a week. I'm honored to watch the students grow each day with youthful enthusiasm and I'm proud of our Alumni & Friends community for helping them on their creative journeys.

Many of you have been supporting Alumni & Friends since its inception in 1983 and I personally want to say "**thank you!**" I know I benefited from your support as a student and I am grateful that you continue to champion today's LaGuardians.

In 1984 **Richard A. Klein**, principal of Music & Art, Performing Arts, and LaGuardia from 1968 to 1987, penned the same note in the final yearbooks for Performing Arts and Music & Art:

Despite the fact that few believed it would ever happen, the dream of generations of Music and Art and Performing Arts students, parents, faculty and friends has finally become a reality as we prepare to move our traditions, our beliefs, our ambitions and our labors to the Lincoln Center home built to house our unique programs of instruction.

As a consequence of that event you have now achieved a unique distinction of your own as you become the last students to complete your studies in the "old buildings," as they will come to be known.

You can be proud of your involvement in the most outstanding program of arts and performing arts preparation in the world and you can do your share to keep your school in its enviable position of leadership in the years ahead.

There will be a room set aside for Alumni and Friends in our new building and I expect to find you there sooner or later as a volunteer worker or a visiting performer or lecturer. Until then - not farewell but au revoir - until we meet again - and may all good wishes go with you.

The sentiment remains the same 35 years later. We have a beautiful room in the "new building" (room 853) and we'd love to see you! Let's keep the legacy of Music & Art, Performing Arts, and LaGuardia alive!



Schneider sisters (clockwise from left): Maria (M&A '80), Alma (LaG '86), Katy (M&A '82), Alice (LaG '87), Zoe - far right (LaG '89), Peggy (M&A '82)

See you soon,

Zoë Schneider (LaGuardia '89, vocal major) *Alumni Director*

Your contributions enable Alumni & Friends to do



Art department models paid for by A&F studio grants

\$22,500

in grants for LaG's six studio departments - art, dance, drama, instrumental music, technical theater, and vocal music

an additional \$60,000 is needed each year to meet the needs of the studio departments

\$10,000

for extra curricular student and faculty led projects

\$10,000

in emergency funds for students with financial need to cover senior dues, to assist with travel for college interviews and conservatory auditions, and to purchase art supplies for students who otherwise could not afford them



MAZI

\$69,300

NGS

for accompanists for the dance, drama, and music departments & master classes taught by industry professionals

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

an additional \$100,000 is needed each year to pay the necessary accompanists for all music classes, dance classes, and theater training



\$90,700

for annual awards to over 200 students – many in honor of specific classes, esteemed alumni, & former faculty

Thank you note from student award recipient

\$7,000

for LaGuardia's on-site instrument repair shop & tuning over 40 pianos in the school

an additional \$8,000 is needed each year to pay for piano tuning, maintenance, and instrument repair

\$55,000 for scholarships for students with financial need to attend summer programs & receive private lessons

an additional \$100,000 is needed each year to meet the needs of our students

\$2,500

for books & periodicals for the library, and funding for student created publications





Will you help A&F carry out our mission? Three easy ways to donate today:

use the enclosed envelope



visit us online at alumniandfriends.org



PRICELESS!



Because of general support from alumni and the greater community, Alumni & Friends is able to facilitate life-changing opportunities for LaGuardia students. We cannot put a price on these gifts.

This spring Alumni & Friends worked closely with Northwestern University's Cherubs Summer Program, finding the right LaGuardia students who qualified for scholarships to study theater. Three full scholarships (\$17,700) were given to LaGuardia juniors to spend five weeks studying theater at Northwestern University in Chicago in summer 2019. The beginning of a beautiful new relationship!

At left: Dollgy Gilot, vocal; Lexy Piton, vocal; Nia Curd, drama

This year we coordinated donations of **lighting equipment** for the Concert Hall and Little Flower Theater, and **instruments** for the music department including an oboe, trombone, and cello. Each year we coordinate the **Richard** and Mica Hadar Scholarship, which provides up to \$40,000 to assist a student with college tuition and expenses. We work with the teachers and guidance counselors to identify students to nominate, help the students with their essays and applications, and act as cheerleaders!

"The Hadar Foundation Scholarship allowed me to accept my seat at Rhode Island School of Design. At times I've struggled with believing in my artistic abilities, so to receive A&F's support on numerous occasions means more than I can ever express."



Your general contributions help us keep YOU connected to the school and to each other.

We work tirelessly to track down "lost" alumni and keep our network of **48,000+** alumni together.

We share alumni highlights on our website and social media, and create meaningful and memorable events like our annual reunion extraordinaire!



Alumni & Friends shared the love of Broadway by facilitating the distribution of **550 FREE tickets** to five separate performances of the Broadway musical *Head Over Heels* in 2018. The tickets, donated by one of the musical's producers, were given to students and alumni, many of whom had never seen a Broadway show.



Little Flower Fiorello creativity art dance drama instrumental tech vocal expression diversity transformative Lincoln Center Toscanini music public school support love thankful priceless

A STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE

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GRANTS & ENDOWED FUNDS



Dr. Stanley Fishman Fund was established by Stanley Fishman (M&A '54) to enhance the instrumental music department with summer study scholarships for classical music students, instrument maintenance and repair, and supplies and equipment.

John Cappelletti Fund for Teachers of Acting

was established by John Cappelletti, Performing Arts and LaGuardia theater teacher from 1968-1992, and provides an annual award to a graduating senior who plans to pursue a career teaching acting.

Irwin Kahn Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by the estate of Irwin Kahn (M&A '50) for art students with exceptional creative talent and potential for growth, with special consideration given to financial need.

Edith Hall Friedheim Grant for summer study scholarships for students in any department. Edith Hall Friedheim is the mother of two M&A alumni and grandmother to three LaGuardia alumni.

Frederick Grieger Architecture Grant was given by Frederick Grieger (M&A '52) to support the architecture curriculum at LaGuardia.

Frederick Loewe Foundation Grant for the drama department's annual Spring Drama Festival Musical. In 2019 the production was *Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

Lotos Foundation Grant for musical accompanists for the dance department.

Thank you to those who provided major grants & endowed funds (April 2018-May 2019).

Want to give a grant to support the work of Alumni & Friends?

Interested in establishing an endowed named fund to benefit LaGuardia students?

Affiliated with a foundation that would like to support arts education at LaGuardia?

Contact Zoë Schneider at 212-595-1301 or zoe@alumniandfriends.org

"In acting class it was like finding new dimensions of myself I never knew existed. If I am able to give back and help someone who wants to learn from the thing I love most, that is the most fulfilling and rewarding thing I could ever do. I am planning to attend SUNY New Paltz with a dual major in theater and education."

– Molly Walsh, LaG '19, drama



LaGuardia jazz students enjoying a master class with five professional jazz musicians (Eric McPherson, LaG '89, percussion; Justin Robinson, LaG '87, alto saxophone; Danton Boller, bass; Greg Glassman, trumpet; Jeremy Manasia, LaG '89, piano, not pictured)

Mady Chalk Jazz Grant established by Mady Chalk (M&A '57) to support the day to day needs of LaGuardia's jazz program, including master classes, and purchasing sheet music, instruments, and other materials needed for jazz education at LaGuardia.

