

CONGRATS, CLASS OF 2023!  
Scenes from spring's  
signature celebration.

SUMMER SYLLABUS  
Put some Rochester  
in your reading list.

LITTLE BLUE & YELLOW CORVETTE?  
Tadge Juechter '79 helps steer the  
future of the iconic sports car.

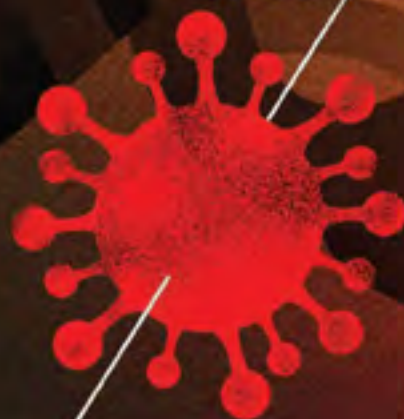
# Rochester

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/SUMMER 2023

## Review

### Better Next Time

IDEAS FOR IMPROVING HEALTH CARE BEFORE  
THE NEXT PANDEMIC ARRIVES





**Dr. David Linehan**

*Associate Director of Clinical Research  
Wilmot Cancer Institute*

*Chair, Department of Surgery  
University of Rochester Medical Center*

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# Features

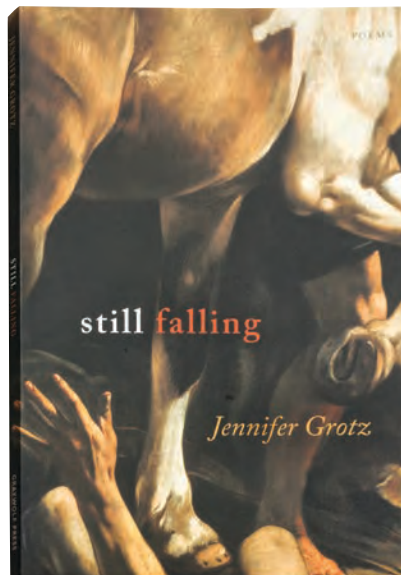
SUMMER 2023



## A Revolution for the Corvette

Engineer Tadge Juechter '79 (above) has helped shape the history of the iconic Corvette sports car for more than 30 years. As General Motors marks the Corvette's 70th anniversary this year, Juechter is leading the charge as "America's sports car" journeys into electrification, work that is part of a transformation in motor vehicle engineering at GM. *By Luke Auburn. Photographs by J. Adam Fenster*

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# Rooted in Community, Flourishing as a University

Historic projects highlight our commitment to the community as well as to educational, clinical, and cultural excellence.

By Sarah C. Mangelsdorf

Springtime at great universities like Rochester is an inspiring season. We celebrate commencement, of course, in which we congratulate the members of the graduating class and see them off with great hope and excitement for what their futures will bring.

At this year's University-wide ceremony, the Class of 2023 was joined by one of our very accomplished graduates. Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro '95, the first alumnus elected as a state's top executive, gave a rousing address animated by the inspirational ethos that *Meliora* does—and should—shape how we think about the communities in which we live and how we can work to improve the world around us.

I was reminded of Gov. Shapiro's message as we celebrated historic events this spring, which, in different ways, emphasize the University's commitment as an eager contributor to the success of Rochester and its surrounding communities as well as our dedication to educational, clinical, and cultural excellence that transcends regional boundaries and reflects our stature as a leading research university.

The first milestone was the formal opening of UR Medicine's Orthopaedics and Physical Performance Center, a 330,000-square-foot project located in nearby Henrietta. Part of the Medical Center's long-term strategic plan to serve the area's and the nation's growing need for orthopaedic care, the center is the largest off-site building project in the University's history.

More than four years in the making, the center provides state-of-the-art orthopaedic medicine, including ambulatory surgery, advanced imaging, physical therapy and athletic performance training, motion analysis, customized prosthetics, and advanced approaches to injury prevention.

The center provides care to patients in Rochester as well as the surrounding Finger Lakes region of New York. At the same time, it provides a cutting-edge



learning environment for our students in medicine and nursing.

Just days later, we dedicated the second phase of the Memorial Art Gallery's Centennial Sculpture Park, a project that extends the original park on the museum's campus west to Prince Street. Featuring new installations from Rashid Johnson, Pia Camil, Sanford Biggers, and other artists, the addition serves as a welcoming entrance to the museum from the School of the Arts, part of the Rochester City School District. Johnson, a key figure in the re-emergence of abstraction, was inspired by the Black and Brown students of the school and designed an elegantly curved sculpture as a physical and symbolic gateway inviting the larger community into the museum.

The park is the latest manifestation of the museum's efforts to serve as a cultural resource for the community and the region. Beyond curating an extraordinary and innovative collection, the museum serves as a Rochester-wide center for creativity, bringing together artists and creators of all kinds as an inclusive hub of the arts.

The project represents foundational ideas about the University. From George Eastman's commitment to medical care

and music to the Sibley family's commitment to the arts and culture and to our current initiative as partners with East High to improve education in the Rochester area, we are deeply engaged in the life of the community. I often say that we are the University *OF* Rochester, and we take that responsibility to heart as we think about the future of the institution and the region.

That's why one of the three core beliefs of our new strategic plan, *Boundless Possibility*, emphasizes our connections to the community.


While we're putting the finishing touches on the plan this summer, we have never wavered from the idea that, as the draft plan notes, "Our future is inextricably linked to the city we call home, and we are committed to continued economic, educational, social, and cultural partnerships with the greater Rochester community."

In other words, "Contributing to and benefiting from a just and vibrant city of Rochester and the Rochester region" is a pillar of the plan.

Helping us move forward with those aspects of the plan will be Shaun Nelms '13W (EdD), who since 2015 has led the University's partnership with East and has demonstrated great success in improving outcomes for students at the school. He joins the University's leadership team this summer as the inaugural vice president for community partnerships.

He will be responsible for developing an actionable plan for cultivating and stewarding productive collaborations throughout the surrounding community.

We have an outstanding and ongoing legacy in that regard, one that demonstrates that we flourish as a leading research university when we are rooted in our community.

I'm confident that we will all grow stronger in the coming years. 

Contact President Mangelsdorf at [thepresidentsoffice@rochester.edu](mailto:thepresidentsoffice@rochester.edu).

Follow her on Instagram: [@urochestermangelsdorf](https://www.instagram.com/urochestermangelsdorf).

## More Musical Memories

I enjoyed the flashback of Palestra concerts provided by Jim Mandelaro ("Dance Hall Days," Spring 2023).

I would mention that one of the finest assemblies of musicians to ever grace that stage was "Chick Corea and Return to Forever," which played on November 20, 1975. Along with Chick, it included Stanley Clarke, Al Di Meola, and Lenny White: four astonishing jazz fusion powerhouses.

It is incredible that some of the acts who went on to fill major stadiums (and still do!) could be seen in such an intimate and fun venue. Of note, great music on campus was not limited to the Palestra, as I remember terrific shows by both Roy Buchanan and Nils Lofgren in the wonderful acoustics of Strong.

Finally, one of the great offerings of the UR is the opportunity for students to produce and manage numerous activities on campus, including the concerts. Some of us learned as much outside of class as we did inside!

*Denis O'Leary '78  
Cutchogue, New York*

I loved the article about musical groups in the Palestra, but I was sad that the two concerts I most remember were missing. I'm not sure whether they were in the Palestra, but I think they were put on by the then Outside Speakers Committee. Either in 1964 or 1965, Duke Ellington, and then a second concert with Harry Belafonte, Nipsey Russell, and Nina Simone together.

I got to dance with Duke Ellington, and Harry Belafonte held my arm while we were getting organized. I didn't wash that sweater for a long time.

I hope that the records of those events can be found. I think that the organizer may have been Dave Bantleon '68. Thanks for the memories.

*Sharon Goodman Freeman '68  
Burnaby, British Columbia*

Regarding the article about concerts at the Palestra, one that I'll never forget was a surprise appearance in the late '60s by The Cyrkle, of "The Younger Girl" and "Red Rubber Ball" top 40 fame.

While we were scheduled to see a real headliner—The Four Tops? I don't remember—for one reason or another they didn't show and at the last minute The Cyrkle took their place. While known

as a "bubble gum" group, these guys really put on some show. They showcased their versatility by playing and covering everything from doo wop to progressive rock. And they were terrific.

The concert was made even more sweet by the fact that we, as a "sophisticated audience," weren't expecting anything. Our disappointment became joy.

I understand that they're still together making commercial jingles and doing studio work. Their drummer just turned 80.

I'll never forget that concert. Maybe it was the surprise that made it so memorable.

*Michael Kaufman '70, '72 (MS)  
Armonk, New York*

I am happy to see that the correct history regarding the Dead and Airplane is finally out there. Only thing to add is that Grace Slick stayed in the Field House and did not come on stage. As a three-year member of the Concert Committee, some memories:

BB King show: I went up to the dressing room (aka, the basketball team locker room) and saw him sitting there with a plate of Smitty's on his lap. I said "someone got you Smitty's!" Without missing a beat, he asked me if I wanted some.

Sha Na Na show: Up in the dressing room again after the show, Bowser, while still in character, put my cochair Dave Markowitz '71 up against the wall and asked "Hey Dave, where's our money?"

The perennial requests by Jan Zuckerman '71 and Joe Lobell '71 for us to book Van Morrison.

*Jerry Newman '71  
Parent: 2017  
West Bloomfield, Michigan*

Many thanks for your fun article on concerts at the Palestra. I was at U of R from 1966 to 1970 and attended Simon & Garfunkel (sat on the Palestra floor right in front of them) and Smokey Robinson and the Miracles. However, missing from the article's list of concerts during those years were two other, very notable ones that were actually cosponsored by, of all entities, the campus fraternity I belonged to: Chi Phi.

Those two concerts were The Lovin' Spoonful, which featured two drummers and drum sets pounding out "Summer in the City" and Mountain, with Leslie West, featuring the song "Mississippi Queen"

# Rochester Review

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UNIVERSITY of  
ROCHESTER



and easily the loudest concert I've ever been to. Five members of my fraternity were on the University's Social Activities Board, which secured and arranged Palestra concerts, hence Chi Phi's inside connection to even more great rock and roll concerts there.

Part of our fraternity's concert deal was that we, as fraternity brothers and pledges, had to clean up after the concert. That was a very large task after the Mountain concert, including safely removing one very passed out student via shopping cart from the venue. GREAT memories!

*Geoff Jacobs '70  
San Marcos, California*

I was the chair of the Campus Program Board from 1993 to 1995 (I think), and we brought in numerous performers to campus. The two that stand out the most for me:

**They Might Be Giants:** December 1995. It was a Monday night, near the end of the semester. Already cold outside and this was a band that Eric Cohen '95, one of our longtime officers, had been trying to get for years. It wasn't a packed house, but that meant that the stands had local students doing coordinated dances on the side which only added to the fun for those of us on the floor.

**Living Colour:** Winter 1994? It was after their album *Stain*. Such entertainers! Of course they closed with "Cult of Personality," but I most remember their song "Bi"—with fog and lighting effects was mystical, sensual, and highlighted my early years learning about LGBT (and future, subsequent acronyms) culture.

Thanks for bringing back some great memories.

*Kaleb Michaud '96, '97 (T5)  
Omaha, Nebraska*

Thanks for the article about rock groups in the Palestra. I have a couple memories that might be of interest.

1) Several weeks before Blood, Sweat & Tears arrived, someone painted some wonderful murals and advertisements in the tunnels beneath the quad. I used those tunnels a lot and thought the murals were great. I only wish I had gone to see BS&T. They became one of my favorite groups from that time, and I played their music a lot as a DJ on WRUR.

2) You did not mention Stevie Wonder—then known as Little Stevie Wonder. He appeared in the Palestra and did a wonderful show. I think that was likely in the winter of '68-'69 because I lived in Hoe-

ing at the time, and I think I remember just crossing the street to get in. This was before a lot of his best-known songs were recorded, but it was a wonderful show.

3) Also at the Palestra was a performance of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. It may have been a one-man show, but I'm not sure, and I don't know who performed it. That must have been a bit later since the album was released in 1970.

Seeing Stevie Wonder and *Superstar* were really life-changing for me.

I came from a small rural town; seeing people that did not look like me and hearing music that looked at my previous religious learning in a different way were among the many experiences outside of classes that made Rochester such a formative experience for me.

*W. Burns Fisher '72, '79 (MS)  
Hollis, New Hampshire*

One of the most searing memories from my U of R years was the 1968 Simon & Garfunkel concert. The Palestra was packed and the only sounds to be heard were the marvelous harmonies coming from this duo.

That memorable evening was exceeded by only one other campus event from the late Sixties: the May 1971 speech given by Muhammad Ali to a spellbound crowd in the Palestra. The boxer and war protester was so eloquent and intriguing you could literally hear a pin drop.

*Mel Hyman '71  
Montclair, New Jersey*

Really enjoyed your article on past performers over the years, but a great performance that you didn't list was the visit by rock and roller Bo Diddley at Fall Weekend, November 10, 1961. He played in the dining center, so that's perhaps why he was not included in your article.

We danced the night away listening to his "shave and a haircut, two bits" rhythm. Admission was \$1.25 per person. It was also the weekend that I pinned my future wife, Dottie Smith (Sigma Chi). This June we'll be celebrating our 60th anniversary.

*Tony Kerst '63  
La Quinta, California*

### Remembering Martha Graham

Thanks for your article on Martha Graham's year at Eastman ("When Martha Graham Danced . . .", Spring 2023). And thanks for including the photo and article mentioning my ballet teacher, Thelma Biracree.

Miss Biracree always talked about studying and dancing with Martha Graham. My mother, Mildred Cassady Clair '35E, an Eastman graduate in piano, accompanied all of Miss Biracree's ballet classes for many years.

My two sisters and I also took—and loved—Miss Biracree's classes. Her choreography was very Grahamian and always interesting, and her French pronunciation of the ballet moves, jumps, and turns was perfect. My middle sister moved to New York City after high school and studied ballet with Balanchine and Robbins.

And most delightful—when the season was right, and the New York Knicks were in town, the team took Miss Biracree's ballet classes with us at her Eastman studio on Swan Street.

*Deanna Clair Young '66 (MA)  
Boulder, Colorado*

Following up on the Martha Graham article: A member of the Graham Company traveled to the UR regularly as a guest instructor for a modern dance class.

During my junior year between the football and track season, I ventured into the class, the one male in a track uniform among coeds in leotards, who stumbled across the dance floor, unable to learn Graham's signature contraction technique.

I think the *Campus Times* did an article on my semester dance career.

*George Hole '60, '68 (PhD)  
Buffalo*

*Alumni readers also let us know that one of Graham's former dancers, Susan Kikuchi '70, died last fall in Manhattan. An acclaimed choreographer in her own right, Kikuchi was the daughter of Yuriko Kikuchi, one of the Graham Company's leading dancers and teachers.*

*In his book, Martha Graham, When Dance Became Modern: A Life (Alfred A. Knopf, 2022), upon which Review's story was based, biographer Neil Baldwin '69 acknowledges both mother and daughter as important members of Graham's community and legacy.—Scott Hauser*

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*Review welcomes letters and will print them as space permits. Letters may be edited for brevity and clarity. Unsigned letters cannot be used. Send letters to Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; rochrev@rochester.edu.*





## COMMENCEMENT 2023

### A Day of Inspiration & Celebration

The University celebrated more than 4,000 graduating students during this spring's Commencement in Fauver Stadium at the Brian F. Prince Athletic Complex.

Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro '95 addressed the graduates, urging them to cherish the friendships they formed on campus, to remember the support of those who helped them on their journeys, and to value the lessons they learned from faculty.

"I presume each member of this Class of 2023 has someone here at U of R—maybe on the stage, maybe out in the crowd—who deeply impacted you along the way, who you think of, and who I believe you will draw inspiration from for many years to come," he said.

Shapiro was one of three guests who received honorary degrees during the ceremony. Also honored were Michelle Albert '94M (MD), a prominent cardiologist and the first woman of color and Black woman to serve as president of the American Heart Association and the Association of University Cardiologists, and Claudia Goldin, a professor of economics at Harvard University, where she was the first woman in the department to receive tenure.

Surgeon and entrepreneur Jude Sauer '81, '85M (MD), '88M (Res) received the Charles Force Hutchison and Marjorie Smith Hutchison Medal, the University's highest alumni award for service and achievement.

Alexandra Fegler '23, the president of the Senior Class Council, congratulated the undergraduates for their ability to build a strong community in the face of the pandemic. And Raven Osborn, who earned a PhD in translational biomedical science, used her story of perseverance in higher education to celebrate the achievements of students who feel marginalized or who face obstacles in their efforts to succeed.

President Sarah Mangelsdorf shared her own connection with this spring's class, noting that she also arrived on campus four years ago and also had to navigate the challenges of the pandemic. She applauded the graduates for believing in themselves.

"You completed a world-class university education despite all that," she said. "And make no mistake, those qualities—resilience, adaptability, perseverance—the qualities that got you here during some very trying times, will serve you well throughout your life journey."







**CEREMONIAL SNAPSHOTS:** Graduates Claude Amsellem, Jack Pettit, Josiah Knight, and Eric Cannon take a selfie during the ceremony (counter-clockwise from top left); Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro waves as he heads to the platform; PhD graduate and student speaker Raven Osborn is greeted by classmates; senior Weihong Gao celebrates under the clock tower on Dandelion Square; President Sarah Mangelsdorf presents Hutchison Medal recipient Jude Sauer with his award; students, families, and friends celebrate the conferral of degrees.







## BUILDING HISTORY

# Taking a Long View of Clinical Care

**CAPITAL STEPS:** Patients from across western New York began receiving state-of-the-art care at a new Orthopaedics and Physical Performance Center earlier this year. Formally dedicated in May, the building—located in revamped commercial space in nearby Henrietta, about four miles south of the Medical Center—represents the largest off-site capital project in the University's history. Part of UR Medicine's long-term strategic plan to expand orthopaedic services, the center is home to the country's first operating room to use a trademarked technology to control infection. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER





# In Review





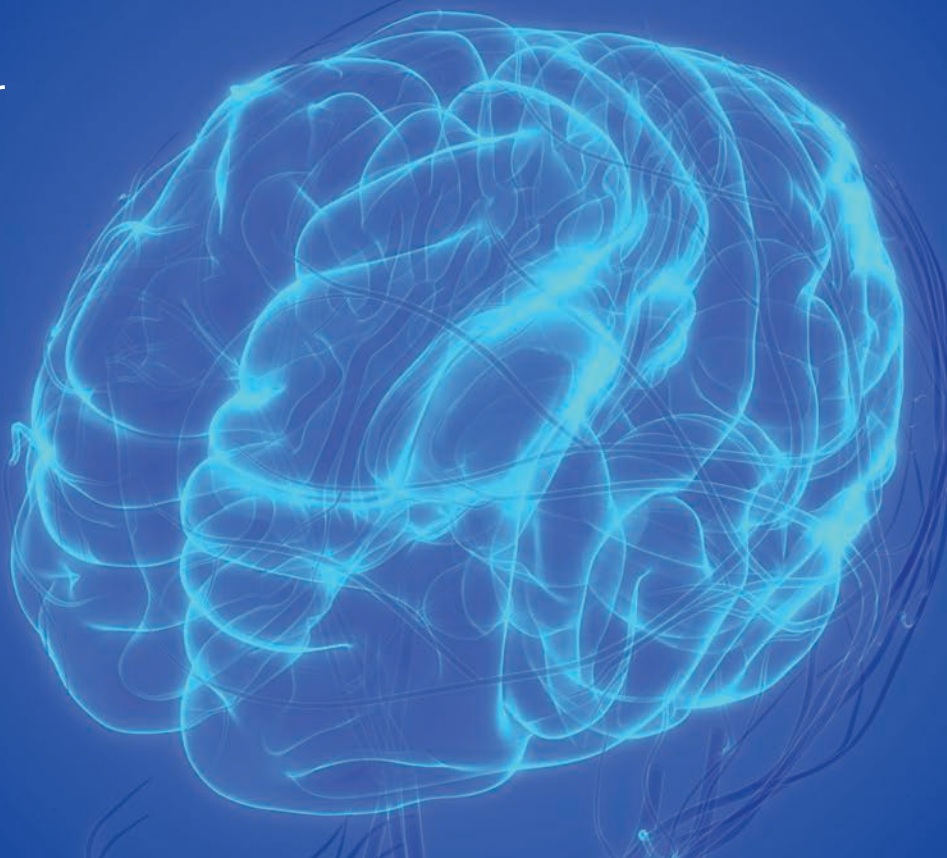


## MEMORIAL ART GALLERY

### Art Is the Park

**SCULPTED SPOT:** The Memorial Art Gallery opened the second part of its outdoor sculpture park this spring, extending the Centennial Sculpture Park west along University Avenue to Prince Street. Highlights include a sculpture known as *Broken Pavilion* (lower left), a curved mosaic commissioned from artist Rashid Johnson, and *Lover's Rainbow* (top center), a painted sculpture of stainless steel rebar by artist Pia Camil. This spring's dedication marked the 10th anniversary of the installation of the original park and the 110th anniversary of the museum's opening. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER





## AI Shows How Brain Fluids Flow

A new artificial intelligence–based technique for measuring fluid flow around the brain’s blood vessels could have big implications for developing treatments for neurological conditions.

A team led by Douglas Kelley, an associate professor of mechanical engineering, developed the novel measurements to calculate how cerebral blood vessels transport water-like fluids around the brain and help sweep away waste. Alterations in that flow are

linked to Alzheimer’s, small vessel disease, strokes, traumatic brain injuries, and other conditions, but the changes are difficult to measure in living organisms.

The results are published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The work, done in collaboration with a researcher from Brown University, builds upon years of research led by Maiken Nedergaard, a professor in Rochester’s Departments of Neurology and Neurosurgery

and codirector of the Center for Translational Neuromedicine.

The new technique “is a way to reveal pressures, forces, and the three-dimensional flow rate with much more accuracy than we can otherwise do,” says Kelley. “The pressure is important because nobody knows for sure quite what pumping mechanism drives all these flows around the brain yet. This is a new field.”

—Luke Auburn

## Food Stamp Work Requirements: Not Working

In the 1990s, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—the federal food assistance program whose roots date to the Depression-era Food Stamp Program—began including work requirements for most



**E-BENEFIT:** Food stamps are delivered electronically to more than 40 million recipients.

able-bodied recipients. The stated rationale for work requirements enacted as part of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 was that they would help recipients make a transition into the paid labor force.

But research by a team including Elena Prager, an assistant professor of economics at the Simon Business School, finds that work requirements are not effective in achieving that aim.

The group collected data from 2007 to 2015 to measure the effects of the period from 2009, when work requirements were suspended in response to the Great Recession, to 2013, when they were reinstated. In the study, published in *American Economic*

*Journal: Economic Policy*, the researchers report that work requirements have led to notable reductions in SNAP participation among adults subjected to them but have had “no effects on employment.” According to Prager and her coauthors, the declines in participation “are largest among beneficiaries who, prior to the reinstatement of work requirements, are homeless or have no earned income.”

Work requirements were modified this spring as part of negotiations over the federal debt ceiling. The final version of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, signed into law on June 3, included an exemption for homeless SNAP recipients.

—Karen McCally ’02 (PhD)



## Better Breast Cancer Diagnosis through Machine Learning Ultrasound

Mammography is the gold standard for breast cancer diagnosis, but it's not reliable in all cases, especially in people with dense breasts. According to the National Cancer Institute, that includes nearly half of all women aged 40 and older who get mammograms.

