## CLASS NOTES

**1989** Molly O'Donovan Dix (see '87).

1990 Patria Frias-Colon was sworn in as Brooklyn's first elected Dominican-born judge, a milestone that was highlighted by the Brooklyn Daily Eagle (Brooklyneagle.com).... Laura Gelina '94W (MS) (see '87). ... Renee Saunders Gracey (see "Working on the Webb," right).... Mary Ann Cook McLean sends a photo (see page 55) and writes. "The ladies of Fairchild 410, Class of 1990, Alexandra Bodnar, Sumilu Cue, Julie Chang Poist, Sarah Wood Sandler, and I, got together in Fenwick Island, Delaware, in October 2017 to celebrate 27 years (gasp!) since graduation. It was like no time had passed, although we really missed Maria Dario Nizza."

**1992** Stephen Biggar and Liz Asaro-Biggar (see '87)... Amy Frishberg Siegal writes that she has joined Valerie Wilson Travel in New York City as a travel advisor, and, after several years living in Italy, Hong Kong, London, and Tokyo, she's collaborating with the agency to help her clients discover and enjoy the world as she has. She welcomes mail at her new email address, amyf@vwti.com.

**1993 George Molnar** has relocated to Washington, D.C., to lead the PBS WARN Project, providing public alert and warning and emergency communications support through Public Television.

**1995** James (Josh) Link died in January, his father, Troland Link, writes. After graduation, Josh went to the French Culinary Institute and was a chef at the Stagecoach Tavern in Sheffield, Massachusetts.

1997 Atif Sheikh has been elected to the Pennsylvania Humanities Council board of directors. Atif is cofounder and resident curator of the Philadelphia gallery 12Gates Arts, where he curates an annual experimental video arts festival, in addition to several other exhibits, including an ongoing project concerning "alternative narratives of history and exploration of memory through art." After studying computer science and economics at Rochester, Atif earned a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in liberal arts with a focus on nonprofit administration and art history.



TESTING: Several Rochester alumni took part in a series of tests of the James Webb Space Telescope at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston last summer and fall. From left to right are Renee Saunders Gracey '90, Matthew Bergkoetter '17 (PhD), Tom Zielinski '11, Scott Paine (PhD candidate), Alden Jurling '15 (PhD), Kim Mehalick '85, Lee Feinberg '87, Mark Waldman '75, '78 (MS), Joe Howard '00 (PhD), and Garrett West '12, '14 (MS). According to Waldman, participating in the project, but not pictured, are David Aronstein '02 (PhD), Joe Cosentino '14, '15 (MS), John Johnston '93, Conrad Wells '89, '91 (MS), Tony Whitman '88 (MS), and Michael Zarella '13.

## TELESCOPE TEAM Working on the Webb

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's James Webb Space Telescope, under way since 1996, is scheduled to launch in May 2020. When it does, it promises to yield knowledge about the universe that surpasses even what the awe-inspiring images of its predecessor, the Hubble telescope, have shown.

Last summer and fall, several Rochester alumni played roles in a series of tests of some of the key elements of the telescope. The tests took place from July through October at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Writes optical consultant Mark Waldman '75, '78 (MS): "U of R graduates supported the cryo-vacuum testing of the James Webb Space Telescope ... In this test, the Webb's Optical Telescope Element and Integrated Science Instrument Module (OTIS) was placed in the space center's Chamber A, where it was subjected to a simulated space environment, including high vacuum and cryogenic temperatures to 40 Kelvin, for 100 days. The system underwent optical, thermal, and functional testing, which had been planned for over 10 years."

Several Rochester faculty are also prominent among scientists working on the telescope. They include Duncan Moore, the Rudolf and Hilda Kingslake Professor in Optical Engineering Science, who chairs the product integrity board advising NASA on the project; James Fienup, the Robert E. Hopkins Professor of Optics; and professors of physics and astronomy William Forrest and Judith Pipher.

2005 Adam Bink writes: "I'd love to share the news that I bought my first home, a condo in the Pacific Cannery Lofts, a converted building with an award-winning design, in the rapidly growing area of West Oakland." . . . Neil Spitkovsky sends a photo from his wedding. He married Rachel John in October 2017 at the Coney Island Museum in Brooklyn. Pictured from left to right are **Lauren** Kaskey '06, Andrew Newman '06, Jason Thall '06, Neil, Nick Sciretta, Rachel, Nels Youngborg, and Carol Faden Berkow with her baby daughter. Helen.

2006 Marc Perez (see '07).

## 2007 Beth Devine and Marc

Perez '06 were married last October near their home in Napa Valley, Beth writes, "We first met in spring 2004 on the River Campus, during a party between Sigma Delta Tau sorority and Alpha Delta Phi fraternity." Pictured are: (front row, from left) Michael Mastromonaco '05, Bijan Pajoohi '05, Dulip Ratnasoma '05, Jamie Svenson. Alec Immerman '06; (middle row, from left) Leonard Zheleznyak '05, '14 (PhD), Aedan **Coffey, Michelle Potash Brody** '06, Maura McCourt Burton '11N, Brienne Dixon Anderson '06, Keil Anderson '05; (back row, from left) Paul Sonneborn '06, Alexander

Brody '05, Mark Salama '06, Alexander Gustafik '05, '08W (MS), and Francis Liu '05.

**2011 Tom Zielinski** (see "Working on the Webb," above).

**2012** Garrett West '14 (MS) (see "Working on the Webb," above).

## Graduate Arts, sciences & engineering

**1949 Milton Rock** (PhD) died in January in Philadelphia, writes **Rick Shorin** '77, '78S (MBA). The Hay Group, the human resources con-