

Salem

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# STATEMENT



THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP ISSUE

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t: 978.542.7530**On the cover**

During an international adventure that began in Pakistan two years ago, MSW candidate Aasma Aziz '18G founded the nonprofit One Little Light which is focused on empowering women, supporting children's education and creating scholarship opportunities. Hers is one of several inspirational stories about Salem State entrepreneurs beginning on page 12. Photo by Bradley Moran '82.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Salem State Community,

What does it take to be an entrepreneur? Determination, passion, imagination, and grit? A great work ethic is a must, and, of course, it helps to have a novel, inspiring or impactful idea.

Our students at Salem State have all of the elements of great entrepreneurs, and some of our alumni are perfect examples of the hard work and perseverance that it takes to turn an idea into a business.

The entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well on our campus and within the students who have found success after Salem State as you will read in the pages of this edition of *Salem Statement*.

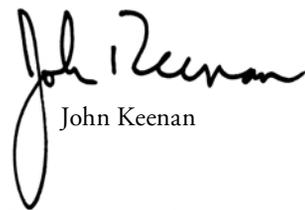
Aasma Aziz '18G moved to America from Pakistan to pursue a master's in social work, and has since created a nonprofit to empower Pakistani women and support children's education. Over at Bent Water Brewing Co. in Lynn, alums John Erik Strom '13 and Priscilla Swain '10 use their degrees in geology and English, respectively, to create and market locally sourced brews.

Jake Cotter '12 and Dakota Hamill '12 are attempting to discover the first antibiotic in 30 years by sifting through dirt samples. And Katie (LeClerc) Greer '04, '09G operates a consulting firm, which provides Internet safety education to a variety of organizations, from schools to law enforcement agencies.

Our commitment to entrepreneurship is manifested in our dedication to our Bertolon School of Business, which will have a new leader in June when Kathleen Barnes, PhD joins Salem State as dean of the Bertolon School of Business. Dr. Barnes brings with her nearly 24 years of higher education experience, most recently serving as associate dean of the Cotsakos College of Business at William Paterson University in New Jersey. I am confident that Dr. Barnes will successfully lead the Bertolon School into the future as we continue the process of achieving accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

These members of our Salem State community, both current and former, make me proud to be leading this institution. I admire the work they do and the obstacles they overcome on a daily basis to create and maintain successful companies. As Salem State's new president, I am excited to see what new businesses, and industries, our future Vikings create.

Your friend,



John Keenan

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Don't miss out on all the fun!



# President Keenan Emphasizes Equality, Social Justice and Salem Upbringing in Inaugural Address

BY KIMBERLY BURNETT

JOHN D. KEENAN, OF SALEM, WAS INAUGURATED AS SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY'S 14<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 19. IN HIS ADDRESS, PRESIDENT KEENAN, A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE GRADUATE, INVOKED THE WORDS OF HORACE MANN—"EDUCATION IS THE GREAT EQUALIZER"—AS HE EMPHASIZED THE POWER OF EDUCATION TO BRING OPPORTUNITY AND CHANGE.

President Keenan added, "It's easy for this to get lost in the day-to-day routine on campus, but we must remember that through our work at Salem State, we are fighting for equality. We are promoting democracy. And we are advancing social justice."

President Keenan spoke of Salem State's work in providing education and sense of community that was so crucial to his own success. Drawing on his upbringing in Salem, President Keenan referenced the mentors, teachers, coaches, friends, classmates, roommates, colleagues, and family who shaped him.

He stated, "Calling this city home for over half a century—I am an extremely proud and grateful son of Salem."

Referencing those growing up in Salem who come from challenging economic backgrounds, President



Rep. Paul Tucker '87, Mayor Kim Driscoll '89, President John Keenan, Sen. Joan Lovely '06, and Gov. Charlie Baker '08H at the inauguration in January.



Keenan announced the launch of the Presidential Diversity Scholarship, which will provide funding for students who lack the means to attend college. The inauguration was entirely funded through private donations, and these contributions will also be used to launch the scholarship.

President Keenan spoke of his hopes that Salem State will be the first state university in the Commonwealth to become a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), in which 25 percent of students identify as Hispanic. The Hispanic population is the fastest growing in the North Shore, and Salem State is committed to ensuring the success of all students in the region and beyond.

The scholarship and HSI designation were both discussed as part of President Keenan's vision for the next decade, which he stated would focus on academic excellence, student success and capital improvements. Among President Keenan's stated goals were building a science teaching laboratory addition, achieving accreditation for the Bertolon School of Business, offering a doctoral program in occupational therapy, attaining Carnegie Classification for civic engagement, advocating for a South Salem commuter rail station, increasing the graduation rate from 52 percent to 65 percent, closing achievement gaps, increasing enrollment, and launching another comprehensive fundraising campaign, doubling the success of the 10,000 Reasons Campaign that raised over \$26 million.

President Keenan emphasized the importance of Salem State becoming as inclusive as it is diverse, and he discussed hateful acts of vandalism that occurred on campus in September and January. He addressed the challenges faced in higher education and in our country, as well as the elevated need to promote inclusion, social justice, civic engagement and activism.

Offering advice to students, President Keenan highlighted the importance of hard work and resilience, recalling having lost two local elections before going on to serve the Seventh Essex District in the Massachusetts State Legislature from 2005 to 2014.

President Keenan began his role as the 14th president of Salem State University on August 6, 2017. Prior to being named president, he served as the university's general counsel and vice president for administration, responsible for the departments of human resources and equal opportunity, capital planning and facilities, information technology, risk and asset management, university police, and legal. His full biography can be read at [salemstate.edu/presidentkeenan](http://salemstate.edu/presidentkeenan).

The entire speech is available at [salemstate.edu/news/president-john-d-keenans-inaugural-address](http://salemstate.edu/news/president-john-d-keenans-inaugural-address)

“Calling this city home for over half a century—I am an extremely proud and grateful son of Salem.”

—President John D. Keenan

## Event Details, Speakers and Guests

The Inauguration of Salem State University's 14th president was held in the Twohig Gymnasium. The campus community and general public were invited to reserve tickets to the historic event at no cost.

Along with the inaugural address, various statewide higher education leaders and members of the Salem State community took part in the ceremony by offering remarks, reading original poetry and engaging in inaugural traditions.

The ceremony included an address from Gov. Charlie Baker '08H, a welcome from Board of Trustees Chair Paul Mattera, and remarks from campus and community leaders, including Joan Lovely '06, Massachusetts state senator, Second Essex District; Paul Tucker '87, Massachusetts state representative, Seventh Essex District; Kimberley Driscoll '89, mayor of the City of Salem; Mary DeSimone '76, Alumni trustee and Alumni Association Board of Directors member; Professor James Gubbins, Massachusetts State College Association Salem Chapter president; and Nikolla Papa, Student Government Association secretary.

Salem State professor January Gill O'Neil and student Edwin J. Calderon each recited a piece of original poetry created for the Inauguration. Student Stephanie Lento sang the National Anthem. Massachusetts Commissioner of Higher Education Carlos E. Santiago and President Emerita Patricia Maguire Meserve were among those who took part in inaugural traditions.

President Keenan's family was central to the ceremony, as he was joined on stage by his father, John D. Keenan Sr.; his wife, Kara McLaughlin; and his children, Aidan Keenan and Erin Keenan.

## All the Buzz

**ANGELS DRAFT PICK RICH FECTEAU '16  
PURSUES BASEBALL CAREER WITH  
BURLINGTON BEES IN IOWA**

BY BRION O'CONNOR

THE MOMENT WAS PURE HOLLYWOOD, REMINISCENT OF BABE RUTH'S LEGENDARY "CALLED SHOT" IN GAME 3 OF THE 1932 WORLD SERIES AGAINST THE CHICAGO CUBS, WHEN THE YANKEES' "SULTAN OF SWAT" DEPOSITED A CHARLIE ROOT CURVEBALL MORE THAN 440 FEET DEAD CENTER OVER THE WALL AT WRIGLEY FIELD.

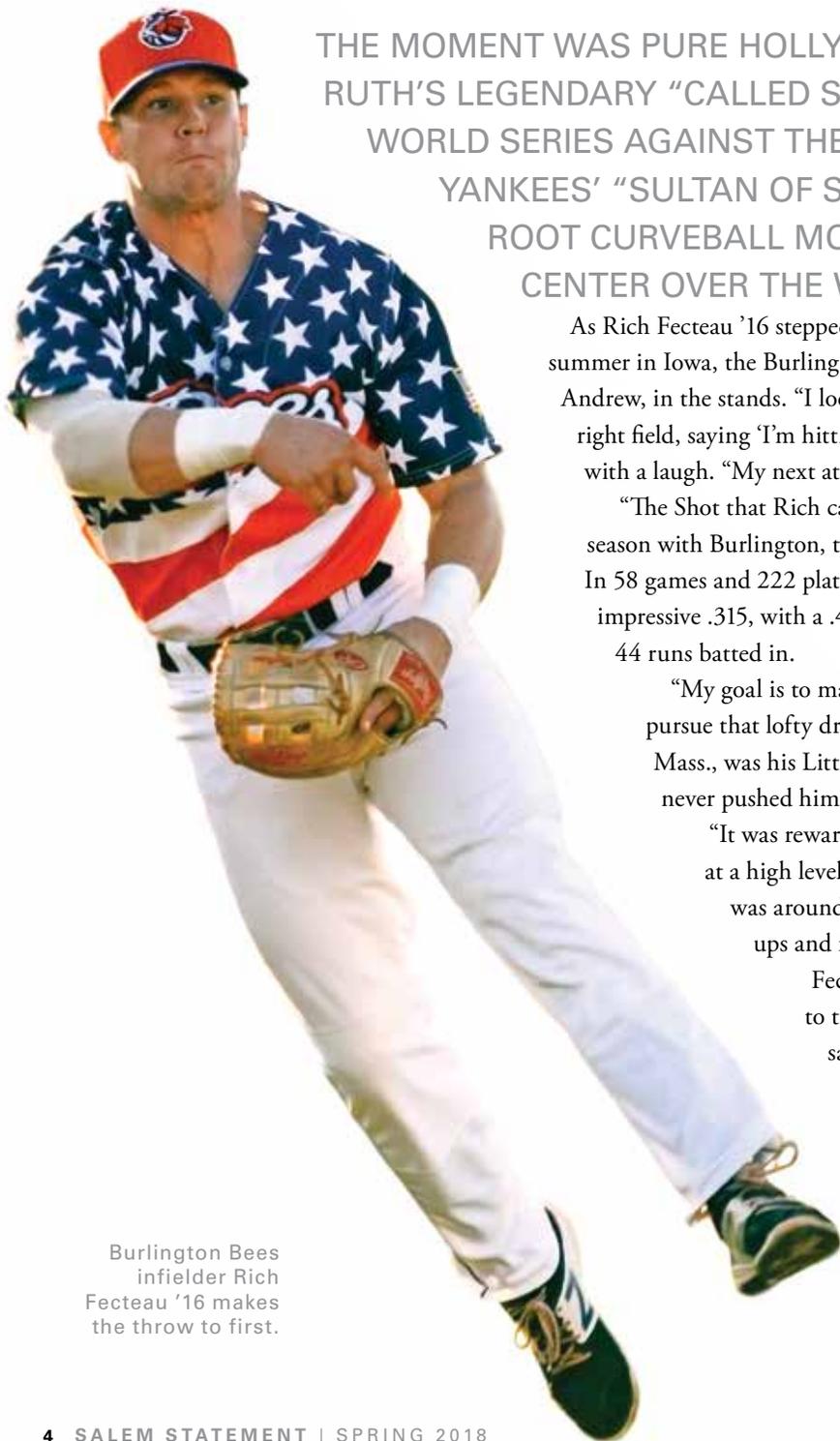
As Rich Fecteau '16 stepped up to the plate during a Single-A game this past summer in Iowa, the Burlington Bees third baseman spotted his older brother, Andrew, in the stands. "I looked at him from inside the dugout and pointed to right field, saying 'I'm hitting the next one out,'" said the Salem State graduate with a laugh. "My next at bat, I hit a high fastball out for a solo home run."

