Dear Alumni and Friends,

The school year has come to a close, and A&F’s awards have been handed out to grateful students, performances during the past three months were numerous and outstanding, the graduating seniors are about to become our newest alumni and more than 300 people attended our successful 2012 Reunion. Your generosity has enabled A&F to provide over $300,000 in awards and grants to LaGuardia and its students during this school year.

With graduation behind us, A&F is already looking forward.

This fall we have two major events planned. On October 24th, Charles Fox (M&A ’58, “Killing Me Softly,” “I Got a Name,” “Ready to Take a Chance Again”) will be presenting Volume II of Songs of Our Lives. Conceived, produced and performed by Charles the evening will feature other songwriters and composers talking about and performing their work. The first show (Volume I) featured Alan Bergman, Hal David and Alan Menken.

A&F’s other fall event is our annual Art Auction and we’re thrilled that notable alumni have already contributed over 100 pieces of art. Artists include Byron Dobell (M&A ’44), Wolf Kahn (M&A ’43), Paul Resika (M&A ’46), Milton Glaser (M&A ’47), Jerome Witkin (M&A ’57), Guy Richards Smith (LaG ’88), Julian LaVerdiere (LaG ’89), and many others. Stay tuned to our website (www.alumniandfriends.org) for further information.

As a member of Alumni and Friends (A&F), you will receive quarterly newsletters, get discounts on tickets and merchandise and connect with your fellow alumni and hear about what they are up to through a “members only” section on A&F’s website. Your membership fees help sustain A&F and ensure that we are able to continue supporting the school and its students.

Please return to A&F at 100 Amsterdam Ave., room #853, NY, NY 10023. You may also make payments online at www.alumniandfriends.org. Contributions to A&F are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The tax identification number is 13-3662108. For questions please contact us at 212-555-1301 or send an email at info@alumniandfriends.org

Barbara Engel
Executive Director
A&F Awards
This was my first year presenting A&F awards to our students and it was a privilege. Over 200 students received A&F awards and their gratitude and appreciation of both A&F and the donors is touching. Those of you who have named funds are welcome to come to the ceremonies if you have a chance. We’ll announce the date in advance next year. It will definitely lift your spirits.

The thank-you notes are coming in from the students but here are some excerpts from those we have received so far.

“Words cannot express my gratitude sufficiently. I would like to thank you for choosing me to receive the Benjamin M. Steigman Founding Principal’s Memorial Award. This was truly a magnificent surprise. I will be using the award to help defray the costs of the out-of-state education expenses to attend UCLA which, without this award would not be possible. As I approached the stage to accept my award, I heard the lyrics of a song whisper in my ears: Won’t forget, can’t forget what I did for love.”

Congratulations To Sandy Faison
Sandy, LaGuardia’s Coordinator of Drama and Technical Theatre, was recently interviewed for the latest issue of Show Business Magazine. You can read the full article at: http://showbusinessweekly.com/article-1786-where-young-actors-learn-how-to-fly.html.

Our Newest Alumni -- The Class of 2011
The class of 2011 upholds the school’s tradition of exceptional students, including A&F’s own intern, India Carney, who was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts and received other impressive awards. Many of our students won awards from the National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts. In addition to earning the prestigious Blackboard Award, given to an outstanding school in recognition of exceptional educational programming LaGuardia was cited as a Silver Medal School in U.S. News & World Report. It is an honor to welcome our newest alumni!

A&F Faculty Fund Update
Richard Gesualdo is currently living in Puerto Rico and recently endowed a fund in his name. He taught Spanish at M&A and LaGuardia for 35 years (from 1958 to 1993) and was Acting Chairman of the Foreign Language Department for 12 years. He also served as a grade guide and his wisdom and advice helped many students. Through his generosity, outstanding students of Hispanic origin who have personal qualities that merit acknowledgement such as leadership, concern for others and achievement will be rewarded for future generations to come.

