

*Real-World  
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RESEARCH  
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*Big-City  
Challenges*

THE QUEENS  
AND CLT  
CONNECTION

*Higher  
Education*

A NEW  
VISION FOR  
CHARLOTTE

# QUEENS

MAGAZINE | WINTER 2020

*Unity in Art*

NEW CAMPUS  
MURAL ENGAGES  
COMMUNITY





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#### PROCEEDING WITH HONOR

*On move-in day, as part of a longstanding Queens tradition, incoming students sign the non ministrari sed ministrare pledge. Here, led by a bagpiper, students make their way to Myers Park Baptist Church chapel. With gold pens in hand, they vowed to uphold Queens' values: trust, honor, respect and integrity.*

**ON THE COVER:** Professor Mike Wirth and his Arts in Action students collaborated with professional and local artists to create a new campus mural to celebrate diversity and unity. "We've forgotten how to talk to each other across race and culture," Wirth said. He hopes the mural will connect the Queens community and beyond. See page 26.

*Cover photo: Michael O'Neill*

# UNDER *the* OAKS



## From the President

*Dear Alumni and Friends,*

Thank you for all you have done to welcome me and my family to Queens. I'm amazed by this wonderful community that works so hard in service of our university, and deeply grateful for the significant number of you who planned and attended a series of inauguration events including a community day of service, a panel discussion with five college presidents that aired live on WFAE, and an installation ceremony that featured alumni from every year back to 1945.

I am energized by the opportunity to lead a university with a promising future. On almost a daily basis, I encounter students, faculty and staff leading programs, conducting research, and achieving excellence in so many incredible ways. This is a big part of the reason why I am confident that Queens is poised to be a national leader in higher education. You can see a few examples of excellence in this wonderful edition of our magazine—an alumna writing for a national audience, a business professor turned best-selling author, and an athletic department garnering national recognition for its performance both on the field and in the classroom.

You will also find compelling evidence of our robust partnership with the city of Charlotte. One story tells of our political science class that conducted immigration research project which is now informing policy for the city. Another is about some of the city's pressing issues - like the shortage of workers in the data and computation field, and the economic mobility crisis. Queens can be an instrumental partner in tackling these issues in a way that mutually benefits our city and our students. I am calling on our community to think creatively and boldly on how we do this.

Many of you have already shared your ideas and input. Please keep them coming! We will be better because of your diverse input and our shared vision. I look forward to writing our next chapter together.

Warmest Regards,

Daniel G. Lugo  
President

## Did You Know?

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO ADMISSION



Students are more than their standardized test scores. That's why Queens recently announced its move to become a test-optional institution. The move means that prospective students may choose whether or not to submit their ACT or SAT scores for admission consideration.

Test-optional admission dates back 50 years, when Bowdoin College in Maine introduced the concept, and has spread over the last decade to include more than 1,000 accredited colleges and universities, including the University of Chicago and Wake Forest University. Queens' decision to become test-optional came after a thorough investigation of market research and conversation among university leaders.

"Becoming test-optional enables Queens to create another pathway of entry to an increasingly diverse student body," said Jen Johnson, vice president of enrollment management and marketing at Queens. "Extensive research has found that standardized tests favor students from higher socioeconomic backgrounds because they can afford test preparatory courses and can take the tests multiple times. We are striving to eliminate any disadvantage to students without these resources."

Queens takes a holistic evaluation approach by looking at a range of criteria, including classroom performance, essays, teacher recommendations, high school curriculum and extracurricular activities. Students still will be able to submit test scores for consideration if they choose. The new policy will take effect for students applying for fall 2020.

—Danielle Phillips '13, MS '18

# On My Nightstand

BY CAROLYN RADCLIFF

My mother was a voracious reader with a huge collection of paperback mysteries, so as a teen I developed a fondness for Dorothy Sayers, Margery Allingham and other mystery writers. Today I seek out books with characters, settings and points of view that are less familiar and more interesting.

I thrive on recommendations from friends, President Obama's annual reading lists and even Twitter. *The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate*, by Peter Wohlleben, which is currently in my virtual to-read pile, came to me from a friend.

Obama's reading lists have led me to *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan, a work of historical fiction depicting a remarkable escape from slavery and subsequent life adventures. I also discovered Tayari Jones's *An American Marriage*, a painful story of injustice and resilience in the New South.

From Twitter discussions, I learned about Nnedi Okorafor's *Who Fears Death*, a masterpiece of African futurism, and Blair Braverman's *Welcome to the Goddamn Ice Cube*, which is about a young woman's journey from her California upbringing to Norway, the Arctic, and ultimately the famed Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Community-wide book clubs draw my attention, too, and last year I read



and appreciated Angie Thomas's *The Hate U Give*, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library's Community Read.

I will fill in reading gaps by turning to works like *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, which I recently read. Now of course a classic, this book was criticized by James Baldwin and others when it was published. To say that Hurston was improperly appreciated in her lifetime is an understatement. The story of her rediscovery by Alice Walker and others is fascinating.

Another classic I read last summer is Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Beloved*, which is riveting and disturbing, and delivers a punch to the gut. Morrison's recent passing is a loss for us all.

In my to-read pile (meaning they are on my "shelf" in the Libby app on my phone): Luis Alberto Urrea's *House of Broken Angels*, *Men Without Women* by Haruki Murakami, *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett, and, for a change of pace, *Dare to Lead* by Brené Brown.

—Carolyn Radcliff joined Queens as the director of the Everett Library in July 2019. Prior to arriving in Charlotte, she was a librarian and administrator at Chapman University in California and at Kent State University in Ohio. She co-owns a business, Carrick Enterprises, and she has published and presented frequently on the topics of information literacy and assessment.

# Remember When

A MERRY FEAST: THE BOAR'S HEAD BANQUET TRADITION



Photo courtesy of Everett Library, Queens University Archives

Christmas feasts in the great houses of medieval England began with a boar's head, a tradition that continues at Queens University of Charlotte and The Queens' College in Oxford, England. According to legend, 500 years ago, a student was walking on the grounds while reading his volume of Aristotle when he was attacked by a wild boar. The student saved himself by shoving his book down the animal's throat. The moral of the story: books and education are life's strongest defense.

Queens has celebrated the *Boar's Head Banquet* in Morrison Hall since 1933. At the annual occasion, a trumpet fanfare announces the Boar's Head procession. A stately parade includes a candle-bearer, the reader of the Boar's Head scroll, and the bearer of the boar's head itself. They process to Queens' choir singing the same Latin carol used at The Queens' College in Oxford. When the procession reaches the center of the dining room, the Boar's Head legend is read, and the university president accepts it with the words: "Let the merriment and feasting reign in the hall!"

—Adelaide Anderson Davis '61



## KNOCKING IT OUT OF THE PARK

President Dan Lugo threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Charlotte Knights baseball game in August. Joining Lugo on the mound were former Major League Baseball players and Queens' baseball coaches Jack McDowell and Alan Cockrell. McDowell, Queens' head coach and Cy Young Award winner, pitched

for the Chicago White Sox, New York Yankees, Cleveland Indians and Anaheim Angels. Cockrell, Queens' assistant coach, most recently served as a hitting coach for the Yankees.

The Royals begin their 2020 season, the second year of NCAA Division II baseball at Queens, in early February.

## UNDER *the* OAKS

# Office Hours

WITH BOB WHALEN, PhD

*History Professor*

Some have called his office a time machine. A visit inside the Watkins Hall office of Queens' Carolyn G. and Sam H. McMahon, Jr. Professor of History Bob Whalen, PhD, reveals a treasure trove of books, artifacts and memorabilia that harken back to history's vital lessons.

The Georgetown and Cornell alumnus came to Queens in 1983. "I got here when it was Queens College," he said, "and since then, it has gone co-ed, the physical plant has dramatically changed and the academic programming has expanded exponentially."

The beloved professor has built his collection throughout his nearly four decades on the Myers Park campus. "I am not a hoarder, but you never know when something will be historically interesting," he laughed.

Whalen's quick wit and ready sense of humor offer a welcome contrast to history's darker chapters, some of which are showcased throughout his office.

### 1. FORGED IN STEEL

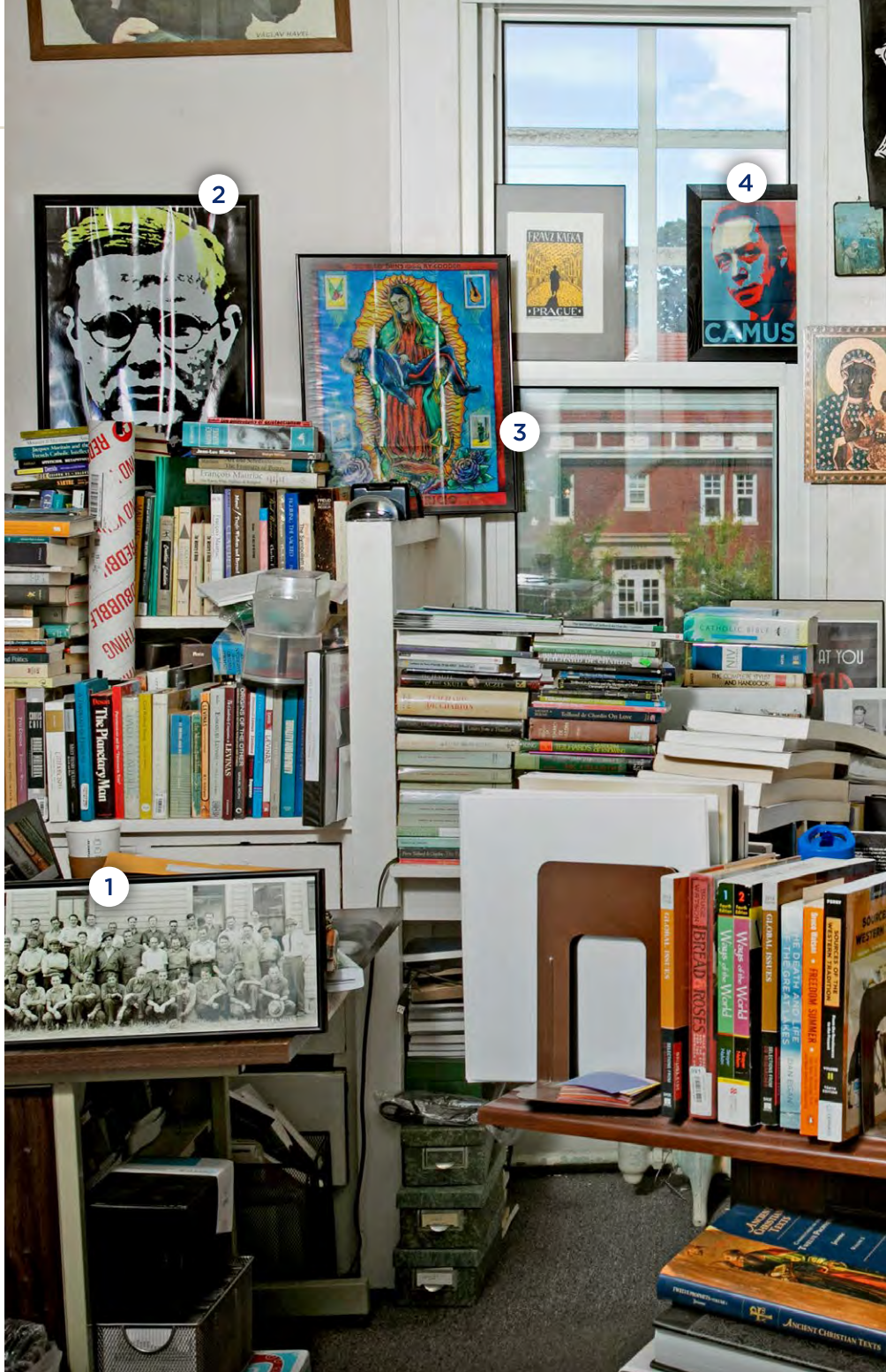
The journey begins with a 1941 picture of Whalen's 20-something father, donning a tilted hat, surrounded by his fellow steel workers in Lockport, New York. The then-bachelor's jaunty attitude, said Whalen, "reminds me, don't get above your raisin' or forget your roots."

### 2. FACE OF COURAGE

Straight ahead is a poster of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German pastor and theologian who was killed because of his opposition to Nazism. Whalen, who teaches specialized courses on Nazi Germany and has written two books on this era, regards Bonhoeffer as a true hero. He cites a quote from the resistance leader: "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."

### 3. HOUR OF NEED

In the corner is an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe cradling a soldier in her arms. The San Patricios, a unit of Irish immigrants, changed sides and fought on behalf of Mexico during the Mexican-American War, in part because of shared religious beliefs.



### 4. USE YOUR WORDS

Albert Camus's gaze cannot be missed. The philosopher, author, journalist and World War II French Resistance fighter stares out from a nearby poster. Whalen admires people like Camus, who once said, "Now the only moral value is courage, which is useful here for judging the puppets and chatterboxes who pretend to speak in the name of the people."

### 5. AHOY, MATEY!

The pirate flag flying boldly on the wall behind Whalen's desk is a tribute to his three children: James, 26; Julia, 22; and Cecilia, 19. The proud symbol flew over the family treehouse for a decade before the structure fell into disrepair. Today it is a reminder of family adventures.