"The Shot that Rich called" was the highlight of Fecteau's inaugural season with Burlington, the Single-A affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels. In 58 games and 222 plate appearances with the Bees, Fecteau hit an impressive .315, with a .491 slugging percentage, eight home runs and 44 runs batted in.

"My goal is to make the big leagues," Fecteau said. Watching him pursue that lofty dream, even during his formative years in Newbury, Mass., was his Little League coach and father, Michael Fecteau. "I never pushed him," said the elder Fecteau. "We always did it for fun." "It was rewarding to see him listen and learn, and to play sports at a high level," he adds. "Rich had a talent for baseball. When he was around 8 or 9, he could hit the ball consistently, catch pop-ups and field when the other players had more difficulty."

Fecteau just kept getting better, driven by his devotion to the game. His Legion coach, Timothy Southhall, said he "first met Richie down at the field when he was 13 or 14. He and his dad would be hitting in the cage. Richie's talent comes from working harder than everyone else, and genetics from his dad."

"He just loves the game," said Southhall. "He loves to hit a baseball more than anything. That sounds funny, but not many players do. They don't want to put the work in between games."



Burlington Bees  
infielder Rich  
Fecteau '16 makes  
the throw to first.



Rich Fecteau '16 takes a strong swing at the plate during a home game.

Fecteau's work ethic and solid high school career at Triton Regional High School caught the attention of then-Salem State University baseball coach Mike Ward. "I'd seen him play at Triton, and also watched him play at the Lynn Invitational," said Ward. "I thought that he had a tremendous bat and was an excellent athlete."

"I also knew that Richie came from a great family and that his father and brother were also outstanding athletes," he said.

Fecteau became a four-year standout for Ward at Salem State, helping to lead the Vikings to three MASCAC championships and three NCAA tournament appearances. But the step up to the collegiate ranks came with challenges.

"Richie came in as a shortstop, but we had an excellent defensive shortstop already who was only a sophomore—Ryan Beliveau of Lynn," said Ward. "Richie played third base his freshman year, and then moved to second base for his final three years because we wanted him in the middle of the infield. Richie had to work much harder on defense than offense, and he turned into a very strong defensive player for us."

Fecteau's offensive output improved each of his four years with the Vikings. His average improved from .354 his freshman campaign to .399 four years later. His .369 career average stands 10th all-time at Salem State. In his sophomore season, when he was named the MASCAC Player of the Year, he led the nation in doubles with 24. In his senior campaign, Fecteau added some pop, hitting six home runs to help boost his slugging percentage to a career best .607.

"When I was recruiting Richie, I thought we might lose

him to a Division 1 program," said Ward. "He definitely had that ability."

At Salem State he was named to the All-MASCAC first-team four times, and twice named an ECAC All-Star. He eventually broke the Salem State career record for hits (227), doubles (64) and triples (13). In 2016, he received the Salem State John Galaris Male Scholar Athlete of the Year Award.

"Being part of the baseball program at Salem State helped me grow in many ways," said Fecteau, who studied exercise science, with a minor in business administration.

Ward said Fecteau is a natural leader because he lets his play and effort do the talking. "He led by example. He's a little quiet, but very funny once you get to know him. He wasn't a rah-rah player, but he was always into the game."

In 2016, Fecteau was selected by the Los Angeles Angels in the 39th round of the Major League Baseball draft, the first Salem State baseball player tabbed since Scott Kimball was taken in the 10th round by the Milwaukee Brewers in 1987.

"It was an awesome feeling, to see something he worked so hard for become a reality," said Michael Fecteau. "I couldn't have been more proud of him."

Fecteau's Salem State coach readily agreed. "I'm not at all surprised by Richie's success," said Ward. "I told everyone that he would move through the minors if he was given a chance to play. I think he'll go as far as his bat takes him."

Southall added, "He's someone for kids to look up to and say, 'Here's a kid from a small town and look at him now, playing professional baseball.'"

GLOBAL NEWS

# Assistant Principal's Journey Began in Brazil

BY DYKE HENDRICKSON



Karina Mascia '03G, assistant principal at the Bresnahan Elementary School, has always believed in education. In fact, her involvement played a role in bringing her to America.

She was an undergraduate student in Brazil when she earned an internship to assist a Brazilian professor on a thesis project involving schools in Houston. She spent a half-year in Texas, and liked America.

After returning to her home of Araraquara, São Paulo, she came back to the States and settled with an aunt who lived in Marblehead.

She held an undergraduate degree in Brazil, and she earned a master's degree in education and administration at Salem State University.

Mascia now speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese as she continues her career on the North Shore.

"As a child, I never said I wanted to live in the U.S.," she said. "My mother was in the travel business, and as a family, we went a lot of places. So I had a sense of the world. First, there was an opportunity in Houston, and then in New England. I appreciate all the support I got from people along the way, including my parents, friends, teachers and now my own family."



Mascia taught high school in Lynn after arriving. Later, she taught for almost seven years in Plaistow, N.H., before taking a job at the Bresnahan Elementary School in 2011.

Mascia is now the mother of two, and with her husband she lives in West Newbury. She recently became a citizen.

"I was so excited," she said. "I have come to have a great love for America, and I celebrate the moment I became a citizen."

The education project she assisted on more than two decades ago focused on finding a connection between folk tales and the development of language among youngsters. Her special area of study was in speech pathology, and she says she sometimes uses tenets of that thesis today.

She added, "When I was studying in this country, and learning the language, I felt if I worked hard and planted good seeds I would get to where I wanted to go. That has happened to me. And it makes me happy. It can happen to all youngsters here."

The above story appears here with permission from the *Newburyport News*.  
[newburyportnews.com](http://newburyportnews.com)



## Alumna Volunteers for International Mercy Ships

Erin Wilson '13 recently served as a volunteer nurse on the world's largest private hospital ship, the Africa Mercy. Onboard from October 22, 2017, through January 13, 2018, she lived and worked with 400 other volunteers from over 40 nations.

During her trip, the Africa Mercy was docked in Douala, Cameroon. She also traveled through South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana. "It was amazing," Erin says. "There aren't words to describe the feeling I had while having the privilege to take care of the Cameroonians. They were so appreciative of everything."

Erin worked in the maxillofacial surgery ward, helping to treat conditions such as craniofacial tumors, cleft lip, cleft palate and ear-nose-and-throat diseases. "One of the best parts was handing them the mirror so that they could see what they looked like after surgery," Erin says. "It wasn't like working in your typical hospital. The wards were full of singing, dancing and laughter."

The Africa Mercy delivers help to remote areas and has an onboard surgical capacity of about 7,000 interventions a year. Ship-based teams serve in local villages, providing dental and medical clinics, community health education, and training, according to the Mercy Ships website.

Mercy Ships is a global charity founded by Don and Deyon Stephens in 1978. It has performed services valued at more than \$1 billion, impacting more than 2.48 million of the world's desperate people, according to its website. The ships make it possible to deliver a state-of-the-art hospital to regions where clean water, electricity, medical facilities and skilled personnel are limited or nonexistent. Since returning, Erin has found transitioning back to life in the U.S. tougher than expected. "We are so fortunate for what we have here, and sometimes overlook the fact that a roof over our heads and food on our plate is a privilege," Erin says. "My time spent in Africa changed my perspective." Erin plans to continue travel nursing and likes that it gives her the freedom to volunteer in other countries.

BY SARA WARD

Erin Wilson '13 is pictured with a patient on the Africa Mercy. Photo by Saul Loubassa (Copyright of Mercy Ships.)





At the Gasset Fitness Center, Salem State students and alumni applied their carpentry skills to making beds for 50 children living in poverty.

# A Dream Come True

**STUDENTS, ALUMNI BUILD 50 BEDS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED**

**BY KIMBERLY BURNETT**

SALEM STATE STUDENTS AND ALUMNI GRABBED DRILLS, SANDPAPER AND PAINTBRUSHES TO ENSURE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP FOR 50 CHILDREN ALONG THE NORTH SHORE WHEN THE VIKINGS' BUILD-A-BED CHALLENGE CAME TO THE GASSETT FITNESS CENTER IN DECEMBER.

Fifty pairs of Salem State students or alumni from various clubs, teams, organizations, and classes came together to build, sand and paint a bed in one hour. The goal was to build 50 beds in a four-hour period.

The Vikings' Build-a-Bed Challenge is sponsored by Salem State's Center for Civic Engagement, athletics, A Bed for Every Child, The Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, and St. Jean's Credit Union. The beds joined an additional 200 beds to be delivered to children in need.

"A bed is something many of us take for granted, so for our students to have this opportunity to help ensure

a good night's sleep for 50 children in our community who live in poverty exemplifies the meaning of 'The Salem State Way.' When these children lay their heads down for their first night's sleep on their new bed, it will be a wonderful feeling for our students to know that their efforts played an active role in addressing a very important social justice issue facing families living in Massachusetts," said Cynthia Lynch, director of the Salem State Center for Civic Engagement.

The campus-wide initiative was created in response to November being Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month, and was designed to highlight the challenges of poverty many families on the North Shore face. According to the Center for American Progress, Massachusetts experiences one of the highest rates of homelessness in the United States, with 13.3 percent of children under the age of 18 living below the poverty line.

A crowdfunding page was also created to raise money for beds and accessories, with sponsorship levels ranging from \$10 to \$250. Donations were used to buy books, stuffed animals, pillows, sheets, comforters, bed bundle sets, and beds.

The Center for Civic Engagement serves as an integral partner within the greater community, striving to creatively address local, regional and global challenges.



# Governor Baker Appoints Three to Board of Trustees

NEW APPOINTEES ARE ALL ALUMNI



**JAMIE ZAHLAWAY BELSITO '96**, of Topsfield, a political science graduate, has been a strong advocate for new mothers, working to bring postpartum maternal mental health to the forefront of the minds of members of Congress and the Massachusetts State Legislature. “With her career in social work, particularly her work fighting for women suffering from postpartum depression, Jamie brings highly relevant experience to the board. We look forward to her service,” said Paul Mattera, chair of the board of trustees. Zahlaway Belsito is the founder of Effie’s Grace, LLC, which is focused on advocating for positive outcomes for women’s health. As the former director of advocacy at the National Coalition of Maternal Mental Health, Zahlaway Belsito worked closely with Congresswoman Katherine Clark as well as with several members of the U.S. Congress, to assist in the implementation of postpartum depression screenings and access to treatment across the country.