School Performances
Performances this spring included:

**Music**
- Kismet
- New Music Singers/Symphonic Barfid Concert
- Senior Jazz Concert
- Show Choir Concert
- 3 Musical performances
- The Semi-Annual Symphony Orchestra & Chorus Concert

**Drama**
- The Philadelphia Story
- Othello
- One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest
- Hairspray!

**Dance**
- Graduation Dance Concert
- Junior Dance Performances

**Art**
- Senior Art Shows 4-5
- The Semi Annual Art Exhibit

If you haven’t come to any LaGuardia performances you’re missing something special - they are professional quality well worth the ticket price of $20 or less. If you’d like to see the schedule for the fall, check the school calendar in September on our website (www.alumniandfriends.org) and come. You’ll also be supporting the school.
The High School of Performing Arts Reunion

A&F welcomed many of the alumni from The High School of Performing Arts for the Friday night program at LaGuardia. The School of Performing Arts Alumni Association (SPAA) held a reunion at their old school on West 46th Street on Saturday and sent us the following description of the event: “Almost 100 people bounded up the steps to the old School of Performing Arts building on West 46th Street. The occasion was the annual reunion of PA alumni. They had come to see their old friends and wander the halls where long ago they had come every day to sing and dance, play their instruments and recite the plays of Shakespeare without a trace of their Bronx or Brooklyn accent. Grey-haired kids whose graduation years ranged from 1957 to 1984 — the last year in the old PA building — came to dance to the rock & roll hits of the 60’s, 70’s and 80’s. Every once in a while, over the sound of the music would come the loud cry of someone’s name, instantly followed by old friends throwing their arms around each other, together again for the first time in years, or decades. Predictably, frequent subjects of conversation were “Got any pictures of your children?” (occasionally accompanied by “OMG, our kids are older than we are!”) and “Where does the time go?”

SPAA’s website is: www.highschoolofperformingarts.com.

M&A Class of 1951’s 60th Reunion

By Louise Greber Londin, Class Leader

It was an INEXPRESSIBLE JOY to gather in the familiar wood paneled lobby of our Alma Mater at the Castle some 60 years later. We dined together on delicious food in our old cafeteria, saw artwork and listened to music performed by our classmates in the same magnificent auditorium of our youth. But the highlight was recognizing and embracing dear old friends whose beautiful teenage faces have morphed into older somewhat wrinkled visages, yet everyone was beautiful still. It was joyous.

Those of us who dined together in the transformed lobby of LaGuardia H.S. on Saturday evening felt the excitement which permeated the room and got the opportunity to observe excellent examples of student artistic talent at the Art Show, enjoy outstanding performances by the orchestra and chorus at the Semi-Annual Concert and take pride in LaGuardia H.S., the offspring of the merger between its parent schools, the High Schools of Music & Art and Performing Arts. The construction of the current building embodies the purpose and function of those original schools and remains dedicated to teaching and promoting academic, artistic and musical excellence.

Captions (clockwise from top left):
1. Tour of the Castle
2 and 3. Finding old friends
4. Semi-Annual Concert
5. Saturday lunch
6. Isabelle Cazeaux M&A ’41
7. Drama performance
8. Dance performance
M&A Class of 1961’s 50th Reunion
By Anne Weichman Millman, Reunion Committee

More than 200 members of the Class of 1961 celebrated their 50th anniversary on the June 10th-12th weekend, starting at M&A, continuing at Rosie O’Grady’s, LaGuardia’s concert hall, and finally a festive Sunday brunch. Not much had changed at “the Castle”—except the bust of Toscanini was gone. Reunited classmates were treated to fine musical performances, featuring Daniel Waitzman, Carol Lieberman, Danny Domb, and Esther Hinds (on video), hosted by June LeBell. Jazz trumpeter Jimmy Owens shared a moving musical tribute to members no longer with us. Visually, there were 30 artists represented in a slide show, organized by Barbara Grossman. The “class cake” was provided by Rose Levy Beranbaum (author, The Cake Bible). Many thanks to the hard-working reunion committee: Richard Mishkin, Anne Millman, Sara Goodblatt, Elly Shodell, June LeBell, Julie Diamond, Grace Gorfin Abel, Anita Gold, Yolanda Escollies, and Paul Veres. For more details, visit www.musicandart1961.com and our Facebook page.

M&A Class of 1966’s 45th Reunion
By Evelyn Eman Delmar, Class Leader

It speaks volumes about a school that attracts alumni from 1941, well into their 80’s, to a reunion in 2011. The reunion organizers did a splendid job. The High School of Music & Art may have moved to a world-class new location in 1982, but for the Class of ’66, our hearts still reside in “The Castle” on St. Nicholas Terrace. I want to thank those who arranged our school tour as part of the 2011 Reunion. Walking into the auditorium of our Music & Art years, time and space dissolved into the now. Many of us were moved to tears. Time and again, I heard my classmates say that wherever their education and careers took them—and we’ve had very impressive careers—no single experience was more influential than our years at Music & Art. Regardless of who remembered (or couldn’t remember) whom, classmates from 1966 bonded at this reunion in a way that I know will carry forward in the years ahead. Pure magic!