Support LaGuardia and its gifted students by sponsoring a seat in LaGuardia's Concert Hall. Sponsor a seat with your own name or give as a unique gift. Honor someone special, cherish the memory of a loved one, or recognize classmates or faculty from your Music & Art, Performing Arts, and LaGuardia family. Your sponsorship seat is acknowledged with a plaque that will be permanently affixed to the back of a seat. Seat prices are \$250-\$550. Any questions about a seat sponsorship, or to sponsor a seat over the phone, please call 212-595-1301. You may also sponsor a seat online at **alumniandfriends.org/take-a-seat**





ALUMNI REUNIONS



Reunion 2018 was great! Over 300 graduates of M&A attended a reception on June 8 at "The Castle" - the former M&A building. M&A '78, led by their class leader Janine Denegall Fondon, honored several of their classmates: Lisa Price, founder and CEO of Carol's Daughter, actress and singer Dawnn Lewis, and producer Marcus Ticotin. The next day, alumni from 1940-53 as well as all classes ending in "3" and "8" came together at LaGuardia. They were treated to outstanding performances and displays of artwork by current students, communed at class gatherings, took pictures in the photobooth, enjoyed a delicious dinner, and attended the Semi-Annual Orchestra and Choral Concert.

Reunion 2019 started out on a high note with a June 7th reception for M&A alumni at "The Castle." The excitement lasted the following day as over 700 alumni from M&A and LaGuardia (1940-2009) were greeted outside LaGuardia by the swingin' music of the Senior Jazz Band, which could be heard from blocks away. Alumni enjoyed a day of performances by current students, tours of the art exhibition, and had time to catch up with classmates. The festivities continued through dinner, dessert, and the Semi-Annual Concert.

Thank you to all who were able to attend and to the class leaders and volunteers who made these reunions smashing successes! If you would like to be a **CLASS LEADER** or a **VOLUNTEER** to help organize your class reunion, please contact us at reunions@alumniandfriends.org.





Reunion 2020 will be June 2020 for all classes ending in "0" and "5" and all classes from 1940-1955.

To see more reunion photos, visit **alumniandfriends.org/reunions**

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

M&A '42 Jean Poindexter-Waldes turned 94 in October 2018 and is in independent living in Florida, but is pleased to report that she still drives! She wrote "It's been a very interesting and eventful life but I no longer travel as much as I like."

M&A '44 Robert Brustein founded both the Yale Repertory Theatre in New Haven, CT and the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, MA, where he remains a creative consultant. He was the theatre critic for *The New Republic* and he comments on politics for the Huffington Post. • Gerard Sorell, a World War II veteran who fought at the Battle of the Bulge, was honored in Montclair, NJ's 2018 Veterans' Day celebration. • Judith Abraham Weber wrote: "Is there ANYONE who remembers as a freshman being invited in small groups to 'tea' at Principal Benjamin Steigman's apartment? (Months later, in the halls, he remembered our names!)."

M&A '45 Norman Narotzky's work was recently exhibited at the Museo de L'Hospitalet in Catalonia, Spain. His show *Ocaso* consists of more

than 30 paintings done during the past five years, which represent his reaction to climate change, destruction and pollution of the environment, terrorism, war, and racism. He also had a solo exhibition in Barcelona, *The Watchers*, featuring his collection of paintings based on the stone faces found on many NYC buildings.



NORMAN NAROTZKY OCASO EVOSEDÓ DEL 7 DE MARZO AL 14 DE ABREL DE 2019

M&A '46 Zelda Kaufman Sokal has been living at Lasell Village near Boston for eight years where she discovered fellow alumnae Eleanor Marks (now Ellie Pollan, M&A '47) and Inge Thorn (M&A '47).

M&A '48 Steve Berliner wrote: "I am alive and kicking (not too high...) in an assisted living home in Rancho Mirage, CA. Still playing...booked a gig for Thanksgiving!" • Cecile Censor Brunswick's artwork can be seen at lagunaart.com, 1stdibs.com, and artsy.com. • Renee Epstein Kahn is working on her art and blogs at: reneekahntheartist.blogspot. com. • Naomi Loeb Lipman reports that her grandchildren carry on her musical traditions and that she and her husband enjoy the Met, the NY Phil, and the Westchester Chamber Music Society.

M&A '49 Brenda Stone Horowitz wrote that her husband Paul Horowitz (M&A '47) passed away in 2015. She recently had an exhibit of her paintings at the Berta Walker Gallery in Provincetown, where she has shown for over 25 years and where she has sold over 200 paintings. Her daughter Diana Horowitz (M&A '77) had her artwork shown at Hirschl & Adler Gallery in NYC and her granddaughter Julia Conrad (LaG '10) is currently getting her master's degree in journalism at Iowa University. + Joan Belenken Krauss wrote that she worked for thirty years as a PhD economist teaching at Hofstra and York College, and then as an economic consultant at NERA. Since 1991 she has lived in Jerusalem with her children and grandchildren, where she has been a guide at several museums.

M&A '51 Joseph Hartog wrote: "I have retired from my medical psychiatric practice as of December 2016. Among other activities, I am playing in a community orchestra in San Francisco as a violinist. (Not playing nearly as well as I did at M&A.)"

M&A '52 Cynthia Posen Anderson wrote that she is leading an active life in Sarasota, FL, where she is a volunteer Guardian Ad Litem (child advocate) and delivers "Meals on Wheels" once a week. She hopes to continue playing tennis as long

as possible. • Ruth Weiss Hohberg's latest book Moments and Memories is a collection of short essays about memorable events and life experiences and is available on Amazon. • Niela Miller wrote that she won a lifetime achievement award for her work with the transgender community since 1982. She was a Gestalt therapist, organization development consultant, and life coach. For the past 11 years she has been a facilitator of workshops in a virtual world called "Second Life" where she combines arts, psychology and education. She has produced two piano CDs, a singersongwriter album called Songs of Leaving, and a digital collection of piano pieces and choral works.

M&A '53 Carol Gorbach Fogel is a graphic designer and painter, has two grandchildren, and is living in San Francisco. • Arnold Sklar reported that he is now "sort of retired" but still plays in a pop orchestra in Florida every winter and does chamber music every week when he is back in suburban Chicago.

M&A '54 Ravelle Brickman is living in the Washington, DC area where she is a reviewer and feature writer for DC Metro Theater Arts. • Andrew Courtney documented the March

Against Kavanaugh in October 2018 for *The Nation*. More of his photographic work can be seen at: andrewcourtneyphotography. com • Marvin Maslow and his wife Marlene are living in Santa Fe, NM. Marvin is the founder and chairman of Manhattan Scientifics Inc., a technology incubator that develops medical devices to bring experimental cancerfighting technology to market.

Sarah Southern Pease recently lost her husband Doug after 57 years together. She said "it was sudden and unexpected and I am so glad to have the big family of children and grandchildren close at hand."
George Pollock wrote that he was cast in a new sitcom *The Finellis*, which began filming in January 2019. The show has an innovative format, which seamlessly integrates both musical and animated sequences into its storytelling. It will be produced in Germany for the English-speaking international television market.

M&A '55 Sheldon Clare is still singing in various chorales including the Tucson Masterworks, the oldest choral group in Tucson. He is a widower with three children and five grandchildren. • Doris Goldberg Dorin is living in Baltimore and retired from federal government where she was a Development Specialist at the National Institute of Health. She reports that she misses NYC and will always consider herself a New Yorker.