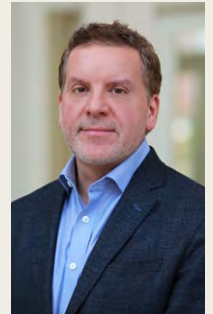


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7

6

## UNDER *the* OAKS



### CROSSROADS MOMENTS

When business professor William Sparks was a 20-something master's student, his advisor once told him that he had earned top marks on a thesis project but was failing at life. The moment transformed Sparks from a self-described “brash, arrogant” person to someone who not only discovered but began to embrace his weaknesses. The frank feedback transformed his life.

“We can never achieve our highest potential by pretending to be perfect,” said Sparks. “Instead we have to embrace what founder of analytical psychology Carl Jung called our ‘shadow’ side—negative qualities like fear of failure or rejection that we hide from others and ourselves. If we deny them, we find ourselves in a never-ending battle that cannot be won.”

Inflection points like these can be a catalyst for positive change. Just ask Cathy Bessant, chief operations and technology officer of Bank of America; Ally Financial chief executive officer Jeff Brown; or Hugh McColl, former chairman and chief executive officer of Bank of America.

Each of these great leaders has experienced a crossroads moment—a time that required strong self-reflection before they could achieve their highest potential, and they’re all part of Amazon No. 1 best-seller *Actualized Leadership*, written by William Sparks, PhD, the Dennis Thompson Chair and professor of leadership at Queens McColl School of Business.

The best-selling author and founder of the Queens Master of Science in Organization Development (MSOD), smiles wryly as he describes the humbling origin of the book, which today has been translated into nine languages. “I think the wisdom of such respected leaders is what makes it resonate,” Sparks said. “My hope is that it will inspire people to a new quality of life.”

### 6. KINDRED SPIRITS

In 1847, after walking the Trail of Tears, the Choctaw nation raised funds for the starving poor in Ireland. Their generosity created an enduring friendship between the two nations. The image of the steel sculpture in County Cork, Ireland, commemorates that unique friendship and is a nod to the professor’s Irish heritage.

### 7. HOPE LIVES

From a poster Whalen found at the Jewish Museum of Vienna, Franz Kafka watches over Whalen’s desk. “Kafka is one of my favorite writers, but he endured some really rough stuff,” he said.

—Dorothy Lineberger

# ROYAL *spotlight*



## Best-Kept Secret No More

QUEENS EXEMPLIFIES THE POWERFUL MARRIAGE OF ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS

*By Dorothy Lineberger*

Power plus brains: it is a hallmark of Queens University of Charlotte's athletics, and one that is sought after and recognized nationwide.

In the contemporary college sports arena, where critics often argue that athletics and academics are inherently incompatible and that the term "student athlete" is a misnomer, Queens has proven that the opposite is true.

Just walk into any classroom on Queens' campus or visit a Royals arena, and it is clear why the academic and competitive performance of Queens' athletes continues to achieve national recognition.

"Here at Queens, students don't have to choose between their sport and their studies," said Cherie Swarouth, Queens' director of athletics. "We have created a place where they can excel at both."

Queens' student athletes won a top-three national ranking in academic achievement for 2018-19 from the Division II Athletics Directors Association. In addition, they broke records with a top-10 performance ranking among more than 300 NCAA Division II schools for the fourth straight year. Queens is one of only three colleges nationally to achieve the distinction.

Academically Queens finished third out of 312 Division II schools, with 149 athletes achieving a 3.5 grade point average





or above. This was matched by a fourth place performance ranking in the Division II Learfield Cup and a top-10 finish for four consecutive years.

The Learfield Cup recognizes outstanding performance in NCAA championship competition across all sports. The only other schools who have matched Queens' level of distinction are the University of California San Diego, a national research university with more than 38,000 students, and Grand Valley State University in Michigan, with more than 25,000 students.

James Bullock, the vice president for university advancement and athletics at Queens, said, "Queens has achieved recognition as a university where academics and athletics not only coexist, but thrive. We attribute this to our athletes who believe that Queens is a place where learning is a privilege, competing is an honor, and winning is a tradition. These are individuals who personify the term student athlete, and we congratulate them on their achievements."

## LIVING OUT YES/AND

Academic achievement. High-level athletic competition. Professional internships. Study abroad. Community engagement. Each aspect of a holistic college experience is available to athletes who compete for Queens on its 31 teams. Since less than 2 percent of all NCAA student-athletes become professional athletes, Queens ensures that its undergrads are equipped to meet and exceed the challenges of post-college life. What does *Yes/And* look like?

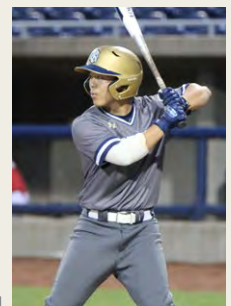


### Taylor Hunkele '20

The 2018-19 Queens female scholar-athlete of the year, Hunkele has an overall 3.99 GPA and helped lead the women's soccer team to the NCAA Championships for the first time in more than a decade. All that, while interning at Wells Fargo and serving alongside her team at Loaves and Fishes and Habitat for Humanity. In May, she begins a fulltime role in Wells Fargo's leadership training program. What is the best thing about her Queens experience? "I've been able to play athletics at the highest level, network with an incredible number of people in the business community, and enjoy the fruits of a large city. Queens has given me a unique advantage," she said.

### Griffin Hughes '22

Speed, instinct and quickness are vital for Hughes' role as a centerfielder on Queens' baseball team. They also serve him well academically. Thanks to his time management skills, the presidential scholar has a 4.0 GPA and enjoys helping as a weekly reading buddy with a Myers Park Traditional School



second grader. The business administration major is looking forward to working as an international marketing analyst when Queens students head to Tokyo to intern in the 2020 Summer Olympics. "You never know when you will play your last inning. That's why the marriage of academics and athletics was such a draw for me," he said, "Queens gives us the ability to live out our dream with the sport we love and surrounds us with great professors and supportive coaches."

HUNTER-HAMILTON  
**LOVE**  
OF TEACHING AWARD

*“It’s the recognition by former students that makes the Hunter-Hamilton award so precious to those of us who love to teach.”*

*—2015-2016 Hunter-Hamilton winner  
Michele Shaul, professor of Spanish*

Nominate the professor who changed your life, who challenged you, and who celebrated right alongside you at Commencement. Tell them and the world that their teaching inspired you then—and still resonates today.

Send letters of nomination to [awards.hamilton@queens.edu](mailto:awards.hamilton@queens.edu) or submit online at [queens.edu/Hunter-Hamilton](http://queens.edu/Hunter-Hamilton) by March 1. Please include your class year.

## Sed Min: A Continued Commitment to Serve

KEVIN CHEGE '13 SHARES  
HOW QUEENS' EMPHASIS  
ON SERVICE HELPED  
CHART HIS CAREER PATH



*As the service learning coordinator at Central Piedmont Community College, Kevin Chege '13 continues the path of service he honed at Queens.*

When Kevin Chege was a young boy, his father shared with him an African proverb: “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” Today he cites it—and his time at Queens—as a cornerstone for his dedication to service.

After a desk job left him feeling unfulfilled, Chege applied to City Year, a nonprofit that places AmeriCorps members into high-need schools. This led to a new adventure in Miami, Florida, working as an algebra teacher and facilitating intervention plans for low-performing students. “It was a challenge, but we learn more in our chaos zone than our comfort zone,” he said. “My job usually wasn’t comfortable or easy, but I knew it was helping me grow.”

His desire to serve in higher education also grew, so when a position at Central Piedmont Community College opened, he quickly applied. In his role as service-learning coordinator, Chege is responsible for building relationships with local nonprofits and helping students get plugged into service opportunities. “At Queens, I remember waking up to go do a service project on [Martin Luther King, Jr. Day] of Service, and now I’m running those days of service,” he said. “As a college student, I could have never predicted how those days would impact my future.”

Reflecting on what has driven him to serve in educational settings, Chege refers to one of his favorite quotes by writer and social activist James Baldwin, who said, “These are all our children. We will profit by, or pay for, whatever they become. We must educate them. It begins with our children.” From creating voter registration campaigns to volunteering alongside students in the community, Chege says it’s all about social responsibility. “I see service as the most direct path to a better society; it’s like the connective tissue that ties us all together, and it begins with educating the next generation.”

*—Danielle Phillips '13, MS '18*

### THE FACE OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



Navigator. Bridge builder. Architect. These terms all have been used to describe María del Carmen Flores-Mills, Queens’ new vice president of student engagement and dean of students. During her two-decade career as a student advocate and engagement leader at universities like Princeton, Franklin & Marshall and Colgate, Flores-Mills has developed a strong reputation for

improving student experience and fostering an appreciation for diversity, equity and inclusion. The inclusive, engaged college communities she has helped build have proven vital to attracting and retaining students, and ensuring their transition into energized advocates and alumni.

### A FRESH LOOK AT DATA AND TECH



With a national reputation for working at Carleton, Colby and Reed colleges and consulting with other higher education institutions as a data scientist and co-founder of Third Coast Analytics, Rich Majerus recognized data’s rise as one of the world’s most valuable currencies. Today Majerus, Queens’ new vice president of strategy and planning,

is leveraging his data-informed, decision-making expertise to further the university’s technology transformation and enhance its overall efficiency. A key goal: applying the critical thinking skills of Queens students to tackle challenges like Charlotte’s tech talent shortage.



(Left to right) The legendary Cousteau family shares the importance of underwater ecosystems at Queens this March in honor of Earth Day. Actor's Theatre of Charlotte's *The Cost of Living* examines privilege and human connection at Hadley Theater. As a grand opening to Queens' Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts and Civic Engagement, actress and singer Sutton Foster takes the stage with *Broadway* and songbook standards this February.

# Happening Here

## SPRING 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

### LECTURES

#### World within Worlds within Worlds:

##### **A Brief Introduction to Contemporary Comics Studies**

January 14, 7 p.m., Ketner Auditorium, Sykes Learning Center  
Learn about the emerging field of comics studies at this lecture featuring Craig Fischer, comic studies scholar and professor of English at Appalachian State University.

##### **The Learning Society: An Evening with The Cousteaus**

March 17, 7 p.m., Belk Theater

Deepen your understanding of Earth Day on its 50th anniversary. This legendary family of ocean explorers will discuss the whys and hows of preserving the underwater ecosystems that are so intricately tied to all life on earth. *Tickets at carolinatix.org*

### THEATER

##### **Actor's Theatre of Charlotte: *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill***

January 16 – February 8, times vary, Hadley Theater

Step back in time to Philadelphia, 1959. The setting: Billie Holiday's last performance. Experience this riveting portrayal of the lady and her music mere months before her death. *Tickets at atcharlotte.org*

##### **Actor's Theatre of Charlotte: *Cost of Living***

February 27 – March 21, times vary, Hadley Theater

Examine privilege and human connection through two pairs of mismatched individuals: a former trucker and his recently paralyzed ex-wife; and an arrogant young man with cerebral palsy and his new caregiver. *Tickets at atcharlotte.org*

### AUTHOR

#### **Friends of the Library: Book and Author Luncheon**

March 3, 11:30 a.m., Morrison Hall

Meet authors Kate Quinn and Bruce Holsinger at the annual Book & Author event. Quinn is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of historical fiction, and Holsinger teaches at the University of Virginia and is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship. *The Gifted School* is his third novel.

### ART EXHIBIT

#### **The Marginalia Archive**

February 20 – April, hours vary, Bank of America and Loevner galleries, Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts and Civic Engagement

Browse and contribute to alumna Molly Springfield's *The Marginalia Archive*, an interactive installation examining relationships between readers and texts. The exhibit focuses on contemporary examples of marginalia (reader's annotations), which have been collected into a functioning archive.

### MUSIC

#### **An Evening with Sutton Foster**

February 20, 7:30 p.m., Sandra Levine Theatre, Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts and Civic Engagement

Celebrate the grand opening of the Sarah Belk Gambrell Center. Award-winning actress and singer Sutton Foster will perform Broadway selections from her many roles, plus popular standards. *Tickets at arts.queens.edu*

#### **Philharmonix: The Vienna Berlin Music Club**

April 17, 7:30 p.m., Sandra Levine Theatre, Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts and Civic Engagement

Enjoy this musical ensemble's lively mix of classical, jazz, klezmer, Latin and pop music "with a dash of pure musical passion." *Tickets at arts.queens.edu*

All events are open to the public and, unless otherwise noted, free of charge. For updates and additional events, please visit [calendar.queens.edu](http://calendar.queens.edu).

QUEENS  
UNIVERSITY  
CHAMPAGNE



## ***A Solemn Oath***

On Friday, October 18, nearly 2,000 students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Queens gathered to celebrate the inauguration of Daniel G. Lugo, the university's 21st president. The university's historic seal, blue and gold colors, and festive music added to the ceremony, which was held on campus in the Levine Center for Wellness and Recreation. The installation capped a week of other university-hosted events aimed at uniting and engaging the Queens community. See more at [queens.edu/inauguration](https://queens.edu/inauguration).