**MIDGE DESIMONE '76**, a Swampscott resident, brings extensive experience in accounting and finance to the board. She is replacing Alyce Davis, PhD, as the alumni trustee. DeSimone received her bachelor’s degree in English at Salem State, and went on to receive her master’s in library science from Simmons College in 1978 and her master’s in business administration from Boston College in 1985. “Salem State will greatly benefit from the knowledge and experience that Ms. DeSimone brings to the board, especially given her background in finance,” said Mattera. DeSimone has been a member of the Salem State Board of Overseers, the planning committee for the Salem State Wine Auction and the co-chairperson of the Parents Committee of the Salem State Day Care Center. She was also a member of the board of trustees of the Investment Committee of the Community Resources of Justice, and a member of the advisory Committee on School Renovation and Construction for the town of Swampscott. Most recently, DeSimone performed accounting and financial analysis for a local high-tech start-up.



**RUTHANNE RUSSELL '82**, of Duxbury, received her Salem State degree in business education and “brings a unique and useful skill set to Salem State given her background in human resources and training,” said Mattera. “Her dedication to the university is clear through her service on many boards and advisory committees. I am pleased to have Ruthanne’s commitment and expertise as we work to advance the university’s mission,” added Mattera. As chief human resources officer at Hill Holliday in Boston, Russell has played an invaluable role in helping guide the company’s leadership teams, human capital and corporate initiatives since her arrival in 2011.

She also serves on the university’s Career Services Advisory Board, the Board of Overseers and on the Bertolon School of Business Advisory Council. She is a member of the Human Resource Leadership Forum, Society of Human Resources Management, NEHRA Executive Forum, and a former member of the Boston University Executive Development Roundtable.

## University Named to 10 Top Schools for Latino Success

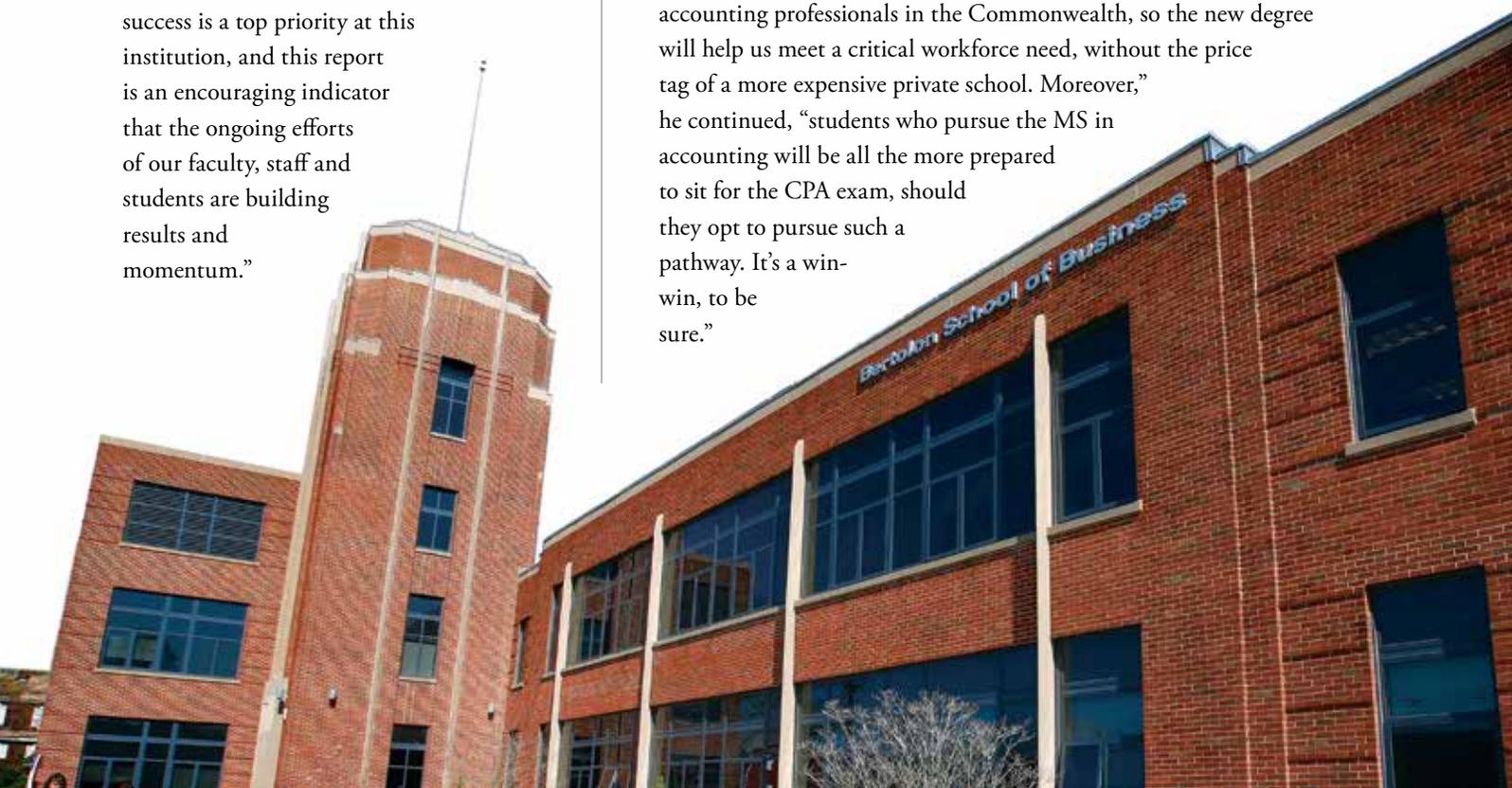
Salem State has been named one of the 10 top-performing institutions for Latino student success, according to a report by The Education Trust, a national nonprofit advocacy organization. Salem State is the only institution in New England to have been included in the Top 10 list. According to the report, Salem State ranks seventh in the country among similar institutions, with a 46.7 percent Latino student graduation rate versus the 48.2 percent graduation rate of white students—a graduation gap of 1.5 percent. Seventeen percent of Salem State students identify as Latino. “As we celebrate this recognition and the efforts that have gone into achieving it, we also recognize that there is much work to be done to drive the success of all of our students and close the achievement gap that exists for students of color,” said Scott James, executive vice president at Salem State. “Student success is a top priority at this institution, and this report is an encouraging indicator that the ongoing efforts of our faculty, staff and students are building results and momentum.”

## Students Convince Dunkin’ Donuts to Retire Styrofoam Cups

Dunkin’ Donuts, located in Meier Hall, has changed all Styrofoam cups to recycled paper cups. The decision follows a request made by the Salem State chapter of Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group (MASSPIRG), which launched the campaign to reduce the use of Styrofoam in communities in the spring of 2017 as part of their Zero Waste program. The student chapter leader of MASSPIRG, Liz Plume of the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, proposed a campaign to ask Dunkin’ Donuts to retire their Styrofoam cups. Multiple college chapters throughout Massachusetts and Connecticut participated in a mass action, calling Dunkin’ Donuts’ customer service and requesting the Styrofoam ban.

## Bertolon Gets Approval for MS in Accounting

The Board of Higher Education Academic Affairs recently approved Salem State’s proposal for a master of science degree in accounting. “Adding the new master’s degree in accounting to our academic portfolio is a great step forward for Salem State,” says Provost and Academic Vice President David Silva. “There’s great demand for master’s-level prepared accounting professionals in the Commonwealth, so the new degree will help us meet a critical workforce need, without the price tag of a more expensive private school. Moreover,” he continued, “students who pursue the MS in accounting will be all the more prepared to sit for the CPA exam, should they opt to pursue such a pathway. It’s a win-win, to be sure.”



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# ENTREPRENEUR

A SAMPLING OF VARIOUS QUALITIES REQUIRED

THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT RUNS HIGH WITH GRADS AND STUDENTS OF SALEM STATE. WHILE THE UNIVERSITY SUPPORTS THAT SPIRIT ON CAMPUS WITH PROGRAMS AT THE ENTERPRISE CENTER AND THE CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY, MANY GRADS HAVE MADE IT ON THEIR OWN. HERE WE PRESENT 12 SUCCESS STORIES.

## 1 SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE

John Erik Strom '13 (geology degree) is co-founder and head brewer at Bent Water Brewing Co. in Lynn while his wife Priscilla Swain '10 (English degree) handles marketing.

## 2 KEEPING PACE WITH TECHNOLOGY

Katie (LeClerc) Greer '04, '09G (criminal justice master's degree) operates a consulting firm which provides Internet safety education to schools, law enforcement agencies, corporations, community organizations and national conferences.



# NEURIALISM

RED TO SUCCEED ARE MANIFESTED IN THESE STORIES

## 3

### RESEARCH

Jake Cotter '12 and Dakota Hamill '12 (chemistry degrees) seek to resolve antibiotic resistance.

## 4

### PERSEVERANCE AND BUSINESS INSTINCTS

Aasma Aziz '18G (pursuing MSW degree) has overcome numerous obstacles, including homelessness, to continue a journey from Pakistan that began two years ago.



# TAPPING into ART and SCIENCE

“The name Bent Water is definitely a shoutout to Lynn’s unique water. The ‘Bent’ part comes from the fact that beer is 90 to 95 percent water by weight, and the water molecule itself is polar (or bent), meaning it is both positively and negatively charged. This property allows it to attract both positive and negative ions, which makes water an excellent solvent. Without the bent shape of the water molecule, and its excellent ability to dissolve substances, beer wouldn’t exist. We at Bent Water Brewing Co. think beer is pretty darn important and are thankful that water is bent the way it is.”

—John Erik Strom '13,  
co-founder and head brewer  
of Bent Water Brewing Co.

Bent Water head brewer  
John Erik Strom '13 draws a  
sample at the brewery in Lynn.

Photos by Simeen Brown.



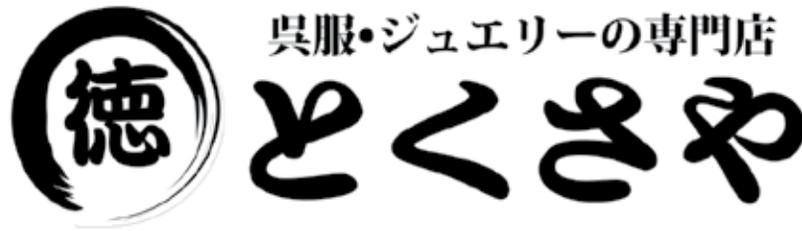
## HOW TWO ALUMS USED THEIR DEGREES IN GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND ENGLISH TO HELP CREATE BENT WATER BREWING CO.

BY LYNN EMBICK '11G

IT WAS NOVEMBER OF 2015 WHEN THE FIRST BATCH OF BEER WAS BREWED ON SITE AT BENT WATER BREWING COMPANY IN LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS. BUSINESS HAS BEEN BOOMING, BUT THE BREWERY—LOCATED OFF THE LYNNWAY AT THE SITE OF THE FORMER LYNN LUMBER—MIGHT NOT EXIST TODAY IF NOT FOR SALEM STATE ALUMS, PRISCILLA SWAIN '10, AN ENGLISH MAJOR, AND JOHN ERIK STROM '13, A GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES MAJOR, WHO FIRST MET IN 2007.

*continued on page 18*





# CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

GRADUATE FROM JAPAN APPLIES ACQUIRED LANGUAGE SKILLS

BY SARA WARD

Hidetoshi Shimizu '03 received a degree in business administration from Salem State University and now owns Kimono Tokusaya Inc., a Japanese traditional clothing business. The retailer has a corporate ethos to introduce and inherit Japanese culture by selling kimonos and other Japanese cultural products.