A team from the Medical Center and the Hajim School combined ultrasound with machine learning to examine previously detected masses in 121 study participants, about three quarters of whom had either dense or extremely dense breasts. The result: nearly 98 percent accuracy in predicting breast cancer in the masses. According to Kevin Parker, a professor of electrical and computer engineering and one of the researchers, that's compared to an accuracy rate that can be as low as 50 percent using mammography on dense breast tissue.

The team of Parker, lead author Jihye Baek, a PhD student in Parker's lab, and Avice O'Connell '77M (Res), a professor of imaging sciences at the Medical Center, published the findings in the journal *Machine Learning: Science and Technology*.

The researchers note that ultrasound is less expensive than mammography, portable, and radiation-free, making it a desirable tool, especially in developing countries. But at present, ultrasound is used only as a complement to standard mammography. That's because ultrasound finds many masses within a breast, most of which are not cancer.

It will take some time before the team's method can be widely adopted. "In the next stage of our research, we'll be working with much larger sets of data," says Parker.

—Peter Iglinski '17 (MA)

## A New Understanding about the Emergence of Planetary Life

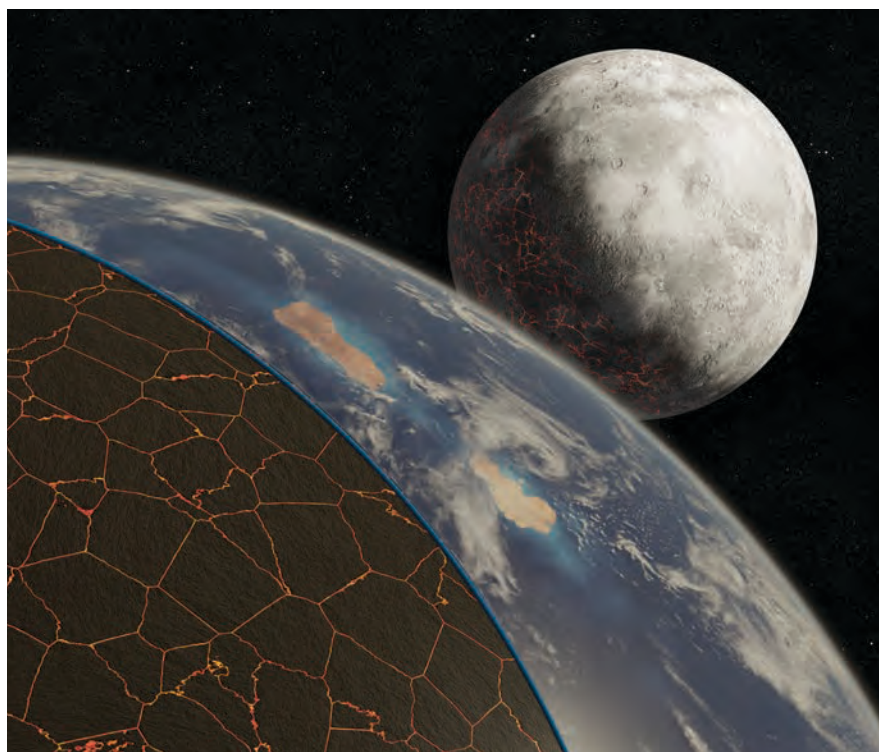
Scientists have long assumed that plate tectonics—the process in which large, jigsaw puzzle–like plates that compose Earth's crust and upper mantle shift, allowing heat from the planet's interior to escape to the surface—is necessary for the emergence of life. But new research led by John Tarduno, the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, casts doubt on that assumption.

In a study published in *Nature*, Tarduno reports the finding that mobile plate tectonics was not occurring during the time when the first life forms emerged on Earth. Instead,

Earth was releasing heat through what is known as a stagnant lid regime, in which large plumes of molten material originating in Earth's deep interior cause the outer layer to crack.

"We think plate tectonics, in the long run, is important for removing heat, generating the magnetic field, and keeping things habitable on our planet," says Tarduno. "However, our data suggests that when we're looking for exoplanets that harbor life, the planets do not necessarily need to have plate tectonics."

—Lindsey Valich



**CASE CRACKED:** The heat necessary for life to emerge on Earth came not from mobile plate tectonics, but from surface cracks caused by molten material in the planet's interior.

## A Step Toward Treating Neuropsychiatric Disorders in Young Adults

Researchers at the Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience are coming closer to finding a possible target for treating neuropsychiatric diseases that emerge in early adulthood, when the brain's dopamine system is malleable and not fully mature. Those diseases include schizophrenia and substance abuse disorders.

A team led by Kuan Hong Wang, a professor in the Departments of Neuroscience and of Pharmacology and Physiology, and Rianne

Stowell, a postdoctoral fellow in Wang's lab, targeted underperforming neurons in the dopamine system that connect to the frontal cortex, circuitry that's essential to higher cognitive processing and decision making.

They found that stimulating the cells that provide dopamine to the frontal cortex strengthened the circuit and counteracted structural deficiencies in the brain that cause long-term symptoms.

The findings, published in the journal *eLife*, suggest that increasing the activity of the dopamine system in adolescents may provide a path toward long-lasting changes that persist into adulthood, says Stowell.

"If we can target the right windows in development and understand the signals at play, we can develop treatments that change the course of these brain disorders."

—Kelsie Smith Hayduk

# Books & Recordings

## Books

### Precious Metal: German Steel, Modernity, and Ecology



Working at the intersection of architectural and environmental history, **Peter Christensen** explores how the widespread adoption of steel in construction in the late 19th century enabled new feats of civil engineering and design—while aiding colonial empire, fostering environmental destruction, and encouraging an ideology that erased the connection of the built environment to the natural world. Christensen, a faculty member in the Department of Art and Art History, is the Arthur Satz Professor of the Humanities and the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Director of the Humanities Center. (Penn State University Press)

### Doing and Being Hip-Hop in School: Best. Class. Ever.



**Joanne Larson**, the Michael W. Scandling Professor of Education and associate director of research in the Center for Urban Education Success at the Warner School; visual artist **Eleni**

**Duret** '02W (PhD); and Rochester City School District social studies teacher **Grant Atkins** offer an ethnography based on four years of data on an ongoing hip-hop curriculum developed and implemented collaboratively by teachers and students as part of the University's partnership with East High School. (Teachers College Press)

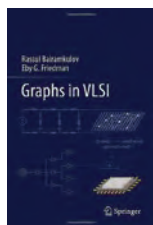
### Labors of Fear: The Modern Horror Film Goes to Work



**Jason Middleton**, an associate professor of English and of visual and cultural studies and the director of Rochester's Film and Media Studies Program, coedits a collection of essays

exploring the critiques of work and capitalism that inspired *Psycho*, *The Shining*, *Dawn of the Dead*, and other American horror films of the 1970s and 1980s. (University of Texas Press)

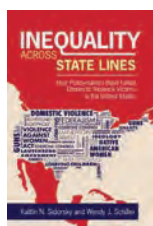
### Graphs in VLSI



**Eby Friedman**, Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Rochester, and **Rassul Bairamkulov** '22 (PhD), a postdoc at École Polytechnique Fédérale

de Lausanne, discuss VLSI (very large scale integrated) system design from the perspective of graph theory, connecting pure mathematics with practical product development. (Springer International)

### Inequality Across State Lines: How Policymakers Have Failed Domestic Violence Victims in the United States



**Wendy Schiller** '94 (PhD) combines case studies, surveys, and data analysis to explain why US domestic violence policies have failed to keep women safe and to suggest new approaches.

Schiller is the Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence in Political Science and director of the Taubman Center for American Politics & Policy at Brown University. (Cambridge University Press)

### The Island of the Four P's: A Modern Fable about Preparing for Your Future



**Ed Hajim** '58—Wall Street executive, former chair of the University's Board of Trustees and the namesake of Rochester's school of engineering and applied sciences—introduces readers to the “four Ps”: passions, principles, partners, and plans as the key ingredients to a successful and fulfilling life. (Skyhorse Publishing)

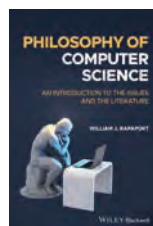
### Vanishing Point: The Search for a B-24 Bomber Crew Lost on the World War II Home Front



Journalist **Tom Wilber** '83 tells the story of *Getaway Gertie*, a B-24 bomber that vanished with its crew on a training mission over upstate New York. The crew are just a few of more than 15,000 American airmen and

women who died in stateside training accidents during the effort to recruit and train an air force en masse during World War II. (Cornell University Press)

### Philosophy of Computer Science: An Introduction to the Issues and the Literature



**William Rapaport** '68 offers a university-level textbook, accessible to students in both philosophy and computer science, exploring the intersection of the two disciplines. Rapaport is the CSE Eminent Professor Emeritus in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and an affiliated faculty member emeritus in the philosophy and linguistics departments at the University at Buffalo. (Wiley)

### Music's Guiding Hand: A Novel Inspired by the Life of Guido d'Arezzo



**Kingsley Day** '75E (MA) presents a novel based on the true story of the medieval monk who invented music notation and what's now known as “do-re-mi.” (The Mentor's Project)

### Run Healthy: The Runner's Guide to Injury Prevention and Treatment



**Allison Goldstein** '08—a writer and elite runner who competed in the US Olympic Team Trials for the women's marathon in 2019—coauthors a guide for injury prevention rooted in an understanding of the musculoskeletal system, its functions, and its response to training. (Human Kinetics Publishers)

### Can Your Heart Stand the Shocking Facts? A Deep Dive into an American Masterpiece

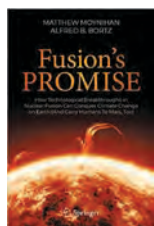


Movie critic and humorist **Dan Kimmel** '77, writing as Dr. Brentwood Masterling, offers a parody novel in which critic Masterling dives into *Plan 9 from Outer Space*, director



Edward Wood Jr.'s Golden Turkey Award winner for Worst Film. (*Fantastic Books*)

### Fusion's Promise: How Technological Breakthroughs in Nuclear Fusion Can Conquer Climate Change on Earth (and Carry Humans to Mars, Too)



**Matt Moynihan** '13 (PhD) coauthors a lay person's explanation of the last 70-plus-year effort to create fusion energy. Moynihan is a consultant to investors on nuclear fusion energy. (*Nature-Springer Press*)

### "Bright, Clear Sky Over a Plain So Wide": The Center for Western Studies, 1964–2020



**Harry Thompson** '81 (MA) chronicles over half a century of history at the Center for Western Studies at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Thompson is the center's executive director. (*Center for Western Studies*)

## Recordings

### Who Do You Have to Know?



Drummer **Rich Thompson**, an associate professor of jazz studies and contemporary media at Eastman, performs

originals and standards with a quartet including Corey Christiansen on guitar, Bobby Floyd on piano and Hammond B3 organ, and Peter Chwazik on acoustic bass. (*Origin Records*)

### Forgotten Voices: A Song-Cycle for Voices and Strings



Violinist **Kelly Hall-Tompkins** '93E performs in and produces a song cycle commissioned by Music Kitchen: Food for the

Soul, a project she founded to bring top classical music and musicians into homeless shelters. With support from Carnegie Hall, Hall-Tompkins and nine other musicians perform works by 15 contemporary composers and featuring texts by homeless shelter clients. (*Avie Records*)

### Fusion



Performing as the Lomazov-Rackers Piano Duo, Eastman professors of piano **Marina Lomazov** '93E, '00E (DMA) and **Joseph Racker** '05E (DMA) showcase contemporary American music by John Adams, William Bolcom, Fang Man, John Fitz Rogers, and John Corigliano. (*MSR Classics*)

### Aspire



Clarinetist **Seunghye Lee** '90E and bandoneonist and composer JP Jofre perform 10 tracks, including Jofre's *Double Concerto for Clarinet and Bandoneon*, commissioned by and written for Lee. The album received a Grammy nomination for Best Classical Album. (*Musica Solis*)

### Convergency



**Dave Slonaker** '80E (MM) leads the Grammy-nominated Dave Slonaker Big Band. The band includes Eastman professor of jazz studies and contemporary media **Clay Jenkins** on trumpet, **Bob Sheppard** '77E (MM) on alto sax, **Brian Scanlon** '81E '83E (MM) on soprano sax, **Rob Lockart** '80E (MM) on tenor sax, **Ed Czach** '80E '82E (MM) on piano, and **Bill Reichenbach** '71E on trombone. (*Origin Records*)

### Albumum



Baritone Brian Mulligan and pianist **Tim Long** '92E, musical director of Eastman Opera Theatre, present world premiere recordings of songs by composers Gregory Spears, Missy Mazzoli, and Mason Bates. (*Bright Shiny Things*)

### American Dissident



In his debut album, pianist **Michael Noble** '10RC, '10E, performs *The People United Will Never Be Defeated!*, an hour-long 1975 composition by Frederic Rzewski. Noble is the artistic director of Conflux and a faculty member at the International

School of Music in Bethesda, Maryland. (*Michael Noble*)

### Looking Back, Moving On



Composer and conductor **Anthony Iannaccone** '72E presents a two-CD recording that includes his Symphonies No. 3 and 4, tone poems, and a concerto, performed by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Warsaw Philharmonic, conductors Alexander Jiménez and George Manahan, and clarinetist Richard Stoltzman. (*Navona Records*)

### Time



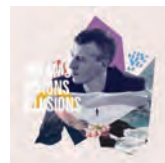
Composer **Michael Torke** '84E presents an album based on "a single musical idea that develops over 45 minutes at a constant 126 beats per minute." The work is divided into five spans, each with a distinct tonal center. (*Ecstatic Records*)

### Bass-ic Instinct



Bassist **David Finck** '80E presents his sixth recording as a band leader, featuring a variety of ensembles from duos to octets, performing original compositions and arrangements of standards. (*Burton Avenue Music*)

### Dreams, Visions, Illusions



Composer, arranger, and trombonist **Nick Finzer** '09E explores the tonal possibilities of the sextet with his long-standing ensemble, which includes bassist **Dave Baron** '10E. The recording is the result of a New Jazz Works grant from Chamber Music America. (*Outside in Music*)

*Books & Recordings* is a compilation of recent work by University alumni, faculty, and staff. For inclusion in an upcoming issue, send the work's title, publisher, author, or performer, a brief description, and a high-resolution cover image to Books & Recordings, Rochester Review, 22 Wallis Hall, Box 270044, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0044; or by email to rochrev@rochester.edu.



## DEANS & VPS

### Leaders Named to Key Posts



Adrienne Morgan

Adrienne Morgan '13W (PhD) has been named vice president for equity and inclusion and Richard Feldman Chief Diversity Officer.

A senior associate dean for equity and inclusion for the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Morgan had served as interim vice president and chief diversity officer



Stephen Dewhurst

since August 2022. She will continue her role at the medical school.

Stephen Dewhurst has been named vice president for research, after serving in an interim role since 2021. He will also continue to serve as vice dean for research at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, a position he has held since 2013.



Nicole Sampson

Nicole Sampson, who has served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Stony Brook University, has been named the Robert L. and Mary L. Sproull Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences. Also appointed as a University Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Sampson joins the University in August.

### Yellowjackets Earn Certification as Bee Campus USA



**BETTER FOR BEES:** Zoë Bross '23 (left) and Sahara Walto '24 helped organize a volunteer group of about 150 students, faculty, and staff, who established the latest pollinator garden on campus this spring.

A student-led effort to establish habitats for pollinating insects and reduce the use of pesticides has earned the University a certification from a national organization as a Bee Campus USA.

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation officially added Rochester to its roster this spring after work spearheaded by Zoë Bross '23, an environmental studies major, who rallied fellow students along with faculty and staff on the project.

As part of the effort, about 150 students, faculty, and staff volunteers helped plant a new pollinator garden this spring, adding to several that have been created on campus.

"Pollinators keep plants alive and are the very reason we have the food we eat," says Bross. "But bee populations are threatened because of human activities, like climate change, urbanization, and pesticide usage. That makes pollinators a keystone group for everything we need and use in the world."

### Junior Receives Truman Scholarship

Andrés Arocho González '24 has been selected to receive a Truman Scholarship—the top scholarship for aspiring public service leaders in the United States.

The political science major from San Juan, Puerto Rico, was one of 62 students selected by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation from 705 candidates representing 275 colleges and universities. The recipients were nominated by their institutions and recommended by 17 independent selection panels based on their academic success, leadership accomplishments, and likelihood of becoming public service leaders.

Andrés Arocho González





## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

# Lens Flair

## Students share photos from around the world as the annual Education Abroad Photo Contest returns.

As academic programs around the world resumed from pandemic restrictions over the past 18 months, so has the Center for Education Abroad's annual photo contest. The friendly competition showcases images taken by students who participate in some of Rochester's more than 100 international education opportunities.

Sponsored by the center, this year's contest was open to all students who took part in education abroad programs between fall 2021 and fall 2022.

Similarly, the International Services Office administered a photo contest for international students who turned their lenses on their experiences in the United States.

Here are the Grand Prize-winning photographs from each contest.

### Grand Prize: Education Abroad

Entered in the Epic Selfie category

**Giovanni Correa-Quinones '24**, an entrepreneurship and dance studies double major from Coamo, Puerto Rico. The photo was taken at Petra, Jordan, during the Semester at Sea program.

### Grand Prize: International Services Office

Entered in the International Culture category

**Adarsh Kumar '25**, a computer science major from Bhabua, India. The photo was taken at the University's Cultural Night.

*For more images and other information about the contest, visit [Rochester.edu/college/abroad/photo-contest](https://Rochester.edu/college/abroad/photo-contest).*



Photo by Adarsh Kumar



Photo by Giovanni Correa-Quinones



# Ask the Archivist: Is There a Typo in the Original University Seal?

*A question for Melissa Mead, the John M. and Barbara Keil University Archivist and Rochester Collections Librarian.*

**The first edition of *Rochester Review*, depicted on the cover of the Fall 2022 issue, displays the Roman numerals MDCCCLI, or 1851. Since the U of R was founded in 1850, shouldn't the Roman numerals have been MDCCCL? I would be gratified if you would clarify this!—Ronald Kass '68, Oyster Bay, New York**

While we have been led (and sometimes led ourselves) to believe that the 1851 date on the original seal might have been an error, the Minutes of the Executive Board of Trustees meeting of April 9, 1852, specifically state the text to be used:

*Universitas Rocestriensis  
Meliora  
MDCCCLI*

Accepting the date as intentional, rather than accidental, we can follow a timeline of documents and decisions to understand why.

The University received its provisional charter from the regents of the University of the State of New York on January 31, 1850. The text states that when the proposed Board of Trustees had fulfilled

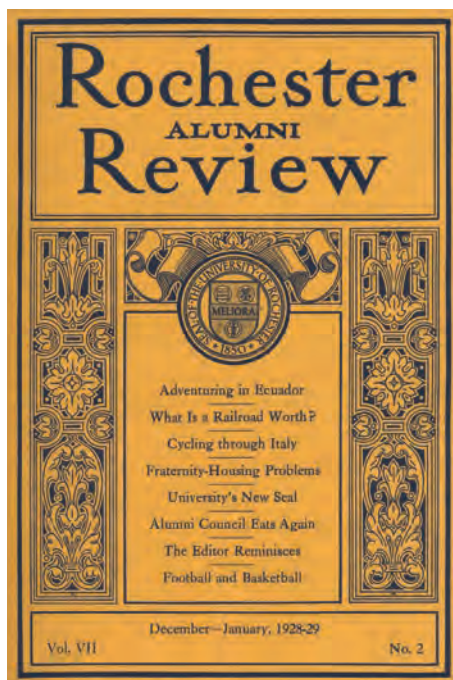
## Need History?

Do you have a question about University history? Email it to [rochrev@rochester.edu](mailto:rochrev@rochester.edu). Please put "Ask the Archivist" in the subject line.

Rochester and said corporation is by these presents invested with all the privileges and powers conceded to any College in this State . . . ."

Two weeks after the charter was granted, the executive board of trustees appointed a committee to "procure a corporate seal for the University."

Time was of the essence, as a seal was needed for a mortgage to purchase our first home, the United States Hotel on West Main Street. It was decided that an image of "Lady Liberty" from the United States half-dollar



**POINTED QUESTION:** Changed to "1850" early in the 20th century (above), the date on the University's original seal—depicted as "1851" in Roman numerals (below)—referred to the year that the institution was officially incorporated, rather than the year of the University's founding.

coin would suffice until a permanent seal was created.

No motto or date are visible on this temporary seal, and only a few examples are found in the Archives.

There was ample time between this use of a seal and the next event when the seal would be featured: the University's first Commencement on July 9, 1851.

The faculty meeting minutes of May 15, 1851, record: "Resolved to recommend to the Board the adoption of the word "Meliora" as the motto for the seal of the University. The device to be a hand pointing forward and upward."

The choice of Meliora—with its possible origin in Ovid's Latin poem "Metamorphoses"—is generally credited to professor of Greek (and interim University president) Asahel Clark Kendrick. But all the faculty were present at that meeting, including Latin professor John Fram Richardson, who was charged with composing the all-Latin text of the diplomas.


Why the emblem of a hand? No records have yet been found to inform later generations, but it bears a strong resemblance to the symbol chosen in 1776 by the founders of Phi Beta Kappa. Of the eight original faculty of the University, four were members of that

honor society, as were several trustees.

The Albany firm of Gavit and Company was hired to create the diplomas for the class of 1851 and the seal. The total cost was \$98, which included engraving the printing plate for the diploma text, printing the 11 parchment diplomas, and making the die for the seal. No examples of the 1851 diploma are held in the Archives.

The deliberate choice by the trustees of the 1851 date on the seal can therefore be connected to the year of the University's incorporation, rather than its founding.

In his report to the Board of Trustees for 1929, President Rush Rhees noted: "In order to have a seal which will recognize the larger development of the University and to correct a misimpression naturally derived from the date 1851 on our old seal, a new design has been made for us by Mr. Philipp Merz of the staff of the University architects . . . ."

The new seal, with arts and sciences, music, and medicine represented, appeared for the first time on the cover of the December 1928–January 1929 issue of *Review*. 



To view examples of the seal and learn about subsequent alterations, visit <https://rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/blog/ata-summer2023>.



## NATIONAL HONORS

# Yellowjackets Earn All-America Accolades

Yellowjacket athletes earned more than two dozen All-America honors over the course of 2022–23 for their performances representing Rochester. A total of eight students were recognized as Academic All-Americans as well. Leading the honor roll was the women's track and field program, which earned 12 All-America honors. The haul was spearheaded by two 4x400-meter relay

teams of seniors Susan Bansbach, Madeline O'Connell, and Kristin Hardy, junior Kate Isaac, and sophomore Megan Bell. O'Connell, Isaac, Bell, and Bansbach won the national indoor title; O'Connell, Bell, Hardy, and Bansbach placed second at the outdoor championships.

## Follow the Yellowjackets

If you can't cheer on Rochester in person, you can follow the Yellowjackets online. Live coverage is available for nearly all home events. Find live stats and livestreams at [uofrathletics.com/](http://uofrathletics.com/) coverage.