EENS  
ERSITY  
of  
RLOTTE



# Strengthening QUEENS



# The New Trexler Experience

TREXLER STUDENT CENTER ALWAYS HAS BEEN A PLACE TO TURN TO FOR COMMUNITY AND A GREAT MEAL. NOW, THANKS TO AN EXCITING PARTNERSHIP WITH CHARTWELLS, THE EXPERIENCE IS BETTER THAN EVER

By *Eric Butterman*

Sit down and stay a while. That was one of the primary goals of the newly renovated Trexler Student Center, which received a facelift last summer. With a nod to the food hall movement in Charlotte—Optimist Hall, just northeast of uptown, for one—Trexler has taken on a transformation that offers students, alumni and the community versatility and a reason to stay.

“For a number of years, our kitchen was just where food was prepared,” said Matt Packey, chief financial officer and vice president for administration at Queens. “You prepare hundreds of meals a day and have various catered events, but the kitchen was built fifteen years ago, with a student body in mind that’s much smaller than we have now.”

The cafeteria-style setup also made it more difficult for diners simply to hang out.

Originally the renovation team looked into building the new space behind the kitchen. But when they went to Queens’ dining vendor, Chartwells, they had something else in mind. “We asked Chartwells to help design the space, and they liked the idea,” Packey said, “and they recommended that we actually expand on the front instead, for more openness.”

It proved to be just the ticket, creating a space students—and the community—have flocked to since opening day last summer. Gates now close when serving for the evening is done, giving students—and the public—access to a comfortable seating area.

The four eateries run the gamut from sit-down to grab-and-go. Neapolitan-style offerings are a hit at QC Pizzeria. Royal Bistro is popular for made-to-order foods, like tacos or a bibimbap rice bowl, with a rotating hot bar. For burgers, chicken tenders, milkshakes and more, MecklenBurger is the choice.

“Before, you would just walk in and simply see a hallway with an entrance to the dining hall and another to the bookstore,” said Danielle Phillips, alumni communications and campaign manager. “Now you’re immersed with open options, a pizza oven from Italy to your left, Miss Betty’s Marketplace to your right, and more.”

If Miss Betty sounds familiar, the market, known for its hand-crafted sandwiches, salad bar and soups, is named for the beloved dining service worker, Betty Davis.

More than 300 alumni donated over \$12,000 in Miss Betty’s name. “She’s been a fixture for more than 50 years, referring to students as her babies,” Phillips said. “They responded to that love, and it’s not a surprise!”

Now that the transformation is complete, you’ll find students studying, faculty grabbing coffee and hosting meetings, and members of the community enjoying the serenity of the Queens setting. Trexler is a new destination of choice.



## A LEGACY CONTINUED

Longtime Queens University of Charlotte Trustee Mary Anne “M.A.” Boldrick Rogers committed \$1 million to endow the James E. Rogers Undergraduate Student Research and Creative Work Fund in memory of her late husband, Jim, former chairman and chief executive officer of Duke Energy. With it, she committed \$600,000 to endow the Mary Anne Rogers Presidential Scholarship Fund, which Jim originally established in her honor. Several years ago, the couple made the naming gift of \$4 million for The James E. and Mary Anne Rogers Science and Health Building. Queens is grateful for the Rogers’ unwavering support.



# QUEEN'S CITY

*CHARLOTTE IS ON THE RISE, FACING MANY BIG-CITY CHALLENGES. FROM ECONOMIC MOBILITY TO A TECH TALENT SHORTAGE, HOW IS QUEENS WORKING TO PRESENT SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF CHARLOTTE'S MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS?*

*By Michelle Boudin*





Charlotte doesn't like coming in last. An aspirational, growing city—the 16th largest city in the country—Charlotte reacted with shock when a 2014 study ranked the city's economic mobility last from a list of America's 50 largest cities. That means for a child born in poverty in the Queen City, it is harder to rise out of poverty than in any other large city in the country.

Yet from a positive standpoint, Charlotte ranked in the top 20 places to live in the country in 2019, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. And one of the major selling points for Queens' recruitment is its location, just a stone's throw from one of America's most attractive metropolitan areas.

Queens President Daniel Lugo said, "We live in one of the nation's fastest growing cities and economies, even as we confront the persistent and complex challenge of generating accessible and equitable socioeconomic systems. I've been excited to hear that this is a community that tackles challenges. We want to be part of those solutions."

To do so, since starting at Queens, Lugo has met with Charlotte city leaders, journalists, banking executives, technology entrepreneurs, and more, to understand how the school can best align itself with the city that surrounds it. “Queens has an opportunity to be a co-designer, policy maker and architect of an even more equitable Charlotte,” Lugo said, “... where our faculty and students can use applied research to test and develop social, educational and business interventions that spur healthy economic mobility for communities that have been too long left behind in Charlotte.”

One initiative already well on its way is Digital Charlotte, a collaborative project led by Queens Knight School of Communication, that creates new and nationally recognized approaches to addressing the digital divide and promoting digital inclusion. “It is chipping away at the exclusionary firewalls created by poor access to high speed internet,” said Lugo. In parts

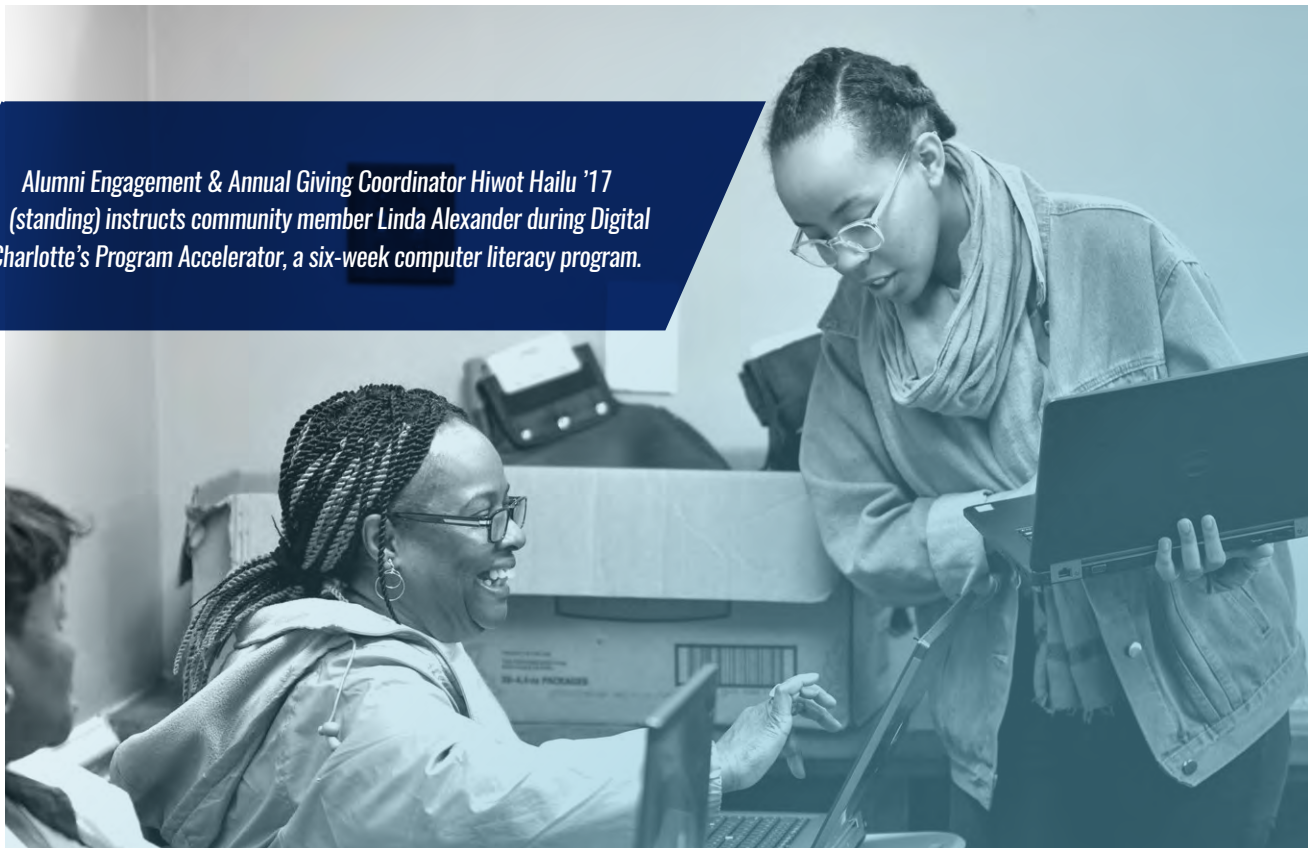
of Charlotte, 40 to 60 percent of the neighborhood still has no internet access.

“We think about the youth in that community, and in our modern economy, they’re at a real disadvantage,” said Bruce Clark, who works at Queens as executive director of Digital Charlotte. “We play a big role in helping create a community here that can help address those challenges.”

Lugo thinks this is a good first step. “Right now we have far too many students and young people and communities that are on the underserved side of access to high speed internet-available resources,” said Lugo. Providing education and access to technology is one way Queens can help solve the economic mobility crisis.

Not only that, but President Lugo has challenged the Queens community to think about how to prepare

*Alumni Engagement & Annual Giving Coordinator Hiwot Hailu '17 (standing) instructs community member Linda Alexander during Digital Charlotte's Program Accelerator, a six-week computer literacy program.*





*Queens President Daniel Lugo meets with Charlotte Regional Business Alliance President and Chief Executive Officer Janet LaBar to discuss Charlotte's tech workforce and economic mobility.*

graduates for careers and the growing need for skills in computation and data. “As our economy continues to be fueled by net migration of population, questions persist about Charlotte’s ability to generate and re-skill its workforce for the far more technical, computational and data-oriented careers that are required for a 21st century workforce,” Lugo said.

These kinds of active conversations around economic mobility and access are what attracted Janet LaBar, the new president and chief executive officer of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, to Charlotte. LaBar noted that economic development is a team sport, and Queens is an important player in the

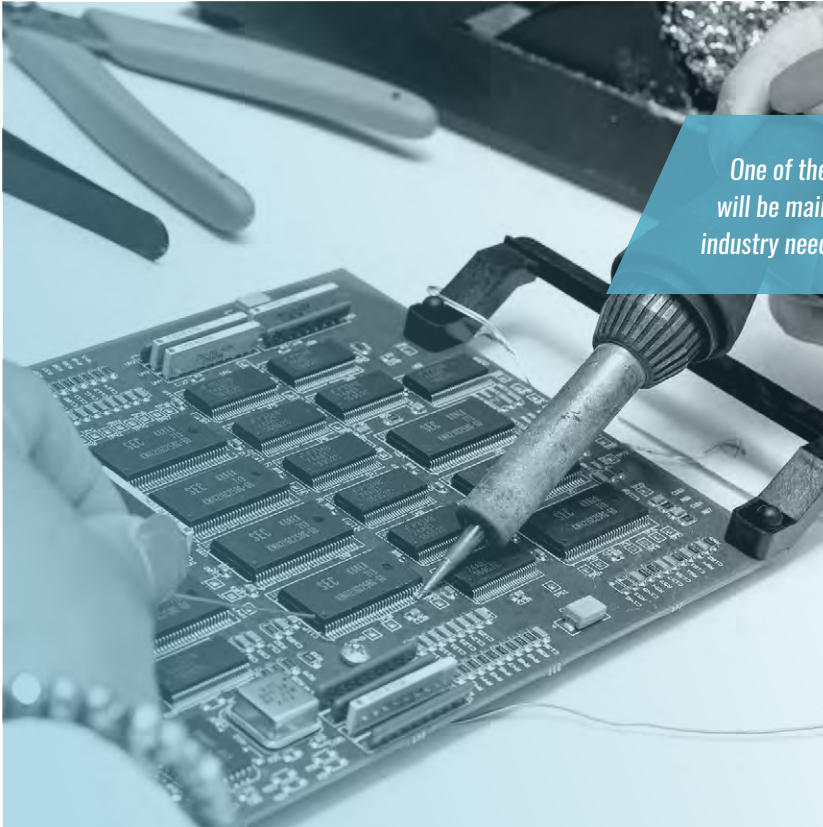
Charlotte community—especially when it comes to helping build the kind of workforce she knows many companies seek.

“One of our greatest challenges as a region will be to ensure we can deliver on qualified talent to meet business and industry needs. We must be able to both attract and grow a highly educated and skilled workforce,” LaBar said.

During a recent conversation, LaBar pointed to Amazon’s decision in 2018 to pass on building in Charlotte, in part because the online giant’s leaders worried that there wasn’t enough qualified talent in technology in the area. LaBar

**“WE HAVE TO BE A PART OF ADDRESSING THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.”**

*–Daniel Lugo, Queens President*



*One of the Charlotte region's greatest future challenges will be maintaining and growing a workforce to support industry needs.*

**“CHARLOTTE IS ON FIRE... QUEENS HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE A BIG, BIG PART OF THAT STORY.”**

countered that disappointment with what they call a “big win”—Low’s decision to build a tech hub in the South End neighborhood. That move brings with it 2,000 new jobs.

“We talk a lot about Charlotte as a place to do business,” LaBar said, “... talent will be a differentiator for any market [that] wants to compete for more investment from a company. Queens University is going to be part of how we tell that narrative and how we show companies that we’ve got the best available, ready, skilled, educated talent.”