A family business, the company was originally established 170 years ago in 1848. Since Kimono Tokusaya Inc. started, there have been many changes in Japanese lifestyle.

“Kimonos are not regular day cloth anymore,” Hidetoshi says. “People wear them at special occasions like wedding ceremonies, funeral ceremonies, while sightseeing in Kyoto, local cultural events, and so on.”

According to Hidetoshi, many Japanese people today don't know how to wear the traditional clothing. In addition to providing the products, the company also helps customers wearing kimonos at local cultural events and teaches them how to wear them.

Hidetoshi became the eighth president of Kimono Tokusaya Inc. five years ago, succeeding his father. The company does business with both local and worldwide customers.

Hidetoshi came to Salem State from Japan. He had a great experience, and has built much of his philosophy on what he learned at the university, not only from the classes he took, but also from the experience he had working at the circulation desk in the library.

“I met many friends who I had never met in Japan, like different cultural background, different appearance, from around the world at Salem State,” Hidetoshi says. “And friends are my most precious treasure in my college life.”

And though the language barrier could present a challenge at times, Hidetoshi says his friends and professors tried to understand his English, and he tried “really hard” to understand them.

Hidetoshi uses what he learned from those language challenges in his business today. He says he makes an effort to understand both spoken and unspoken feelings when closing business deals.

Hidetoshi also believes he obtained the ability to take action at Salem State. He has been able to use this ability in his career, and has been able to spread Japanese culture by trading Japanese traditional goods through Amazon as well. ■



The lounge at the entry to Bent Water Brewing Co. in Lynn

*continued from page 16*

Both majored in theatre at the outset. Priscilla changed her major to English and earned a bachelor's degree with a professional writing concentration in 2010. While considering master's programs, she found employment through a fellow alum, putting her English skills to work in the health care industry. John Erik put his schooling on pause to work on boats in the Florida Keys, the Caribbean, and later, Gloucester while gaining a working knowledge of the ocean, boating, engineering and repair.

When he returned to school, he signed up for a course in historical geology taught by Professor Brad Hubeny. John Erik's exemplary work led to an invitation to participate in a field camp experience in Montana where he would conduct geological surveys and develop mapmaking skills. Highly motivated, John Erik submitted his map, earned an A, and was told that he "broke the curve."

In 2013, he graduated magna cum laude with a degree in geological sciences. In addition to the experience in Montana, he had worked on a project with Hubeny, creating slides from core samples of lake sediment to gauge the geological history of

Icelandic lakes. He also traveled to the University of Minnesota to study geological core samples, and collected water samples from source streams to identify lake deposits in Iceland.

John Erik had become friendly with Priscilla's former employer, Aaron Reames. They brewed beer together, and would often discuss home brewing, micro brewing and opening a brewery. As time went on, John Erik looked to gain experience in the retail side of the beer and wine industry when he took a job at Henry's in North Beverly. He was working as a swim coach, interviewing for environmental geology positions, and considering grad school when Aaron approached him about an opportunity to open their own brewery.

Conditions were right, and Aaron and John Erik, along with partners Chris Crawford and Mike Shaughnessy, converted the former Lynn Lumber into Bent Water Brewing Co. To prepare for its opening, John Erik, co-founder and head brewer, obtained extensive training in Europe, and three years of planning led to the brewery being built out in just 12 weeks.

*continued on page 20*



## LESSONS LEARNED

### Applying Psychology Knowledge Led to Business Success

BY SARA WARD

After studying psychology at Salem State, Brett A. Rose found great success in business. In 2002, he launched United National Consumer Suppliers (UNCS), a leading wholesale distributor involved with manufacturer's closeouts, and excess inventories and overstocks.

Brett believes he was able to hone his craft at the university and learn how to sufficiently understand the biorhythmic buying habits of Americans in need of a bargain. "My time at Salem State taught me some of the greatest lessons I have learned, both in and outside the classroom," Brett says. "Everything from understanding how people think (to market my business) to the importance of community involvement."

Community involvement is something that has stuck with Brett even after his time at Salem State. His company provides funding, goods and volunteer hours to Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Broward House, Community Cycling Center, Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, Kids in Distress, Make a Wish, Memorial Healthcare System, and United Way.

"The education I received and relationships I formed are things I carry with me to this day," Brett adds. "My experience also taught me the value of diversity, acceptance and giving back."

Brett decided to start his own company after seeing companies like Yahoo! and Google excelling. UNCS, headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., is the only wholesale distributor serving the largest retailers as well as small family-owned businesses, from big-box physical stores to individual sellers on Amazon.

The company sells to retail clients such as Dollar Tree, Bed Bath & Beyond, TJ Maxx, Amazon, and others. UNCS has experienced great success since it started. It has become a fixture on the Inc. 5000 fastest-growing companies list, based on its significant year-after-year of growth. UNCS has appeared in *Forbes*, *Fortune*, *Business Insider*, and CNBC's "Power Lunch" as well. ■



*continued from page 18*

There was a hidden benefit. While much of the area gets its water from the Quabbin Reservoir in western Massachusetts, Lynn gets its water from a rich network of natural ponds. John Erik calls it “some of the best tasting water in the state.” Making up 90-95 percent of beer by weight, water is crucial in the science of beer making, and using unique water means that Bent Water can guarantee a unique product.

Every new beer is an opportunity for a new science experiment. John Erik forms a hypothesis, determines the methods needed, carries out the protocol, records results, and then analyzes the results. Feedback is essential, as he says results from these experiments are subject to individual taste. With 13 taps, the brewery aims to have a beer for everybody.

John Erik credits the Salem State scientific culture with teaching him how to take constructive criticism. Writing research papers for peer review, he says, was all about receiving criticism. “You expect a conversation to ensue around a thought. I need to know what people think of my beer,” he says.

John Erik feels that the hands-on experiences he was afforded at Salem State made all the difference for him, and at Salem State he learned how to think comprehensively, applying the scientific process to everyday problems. “Studying science is all about looking at possibilities and exploring the variables,” he explains. Giving the sales team a straight answer

about the timing of a product is not an easy task when things like equipment failure, yeast variance or sick crew members may skew results.

With her communications skills, Priscilla maintains a social media presence for the brewery while helping to market the product and promote events. Together, she and John Erik have used their experiences at Salem State to marry art and science, carving out a life, and a niche, that is unique and fulfilling.

Married in 2013, their contributions to the brewery venture in Lynn, notorious for its piratical past and its one-of-a-kind water, has resulted in a product that cannot be replicated, and is putting Bent Water Brewing Co. on the map as a New England destination. ■

Lynn Embick '11G teaches fifth grade at the Witchcraft Heights Elementary School in Salem.



Pictured right, beneath a “Love the Water” sign in the lounge, John Erik offers one of the company’s best sellers.



# SWEET SUCCESS

## ALUMNA BEGAN HER CAREER WHILE A STUDENT

Phyllis LeBlanc '82 earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Salem State University. In 1977, while she was still a student, she became a part-time employee at Harbor Sweets, which was within walking distance to the university and close to her apartment.

"I thought it sounded like fun," Phyllis says.

She started out just dipping chocolates, but Phyllis soon became involved in all aspects of the company, including candy production, shipping and administration.

Phyllis believes that the passion that Harbor Sweets has for its product is what makes it successful, in addition to the integrity and honesty that the company lives by. "That speaks to people," Phyllis says.

Studying business at Salem State, Phyllis was able to use the concepts she was learning and apply them to her career at Harbor Sweets. She enjoyed learning from Wayne Burton, then dean of the school of business, as well as Craig McLanahan, professor emeritus of operations management/management information systems, who shared his own business experiences with his students.

"You could really relate to it," Phyllis says.

Harbor Sweets was founded in 1973 when, in the basement of Ben Strohecker '93H, the "best chocolate in the world" was developed. Since opening, it has stayed true to a simpler age, when handcrafted chocolate did not surrender to mass production. Harbor Sweets still uses molds and copper kettles to produce its products.

BY SARA WARD

Eventually, Phyllis became the company's wholesale marketing manager. After she became the executive vice president and chief operating officer, Phyllis enrolled in an MBA program at Boston University at night and later received her degree.

It was a project for an entrepreneurship class that sparked the idea for a new line of chocolates that merged her career with her love of horses. Within four weeks of its launch, Harbor Sweets' Dark Horse Chocolates had paid for its development costs. Dark Horse Chocolates continue to be sold at upscale equestrian shops and gourmet shops throughout the United States.

Phyllis became president when the brand was seeking new ownership, and she purchased majority control of the company in 1998. After buying Harbor Sweets, Phyllis made sure to keep the personal touch that is a hallmark of the business, and Harbor Sweets has continued to grow since then with four new product lines under Phyllis's leadership and increased profits.

Harbor Sweets invests a portion of its earnings into community services. Some of the organizations that Harbor Sweets supports are Boys and Girls Club of Salem, Plummer Youth Promise in Salem, My Brother's Table in Lynn, and Beverly Bootstraps in Beverly. In 2016, Harbor Sweets introduced Gather Chocolate, a mission-driven line of chocolate that raises awareness of the plight of the honeybee and other pollinators and the vital role they play in agriculture and our ecosystem. For every box of Gather Chocolate sold, the Pollinator Partnership receives a donation to continue their efforts to preserve and protect our pollinators. ■