M&A '56 Margot Weiss Astrachan is a

producer of *The Prom* on Broadway and a producer of *Diana*, which will come to Broadway after first showing at the La Jolla Playhouse. She recently coordinated a series of master classes with members of the London Philharmonic Orchestra to work with the LaGuardia Senior Orchestra. • Natalie Bassen-Soto taught for 40 years - 10 in Oyster Bay, NY and 30 in San Juan, PR. She is currently retired



and living in The Villages, FL, where she does volunteer work. She is taking piano lessons and says "hello to all my classmates!" • Grace Feldman completed 55 years of teaching at Neighborhood Music School in New Haven and was recently named one of TIAA's 100 "Difference Makers," which carries a \$10,000 award for the recipient's institution of choice. She was also inducted into the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame. • George Nelson Preston had a solo art

exhibit at Kean University's Burger Gallery, The Creative and Spiritual World of George Preston.

M&A '57 Nora Goldschlager is practicing cardiology at UCSF as a Professor of Medicine, and said "Music and Art was life changing for me, and my experiences live with me to this day. Knowing I wanted medicine as a career, music was fulfilling and irreplaceable in my life. To this day my time at M&A was yesterday! As were my teachers. Ad Astra!!!" • Tova Green (Alice Schwartz at M&A) wrote that she lives, works, studies, and teaches at the San Francisco Zen Center, where she's been a resident for 20 years. Playing the cello and writing poetry continue to bring her joy. • Mimi Gross had

a solo art show at the Eric Firestone Gallery in NYC, *Mimi Gross: Among Friends, 1958-63.* The collection feature-d portraits of friends and family in the communities Mimi lived in and traveled through, from the Lower East Side to Florence, Italy. • **Donald Low** reports that he is no longer practicing law, but is now a real estate investor and trustee, and executor of various estates and trusts. • **Carolyn**

Bauling Raphael published her fourth book of poetry, *Grandma Poems—Not Too Sweet*, available on Amazon. • Julie Werner Stern is happily living with her husband at the Quadrangle, a retirement community in Haverford, PA, and is dedicated to the life of the mind. She's gone back to writing and painting and is just four miles from her son and grandchildren.

M&A '58 Aviva Gold wrote that she is "an Art Medicine Woman midwifing people with amazing life transitions through creative expression all over the world." She recently facilitated a Painting From the Source retreat in Switzerland with 40 people from all across the globe. Read more about Aviva at paintingfromthesource.com. • Steve Jablonsky is in his 55th and final year of teaching music at The City College of New York. • Carol Fogel



Mimi Gross: Among Friends, 1958-63

Marcus is a graphic designer/painter, has two granddaughters, and is living in San Francisco.

PA '58 Diane Abrams Butchin wrote: "I still love dancing. I go to a wonderful senior center in Freehold Township. I regret my decision to leave Performing Arts." • Eugenia Slezak reported: "I moved to Massachusetts to live close to my son and his family. I continue to play the cello and am trying to build a class of pre-college cellists."

M&A '59 Cecelia Resnick Feld wrote: "I continue to work as an artist both in my Dallas studio and at my farm studio, where I live and work four days a week. In recent years I have concentrated more on printmaking and collage than painting. I also do a lot of photography. You can see my work at: studio7310.com and

studio7310.com/ArtEveryday. I'd love to hear from anyone from M&A if they are ever in the Dallas area." • Hiram Graves reported that he retired from civil service after 28 years and feels rested. • Michael Klare retired in June 2018 as Five College Professor of Peace and World Security Studies at Hampshire College. He is a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Arms Control Association in Washington,

DC, focusing on emerging technologies and the future of war and arms control. • Leslie Nechemias-Meszaros is a retired mental health counselor in Mechanicsville, VA, where she has lived since 1995. She continues to paint, sketch, bike ride, and garden. She and her husband have three granddaughters in college. • Gena Raps is a professor of piano and chamber music at the Mannes Conservatory. She performs and teaches at festivals in Tuscany and Burges. • Paul Shapshak, PhD recently had his fifth book of poetry published, Selected Poetry Book V: 21st Century Poetry - Cantos & Epigrammes, available on Amazon. • Marcia Smilowitz Slatkin reports that she still plays the cello, with a pianist and string quartet. She is a photographer and had a solo show at WAAM Woodstock in 2018, and has been part of many group shows. She has published three poetry books: Cheese After Fukushima: Poems for a Changing Planet (2017), A Woman Milking (2016), and Not Yet (2012). She is married to Dan Maciejak, also M&A '59.



M&A '60 Leonard Hindell is a bassoonist with the New York Philharmonic. He recently taught a Master Class at LaGuardia through a generous grant from the Starr Foundation. • Joshua Rifkin accompanied soprano Laquita Mitchell (LaG '94) on WNYC in November 2018 as part of Live at the Greene Space: Scott Joplin at 150.

PA '60 Bettijane Sills

recently published her autobiography, Broadway, Balanchine, and Beyond: A Memoir with Elizabeth McPherson. McPherson is a parent of two LaGuardia students and Director of Dance at Montclair State University.



M&A '61 Jill Munroe Fankhauser wrote that she is happy to be alive, playing piano, painting, and reading. She has been married 50 years, with three spectacular children and six grandchildren. • Ethan Flaks is retired from his medical private practice and spends time painting in his studio and occasionally showing some of his work around the Syracuse, NY

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area. • Stephen Schutz created Starfall. com, an educational children's website with multisensory interactive games, emphasizing exploration, play, and positive reinforcement. He also created the e-card website, bluemountain.com. • Steven Stipelman is a professor of fashion design at Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC. He just published the 4th edition of his textbook Illustrating Fashion - Concept to Creation.

PA '61 Robert Einenkel retired from the Theatre/Drama department of Nassau Community College as full professor. He still teaches adjunct courses in acting and occasionally directs student is a casting director, known for her work on A Beautiful Mind (2001), Apollo 13 (1995) and A Few Good Men (1992).

M&A '62 Brian

O'Dwver was the Grand Marshall in the 2019 NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade. O'Dwyer is a civil rights activist and a senior partner in the law firm O'Dwyer and Bernstein.

PA '62 Margo Berdeshevsky's poetry collection Before the Drought was published by Glass Lyre Press. It was named one of the best books of 2017 by The Brooklyn Rail.

M&A '64 Alan Binstock lent his artwork for the Alumni & Friends 2018 holiday card - an image of his sculpture that was featured at the grand reopening of the New Carrollton Branch Library in Maryland. He also had an exhibit, ShadowLands -3-D Adventures in Light and Space, at The American Center for Physics in College Park, MD. • Marion Sirefman was included in the Still Working! M&A '64 group show and has been exhibiting her work, which can be seen at sirefmanart.com. She reported: "I retired in 2011 from a non-art related job, and have continued to produce art. Lately concentrating on acrylic paintings, which have been shown in various local venues. I am especially proud to be among

those chosen to paint murals for the Village of Oak Park, where I have lived since 1984. I have been married 41 years to Mark Podolner; we have two children and 3 granddaughters - who all live nearby."



M&A '65 Miriam Brand Orenstein wrote that she still loves classical music and sings with a synagogue choir. She has lived in the Philadelphia suburbs since 1973 and is a clinical specialist in psychiatric nursing with a private practice. She has three daughters and four granddaughters, and her husband Harry, also a New Yorker, is a practicing psychologist. • Elyce Wakerman's novel A Tale of Two Citizens was published in 2015 and is available on Amazon.