### All Americans

**Susan Bansbach** '23, indoor and outdoor track and field  
**Megan Bell** '25, indoor and outdoor track and field  
**Karina Bridger** '24, field hockey  
**Molly Broccoli** '26, softball

**Yash Fadte** '25, squash  
**Cole Goodman** '25, indoor and outdoor track and field  
**Kristin Hardy** '23, indoor and outdoor track and field  
**Kate Isaac** '24, indoor and outdoor track and field  
**Ally Kim** '25, softball  
**Abdelrahman Lasheen** '23, squash  
**Madeline O'Connell** '23, indoor and outdoor track and field  
**Daniel Papantonis** '24, football  
**Scott Sikorski** '23, cross country and outdoor track and field  
**Katie Titus**, graduate student, basketball  
**Kerry Wang** '24, golf

### Academic All-Americans

**Ryan Algier** '22, '23S (MBA), basketball  
**Susan Bansbach** '23, track and field  
**Megan Bell** '25, track and field  
**Lucy Haggerty** '23, lacrosse  
**Kate Isaac** '24, track and field  
**Sophie Lever** '23, swimming and diving  
**Nolan Sparks** '24, baseball  
**Katie Titus**, graduate student, basketball

# Eight Selected for Athletics Hall of Fame

Eight Yellowjackets who distinguished themselves over the course of their athletic careers at Rochester have been selected for induction into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame during this fall's Meliora Weekend. The Class for 2023 includes:

**Jacqueline Blackett** '81: A four-year member of the track and field program, Blackett had an accomplished career as a record-setting athlete and later as a coach at Rochester, a tenure that included coaching a total of 29 All-Americans.

**Ben Cross** '04: A two-time captain and four-season starter on the soccer team, Cross holds the Rochester record for single-season assists and is tied for fourth in game-winning goals.

**Celinda Fletcher** '07: Fletcher started every field hockey game of her four-year career, appearing in 76 games from 2003 to 2006. As a senior, she was an All-American and selected to the Division III Senior All-Star Game.

**Stephen Goodridge** '08: A national golfing champion in 2006, Goodridge had a historic career at Rochester, where he earned three All-America awards and Division III national awards as Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year.

**Jessica Lerman O'Brien** '02: A key member of the lacrosse team during the program's most successful stretch, O'Brien finished tied for first in team history with nine game-winning goals and 65 games played. She ranks second in goals and third in total points.

**John Parrinello** '60: A three-year starter on the football team, Parrinello earned AP Little All-America honors as a senior and appeared in the GEM All-Star Senior Bowl. At Rochester, he holds the record for yards per carry and total offense per play and ranks among the top 10 in several categories.

**Dave Sickler** '98: As a basketball player, Sickler finished his career ranked among the top 10 in several categories. He also earned league honors as a golfer.

**Jena Robertson Weiss** '07: Playing in 158 of a possible 160 softball games from 2004 to 2007, Weiss is one of only two players in team history with at least 200 hits. Her career batting average is third in school history and she ranks second in strikeouts per seven innings.

—SCOTT SABOCHECK



Jacqueline Blackett



Ben Cross



Celinda Fletcher



Stephen Goodridge



Jessica Lerman O'Brien



John Parrinello



Dave Sickler



Jena Robertson Weiss







# Better Next Time



ROCHESTER EXPERTS IDENTIFY KEY LESSONS OF COVID —  
AND OFFER IDEAS TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE BEFORE THE NEXT PANDEMIC ARRIVES.

**BY ERIN PETERSON** *illustrations by Brian Stauffer*





# THE EXPERTS



**Zachary  
BORUS**

*A family physician at Avera Health in Spirit Lake, Iowa, Zachary Borus '09M (MD/MPH), '12M (Res), '13M (Flw) is chair and medical director of the Dickinson County Board of Health.*



**Angela  
BRANCHE**

*An associate professor of medicine at Rochester, Angela Branche is a coprincipal investigator of the University's Vaccine Treatment and Evaluation Unit, one of 10 National Institutes of Health-funded network sites in the United States.*



**Toni  
EYSSALLENNE**

*A senior medical advisor to the chief medical officer at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Toni Eyssallenne '06M (MD/PhD) is also a clinician at Strong Children's Wellness in New York City. She is a cohost—with Aimee Pugh-Bernard—of the science podcast Help! Make It Make Sense.*



# T

**THE UNITED STATES IS A COUNTRY** that prides itself on its dogged optimism and can-do spirit, so perhaps it's no surprise that few moments in the nation's history have provoked the kind of cognitive whiplash brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. ¶ Take, for example, the experience of David Nash '81M (MD). As founding dean emeritus of the Jefferson College of Population Health, Nash was confident about the country's chances against the novel coronavirus in the earliest days of 2020. Though he had spent years studying the flaws of the country's health care system, he also had faith in the nation's technological expertise and planning.

He watched with shock and devastation as months passed and deaths mounted—the highest total of any country in the world.

Today, Nash pulls no punches in his analysis of the nation's response, comparing it to an airplane crash in his 2022 book, *How COVID Crashed the System*.

"COVID shined a spotlight on many of the problems that we knew existed in our health care system all along, so we don't need to search for the black box," he says, ticking off problems ranging from educational failures to systemic inequality.

Still, he sees a path toward a better future. "We can work together to fix the problems that led us here."

It is a confidence that's common to many of his fellow Rochester alumni and faculty experts. We asked a small panel of those experts to share what they took away as the fundamental lessons of the past few years—as well as offer strategies to navigate future pandemics more effectively.

## **1. Lean on discovery research and accelerate work in emerging fields.**

In late 2020, the United States began rolling out COVID vaccines years earlier than almost any expert initially predicted. The shots were made possible, in part, because of technology linked to messenger RNA. For many, it felt almost magical. But one person who wasn't surprised was Rochester biochemist Lynne Maquat, who has studied the mechanisms of messenger RNA since the 1970s, when she was an undergraduate.

And while mRNA grabbed the spotlight during the pandemic, Maquat acknowledges that it was a long journey from obscurity to prominence. "When I was young and would go to professional conferences to discuss my work on mRNA, I'd be in the last session on the last day, where they'd just throw together everything that wasn't a major topic," she says. (Today, she's not fighting for con-



**Lynne  
MAQUAT**

*The J. Lowell Orbison Endowed Chair and Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics at Rochester, Lynne Maquat directs the University's Center for RNA Biology. She received the 2023 Gruber Genetics Prize from the Gruber Foundation and Yale University. At Rochester, she also holds appointments in oncology and pediatrics.*



**David  
NASH**

*Coauthor of the 2022 book How COVID Crashed the System (Rowman & Littlefield), David Nash '81M (MD) is the founding dean emeritus of the Jefferson College of Population Health and a professor of health policy at Thomas Jefferson University.*



**Aimee  
PUGH-BERNARD**

*An assistant professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbiology at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aimee Pugh-Bernard '01M (PhD) is a cohost—with Toni Eyssalenne—of the science podcast Help! Make It Make Sense.*



**Eric  
TOPOL**

*One of the 10 most-cited researchers in medicine, Eric Topol '79M (MD) is the founder and director of the Scripps Research Translational Institute, where he is a professor of molecular medicine. An influential presence on Twitter, he has nearly 700,000 followers.*

ference slots: “Even the people I meet when I’m walking my dog or on airplanes know about it,” she jokes.)

Maquat’s path highlights the importance of discovery research, also commonly known as fundamental research or basic science. Such work aims to unravel how cellular processes work normally and in human diseases, rather than on solving specific, known problems. And while such research can initially feel removed from life-saving therapeutics, the knowledge generated from discovery research may later offer a road map to solve problems that were previously unknown to exist. “You can’t just study what a disease looks like. You usually need knowledge of what’s going on in the body at the molecular level to find a fix,” she says. “From discovery research, scientists in academics and industry had a fairly good working understanding of potential therapeutics for COVID.”

While RNA’s potential in vaccines and other treatments had been tested in modest ways before COVID, the pandemic accelerated advances in its use.

Maquat believes scientists are just scratching the surface of its potential. With what she describes as a nearly plug-and-play solution for mRNA vaccines, she expects to see rapid vaccine developments for the seasonal flu, other infectious diseases, and cancer. Such advances might also play a role in diseases that affect animals, like the recent devastating bird flu. “It’s a whole new field,” she says. “The timing is ripe for RNA as a target and a tool for therapeutics to completely blossom.”

## **2. Strengthen efforts toward an open, global approach to scientific progress.**

Scientific progress can be slow and grinding: researchers often work on projects quietly and in relative isolation to advance

important ideas, battle through layers of reviews and critiques as they refine their ideas, then wait many months before their results are published in prestigious journals.

COVID upended such practices all but overnight in favor of a faster and more broadly collaborative approach.

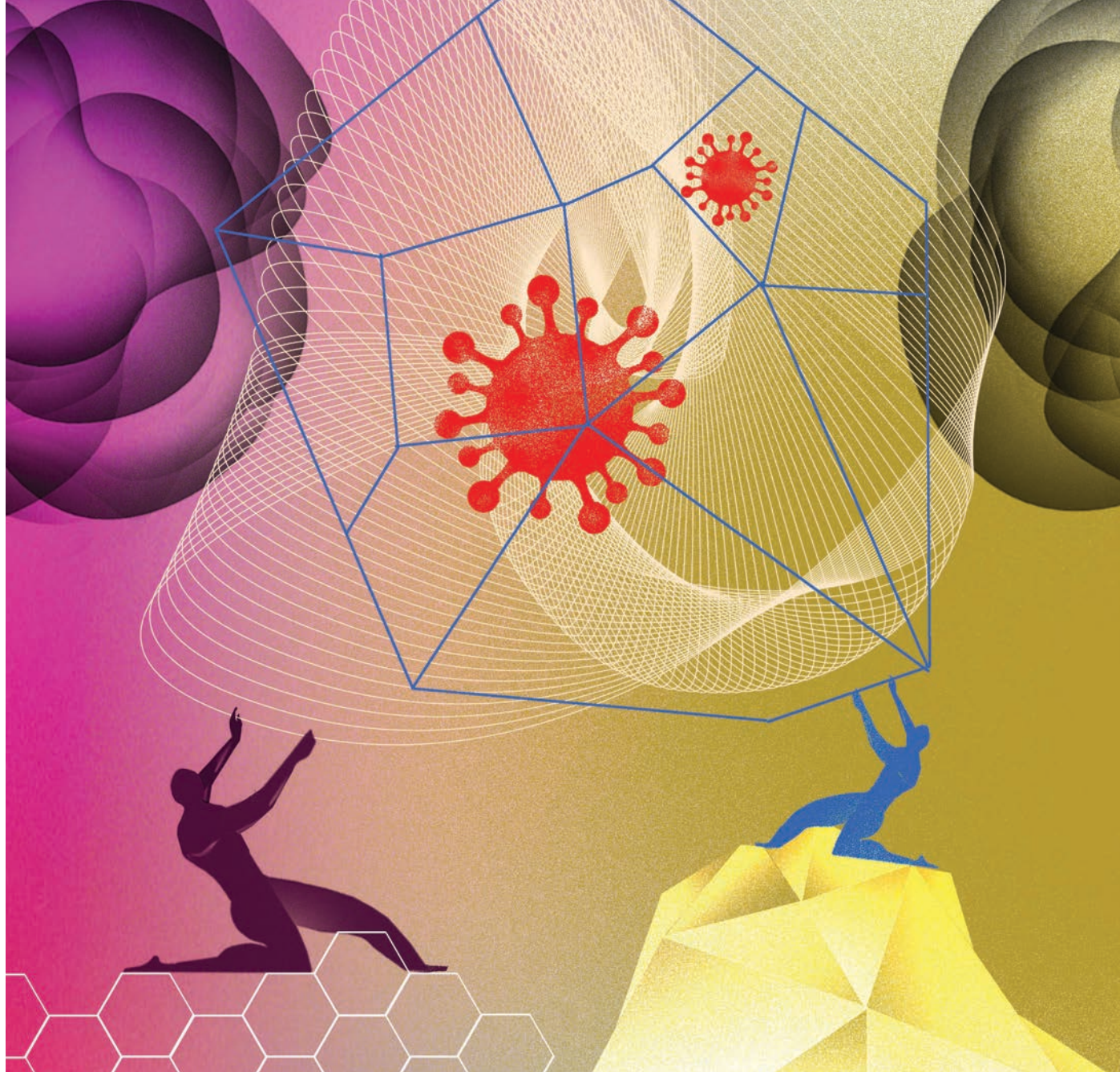
Clinical scientist Angela Branche got an early sense of the “we’re-in-it-together” mindset in January 2020. She and professor of medicine Ann Falsey had received a National Institutes of Health grant in November 2019 to relaunch the University’s Vaccine Treatment and Evaluation Unit, and they were attending the inaugural meeting with other grant recipients when National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases director Anthony Fauci stepped on the stage. “He said that the new virus coming out of China was what we were going to be working on for the next couple years,” she recalls. “He told us to get ready: to mobilize our teams, our networks, and our infrastructure.”

The collaborative, all-hands-on-deck approach wasn’t limited to the United States. Early on, researchers in China shared an initial genome sequence of the virus in an open discussion forum, and a Scottish researcher pinpointed important hallmarks of the virus within 24 hours.

The publication process got scrambled, too. Some 25,000 COVID-linked scientific papers were published as “preprints”—released before formal review—during the first year of the pandemic alone. The preprints opened up the potential to make speedier progress against the virus but also required some scientists to bypass certain types of academic recognition to do so.

Branche believes that scientists should continue to pursue such open, synergistic processes not just for future pandemics but for all major scientific endeavors. “While there are certainly national boundaries and national priorities, the scientific community did a





lot of successful work at a global level, from sharing data to sharing methodologies,” she says. “I’m optimistic that the scientific community will move away from some of the more territorial approaches that have marked scientific endeavors in the past.”

### ***3. Recognize the importance of systems in medical education and health care.***

In the earliest months of the pandemic, New Yorkers banged pots and pans from their balconies to show gratitude for the health care workers treating an overwhelming number of sick patients.

Nash is the first to recognize the courageous efforts of those dedicated providers at an impossible moment. But he adds that the daily ritual reinforced a common but overly simplistic idea—sometimes held by doctors themselves—that what might stem the tide of a pandemic was the tireless work of exceptional individuals rather than the methodical operation of robust systems.

That individualistic lens is a notion that’s often promoted in popular culture and even in medical school, says Nash.

“There’s a rich history in medical education that teaches people that they are autonomous, heroic decision makers who bear total responsibility for patient outcomes,” he says. “But that’s a model that goes back to the medieval guild. It’s a model that cannot work in America, where health care is a \$4 trillion industry that represents nearly 20 percent of the gross domestic product. It’s simply too complex.”

To be prepared for the future, medical education must shift its focus from individual care to systems of care. That includes teaching a new generation of doctors and health care workers the value of systems thinking and of their roles in supporting health beyond exam room and clinic walls. For example, Nash hopes to see more robust education for doctors on the myriad ways that they can help patients access a variety of health care experts—from dietitians to social workers—to support better health.

It also means reimagining health as a broader, public initiative, rather than as an individualistic pursuit. For example, says Nash, financial incentives often lead medical establishments to address obesity by building a bariatric surgery operating room—but the

# THE CURRENT WORLD OF HEALTH CARE—MEDICAL CARE AND EDUCATION— IS BASED ON MEDIEVAL GUILDS, SAYS AUTHOR DAVID NASH '81M (MD). “IT’S A MODEL THAT CANNOT WORK IN AMERICA, WHERE HEALTH CARE IS A \$4 TRILLION INDUSTRY. . . . IT’S SIMPLY TOO COMPLEX.”



issue might be more effectively addressed by teaching healthy eating habits consistently in schools and offering healthier school lunches. “We could reduce food deserts and offer more subsidies to support healthy eating,” he says.

Across the board, says Nash, it’s time to think bigger. “We should be teaching health care workers to think of themselves as part of a team and a larger system that delivers care,” he says. “And that means our core job is not to deliver technical services but to improve health.”

## **4. Encourage better health for all.**

While there were many contributing factors to the nation’s abysmal COVID outcomes—a death-per-confirmed-COVID-case ratio that was the worst of any country in the world, according to Johns Hopkins data—there’s no question that the poor health of Americans more generally played a role in the grim numbers. For example, the nation’s sedentary lifestyle and low rates of appropriate preventive care contributed to the numbers.

“Americans’ life expectancy went in reverse in 2019—before COVID,” says Nash.

It might be easy to blame poor choices for declining health, but entrenched systems and incentives often lead to poor evaluation of problems and solutions. For example, those who had healthy lungs fared far better during COVID than those who did not. Federal regulations could support better lung health by requiring well ventilated buildings and less polluted air. Establishing and maintaining parks and green spaces that are readily accessible to all could encourage more people to take part in lung-supporting exercise.

Such population-level solutions enhance the health of far more people than solutions targeted to individuals much later in the process.

“We need to have a totally different mindset,” says Nash. “We need to be thinking about going upstream to shut off the faucet instead of waiting—and then mopping up the floor.”

## **5. Innovate in ways that are nimble and long lasting.**

As she mapped out her plans for the new year in late 2019, Branche imagined she might spend 2020 making methodical progress on things like universal influenza and RSV vaccines as part of the University’s Vaccine Treatment and Evaluation Unit.

Instead, by early March, she and her team were enrolling patients in trials to test Remdesiver, a drug that showed early promise for treating the outsize inflammatory response that COVID patients were experiencing.

“We were getting calls from people in places as far away as Tennessee and Iowa asking if we could enroll them in our trials. We were just trying to keep patients alive long enough to try to find something that could work,” she says, pausing to gather herself. “It was very stressful. It was heartbreaking.”

If there was any silver lining to the brutal swiftness and destructiveness of COVID, it was the concomitant speed with which scientists overhauled their processes to meet the challenge—and make improvements that will save countless lives beyond the pandemic.

Branche cites wider adoption of adaptive protocols as just one of the ways that scientists have

sped up the scientific process without sacrificing rigor. “When you’re designing a study or a trial, an adaptive protocol means you leave the question open-ended enough that you can build on the initial information from the study or trial.”

For example, a scientist might decide to pursue hypothesis X; if the outcome of a test is Y, the next action is A. If the outcome is Z, the next action is B. “We’ve talked about it in the past as a good way to do studies, but it was harder to fund,” she says. “But it was so successful during COVID that it’s become seen as a better model.

That kind of innovation was among the many changes—including parallel, closely monitored phase I, phase II, and phase III trials for vaccines and therapeutics—that helped condense timelines for treatments and vaccines from the expected yearslong process to a matter of months.

“In some ways, everything else came to a halt because of COVID,” says Branche. “But we have translated the lessons we learned about more efficient and better research methodology to other areas and other pathogens.”

## **6. Root out paternalistic skepticism that inhibits progress.**

Science is a process designed to move us ever closer to the truth through smart questions, careful data collection, and thoughtful analysis. But scientists, like all humans, bring their biases to the table in ways that can slow progress.

Eric Topol ’79M (MD) says that one particularly troubling bias that took many months to unwind in America was a reluctance to offer at-home COVID testing.

“The FDA was too paternalistic and didn’t want the public to have home tests,” he says. “But it’s something we should have had much earlier in the pandemic.”

At the time, there were reasons for skepticism: there were few at-home tests in wide use outside of pregnancy tests (a test that itself faced similar skepticism when it was introduced in the 1970s). There were questions about whether or not people could reliably test themselves and how they might interpret tests that couldn’t offer 100 percent accuracy.

At-home tests got the go-ahead in 2021, but Topol hopes that there will be more efficient ways to put tools into the hands of many, rather than holding them back exclusively for expert practitioners.

“We know that people can actually handle the nuances of testing, and we know that if we had trusted people we could have avoided a lot of virus spread,” he says. “In the future, I hope we will do more to democratize medicine.”

## **7. Emphasize clear, but nuanced, scientific communication.**

Immunologist Aimee Pugh-Bernard ’01M (PhD) knows that it can be tough for the general public to understand the jargon that scientists use in their daily conversations and academic papers.



"If you go to my LinkedIn page," she says, "you'll see that I have my specialty, immunology, listed as a second language."

It's a lighthearted acknowledgment of scientists' specialized terminology, but it also reflects a larger reality that had devastating consequences in the thick of the pandemic. The language of science during the pandemic reflected the evolving, nuanced, and sometimes ambiguous reality of changing knowledge of the virus. Misinformation and disinformation, by contrast, were clear, forceful, and persuasive. The result? A "pandemic of mistrust" led to a higher number of deaths than in similarly resourced countries.

Pugh-Bernard says it's time to focus on more effective science communication to the public. "It's easy for scientists to forget what it's like not to know the vocabulary and process of science, and not to understand what it's like to be someone who's on the outside of that bubble," she says. "But scientists need to be able to explain their work not just to their colleagues but to the general public."

Scientists and public health communicators can take away important lessons from this particular pandemic failure, says Pugh-Bernard, and that includes helping people understand that the scientific process doesn't offer a clean, unobstructed path to the truth.

"Scientists don't debate the results of one another's work because they're trying to spread disinformation or inspire fear or anger," she says. "We're poking holes in each others' research to make it better."

She adds that communicating findings in simple, meaningful ways can include the skillful use of metaphors—Pugh-Bernard herself may stress-test dozens before choosing one in her own communications. Many people, for example, initially assumed that a vaccine for the virus that causes COVID would be like a bullet-proof vest. Instead, says Pugh-Bernard, it would have been more accurate to compare them to seat belts. "Seat belts don't prevent crashes in the same way that COVID vaccines don't prevent infection," she says. "But both can help prevent serious injury and death."

Clear communication, says Pugh-Bernard, is an essential part of effective science. "Science can have a great impact," she says. "But we can't maximize it unless we communicate the science to the public in effective ways."

## 8. Work with great empathy.

When clinician Toni Eyssalenne '06M (MD/PhD) thinks about the way that Americans made their decisions to get or to decline a vaccine, she thinks not about the people who got their shots immediately nor those who refused on principle. Both of these groups were certain of their decisions.

Instead, she thinks of the many vaccine-hesitant individuals who had sincere questions about the safety and efficacy of the shots, but who couldn't have the in-depth conversations with experts they trusted to build the confidence they needed to make a good decision for their health and their family's health.

"If you are genuinely concerned that a vaccine might be hurting your baby or that it might cause autism, of course you're going to be scared of making the wrong decision," she says.

She didn't have to imagine that fear: Eyssalenne herself—a scientist who has an MD and PhD—had plenty of questions about a vaccine that was developed in less than a year. Some of her family members, who were also skeptical, peppered her with questions.

It was only through her own deep research, which included conversations with her longtime friend and former across-

the-hall lab colleague Pugh-Bernard, that Eyssalenne felt confident that she could trust and promote the vaccines.

"I would message her a lot: What about this? What's the reason for that? We really went down some rabbit holes," she says. "But I was able to answer every single question I had because of her help."

Those conversations expanded in unique ways: Eyssalenne developed educational PowerPoint slides that she shared with her family to help assuage their fears of the vaccine. And she and Pugh-Bernard launched a podcast, *Help! Make It Make Sense*, to bring this same type of clear, thoughtful, and deeply humane conversation about science to a broader audience.

This methodical, empathetic patience can help people take the actions that will most likely keep them safe and healthy in the long run, says Eyssalenne. "It's important to do this work not because you're trying to persuade people, but because people must really believe, deep in their bones, that they're not hurting their families or themselves, and that they're not getting the wool pulled over their eyes," she says. "We can't promise what the next 10 years are going to bring, but no one can. What we can say is that we're trying to stay alive today."

## 9. Be sensitive to cultural differences.

Family physician Zachary Borus '09M (MD/MPH), '12M (Res), '13M (Flw) looks back at the way that Dickinson County rode out the early days of the pandemic with significant pride. Clinically, his rural northwest Iowa county of 18,000 and its municipal hospital strengthened its partnership with Avera Health, a large health system in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. It built local capacity to care for sicker patients to ensure that those who needed true tertiary care were able to be transferred. Using home nursing, robust telehealth and remote patient monitoring, they kept people who were less ill at home and stepped up efforts to care for critically ill patients.