“Queens is well positioned to grow in national recognition and to become an even greater partner with the Charlotte community,” Lugo said. Tapping into and working with that community, and

producing top-notch graduates with liberal arts skills, who can be successful in many fields, including technology, is how he’ll work to align Queens with the future success of the Queen City.

LaBar said, “Queens University has scored with Dan at the helm. I’m excited for the energy and passion he’s bringing to Charlotte and know his leadership will serve the university and our region well.”

Lugo thinks Queens is poised and ready for the challenges ahead. He said, “Charlotte is on fire. It has just really been transforming itself year over year as being an incredible destination for talent of every kind. Queens has an opportunity to be a big, big part of that story.” ■



# A NEW VISION *of* HIGHER EDUCATION

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*Partnering for Charlotte: Modeling for the Nation*

*By Dorothy Lineberger*





## A COMPELLING VISION. AN UNPRECEDENTED MEETING OF THE MINDS.

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On a recent evening in Belk Chapel, Queens University of Charlotte President Daniel G. Lugo welcomed his peers to discuss a new vision of higher education for Charlotte, one of the nation's fastest growing cities.

Nearly 500 people were present at the higher education summit, held in Belk Chapel and co-hosted with the local NPR affiliate, which reached more than 200,000 listeners with its broadcast. Why would the topic of higher education command this kind of attention?

As Sarah Fatherly, Queens' provost and vice president of academic affairs, said as she welcomed the audience, "Many of us remember the wakeup call we received when Amazon said our city's higher education system needed some work. That challenge is a big part of why we are here, and a key reason why Queens' new president had the idea for this event."

During the Amazon headquarters search in 2018, Charlotte learned it would not advance beyond the top 25 finalists. One reason cited was the need for a stronger higher education ecosystem. For a feisty, self-made city like Charlotte, those were "fighting words," worthy of a call to action.

Lugo heard mentions of this challenge repeatedly during his interview process and again after his presidency began, during discussions with everyone from donors to members of the media and community leaders. His conclusion: “Charlotte is having a good-to-great moment, and now is the time to capitalize on the growth of the city and build the higher education sector. At Queens, we want to be a catalyst and help build the alliance between these colleges and universities in a way that will benefit the city and the region. This forum is the first step in that direction,” he said.

Panelists for *The Future of Higher Education: A Presidential Forum* included Lugo and Clarence D. Armbrister, president of Johnson C. Smith University; Kandi Deitemeyer, president of Central Piedmont Community College; chancellor of UNC Charlotte, Philip L. Dubois; and Carol Quillen, president of Davidson College.

Queens’ 21st president said he is striving to spearhead partnership among peers in this space because of the collective positive impact higher education can have on the community and economy. The goal: teaming the city and educational system in a way that it is a model for the nation.

During the event, CPCC President Deitemeyer affirmed the initiative saying, “This is the first time in my 29-year career that I have been part of a landscape conversation ... it is essential given how the marketplace has changed.

Lugo agreed, “Having a group of this caliber collaborating to strengthen Charlotte’s higher education holistically is not only unique for the city, but distinctive nationally. We see Charlotte modeling a ‘new normal’ for the higher education ecosphere, thanks to partnership from each key segment: national liberal arts, public university, community college, historically black colleges and universities, and private university in an urban setting.”

The panel discussion, moderated by *Charlotte Talks* host Mike Collins, ranged from broader higher education issues like affordability and demographics to bridging the need/skill gap and addressing the unique challenges and opportunities that face Charlotte’s colleges and universities.

The group agreed that affordability is a national challenge. Davidson President Quillen said, “It is essential to view higher education as a public good. If we believe higher education is an important thing to invest in ... not just for your own children, but for the next generation, then it is a shared issue that we all have to address.” She added that having a collective conversation about the increasing range of highly differentiated, post-secondary options which serve diverse populations, is essential for Charlotte and the nation as a whole.

Lugo built on Quillen’s statement, adding, “Affordability drives choice, and it is equally challenging whether you are a private or a public university. And that’s where government funding, fundraising from private sources, and overall efficiency comes into play, but one thing that should be remembered is that there is affordability and there is value. The latter is a vital distinction.”

UNCC President Dubois explained why. “Not only is there a public good to what we do, there’s immense private benefit. If you have a college degree, or at least some college, you’re going to have higher lifetime earnings. You’re more likely to be employed. You’re less likely to be laid off. You’re less likely to be on social

“HAVING A GROUP OF THIS CALIBER COLLABORATING TO STRENGTHEN CHARLOTTE’S HIGHER EDUCATION HOLISTICALLY IS NOT ONLY UNIQUE FOR THE CITY, BUT DISTINCTIVE NATIONALLY.”





Growing Charlotte's higher education presence and fueling the city's growth was a topic that resonated with the capacity crowd. Ashli White '19 asks the expert panel a follow-up question.

welfare. You're less likely to get in trouble with the law. You're more likely to vote, and you're more likely to be philanthropic in your community. That's an immense set of benefits that make the dollars spent very worth it," he said.

The panelists agreed. "The twenty-first century economy demands that we fuel students and graduates who can function, thrive in, and help drive the economy," said Lugo, and that is why it is essential for higher education, especially in Charlotte "to scale up and partner with business." He added, "Our community needs us to be problem solvers ... to think ahead about the necessary dynamics, to determine what is essential, and to develop the necessary capacity."

It's a challenge that the group is ready to accept. "We are being called to a new scope of work," said Deitemeyer. "This is the difference between change management and change leadership." Nodding

in agreement, JCSU President Armbrister said, "I am really excited about this opportunity. We are partners in so many ways and we really have more in common than we do differences."

Lugo summed up the discussion with these words, "The Charlotte higher education ecosystem has such quality players, but in order to keep up with the growth of this particular region, we have to figure out how to work together.

"We need to roll up our sleeves and think creatively about joint degrees. We've got to determine how to broaden access to our incredibly proven national community college system and strengthen the on-ramps for our four-year degree system. We have to become even more efficient. Working together, we can grow Charlotte's higher education presence, fuel the city's growth, and model how much better we can be collectively rather than individually." ■



# WELCOME OPPORTUNITY

A Queens student-faculty research project helps  
shape citywide immigration policy

*By Jodie Valade*

**W**hen Queens students Rebecca Carlo and Danielle Trujillo Sandoval took a seminar on immigration last spring, they didn't anticipate that they might be gathering information that, one day, would inform policies for the city of Charlotte.

But one student-faculty research project later, Carlo and Sandoval have two things under their belts—data that reflects Charlotte's attitudes on immigration and a presentation to city officials that showcased, among other points, that Charlotte is an overall welcoming city for immigrants.

The project came out of an advanced seminar taught by political science professor Maggie Commins and

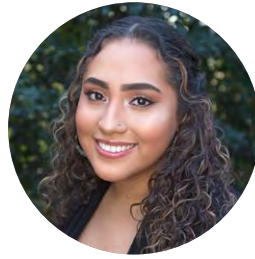
sociology professor Jay Wills. After learning about current immigration issues and how they affect Charlotte, including a program which requires local law enforcement to work with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enforce immigration laws (287(g)), the seminar students settled on an idea: conducting a survey to determine attitudes toward immigrants.

The survey was a welcome faculty-student collaboration for both Commins and Wills, and one that fits in well with Queens' initiatives to solve Charlotte's most pressing problems.

"It's important that centers of higher education establish their relevance in the larger community," Commins said.



**Rebecca Carlo '20**  
Porter B. Byrum Scholar  
Evelyn Deal Scholar



**Danielle Trujillo Sandoval '21**  
Judy Moore Leonard Leadership in Service Award  
Elizabeth Garraway '65 PhD Scholar



**Dr. Maggie Commins**  
Associate Professor, Political Science and  
International Studies

“I really wanted to do work that would be useful to the city of Charlotte, not just something we could get published,” she added.

Students focused on asking questions that mirrored national surveys conducted by Pew Research and Gallup in order to compare local data with nationwide attitudes. They also attempted to find a cross-section of participants by conducting random interviews at mall food courts, parks, churches and libraries.

““ I think we assume that there is negativity that's not there. ””

The original seminar surveyed about 100 people, and Carlo and Sandoval continued the work through summer research positions. In all, they gathered approximately 300 responses, with the demographics of participants roughly mirroring that of the city.

The attitudes of the respondents was overwhelmingly positive across political party affiliation and racial demographics. At a time when Charlotte is working toward earning a “Welcoming City” designation for immigrants, the evidence proved encouraging in the pursuit of that label.

“The results of the survey were very important to build that unity. I think we assume that there is negativity that’s not there,” said Sandoval, a current junior.

More specifically, the survey found that 68 percent of respondents have never heard of 287(g) — despite it being a major issue in the 2018 sheriff election; 80 percent do not think the United States should build a wall along the southern border with Mexico; and just

8 percent think immigrants “pose a greater threat to society” than non-immigrants.

Commins acknowledged that Charlotte leans liberal, so the results were not entirely unexpected. “We’re a blue city in a red state with a very restrictive legislature,” Commins said. “It’s interesting to watch the way the city of Charlotte is trying to navigate the political climate. If they do too much or too much openly then Raleigh (state legislature) comes down on them, but at the same time they have a real mandate, it seems like, to become a more open city and one that’s more welcoming to immigrants.”

Carlo and Sandoval presented their survey findings to Emily Yaffe, Charlotte’s immigrant integration specialist, in mid-September. The next step is a presentation to Charlotte’s international cabinet and city council. In the end, the findings might prove to be the basis of future policies adopted by Charlotte.

Seminar students and others at Queens already are hard at work on another project for the city—helping to compile and maintain a database of immigrant services, searchable through an interactive map.

All of it—the survey, research project, and database—are opportunities that students like Carlo and Sandoval are grateful to have while still in school. “Getting to work, one-on-one with the professors and actually doing research on topics that you’re interested in is amazing. I hope other students get to do it,” said Carlo, a Queens senior.

Sandoval agrees. “It is a small school, so you’re able to get close to your professors and work with them this way. I didn’t think I’d be doing something like this, but I’m not surprised, because Queens does offer these opportunities.” ■

# This Wall Can Talk

BY LORI K. TATE

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL O'NEILL



Students work with community artists to bring civic art—and a message of unity—to campus.



**Art should promote conversation.** That's exactly what Mike Wirth hopes a new campus mural, created by his Arts in Action class last September, will do. "We're always doing stuff out in the community," said Wirth, an associate professor in the art, design and music department. "We want the community to come to us."

Wirth's class of eight students worked with five professional artists through Brand The Moth,

a Charlotte nonprofit that promotes community art and art education. Artist Sam Guzzie, co-founder and executive director of Brand The Moth, frequently works with Wirth on mural projects around the city, and together they came up with the idea to combine forces.

Located directly across from the Hadley Theater entrance, the nine-by-35-foot mural is the eighth in Brand The Moth's Coloring Book Series. The professional artists designed and painted a black outline of the mural so that students and members of the community could fill in the design with designated colors—like a color-by-number picture—over one weekend.

Starting last August, students worked with leaders at Queens and Myers Park Traditional Elementary School (the wall is visible from the school) on what the mural should represent. Guzzie and Wirth both agree that public art projects should accurately reflect the community. Diversity and unity were the resounding themes from both schools.

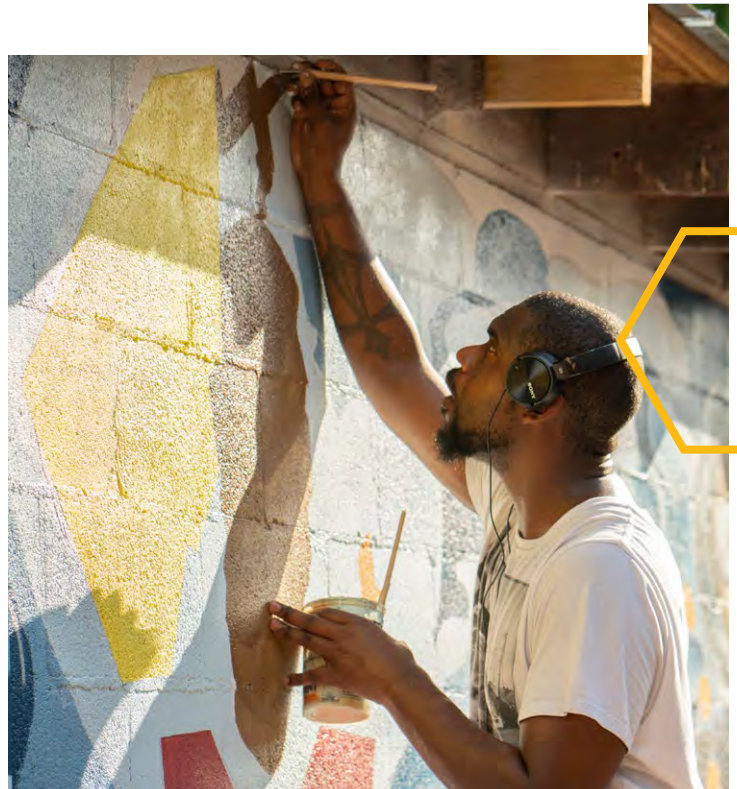
Students also handled the marketing and logistics of the project, in addition to engaging with Dr. John Sisko, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, as they presented mural mock-ups.