M&A '66 Joel Kweskin reported that he is enjoying "partial" retirement, doing caricatures for corporate events, weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, birthdays, anniversaries, retirements. • Arnold Saltzman reveled in the North American premiere of his piece A Choral Symphony: Halevi at American University (AU). More than 200 artists participated including the AU Symphony Orchestra, Chorus, and Chamber Singers, the Strathmore Children's Chorus, and guest soloists mezzo-soprano Janice Meyerson and baritone Rob McGinness. • Robert Segal is president of the Massachusetts Air & Space Museum Project, developing an aviator and aerospace museum in Massachusetts. + Lynda Zycherman has been the Museum of Modern Art's sculpture conservator since 1984.

PA '66 Stephanie Block Miele presented her one-woman show, Love Songs, in October 2018 at The Gallery on Main in Falmouth, MA. She was a music teacher for 17 years and a librarian for four years.

M&A '67 Ed Smith is battling Alzheimer's and is working with the Alzheimer's Association NYC Chapter to help plan a series of art workshops and creative endeavors for people with early-stage Alzheimer's.

> PA '67 James Traina reported that he started out as a professional trombonist and graduated Manhattan School of Music with a Master's Degree in Music Education and a Principal certification. He was a middle school band director for 36 years, conductor of the Shoreham Wading River Band, and Executive Director of the New

York State Band Directors Association. He is currently a private music teacher with 15 students per week.

PA '68 Amy Hass wrote that she is still working in film production - slowing down and doing only backroom support for film deals and talent. She said she is really looking forward to the next reunion!

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

You may be missing out on upcoming events, important alumni news, and raffles for free tickets to shows at LaGuardia and other cultural institutions. Please connect with us! Send an email to info@alumniandfriends.org or visit: alumniandfriends.org/connect





M&A '69 Lorraine Friedman Cohn reported that she worked for eight years for the Dept. of Social Services before marrying and having three children, and then worked for the NYC Dept. of Education in Queens. She lives in New York but intends to move to Delaware. She enjoys crafting, sewing, playing the clarinet, and ballroom and folk dancing. • Arlene Jacks is the Senior Vice President & Northeast Agent at Bicoastal Productions, Inc. Talent Agency. • David Krane composed the dance and musical

arrangements for the 2018 movie *Mary Poppins Returns*. He previously worked on the films *Chicago*, *Into the Woods* and *Nine*, among many more. • Michael B. Rubin reported that he joined The Edelweiss Band (theedelweissband.com) on the accordion, and teaches accordion, piano, and ballroom dancing in the DC area.

PA '69 Warren Benbow's book A Drummers Story was published in 2018 and chronicles his experiences in NYC's changing jazz scene in the 1970s, recounting his experiences performing with musical greats like Whitney Houston, Nina Simone, Betty Carter, Miles Davis, and Stevie Wonder. It is available on Amazon. • Larry Blank is a regular conductor for BBC Radio 2's "Friday Night is Music Night" and is the music director and orchestrator for the Olivier Awards.

M&A '7O Anna Simeone Ostrofsky told us that she actively performs on violin in Westchester County and the Lower Hudson Valley. She has performed with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, The Hudson Opera Theatre, and the Taconic Opera.

M&A '71 Marilynn Barr had an exhibit at the Westbeth Gallery, *The First Shoe Collection*, which featured life-sized ceramic shoes that merge utility, history, and creativity. • Nina Talbot had a series of painting exhibits throughout Poland documenting the lives of her relatives, historic rabbis, and townspeople from her ancestral town of Dynów.

M&A '72 Charles Busch returned to Feinstein's/54 Below with his show

Charles Busch: Native New Yorker. He is a Tony Award nominee and two-time MAC Award winner. • Janice Storozum is currently living in the French Riviera and had a one woman show of her paintings in Burgundy, France in spring 2019. • Fred Wilson, MacArthur Genius Grant recipient, exhibited his work in summer 2018 at the Met Breuer and Pace Gallery. Fred Wilson: Afro Kismet at Pace featured recent work, originally produced for the 15th Istanbul Biennial in 2017, and also exhibited at Pace in London in Spring 2018.

• Scott Wilson is a 3D sculptor and his work can be seen on his website concepts2realities.com.

M&A '73 David Wojnarowicz, artist, writer, activist (1954-1992), was the subject of a 2018 Whitney Museum exhibit.

PA '73 Lilly Colon starred in a one woman show about her journey from an orphanage in the Bronx to the stage at Radio City Music Hall, where she became the first Spanish Rockette.

M&A '74 Roberta Newman released her second book, *Here's the Pitch: The Amazing, True, New, and Improved Story of Baseball and Advertising,* published by University of Nebraska Press in 2019. M&A '76 Keeley Mitchell works with Creative Jazz Organization (CJO), which provided a scholarship to LaG '18 alumnus Francisco Haye.

M&A '78 Lisa Price runs her own cosmetics company, Carol's Daughter, and was honored by her class at the 2018 reunion.

PA '78 Lorraine Toussaint starred in NBC's *The Village*, and appeared in *Orange is the New Black* and *Badlands*.

David Krane

M&A '79 Gabby Bullock is the head of global diversity for Perkins+Will, an 83 year old international architecture and design firm with a workforce of more than 2,000 professionals. She is one of only 404 African American women who were licensed architects in the U.S. in 2017. • Chris Rogers is a jazz trumpeter/ composer and is releasing his album

Nature's Arrow in 2019. His critically acclaimed 2017 album Voyage Home received 4.5 stars in DOWNBEAT. He is the proud father of Theo (LaG '19, instrumental), and Isabelle (LaG '16, vocal): chrisrogersjazz.com. • Ray Vega hosts "Friday Night Jazz," a weekly show on Vermont Public Radio, and is a senior lecturer at University of Vermont, where he coaches jazz combos and teaches trumpet and jazz history. He was also in Tito Puente's band for the last seven year's of Puente's life. • Mary Wormworth attended Berklee College of Music as a vocal performance major and has toured the US, Europe, and Japan as a singer and bandleader. She was an extra in the movie Fame, and is heard on the soundtrack. She is currently a jewelry designer and owns the Brooklyn shop

Mary's Hands Jewelry.



PA '79 Isaac Mizrahi released his new book *I.M.: A Memoir*.

M&A '80 Linus Brant

Coraggio is a sculptor, painter, and furniture designer, and is having a one man show at Howl Gallery in the East Village, opening

September 12, 2019. He was part of the group exhibit *Studio in the Street: Symbols - Totems - Cyphers* at NYC's National Arts Club in spring 2019. He is conducting interviews with people who knew Jean Michel Basquiat; if you have stories to share, contact Linus via linuscoraggio.com.

PA '81 David La Morte is

the Assistant Principal of Visual, Performing, and Career Arts at Tottenville HS in Staten Island, and was the recipient of the 2018 George N. Parks Award for Leadership in Music Education.

M&A '82 Jonathan Lethem recently published his new novel *The Feral Detective.* • Katy Schneider is a painter and art professor at Smith College, and a recipient of a Guggenheim and a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship. Her work is carried by Steven Harvey Fine Art Projects in NYC and Hidell Brooks Gallery in North Carolina. See work at: katyschneider.com and on instagram: katyschneiderpainter. • Natalie Toro appeared in the new musical *Benny & Joon* at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey in 2019.