M&A Class of 1971’s 40th Reunion
By Efrain Rodriguez, Class Leader

At different times during the weekend, almost 80 classmates showed up. Many memories flowed, touching on classmates missing or past, teachers and events that would mold our characters and determine our fates. It was great hearing where everyone had been and how they got there. We’re already talking about our mini meet-up next year, and are working to bring more of the MIA’s into the fold for 2016!

M&A Class of 1981’s 30th Reunion
By April Rodriguez, Class Leader

We came from near, the five boroughs, and far, Florida, California, Alaska and Austria, to be together, for many of us for the first time in 30 years. Eighty-one members of the class of 1981 converged on the LaGuardia High School reunion of 2011, the largest group to attend. What drew us all here was somewhat surreal, a bond forged in cyberspace, on Facebook. Most of us looked relatively unchanged, as we shared memories and laughs and updated each other on our lives. Most of what many of us took away from this experience was a new-found determination to develop and strengthen the bonds between us as the M&A Class of ’81 family. Plans are already underway for more unofficial reunions in the very near future. The 2011 LaGuardia High School reunion was an extraordinary experience that none of us will soon forget.
Special Requests

We welcome tax deductible gifts and donations for the school. Our current “wish list” includes:
- Musical instruments
- Computers and printers
- A new Marley floor for the dance studio
- New or gently used dance shoes and clothing
- Fabric for costumes
- 30 wood standing easels
- Pentax K50D cameras

Donations of equipment and supplies are tax-deductible. If you would like to make a donation, please contact the A&F office at: (212) 595-1301 or barbara@alumniandfriends.org.

A&F is grateful to the following generous donors:
- David Zarin, President of Zarin Fabrics for his donation of fabric for the Spring Drama Festivals and Kismet.
- Lisa Seward, Styron Corporation, for her donation of a 60 inch television, a conference table and credenza.
- Carol Sternhell, for her generous assistance with the newsletter.

Where Are We Now?

Lou Cicardo M&A ’53 moved from New York to central Florida in 2001 and then to North Carolina in 2007. He continues to paint and exhibit and says that the arts are flourishing in N.C. with many NYC transplants to the area. Lou retired in 1998 as Manager of Design/Production in the Corporate Design Group at Colgate Palmolive Corporation, New York City. His group was responsible for designing the graphics for domestic and global consumer packaging. Lou says that M&A opened hundreds of doors for him along the way during his career in art and design.

Susan Newmark M&A ’59 had a recent show at Swann Galleries in New York City entitled “Everyday Fictions: Artists Books and Other Work.”

Lauren Corwin PA ’60 got a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology, specializing in the culture of India and has spent her career teaching at a university. She never lost her love of the arts and took up the sitar when she was in India. She currently lives in Los Angeles and remains active in the arts. She says that the years spent at PA challenged all of us, not only those who pursued their high school specialty as a career.

Eugene Marlow PA ’62 is a professor in the Department of Journalism at Baruch College and co-chair of the Mint Hinton Jazz Perspectives Concert Series. He has had several careers in music and media, obtained five degrees including a Ph.D. and published eight books, over 130 articles, seven CDs and more than 200 compositions.

Judi Fusfield Thomas M&A ’62 is a frequent contributor to Dell Horoscope and other magazines and author of the award-winning book, Wisdom’s Game. She has been an astrologer, psychic and channeler for over three decades and a guest on several national media shows including ABC’s World News Now, CBS’s The Early Show and Sirius Satellite’s Above and Beyond. She is the founder and co-host of a radio show, New Perspectives and a television show, Meet the Healers. Her website is www.WisdomPath.com.

Barbara Mendes M&A ’66 is having a show of her paintings at the Sephardic Temple Tiferet Israel in Los Angeles from June 22 to July 18.

Dave Valentin M&A ’70 is a jazz flutist and has toured the world as a headliner playing with everyone from Tito Puente to McCoy Tyner. He has won a Grammy and his latest album, Pure Imagination, will be released shortly. Dave was also featured in the New York Times on June 5th: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/05/myred-gion/dave-valentin-hangs-with-cool-cats-at-home-and-away.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=dave valentin&st=cse.