“Much of this is part of a set of strategic goals that I've had since I arrived at Queens three years

ago,” Sisko said. “One of them is to strengthen and further elevate Queens' profile in the arts community, because we have some fantastically talented faculty and students.”

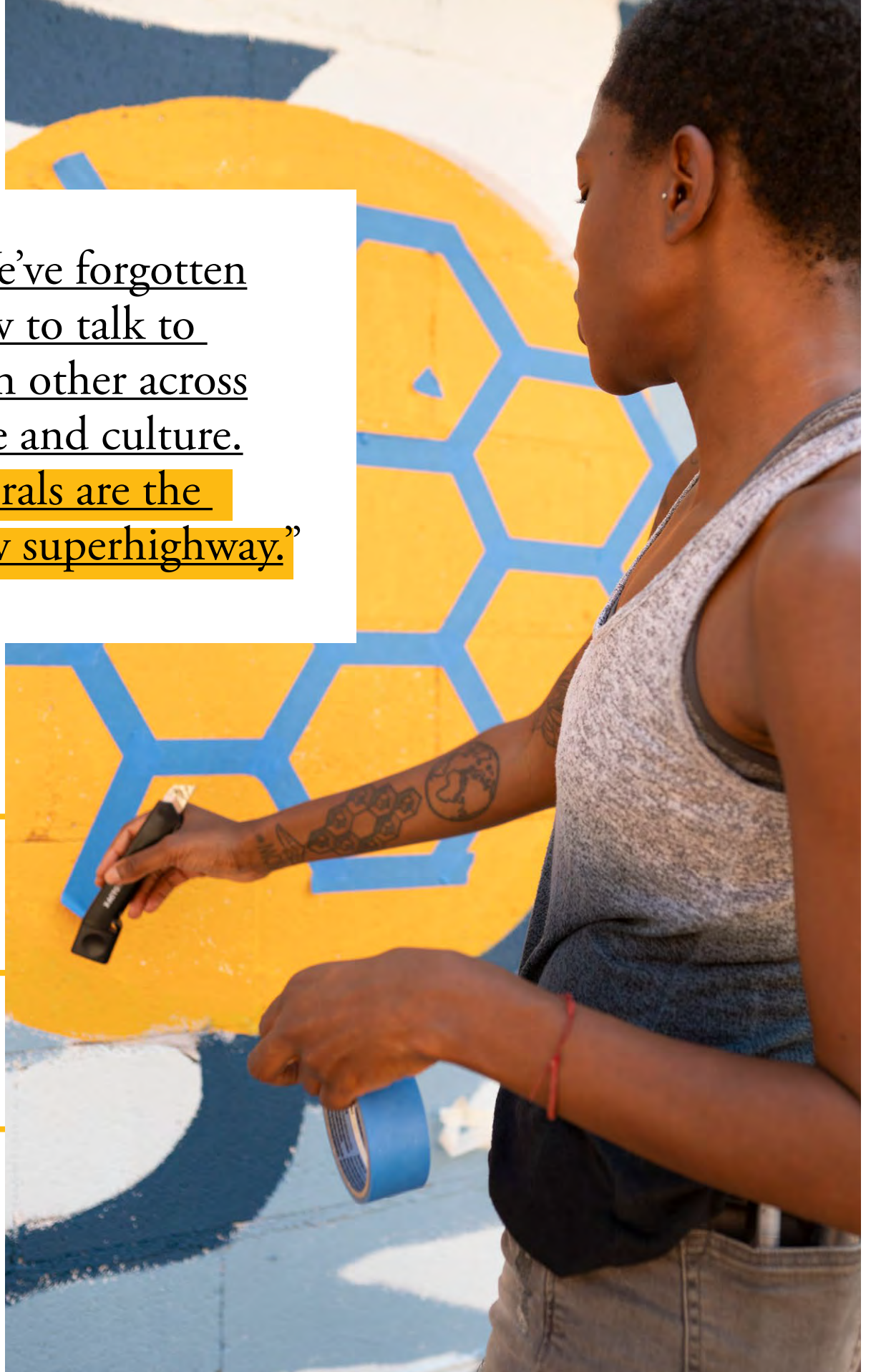
Wirth, who has taught at Queens for 10 years and painted murals around Charlotte, Atlanta, Los Angeles and Miami, is a perfect example of that. “I want to see the next generation of artists come up,” Wirth said. “We've forgotten how to talk to each other across race and culture. Murals are the new superhighway. Street art talks to people every day. It's a shared visual space.”

Haley Henry '20, a new media design major who worked on the project, says it was a team effort from the beginning. “I didn't have much experience with murals or community art whatsoever, so for me it was a great learning experience,” she said, “and I feel like, for Queens, it's just opening the floodgates for so much more community art.” ■



“We’ve forgotten  
how to talk to  
each other across  
race and culture.

Murals are the  
new superhighway.”





## *Hindsight*

We begin *Class Acts* with a mystery moment from a fun fall day in 1970. Where are these students, and what are they doing? If you know, we'll share your answer in the next issue of *Queens Magazine*. Send your best guess to [editor@queens.edu](mailto:editor@queens.edu).

## *OUR SUMMER HINDSIGHT*

*"Greetings! These gals are at Pawleys Island with Dr. Fehon for the month-long class in Marine Biology."*

*—Beth Calvert '71*



*Photos courtesy of Everett Library, Queens University Archives*



# Class ACTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH QUEENS ALUMNI? READ ALL ABOUT IT IN THE MOST POPULAR SECTION OF *QUEENS MAGAZINE*.

The stories on these pages help the Queens community stay close. Don't be shy. Your classmates and friends want to hear about your work, your family, your transitions and plans—and of course, your visits with Royal classmates and friends. Send the latest to [queens.edu/classnotes](http://queens.edu/classnotes). Please contact Alumni Relations at 704-337-2334 or [alumni@queens.edu](mailto:alumni@queens.edu) if you have questions or comments.

## 1944

The class expresses sympathy to **Eleanor Lazenby Biggers** on the death of her son, John M. Biggers, who passed away on March 8.

## 1945

**Wilda Dellinger Council** had several important things happen in her life last year. Madelyn Grace Wright joined her cousin, three-year-old Emmett Knox Council, making Wilda a great-grandmother for the second time. What a joy! In March, she moved to Plantation Estates, a retirement community in Matthews, North Carolina, just outside of Charlotte. Wilda is enjoying independent living in a small apartment, a lovely place where she has made many friends. She loves visitors, so come to see her.

## 1950

The class expresses sympathy to **Jeanne Seale Sims** on the death of her husband, Reverend R. Paul Sims, who passed away on June 3, 2018.

## 1951

**Anne Lambdin Irwin** will turn ninety years old in December. Way to go, Anne!

## 1958

**Betty Bell Brown** recently spent time with her art students at Pawleys Island Sea View Inn in Pawleys Island, South Carolina. In October, she had a book

review of *Pretty Much*, a memoir of her mother. She is a published author now, as well as an artist!

**Betty Gray Anderson** and Perrin enjoyed being with **Betty Bell Brown** and Charlie at the Anderson beach home in Pawleys Island.

The class expresses sympathy to **Belva Beasley Few** on the death of her grandson, Thomas Heard Few, who passed away on June 30.

The class expresses sympathy to **Betsy Goodykoontz Miree** on the death of her husband, Mallory F. Miree, who passed away on July 13.

## 1959

The class expresses sympathy to **Jane Wayburn McMillan** on the death of her husband, Rex McMillan, who passed away on September 8 in Raleigh.

## 1960

The class expresses sympathy to **Keris Fort Brown** on the death of her daughter, Melinda Hope Brown, who passed away on July 7.

**Suzanne Ross** received 50 beautiful hand-lettering books and manuals, a gift from the estate of a calligrapher who wished that a class be established for this dying art form. The class started in October at Brambleton Center in Roanoke, Virginia.



(Left to right) 1963 classmates **Nancy Abel Hall**, **Angela Williams Williams**, and **Betty Thomas Goebriings**; all Charleston-area classmates enjoyed a catch-up lunch. The previous week they represented Queens at the celebration of life for local classmate **Mary Campbell Beshere**, who bravely fought cancer for 15 years.

## 1961

The class expresses sympathy to **Gwen Corbett Fox** on the death of her brother, James W. Corbett, Jr., who passed away from cancer on August 19.

**Polly Thompson Marshall** and Robert celebrated their 58th anniversary on June 24. All four children plus spouses and Robert celebrated Polly's 80th birthday at Wintergreen Resort for four fabulous days in January. The Marshalls hosted Queens classmate **Marianna Christian Broaddus** and husband Scott for a beach resort week in Palm Beach Shores, Florida, in February. Seven grandchildren keep them on the go and bring much joy always.

Don and **Catherine Steagall Peeler's** first great-grandson, Fletcher Ray Young, was one year old on January 17. Their second great-grandson, Anthony Mario Prisinzano, was born September 6. Their granddaughter, Alex Prisinzano, graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University in May with a degree in

Health Sciences. Their grandson, Chris Kellogg Peeler, graduated from Princeton University in June with a degree from The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. They took an awesome riverboat cruise in July on the Danube River, visiting Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia and Hungary. The trip was fun and educational.

## 1962

**Ruth Scholten Lynch** enjoyed a wonderful two-week tour of Costa Rica in March with a group of 16 from all over the U.S. Beauty abounds in that wonderful country that believes in and practices conservation to benefit all. Now she can practice being a sloth for awhile!

## 1963

**Harriette McMichael Majoros** and husband Bill returned from their fifth trip to Ireland in September, a trip preceded by a visit from their daughter **Rebecca Majoros-Gomez '02** and her husband, Chris, from California. The Ireland trip focus was finding the last five Game of



(Left to right) Marie Newsom and Annette Smith Stilwell '69 pose at the premier release of *Lossie: Live to Laugh*, a memoir written by her mother, Lois "Lossie" Sexton Smith and edited by Annette, in August at Studio at Stilwell Midtown in Atlanta.

Thrones doors, plus other shooting locations like Tollymore Forest. In June, they played tourist in their hometown of Cleveland, Ohio, when they returned for Harriette's 60th high school reunion.

**1965**

After three years on the market, Chip and Linka Oelsner Lewis sold their house in Vermont in December 2018 and headed to beautiful St. Simons Island, Georgia, where they had happily rented a winter condo for several years, and where Linka first learned to play pickleball, which she now plays weekly along with mahjong. One of her fellow mahjong player's son started at Queens this year! She looks forward to the reunion and finding out if classmates live nearby.

**1969**

During their husbands' Davidson College reunion weekend, Mary Adeline Jeffery Cromartie and Kay Williams Rentz

slipped away to Charlotte for lunch with Charles and Jane Hadley and Adelaide Anderson Davis '61 on June 7.

SBB Publishing, the new publishing venture from Atlanta-based film industry maverick Stilwell



(Bottom row, left to right) Professor Emeritus Dr. Charles Hadley, Kay Williams Rentz '69. (Top row, left to right) Mary Adeline Jeffery Cromartie '69, Adelaide Anderson Davis '61 grab lunch in Charlotte at Amelie's French Bakery in June.



Scarlett Lackey Chanter '73 enjoyed her family vacation this summer at Roche Harbor in the San Juan Islands of Washington state, including time with her grandchildren: (front row, left to right) Jude, Evie, Billie, Franklin, Liam and Aiden (second row, left to right) Sterling, Scarlett and Berdie.

Casting, announced its premier publication release, *Lossie: Live to Laugh*, written by Lois Sexton Smith, mother of Annette Smith Stilwell. The book is an ode to finding laughter in life no matter the struggle or circumstance.

The memoir starts with Lossie's heritage, stemming from her family roots in Rodessa, Louisiana, and Bessemer City, North Carolina, and follows Lossie off to Agnes Scott College, where a car accident forever changes her life. Annette edited and wrote the introduction and epilogue. The book received an award from the North Carolina Society of Historians at a Davidson College ceremony on October 12. *Lossie: Live to Laugh* is available at Amazon.com.

**1970**

Bonnie Tyler Spradling had the honor, on National Philanthropy Day in November 2018, of being named the Western North Carolina Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. She is presently board chair of Helpmate, an organization that provides services to victims of domestic violence.

**1973**

Scarlett Lackey Chanter has temporarily returned to the Charlotte area and would love to reconnect with old friends.

**1977**

The class expresses sympathy to Janet Preyer Nelson on the death of her mother, Kathryn Cobb Preyer, who passed away on August 31, and her aunt, Ellen Cobb Rhyne, who passed away on July 6.



Bonnie Tyler Spradling '70, who resides in Asheville, North Carolina, is presently the board chair of Helpmate, a domestic violence organization in her community.



*Joanne Macaulay Corsbie '78 relaxes with her husband, John, and their six grandchildren at Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, in August.*

**1978**

**Joanne Macaulay Corsbie** retired after 27 years of teaching first and second grade. She is now working part-time for the non-profit organization Communities in Schools. She

enjoys spending time with her family, including her mother, **Helen Alexander Macaulay '50**, sister, **Patricia (Pat) Dendy Macaulay '74**, and other family members. She is also the proud “Nana” to six grandchildren!