PA '82 Danny Burstein is currently on Broadway in *Moulin Rouge*, and was recently in the revival of *My Fair Lady*. Burstein also appeared on Broadway in the revival of *Fiddler on the Roof*. His performance as Tevye earned him his sixth Tony nomination following nods for *Cabaret*, *Golden Boy*, *Follies*, *South Pacific*, and *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

M&A '83 Jennifer Thompson-Hawkins wrote that she is a resident of Prince George's County, MD and is a county government employee with the Office of Community Relations. She is also a board chair for the non-profit Community Support Systems, Inc. She and her husband have a son named Tyler.

M&A '84 Capathia Jenkins released her album *Phenomenal Woman: The Maya Angelou Songs*, with Louis Rosen.

LaG '85 Nefertiti Jones, a casting director, cofounded Haven Kids Rock in 2008 to provide at-risk kids in the NYC child welfare and foster care systems with a creative/enriching/therapeutic outlet. The program resides at Mott Haven Academy Charter School in the South Bronx, a first-of-its-kind charter school: havenkidsrock.com.

LaG '86 Lisa Arrindell performed in *Jubilee* at Arena Stage in Washington, DC in spring 2019. *Jubilee* is an inspirational a cappella music infused play, inspired by the world-renowned Fisk Jubilee Singers. • Maureen Kaiser reported that she has been working

for the NYC Department of Education as a special



Katy Schneider

education paraprofessional and a parttime guidance counselor. She continues to sing and act and use those creative juices at church, community theatre, and local comedy clubs.
 Alma Schneider received a community activism award in 2018 from New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education (NJCIE) for her work promoting inclusion in her community and in schools. For nearly a decade, she has been hosting a free drop-in group and moderating a Yahoo group for parents of children with disabilities to offer and receive practical and emotional support. She is also creating an international cookbook, the proceeds of which will benefit the International Rescue Committee. Learn more about Alma's food related work at Takebackthekitchen. com • Wayne R. Winston's book That One Moment, a collection of poetry and photography, was published in 2018 and is available on Amazon.

LaG '87 Cecil Castellucci's graphic memoir Girl on Film is scheduled to be released in November 2019 and much of the book takes place at Performing Arts and LaGuardia. • Leah Efron Martin is an elementary and middle school choral director in Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island. • Alto-saxophonist Justin Robinson performed at the Roy Hargrove Memorial Concert at Lincoln Center in January 2019, and was a member of Roy Hargrove's band for over 20 years. He came to LaGuardia in 2018 to teach a master class to LaGuardia jazz students.



From Left to Right: Sophia Dawson (LaG '06); Vanda hybrid orchid named after Awkwafina (LaG '06); Lydia Wellington (LaG '07).

LaG '89 Jessie Blair-Myrie starred in the musical Nunsense at the Hackensack Performing Arts Center in May 2019. • David Hamilton Golland recently published A Terrible Thing to Waste: Arthur Fletcher and the Conundrum of the Black Republican. Fletcher was a civil rights leader, the first black player for the Baltimore Colts, the father of affirmative action, adviser to four presidents, and he coined the United Negro College Fund's motto: "A Mind Is a Terrible Thing to Waste." • Akili Jamal Haynes performed his work Becoming Chibuzo for film, multiple instruments, voice, and spoken word during Boston's New Gallery Concert Series. + Dr. Bertin Louis gave a talk at Brooklyn College Library based on his book My Soul Is in Haiti: Protestantism in the Haitian Diaspora of the Bahamas. Bertin is an associate professor of Anthropology and Africana Studies, and vice chair of the Africana Studies department at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, • Jeremy Manasia released a new CD Sutra Book and returned to LaGuardia in 2018 to teach a jazz master class. Natasha DeVaughn Rigby works with the Skin Dance Company. • Brett Singer has been doing stand-up comedy at various NYC comedy clubs. • Maxim Weintraub is the senior curator at Aspen Art Museum.

LaG '90 Janeed De Groat Cleare is a dance teacher at Snipes Academy of Arts and Design, an

elementary public school in Wilmington, NC. + Yoruba Richen's documentary The Greenbook Guide to Freedom aired on the Smithsonian Channel in February 2019. She is a winner of the A&E IndieFilms and Sundance Institute's "Brave Storytellers Award."

LaG '92 Samm Cohen is an art therapist working at Rikers Island Correctional Facility. In addition to showing her own work, she is co-curating the 3rd annual exhibition, Myself, a multi-disciplinary art exhibit featuring the narratives of people incarcerated on Rikers Island. The show will be at SVA in October. • Michael Leonhart released his debut album with The Michael Leonhart Orchestra, The Painted Lady Suite, courtesy of Sunnyside records and available on soundcloud.

LaG '94 Jeannine Lally-Jones works behind the scenes in props for Saturday Night Live and Late Night Ringmaster for Ringling Brothers Circus, was featured in the PBS documentary American Experience - The Circus. He was also nominated for Best Lead in a Play by Broadway World Orlando for his role in A Tennessee Walk. • Devin Ratray appeared in episode two of Russian Doll on Netflix. • Vesper Porter

Stamper's debut illustrated Young Adult novel When the Night Sings was a National Book Award Nominee, a Morris Award Finalist, Golden Kite Honor Book, Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner, and was named a 2018 Best Young Adult Book by the Wall Street Journal and Kirkus.

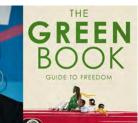
LaG '96 Michael Montero owns Montero Violins, with locations in Emmaus and Stroudsburg, PA. • Jose Sonera created and performed his one man show Prinze about 1970s icon Freddie Prinze (PA '73).

LaG '97 Carlos Henriquez, bassist at Jazz at Lincoln Center, recently had the world premiere of his piece Carlos Henriquez: The South Bronx Story - a retrospective of the social history of the South Bronx, which draws from his Puerto Rican heritage. • Sonia Rincon is a reporter and anchor for 1010 Wins and a reporter for CBS New York.

LaG '98 Gideon Frankel is currently the principal at Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Queens. • Merritt Wever won an Emmy in 2018 for best supporting actress for Godless on Netflix. This is Merritt's second Emmy.

LaG '99 Mike Corbett was recently elected NYC Democratic District Leader for the 74th Assembly District, Part D.

LaG '00 Amy Advocat is the founder and



Executive Director of the bass clarinet and marimba duo, Transient Canvas. They are premiering a new opera at The Cell in NYC in September 2019. She is also the Executive Director and

clarinetist with Guerilla Opera, a chamber opera

company in Boston. • Isabel Leonard is a Grammy winning opera singer. She recently performed at the Metropolitan Opera in Poulenc's Dialogues des Carmélite and Debussy's Pelléas et Mélisande, and had sold out shows with Andrea Bocelli. She appeared on PBS singing the title role in Nico Muhly's opera Marnie as part of the Great Performances at the Met series.

LaG '01 Michael Che is co-head writer of Saturday Night Live and co-hosted the 70th Emmy Awards in September 2018. • Krystyna Printup was featured in the exhibit Voices at NYU Kimmel Windows Galleries in spring 2019. A member of the New York Tuscarora Turtle Clan, Printup references American Indian folk art, pop culture stereotypes, and objects of everyday life, which are then combined with her own traditions. • In 2019 Adweek named Pedro Rodriguez one of their Media All-Stars and in 2018 named him one of their Young Influentials. He is currently Vice President of Business Growth, Digital Marketing and Transformation at Horizon Media.