Charles Passy M&A ’72 has returned to New York City after an 18-year absence and is eager to get in touch with his M&A classmates. He writes about personal finance for SmartMoney and writes about the arts, food and other topics for the Wall Street Journal. He is married to Leslie Olsen (M&A ’71) and they have two children: one a sophomore at Tufts and another in middle school hoping to attend LaGuardia.

Yoichiro Yoda LaG ’90 is a middle school hoping to attend LaGuardia. He graduated from LaGuardia Community College and now is having a show of his paintings at the Willow Suites Gallery in Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

Adrian Grenier and Corey Stoll LaG ’94 are starring together in Woody Allen’s new movie, Midnight in Paris.

Christopher Castro LaG ’08 is at Juilliard where his composition was selected by a panel of some of the world’s prominent composers to be presented as part of the Juilliard Orchestra’s regular season. Christopher was the winner of A&F’s Charles Fox and Herbert Sherman awards in 2008. For more information, go to: www.juilliard.edu/journal/2010-2011/1103/articles/composers/php.
In Memoriam

We deeply regret the loss of our classmates, alumni and friends and send our condolences to the families of those who have passed.

RETIRÉE FACULTY
John Strauss PA
Composer and arranger
John Strauss passed away on February 14, 2011. He began teaching music at PA in 1943. Strauss was married to Charlotte Rae and the father of two sons.

Sidney Lumet PA
Sidney Lumet, a drama teacher at PA from 1950-52 who directed on the streets of New York to the back lots of Hollywood and whose stories have been made into several professional choirs in New York City, died on April 8th. He was 86. His students included Dom DeLuise, Ed Simmons and Conrad “Connie” Fowkes. His films include: 21 Angry Men, Serpico, Dog Day Afternoon, The Verdict and Network. You can read the full New York Times obituary at: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/08/arts/dance/matteo-master-of-spanish-dance-dies-at-92.html?r=1&scp=1&sq=matteo&st=cse.

Lynn Boroff Kurtz MBA ’54
Lynn Boroff Kurtz, a graduate and faculty member of M&A, passed away on March 30 after a 2 year battle with ovarian cancer. He was a teacher at M&A from 1969-1976 and created the school’s Renaissance music program. Her husband was a PA graduate and her son and daughter-in-law are M&A grads. Her ex-husband was also an M&A graduate.

He received her bachelor’s degree in composition from Brandeis University. After leaving the M&A faculty, she got a Ph.D from Columbia University’s Teachers College and went on to be an administrator in school districts in Westchester and Long Island. She also wrote music her entire life, which was performed by a variety of ensembles at many different venues across the country. A memorial with music is being planned. For details, please contact joshkurtz2g@gmail.com

Norma Jean Prilby Sleeper MBA ’41
Ms. Sleeper was a gifted musician and, as a child attended the Von Trapp Music Camp and the Mostly Mozart Festival and performed at the Casals, Spoleto, Aspen and Marlboro festivals. He is survived by his wife, daughter and son-in-law and two grandchildren. The family would like donations in his memory to go to LaGuardia High School and Juilliard.

Dr. Luba Helman Berton MBA ’42
Luba Berton passed away in June at age 85. She received her Ph.D in comparative literature after 20 years of teaching and became an exchange professor in Kiev, Ukraine. Working with the Jewish Acculturation Program, she helped many Soviet Jews settle in the U.S. Fluent in Russian, she also produced the Russian newspaper Fonkan. She was also an accomplished classical pianist, had a love of literature and a passion for women’s education. She is survived by her two daughters and their spouses and two grandchildren. Contributions in her memory can be made to the Luba H. Berton Memorial Scholarship at the University of Michigan, Dearborn.

Helen Grace Bell MBA ’44W
William Cahn MBA ’44
Seymour Goren MBA ’46
Raya Pallington Magasiner MBA ’46
Joan Gilbert Peyser MBA ’47
Joan Gilbert Peyser died on April 27th at age 80. She is survived by her partner, the jazz historian Frank Driggs, and two children. You can see the full New York Times obituary at http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/25/arts/music/joan-gilbert-peyser-obituary-biographer-dies-at-80. html.

Roberta Tepper Cores M&A ’50
Roberta Cores passed away May 9, 2011, at age 78, after a brief illness. She is survived by her husband, three children and eight grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations in Segal’s memory to your favorite charity are welcomed.