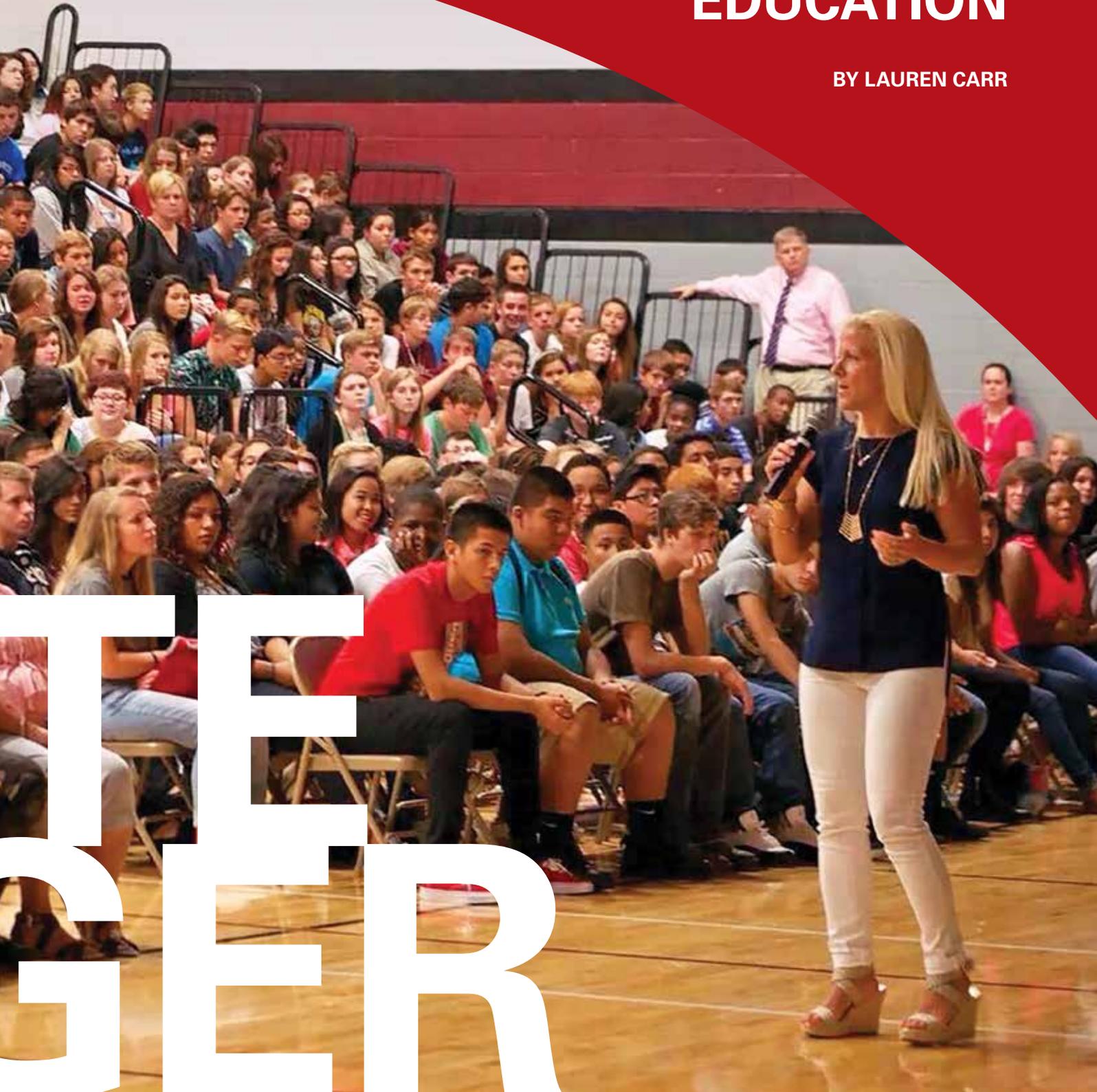


THE

# DELEAF

# ALUMNA TRANSFORMS INTERNET SAFETY EDUCATION

BY LAUREN CARR



INTER  
GREER

Katie Greer '04, '09G presents to middle school students about Internet safety.



WHEN YOU ASK KATIE (LECLERC) GREER '04, '09G WHAT SHE LOVES MOST ABOUT BEING AN ENTREPRENEUR, HER RESPONSE IS WELL THOUGHT OUT. "I LOVE THE FACT THAT I CAN BE MY OWN BOSS AND BUILD A BUSINESS AROUND MY CORE VALUES, LIKE KINDNESS AND BEING A GOOD PERSON. AT THE END OF THE DAY, I WANT PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE ME AS A PASSIONATE, HONEST, CARING INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS DONE POSITIVE THINGS."

Those "positive things" are clearly reflected in her consulting firm, KL Greer Consulting, which provides internet and technology safety education to schools, law enforcement agencies, corporations, community organizations and national conferences.

Katie was inspired by her previous career with the Corruption, Fraud and Computer Crime Division of the Attorney General's Office, which was inundated with requests for Internet safety presentations. She created an initial program and eventually expanded it to meet the high demand. Later, after leaving the attorney general's office, Katie worked full time as an intelligence analyst for the Massachusetts State Police where she performed similar work.

She believes the key to staying safe in today's technology-driven world is education—there is an art to education, and one component is realizing that not all audiences are wired the same. Katie began her consultancy with one small program to deliver to students and adults. Since then, she has built a range of programs that address audiences of all ages and professions.

"It's really about mindfulness—being intentional and thoughtful," Katie explains. "Technology is (developing) so fast and it's evolving all the time, so we are frequently stripped of that opportunity period to stop and think. We've become consumers rather than being mindful. For kids and adults, I try to get them to see how can they use technology as a tool."

Some of the strategies Katie teaches children include how to keep their personal information safe, knowing which sites are appropriate to use, using social networks responsibly, and heightening awareness of how you're establishing your digital brand. For parents, Katie helps them navigate the digital waters, educating them on "what's new, what's now, and what's next," and providing proactive initiatives to help them keep their children safe.

*continued on page 26*



# A Blooming Business

## Education Major Opened Flowers by Darlene

BY SARA WARD

Darlene Gallien '75 graduated from Salem State University with a degree in elementary education. She has since switched gears and has been successful in starting her own business, Flowers by Darlene/North Shore Fruit Baskets in Salem.

A few years after graduation, Darlene decided to open her own business. She had grown up with retail in the family, and wanted to try it for herself. Flowers by Darlene/North Shore Fruit Baskets is now in its 36th year.

The business first opened in 1982 and is family owned and operated. Flowers by Darlene/North Shore Fruit Baskets focuses on offering floral arrangements and gifts, and is dedicated to providing a pleasant customer experience.

Darlene believes that her strong communications skills have helped her business become the success that it is today. "I'm a people person," Darlene says.

Darlene came to Salem State from Swampscott along with a few other girls from town. Because Salem State had a reputation of being a teacher's college, she feels that she was surrounded by like-minded people who were interested in pursuing education. She had a good experience in college, learning not only academic skills, but life skills as well.

"You learn to cope with everyday life," Darlene says. In studying education, Darlene developed and strengthened her communications skills and learned how to deal with children who have all kinds of different personalities. "I don't feel that my education was wasted one bit," Darlene says.

Since graduation, Darlene has not forgotten about her alma mater. She frequently works with Salem State to provide flowers for many campus events.

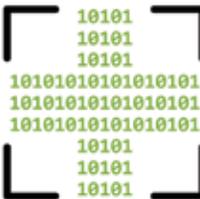
Over the past few years, her flowers have set the tone for the university's 10,000 Reasons Campaign launch, the McKeown Plaza dedication, retirement events for Athletic Director Tim Shea and President Emerita Patricia Maguire Meservey, the Daniel F. Harrigan '27 Periodical Room naming event in the Berry Library, the Student Scholarship Reception, and many commencements.

Her arrangements have graced nearly every stage setting for the Salem State Series since 1982 including those of former U.S. presidents and other international heads of state, sports legends, actors, and authors. She also supplied the flowers for the inauguration of Salem State's 14th President John D. Keenan.

Darlene's creations have, and will continue to celebrate events on campus. ■



# KL·GREER CONSULTING



*continued from page 24*

She also offers private consultations for clients with certain technology issues within their homes, schools or organizations. “Whether it’s a one-on-one with a student who needs guidance, a family which needs help making their home network safe for everyone, or a school looking for assistance in complying with cyberbullying legislation, I bring an honest approach to each unique situation,” Katie says.

Her mission undoubtedly resonates with her audiences. Katie has attracted local and national attention, appearing on television shows and networks such as “The Meredith Vieira Show,” “Inside Edition,” CNN, and NBC Boston, as well as print media like *USA Today*, *Good Housekeeping*, *The Huffington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, and more.

With nearly a decade of experience as an entrepreneur, Katie credits Salem State with instilling the importance of relationship building early on.

“Relationship building is really my secret to success, and I learned a lot of that at Salem State. The relationships I formed with staff and faculty were helpful to me as a student. Professors reached out and helped facilitate and support anything I wanted to do—whether it was taking 10 classes a semester, securing scholarships or helping me with my honors thesis—these efforts all taught me the value of relationships, which is the cornerstone of my business today,” says Katie.

One could argue her work ethic is another reason for her success. Katie completed her undergraduate degree in sociology in just two and a half years, graduating summa cum laude, all while serving as a member of the Honors Program and as a Paul Tsongas Scholar—a competitive, merit-based award named after the late U.S. senator from Massachusetts, which covers up to four years of tuition and fees. She went on to complete a master’s degree in criminal justice (also graduating summa cum laude) and, like many hard-working Salem State students, balanced two jobs while in graduate school.

Adds Katie, “For graduate school, I had the opportunity to go to Columbia, Yale and Brown, but Salem State was where I wanted to be. It truly laid the foundation for my success, and I will always be grateful for my experience there.”

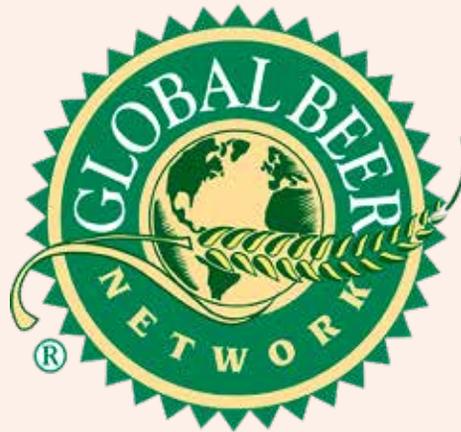
Today, Katie is the mother of two young children. Her husband, Garrett, who she met at Salem State, is an ’08 criminal justice alum who works as a special agent for homeland security. A passion for safety clearly runs in the family.

“As an entrepreneur, striking a balance between work and home life can be challenging,” says Katie, “But it’s also the most rewarding—I can make sure I’m a huge part of my kids’ lives and continue to grow my business. I love it, and I wouldn’t want to do anything else.” ■



# CRAFTING A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS

## '82 GRAD CONVERTS HIS PASSION TO BECOME COO OF GLOBAL BEER NETWORK



BY SARA WARD

Cliff Lusso '82 received a degree in business administration from Salem State University, and has gone on to apply it to something he loves. He is the chief operating officer for Global Beer Network, an exclusive U.S. importer for seven Belgian breweries, a Czech brewery and one Italian Trappist brewery where the beer is produced at a Cistercian monastery in Rome. All nine of the breweries are family-owned and artisanal. Global Beer Network imports almost 80 Belgian, Czech and Italian beer labels.

The company was originally founded in 1994 by a Flemish couple. Steve Villani, president of Global Beer Network, and Cliff teamed up in 2007 to buy the business, and moved it to Middleton. "I wanted to do something on my own," Cliff says.

Prior to buying Global Beer Network, he had spent time in banking, investment funds and health care. He then decided to put his skills and experience to use by operating his own business. Both he and Steve had a love for beer, and they brought that passion to Global Beer Network.

Cliff says the success he has had so far is due to the great people in the company and the excellent products it imports, along with a little luck.

Cliff came to Salem State from Revere as a first-generation college student. Salem State allowed Cliff to further his education. "It gave me an opportunity," Cliff says.

While he had originally been planning on starting out at Salem State and moving on to another university, he ended up staying all four years. Because Cliff is more of a hands-on person, he appreciated that most of his professors had businesses of their own and were entrepreneurs themselves.

He saw his friends at other schools, and says he realized he was getting the same kind of education for a far more affordable price.

Today, he's glad he made the decision to stay at Salem State.

"I'm so grateful that I did it," Cliff says.

Global Beer Network works with more than 100 national distributors. Beer labels imported by the company are available in restaurants, bars and liquor stores in all 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the U.S. and British Virgin Islands. ■





# RESEARCHING A SOLUTION

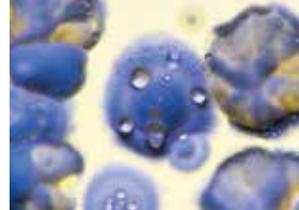
CHEMISTRY GRADUATES SEEK TO  
RESOLVE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

BY MICHAEL COLANERI

"A soil microbe isolated from a dirt sample a stranger in Connecticut sent us. The bacteria is secreting a colored pigment into the media. The colonies are covered with billions of white spores indicative of a *Streptomyces* species. There is a mutant, on the right side, which is bald and lacks sporulation."