**Carla Jeffords Vitez** reports that the 1978 class president and valedictorian, **Susan Ellsworth Wiggs**, passed away on May 25 after a brief battle with brain cancer. Susan will be remembered for her quiet leadership, unassuming nature and faithful friendship.

**1980**

The class expresses sympathy to **Susan Vance Johnson** on the death of her father, Dr. Thomas D. Vance, on May 27.

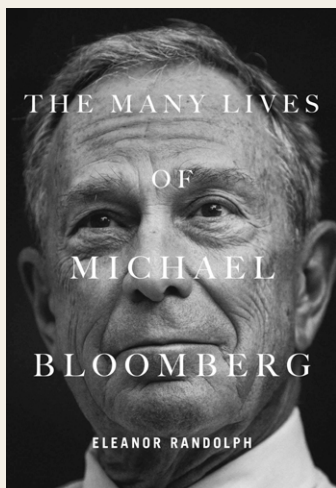
**Martha Evans Ray** lost both parents this year. Her father, Fred L. Evans, Jr., passed away on September 9, and her mother, Nancy B. Evans, passed away on February 11. Martha loved the support and visits she got from fellow classmates and friends **Libby Strange Mahaffey**, **Susie Barber Williams**, **Teena Koury** and **J.C. Cleaveland Dwiggin**s, plus notes and texts from many others. Good to be from old QC!

**Carol Troutman Wiggins** just signed a contract with Soma Games, Inc. to license her children’s song, “The Despicable Pirate King” for use in the video game, “The Lost Legends of Redwall.” Soma Games, based out of Oregon, turns popular books into video games. The Redwall books and games are considered the spiritual successor to C.S. Lewis’s *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Her song will be the theme song for the Rat King villain, Cluny the Scourge. This chapter of the game will be released soon on Xbox, PS4 and Steam (for Mac and PC).

**1983**

The class expresses sympathy to **Carolyn York Bennett** on the death of her mother, Betty M. York, who passed away on May 27.

The class expresses sympathy to **Willow Walker Rockecharlie** on the death of her mother-in-law, Nora Tucker Rockecharlie, who passed away on June 29.



**SITTING ON THE FRONT ROW OF HISTORY**

Queens honorary degree holder and former member of the *New York Times* editorial board **Eleanor Randolph** recently released her book *The Many Lives of Michael Bloomberg*, which details Bloomberg’s upbringing, path to finance and time as mayor of New York City, among other noteworthy pursuits. Randolph, a seasoned journalist who has also worked for *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post*, shares, “I had been writing about Bloomberg for a dozen years when he was mayor of New York City. The rap on Bloomberg was that he is dull—an ex-engineer, a rich, data guy with none of the political razzamatazz that New Yorkers had come to expect. I felt he had so many other facets.”

Randolph, who came to Queens in 1960, notes the school’s supportive culture and talented professors as influential in fueling her self-confidence and love of prose. To aspiring journalists and those beginning their communications careers, Randolph imparts, “My most important advice—is if you can manage it—is to do what you love, not what you think will make you rich. For so many years, I couldn’t believe I was actually being paid to do what I did—to sit on the front row of history, to meet the players and then to write about it all. Things have changed, but if you decide to be a working journalist, then adapt the old standards of good journalism to the new media. And, in a country where the first amendment to the Constitution protects a free press, the goal of great journalists is always to dig out the untainted and unadorned truth and make it public.”

## Class ACTS

Nora was also the grandmother of **Hayden Rockecharlie '14**.

### 1984

**Stephanie Sain Black** sang as part of a special Memorial Day mass choir at Carnegie Hall in New York City on May 26. Black, a member of Belin Memorial United Methodist Church Chancel Choir in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, joined over 250 singers from across the country in presenting the music of composer and pianist Mary McDonald. The concert, "Immortal, Invisible," featured McDonald's patriotic and sacred selections and was accompanied by a 70-piece orchestra on the Ronald O. Perelman stage in the Isaac Stern Auditorium.

### 1985

**Regina Elledge Hickey** and her family own and operate All Aspects Dog Training, LLC and All Aspects Service Dogs, Inc., a charitable non-profit, in Charlotte. They recently trained an English Golden Retriever, Watson, owned by **Elaine Hallman Henderson '75**. Visit them on Facebook and Instagram. If you are still in the Charlotte area, you can always stop by for some "puppy love."

### 1986

**Copper Allen Comita** and John returned to Copper's hometown of Thomasville, Georgia in June. They have been reacquainting themselves with the area and traveling with their daughter, Reyn, and family. They both plan to get back to work in the new year. Copper is interested in promoting heat-stroke awareness, its signs, symptoms and prevention. Refer to her Facebook site to view and share an educational video.

### 1987

The class expresses sympathy to **Kathie L. Grigg** on the death of her brother, Timothy J. Leskosky, who passed away on March 24.

The class expresses sympathy to **Katherine Knight Palmertree** on the death of her mother, Tena Knight Andersen, who passed away on April 6.

### 1989

**Jennifer Martin Hall** and her husband are officially empty-nesters. Her youngest daughter, Beth, is now a freshman at UNC Greensboro. Her oldest, Melanie, is a junior at UNC Asheville. Jennifer just started



*(Left to right) Mary McDonald, Jeff Black and Stephanie Sain Black '84 spend time together during a trip to New York City in May to perform at Carnegie Hall.*

a new job teaching preschool at her church and loves it. Among her co-workers are two other Queens graduates. She enjoyed seeing and spending time with her classmates at their 30th reunion in April.

### 1990

The class expresses sympathy to **Leigh Anne Forlidas** on the death

of her father, Philip J. Forlidas, who passed away on August 31.

### 1991

**Caroline Caton** continues to enjoy living in Appleton, Wisconsin, and working as an Licensed Clinical Social Worker in an Internal Medicine Clinic in Ascension, Wisconsin. She was inspired by the

# ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

*April 3 - 4, 2020*

Join your classmates back on campus for this weekend of reminiscing and reconnecting. Alumni classes ending in 0 and 5 will celebrate special milestone reunions.

### 6th Annual G.O.L.D. Reunion Party

An opportunity for Graduates of the Last Decade to get together during this special weekend.



Visit [queens.edu/reunion](https://queens.edu/reunion) for updates and additional information.

“I Support the Girls” organization to collect 545 new and gently used bras to donate to a local organization in celebration of turning 50 in May, exceeding her original goal of 50 bras. Caroline has enjoyed spending time with family in Florida and Massachusetts, especially with her great-niece.

**Adrienne McCormick** moved back to the Charlotte area in 2018 and started a new position as Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at Winthrop University in July 2019. Adrienne lives in Rock Hill, South Carolina, with her husband Brian and their four children.

**1992**

The class expresses sympathy to **James Ivy** on the death of his father, O. Kenneth Ivy, who passed away on August 6.

**1993**

Two Queens alumnae founded their own marketing-related businesses this year and found each other again, with complementary talents in reaching the growing senior living market. Matura Marketing, founded by former advertising executive **Erin Tetrault Richey**, has partnered with Creekmore Bespoke, founded by former creative director **Evelyn (Kristy) Creekmore**, to deliver end-to-end marketing strategy and creative execution to senior living communities throughout the Southeast. Reach them at [info@maturamarketing.com](mailto:info@maturamarketing.com).

Visual Artist **Lee Ann Harrison-Houser** explores conceptual art installations that comment on identity, LGBTQ and minority discrimination, and passing to fit in to society’s expectations. Her latest work, “Otherness: Hiding in Plain Sight,” was on display at Wofford College in the Richardson Family Art Gallery in Spartanburg, South Carolina,

from September 10 through October 12. The exhibit premiered a storyboard collection of expressive abstract paintings and drawings that narrates life experiences as an “other” from the South.

**1994**

The class expresses sympathy to **Ashley Cone** on the death of her mother, Bettie Cone, who passed away on April 5.

The class expresses sympathy to **Lori Beth Flowe Jaeger and Amy Flowe Chavis ’00** on the death of their father, Ben M. Flowe, who passed away on July 16.

**Heather Edwards Klope** has lived in Puerto Rico for over three years. She has now experienced a total of three hurricanes (Hugo in 1989 and, in 2017, Irma and Maria). She believes this was a learning experience, as a year later, her mother-in-law’s house was destroyed by Hurricane Michael. She is proud to announce the marriage of her oldest son, Christian. She is also preparing for her daughter’s high school graduation this spring.

**1997**

**Tishani Doshi’s** second novel, *Small Days and Nights*, has been published to critical acclaim in the United Kingdom



*Ollie Chandhok ’98, his wife, Kenna, and his children (left to right) Ace and Olivia vacationed in Highlands, North Carolina, in July.*

with Bloomsbury and will be published by Norton in the United States in January 2020.

**Cheri Zuzich Lehmker** is beginning her 20th year as a school counselor with the same middle school in Pasco County, Florida. She is grateful to still be in touch with so many of her Queens family!

**Ann McGuire Parker** is celebrating the birth of two grandsons! Hudson Luke Parker was born April 19, 2018, and James Michael Mietla was born October 7, 2018.

**1998**

**Ollie Chandhok** has taken his show on the road. After four years as Publisher of the *Triad Business Journal* in Greensboro, Ollie, Kenna, and kids, Olivia and Ace, have moved to Texas. Ollie is now the President & Publisher of the *Dallas Business Journal*. Big news, but even bigger news is the addition of the newest family member, a great dane/Labrador mix named Champ!

**Lauren Thomas Flores** enjoyed a mini sabbatical this July in the North Carolina mountains. She entered her 10th year in the advancement office at Westminster in Atlanta. The Flores family recently welcomed a new family member, Ollie, a playful and sweet goldendoodle. Lauren and Dean finally gave in after years of requests from their two sons, who have honed their persuasion skills in middle school.

**1999**

**Brooke Harshbarger Schmidt** is running for City Council in Canton, Georgia, where she and her husband Brian and their two children have lived



*Lee Ann Harrison-Houser ’93 during her artist talk at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, in September.*

# INAUGURATION'S ROYAL LINE

During the inauguration of President Lugo on October 18, a "Royal Line" of alumni and current students spanning nine decades joined the processional to represent Queens' alumni and student base. Donning navy robes, class participants from 1945 to 2023 attended to show their support for Queens' 21st President. Of the occasion, Rosie Beaudrot Graham, who represented the Class of 1967, said, "My pride in Queens has grown exponentially over the years as the college (now

University) has moved in such positive directions. Queens has never looked back but only forward in its direction to improve the lives of its students, and that was evident in all that was said and done. The times they are a changing, as they seem to do so regularly, and President Lugo's comments confirmed that Queens is continuing to change with them, keeping abreast of new work forces and causes, and working diligently to keep students engaged and inspired in the climate of today's world."







# Friends of the Library READING LIST

Compiled by Phyllis Mahoney '76 and Julie Walton '91

The works below were written by Friends of the Library former guest speakers, Learning Society members, Queens faculty and graduates, among others. Please visit our website for membership information and upcoming events: [library.queens.edu/fol](http://library.queens.edu/fol). Enjoy, and happy reading!

**Kathryn Schwill**

*What Luck, This Life*

**Jan Karon**

*The Mitford Series*

**Elizabeth Strout**

*Olive, Again*

**Cokie Roberts**

*Capital Dames*  
*Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation*  
*We Are Our Mothers' Daughters*

**Mesha Maren**

*Sugar Run*

**B.A. Shapiro**

*The Collector's Apprentice*

**Robin Kelley**

*The Two Souths of '68: Remembering Revolution in these Hard Times*

**Tommy Hays**

*The Pleasure Was Mine*  
*What I Came To Tell You*

**Mary Alice Monroe**

*The Summer Guests*  
*Last Light Over Carolina*

**Michelle Alexander**

*The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*

since 2006. Brooke believes her City Ward is in need of the kind of enthusiasm, energy, and work ethic she can provide. You can learn more about her campaign at [votebrookeschmidt.com](http://votebrookeschmidt.com). Her friends and supporters love the hashtag #MakeSchmidtHappen.

**2001**

**Dr. Jennifer Bratynski** is the Community Engagement

Coordinator for the Upper School at Providence Day School in Charlotte. She encourages students always to consider service to the global community which espouses her deep commitment to the Queens motto: Non ministrari sed ministrare. She also teaches seminars at UNC Charlotte, including "From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter" and the 1980s class she created while an instructor at Queens.



*Brooke Harshbarger Schmidt '99 is running for City Council in Canton, Georgia, where she lives with her husband, Brian, and two children.*

After working in healthcare for eight years, **Tracy Reid Huneycutt** made a career change to education, and is currently working as a kindergarten teacher's assistant. She loves encouraging and working with little ones everyday. Her husband, John, continues to stay busy running his painting and home improvement business. Their son, Reid, started the first grade this fall, as well as Scouts and flag football. They reside near Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

**Gwen Jackson '01** recently nominated the Second Ward High School National Alumni Foundation for a Charlotte

Museum of History Preservation Award. Gwen has worked alongside the foundation on archival, branding and community relations projects, and also accepted the award on the foundation's behalf.