ALUMNI
Leonard Arner M&A ’50
A renowned member of the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society, Leonard Arner passed away at age 87. He studied at Juilliard and earned a degree from Teachers College at Columbia University. He was a principal oboist with many orchestras including the National Symphony and the Mostly Mozart Festival and performed at the Casals, Spoleto, Aspen and Marlboro festivals. He is survived by his wife, daughter and son-in-law and two grandchildren. The family would like donations in his memory to go to LaGuardia High School and Juilliard.

Myra Cohn Segal MBA ’56
An accomplished violinist, Myra Cohn Segal went on to attend Queens College and the Juilliard School. She performed nationally and abroad: in California with the San Francisco Ballet, Oakland Symphony, with artists ranging from Tony Bennett to Jefferson Airplane, and in New York in Broadway productions including Evita, Sweeney Todd, and Sunset Boulevard. Energetic, vivacious, he friend to many, Segal’s positive outlook and strong will served her well in her five-year battle against a terrible disease. She is survived by her husband, sister, three children and eight grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations in Segal’s memory to your favorite charity are welcomed.

Myra Cohn Segal M&A ’56
She was a graduate of Pratt Institute and a talented visual artist and professionally trained textile designer. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to City of Hope Seattle Chapter, 1305 112th Ave SE, Ste 201, Bellevue, WA 98004, http://www.cityofhope.org/giving/how-to-helpPages/default.aspx; Overlake Hospital Foundation, Critical Care, 1035 116th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004, http://www.overlakehospital.org/support/overlake/donations-form.aspx; or LaGuardia High School www.alummiandfriends.org.

Rita Stern Wecker M&A ’51
Allan Chaikin MBA ’55
Carole Zalosh Altman MBA ’56
Margie Zucker Delrossi MBA ’56
Bruce Steeg MBA ’56
Elizabeth Stone MBA ’56
Myra Cohn Segal MBA ’56
An accomplished violinist, Myra Cohn Segal went on to attend Queens College and the Juilliard School. She performed nationally and abroad: in California with the San Francisco Ballet, Oakland Symphony, with artists ranging from Tony Bennett to Jefferson Airplane, and in New York in Broadway productions including Evita, Sweeney Todd, and Sunset Boulevard. Energetic, vivacious, he friend to many, Segal’s positive outlook and strong will served her well in her five-year battle against a terrible disease. She is survived by her husband, sister, three children and eight grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations in Segal’s memory to your favorite charity are welcomed.

Myra Cohn Segal MBA ’56
She was a graduate of Pratt Institute and a talented visual artist and professionally trained textile designer. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to City of Hope Seattle Chapter, 1305 112th Ave SE, Ste 201, Bellevue, WA 98004, http://www.cityofhope.org/giving/how-to-helpPages/default.aspx; Overlake Hospital Foundation, Critical Care, 1035 116th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004, http://www.overlakehospital.org/support/overlake/donations-form.aspx; or LaGuardia High School www.alummiandfriends.org.

David Kaplinsky MBA ’57
Andrew Zutis MBA ’57
Phylis Haas Lowell MBA ’58
Adele Lindeman Biggio M&A ’60
Bertrand Slatin MBA ’60
Inez Starr M&A ’60
Madeline Hirschhorn DeJariins M&A ’61
Kaaren M. Plant M&A ’61
Wally B. Wohl MBA ’61
Perry Ketchum M&A ’62
George H. Richmond MBA ’62
Morton Silver MBA ’63
Morton Silver passed away on April 6 at age 65 after a long battle with cancer. He was a multifaceted player and earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Juilliard. His resume was diverse; he played with Buddy Rich’s band, President Nixon’s Marine Band and in many Broadway shows including They’re Playing Our Song, Grand Hotel, Kiss of the Spiderwoman, Annie Get Your Gun and Gypsy. He also toured and appeared with dozens of luminaries including Steve Lawrence and Edie Gorme, Johnny Mathis, Shirley Bassey, the Temptations, Tony Bennett and Lena Horne. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Charles Buchanan MBA ’71
Sandra Ellis MBA ’71
Ivy Fabricant MBA ’71
Reverend Lamont Hamilton MBA ’71
Deborah Welborne Lewis MBA ’71
Charles Marcus MBA ’71
Waynon Williams MBA ’71
Linda Stanton Youngmayer MBA ’71
 Judy Sturrup MBA ’81
Marc Whitaker MBA ’82
IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT? IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER, JOIN TODAY!