—Dakota Hamill '12,  
Prospective Research, Inc.  
describing this photo





# E



Chemistry graduates Jake Cotter '12, left, and Dakota Hamill '12 discuss lab results.

LIKE OLD-STYLE PROSPECTORS, JAKE COTTER '12, DAKOTA HAMILL '12 AND THEIR COMPANY, PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH, INC., ARE SEARCHING FOR TREASURE. WHILE IT ISN'T GOLD THEY'RE LOOKING FOR, THE LOCATIONS ARE SIMILAR.

Their goal is to develop lifesaving antibiotics using the secret language of bacteria. The way they accomplish that, however, is fairly novel: by sifting through thousands of dirt specimens.

While initially counterintuitive, this research method actually taps into what nature has already been doing for billions of years. As Dakota notes, it has a fruitful history. "Rapamycin was discovered on the shores of Easter Island," he notes.

Canadian scientists traveled to the Polynesian island in 1964, and discovered bacteria that secreted what eventually became Rapamycin, named after the traditional title of the island, Rapa Nui. "They initially thought it would be a good anti-fungal, but

it has saved countless lives as an immunosuppressant in organ transplants, and has anti-cancer potential as well," Dakota adds.

However, Rapamycin, like many microbe-derived medicines, was unearthed in the mid-20th century. In fact, no new antibiotics have been discovered in more than 30 years. Unfortunately, during that time, resistance to antibiotics has grown to become a serious problem. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), more than 2 million illnesses and 30,000 deaths have been caused by antibiotic impediment. The resistance itself is normal, just a natural step in a germ's evolution, but it has become a serious global health concern.

In response, the CDC has established Four Core Actions to Fight Resistance, one of which is to develop new drugs.

That's where Prospective Research in Beverly hopes to make a difference.

The company was formed several years after Jake and Dakota graduated from Salem State in 2012. Both chemistry majors, they formed a relationship that lasted past commencement. A couple of years later, Dakota was applying to graduate school, and Jake was working at a local research company. Unsatisfied with the conventional options of further study, Dakota "put together this crazy presentation, filmed myself and sent it to a venture firm in Ireland that funds novel research."

The "crazy" presentation got their attention. "They called back and invited me to meet them in Ireland. But I couldn't come alone; they said that they didn't accept single-person companies. I called Jake because he's the only person that's worked with me on this stuff for years."

Jake was convinced by the potential of the research and the passion of his friend. "I knew that (Dakota) was going to be doing this work forever, whether he was broke or a billionaire."

They were accepted into the program and spent six months in Ireland with nine other companies. They also received \$100,000 in funding, which allowed them to move the operation out of Dakota's basement into a STEM incubator program at

*continued on page 32*



MARTHA'S VINEYARD  
**C M<sup>C</sup>MANUS**  
REALTY GROUP



# 'ALWAYS TEACHING'

EDUCATION DEGREE PLAYS A ROLE  
IN THE BUSINESS WORLD

BY SARA WARD

After Carol McManus '64 earned a degree in elementary education at Salem State University, she worked in many industries other than education.

Eventually she opened Espresso Love on Martha's Vineyard in 1992. Carol was new to the food business, but she loved coffee and baking and decided to make them a career.

Espresso Love offers fresh baked goods, soups, sandwiches, and coffee. The shop experienced great success, and a Boston location was later opened by Carol's son TJ at 33 Broad Street.

Prior to starting Espresso Love, Carol spent time teaching the fifth grade, and later became the owner of three childhood education centers around Boston. She did this all while raising five children.

"I was brought up to work hard," Carol says.

And while her life has taken her away from the education field, the knowledge she received at Salem State is still useful to her today. She believes she has been able to teach people in every job that she's had.

"You're always teaching," Carol says.

Carol says she met great people during her time here, and gets together with a group of women from Salem State every month to have lunch and reminisce about their college experiences. "I had four great years at Salem," she says.

With Espresso Love being well managed, Carol was ready for a change. In 2010, she switched gears again and obtained her real estate license.

She then established C McManus Realty Group, which offers real estate sales on Martha's Vineyard, as well as vacation rentals. Carol works with her daughter, and she has been able to teach her more about real estate in the process.

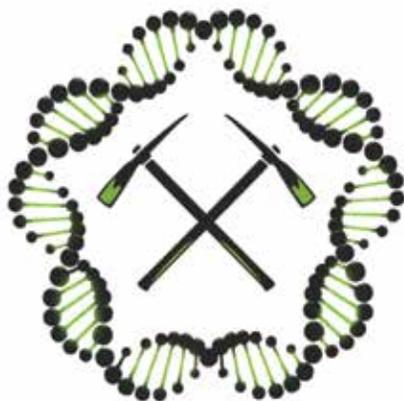
"I really like people, and I really like houses," Carol says.

Carol credits not only her hard work ethic for her success as an entrepreneur, but also the passion she has for each industry that she has been involved with. She thinks that many entrepreneurs have a child-like curiosity, and that's something that she has never lost. ■





# E



## PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH, INC.

*continued from page 30*

Endicott College. Last year, the company received a second round of funding for \$500,000, allowing it to continue researching.

As Dakota explains, “For half a century, pharmaceutical companies screened millions of these soil bacteria. They found numerous lifesaving drugs, but towards the end of the ’60s and ’70s, weren’t finding anything new while spending billions of dollars. Almost every large pharmaceutical company closed down their natural product screening departments 30 years ago. They refocused on combinatorial chemistry, using organic synthesis to create libraries of millions upon millions of molecules in the lab. That failed completely, and we find ourselves here today, returning to nature as a source of new medicines.”

“It’s like trying to reengineer hundreds of millions of years of life,” Jake adds.

Dakota continues, “bacteria can produce incredibly complex molecules, and in their genetic code are blueprints for all types of medicines, but they stop producing them when brought into the lab. Our method attempts to reproduce the natural stresses and chemical cross-talk these bacteria are exposed to in their natural environment, and tap into what they already do.”

The potential is staggering. “Currently, we can only grow 1 percent of the bacteria that live in soil in the lab. Ninety-nine percent are unexplored. Of that

1 percent, only 10 percent of their blueprints are expressed. Ninety percent of that information, which could produce amazing, revolutionary drugs, is still locked in the genome. We want to mine the genome for new antibiotics.”

While based in Beverly, the company still performs some research on Salem State’s campus using a mass spectrometer, which was purchased with funds from a Massachusetts Life Sciences Center grant.

But the connections to their alma mater don’t end there.

“Our time at Salem State was great. We had amazing professors, the MacTaylors (Christine and Ronald) and (Tracy) Ware. They were tough, but the process made you better,” says Dakota.

“And after graduation, it continued,” Jake adds. “They allowed us to come into the labs on campus, and they’d talk with us and discuss our work.”

The company also employs Salem State interns, such as Renee Sweeney ’17, a chemistry major from Salem who graduated with a biotech concentration.

Dakota lauds her work, “she is perfect, exactly what you want from an intern. We started her with the basic stuff, demonstrating the way you do things and then slowly gave her more responsibility. Now she runs a major portion of the lab work. We give her a task, and she goes and does it and then presents us with the data and the results a week later. If something’s not working, she’ll ask us for advice and now has complete confidence in what’s she’s doing. She’s awesome.”

“We really believe in internships, in adding real-world experience to classroom instruction. In those environments, you learn how important it is to be meticulous and careful, because you know and can see the impact.” Jake adds.

In the end, Jake and Dakota want to build a great company that makes a difference. “We love the business,” adds Jake. “It gives us the opportunity to do something we’re passionate about that can affect a lot of people.” ■



# 14th Rose

purses & totes



## Fashioning Success

*online business started in apartment*

BY SARA WARD

Christine (Corcoran) Salas '02 earned her degree in business administration, and has gone on to find success in the fashion industry. She is the owner of 14th Rose Purses, a company that sells purses and totes to online customers.

14th Rose Purses started in Christine's apartment. She would make purses and totes and sell them at local music shows in the Los Angeles area. Soon, she was able to expand the business into manufacturing and online sales, which is where 14th Rose Purses is today.

The name is derived from her family. Her parents are John and Rose, and she is the 14th of 15 children in the family. The business is based in San Pedro, Calif.

Christine originally learned to sew from her mother and went on to take classes at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education.

Christine believes her professors, from history to business, inspired her to be an entrepreneur. "They wanted their students to think about the cause and effect of an event," she points out, "and not just memorize what was in the text."

"For one class, we had to create a company with a viable business plan," Christine says. "Mine was to create a swimsuit line. Much of my base for 14th Rose is from that line."

While Christine was learning about the business aspects of her future career, she was also able to find work that helped with what she wanted to be doing after college. She found two part-time positions on the Salem State job board that contributed to her future.

"One was a fabric wholesaler in Danvers, and the other was a sewing assistant (job) to a woman in Marblehead who made custom clothes," Christine says. "Both of which I would not have found if it weren't for Salem State." ■

14th Rose

IE



One Little Light Executive Director Aasma Aziz '18G, left, with, from the left, Finance Manager Jonathan Cwiok '18, Program Coordinator Daniel Darmody '19 and Development Director Lisa Lavoie '15.

Photo by Bradley Morin '02.

# 'ONE LITTLE LIGHT' SHINES THROUGH



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OVERCOMES ADVERSITY;  
FOUNDS NONPROFIT WHILE EARNING DEGREE

**BY PEACE OTEBELE**



Aasma Aziz '18G, third from right, with her family before departing from Pakistan for Salem.

COMING FROM A PLACE WHERE WOMEN HAVE FEW EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, LITTLE CAREER FREEDOM AND ARE LIMITED BY CULTURAL EXPECTATIONS, AASMA AZIZ '18G HAS MADE IT HER MISSION TO BREAK THE BARRIER OF GENDER INEQUALITY.

For Aasma, who identifies as Christian minority in Pakistan, the educational journey has been a long and arduous one. From the beginning, she struggled to persuade her parents that higher education was worthwhile, but they ultimately supported her fight. Knowing the injustices women and girls face in Pakistan, Aasma chose to study political science with a plan to become a lawyer and to work for

women's rights. Growing up in Akbarabad, Pakistan, she became the first woman in her town to earn a graduate degree at a co-ed university.

With her master's in political science, she researched education programs in the United States and determined that pursuing a second master's degree, this one in social work, would be needed to achieve her goal. And even though she was fluent in several languages, Aasma recognized it would be essential to learn English. By watching YouTube videos, she mastered English within a year. Afterwards, she began applying to American universities with strong social work programs.

Aasma was accepted at several schools, but chose Salem State when administrators at the Center for International Education assisted her with the challenging and seemingly endless paperwork necessary for international students to study in America. That made her final decision easy, so Aasma boarded a Massachusetts-bound plane in August 2015.

*continued on page 38*





# Dedicated to Art

## Alumna and Her Mother Open Hagen Gallery

BY SARA WARD

Gina Hagen '91 received a bachelor's degree in art and design and has been dedicated to the field ever since.

Specializing in watercolors, as well as one-of-a-kind jewelry, she started Hagen Gallery with her mother, Marylou, a jewelry designer, and the pair have been selling their work both online and in stores since.

Hagen Gallery is truly a family business. In addition to creating jewelry with her mother, Gina also receives help from her father with the website and finances. Her sisters are sales representatives.

"We love what we do," Gina says.