From a public health perspective, while Borus says there was an early, across-the-board sense of cohesiveness and determination among the area's residents, he also understands why skepticism about the virus simmered just beneath the surface.

"We really shut down before COVID got to rural places like ours, and by the time it did, everyone felt exhausted," he says. "They said, 'I'm not doing that again.'" This was especially true in the Iowa Great Lakes region, a popular summertime tourist destination that draws visitors from around the country.

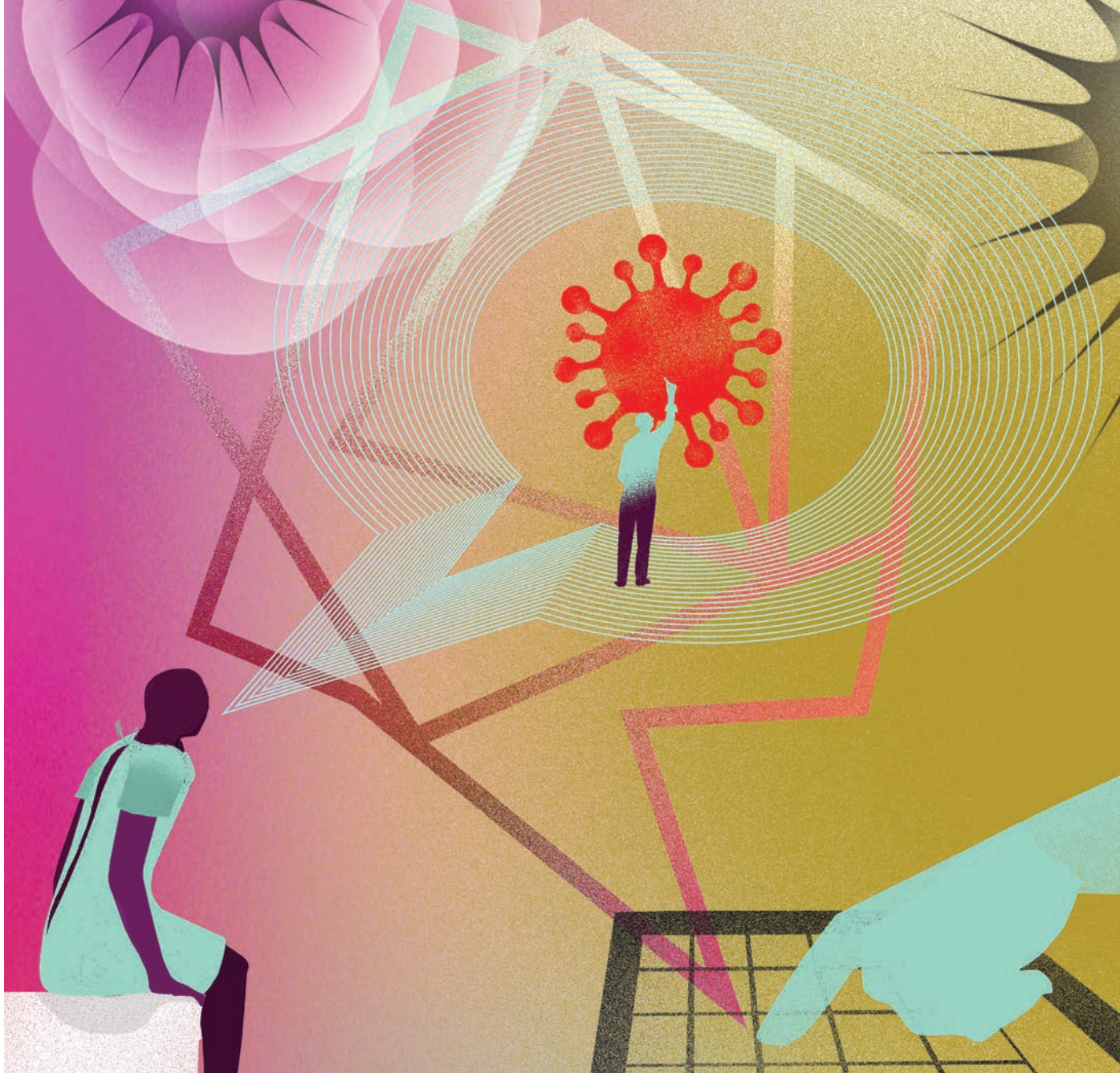
While those in densely populated areas who were hit first and hit hard by COVID had seen the devastation firsthand and were more prone to trust experts like Anthony Fauci, the same trust was not always shared by rural Americans, whose experiences were different. Often, the most trusted voices in rural communities were health care providers who had built up credibility in the community over the course of years—as Borus had.

Through a series of videos, Zoom meetings with business groups, and one-on-one conversations, Borus attempted to share

**"WE HAVE TRANSLATED THE LESSONS WE LEARNED ABOUT MORE EFFICIENT AND BETTER RESEARCH METHODOLOGY TO OTHER AREAS AND OTHER PATHOGENS."**

**—Angela Branche, a principal investigator of the University's Vaccine Treatment and Evaluation Unit**





timely evidence-based information with a focus on data from his own community. He faced pushback from COVID skeptics, but he also felt a profound duty to keep his community safe.

“Often, I was the one telling them what they didn’t want to hear, because it might affect their business or it might affect tourism,” he says. “I tried to share facts in ways that appealed to people’s best selves: if they had COVID and spent time with Grandma, she could die from it. It needed to be real for people. But also, I knew I had to respect their individual rights and choices, or they wouldn’t listen.”

It was a delicate balance at a time when Borus was already working a more-than-full-time clinical job under extreme pressure.

“It was really hard,” he admits of the frustration and occasional exasperation he felt when he had to patiently explain the inaccuracies of a Facebook meme or online conspiracy theory for the hundredth time.

In the future, he says, the country will need consistent national messaging while also promoting local experts who speak to their communities’ unique needs and circumstances. “So much of the mistrust came from misinformation from social media and partisan

news outlets,” he says. “But in a small town where I’m both their doctor, their neighbor, and their kid’s soccer coach, it’s harder to dismiss me out of hand. By developing local public health leaders and systems across the country, we can rebuild the public’s trust in the system as a whole.”

#### **10. Pursue a world that’s better for all.**

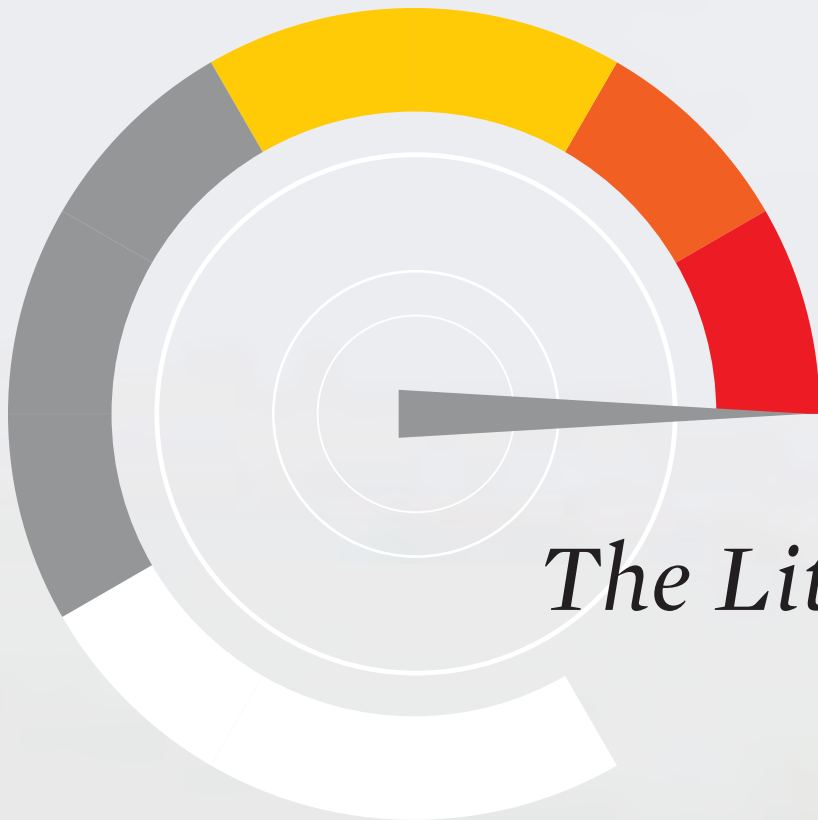
If Nash and others were overconfident in their early assessments of the nation’s performance during a pandemic, he and other Rochester scientists and experts bring a clear-eyed pragmatism to the challenges now.

Today, there’s little doubt that the stakes are high for getting it right next time.

And Nash believes the country has the tools to do better in the future. “We know what brought the plane down,” he says. “We don’t have to send the same kind of plane back up in the air.” <sup>®</sup>

*Erin Peterson is a writer based in Minneapolis.*





## *The Little Red Corvette*



**GENERATIONAL HISTORY:** Juechter has guided several model years of the Corvette to production, including this year's electrified E-Ray (red) as well as the C7 generation, introduced in 2014 (white), and the C8, introduced in 2020 (blue).

LONGTIME CORVETTE ENGINEER  
**TADGE JUECHTER** '79 LAUNCHES THE ICONIC SPORTS  
CAR INTO THE AGE OF ELECTRIFICATION.



# *Undergoes* **A REVOLUTION**

**by Luke Auburn**   Photographs by J. Adam Fenster

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# ON

the 2.9-mile Milford Road Course at General Motors' sprawling proving ground facility half an hour from Detroit, Tadge Juechter '79 eyes a few examples of the Corvette models that he has helped bring to the car-buying public.

From a well-worn test model of the C5 Corvette from the 1990s to a pristine new red E-Ray—the first electrified vehicle in the model's 70-year history, hitting the market later this year—Juechter has been instrumental in nearly every facet of the cars.

A member of the Corvette team since 1993, Juechter was named executive chief engineer of Corvette in 2006. Throughout his storied career, he has helped reimagine the vehicle known as "America's sports car" many times over, with more big changes on the horizon.

Each generation of the car presents engineering hurdles, and most recently some of those challenges involve developing batteries for the E-Ray to get energy in and out of the car as quickly as possible. But he shies away from saying he has a fondness for one Corvette model over another.

"I get asked all the time if I have a favorite model, but it's like choosing a favorite child," says Juechter. "We have poured blood, sweat, and tears into every one. The truth is that whatever model I'm currently developing is my favorite and I'm totally devoted to it."

Juechter and his team of thousands of engineers, designers, and mechanics have embraced the ambitious task of making an electrified sports vehicle that stays true to the car's celebrated history.

That includes addressing enthusiasts' concerns about the performance of electric propulsion compared to internal combustion engines.

"We have this giant business challenge—how do you bring people along to embrace electrification?" says Juechter. "And it's

particularly acute in our segment where the cars have a lot of character and a lot of history. So many of our customers are completely tied into what we've provided for 70 years and so they kind of look askance at electrification."

It's a challenge that Juechter seems to relish, and his colleagues say he's uniquely equipped to address it.

"There's no better person or leader positioned to bring Corvette into the electric future," says Josh Holder, vehicle chief engineer at Corvette and one of Juechter's protégés. "There's not a problem he can't solve or doesn't know the details of when asked. He can frame everything in a way that's understandable for everyone from a nerdy engineer to a senior finance person."

## FROM ROCHESTER TO DETROIT

Early on in his life, Juechter found he was more drawn toward tinkering in shop class than he was to other pursuits.

Growing up primarily in New York's Westchester County with stints in the Rochester area, he says he was somewhat of an outlier among his peers. All the adults in his life were professionals, doctors, lawyers, or businesspeople, and he had no engineering role models.

"I thought I was this very odd kid because I was constantly taking stuff apart, building stuff, putting motors on skateboards,

building a full-suspension bicycle—all this quirky stuff," says Juechter. "When class was over, all the kids in my class would go to chess club or debate club and I would just go straight to the shop."

He excelled at math and physics and eventually found his calling in engineering. At Rochester, everything seemed to click.

"I credit Rochester for giving me that enlightenment, giving me that ability to find my path, and giving me the education at a quality that is unsurpassed," he says.

Not only did he develop mathematical rigor at Rochester that he still uses as an engineer, but he also began developing crucial soft skills that he leans on as the face of Corvette.

It was at Rochester that he was thrust into his first experience addressing a crowd when a professor required all students in a class to do a five-minute presentation on the results of their experiments.

"Everyone was mortified and wondering why he was making a group of engineers have to do this," he says. "I was always shy, and I was freaked out about it, so I wrote it all down, I practiced it constantly, presented it to my girlfriend over and over. Because I had done it so many times, it just came out and it went well. But if it had gone the other way, I might not have this job today."

After graduating with a degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering in



**“[T]HE QUALITIES THAT MAKE A SPORTS CAR GREAT—LIGHTWEIGHT, AERODYNAMIC, EFFICIENT ENGINES—CAN CONTRIBUTE TO GREAT CARS IN ANY SEGMENT.”**

1979, Juechter moved to Michigan, where he had no familial or local connections in the car business.

He started a career at GM that is 45 years and counting, working his way up slowly and steadily.

At one point he designed door hinges for the now dissolved Fisher Body division of GM, one stint on the road to getting more comprehensive roles in vehicle development.

He eventually applied on a whim for a job at Corvette. Juechter's predecessor Dave Hill thought he had the right perspective for the job.

“Dave Hill was the new chief engineer and actually wanted some fresh blood because Corvette had been this sort of

closed community,” says Juechter. “You couldn't get a job there.”

His new outlook helped revitalize the brand.

“His focus has always been on bringing Corvette to the future,” says Holder. “Before he joined, I would say the car was starting to slip behind some of the other competitors. Tadge did a lot of work to define what would become the fifth-generation Corvette and when it came out it was revolutionary.”

### A DAY IN THE LIFE

“A lot of customers imagine that as the chief engineer, I spend my day at the track and I get to just drive cars around fast and issue orders on what needs to be fixed,” says Juechter. “That's really a tiny little portion of my job.”

At any given moment, Juechter is working on numerous future iterations of a Corvette. It takes four to six years to go from a blank sheet of paper to a car rolling off the assembly line, and Juechter has a hand every step along the way.

Juechter says the most fulfilling parts of creating a car bookend the process.

“I like when you're first just trying to imagine what you can do, what technologies you're going to use to architect the car,” he says. “I like bringing people together to figure out a product plan. And then the end part when it finally all comes together is really fun. There's a lot of grind in between—years of small wins, wrestling with all the issues, problems, and surprises along the way.”

Based in Michigan, where the team designs the cars, Juechter travels regularly to the Bowling Green Assembly Plant in Kentucky, where the cars are assembled.

He's also often on the road to meet with suppliers, to talk with customers at events to get feedback on the vehicles, and to observe how the cars perform at races like the Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona.


By contrast, his home life seems surprisingly quiet. He and Mary, his wife of 40 years, live in a small ranch on 65 acres of wooded, rolling hills in northern Michigan, where they spend most of their free time riding bicycles, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and engaging in other outdoor activities.

He says he has long been sensitive to environmental issues, making a concerted effort to have a negative personal carbon footprint. While an environmentalist sports car executive might seem contradictory at first glance, Juechter says there are common threads.

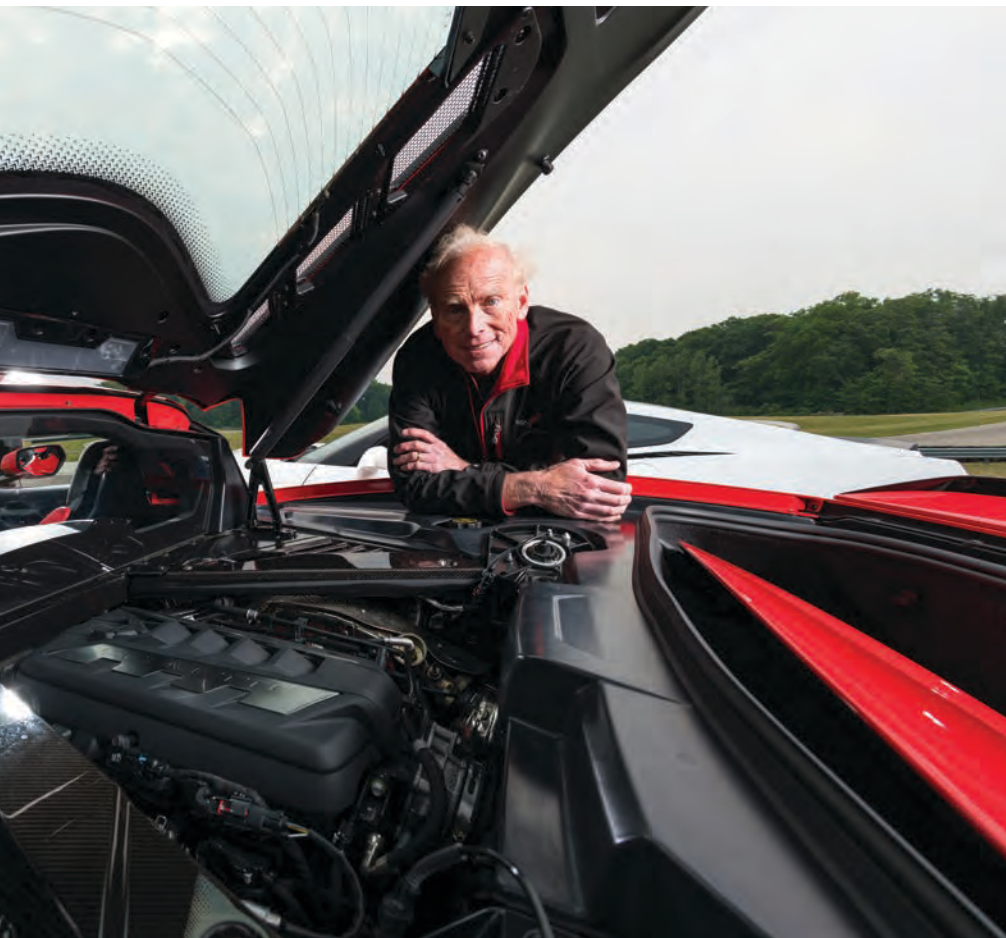
“People think of sports cars as maybe a little irresponsible environmentally, but actually the qualities that make a sports car great—lightweight, aerodynamic, efficient engines—can contribute to great cars in any segment.”

The Corvette has thus far used electrification to add fun and performance to the driving experience for the E-Ray, but Juechter says the advancements made for the sports car will permeate throughout the GM line of vehicles. He makes no predictions about what GM will look like 45 years from now, but he says his team will continue to lead the pack into the future, driven by their passion for being the first to use the latest advanced materials and technologies.

“We take the latest technology—whether it's from the automotive industry or anywhere in the world—and look at how we can apply that technology to create a better ownership experience for our customers,” says Juechter.

“We've taken a great first step in the electrification space with the E-Ray and there will be a whole bunch of steps between now and the end of the road.” 

**FACE OF THE CORVETTE:** In addition to overseeing work on multiple iterations of the car at any one time, Juechter meets regularly with suppliers and customers to get feedback on each generation of the vehicle and to keep the Corvette's active fan base up to date on the car's future.





# Summer Sylla



# bus

Looking for additions to your reading list?  
Here are some recent books  
by Rochester faculty to consider.

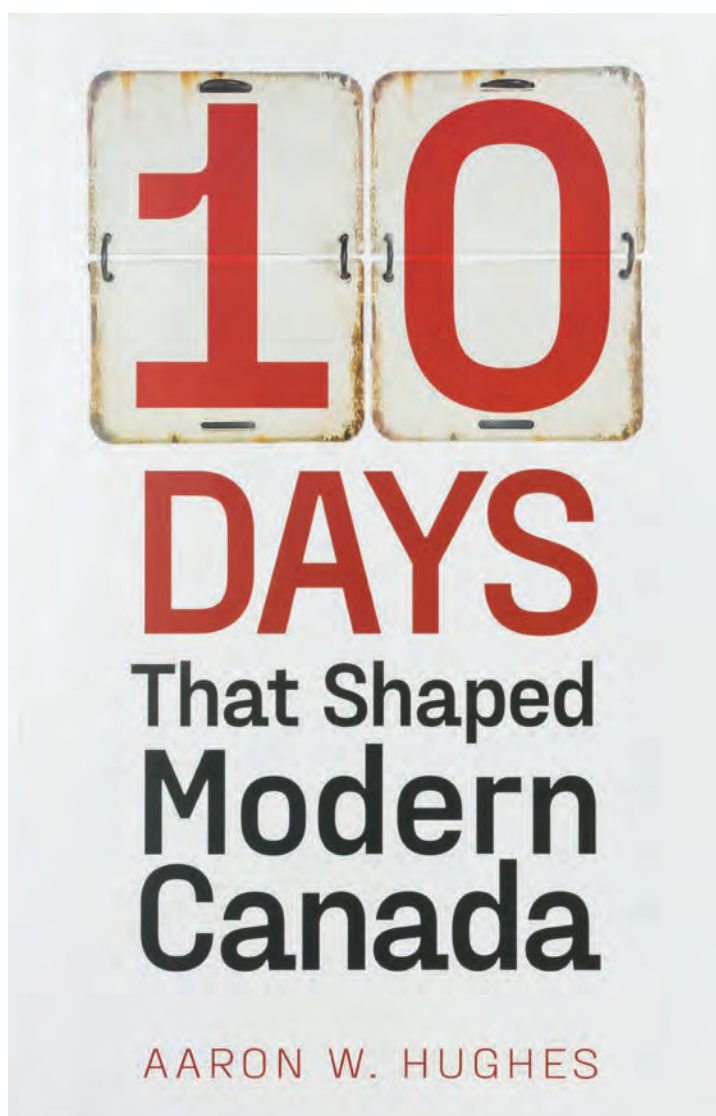
by KAREN MCCALLY '02 (PHD), SANDRA KNISPEL, AND SOFIA TOKAR '20W (MS) photographs by J. ADAM FENSTER





# A New Take on

Pinocchio and other oddball children in literary classics. ¶ A story of a complicated friendship between an elderly widow and a much younger handyman. ¶ An up-close look at a hip-hop curriculum made collaboratively by high school teachers and students. ¶ Books published by Rochester faculty over the past year show that academic expertise can intrigue a wider range of readers than students or specialists. We offer a few suggests for your reading list.



## 10 DAYS THAT SHAPED MODERN CANADA

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA PRESS,  
2022

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*Hughes begins on October 13, 1970,  
with just a few words uttered by  
Prime Minister Trudeau.*

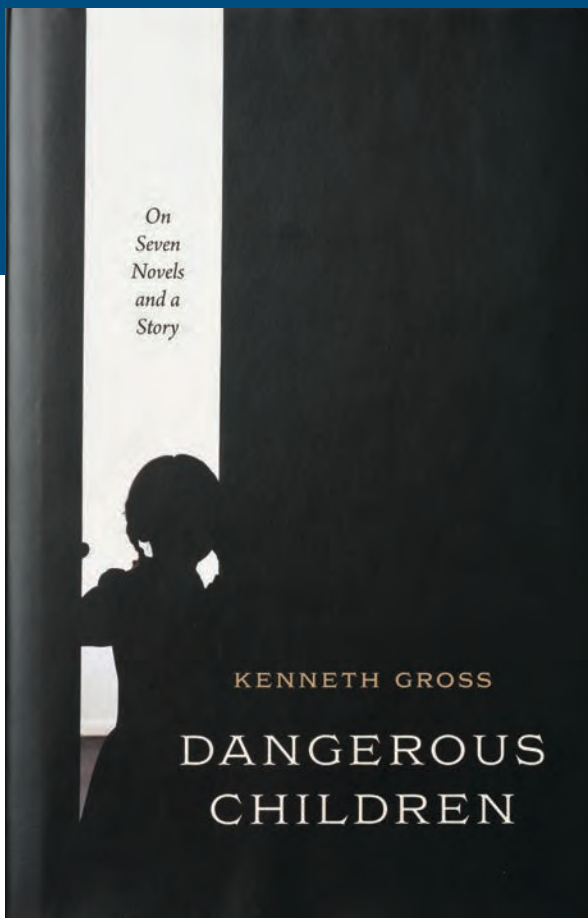
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“Not all days are created equal,” writes Aaron Hughes, the Philip S. Bernstein Professor of Religious Studies. “While the vast majority of days ebb and flow in a repetitive fashion, some become so singularly momentous to a nation’s formation and outlook that, although their importance is recognized at the time, the true significance becomes apparent only after the fact.”