LaG 'O2 Ray Santiago appeared in Hulu's horror series Into the Dark.

LaG '03 Shamel Pitts was awarded a 2018 Princess Grace Fellowship Award to create an original work for the Gibney Dance Company, which is codirected by Nigel Campbell (LaG '04).

Michelle Repella was recently a soprano soloist in Rossini's Petit Messe Solenelle at Holy Trinity Church in NYC.

LaG '04 Bryan (Diaz) Arias, choreographer, was awarded a Jacob's Pillow Fellowship at Tilles Center for The Performing Arts at LIU Post. • Adam Barruch choreographed Imprint Ghosts, which had its world premiere with the Gibney Dance Company.

LaG '06 Krystal Cruz-Murolo is a dance teacher at H.E.R.O. High School in the South Bronx, where she is also dean of students. • Sophia Dawson was a resident at The Whitney Independent Studio Program in 2018, an artist-in-residence at The University Settlement, and had her work debuted at Art Basel Miami Beach in December. • Nora Lum (aka Awkwafina) starred in the 2018 films Ocean's Eight and Crazy Rich Asians. She also appeared in Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising, Girl Code, and Dude, on Netflix. She hosted Saturday Night Live in October 2018 and The New York Botanical Garden just named the new Vanda hybrid orchid after her. She stars in the 2019 film The Farewell.

LaG '07 Lydia Wellington recently performed in NYC Ballet's The Sleeping Beauty.

LaG '08 Robert Ariza joined the ensemble of Hamilton in Chicago and is the understudy for

> Alexander Hamilton. + Tommy Bracco founded Lion Arts, a performing arts program for teens, and is currently performing in Broadway's Pretty Woman. • Lilli Cooper is a 2019 Tony nomination for Best Featured Actress for the Broadway musical Tootsie. • Emily Skeggs appeared with Oscar winner Marcia Gay Harden in the Lifetime movie Love You to Death and was in the 2018 film Mile 22 with Mark Wahlberg.

LaG '09 Dabrali Diaz works at Salsa In Queens dance studio in Long Island City. Email her for your free Salsa or Bachata class: dabrali@salsainqueens. com. • Alaysha Fox competed in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Finals in March 2019. • Lizette Garcia-Elias designed The Modern Chemist store scheduled to open at 325 Kent in Williamsburg, Brooklyn in 2019. This is the third store she has designed for The Modern Chemist. • Mitsuko Verdery wrote that although she was an art major, she has a newly formed dance company called 11 MICHIYAYA Dance based in NYC.





Lilli Cooper

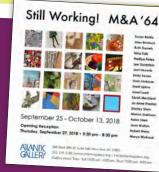
DID YOU KNOW?

At least six of our alumni are MacArthur Award recipients: Arthur Mitchell (PA '52), Fred Wilson (M&A '72), Whitfield Lovell (M&A '77), Kellie Jones (M&A '77), Jonathan Lethem (M&A 82), and Lynn Nottage (M&A '82). The MacArthur Awards - also known as "genius grants" - are given annually to individuals who have, according to the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, "shown extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction." Did we miss anyone? Please let us know!

"What could be more special than attending a school devoted to wisdom and the arts?"

- Steve Jablonsky (M&A '58)

In October 2018, 19 members of the class of M&A '64 were represented in *Still Working! M&A '64*, a group show curated by classmate Joan



Walton. The works included sculpture, painting, assemblage, glass, photography, botanical and political illustration, drawing and printmaking.





"Guardians of Jackson Heights" mural by Annabelle Popa (LaG '13)

LaG '10 Beth Lauren Chapnick is an art therapist and donated two of her paintings for the 2018 Breast Cancer Gala Fundraiser in NYC.

LaG '11 Adam Ali-Perez recently joined the cast of *Hamilton* in Chicago as a swing. • Raven Barkley is a dancer with the Charlotte Ballet and is pursuing a master's degree in computer science. • Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen performed with the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra in Berkeley, San Francisco and Palo Alto in spring 2019, and with the San Francisco Opera in June 2019. • Theo Hoffman and Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen were both

included in WQXR's list of "40 Under 40: A New Generation of Superb Opera Singers."

LaG '12 Nadia Alexander starred in

Alexander starred in the 2018 Tribeca Film Festival's horror movie, *The Dark*. In 2017, Nadia co-starred in *Blame* for which she

won the Best Actress in a U.S. Narrative Film at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival. • Ansel Elgort has been cast as Tony in Steven Spielberg and Tony Kushner's upcoming film adaptation of *West Side Story.* • Kaitlin Faherty graduated from CUNY in 2017 with a Bachelor of Architecture and attended L'Ecole des Arts Américaines de Fontainebleau, where she received the Premier Prix in Design. She became a Teaching Assistant in the Ecole d'Art and was awarded a three-month residency at the Cite Internationale des Arts. • Alyssa McCarthy is currently a speech pathologist in Maryland working with disabled children.

LaG '13 Emma Lov Block is one half of the rising pop duo Loote, currently on tour across the country. • Timothée Chalamet received his second Golden Globe nomination for Best Supporting Actor in *Beautiful Boy.* • Samuel Henry Levine starred in *The Inheritance* alongside Vanessa Redgrave at the West End London. • Annabelle Popa created a mural in Jackson Heights at 75th Street and 37th Avenue, "Guardians of Jackson Heights," commissioned through the Queens Council of the Arts. Her work was also on display at the Cryptic Gallery in Poughkeepsie,

LaG '14 Will Fisher is majoring in music at CCNY and was granted the Evelyn Buckstein scholarship for studies in the Sonic

and she had a solo show at the Kingston

Pop Museum.



Arts Center Music and Audio Technology Program. • Michael Herwitz workshopped a play as part of G45's 2018 Lightbulb Reading Series. • Victoria Konefal plays Ciara Brady on *Days of Our Lives.* • Matthew Woodcock-Livingston professionally goes by Matthew Dane-Livingston and is living in Lithuania where he competed in *Eurovision 2019.* • Lily Santiago starred in the 2019 Off-Broadway production of *Macbeth*, with an all female cast, at the Lucille Lortel Theatre.

LaG '15 Zach Bravo was nominated for Best Actor in a Musical by Broadway World Delaware for his role in *Footloose*. • Charisma Dozier is producing a Youtube

channel focused on local Atlanta artists. • Justin Fenniman worked on building the sets for *Hamilton* in Puerto Rico. • Jharrel Jerome portrays Korey Wise in the Netflix series *When They See Us* about the Central Park Five.

LaG '16 Nathanya Alexander appeared in Ocean's 8, alongside other LaGuardia grads Sarah Paulson (LaG '93) and Awkwafina (LaG '06). * Adriel Flete will appear as a "Shark" in Steven Spielberg's upcoming remake of West Side Story. He recently finished the national tour of On Your Feet: The Emilio and Gloria Estefan Musical. * Victoria McGrath studies classical voice and intellectual history at Macaulay Honors College at CUNY Queens College (Aaron Copland School of Music). She performed in the spring production of Queens College's The Magic Flute, and is teaching English in Italy this summer.