**Iain Jones** still resides in Macon, Georgia, with his wife, Susan. In May 2019, he accepted the Head Boys Soccer coaching position at his alma mater, Stratford Academy. He will also teach middle school technology classes. It has always been a dream of Iain's to return to Stratford, which provided a foundation for him, much like Queens did. In spring, he won his 200th career boys' game.



*In May, Iain Jones '01 accepted the Head Boys Soccer coaching position at his alma mater, Stratford Academy, in Macon, Georgia.*



*In September, Gwen Jackson '01 presented the Charlotte Museum of History's Excellence In Preservation Award to the Second Ward National High School Foundation in the historic Second Ward Gym in Charlotte. (left to right) Gwen Jackson, Second Ward Alumnus Arthur Griffin and Gwendolyn Lucas.*





*Candace Cooper Murray's '03 children (left to right), Mila and Liam, enjoyed Queens' Soccer Camp last summer.*

**Heidi Snyderburn** has written her first book, *Birth Story*, with Dr. John Thorp, Director of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UNC, coming out in 2020. Since graduating with her MBA in 2006, she has grown her birth doula business in Charlotte.

This year she launched the Birth Story Media brand under which she hosts the popular "Birth Story Podcast." She hopes you will listen and buy a copy at BirthStory.com. She is also a stay-at-home-mom to her two toddler boys, Max and Jagger.



*Freshman-year roommates Tara Trosclair Snoderly '04 and Kristin Garber '04 reconnected last summer at Free Range Brewing in Charlotte.*

**2003**

**Candace Cooper Murray** continues serving as YMCA of Greater Charlotte's Director of Diversity, Inclusion & Global and is still sharing the love of soccer around the world with her charity [peacepassers.org](http://peacepassers.org). Candace and husband, Will, are outnumbered officially by their three children Mila, 7; Liam, 5; and Luca, 3. A favorite nostalgic moment from this summer was having her daughter and son attend Queens Soccer Camp.

Over the summer, **Karen Thomas** studied ongoing research projects such as radio tracking, cheetah conservation and ecosystem management, plus the design of

school and community programs in Namibia. Karen is now the Manager of Community Engagement at Discovery Place in Charlotte.

**2004**

**Matthew Caldwell** has photographed local sports teams for *The Oconee Leader* since 2006 and *Athens-Banner Herald* since 2015. In 2019 he joined the Gwinnett Stripers, the triple-A affiliate of the Atlanta Braves, as a photographer.

**Kristin Garber** has remained in Charlotte since graduation, except for a two-year stint in Geneva, Switzerland, and Paris, France, where she worked as an au pair. She spends her free time traveling as much as possible: most recently a road trip to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with her beloved pup, Squishy. Up next is a European cruise. She works as a realtor and loves helping people find their dream homes. She remains close friends with several Queens alumni.

**Sarah Hennessy-Hurt** has worked in the real estate industry outside Atlanta for the past few years, both in property management and marketing. While still seeking a noble life, continually pressing for a productive career and recognizing

# GIVE THE GIFT OF SCHOLARSHIP.

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Call the Office of Annual Giving at 704-337-2334.

Give securely online at [queens.edu/give](http://queens.edu/give).

*Thank you for investing in Queens' students.*



*Goodbye Atlanta, hello northern Virginia: The Carleys have moved! Devon Grenda Carley's '05 husband, Darrell, has accepted a great opportunity with Amazon. Darrell, Devon, Preston (left) and Addison (right) are excited to explore their new state.*

her global citizenship, Sarah seeks to find joy in family, art and authentic connections. She remains close with her Queens roommates and visits Charlotte as often as possible.

**2005**

**Dan Brown** works with the Council for Children's Rights, advocating for the educational rights of students with special needs in the foster care system. Until recently, he also managed an educational program for immigrants seeking to become U.S. citizens. He is happy to live in Charlotte with his wife, Hailey, and son, Bear.

**2006**

**Brian McGary** recently joined the Allegheny Technologies Incorporated Specialty Materials team as Head of IT Infrastructure. He most recently held the position of IT Director at

Mack Molding Company, where he was responsible for infrastructure and applications across the organization. Prior experience includes roles at Acrowire, Polypore International and Mood Media, formerly Muzak LLC.



*Brian McGary '06 recently joined the ATI Specialty Materials team as Head of IT Infrastructure in Monroe, North Carolina.*

**2007**

The class expresses sympathy to **Rebekah Hudson** on the death of her grandfather, Lamont Hudson, who passed away on August 31.

**Sianneth Sanchez** and her

husband Jason are expecting their second child in January 2020. Future big sister, Lucy, and the rest of the family (including proud aunt **Sairy Richardson '08**) are so excited to add a new member to the family!

**2008**

**Sairy Sanchez Abarca Richardson** still lives in the Charlotte area with her husband, Julius. Their son, Oscar Francisco, was born on September 22, 2018. They recently celebrated Oscar's baptism. Fellow Queens

Alliance in September. This award is given to young professionals who have shown career accomplishments, community involvement and leadership skills.

**2009**

It has been a big year for **Martha Autry** as she and her team executed a successful 2019 Wells Fargo Championship, the first tournament in her new role as Director of Volunteers, Charity and Events. Martha married Jeremy Overaker on September 14 at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte. **Mariel Roberts** was her Matron of Honor. Martha was nominated for the Charlotte STANDOUT Award with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, which held a gala at the Ritz Carlton uptown on October 4.



*From left to right: Marcus Belanger, Julius Richardson, Sairy Sanchez Abarca Richardson '08 and Katie Carman '09 celebrate the baptism of Sairy's son, Oscar Francisco, on March 17 at Pineville United Methodist Church in Pineville, North Carolina.*

alumna, **Katie Carman '09** and her husband, Marcus Belanger, are his godparents. Sairy works in Charlotte as an Architectural Designer for a multi-family residential and commercial architecture firm.

**Rene Ballowe Smith** received the Level Up Award from the Lynchburg Regional Business

**Lauren Fletcher Crotts** MSN, MBA, APRN, FNP-C graduated from Gardner-Webb University in May with a post-master's Family Nurse Practitioner certificate. She currently serves as the Chief Nurse for Geriatrics and Extended Care at the Salisbury VA Medical Center.



## A Tip of the Crown: ROYAL KUDOS TO QUEENS ALUMNI



Shared via LinkedIn

**Shirley McGuire '87**, senior vice provost of academic affairs at the University of San Francisco, was selected for 2019 Most Influential Women in Bay Area Business by the San Francisco Business Times.

**Amy Rowland Nichols '90** was promoted to executive vice president at Wells Fargo.

**Adrienne McCormick '91** has been named provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Winthrop University.

**Cheryl Black '96**, senior vice president of human resources at Sunbelt Rentals Inc., earned a Best in HR Lifetime Achievement Award from the *Charlotte Business Journal* and The Employers Association.

**Ericka Ellis-Stewart '96** was named Mental Health Advocate of the Year by LifeSkills Counseling and Consulting Group during the 4th Annual Black Mental Health Symposium in Charlotte.

**Rene Ballowe Smith '08** received the Level-Up Young Professional Award from the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance for her career accomplishments, community involvement and leadership skills.

**Kaysi Winsman '09** was named senior vice president, organizational design, financial center design & innovation team at Bank of America in New York City.

**Amy Ramsey MS '11** was chosen as Mortgage Banker of the Year by the Charlotte Regional Mortgage Lenders Association.

**Cara Baldini '13** was recognized for her exemplary commitment to the field of nursing with a DAISY Award which honors nurses from around the world.

**Erica Saunders '16** earned her master's of divinity degree from Wake Forest School of Divinity, and has been appointed pastor of Peace Community Church in Oberlin, North Carolina.

**Avery Cypress '18** is now assistant director of boarding admissions at the Darlington School in Rome, Georgia.

**Ginny Scheer '19** was promoted to marketing associate with Stratagon.

—Compiled by Laura Beth Ellis MS '11 and Danielle Phillips '13, MS '18



*Brittany Harvey Isaacson '12 and Drew Isaacson tied the knot on April 20. The couple was married at Providence Country Club in Charlotte.*

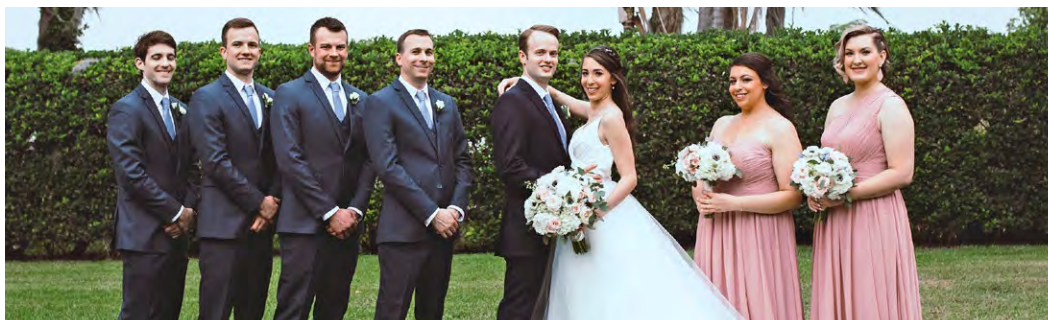
**Sarah Spiece** graduated in 2017 with her master's degree in music therapy from Colorado State University, and now works in Fort Collins with Pathways hospice and CSU as adjunct faculty. Sarah and fellow Queens alumnus **Brett Cunningham** got engaged July 4, 2018, on top of Arthur's Rock in Larimer County, Colorado. They were married September 27 in Loveland, Colorado, surrounded by friends and family.



*Brittany Sele Austin '10 works as a realtor with Keller Williams Select and serves the Charlotte-metro region.*

### 2010

**Brittany Sele Austin** is married and a mom to three children: Harper, Grayson and Sophie. She works as a realtor with Keller Williams Select, and serves the Charlotte-metro region. She lives with her family in Monroe, North Carolina.



*(left to right) Adam Jaffe, Michael Glynn, Tom Glynn, Ian Campbell, Stephen Glynn, Michelle Jaffe Glynn '12, Victoria Catella '13, and Brittany Mack '12 celebrated the wedding of Michelle and Stephen in Orlando, Florida, in May.*

### 2013

**Melissa Boulbol Root** and Vince Root welcomed their first baby, Asher, in June.

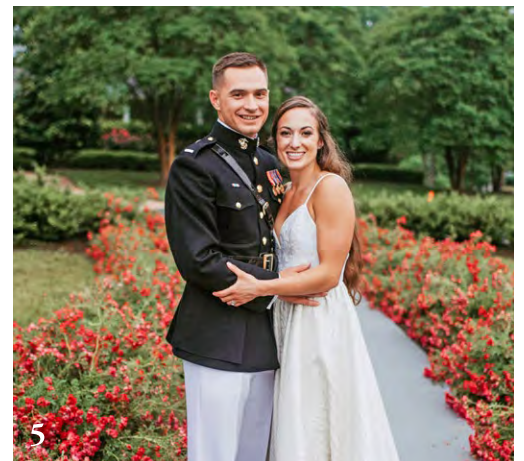
### 2014

On February 23, **Chelsea Pulliam Smith** married Nicholas Smith in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Former Queens students, all of whom are still friends of Chelsea's, **Marisa Mahathey**,

# Beyond *the* Gazebo

To honor its 50th anniversary back in 1978, the Queens Chi Omega chapter erected a gazebo on the exact spot of the first Chi O house. Relocated several times along the way, the gazebo now stands next to Belk Chapel.

Wherever it stood, the story goes like this: if you and your love share a kiss in the Chi Omega Gazebo, you two will be together always. And from the looks of these pictures from Queens couples, gazebo power applies not only to love and marriage, but also to the baby carriage!



1. **Sarah Spiece '09** married **Brett Cunningham '09** on September 27 in Loveland, Colorado, surrounded by friends and family.

2. **Savannah Buck Bigler '15** and **Hunter Bigler '16** met at Queens in spring 2012 and have been inseparable ever since. They got married on Lake Norman on May 4 and thank Queens for bringing them together.

3. **Andrew Hodge '10** and **Mallory Ruhling Hodge '12** welcomed their first daughter, Mason Charlotte Hodge, on May 18. Mason has stolen their hearts, and her name is special, too: Mason, is a family name, and Charlotte, for the city and school where her parents met.

4. **Tori Hernandez Gwilt '13** married **Matt Gwilt '12** on April 20 in Charlotte on Queens' campus, where they met as students.

5. **Jocelyn Kellinger Dolan '14** married **Eric Dolan '16** on May 11 in Monroe, North Carolina, at Camellia Gardens, where Queens' mascot, Rex, made a guest appearance.



*Melissa Boulbol Root '13, Asher and Vince at Childress Vineyards in July.*



*(Left to right) Kaley Werder '14 and Chelsea Pulliam Smith '14 prepare for Chelsea's wedding in February 2019 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.*



*Last May, Lauren Glazer '15 traveled to Vienna to see the exhibition that used her Instagram photo as its main marketing image. The exhibition "Vertigo" is a collection of optical art and illusions currently housed at the Museum moderner Kunst, Austria's leading center for modern and contemporary art.*

**Kaley Werder, Peyton Doyle '13 and Shanice Blount,** reunited at the wedding.

**2015**

**Savannah Buck Bigler and Hunter Bigler '16** met at Queens in spring 2012 and have been inseparable ever since. They got married on Lake Norman on May 4 and thank Queens for bringing them together!