During her time at Salem State, Gina had a full scholarship that covered her tuition. She was also involved in the Honor's Program, where she became close with a good group of friends. During college, Gina focused more on illustration and graphic design. She also studied watercolor at Salem State, but it wasn't until after she graduated that she really became focused on painting.

Nick Wagman, associate professor emeritus in art, was a great teacher for Gina and helped her throughout all four years. Gina says she had a wonderful experience, and she feels her education really prepared her for her career ahead.

"What you put into Salem State is what you get out of it," she says.

After she earned her degree, Gina studied with American Watercolor Society artist Martin Ahearn. She worked in companies like Addison-Wesley, a Boston textbook publisher, pursuing illustration and book design. She was able to quit her day job about 15 years ago to work on her business full time.

Gina does a painting every year for the Jimmy Fund, with all proceeds helping the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. "That's my way of giving back," she says.

She has had many exhibits, and her watercolors have been represented by the Winfisky Gallery at Salem State; the Peabody Art Association in Peabody; the George Peabody Library in Peabody; the Bodin Fine Art Gallery in Gloucester; the Déjà vu in Ogunquit, Maine; the BGH Gallery in Santa Monica, Calif.; Peabody City Hall in Peabody; and the Mary Gallery in South Easton.

Most recently, Gina's art and jewelry designs have been sold at the Norman Rockwell Museum, The Symphony Shop at Symphony Hall and Tanglewood. Her artwork is in collections throughout the world including Canada, South Africa, Australia, and Japan.



*continued from page 36*

The Aziz family had business connections with a family in Massachusetts and arranged for Aasma to live with them while she attended Salem State. The host family agreed to pay her tuition in exchange for providing employment at a business they ran. But when Aasma arrived, she was faced with a different reality. “I waited for three hours at the airport but there was no one there for me, no one came for me,” Aasma said.

Alone, tired, but optimistic, she was finally picked up by the host family as a result of her parents’ request. Upon arriving at their home, Aasma’s luggage was left in the garage, and after breakfast the next morning, she was told she had to leave. Due to religious differences, the local family decided they didn’t want Aasma to stay at their home.

A family member then told one of the business employees to drop her off somewhere, anywhere. However, the employee was unable to find shelter for Aasma. She returned to the host family with the agreement that she could stay for just two more days.

Aasma was then dropped off at Salem State University, where administrators arranged for her to stay on campus during orientation and then helped her find a church that could assist her with living arrangements.

Next came the challenge of paying her tuition. But, as is her nature, Aasma made a plan. She babysat,



Aasma Aziz '18G with President Keenan at the Efrosine Yeannakopoulos Center for the Commonwealth Honors Program event.

sold goods from Pakistan and was offered a student employee position on campus. This helped her make just enough to pay for tuition and living costs.

Studies were another challenge, as classes are much different than in Pakistan. However, her English has improved, and she better understands the requirements in her courses.

“In my 20-plus years as a social work educator, supervisor and practitioner, Aasma stands out as a top student, leader and social justice activist,” said Yvonne Ruiz, Salem State associate professor of social work.

Monica Leisey, associate professor and program coordinator for the School of Social Work at Salem State had this to say: “She’s extraordinarily dedicated to making things work under circumstances that most of us would have said it’s just not possible.”

Since arriving in Salem, Aasma has jumped into campus and community activities. She has spoken at several Salem State and community events and shared her experiences of resilience and determination. She has organized campaigns to raise funds for school supplies for unfunded schools in her hometown in Pakistan. She has also joined the fight to end homelessness and hunger.

*continued on page 40*





# SECURING THE FUTURE

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE GRAD OPENS RSIG SECURITY

BY SARA WARD

Tim Mazzie '86 graduated with a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice, and has taken his interest in security and turned it into a successful career. He is the owner and operator of RSIG Security, a security services provider that puts customer service first.

While Tim could have taken his degree into an area like law enforcement, he chose to go into the private security sector because he knew it would always be needed. "The need for increased security is never going to go away," Tim points out.

He credits Edward LeClair, professor emeritus in criminal justice, with helping him throughout his years at Salem State. Coming from a private high school background, he feels that Salem State gave him a public experience that he otherwise wouldn't have had. "It opened my eyes to the real world," he says.

Tim started out his security career with Kmart while he was still a full-time student at Salem State. From there, he worked for different retailers as a loss prevention investigator. During his 22 years in loss prevention, he worked on many investigations that involved detecting and prosecuting individuals responsible for theft.

Tim started the New England office for RSIG Security in 2004. As vice president of the company, he not only worked with national retailers, but also residential and commercial properties, colleges and universities, and with major event promoters and high-profile clients.

The business has grown by referrals and word-of-mouth into what it is today. RSIG Security has worked with numerous artists on tour, including the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Kid Rock, and David Bowie, to name a few. His company also provides security services for major hotels and high-end condominium and apartment complexes throughout New England. They have also even teamed up with Tim's alma mater, Salem State, where the company has provided security services for the Salem State Series and other events.

RSIG Security has moved from a basement operation in Ashland, Mass., to a national company headquartered in Framingham that operates in many states and employs more than 1,000 security officers, investigators and executive protection personnel.

Taking notes during Associate Professor Yvonne Ruiz's Human Behavior Theory in Child and Family Services class at the School of Social Work.



*continued from page 38*

Most importantly, Aasma founded One Little Light ([onelittlelight.org](http://onelittlelight.org)), a nonprofit in Pakistan, focused on empowering women, supporting children's education and creating scholarship opportunities. One Little Light provides financial and social support for women, such as sewing projects and entrepreneurship, that will help them become financially independent. The nonprofit is supporting education by providing school supplies without which children would be unable to attend school. Another aspect is providing scholarships to higher education students in both Pakistan and the U.S.

"I started One Little Light because I want homes in Pakistan to not be filled with women who think

Aasma is in the process of registering One Little Light in the U.S. and hopes to one day bring the nonprofit to other countries.

they are only made to be housewives. I want to give girls the opportunity to dream of another life where they can be whatever they want without thinking their gender disqualified them from that future," said Aasma.

For her hard work and dedication to her cause, Aasma is a recipient of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders Scholarship awarded by the American Association of University Women. She received the Youth Champion Award for advocating for justice on behalf of young women from a Pakistani nongovernmental organization, and a community service recognition from the Punjab government in Pakistan.

Aasma is in the process of registering One Little Light in the U.S. and hopes to one day bring the nonprofit to other countries. "Aasma demonstrates dedication to her future goals," said Professor Ruiz. "She has insight and aptitude beyond her years, which is a solid foundation for academic achievement and for practice in her chosen profession."

In her little free time, Aasma hosts a campus radio show sharing the victory stories of other students, and she speaks regularly about her struggle to earn an education to inspire others. She enjoys attending the Salem State Cultural Night organized by the university's Center for International Education.

"Becoming, and continuing as an international student is my greatest achievement to date," she said. "I am thankful to my kind parents who saw the potential in me and allowed me to achieve my dreams. I am also very thankful for the generosity of Salem State University. Without them, I don't think I would have made it this far." ■

Ashley Festa and Michael Colaneri contributed to this article.





CLASS

# Notes

## CALLING ALL ALUMNI

We want to hear from you! Send us your news all year round and we'll be sure to get it into the next issue of the *Salem Statement*. Email us, message us on Facebook or give us a call to let us know what you're doing. Your photos are more than welcome, too. Please note that marriage and birth announcements can only be printed after the event has occurred.

[alumni@salemstate.edu](mailto:alumni@salemstate.edu) // 978.542.7530

And be sure to keep your personal contact information updated so you don't miss an issue!

[SALEMSTATE.EDU/ALUMNI](http://SALEMSTATE.EDU/ALUMNI)

### '64

**FRANK R. MAYO '75G** was recently inducted into the first annual Mt. Cranmore Ski Patrol Hall of Fame Legends. Frank was a member of the Mt. Cranmore Ski Patrol for 35 years.

### '68

**SUSAN HARTMERE** recently went on a humanitarian service trip to Honduras. Thank you for your service, Susan!

### '71

**ED HUNT '71G**, who is officially retired, has been working as a grocery clerk for 16 years at Shaw's Supermarket. Retired after 21 years as a Junior High School bilingual teacher in Leominster, two years as a bilingual case aide for Headstart, and four years as an ESL teacher for Brazilian students (K-12) for LPS. He traveled to Brazil, Galicia, Spain and four times to Portugal. One of the co-founders of the Spanish Club at Salem State, and a member of the Council for Latin American Studies, he has been married to his dear wife Deolinda for 26 years.

### '72

**ROBERT MARCOUS** recently retired after 30 years of playing and coaching professional hockey in Europe. Congratulations on your decades of hard work, and enjoy retirement, Robert!

### '74

**SALVATORE CAMMARATA** has been managing an inter-generational literacy program which connects senior citizens with elementary school students. Thank you for your commitment to service, Salvatore!

## VIKING WARRIOR DAY!

A DAY OF GIVING,  
GAMES AND GRUB

May 3, 2018



Join us for this 24-hour virtual and live gathering of alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents, and friends in support of a better Salem State. Flex your Viking muscle by participating in any, or all, of the events:

- Show your Viking pride and make a gift
- Salem State employee alumni and donor breakfast
- Bike path cleanup hosted by the Alumni Association
- Viking Warrior Field Day sponsored by the Gasset Fitness Center—compete on an inflatable obstacle course and enjoy food, prizes and giveaways
- Young alumni happy hour at the Hawthorne Hotel

For more information, visit [salemstate.edu/VWD](http://salemstate.edu/VWD).

## My Inheritance

BY JESSICA WALTERS '17

MOST FATHERS GIVE THEIR DAUGHTERS JEWELRY, FLOWERS, OR MAYBE EVEN A HAND-ME-DOWN SUBARU FOR THEIR 18<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY. WELL, MY DAD IS NOT LIKE “MOST” FATHERS, AND I AM NOT LIKE “MOST” DAUGHTERS. WE ARE A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT. INSTEAD OF A SHINY, PRINCESS-CUT PANDORA RING OR A BEAUTIFUL BOUQUET OF RED ROSES, I RECEIVED SOMETHING MUCH COOLER. FOR MY 18<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY, I GOT MY DAD’S DOG TAGS.

The tags started in Parris Island in South Carolina, as all Marine tags do, for basic training. From there, they traveled up to North Carolina to Camp Lejeune and Camp Geiger for infantry and advanced infantry training. Next, it was off to Fort Knox in Kentucky for tank training with the Army. Then, it was onward, across the Pacific Ocean to Okinawa, Japan, for 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit task force training. Last, the tags traveled to Camp Gonsalves in Okinawa, to gain jungle warfare expertise.

The tags saw four years of active duty and two years in the reserves. They survived six trainings and 152 rescued hostages. They spent 444 days in an Iranian hostage crisis and one year, two months, two weeks, and two days in Tehran. They have flown in helicopters over Virginia, and across the Carolinas, bathed in the salty Atlantic Ocean, and were tugged on by distressed children being carried out of flame-engulfed homes. They have heard hostile rapid gunfire; deadly, bloody explosions; and innocent cries and pleas for help. They have seen 17 broken bones, and wide, gaping wounds that oozed warm bodily fluids. The tags have been soaked in fresh blood, bathed in sweat and were rubbed clean again. I will never know exactly what these tags have been through, but I know they symbolize struggle and triumph as a United States Marine.