Hughes, who also holds the title Dean’s Professor of the Humanities, has written a history of Canada from 1970 to 2018 in 10 chapters, each devoted to a singular, transformative day. Modern Canada might seem an unlikely subject for someone like Hughes, who researches and teaches about the modern Middle East. But the contested region has given him much experience thinking about the long reverberations of singular events. That, and the fact that he is Canadian, make *10 Days That Shaped Modern Canada* less a wholesale departure from his usual work than it might seem.

Hughes begins with October 13, 1970, with just a few words uttered by then Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. “Just watch me,” Trudeau said to a Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reporter who asked him how far he would go to crush the violent Front de libération du Québec separatist movement. The reporter was critical of the military presence Trudeau had already ordered around Montreal. But three days after uttering those now infamous words, Trudeau went further, invoking the World War I-era War Measures Act, suspending civil liberties.

The book ends on an uplifting note—March 8, 2018, the day of the unveiling of the new Canadian \$10 bill, featuring civil rights activist Viola Desmond.



**DANGEROUS CHILDREN:  
ON SEVEN NOVELS AND A STORY**  
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2022

*Gross's book grew directly out of his eponymous course on children's literature.*

*Dangerous Children*, by Kenneth Gross, the Alan F. Hilfiker Distinguished Professor of English, grew out of an undergraduate class of the same title, in which students delved into stories that center on the figure of a strange and dangerous child.

In the book—as in the class, which Gross has taught three times—the stories span a century, starting with Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, published in 1865, and ending with Vladimir Nabokov's 1955 novel *Lolita*. Other texts include Carlo Collodi's *Pinocchio*, Henry James's *What Maisie Knew* and *The Turn of the Screw*, J. M. Barrie's *Peter and Wendy*, and Franz Kafka's "The Cares of a Family Man."

In Gross's account, fictional children can be ideal carriers of the "uncanny" experience—that feeling of strangeness that is nonetheless rooted in familiarity, in ordinary things. The stories—written both for children and for adults, or for both at once—show children with uncanny powers of speech, knowledge, and play, their nonsense and even violence, children endangered as much as dangerous. Disturbing as such figures can sometimes be, the books offer a world of "childish things" that adults might not want to put away.

Says Gross: "These fictional children ended up teaching me about myself, my own unconscious, and my own mind and obsessions—they point to forms of thought and play that remain part of one's life as an adult."



**THIS ROOM IS MADE OF NOISE**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS, 2023

*When a handyman and a widow develop a friendship, things get complicated.*

In his second novel, associate professor of English Stephen Schottenfeld tells the story of a divorced, 40-something handyman and an elderly widow who find their lives increasingly intertwined, as each grows in dependence on the other.

Don Lank, who narrates the story, has done OK for himself as the proprietor of Don's Fix-It. But one mishap—a missed insurance payment amidst the turmoil of his marriage's last days, followed by a leak on roof work he'd just completed ("some error at the ridge," he explains)—and he finds himself \$20,000 in the hole. To dig himself out, he develops a side gig buying and selling used goods.

That's when he meets Millie. A widow of obvious means, Millie owns what Don believes is an imitation Tiffany lamp. He buys it from her, but it turns out to be authentic. He resells the lamp, then returns to Millie's doorstep to give most of the profit back to her. It's an admirable gesture, but one that also sparks a relationship between the two in which Don becomes her regular handyman and personal assistant, enjoying more trust from Millie than any of her distant family members.

The story turns on questions of motives; readers are never sure of Don's at any moment. Don isn't sure either, as is clear from his penchant for rumination. At the same time, Millie becomes more and more demanding, and her needs grow as she slips into dementia. If manipulation is part of the tie that binds them, who is manipulating whom? As the stress wears on, what is Don capable of?

Conversely, might this turn out to be a story of different possibilities—of generosity, grace, and connection?





## DOING AND BEING HIP-HOP IN SCHOOL: BEST. CLASS. EVER.

TEACHERS COLLEGE PRESS, 2022

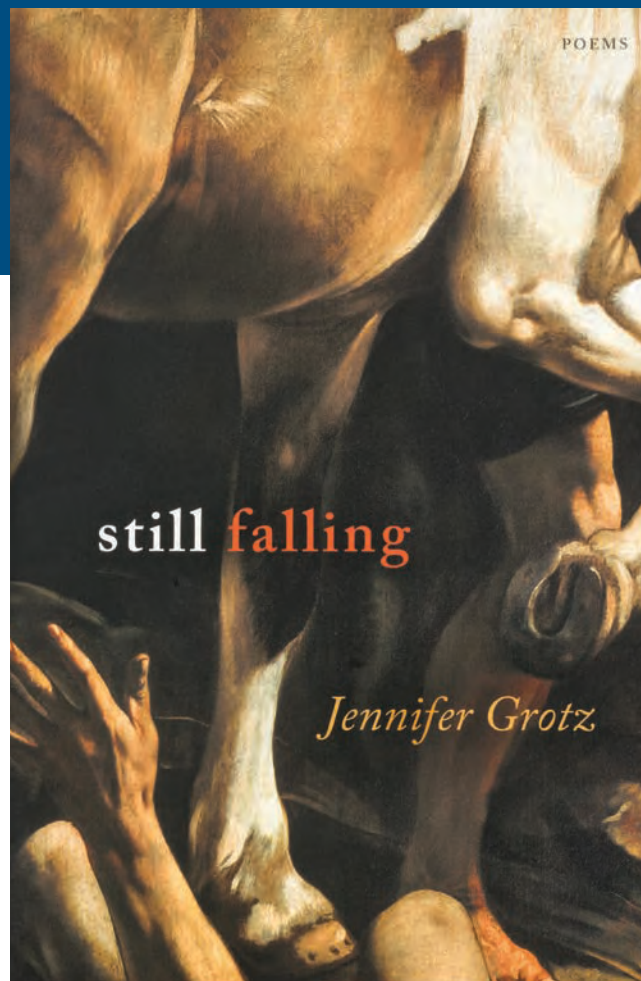
### *What happens when students help shape a curriculum?*

As an art form that involves inventive use of language, personal expression, and social critique, hip-hop has flourished since its birth in the late 1970s in the streets and housing projects of the Bronx. For years, many high school teachers have reported that bringing hip-hop into their lessons leads to better engaged students. There's even a phrase for the trend: "hip-hop ed."

A new book documents a project that's much more ambitious than most hip-hop ed. Authors Joanne Larson, the Michael W. Scandling Professor of Education and associate director of research in the Center for Urban Education Success at the Warner School; visual artist Eleni Duret '02W (PhD); and Rochester City School District social studies teacher Grant Atkins, trace the first four years of an ongoing hip-hop curriculum that was developed and implemented collaboratively by teachers and students. All are from the University's partnership with East High School in the Rochester City School District.

"Too often hip-hop ed is done in classrooms with youth as an aside or a hook to get them to do 'real work,'" writes Bettina Love, the William F. Russell Professor at Teachers College of Columbia University. *Doing and Being Hip-Hop in School* "centers hip-hop and the voices of students as the real work."

The book, which Larson describes as a participatory ethnography, shows the positive outcomes that can unfold when students are invited to bring their historical and cultural capital into the classroom.



## STILL FALLING

GRAYWOLF PRESS, 2023

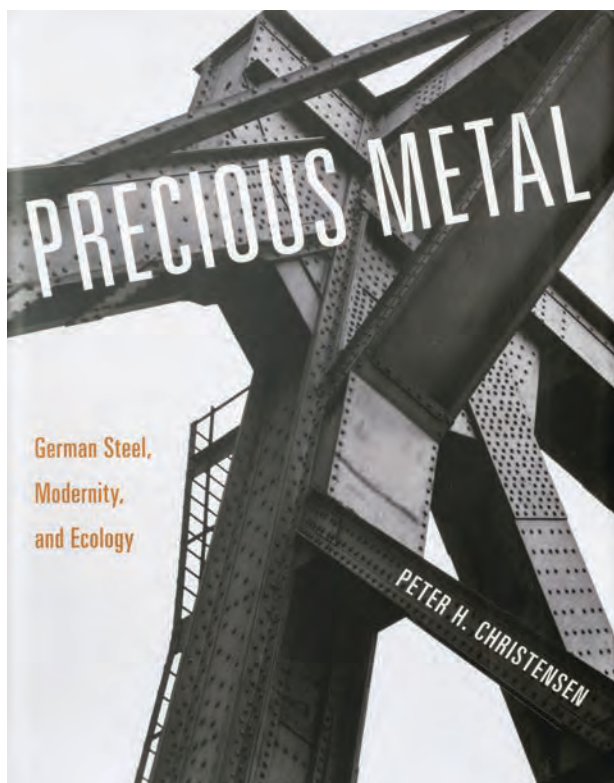
### *Poetry on loss, with a "journalistic fidelity to the real."*

The fourth poetry collection by professor of English Jennifer Grotz is an exploration of grief. Written in isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic, Grotz, a prominent poet who directs the storied Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers' Conferences each summer in Vermont, confronts personal losses in the context of what she describes as a "World slowed down and broken and random and wrong."

Grotz's expression of inward experience is grounded in observations of the external world. In 2016, after the publication of her third collection, *Window Left Open* (Graywolf Press, 2016)—written at a monastery in the French Alps—she told *Review* that the experience of the monastery changed her as a writer. "I was taught such a lesson in looking," she said. From that time forward, her poems became, as she described them, "sense-drenched."

This past spring, as part of *McSweeney's Short Conversations with Poets*, Jesse Nathan preceded his interview with Grotz by praising "the calm, piercing exactitude of her renderings. Her language is supple, clear-eyed, neither showy nor minimalist, evincing an almost journalistic fidelity to the real."

That "piercing exactitude" is part of a style that's all her own. Adds Nathan: "You pick up a Jennifer Grotz book because you want to hear that voice again, and again."



## PRECIOUS METAL: GERMAN STEEL, MODERNITY, AND ECOLOGY

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2022

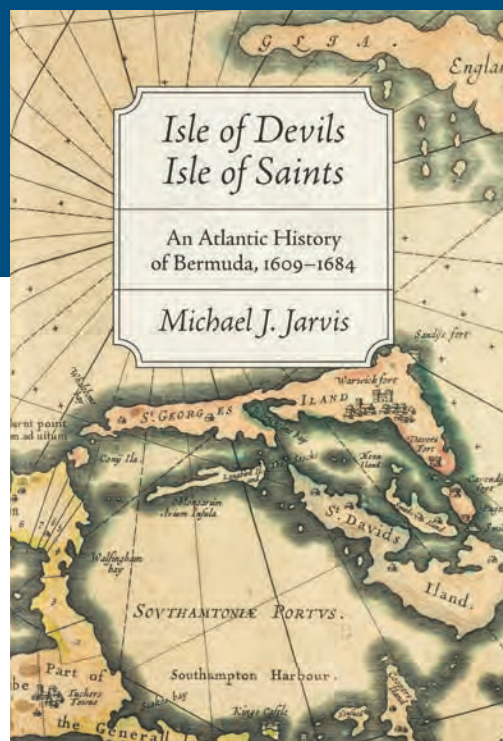
### *Seeing steel through an environmental lens.*

**Working at the** intersection of architectural and ecological history, Peter Christensen traces the life cycle of steel from its origins in the soil as raw material, to its mass production, its dissemination internationally in construction, and finally, its return to the earth as waste whose production has engendered lasting environmental damage.

Christensen—the Arthur Satz Professor of the Humanities, a faculty member in the Department of Art and Art History, and the Ani and Mark Gabrellian Director of the Humanities Center—begins his story in the Ruhr Basin of Germany, during the nation’s rapid industrialization in the late 19th century.

He shows how the widespread adoption of steel in construction enabled new feats of civil engineering and design, but also led to an ideology that conceived of the built environment as separate and distinct from nature.

That ideology has had devastating effects on the planet and its future, Christensen argues. *Precious Metal* is an effort to dismantle it in favor of the notion that building materials are as much a part of the natural world as the built one.




## ISLE OF DEVILS, ISLE OF SAINTS: AN ATLANTIC HISTORY OF BERMUDA, 1609–1684

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2022

### *Bermuda is as central to the American colonial story as Jamestown or Plymouth.*

**Professor of history** Michael Jarvis begins his book in 1609, when the *Sea Venture*, an English ship on its way to the new colony at Jamestown, got caught in a monster storm and wrecked on a coral reef off Bermuda’s shore. While most of the wreck’s survivors eventually made their way to their original destination, a few stayed behind on the uninhabited island. As Jarvis describes, within a few years, Bermuda became a British territory, and with that, one of the cradles of English colonization: settled just five years after the first permanent English settlement in Jamestown, Virginia, and eight years *before* Plymouth.

Bermuda became the first of England’s experimental colonial laboratories to produce a successful export staple—Spanish tobacco—which, Jarvis argues, once transferred to the mainland became the foundation of Virginia’s economic success. With the success, however, also came Bermuda’s dubious distinction as the first English colony to import enslaved African people, thereby developing slavery into “an institution that became ubiquitous throughout English America.”

And yet, when it comes to histories about the early beginnings of the American colonies—the traditional origin stories of the United States—readers would be hard pressed to find much, if any, mention of Bermuda. A prequel to his first book, *In the Eye of All Trade: Bermuda, Bermudians, and the Maritime Atlantic World, 1680–1783* (North Carolina Press, 2010), *Isle of Devils, Isle of Saints* completes Jarvis’s convincing case that the small island is nothing less than “the crucible of colonization,” he writes, and deserves to join historic Jamestown and Plymouth as part of “an English-American historical triangle of origin.” 





**OPERATIC HEIGHTS:** Teresa Perrotta '17E earned recognition over the past year from the Metropolitan Opera and the Washington National Opera as an early-career artist.

## IN THE NEW NEWS: OPERA EDITION

# Ovations and Honors

Eastman performers and recording artists earn accolades.

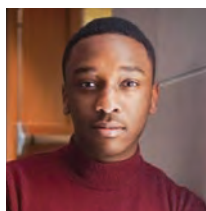
Several Eastman School of Music voice alumni earned recognition this spring from colleagues and peers in operatic and cultural organizations.

Soprano **Teresa Perrotta** '17E was one of six national grand prize winners in the Metropolitan Opera's Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition this spring. Considered one of opera's most prestigious competitions, the event is designed to discover and support artists early in their careers. Baritone **David Wolfe** '21E was a Laffont finalist.

Among many recent performances, Perrotta makes her main-stage debut this summer as Mimi in *La Bohème* at the Glimmerglass Festival.

Perrotta and tenor **Jonathan Pierce Rhodes** '20E, '20RC were selected as members of the 2022–23 cohort of the Cafritz Young Artists program of the Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. Rhodes made his Washington National Opera debut in January as Frank in *The Passion of Mary Cardwell Dawson*.

Among past winners of the Laffont competition is **Renée Fleming** '83E (MM), '11 (Honorary), who



**Jonathan Pierce Rhodes**

added to her resume of accolades this spring when she was named to the 46th class of honorees recognized by the Kennedy Center. Fleming was joined by actor Billy Crystal, singer-songwriter and member of the Bee Gees Barry Gibb, rapper and actress Queen Latifah, and singer Dionne Warwick in the class.

Soprano and Eastman professor **Nicole Cabell** '01E sings the lead role in a world premiere recording of a 1780 opera by Joseph Bologne, the Chevalier de Saint-Georges, one of the first composers of African descent to receive acclaim in Europe. Cabell performs the role of Leontine in the opera *L'Amant Anonyme*, a production of the Haymarket Opera Company in Chicago (Cedille Records).

A trailblazer for Black composers, Bologne is the subject of the film *Chevalier*, which premiered last fall and moved to streaming platforms this spring. [📺](#)



**Renée Fleming**



**Nicole Cabell**



**WORLD VIEW:** Across a globe-spanning series, Campbell-Staton explores how humans came to be Earth's dominant species and what that means for people and the planet.



**SHANE CAMPBELL-STATON '08**

## Biologist Explores 'Human Footprint' on PBS

Princeton biology professor hosts a six-part series, traveling the world to explore how humans have affected the planet.

Noted evolutionary biologist **Shane Campbell-Staton '08** combines his work as a scientist, teacher, and communicator this summer for a new PBS television series that looks at how the development of humans as a species has come to dominate and reshape life on Earth.

In *Human Footprint*, set to air beginning in July, Campbell-Staton travels to sites around the world to explore the unusually powerful influence that human activity has had on the evolution of other species, on the planet, and on ideas of human nature itself.

The series is the latest in the National Science Foundation-funded researcher's efforts to share the work of scientists with a wide and diverse public audience. He's also the creator and host of a podcast, *The Biology of Superheroes*, that uses graphic novels, comics, movies, and television shows to discuss the possibilities and the limits of science.

This spring, Campbell-Staton gave the keynote presentation at the University's Juneteenth Celebration, where he discussed challenges he overcame at Rochester and elsewhere; life lessons he's learned; and connections between biology and human history, science, politics, economics, culture, and racism. <sup>R</sup>

Find the Juneteenth presentation here: [Uofr.us/realconversations](https://Uofr.us/realconversations).

### Tune In

Find *Human Footprint* at [Pbs.org/show/human-footprint](https://Pbs.org/show/human-footprint).



# Class Notes



**HOLE-IN-ONE? Soccer . . . golf, anyone?** University students and coaching staff from the Department of Athletics and Recreation demonstrate “soccer-golf” during a sports camp in the summer of 1990. Do you have memories of campus camps? Write to us at [rochrev@rochester.edu](mailto:rochrev@rochester.edu).

## College

### ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

#### MEDALLION REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](http://Rochester.edu/reunion)

**1955 John Harper** sends an update. He moved to California after completing his Navy tour of duty and was then self-employed as a manufacturer’s representative selling raw materials, both domestic and imported, to the general chemical industry. “I set up a chem lab in my warehouse and put my products to use and authored or coauthored five US patents—basically high-temperature epoxy and polyimide systems. I kept working until I ran out of suppliers, but my experimenting still continues. I drive a Hyundai Nexo using hydrogen as my fuel. This car and this fuel are available only in California and in limited or ‘experimental’ quantity. Basically, my car builds its fuel on the go and spews out its combustion product, water. It may be, should be, the fuel of the future, the fuel being made in SMRs (small modular reactors),

the first of which is being designed and built presently. With little else to do,” adds John, “I took up abstract painting.”

**1956 Mary Ann Paliani** writes, “In October 2022 at the ripe old age of 87, I did a technical climb of the Third Flatiron—a rock slab that rises several hundred feet over the city of Boulder, Colorado.” Mary Ann sent a class note

last year when she climbed the Second Flatiron in July as a warm-up to the most recent climb.

**1958 Herb Gliick** writes that around the time of his 50th reunion, he decided to become a musician by taking up the trombone. “Six years on, having tired of driving around Boston’s western suburbs playing in various concert bands, I quit them all

and founded the Wellesley Town Band. During the intense Covid years when the band couldn’t meet, I failed to adequately practice, and thereby lost my chops. Undaunted, I recently picked up a pair of sticks and became senior percussionist of the band. I plan to attend our Medallion Reunion and promise to leave my drumsticks at home.” . . .

**Ed Hajim**, a University life trustee and chairman of the Boston-based money management company High Vista, has published *The Island of the Four Ps: A Modern Fable about Preparing for Your Future* (Skyhorse). Using his own life as a framework, Ed wrote about a



**1956 Paliani**

#### Abbreviations

<b>E</b>	Eastman School of Music
<b>M</b>	School of Medicine and Dentistry
<b>N</b>	School of Nursing
<b>S</b>	Simon Business School
<b>W</b>	Warner School of Education
<b>Mas</b>	Master’s degree
<b>RC</b>	River Campus
<b>Res</b>	Medical Center residency
<b>Flw</b>	Postdoctoral fellowship
<b>Pdc</b>	Postdoctoral certificate

young man on a quest to find himself and his personal path to success and happiness. Using an illustrated fable format to lend a measure of accessibility, the book aims to help readers gain a deeper understanding of how to navigate change while remaining true to their values and ideals. . . . **Nancy Kelts Rice** exhibited a photographic print in the *Red* show in February and March at Image City Photography Gallery in Rochester.

**1982 Robert Mead** writes, "I still work full time as a research engineer in the Rotorcraft Systems Engineering and Simulation Center at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. The focus of my research is counter-drone technology. I was recognized by the Pathfinder Chapter of the Association of Uncrewed Vehicles International as a recipient of their Order of Prometheus Award. In part, the certificate reads, 'The Order of Prometheus Medallion signifies that the recipient exemplifies the highest ideals, aspirations, and accomplishments resident to the unmanned systems community.' As you can imagine, I was deeply moved and humbled."

**1985 Gwen Meltzer Greene** reports that she has retired as a wealth advisor at JP Morgan after a 42-year career on Wall Street in commission sales. She says that one of the greatest benefits she reaped was being able to recruit dozens of Rochester students to Wall Street, including **Naveen Nataraj** '97, who has become a University trustee. Gwen continues her work with nonprofits, remaining herself a University trustee, where she chairs Annual Giving. The University's Gwen M. Greene Career Center is named in recognition of her. Gwen adds that she now lives exclusively in the Hudson Valley with Dennis Higgins and their standard poodle, Charlie.

**1987 Sam Meisels**, the founding executive director of the University of Nebraska's Buffett Early Childhood Institute, retired in February. Sam joined Nebraska in 2013 to help launch the institute, which is dedicated to the learning and development of young children. Before that, he was president of Erikson Institute, a graduate school in child development in Chicago, and a professor and researcher at the University of Michigan and at Tufts University. Sam received a leadership award from the Simms/Mann Institute in 2019, and in 2022 he received the Plambeck Early Childhood Pioneer Award from the University of Nebraska

at Kearney honoring his distinguished career and dedication to children and families. . . . **Ira Schildkraut** writes that he has fully retired: "My 54-year career as an educator, primarily social studies, with 35 years at Freeport High School on Long Island and 19 years at Long Island yeshivas, ended on May 31, 2022, when I taught my last class."

**1968 Bill Rapaport** holds the title of CSE Eminent Professor Emeritus in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University at Buffalo, where he is also an affiliated faculty member emeritus in the Departments of Philosophy and of Linguistics. He has published a new university-level textbook, *Philosophy of Computer Science: An Introduction to the Issues and the Literature* (Wiley), designed to guide readers through topics at the intersection of philosophy and computer science. A companion website contains annotated suggestions for further reading and an instructor's manual. . . .