LaG '17 Micaela Diamond stars as young Cher in *The Cher Show* on Broadway. • Destinii Donawa, known as the rapper "DES the problem," released her first single "Juice," which can be heard on SoundCloud. • Jay (Jah Quale) Mazyck made his Off-Broadway debut in *Surely Goodness and Mercy* by Chisa Hutchinson at The Clurman Theatre in spring 2019. • Benjamin Sperling composed the music for Harvard's Hasty Pudding Theatricals show, *HPT 171: France France Revolution*, which was presented at Hunter College's Kaye Playhouse in March 2019.

LaG '19 Celia Babini competed on season 16 of NBC's *The Voice.* • Isabella Graziolo was one of four winners of the 32nd annual Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition for her book *Bulby's Light*.

IN MEMORIAM It is with great sadness that Alumni & Friends reports the recent passing of the following individuals who were part of the Music & Art, Performing Arts, and LaGuardia family. As reported to A&F from 3/16/18 to 5/31/19

"The arts ignite the mind, they give you the possibility to dream and to hope."

– Arthur Mitchell

Beulah Sperber Hamilt, M&A '40 Burt Lavenberg, M&A '40 Florence Guttman Machol, M&A '40 Laura Pollikoff, M&A '40 Diane Paret Sachs, M&A '40 Nancy Bassen Reich, M&A '41 Lillian D. Hoffman Romaine, M&A '41 Wallace Berger, M&A '42 Alvin Epstein, M&A '42 Nita Thorner Goldstein, M&A '42 Terry Wachtell Ledley, M&A '42 Gloria Abbott Lee, M&A '42 Lea Wellman Lerner, M&A '42 Paul Mandell, M&A '42 Stanley Moskowitz, M&A '42 Cesar Quinones, M&A '42 Elaine Mark Robin, M&A '42 Claire Blaufarb Stern, M&A '42 Raymond Bock, M&A '43 Assunta Rockicioli Carballeira, M&A '43 Herbert Dinsky Danska, M&A '43 Vivian Kaplan Gluss, M&A '43 Simeon Locke, M&A '43 Thomas Schottman, M&A '43 Louis Serrille, M&A '43 Elaine Zuckerman Firstman, M&A '44 Stanley Kaplan, M&A '44 Marjorie Cohn Loren, M&A '44 Herbert Rogoff, M&A '44 Martin Schlam, M&A '44 Charles I Tiplitz, M&A '44 Marilyn Wolf Fischer, M&A '45 Arnold Freiberger, M&A '45 Hadassah Binder Markson, M&A '45 Bernice Bensley Moses, M&A '45 Lydia Morse Schoenbrunn, M&A '45 Eleonora Reich Stein, M&A '45



Arthur Mitchell (PA '52), the groundbreaking founding director of the Dance Theater of Harlem, passed away on September 19, 2018 at age 84. Following his graduation from Performing Arts, Mr. Mitchell was hired by George Balanchine to dance for the New York City Ballet, where he dazzled audiences as a principal dancer from 1955 until 1968. In 1969 he co-founded the Dance Theater of Harlem, as he felt an urgency following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King to provide the children of Harlem the same opportunities he had been given. Arthur Miller had a passion for dance and believed in the transformative power of the arts.

Virginia Marshall Zabriskie, M&A '45 Harvey Bertcher, M&A '46 Eugene D'Adamo, M&A '46 Carl Gscheidle, M&A '46 Florence Tilem Hayos, M&A '46 Bernard Lipshitz Linden, M&A '46 Benjamin Rachlis, M&A '46 Mary Maddi Forsythe, M&A '47 Sheldon Sachs, M&A '47 David Wise, M&A '47 Donald Alter, M&A '48 Lorraine Buch, M&A '48 Marcia Applebaum Chamovitz, M&A '48 Phoebe Freeman Cohen, M&A '48 Len Dreier Feiman, M&A '48 Barbara Eppner Levine, M&A '48 Lois Heller-Levine Olsheim, M&A '48 Richard Weinstein, M&A '48 Louise Saxe Almy, M&A '49 Arnold Burk, M&A '49 S. Warren Crawford, M&A '49 Lenore Sovern Sanders Goodman, M&A '49 George Sicre, M&A '49 Kevork Fags, M&A '50 Irwin Kahn, M&A '50 Sarina Ippolito Mascheroni, M&A '50 Marjorie Farb Weinstein, M&A '50 Blaise Ciardulli, M&A '51 Bernard Friedman, M&A '51 Gary Goren, M&A '51 Cy Sigmund Mills, M&A '51 Marcus Raskin, M&A '51 James Scovotti, M&A '51 Carmen Melendez VerSteegh, M&A '51 Louise Prinz Bellman, M&A '52 Lloyd Miller, M&A '52 Arthur Mitchell, PA '52

Paul Reisch, M&A '52 Jack Wohl, M&A '52 Arthur Einhorn, M&A '53 Jack Freiwald, M&A '53 Mimi Newman Gold, M&A '53 Edwin Jacobowitz, M&A '53 Robert Kast, M&A '53 Eli Robert Leon, M&A '53 Isabelle Schwartz Kary, M&A '54 Beverly Bell Levey, M&A '54 Arthur B. Rubinstein, M&A '54 William Schulsinger, M&A '54 Gladys Rodriguez Toulis, M&A '54 Larry Ronald Broder, M&A '55 Lois Levy Brooks, M&A '55 Warren Falberg, M&A '55 Gail Kaplan, M&A '55 John Stine, M&A '55 Irene Wilson Edwards, M&A '56 Robert Goldman, M&A '56 Richard J. Margolin, PA '56 Alan Hirschhorn, M&A '56 Perry Robinson, M&A '56 Elly Straus Weiss, M&A '56 Amy Chasnoff Finkston, M&A '57 Michael More, M&A '57 Chieko Kikuchi Nakagawa, PA '57 Amy Brook Snider, M&A '57 Kyla Sahn Voltmer, M&A '57 Lisle Atkinson, M&A '58 Barbara Brick Cammarano, M&A '58 Paul Kissner, M&A '58 Robert Koehler, M&A '58 Jack Lees, M&A '58 Muriel Nathan Puder, M&A '58 Arthur Ross, M&A '58 Richard Skrivanek, M&A '58 Sandra Klayman Steinlauf, M&A '58 Gerard Silverman, M&A '59

Elliott Antokoletz, M&A '60 Mark Gartman, M&A '60 Janice Hansen Kushell, M&A '61 Erica Schafran Lowin, M&A '62 Linda Shiers, M&A '63 Lisa Wolf, M&A '63 Steve Zawel, M&A '63 Barry Antokoletz, M&A '64 Diane Gabriel, M&A '65 Odette Eldridge Horton, PA '65 Thomas Bridwell, M&A '67 Jerry Gonzalez, M&A '67 Lisa Mann Burke, M&A '69 Judy Craig, M&A '69 Elissa Eagan Meehan, M&A '69 Richard M. Steinberg, M&A '69 Donna Sturm, M&A '69 Viktor Weiss, M&A '69 Steven Maugeri, PA '70 Judith Abarbanel, M&A '73 Arthur Gottlieb, M&A '73 Janet Soffer, M&A '73 Alice Jacobs, M&A '74 John Titus, M&A '74 Dan Johnson, M&A '78 Daniel Lubin. PA '78 Myles Carter, M&A '83 Eliette Otero, M&A '83 Iris Wong, LaG '89 Aaron Padwee, LaG '91 Eurgiena Douglas, LaG '93 David Bousso, LaG '02 Abigail Marder, LaG '10 Sophie de Tournemire, LaG '17 Carl Johnson, Faculty Ethel Greenfield Booth, Faculty Richard Gesualdo, Faculty Julia Winston, Faculty Deborah Zall, Faculty



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To see a list of all the alumni and faculty we've lost, visit: **alumniandfriends.org/inmemoriam**. If you know someone has passed away and they are not listed on our website, please email us at: info@alumniandfriends.org.