**Lauren Glazer** recently traveled to Vienna to see Mumok museum's exhibition, "Vertigo," because a photo of herself that she posted

on Instagram three years ago became the main marketing image as well as the cover of the exhibition catalogue. In March, the museum asked Lauren to use the image, and in May, she and her mother traveled to Vienna for the exhibition. They spotted the posters of Lauren all around the city.

**2016**

**Emily Sogard** married Jack Thygesen on September 28 at The Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields surrounded by life-long friends made at Queens.



*Cristina Ortiz Louisos '16 married Tyler Louisos in the mountains of Pembroke, Virginia, on August 3.*



*Ciara Shupe '18 is engaged to Darrick Johnson, Jr. They will be married May 9, in Jamestown, North Carolina.*

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

**Emily Zimmern MBA '87** chaired the Niner Nation Remembrance Commission at UNC Charlotte. Chancellor Phil Dubois formed the 14 member commission to lead a thoughtful process for determining how best to memorialize the victims and honor the survivors of the April 30 school shooting.

The class expresses sympathy to **Melanie Spencer MBA '95** on the death of her mother-in-law, Ava Clark Spencer, who passed away on August 20.

The class expresses sympathy to **Deidre Grubb MBA '96** on the death of her father, James S. Mills, who passed away on July 1.

**Stephen S. Kingsley EMBA '00** has joined the leadership team at Amtrak as the Assistant Vice President of Food & Beverage for the transportation company. Prior to joining Amtrak in June, Stephen had an extensive thirty-six-year career in the airline industry in a variety of roles with increasing responsibility. He credits his time at the McColl School of Business as a turning point in his career, providing him with the critical leadership skills necessary to succeed in today's highly competitive global business environment.

**Ben Graham MBA '02** lives in Chicago with his wife, Gina, and his sons Daniel, 12, and Dylan, 10. Ben is in his 10th year at Longview Asset Management, the family office for the Crown family. He is

a Director overseeing a portfolio of hedge fund and private equity investments for the family. Ben spent three years coaching the men's soccer team at Queens, and these days he gets great enjoyment from training his children in the sport.

**Erika Dreifus MFA '03** has had a busy fall season, starting with a visiting faculty appointment in the English department at Baruch College of The City University of New York, and continuing with the November release of her latest book (and first poetry collection), *BIRTHRIGHT*, published by



*Stephen Kingsley EMBA '00 has joined the leadership team at Amtrak in Washington, D.C. as the Assistant Vice President of Food & Beverage for the transportation company.*

# #QUNITED

## is March 11, 2020

It's Queens' 24-hour day of giving, when you get to pick your passion and give to an area of campus that is close to your heart.



**Ann Kindberg MFA '18** at her book-release party for *The Means That Make Us Strangers* in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, on July 20.

Kelsay Books. Erika invites everyone to visit her website, [erikadreifus.com](http://erikadreifus.com), to find out more.

The novel, *The Magnetic Girl*, written by **Jessica Handler MFA '06**, was named a Wall Street Journal 2019 Spring Pick, a SIBA Okra Pick, an Indie Next April 2019 pick and is a Bitter Southerner Summer Reading List choice. Handler's third book imagines the vaudeville career of the real-life Lulu Hurst, who toured America in the 1880s as The Magnetic Girl and The Georgia Wonder, at a time when the emerging presence of electricity raised suspicions about the other-worldly gospel of spiritualism, and when women's desire for political, cultural, and sexual presence electrified the country.

**David Owens-Hill MA '12** was promoted to Chief of Staff at New York School of Interior Design, a nonprofit, fully accredited, single-focus liberal arts college in Manhattan. He oversees marketing, public relations, exhibitions and public programs, as well as IT and strategic projects. Last fall, on a quick visit to San Francisco, he eloped with Kieran McCaughey. He still tells stories of working and studying at Queens to anyone who will listen, and misses Faculty/Staff Coffee the most.

**Michael Brantley MFA '14** was appointed Assistant Professor of

Communications at Barton College in Wilson, North Carolina. He teaches journalism and English and advises the school newspaper. His second book, *Galvanized: The Odyssey of a Reluctant Carolina Confederate*, is due out from University of Nebraska/Potomac Books in spring 2020.

**Meghan Florian MFA '14** began a new position as Managing Editor at MennoMedia & Herald Press in August.

**Moss Ingram MFA '14** co-authored the forthcoming textbook, *Contemporary Product Development: A Focus on Innovation* (Cognella) with Keith Ferguson, PhD, and John Szykiel, available this fall.

**Christine Kindberg MFA '18** recently published her first book, a young adult, historical fiction novel titled *The Means That Make Us Strangers*. The book explores the story of a white, American girl who grows up in Ethiopia and then moves to Greenville, South Carolina, in 1964. For a while, the book was the No. 1 new release in its category on Amazon.

**Liza Boehling Munford MS '18** married Eugene Munford on May 25. Liza is the Graduate Admissions Coordinator in the McColl School of Business. She and Eugene reside in east Charlotte.

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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**Michael Santos MFA '18** is a crime fiction author from North Carolina. He has written and published three novels since graduating from the Queens' MFA program in creative writing. His books are set in Charlotte. Learn more at [michaelsantosauthor.com](http://michaelsantosauthor.com).

**Robin Fetherston MFA '19** is teaching academic research writing this fall to Virginia

Commonwealth University students at a branch campus in Doha, Qatar. During the last six months, she presented original short fiction works at two academic conferences in London. Her family and friends don't believe her when she reports that, along with temperatures over 100 degrees, the humidity in Doha has been near or above 70 percent. Deserts are supposed to be dry!

# In Memory

- Elizabeth Porter Blackburn '40**, 4/30/2019.
- Mildred Sneed McIver '41**, 4/24/2019.
- Betsy Hodges Harper '45**, 4/8/2019.
- Anna Worth '48**, 3/15/2019.
- Helen Boyle Baxter '49**, 9/12/2019.
- Betty Rogers Carter '49**, 8/26/2019.
- Janelle Clark Sheehan '50**, 2/12/2019.
- Helen Stephens Cunningham '53**, 6/1/2019.
- Elizabeth "Lib" Phillips Phillips '54**, 3/18/2019.
- Jane Austin Keesler '56**, 3/27/2019.
- Barbara Beck Hunter '57**, 3/28/2019.
- Martha Shaw '57**, 8/1/2019.
- Ivy Hunter Cameron '58**, 5/8/2019.
- Carolyn Hilker Adams '59**, 3/29/2019.
- Shirley M. Tarlton '60**, 9/9/2019.
- Betty Bynum Walston '60**, 7/31/2019.
- Sarah Crawford Niven '61**, 6/29/2019.
- Mary Scott Derrick Guest '62**, 5/23/2019.
- Helen Woolard Wilkinson '67**, 5/29/2019.
- Cris Babb Freeman '73**, 7/17/2019.
- Susan Baker Hewell '75**, 7/25/2019.
- Susan Ellsworth Wiggs '78**, 5/25/2019.
- Hope Hinton Foxley '79**, 7/28/2019.
- James D. Dolph MBA '83**, 8/1/2019.
- Marie Puckett-Nash MBA '87**, 9/13/2019.
- Rose-Anne Beasley Beall MED '88**, 8/9/2019.
- Janet Aycock Fields MBA '91**, 8/14/2019.
- Kelly Caudle Lein '91**, 4/23/2019.
- Shirley Robbins Morrow '93**, 7/10/2018.
- Daniel Hocken MFA '07**, 9/14/2019.
- Sarah Walker Miranda ASN '12**, 8/10/2019.

# QUEENS MAGAZINE WINTER 2020

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## ANSWERS TO JUMP IN

*Answers: 1. A 2. D 3. C 4. B 5. D*



# WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE AT QUEENS?

With the opening of the beautiful new Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts and Civic Engagement in February 2020, Arts at Queens is poised to be an arts and culture hub presenting diverse and vibrant experiences.

Share your favorite cultural experience at Queens on our Facebook page or email [editor@queens.edu](mailto:editor@queens.edu).

## PRINTING ON RECYCLED PAPER:

The *Queens Magazine* is printed on a paper which is 10 percent post-consumer waste fiber. Elemental chlorine-free pulps, acid-free and chlorine-free manufacturing conditions meet and exceed archival standards. Using 10,341 lbs. of paper for this project, here are the benefits of using post-consumer recycled fiber instead of virgin fiber:

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11,069 gal	wastewater flow saved
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## Jump In:

WHAT ALL ALUMNI NEED TO KNOW

What does it mean to be a part of the Queens alumni family? Here are a few questions we think will test your knowledge. Answers can be found on page 46.

—Danielle Phillips '13, MS '18

1. Name the Queens program in which you submit information about a prospective student and, if that student is accepted, he or she receives a \$1,000 scholarship per year?
  - A. Refer a Royal
  - B. Royal Recognition
  - C. Leave a Legacy
  - D. Royal Recommendation
2. Which alumni services does the Vandiver Center for Career Development provide?
  - A. Resume workshops
  - B. Networking events, like Schmoozapalooza
  - C. Personal career advising
  - D. All of the above
3. When you make a gift to the Queens Fund, your gift supports:
  - A. New buildings
  - B. Staff and faculty salaries
  - C. Need- and merit-based student scholarships
  - D. Campus beautification
4. Where is the Alumni Relations office located? (We hope you'll come visit!)
  - A. Trexler Student Center
  - B. First floor, Burwell Hall
  - C. First floor, Jernigan Hall
  - D. Second floor, Burwell Hall
5. What can be found online at [connect.queens.edu](http://connect.queens.edu)?
  - A. Upcoming events
  - B. The alumni directory
  - C. Donation forms
  - D. All of the above

# ONE *last* THING

## In Search of Understanding

A QUEENS ALUMNA TAKES A FAMILY TRIP TO GERMANY AND FINDS MEANING



*A memorial wall at Dachau in Germany honors those who were exterminated in the concentration camp between 1933 and 1945. Queens alumna Dara Childers visited the poignant site, where her paternal grandfather was imprisoned, following graduation.*

On our first night in Germany, my dad and I gathered with the rest of the group—city representatives, tour guides, researchers and our fellow Frankfurters. Joined together in our hotel conference room, all in a circle, we passed around a microphone to share our stories of love and loss during the Holocaust. Some were first-generation and had lived through events like Kristallnacht as young children. The stories were incredibly moving.

In 1996, my grandmother and aunt went to Germany on the same kind of trip. Sponsored by the city of Frankfurt, the opportunity is available to first-, second-, and third-generation Frankfurters. In 2018, my dad discovered that the city still offered the opportunity, and that my family members could apply. His application quickly got approved, and being the eldest child, he offered me first choice to go along. I agreed, because it was timed up just after my graduation from Queens, but more importantly, I wanted to take this trip with my dad. I'm 44 years old, and I was celebrating my recent accomplishment: earning my college degree.

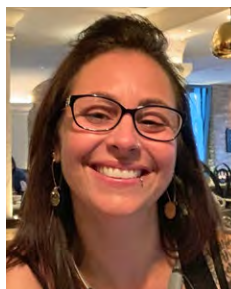
A psychology major, I like to understand how people think and was eager to understand further. My hope was that this trip would help me understand where I came from and how it emotionally affected my dad's side of the family.

Both of my dad's parents escaped Nazi Germany and survived the Holocaust. They never talked about it. Not with me anyway. They didn't seem to discuss loss and grief at all. I think it is due to what they experienced in Germany. In contrast for me, my mother grew up very differently, her family all from North Carolina. They showed a large capacity for emotions.

Two parts of the trip stand out for me: visiting Dachau and trying to follow in my grandmother Minna's footsteps in Frankfurt. Dachau is a haunting place. Visiting the former concentration camp was one of the most emotional moments. Seeing the conditions the prisoners endured was beyond words, and all I could think of was my sweet grandfather, Al, being held captive in such a place. Equally disturbing, walking around Frankfurt, the town has identified Holocaust victims by placing plaques on the sidewalks where families once lived. The most striking was seeing 11 or 12 little gold plaques from the same family—the adults down to very young children.

My dad was more affected by our meeting with Sven Bischoff, the grandson of the family who brought my grandfather and his family out of Germany. I suspect that my father was more moved to meet Mr. Bischoff because, were it not for his grandfather's generosity, none of us may exist.

I never knew why my dad's side of the family had been so closed off. We never talked about what they went through. But now, having walked a little in their shoes and after learning what they endured in Germany, I've found a little understanding.



*Dara Beth Childers '19 is a native Charlottean and recent graduate of Queens University of Charlotte. She earned a degree in psychology with a minor in professional writing and rhetoric.*



***Dressed for the Occasion***

With the help of floral designer Elizabeth House Flowers, Diana was draped in pink and red roses in celebration of the inauguration of President Daniel Lugo.



# HOMECOMING

*Save the Date - February 15, 2020*

Return to campus to cheer for our Royals  
basketball teams, visit Miss Betty's  
Marketplace and attend the 3rd Annual  
Black Alumni Gathering.

View the full schedule of events at  
[queens.edu/homecoming](https://queens.edu/homecoming)