**Chuck Smith** writes that his second detective book, *Dunn* (self-published), was released in December. He adds, "My one-act play *Speed Dating in the Time of Zombies* won Dominion Stages' One-Act Competition. *Tempting the Hand of Fate* can be seen on the internet, and *Snack Machine Blues* can be heard on *Missing Link, Between Acts*."

**1969 John Levey** (see '88).

**1971 Harvey Bunis** writes that in February he celebrated 46 years of practicing law as a sole practitioner in the historic Wilder Building in Rochester. He says he's "looking forward to at least another four years." . . . **Wayne Miller** describes the photo he shares: "A hardy band of Class of '71 coconspirators converged on Vero Beach to see a performance by **Sue Cella** '72, which led to celebratory libations and virtuals on the beach." Pictured from left to right are **John Linton**, Sue, **Mark Selikson**, **Nat Fossner** '71E, Wayne and his wife, Sally White, and Patty Linton."

**1972 Sue Cella** (see '71). . . . **Thomas Szolyga** writes, "I am a volunteer at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California, working on the 1401 restoration project and the collections program. The purpose of the 1401 project is to restore and maintain two operational, 1960s-era 1401 systems. These systems are important, since in 1965 half of the computers in the world were from the 1401 family. I



1971 Miller

worked on the 1401 that was in a lab on the first floor of Hopeman Hall in 1972, so this project seems like 'old times.' In the collections program, I examine, research, and write or rewrite the didactic for artifacts in the museum's collection. The process is very interesting. For example, wearing gloves, I was able to hold in my hands the original Bell Telephone Picturephone used in the 1964 World's Fair."

**1973**

#### 50TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend

October 5 to 8

Rochester.edu/reunion

**1975 Jan Miller** writes that she and **Karen Sangmeister** '76 are celebrating their 50th "friend-a-versary." They met as altos in the Women's Glee Club and "have enjoyed a wonderful friendship for 50 years." Jan's career as a development professional has included an array of political campaigns, the American Heart Association, the National Kidney Foundation, and the Nature Conservancy. She is currently the development director for the Western Landowners Alliance, a nonprofit that aims to sustain working lands throughout the West. Jan reports that Karen, who received her EdD from St. John Fisher University, is a cofounder of 3Rs Enrollment Consultants, working with charter schools to increase effectiveness of their recruitment plans. After working at Eastman Kodak as an engineer, Karen changed careers and served more than 25 years in public education teaching and administration, mostly with the Rochester City School District. She has taught at Nazareth College as an adjunct instructor for more than 20 years.

**1976 Karen Sangmeister** (see '75).

**1977 Dan Kimmel** has released his 10th book, *Can Your Heart Stand the Shocking Facts* (Fantastic Books), in which he combines his two writing careers—as a film critic and as a humorist—to do, as he says, "a deep dive into the movie *Plan 9 from Outer Space*, deemed by many to be one of the worst films ever made." As an undergraduate, Dan wrote the humor column for *Logos*.

**1978**

#### 45TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend

October 5 to 8

Rochester.edu/reunion

Composer and violist **Julia Barnes** has released *Het Stromende Getij & De Winterdichter* (Facetten van de kunst [Facets of the Arts]). "This CD is part of a collective project celebrating 20 years of interdisciplinary inspiration," she writes. "Most of the works were created during the lockdown periods in 2020 and 2021. We presented works by a young poet, composer, and a graphic artist along with these performances and recordings." Julia cofounded Facetten van de kunst as a cultural organization 20 years ago. "I concentrated in my career on orchestral and chamber music performance. I've been living and working in the Amsterdam area for 40 years and so am connected to Dutch culture, artists, and literature."

**1979 Tom Sulcer** has written *A Bible for Atheists* (self-published). He says it's selling on Amazon at the rate of about one a day, which is "kinda



## LEADERSHIP

## Board Welcomes Alumni as New Trustees

During its spring meeting, the University's Board of Trustees elected two new members—both alumni—and recognized three board members who became life trustees.

## New Trustees

**Amy Lesch** '93 is a partner in the Client and Partner Group at Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, a global investment firm in New York, where she leads the Global Product Strategies Group.

Lesch has been a member of the Arts, Sciences & Engineering National Council since 2018 and has also helped plan several class reunion celebrations. She participated on the 2019 Task Force for Volunteer Boards and Advisory Councils and has provided career mentorship to undergraduate students for many years through the Real Readers volunteer program. A longtime George Eastman Circle member, in 2018 she established the Amy Lesch & Family Endowed Scholarship supporting undergraduate students at the University.

She earned a bachelor's degree in health and society from Rochester and a JD from the New England School of Law.



Amy Lesch

**Judith Reinsdorf** '86 is a former executive vice president and general counsel at Johnson Controls International, a global building products, technology, and integrated solutions company. She retired from the company in 2017.

Reinsdorf is a member of the University's Women's Network and its Personal and Professional Development Committee and supports student career initiatives as a George Eastman Circle member.

Reinsdorf earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Rochester and a JD from Cornell University.



Judith Reinsdorf

## Life Trustees

Also at the May meeting, three board members moved to life trustee status, a role that recognizes their service on the board, leadership, counsel, strategic partnership, and philanthropy.

**Carol (John) Davidson** '88S (MBA): A board member since 2013, he has also served as a member of the Simon Executive Advisory Committee and the Simon Campaign Committee of *The Meliora Challenge* fundraising campaign.

**Robert (Bob) Keegan** '72S (MBA), '10 (Honorary): A board member since 2010, he has served on the Simon Advisory Council and the Simon Executive Advisory Committee.

**Thomas (Tom) Wilmot**: A board member since 2008, he has supported key initiatives and operations of the University through his service as an honorary member of the James P. Wilmot Cancer Institute Board, honorary chair of the Wilmot Cancer Institute campaign for *The Meliora Challenge*, and member of the University Campaign Cabinet for *The Meliora Challenge*. 

surprising, since at the U of R, I was a shamelessly mediocre student." He adds, "The book is an ethics guide for atheists about how to be a good human."

## 1983

## 40TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend

October 5 to 8

Rochester.edu/reunion

**Susan Carlson Edwards** has retired from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation after 36 years as an environmental engineer. She writes, "I was the first woman to lead the Division of Environmental Remediation as acting division director/assistant director. My career has been very rewarding, with many challenges overcome and new ones emerging. I was recently awarded the Neil Murphy award for outstanding work in natural resources. I encourage new and upcoming graduates to look into the NYSDEC for career opportunities. I am very glad I did." . . . Journalist and author **Tom Wilber** has written *Vanishing Point: The Search for a B-24 Bomber Crew Lost on the World War II Home Front* (Three Hills), the story of an eclectic group of enthusiasts who have spent years searching for the bomber *Getaway Gertie*, which disappeared with its crew in a snowstorm while on a training mission over upstate New York in February 1944, at the height of World War II. Tom's writing career spans 25 years at *USA Today* Network's Central New York Newspaper Group, where he won Best of Gannett honors multiple times. He also taught print journalism at Binghamton University for more than 20 years.

## 1987 Lee Feinberg, who serves

as the optical telescope element manager for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, was a recipient of the Goddard Astronautics Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics this winter. Feinberg was also part of the Webb industry team that was recognized by the National Aeronautic Association, which presented NASA and the JWST industry team led by Northrop Grumman, with its Robert J. Collier Trophy. As part of the announcement, Lee noted that the award recognized 20,000 people who for more than 20 years "gave their hearts and souls into every detail to make sure Webb would be an incredible success." NASA's Webb team also earned recognition

from *Popular Science*, *Fast Company*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, and the Project Management Institute. The Webb also received the 2023 John L. "Jack" Swigert Jr. Award for Space Exploration.

## 1988

## 35TH REUNION

Meliora Weekend

October 5 to 8

Rochester.edu/reunion

**David Robson** (see '21). . . **Amy Steinman-Cohen** writes, "I started work in 2022 as the podcast producer for a nonprofit film organization based out of Redwood City, California, called BraveMaker. Part of my job is to book filmmakers, screenwriters, actors, casting directors, and others in the entertainment industry to be a guest on our weekly podcast." In the fall issue of *Rochester Review*, Amy read about **John Levey** '69, a longtime casting director in Hollywood. "I messaged John, and he agreed to be a guest on our show. It was a wonderful show." Amy says the March 23 podcast can be found online. "I encourage all alums to listen to [it] and hear John speak about his career postgraduation from UR."

## 1989 Jennifer Laguzza Dickenson,

a lawyer in Alpharetta, Georgia, has written *The Case for Hope* (self-published), "an encouraging and informative look at how we can transform our own health even in seemingly desperate situations." Jennifer was diagnosed with a form of brain cancer, at age 44, and she credits the use of "mind, body, and spirit" techniques for her recovery. She is now 11 years beyond the diagnosis and has dedicated herself to teaching others how to heal. A section of her book that explores the topic of judgment—and that has proven popular with readers—was inspired by a psychology class taught by Edward Deci, professor of psychology emeritus. After graduating from Rochester and Emory Law School, Jennifer worked for a large firm until she opened "my own firm of 100 lawyers and staff—the largest female-owned real estate law firm in the Southeast."

## 1992 Randy Flores has written

*How I Lost My Kidneys in China: A Twenty-five Year Overindulgent Odyssey* (Canoe Tree Press). The book "details the adventure that led to a life working on the supply chain in China for two decades and the perils of that living," writes Randy. "It was a journey like no other."



1997 Josephson

## 1993

## 30TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**1994 Andrew Patrick** was appointed superintendent of the Scarsdale, New York, schools in February. He had been interim superintendent since May 2022 and had served previously as assistant superintendent for human resources and leadership development. Before joining the Scarsdale school district, he served as assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction in Bedford, New York. . . .

**Dennis Tucker**, publisher at Whitman Publishing in Atlanta, writes that he has been voted chairman of the board of directors of Brayhope Farm Inc., a New York charitable nonprofit that provides community health and educational programs through therapy-animal interaction.

**1996 Joe Lamantia** has a new position: "As of summer 2022, I'm enjoying a new role leading design for a business unit of Amazon Web Services," he writes. Before joining Amazon, he was head of user experience and strategy for Sallie Mae's digital channels. . . . **Christa Tinari** has been named director of the Garrison Institute's Contemplative-Based Resilience Project. She welcomes anyone involved in human or social services or direct service work to contact her about the project, which provides "education and support to all those impacted by job-related secondary trauma and stress." Before joining Garrison, Christa was a senior trainer and instructional content developer at the Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics at Emory University.

**1997 Ben and Joanna Josephson** send a photograph from the bat mitzvah of their younger daughter, Emily. Joanna writes that they were "thrilled to celebrate . . . with fellow UR alums." Pictured from left to right, back row, are Ben, **Josh Bregman** '95, **Jeremy Pozen** '95, **Jon Tushman**, Joanna, **Dan Navisky**, **Taal McLean Rachamimov**, **Rebecca Bier**, **Andrea Farkas**, and **Wendy Rosenfeld**; and front row, **Mike Friedman** '96, '98 (MS), **Scott Shapiro**, and **Frank Nussbaum** '94. . . . **Naveen Nataraj** (see '65).

## 1998

## 25TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

Writer, podcaster, and editor **Odell Hall** writes that his company, Kagyai-Hall Publishing, has released its first novel, *The Plague of Placidus*, featuring a new African superhero named Prince Ato, the Porcupine Man. Odell's nonfiction has appeared at AllHipHop.com, Planetill.com, and *Love Peace & Slander*, among other outlets.

**2002 Nathan Ringelstetter** '05S (MBA) writes that he has joined JERA Americas, the US subsidiary of the Japanese utility JERA Inc., as head of project finance. "In that role I'm responsible for all project-level financings of utility-scale solar, wind, battery storage, and other low-carbon/renewable power projects. I'll continue to be based in Washington, DC."

## 2005

## 20TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**Brian Shenker** has been named a principal of the employment law firm Jackson Lewis. He's an attorney in the firm's Long Island office and represents public and private employers in labor and employment law matters.

**2006 Hiatt Zhao** '15S (MS) wrote in March that he was beginning an "around-the-world bicycle tour" from King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. He says the bicycle trip will last at least two years, and he'll blog at his website and post photos on Instagram.

## 2008

## 15TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**Allison Goldstein**, a writer and editor as well as a qualifier for the 2020 US Olympic Team Trials in the women's marathon, has published *The Runner's Guide to Injury Prevention and Treatment* (Human Kinetics) with Emmi Aguillard and Jonathan Cane.

**2009 Ross Brenneman** (see '12).

**2012 Rebecca Rosenberg** and **Ross Brenneman** '09 send a photograph from their April 2022 wedding. "Our Rochester portrait was, as you can imagine from looking at it, our most packed! We had 22 Rochester graduates spanning five decades join us in Los Angeles." Pictured from left to right are, back row, **Jon Noble** '09, **Christopher Domone** '09, **Max Mikel-Stites** '08, Ross, **Kendra Riddleberger**, **Chase Weidmann** '09, **Matthew Spielmann** '09, '20S (MBA), **Aaron Eisenberg**, **Michael Rosenberg** '79; middle row, **Margaret Healy** '11, **Katie Bartolotta** '11, **Brittany Bowman** '09, **Hannah Weiss** '09, Rebecca, **Alyssa**

**Shoup** '09, '11W (MS), '20W (EdD), **Erin Philbrick Wasserman** '09, '15M (PhD), **Lori Aks Rosenberg** '81; and front row, **Steve Aks** '83, **Daniel Snow** '09, **Patrick Lutz** '10, **Henry Garcia** '09, and **Dan Wasserman** '10.

## 2013

## 10TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**2015 Bryan Hoffman** has joined the worker's compensation group at Goldberg Segalla's Buffalo office as an associate attorney. He was previously with Connors and Ferris, also in Buffalo.

**2016 Katherine Bopp** (see '08 Simon).

## 2018

## 5TH REUNION

*Meliora Weekend*  
October 5 to 8  
[Rochester.edu/reunion](https://rochester.edu/reunion)

**2021 Elena Robson** and **Curtis Jenkins** were married in January in Rhode Island. Elena and her father, **David Robson** '88, send a picture of themselves with the many alumni who attended as guests or were members of the wedding party (see page 49): **Stephen Robson** '91, '97W (MS), **Terri Sizemore Robson** '97, **Michael Wizorek** '23, **Lauren Case** '23, '23E, **Jeffrey Pinsker-Smith** '21, **Alexander Nick** '22E, **Isabelle Longfellow** '21, **Geneva Hinkson** '24, **Brett Miller** '24E, **David Personius** '21, **Ichchha Pradhan** '21, '22, **Josiah Johnson** '21, **Meghan Clark** '24, **David Robson**, **Adwoa Ampiah-Bonney** '23,

*Continued on page 49*




2009 Rosenberg and Brenneman



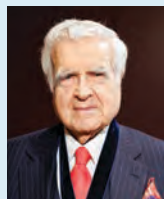
## KUDOS &amp; COMMENDATIONS

# Celebrating the University Community

The University and its academic units honor alumni and friends for their service and achievement.

Over the course of the 2021–22 and 2022–23 years, alumni and University friends were recognized for their achievements and service, both to their communities and to the institution. The ceremonies took place both on and off campus at University events. 

## ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING Dean's Medal



**Arthur Miller '56, '08** (Honorary): A University Professor at New York University, Miller is a distinguished legal scholar and commentator who received an Emmy Award for his work on the PBS series *The Constitution: That Delicate Balance*.

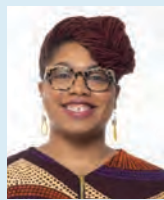


**Dick '63, '66 (MS) and Vicki Proschel Schwartz '62**: Active University volunteers for more than 60 years, Dick is a retired senior optical engineer, and Vicki is a former teacher and past director of student activities at the University.

## James S. Armstrong Alumni Service Award



**Jason Buitrago '07, '14W (MS)**: The executive director of enrollment management and strategic initiatives for graduate programs at Case Western Reserve University's medical school, Buitrago has served as a volunteer on reunion, diversity, and other advisory councils.



**Ashley Campbell '09, 10W (MS)**: The director of equity and inclusion research and research education with the Office of Equity and Inclusion at the Medical Center, Campbell is a national cochair of the University's Black Alumni Network. She is also a faculty member at the California Institute of Integral Studies, where she earned her PhD.

## John N. Wilder Award



**John Zabrodsky III '82**: The founder, managing director, and president of Advanced Manufacturing Technology, Zabrodsky is also a strategic investment partner with private equity ventures. Elected to the University's Athletics Hall of Fame, he is an active member of reunion committees and serves in other volunteer roles.



**Abigail Zabrodsky '14, '19S (MBA)**: The global platform manager at Rich Products, a global food manufacturer based in Buffalo, Zabrodsky is a member of the University's Alumni Board. A cochair of the 2022 Volunteer in Partnership Conference, she has held several leadership positions on alumni councils and programs.

## Distinguished Alumnus Award



**Michael Alessandri '85**: The executive director of the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, Alessandri has earned recognition for work to develop educational programs for students with autism.



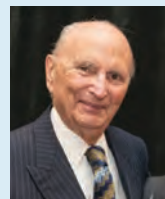
**Scott Pomerantz '81, '83S (MBA)**: The chief executive officer at FocalPoint Technology Partners, Pomerantz has been an important advisor to the Hajim School, the Simon School, and the Parents Council.

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY Dean's Medal



**Richard Burton '64M (Res)**: The inaugural Marjorie Strong Wehle Professor in Orthopaedics at the University, Burton has held leadership roles at the Medical Center as well as among his peers nationally.

## John N. Wilder Award



**James Aquavella**: The Catherine E. Aquavella Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology at the Flaum Eye Institute, Aquavella was instrumental in developing laser therapy and extended wear contact lenses for myopia as well as other treatments for cornea disease.

## Robert Newman '63M (MD) Humanitarian Award



**Stephen McLeod-Bryant '80, '84M (MD)**: A faculty member at the Miller School of Medicine, part of the University of Miami Health Sciences Center, McLeod-Bryant was named president-elect of the Black Psychiatrists of America in 2022.

## Distinguished Alumnus Award



**Joseph Serletti '82M (MD), '88M (Res)**: The Henry Royster-William Maul Measey Professor of Surgery, Serletti is also chief of the division of plastic surgery and vice chair for finance in the department of surgery at the University of Pennsylvania.

## Alumni Achievement Award



**Irene Georgakoudi '99M (PhD)**: A professor in the biomedical engineering department and cell, molecular, and developmental biology program at Tufts University, Georgakoudi has earned recognition for research to develop noninvasive methods of clinical diagnoses.

## Alumni Service Award



**Gina Cuyler '92M (MD), '95M (Res)**: The vice president of health equity and community investments for Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, Cuyler cochairs the

University's Black Alumni Network and has other volunteer roles with the University and its service organizations.

#### SCHOOL OF NURSING

##### Dean's Medal



**Mary-Therese B. Dombeck** '78N (MS), '89 (PhD): A professor emeritus of nursing, Dombeck has 40 years of experience in clinical, educational, administrative, and leadership roles at the School of Nursing. Those roles include teaching courses on cultural diversity, religious and spiritual issues in health care, and group and family psychotherapy.



**Margaret Kearney:** A professor emerita at the School of Nursing, Kearney joined the faculty in 2005, serving as the school's PhD program director and later as dean of graduate studies for the University.

##### Humanitarian Award



**Kathy Hiltunen** '78N, '91S (MBA): An assistant professor of nursing at the School of Nursing and manager of nursing services at the Monroe County Department of Public Health, Hiltunen provided clinical coordination to Monroe County—led vaccine clinics and testing sites during the pandemic.



**Kim Urbach** '98N (MS): A retired assistant professor of clinical nursing and pediatric nurse practitioner at the School of Nursing, Urbach directed School-Based Health Center Clinics for 15 years. She led the center's successful efforts to receive state and federal funding to partner with the Rochester City School District.

##### Distinguished Alumnus Award



**Jacquelyn Campbell** '86N (PhD): A professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing since 1993, Campbell is the Anna D. Wolf Chair and Professor. She is a national leader in the field of domestic and intimate partner violence.



**Dianne Morrison-Beedy** '93N (PhD): Chief talent and global strategy officer and centennial professor of nursing at Ohio State, Morrison-Beedy is an elected nursing fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, the National Academies of Practice, and the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.



**Sally Ellis Fletcher** '10N (PhD): An associate dean for students, Fletcher also oversees committees and councils for diversity and inclusion at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Nursing and Health Studies.

##### Legacy Award



**Dennis Kitzman:** Kitzman established the Dennis L. and Harriet J. Kitzman Endowed Fellowship Fund in memory of the career of his late wife, Harriet Kitzman '61W (MS), '84N (PhD). The couple have earned recognition for their contributions to the School of Nursing and the Rochester community.

**Elizabeth Marie Nolan** '78N (MS): A retired nurse and administrative leader for the University of Michigan Health System, now Michigan Medicine, Nolan initiated a patient education program and served as director of patient education during her tenure. She has earned recognition from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

#### SIMON BUSINESS SCHOOL

##### Alumni Service Award



**Lynne Amerson** '09S (MBA): Senior portfolio manager at Northern Trust Wealth Management in Colorado, Anderson is a member of the Simon Alumni Board and chairs the Simon Women's Alliance Board. She also is a former chair of the Simon Regional Alumni Network in Denver.



**Dion Chay** '98S (MBA): Senior vice president and business strategy and initiatives manager for Bank of America in Boston, Chay is a member of the University's Alumni

Board and the Simon Advisory Council as well as cochair of the Boston Network Leadership Council.



**Juan Jones** '88S (MBA): Executive vice president of global support renewal sales at Oracle, Jones was named a University trustee in 2022. He has served on Simon's National Council and is a former member of Simon's Executive Advisory Committee. The Executive Board Room at Simon is named in recognition of his support for the school.

#### WARNER SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

##### James S. Armstrong Alumni Service Award



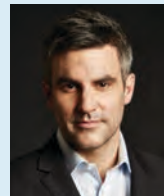
**Herbert Miller** '62, '64W (MA): A retired education and training consultant whose clients included IBM, Microsoft, Kodak, Xerox, and other companies, Miller has earned recognition from the International Society for Performance and Instruction and other groups and organizations to improve individual performance, productivity, and workplace organization.



**Ellen Genrich Rusling** '66W, '79W (MA): A retired school psychologist and family therapist for Monroe County's Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rusling became ordained through the spiritual organization Fellowships of the Spirit. In recognition of the support provided by her and her husband, Tom, the Genrich-Rusling Room, a flexible study and meeting space in LeChase Hall, was named in honor their family, part of the couple's history of support for the school.

#### EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

##### Distinguished Alumni Award



**Kevin Puts** '94E, '99E (DMA): A Pulitzer Prize— and Grammy—winning composer, Puts has been commissioned to create work for the Metropolitan Opera, Philadelphia Orchestra, and other leading performance organizations around the world. He has collaborated with renowned artists such as Renée Fleming '83E (MM), '11 (Honorary) Yo-Yo Ma, and others.



## ALUMNI LEADERS

# ‘Together, We Can Achieve Our Full Potential’

Iveth Reynolds '12S (MBA) and Raquel Ruiz '99, '20S (MBA) cochair the Latin Alumni Network.

Iveth Reynolds and Raquel Ruiz, both first-generation Latina college students and MBA graduates of the Simon Business School, understand the significance of mentoring, networking, and peer support. It's why they have taken on the role of cochairs for the University's newly established Latin Alumni Network affinity group.

“It's important to have people in our lives who have similar life experiences, have been there before us, and can guide us on our paths—it certainly was for me,” says Reynolds, an expert in staffing, project management, and diversity and leadership development. She is also the CEO of Tri-Mar Consulting in Rochester, which she founded 25 years ago.