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"Attending M&A built my confidence to live courageously and creatively in the world. I am still very proud to say, Oh, yes, I studied art and graduated from one of the finest high schools ever, M&A." – Peggy Tartt (M&A '74)

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LAGUARDIA SPOTLIGHT

There will be a new LaGuardia principal in fall 2019.





Rupert Holmes, writer of Tony Award winning Broadway musical *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, conducted a Q&A with the cast of LaGuardia Opera Workshop's production of *Drood* and attended two performances. Recipients of the 2019 Alumni & Friends Graduation Awards for outstanding seniors in each department. Pictured from left to right: Tyler Bubb (art), Waverly Fredericks (dance), Natalia Soto (drama), Ayane Nakajima (instrumental), Dylan Marin (technical theater), and Karenna Woods (vocal). Over 200 Alumni & Friends monetary awards are given each year.



Members of the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted master classes for the Senior Orchestra.

A contribution made by Irene Rosner David (M&A '67), a retired art therapist, enabled Alumni & Friends to sponsor The Memory Project. This year numerous LaGuardia students, led by 2019 valedictorian Audrey Gatta (recipient of the Jeff Harris Memorial Award) created portraits as special gifts for children around the world facing substantial challenges - in Syria, Peru, Colombia, and Pakistan.



A group of professional musicians gave masterclasses to instrumental students through a grant from the Starr Foundation, via Corinne Greenberg, M&A '45. Left to right: Joseph Meyers (LaGuardia teacher); Peter Bond (trumpet, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra); Yoon Jae Lee (LaG '96, conductor); Joanne Choi (LaG 99, cello); Nardo Poy (M&A '65, viola, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra); Lesley Heller (M&A '68, violin, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra); Leonard Hindell (M&A '61, bassoon, NY Philharmonic); Bernice Greene Fleischer (Assistant Principal of Music at LaGuardia); Zoë Schneider (Alumni Director); Richard Stout (percussion); Bill Ellison (bass)



WHO'S WHO IN THE OFFICE?



If you've ever called the Alumni & Friends office to renew membership, purchase a reunion ticket, or update your contact information, you have spoken to one of us! We are in the office Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm and look forward to hearing from you!

Leigh Woods (LaG '89, art major) Manager of Awards, Scholarships, and Special Events

Zoë Schneider (LaG '89, vocal major) Alumni Director Robindra Deb Manager of Membership, Database, and Technology



WANT A YEARBOOK?

Select yearbooks are available to purchase for \$50. Please call the Alumni & Friends office for more details: 212-595-1301. All yearbooks are available on our website in digital format for dues paying members.

WANT TO HELP?

Dear friends,

I've had the honor of being involved with Alumni & Friends of LaGuardia for some 35 years and it's been one of the great pleasures of my life.

Our little organization has helped thousands of students get taught by the greatest professional musicians, singers, and artists; they've gotten their instruments repaired and up-graded arts supplies; they've had performance opportunities and attended summer study programs that would have been out of reach. We try to do anything that enhances their LaGuardia arts education.

Our total endowment to make this happen is nearly \$6 million and we're working hard to make it grow so our annual assistance grows every year. Aside from your generous donations and membership dues, there are some other things you can do to help:

Get involved personally: new people on the board of Alumni & Friends
bring fresh ideas and added energy. Consider joining our small group of dedicated volunteers who make sure we raise the money we need and that it is distributed wisely and in accordance with the intent of donors.

We need class leaders for class reunions, regional gatherings and

2 sponsorship of social and fund-raising events. These occasions are where we get to grow our alumni base and attract new friends and donors.

Create a legacy gift — large or small, some appreciated stock, everything helps. For those of us who feel our high school years were critical to our

3 formation as adults, as well as the foundation for life-long and meaningful friendships, assigning some portion of our estate is a great way to say thanks for this seminal experience.

Just come to any performance at the school to have a terrific reminder
of why this school still has high rankings for attendance, graduation and success rate of its graduates. The energy and talent are contagious and you'll have more than a nostalgic moment — you'll have a wonderful time.



Fondly,

Peter Bakstansky Alumni & Friends President

ALUMNI & FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Bakstansky (M&A '57) President

Benjamin Flaim (LaG '96) Vice President

Christine Denham (Parent, LaG '13) Treasurer

> Peter Frishauf * (M&A '66) Secretary

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Christine Scott-Deutsch (M&A '67)

Melissa Spohler (Parent, LaG '13)

* past president

KEEP THE LEGACY ALIVE



Will you help A&F carry out our mission? Three easy ways to donate today:



use the enclosed envelope



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call us at 212-595-1301



Lana Wang (LaG '20), recipient of the Class of M&A 1961 Award



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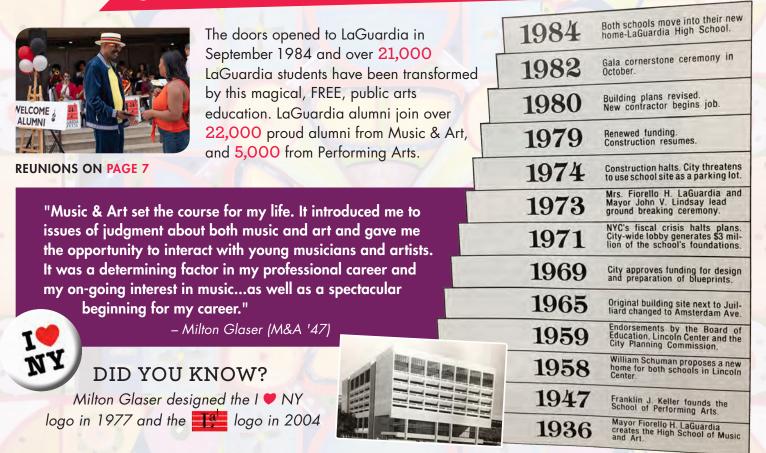
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Renew your membership online at **alumniandfriends.org/join**

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF LAGUARDIA HS!



(On front) 1. Rosalinda Grisanti (LaG '18), recipient of the Franklin Keller Award; 2. Amelia Huang (LaG '18), recipient of the Inna & Robert Mennerich Memorial Award and the Class of M&A 1959 Award; 3. Giorgia Poma (LaG '20), recipient of the Stephen Kates Memorial Cello Award and the Little Flower Award; 4. Kate Weissman (LaG '19), recipient of the Milton Glaser Graphic Art Award; 5. Sarmi Paul (LaG '20), recipient of the Class of M&A 1947 Award; 6. Athena Capo-Battaglia (LaG '18), recipient of the Class of M&A 1958 Award, Zelda Ackerman Foreign Language Award, Ira Marienhoff Memorial History Award and the Herbert & Nancy Salkin Award; 7. Angelica Trujillo (LaG '18), recipient of the Evelyn Sheftman Reiser Award