Ruiz, the codirector of Equity, Learning Health Communities Pillar at Duke University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute, notes that the Latin Alumni Network's vision is to cultivate, lead, and advance the lives and careers of those who engage with the group, including alumni and current students.

Before joining Duke, Ruiz worked at Rochester for 15 years in executive roles at the Medical Center focused on strengthening health strategies and equity in research. She was also the University's inaugural cochair for the Latino Professional Alliance, an employee resource group.

**“It's important to have people in our lives who have similar life experiences, have been there before us, and can guide us on our paths—it certainly was for me.”**

—*Iveth Reynolds*

Raised in New York City, Reynolds was a latchkey kid from Washington Heights. “I was also a hard-working student, but, like many others, I didn't have any academic role models,” she says. “Those closest to me encouraged me, but they didn't know much about getting into college or how to navigate the experience once I became a student.”

Born in Puerto Rico, Ruiz moved to Buffalo when she was 10. “Even though I excelled at school, it was hard for me to imagine the possibilities in life, ones that could be realized through



Iveth Reynolds



Raquel Ruiz

higher education,” Ruiz says. “No one in my family had gone to college.”

Fortunately, both had high school counselors who helped them through the college application process. Reynolds applied to one school, Fordham University in New York City, and got in. For four years, she was a full-time student who also worked full time. “It was challenging, but, luckily, I had great support from a coworker,” she says. “I realize now that she was really a mentor to me.”

As a student at Rochester, Ruiz tapped into resources at the Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA). “OMSA helped me create a road map for academic success, and they also recommended getting involved with student organizations as well as the local Latin community,” says Ruiz, who became an active member of the University's Spanish and Latino Students' Association and chapter founder of the Lambda Pi Chi sorority.

In addition to the new network, both are active in other University committees and community groups.

Reynolds is a member of the University's Diversity Advisory Board, Women's Network, and Simon's Women's Alliance. In 2011, she founded NSHMBA, now known as Prospanica, a not-for-profit organization in west-

ern New York that empowers Hispanic professionals to advance in their careers. She is also the vice chair of the board for Catholic Charities Family and Community Services.

Ruiz is a member of the University's Alumni Board and served as the financial chair for her 20th class reunion. The two initially met at a University alumni relations event. Over the years, they've stayed connected, including as part of the United Way's Latino Leadership Development program, in which Ruiz participated and Reynolds coordinated.

Reynolds and Ruiz encourage students and alumni to get involved in one of the Latin Alumni Network's committees dedicated to philanthropy, programming, and career development and mentorship. “No matter where we are in our careers, we all have something to offer to others,” says Reynolds, who underscores the importance of having different voices and career paths represented in the Latin Alumni Network.

Adds Ruiz, “The Latin Alumni Network is really about embodying the University's mission so that, together, we can achieve our full potential.”

—KRISTINE KAPPEL THOMPSON

Learn more at [Rochester.edu/alumni/latin-alumni-network](https://rochester.edu/alumni/latin-alumni-network).



2021 Robson

Continued from page 45

**Christina Krewson** '21, **Christopher Sánchez** '23, '23E, **Anisa Raoof** '88, **Peter Cohen** '88, **Jonah Robson** '25 (brother of the bride), **Doug Itkin** '88, **Laura Mueller** '22, **Jess Robbins** '20, **Anoutsia Latsapanya** '22, and **Aidan Kendra** '20.

**2022 Claude Mulindi** (see '08 Simon).

## Graduate

### ARTS, SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

#### MELIORA WEEKEND

October 5 to 8  
Rochester.edu/melioraweekend

**1948 Glen McDonald** (MS) is being remembered as a patent-holding inventor and a researcher on projects involving fuels for jet engines, nuclear propulsion for interplanetary space missions, and solar energy collection. His son, **Edward McDonald** '74M (MD), writes that Glen died in January. After receiving his master's degree in chemistry from Rochester, Glen moved to Ohio, where he spent his career as an engineer and scientist at the NASA Lewis Research Center (now the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field).

**1970 Robert Skoglund** (MA) has written a follow-up to 2017's *Chicken Poop for the Soil: Wit and Wisdom from the Humble Farmer* (self-published). The new book, *Chicken Poop for the Reader's Soil* (self-published), is a collection of biweekly newspaper columns from 2014 through 2022 written by

Robert, "The humble Farmer," as well as commentary from his long-running public radio show of the same name.

**1981 Harry Thompson** (MA), the executive director of the Center for Western Studies at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has published a history of the center, where he has worked for the past 39 years: *"Bright, Clear Sky Over a Plain So Wide": The Center for Western Studies, 1964–2020* (Center for Western Studies). "The main title uses quotation marks because the phrase is taken from O. E. Rolvaag's first novel of the Great Plains, *Giants in the Earth* (Harper & Brothers; First Edition 1927), which is set about 10 miles north of our research center," writes Harry.

**1994 Wendy Schiller** (PhD), the Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence in Political Science, the director of the Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy, and a professor of political science at Brown University in Rhode Island, has coauthored *Inequality Across State Lines: How Policymakers Have Failed Domestic Violence Victims in the United States* (Cambridge University Press). The book explores the differences in how states respond to domestic violence and offers pathways to reform. Wendy is also the author of several previous books, including *Electing the Senate: Indirect Democracy before the Seventeenth Amendment* (Princeton University Press), *Gateways to Democracy: An Introduction to American Government* (Cengage), and *The Contemporary Congress* (Thomson-Wadsworth). She has published articles in the *American Journal of Political Science*, *Legislative*

*Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Politics*, and *Studies in American Political Development*.

**2002 Warren Zanes** (PhD), an adjunct faculty member at New York University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, has written *Deliver Me from Nowhere: The Making of Bruce Springsteen's Nebraska* (Crown). Warren is an active musician, a former vice president of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and a scholar who has written a biography of Tom Petty, among other works.

**2012 Rodmon King** (PhD) has been appointed assistant dean for diversity, inclusion, and belonging for the University of Massachusetts Amherst's School of Public Health and Health Sciences. Previously, he was dean of institutional equity and inclusion at Connecticut College, and before that Rodmon was the chief diversity and inclusion officer at SUNY Oswego.

**2013 Jeremy Kedziora** (PhD) has been named the PieperPower Endowed Chair in Artificial Intelligence at the Milwaukee School of Engineering. He will hold a full-time faculty position in the electrical engineering and computer science department and will pursue research advancing the interaction of artificial intelligence with humans and its potential impacts on society. He had been a director of data science and analytics at Northwestern Mutual, where he managed the development of machine learning and modeling efforts focused on cybersecurity. . . . **Matthew Moynihan** (PhD), a consultant on fusion who previously studied the safety of nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers as a senior nuclear engineer for the US Navy, has coauthored *Fusion's Promise: How Technological Breakthroughs in Nuclear Fusion Can Conquer Climate Change on Earth (And Carry Humans to Mars, Too)* (Nature-Springer Press). Matt has been the host of a popular fusion podcast and written a fusion blog; his work has appeared on *CNBC* and in *Forbes*, *Bloomberg News*, the *Boston Globe*, and *IEEE Spectrum*.

**2022 Rassul Bairamkulov** (PhD), a postdoctoral scholar at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne in Switzerland, has coauthored, with Eby Friedman, a Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Rochester, *Graphs in VLSI* (Springer International Publishing).

## Eastman School of Music

#### MELIORA WEEKEND

October 5 to 8  
Rochester.edu/melioraweekend

**1971 Nat Fossner** (see '71 College).

**1973** Composer and conductor **Anthony Iannaccone** (PhD) has released a two-CD album, *Looking Back, Moving On* (Navona Records). His compositions are performed on the album by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra conducted by Alexander Jiménez, the Warsaw Philharmonic conducted by George Manahan, and clarinetist Richard Stoltzman.

**1975 Kingsley Day** (MA), a Chicago-area writer, editor, composer, and performer, has published *Music's Guiding Hand: A Novel Inspired by the Life of Guido d'Arezzo* (The Mentor Project). He describes the work as "a biographical novel about the medieval monk who invented music notation and what's now popularly known as do-re-mi. Despite institutional opposition to his revolutionary system for notating musical pitch on lines and spaces, his method became the standard that's still used today." . . . **Dave Harman** (DMA) writes that he has retired from the position of music director and conductor of the Penfield (New York) Symphony Orchestra, a post he held for 22 years. He served as music director of the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra for 20 seasons and was the director of orchestral activities and a professor of music in the Satz Department of Music in the College. Before returning to Rochester in 1993, he taught at the University of Louisville, the University of Connecticut, and Colorado State University. Dave says he will continue to guest conduct orchestras as opportunities arise.

**1993 Kelly Hall-Tompkins** has released *Our Forgotten Voices* (Avie). "The organization [Music Kitchen: Food for the Soul] that I started in my church basement in 2005 is now making the forgotten voices we heard from those early days and beyond heard worldwide in over 21 countries," she writes. "I am so grateful for all the donors, artists, and facilitators who have made this possible. For the *Forgotten Voices* project, I am especially grateful for the brilliant composers and artists who helped me take an idea and bring it to life in the best possible way."





### A BIG BAND

## 'Fun Times' with 20 Alumni, 4 Faculty, and Many Others

When **Russell Scarbrough** '08E (DMA) puts together a big band, he means BIG.

For his latest album, the director of jazz ensembles at Houghton University and Canisius College brought together 44 musicians, including 20 alumni of the Eastman School of Music, four Rochester faculty members, and a host of other acclaimed musical artists.

The result, *Fun Times*, was released this summer on Bandcamp.

Recorded remotely over 20 months during the pandemic, the album features 10 tracks that Scarbrough describes as "some of the most fun, adventurous big band music heard in years."


Eastman alumni featured on the recording include **Chris Beaudry** '02E, '03E (MM), **Charlie Carr** '14E (MM), **Kirsten Edkins** '05E, **Shoghi Hayes** '15E, '20E (MM), **Ethan Helm** '12E, **Devin Kelly** '05E (MM), **Brendan Lanighan** '15E, **Dan Loomis** '04E (MM), **Doug O'Connor** '08E (MM), '12E (DMA), **Jeff Ostroski** '08E (MM), **Marcelo Magalhães Pinto** '15E (DMA), **Jim Pugh** '72E, '75E (MM), **Jared Schonig** '05E, **Herb Smith** '91E, **Bill Straub** '93E, '95E (MM), **Chris Teal** '09E (MM), **Matt Vashlishan** '05E, '17E (DMA), **Scott Worthington** '09E, **Daniel Wright** '06E, and **Chris Ziemba** '08E, '11E (MM).

Faculty artists include Eastman's **Clay Jenkins**, **Bob Sneider** '93, and **Rich Thompson** '84E (MM), as well as **Bill Tiberio** from the College's Satz Department of Music.

To produce the album, Scarbrough asked musicians to record themselves at home and email parts to him.

"Life was rough, and I wanted it to be fun for the musicians, something to look forward to. I think that helped everyone's performances despite the strained circumstances, and you hear that on the album."

Scarbrough says making the album was an antidote to the drumbeat of bad news and dark rhetoric of the past few years.

"In the midst of all this," he says, "making music was the catalyst for hope." 

**1995** **Peter Fletcher** (MM) writes, "My CD *Peter Fletcher on Tour* (Centaur) has been released on all the streaming sites. My tour proceeds apace—the dates are listed on the schedule of my website."

**2005** **Sarah Chan** (DMA), an associate professor of music at California State University, Stanislaus, has received three important awards: the 2021 US Presidential Scholar Distinguished Teacher Award from the US Presidential Commission of the US Department of Education, the 2021 California State University–Stanislaus Outstanding Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Faculty Award, and the 2022 California State University–Stanislaus Outstanding Professor Award. Sarah also writes that her 2020 performance and teaching tour in Ukraine featured a solo piano recital at the National Philharmonic of Ukraine along with presentations, master classes, and teacher seminar-workshops at several Ukrainian schools and centers. She wrote an article, "Innovative Teaching Practices in 21st-Century Music Pedagogy," for a Ukrainian journal. Sarah also presented a program of French and Spanish piano music alongside music of Chopin in a solo recital in April at Salle Cortot in Paris. She is a board member of the College Music Society and chairs the society's performance council.

**2017** Bassist **Jakob Ebers** joined the newest iteration of the audition-based Focusyear Band last September. He joins five other jazz musicians from different countries to work with 15 guest artists and record a full-length album. After 10 months of building chemistry and rapport, writes Jakob, the band will embark on a tour during the last two months of the fellowship. Focusyear is a yearlong jazz immersion program in Switzerland for promising young musicians.

## School of Medicine and Dentistry

### MELIORA WEEKEND

October 5 to 8

[Rochester.edu/melioraweekend](https://Rochester.edu/melioraweekend)

**1974** **Edward McDonald** (MD) (see '48 Graduate).

**1979** **Philip Breitfeld** (MD) '82 (Res), chief medical officer at Allterum Therapeutics in Houston, has been named to the board of scientific advisors for



### 2017 Ebers

the contract research organization MMS Holdings to help expand the organization's expertise in therapeutic areas. Philip held academic positions at Harvard University, the University of Massachusetts, Indiana University, and Duke University before shifting his focus to developing therapeutics.

**2005** **Camelia Lawrence**, Hartford Healthcare's director of breast surgery at the Hospital of Central Connecticut and Midstate Medical Center and an assistant professor of surgery at University of Connecticut's School of Medicine, has been named president of the Fairfield County Medical Association. She is the first Black woman named to the position in the association's more than 200-year history. Camelia, a native of Jamaica, now leads an organization with nearly 1,000 physician members.

## School of Nursing

### MELIORA WEEKEND

October 5 to 8

[Rochester.edu/melioraweekend](https://Rochester.edu/melioraweekend)

**1986** **Nina Gaby** '90 (MS) writes that she and her husband, Craig Smith, were thrilled to move back to Rochester's Neighborhood of the Arts (NOTA) in the spring; they felt especially welcome when Nina was notified that her work would be included in the Memorial Art Gallery's *Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition*, which opened April 23. She says that, having won an award in the 1974 exhibition, this "truly makes a homecoming." Nina will continue her practice as a psychiatric APRN for Thomas Chittenden Health Center in Vermont over telehealth and has created an art studio in her new home for working in mixed media.

## Simon Business School

### MELIORA WEEKEND

October 5 to 8

[Rochester.edu/melioraweekend](https://Rochester.edu/melioraweekend)

**1986 Jon Wu** (MBA), a fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries, was sworn in to take a board seat of the Connecticut Retirement Security Authority in February. Jon writes, "Connecticut is the fourth state, after Oregon, Illinois, and California, [to implement] the employer mandate auto-IRA for employees working from small businesses that do not provide retirement savings programs." He says the mandate is designed to reduce inequality of access to retirement savings.

**1988** University Life Trustee **Carol (John) Davidson** (MBA) was named to the independent audit quality committee of Ernst & Young. Made up of external leaders with relevant diverse experience, the committee provides independent advice to senior leaders on matters related to quality control affecting audit quality.

**2005 Nathan Ringelstetter** (MBA) (see '02 College).

**2008 Christopher Adams** (MBA) writes that he and **Katherine Bopp** '16RC supported **Claude Mulindi** '22RC as he made his premiere performance at the 62nd annual Quadrille Ball in New York City in February. "The Quadrille," writes Christopher, "is dedicated to promoting Trans-Atlantic friendship and understanding by raising funds to benefit the Germanistic Society of America's Scholarship Fund for the exchange of American and German graduate and undergraduate students." Christopher and Katherine are Quadrille junior committee members.

**2015 Hiatt Zhao** (MS) (see '06 College).



2008 Adams

## In Memoriam Life Trustees

**Nancy Lieberman** '77, a widely respected Wall Street attorney who specialized in mergers and acquisitions, died in April. At the age of 30, she became the youngest partner ever at the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom.

After suffering a spinal cord injury in 2007, she persevered in rehabilitation, returned to her law practice, and traveled the world. She worked to further progress in spinal cord injury research, including helping to found New Yorkers to Cure Paralysis.

A voting member of the board from 2007 to 2022, Lieberman was a longtime volunteer for her class reunions and University initiatives. She was a chair of the scholarships initiative of *The Meliora Challenge* campaign, an effort that resulted in the creation of more than 400 endowed scholarships and fellowships and 52 George Eastman Circle Scholarships. She established an endowed scholarship in the School of Arts & Sciences in 2002 and more recently established an endowed scholarships challenge to help inspire other friends of the University to meet the need for support within Arts, Sciences & Engineering.

## Retired Faculty

**Thomas Casey**, medicine. February 2023

**William Chey**, gastroenterology. January 2023

**David Douglass**, physics and astronomy. February 2023

**Joseph Harris**, pediatric cardiology. March 2023

**Robert Harrison**, medicine. May 2023

**Anthony Labrum**, obstetrics and gynecology. March 2023

**John Leddy**, medicine. March 2023

**Jacqueline Lindauer**, Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities. May 2023

**Ashok Shah**, medicine. June 2023

**Masako Toribara**, voice. April 2023

**Barukh Yaakobi**, Laboratory for Laser Energetics. April 2023

**Philip Wexler**, Warner School. March 2023

## Alumni

**John H. Manhold** '41, January 2023

**Eleanor Zientara Graham** '43N, April 2023

**Jane E. Schmitt** '43, April 2023

**William L. Brice** '44, April 2023

**Forrest D. Stoll** '44E, '47E (MM), February 2023

**Emily Gilbert Gleason** '46, April 2023

**Donald P. Pederson** '46, '50 (MS), '51M (MD), January 2023

**Norma Frisch Rosenbloom** '46E, September 2022

**Dorothea Dalzell Altmann** '47E, March 2023

**Betty Szymanski Beall Garver** '47M (MS), March 2023

**Edward F. Gerwin** '47, October 2021

**Georgia Stieler Murphy** '47E, February 2023

**Letty Kirch Haynes** '48, February 2023

**Joseph D. Helwig** '48, January 2023

**Helen Urbelis Jazak** '48, February 2023

**Jean McKown Jeschke** '48N, April 2023

**Earl S. Lipman** '48, January 2023

**Glen E. McDonald** '48 (MS), January 2023

**Gerald R. Rising** '48, '51 (EdM), December 2022

**Cheryl Vaughan Cleveland** '49, '75W (EdM), April 2023

**Jane Richart Faigle** '49, January 2023

**Betty Kaiser Fennell** '49, March 2023

**Marshall Guntrum** '49, March 2023

**David L. Kamien** '49E, March 2023

**Bernice Devries McGovern** '49, '69W (MA), January 2023

**William B. Sabey** '49, February 2023

**Minna Keel Chandler** '50E, November 2022

**Douglas E. Cope** '50, December 2022

**Jean McCullough Engman** '50N, January 2023

**Eugene J. Gangarosa** '50, '54M (MD), '55M (MS), August 2022

**Ralph H. Henty** '50, March 2023

**Donabeth Shoop Jensen** '50N, December 2022

**Margery Knight Kibler** '50N, February 2023

**Nancy Henderson Michel** '50, January 2023

**Anthony J. Nardone** '50, January 2023

**Mark B. Smith** '50, '55W (EdM), February 2023

**Frederick C. Brown** '51, December 2022

**Virginia Dewhurst Caswell** '51, December 2022

**Charlotte Allen Finn** '51, January 2023

**William K. Heron** '51, April 2022

**Mary Luther Redline** '51N, March 2023

**David A. Schaeffer** '51, '71 (MS), April 2023

**Sylvia Watkins Passmore** '52N, March 2023

**Carolyn Bunting Whaley** '52E, January 2023

**Peter J. Brandetsas** '53, January 2023

**John C. Braund** '53, '61W (EdM), April 2023

**Lauralee Burke Campbell** '53E, January 2023

**Robert H. DeSmith** '53, March 2023

**Alice Armstrong McKernan** '53N, February 2023

**Charles I. Olin** '53, '64M (Res), January 2023

**Eugene P. Phelps** '53, February 2022

**Elizabeth Harding Reynolds** '53, January 2023

**W. Barton Van Slyke** '53M (MD), January 2023

**George W. Boll** '54, January 2023

**Elizabeth Bean Fountain** '54, March 2023

**Robert B. Hayes** '54, '58M (MD), January 2023

**Geraldine Begier Kendall** '54N, March 2023

**Myrta Borges Knox** '54E (MM), January 2023

**Muriel Chevious Kowlessar** '54M (Res), July 2022

**Doris Batty Oliver** '54, April 2023

**Nancy Bookout Wolcott** '54E, January 2023

**Martin Billik** '55, March 2023

**Donald L. Cohen** '55, March 2023

**Albert J. Colman** '55, January 2023

**Donald F. DeVries** '55, March 2023

**Douglas B. Hansen** '55M (MD), December 2022

**David T. Lawson** '55E, January 2023

**Cosmo Lioni** '55E, February 2023

**Ann Carlson Paterson** '55, April 2023

**Abbott M. Smith** '55, '61 (PhD), December 2022

**Mildred Bigelow Vreeland** '55, July 2021

**Donald W. Burns** '56, February 2023

**K. Leo Buxbaum** '56M (MD), March 2023

**Mary Jo McKenna Cornish** '56, March 2023

**David Fetter** '56E (DMA), April 2023

**John L. Griffin** '56, December 2022

**Marcia Collins Hayes** '56N, January 2023

**Rolland W. Hurst** '56E (MM), January 2023

**Harris M. Kenner** '56, December 2022

**William A. Kern** '56M (MD), January 2023

**Ronald J. Peterson** '56, April 2023

**Arthur G. Bates** '57E (MM), March 2023

**Thomas B. Dintruff** '57, March 2023

**Henry C. Porter** '57, January 2023

**Robert W. Rice** '57, March 2023

**Nancy Rupp Rock** '57N, September 2022

**Francis P. Brancalone** '58E, February 2023

**Richard W. Campbell** '58E, April 2023

**Hereward Seagrave Cattell** '58M (MD), December 2022



## MODERN FABLE

## Hajim Offers 'Think-About-It' Book

As someone who turned a harrowing early life into professional success in the upper echelons of Wall Street and educational philanthropy, it might be easy for Ed Hajim '58 to come up with a commanding list of "how-to's" for those looking for advice on how to overcome adversity or for professional guidance to a life in business.

But in his second book, the University's board chair emeritus and namesake for the Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences takes a different path of sorts—and suggests that readers, too, should be open to thinking about success in less scripted ways.

In *The Island of the Four Ps* (Skyhorse, 2023), Hajim offers—as the subtitle puts it—"A Modern Fable about Preparing for Your Future."

"[The new book] is not a how-to business book," Hajim writes. "It's a think-about-it book in the form of a fable. . . . Why a fable? . . . Because I don't believe there's only one way to deal with life transitions. And even if you accept my ideas wholly, there's no single right way to put them into action."

**"[The new book] is not a how-to business book. It's a think-about-it book . . ."**  
—Ed Hajim


Illustrated with whimsical drawings by Gabriela Leal, the story follows a young person who travels to the islands of Passions, Principles, Partners, and Plans and realizes that a successful life is built by finding a balance among the cornerstones.

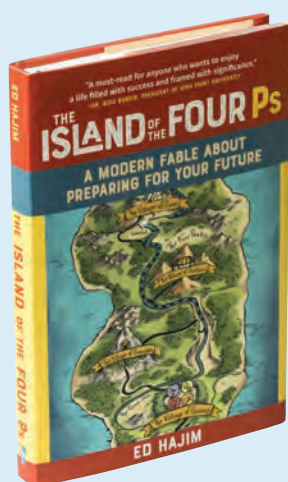
The new book follows Hajim's 2020 memoir, *On the Road Less Traveled*, in which he recounted his life as a toddler who was effectively abandoned by his father to be raised in group homes and orphanages. In that book, Hajim credits the University with helping set him on a path to becoming a successful investment executive, University trustee, and philanthropist.

The book also hones ideas that Hajim has been sharing with family, colleagues, and University students for decades.

He jokes that long before there was an iPad, he had a "me-pad," a yellow pad of paper on which he mapped out the elements of important decisions. Early in his career, he realized that as he figured out where to go in life, he was guided by the four "islands" that form the bulk of the new book.

Taking time to think seriously about what you value in your life, he says, is a lesson everyone can benefit from.

"People are unique, and each person has got to find his own way or her own way." 



- Richard A. Davison** '58 (MA), January 2023
- Christopher C. Geest** '58, February 2023
- Elizabeth Agan Horn** '58N, January 2023
- Edward L. Kaplan** '58, March 2023
- Anthony P. Lafay** '58, February 2023
- Margaret Meier** '58E, March 2023
- Margaret Mattern Mitchell** '58 (MS), January 2023
- Russell W. Sanders** '58M (MD), March 2023
- James J. Volpe** '58, March 2023
- Robert E. Anderson** '59, January 2023
- Carolyn Ernst Bryant** '59, February 2023
- Dorothy Young Copeland** '59, March 2023
- Robert H. Cowden** '59E, '60E (MM), '67E (DMA), January 2023
- Judith A. Cross** '59, April 2023
- David J. Dalton** '59E, '61E (MM), December 2022
- Frank W. Garlock** '59E (MA), March 2023
- Betty Foster Hooker** '59N (Diploma), March 2023
- Jane Deans Howard** '59, February 2023
- Gordon L. Koehn** '59 (MA), March 2023
- David W. Soule** '59M (MD), December 2022
- John D. Wermecke** '59, September 2022
- Marion F. Dearnley** '60, '66W (EdM), February 2023
- Sylvia Jumps Dorschel** '60N, February 2023
- John C. Heurtley** '60, '66 (PhD), March 2023
- Donald H. Jackson** '60E, '72M (Flw), January 2023
- Evelyn Stingle Ledyard** '60, September 2022
- William A. Peck** '60M (MD), '66M (Res), February 2023
- Thomas J. Stacy** '60E, April 2023
- Anne Loveland Wheeler** '60, April 2023
- Charles E. Cladel** '61, February 2023
- Betty Ann Chait Lansky** '61, January 2023
- John H. Parker** '61, '68M (PhD), August 2022
- Richard W. Powers** '61 (MA), January 2023
- Richard W. Reid** '61, April 2023
- Harvey H. Seymour** '61, February 2023
- Edward L. Hicks** '62, '65M (MD), '69M (Res), March 2023
- David Edwin Roe** '62, December 2022
- Joseph L. Andrews** '63M (MD), April 2023
- Priscilla McKendrick Atwood** '63N, April 2023
- Nicholas F. Borrelli** '63 (PhD), January 2023
- Juris G. Draguns** '63 (PhD), '92M (Pdc), January 2023
- Charles Leland Harrison** '63, March 2023
- Jean Sampson Parshall** '63E, February 2023
- Alan D. Podis** '63M (Res), December 2022
- Carol M. Streater** '63E (MM), March 2023
- John J. DeTraglia** '64, January 2023
- Michael A. Fauman** '64, May 2022
- Susannah Alden French** '64 (MA), April 2023
- Carolyn Mould Keck** '64W (EdM), September 2022
- Donald V. King** '64E, '65E (MM), November 2022
- Olof H. Lundberg** '64, December 2022
- Charles L. Oakes** '64D, March 2023
- David C. Tompkins** '64, March 2023
- Raymond F. Vit** '64, February 2023
- Elliott B. Alterman** '65, March 2023
- Billy R. Dotson** '65, February 2023
- Viola Newton Ferland** '65, February 2023
- J. Roger Goldin** '65, '67W (EdM), February 2023
- Richard L. Little** '65, August 2021
- Roy J. O'Connell** '65, January 2023
- Leonard E. Opdycke** '65 (MA), February 2023
- Mary Louise Posten** '65, April 2023
- Noel L. Reyner** '65 (MS), January 2023
- William A. Stengle** '65, May 2022
- Maxine Springer Stern** '65, January 2023
- John G. Webster** '65 (MS), March 2023
- John T. Chard** '66M (Res), April 2023
- Gayne Chun** '66M (Res), November 2022
- James F. Fox** '66S (MBA), January 2023
- Robert E. Kane** '66, April 2023
- Wesley J. Marshall** '66, January 2023
- Richard T. Miller** '66, January 2023
- Sallie Kerns Paul** '66, January 2023
- Vincent T. Penikas** '66M (PhD), December 2021
- William M. Roblin** '66, January 2023
- Norman Siegler** '66S (MBA), August 2022
- Joseph H. Wood** '66, February 2023
- Karen L. Zweig** '66, January 2023
- Norma M. Bartlett** '67E, December 2022

## TRIBUTE

# Stanley Engerman: At the Forefront of Modern Economic History

Stanley Engerman, an internationally recognized economic historian, is being remembered as a pioneering scholar, dedicated teacher, and generous colleague.

Engerman, who earned wide praise for his work on the economic impact of institutions, most notably through his study of slavery, died in May.

Claudia Goldin, a professor of economics at Harvard University who worked with Engerman on a 1991 paper, says that one of Engerman's enduring contributions to the field was his influence on fellow economists.

"If you check the papers that were published in the last 50-plus years, you will see thanks and acknowledgments to Stan in an extremely large number," says Goldin. "Before we had the internet, we had Stan, and he was incredibly important to everyone."

Engerman, who would become the John H. Munro Professor of Economics in 1984—a title he held until his retirement in 2017—and a professor of history, joined the Rochester faculty in 1963, shortly after earning his PhD in economics from Johns Hopkins University.

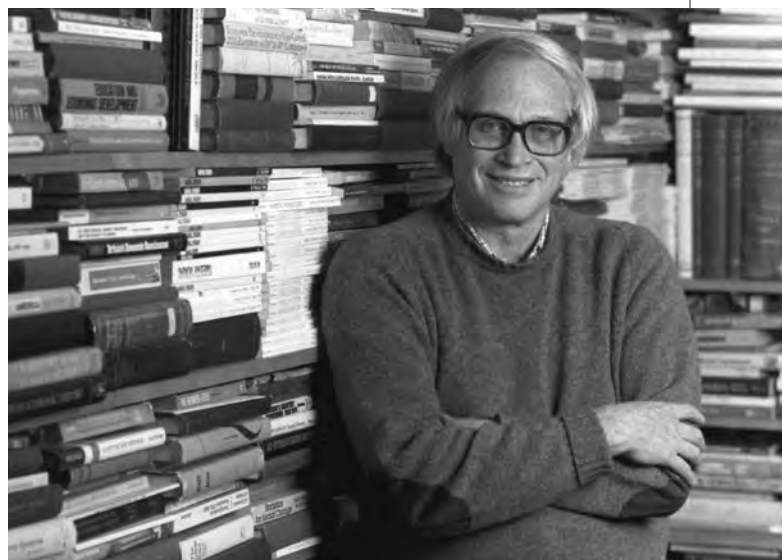
Engerman's most important work is widely considered to be *Time on the Cross: The Economics of American Negro Slavery* (Little, Brown and Company, 1974), coauthored with fellow economic historian Robert Fogel, who would go on to receive a

**"If you check the papers that were published in the last 50-plus years, you will see thanks and acknowledgments to Stan in an extremely large number."**

—Claudia Goldin

Nobel Prize. The book examines the economic underpinnings of American slavery, upending the conventional belief that slavery was not economically viable.

"One point that was destroyed by *Time on the Cross* was the idea that slaveholders kept slaves for prestige, rather than economic reasons," says Joseph Inikori, a professor emeritus of history at Rochester who coedited with Engerman the 1992 book *The Atlantic Slave Trade: Effects on Economies, Soci-*




**ECONOMIC POWER:** "Before we had the internet, we had Stan," colleagues say of Engerman's generosity as a scholar and the breadth of his knowledge of economics and economic history.

*eties and Peoples of Africa, the Americas and Europe* (Duke University Press). "Engerman and Fogel made it clear that slavery was a business enterprise centered on economics," he says.

As the authors explain in their book, "There is no evidence that economic forces alone would have soon brought slavery to an end without the necessity of a war or some other form of political intervention."

Michael Wolkoff, a professor of economics at Rochester, notes that Engerman was instrumental in the development of cliometrics, the application of econometric techniques to the study of history. In honor of his contributions, the Cliometric Society named Engerman a fellow in 2010, one of many awards and accolades he received during his lifetime.

Engerman's wife, Judy, died in 2019. He is survived by his three sons—David, Mark, and Jeff—and his sister Natalie Mayrsohn. 

—PETER IGLINSKI '17 (MA)

*This essay is drawn from a story posted here: [Rochester.edu/newscenter/stanley-engerman-economics-history-remembered-560942/](https://rochester.edu/newscenter/stanley-engerman-economics-history-remembered-560942/).*

Paul F. Dickinson '67, March 2023  
Ernest F. Matyi '67, February 2023  
Richard F. Randles '67, '70 (MS),  
March 2023  
John G. Webster '67 (PhD),  
March 2023  
H. Richard Werth '67,  
December 2021  
McClellan G. Blair '68 (PhD),  
March 2023

Bruce D. Bowman '68, April 2023  
Richard M. Byrne '68, March 2023  
Frances C. Driver '68M (MD),  
May 2021  
Ronald A. Johnson '68,  
November 2022  
Jean S. Lindsay '68, '76 (MA),  
January 2023  
Judith Rupert Lundquist '68,  
February 2023

Dennis S. O'Leary '68M (Res),  
January 2023  
Victor A. Becker '69,  
February 2023  
Nancy Woodward Blackmun '69, '73  
(MA), February 2023  
Charlene F. Brendler '69E (MM),  
March 2023  
Eugene M. Drobny '69,  
March 2023

Arnold J. Jules '69M (Res),  
December 2022  
Robert L. Lamberts '69 (PhD),  
January 2023  
Frank M. Lanzafame '69 (PhD),  
March 2023  
Edward L. Perry '69,  
March 2023  
Harry E. Vonertfelda '69M (Res),  
November 2021



## TRIBUTE

## John Braund '53, '61W (EdM): 'Always Willing to Serve'

I met John Braund in March 1967 while being interviewed by alumni for a scholarship to play football and study at Rochester. As the former registrar at the Eastman School of Music, he was asked to talk to "... a strange kid, a defensive halfback from Chittenango who was interested in studying piano at the Eastman School ... ." In the end, I was awarded the scholarship, played football, and studied piano at Eastman.

To quote Humphrey Bogart's last line in *Casablanca*, our first meeting was "the beginning of a beautiful friendship."

John, who died in April, had many leadership roles at the University, including at the former University School, at Eastman, and at Alumni Relations, and I know he touched the lives of many students and alumni during his long tenure.

That's because his door was always open to me as with so many others. I would show up in his office unannounced, sometimes after hours.

He was never too busy to sit and listen with genuine concern and a sensitive ear, as I bared my soul and angst that typically troubles youth. My relationship with John began with him as my mentor; it grew into a deep and life-fulfilling friendship.

**"I wouldn't be who I am today as an artist, pianist, photographer—a fulfilled person—without the constant and gentle guidance and encouragement he gave me."**

—Anthony Boccaccio

John always supported me when others would not. He arranged for the Physical Plant to erect a scaffold over the Meridian Marker of the Eastman Quad so that I could take a photograph looking straight down on it, with my fraternity brothers and friends sitting around the bench (*Rochester Review*, Winter 1970–71).

He pulled strings to preserve my scholarship while I spent my junior year abroad at Loyola University's Rome Center Campus.



AMICI: Often bonding over Italian food at local restaurants, Braund (left) became an indispensable mentor and friend, says Boccaccio (right).

I wouldn't be who I am today as an artist, pianist, photographer—a fulfilled person—without the constant and gentle guidance and encouragement he gave me. In front of Italian food and wine, we toasted our friendship. John knew this would resonate with my Italian heritage—for the best way to love an Italian is to serve food and wine and make sure his glass is "Mai vuoto, mai pieno"—never empty, never full. That's how John was—always willing to serve.

And like my glass of wine, he filled the minds, hearts, and lives of all he met with goodness, grace, and love. I will miss you, my friend. Without you, my glass is half empty; but the memory of our lifelong friendship and your love for me will always fill it to the brim. <sup>R</sup>

—ANTHONY BOCCACCIO '71

*Boccaccio is a photographer and artist living in Spokane, Washington. A former National Geographic photographer, he has worked in more than 30 countries.*

**Stephen G. Wagner** '69M (MD),  
July 2021

**Jay M. Eastman** '70, '74 (PhD),  
April 2023

**Paul E. J. Gerhold** '70,  
December 2022

**Henry A. Gluckstern** '70, April 2023  
**J. Peter Harris** '70M (MD), '75M (Res),  
March 2023

**Edward F. Hawkins** '70,  
March 2023

**Robert R. Kulikowski** '70, April 2023  
**John Reeps Rothbard** '70,  
March 2023

**Roger D. Rothwell** '70S (MBA),  
January 2023

**Paul D. Sturm** '70, April 2022  
**Charles C. Bianco** '71M (Res),  
October 2022

**Edward B. Reardon** '71E (MM), '85E  
(DMA), January 2023

**Robert W. Schmidt** '71, April 2022

**Kenneth M. Algazy** '72M (Res),  
December 2022

**Sharon M. Bassett** '72 (PhD),  
April 2023

**Carolyn S. Dunn** '72, February 2023  
**David L. Loeser** '72, January 2023

**David Mayers** '72S (PhD),  
April 2022

**Jeffrey Robbins** '72, August 2022  
**Antoun I. Ateya** '73 (MS), '82 (MS),  
March 2023

**Bruce R. Heverly** '73W (EdM),  
March 2023

**James G. Staples** '73E (DMA),  
March 2023

**Charles J. Chodak** '74, January 2023  
**Frederick W. Engstrom** '74M (MD),  
March 2023

**Gertrude Kelly Hamilton** '74 (PhD),  
April 2023

**Joan Brunjes Morgan** '74, '80 (MS),  
April 2023

**Richard L. Muehlbauer** '74E (MM),  
March 2023  
**Elizabeth F. Wywialowski** '74N (MS),  
January 2023  
**James L. Burton** '75E (DMA),  
March 2023  
**Robert B. Dobey** '75E (MM), '87E  
(DMA), April 2023  
**Ronald E. Hathaway** '75, March 2023  
**Mary Kniep-Hardy** '75N (MS),  
February 2023  
**Carl C. Williams** '75S (MBA), July 2022  
**Carl S. Bender** '77M (Res), March 2023  
**Martha Patell Blount** '77N (MS),  
January 2023  
**Anna Chacko** '77M (Res), May 2022  
**Martin B. Gingras** '77M (Res),  
April 2023  
**Timothy E. Guenther** '77E,  
February 2023  
**Flynn R. Jones** '77, April 2023  
**Nancy A. Lieberman** '77, April 2023  
**John A. Ditto** '79E (DMA), March 2023  
**Barbara Melder Lochner** '79,  
April 2023  
**Stephanie C. Spicer** '79, March 2023

**Patrick J. Camilleri** '80, '87W (MS),  
March 2023  
**James H. Faux** '80W (EdD),  
January 2023  
**Herbert F. Shellman** '80 (PhD),  
January 2022  
**Richard C. Wilson** '80S (MBA),  
February 2023  
**Michael J. Carragher** '81,  
February 2023  
**Raymond Ciccariello** '81, April 2023  
**Katherine Detherage** '81N (Flw),  
April 2023  
**Stuart B. Moss** '81 (PhD),  
December 2021  
**Joan S. Faber** '82S (MBA), April 2023  
**Stephen L. Gage** '83E (MM),  
February 2023  
**Charles W. Taylor** '83E,  
December 2022  
**Zachary S. Harris** '84, February 2023  
**Lance Reddick** '84E, March 2023  
**David W. Cowles** '85, October 2022  
**Patricia M. Allen** '86N (MS),  
January 2023  
**John J. Dumas** '86, March 2023

**Irene Nicholson Dunbar** '86 (PhD),  
January 2023  
**Michael Ferrauilo** '87, January 2023  
**Victoria M. Posner** '87S (MS),  
December 2021  
**Bruce P. Wittmershaus** '87 (PhD),  
March 2023  
**Faheim Bacchus** '88 (Flw),  
September 2022  
**Mathew M. Chudy Jr.** '88S (MBA),  
April 2023  
**Giovana Thomas Smith** '88M (MD),  
February 2023  
**Shari Libenson Rotman** '89,  
January 2023  
**James T. Schwiegerling** '90, '91 (MS),  
April 2023  
**Carolyn V. Daigneau** '91N (MS),  
February 2023  
**Gregory S. Farry** '91, March 2023  
**Debabrata Talukdar** '91S (MBA), '96S  
(PhD), September 2022  
**Andrea Webb Pascuzzi** '92,  
January 2023  
**Medhat Loffy** '94S (MBA),  
January 2023

**Jeanette King** '96N (MS),  
April 2023  
**Harry C. Blossick** '99N,  
January 2023  
**John C. Pace** '00S (MBA),  
February 2023  
**John P. Goldblatt** '02M (Res),  
January 2023  
**Tamika A. Nurse** '02S (MBA),  
January 2023  
**Francis A. Nowak** '04S (MBA),  
April 2023  
**Shana L. Pies** '05W (MA),  
February 2023  
**Jerome Miller** '09S (MBA),  
March 2023  
**Heidi Liebert Fine** '11W (MS),  
January 2023  
**Douglas J. Hughes** '15S (MBA),  
June 2022  
**Kolja M. Keller** '18 (MA),  
March 2023  
**Emmalean P. Overby** '19W (MS),  
April 2023  
**Feiloakitau K. Fiebia** '22S (MBA),  
March 2023

## TRIBUTE

## Rich Parrinello '72: All-American Football Player and Yellowjackets Coach

Rich Parrinello loved the Rochester football program—so much so that he kept returning to it.


A nationally recognized player for the Yellowjackets, Parrinello served three stints as a coach—including as head coach from 1989 to 1997.

Parrinello, who died in June, compiled a 41–43 record in his nine years leading the program, including an 8–1 mark in 1992. As a player, he earned Associated Press Small College All-America honors his junior and senior seasons, setting a record for most career touchdowns with 30 (now fourth all-time). He still holds Rochester records for receiving yards per catch (21.3) and receiving touchdowns in a season (11).

He tried out for the National Football League's Buffalo Bills, but his dream of a pro career didn't materialize. Still, Parrinello found joy in teaching others the game.

Hired by legendary Rochester coach Pat Stark to coach the first-year team just months after graduating, he went on to coach at Rochester-area high schools, including his alma mater, Aquinas Institute.

Parrinello returned to the University in 1985 for a four-year run as an assistant under Ray Tellier. He was named head coach of the University of Chicago in 1988 but returned one year later to take over the Yellowjackets when Tellier resigned to take the head coaching job at Columbia University.

Parrinello is survived by his wife of 50 years, Kathy Parrinello '75N, '83N (MS), '90W (PhD), the executive vice president and chief operating officer at Strong Memorial Hospital, and their sons, Michael, Jeffrey, and Stephen. 

—JIM MANDELARO



**COACH CONNECTION:** A star football player as a student, Parrinello had a long connection to the Yellowjacket football program, including a nine-year stint as head coach.



# Languages, Identity, and Connections

Anansa Benbow '15 documents African American English, part of a new project to capture the linguistic legacy of Black history and culture.

Interview by Karen McCally '02 (PhD)

**There was a lot of language diversity in my family. My mother's family came from Puerto Rico and my dad's family is from Greeleyville, South Carolina.** A lot of the older people in my dad's family have distinct kinds of Southern accents, and my mother's family spoke Spanish and "Spanglish." I also spent a lot of time in New York City, where there are so many languages spoken but also so much linguistic flexibility.

**At Rochester, I started as a brain and cognitive sciences major, but realized what I really loved was language cognition.** I came back after one summer and said to my advisor, "I think I want to do linguistics." When I started taking sociolinguistics, I realized how connected languages are to identity, and I was able to make so many connections from my life to the work.

**I'm part of a team creating the Oxford Dictionary of African American English, which is a joint project of Harvard and Oxford University Press.** There have been other dictionaries of African American English, like glossaries coming out during the Jazz Age, and


then more recent examples from the 1980s and '90s, like *Black Slang* by Clarence Major and *Black Talk* by Geneva Smitherman. The words they included are automatically considered for our dictionary.

**A lot of common words come from African American English. "Cool" and "hip" came out of Black culture during the Jazz Age. And there's "cakewalk."** Its origins are in a tradition that started during enslavement. There were competitions on plantations where Black people would do stylized walks or dances. They were actually mocking the slave owners, who chose the winner and awarded a cake.

**Many people think that African American English is just English with mistakes. But it's a full communicative system, meaning that there's a vocabulary and grammar rules that tell us what to do with that vocabulary.** There's also a pragmatics aspect to it, which gives us information about how to use terms in different contexts. And there's a phonological aspect to it, which means it has its own sound inventory, and those sounds change based on where you're from.

**There's a lot of debate in the linguistics community about the origins of features of African American English common to older varieties of English as well as West African languages.**

But we've unquestionably maintained some words, like "goober," "yam," and "okra," from West African languages.

**It's a common experience to grow up in a Black family where everyone is speaking African American English but still not seeing it as an appropriate way to speak.** When I learned in my linguistics classes that African American English can be considered a language, I went home and told my parents. Being able to share what I've learned with my family has been extremely valuable in terms of educating ourselves about Black history and Black culture. 

## Anansa Benbow '15

Linguist, presenter, podcaster

Lexicographer, Oxford University Press *Dictionary of African American English*

**On language and music, and the late Paul Burgett '68E, '76E (PhD):**

"A lot of terms in African American English come from Black music. I took Dean Burgett's Music of Black Americans and History of Jazz. I really wish I could talk to him about my work. I know he'd be excited. I know he would give me terms from when he was growing up. I think about him every week, just because a term will come up and I'm like, 'Oh, I learned about that with Dean Burgett.'"







# The passion to make a difference

## Creating a legacy for the generations

“Education is a precious gift. We’re passing down a legacy of education to our own family and now to others.”

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**SANJAI BHAGAT '80S (MBA), P'18, P'22**  
**LEENA BHAGAT P'18, P'22**  
Members, Wilson Society  
Members, George Eastman Circle

For nearly half a century, the University of Rochester has played a central role in the lives of the Bhagat family.

Sanjai studied finance at the Simon Business School, which led to a rewarding career as a professor of finance and corporate board member. He and his wife, Leena, raised two sons who also attended Rochester.

Reflecting on their own multi-generational Rochester connections, and the Bhagat family legacy of passion for education, Sanjai and Leena wanted to make an even greater difference. So, they made what's known as a “blended” gift – including a provision in their estate, a current gift to name a room at the School of Medicine and Dentistry in memory of Sanjai's parents, and annual support.



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**COURSE CORRECTION:** Mechanical engineering major Ryan Eamer '23 earns cheers as he takes the lead in a race around the Eastman Quadrangle this spring on a cart powered by an electric drill. Part of the Hajim School's Senior Design Day, the race featured several such "drill carts" built by teams of students as capstone projects to demonstrate their understanding of mechanical engineering concepts and design. PHOTOGRAPH BY J. ADAM FENSTER