After my father’s time in the Marines, these tags hung from the rearview mirror of all of his vehicles. For years, they served as a humble reminder from this chapter of his life, as they danced back and forth with every turn and bump. Sometimes he would wrap his right hand around them for a long second, squeeze them until his cracked knuckles turned white, and then he’d let go of them gently.

I remember sliding the thin metal plates back and forth through my fingers as I rode shotgun with my father down winding gravel roads. Once, I yelled above the music and asked what an “O POS” was, not realizing “pos” was short



for “positive.” This made my dad laugh, and made me never forget his blood type. Now, a generation later, the tags hang around my smudged rearview mirror, and swing back and forth with every turn and bump.

The tags were wrapped up tight and pretty, in a dark blue velvet box, with a white ribbon for my birthday. Immediately, I knew the perfect home for them, and they were transferred to the rearview mirror.

These tags have seen two breakups, three first kisses and many finals-week, stress-infused mental breakdowns. They have witnessed several screaming at the top-of-my-lungs jam out sessions to my favorite country songs, along with a few red-light dance offs between my little cousin and me. They have been on six 800-mile overnight road trips, nervous drives to interviews and first days of anything, and been on the back of a few too many tow trucks. They have heard rehearsals for Spanish presentations, the sad news of a loved one lost and

countless stories that start with “Promise you won’t tell!”

Every day, they serve as a humble, constant reminder of my dad and his time as a Marine. I do not know everything about these tags and their time with my dad, and I never will, but I know there is a special connection there, one of those connections that you cannot put into words. Sometimes, I slide my fingers back and forth through the thin metal plates. I run my fingertip across every worn-down letter, think of all the places these tags have been, and giggle when I come to the line that reads “O POS.”

Recently, I caught my right hand wrapping around the tags, squeezing slowly, tightly, and releasing them gently. At that time, I did not know I was looking for comfort or guidance, but I now know where to go when I am. ■

*Jessica Walters '17 of Beverly graduated this past December with an English degree. This column was published in *The Salem News*.*

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Anne Driscoll rows an Irish currach, a wood-ribbed boat with canvas cover, in Dublin.



## '76

Since her time at Salem State University, **ANNE DRISCOLL** has been incredibly involved in human rights work. After earning her bachelor's degree in social service, she became a social worker, where she got her first look at the criminal justice system. "I was working as a counselor on the North Shore with girls involved in the courts, and I got to see firsthand how the law enforcement and the criminal justice systems worked," Anne says.

Because she was trained as a social worker, she had always been interested in issues of human rights and social justice. Many of the girls she worked with were disadvantaged by poverty, family history, educational background, and other social issues. Through her experiences as a social worker, she saw that those marginalized by issues like poverty and race were overrepresented in the criminal justice system.

When Anne changed her career path and moved from social work to journalism, she found herself involved with the criminal justice system again. In one of her earliest jobs, she was a reporter covering court proceedings, and learned about how the law works and, in some cases, doesn't work.

Anne joined the Justice Brandeis Law Project in 2006 at Brandeis University.

During that time, she worked on overturning suspected wrongful convictions, including working to free Angel Echavarría of Lynn, who was serving a life sentence for a 1994 murder. "It is the most challenging work I've ever undertaken because it is so incredibly difficult to prove someone's innocence," Anne says. "I read thousands of pages of court documents, knocked on scores of doors, visited dozens of courthouses."

Anne was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 2013 and moved to Ireland, working on the Irish Innocence Project at Griffith College. "My experience working in Ireland through a Fulbright Scholarship exceeded every expectation I had – and my expectations were pretty high," Anne says.

Not only was Anne able to fulfill a lifelong dream of living in Ireland, but she was also able to teach law and journalism students how to investigate wrongful convictions, something she's deeply passionate about. "It was such a rewarding and fulfilling professional experience," Anne says. "I was delighted when I was invited to return the following year and serve as the project manager of the Irish Innocence Project."

During the two years that she was project manager, Anne helped exonerate Harry Gleeson, who was wrongfully convicted and hanged in 1941 for the murder of his neighbor, Moll McCarthy.

Through the work of his family and the Irish Innocence Project, Harry received the first posthumous presidential pardon in Irish history.

Anne believes that her Fulbright experience changed the trajectory of her entire life, and she now lives in a small village on the west coast of Ireland in Connemarra.

Anne has contributed to The Moth, sharing her stories and experiences, which are shared live on stage and also broadcast on many radio stations. You can find her stories from The Moth here: <https://themoth.org/storytellers/anne-driscoll>.

Recently, Anne has drawn from her blogs about her Irish experiences and published a memoir series called *Irish You Were Here*, which can be found at [amazon.com/Irish-You-Were-Here-Matchmakebook/dp/B06X9KCFVS](https://amazon.com/Irish-You-Were-Here-Matchmakebook/dp/B06X9KCFVS). She is also involved with the Sunny Center, which was founded by two death row exonerees, Sunny Jacobs and Peter Pringle, who are now married to each other and have opened their home in Connemarra as the world's first sanctuary for other exonerees.

Anne was awarded another Fulbright Scholarship in January 2018. She will be teaching and doing research at The National University of Ireland Galway starting in September 2018, and is thrilled to continue her work with wrongful convictions in Ireland. ■



'77

**CHERYL KRISKO '15G** is the chief program officer for North Shore Elders. In the fall, Cheryl participated on a panel for Careers in Healthcare, sponsored by the Career Services department on campus, where she engaged with current Salem State students.

**SHARON WLADKOWSKI**, the human resources director at The Manor in Morrisville, Vermont, was recently recognized as professional of the year by the Vermont State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management.

'78

**ED BORASH**'s Sir Speedy franchise in Boston was recently named as one of the company's 10 best franchises. Congratulations on the well-deserved recognition, Ed!

'79

**THOMAS C. MOSES** retired as a captain on the Winthrop Fire Department on Nov. 5, 2017. Tom served a full 32-year career and attributed much of his success to his education at the university. Enjoy!

'81

**JAMES LAMPASSI** was recently named vice president of real estate development for Barnes & Noble. Congratulations on the new position, James!

**ROSEANN LOVELY** recently retired after 32 years from The New England Center for Children, a nationally recognized school for autism education, research and technology. She received an award



for inspirational leadership for her career of helping children with autism. Congratulations, RoseAnn!

'88

**LEANNE SMITH** was recently named principal of Salem's Witchcraft Heights Elementary school. Congratulations, Leanne!

**BRIAN DUNN** was recently named the First Justice of Suffolk County's Probate and Family Court. Congratulations, Brian!



# YaR

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Youth At Risk

## 18<sup>TH</sup> YAR CONFERENCE

The 18th Annual Youth at Risk (YAR) Conference is an all-day learning and networking opportunity featuring keynote speakers and over 35 morning and afternoon workshops for service providers working with youth at risk and their families.

**Friday, June 8, 2018**  
**8 am-3:45 pm**

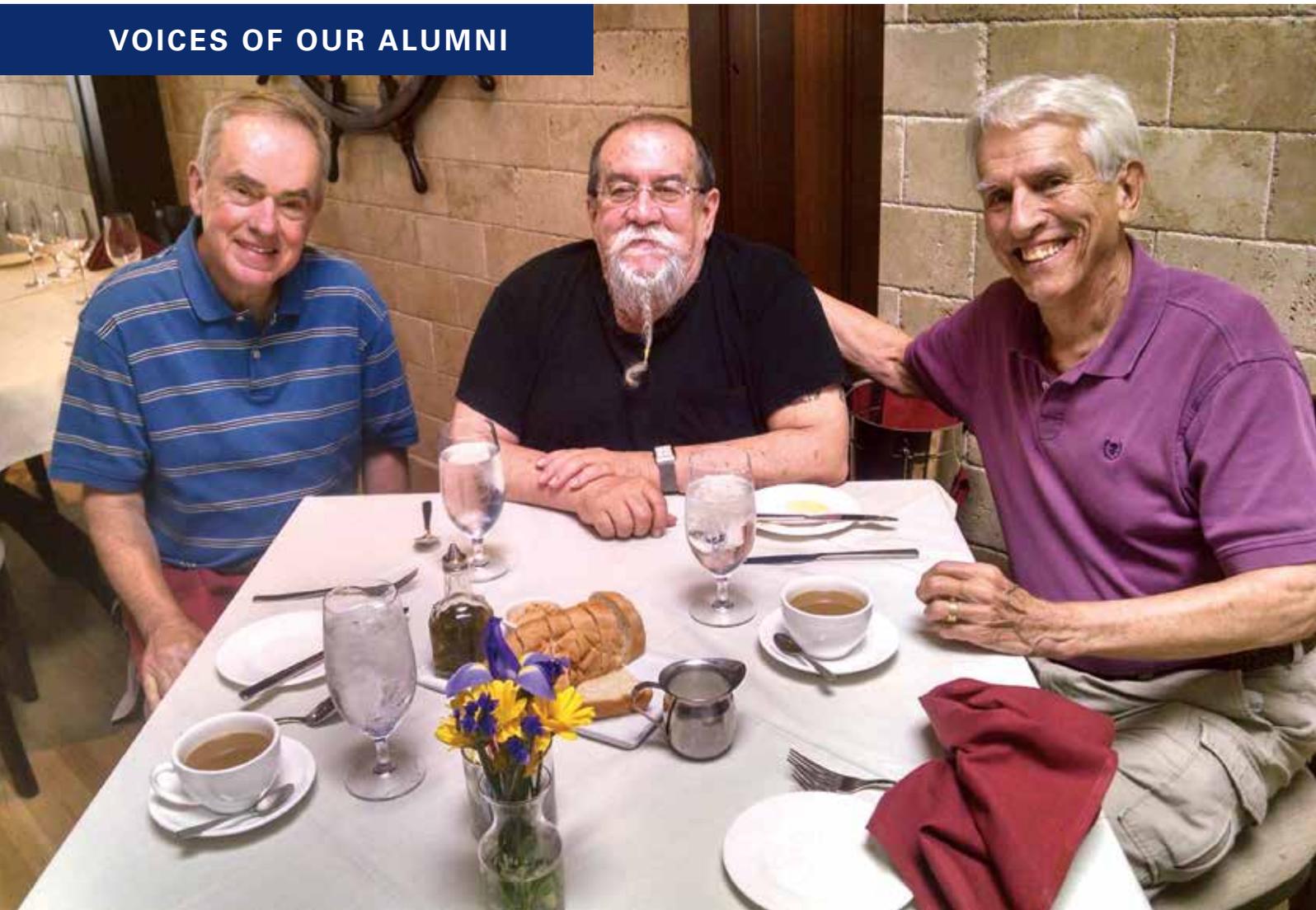
Keynote, lunch and expo will be held indoors at the spacious and accessible O'Keefe Center!  
Salem State University, O'Keefe Complex,  
225 Canal Street, Salem, Mass.

**Fee \$100 per person.**

Price includes continental breakfast, lunch, afternoon refreshments, and CEUs.

Sign up early as workshop space is limited.

Registration is online only at [www.salemstate.edu/yar](http://www.salemstate.edu/yar). See in-depth workshop descriptions online.



Catching up are, from left, Walter Willwerth '66, Lee Barbera and author Tim Schnabel '66.

## The Passage of Time and Reuniting with Old Friends

BY TIM SCHNABEL '66

THE MEN YOU SEE IN THE PHOTO MET 55 YEARS AGO AS FRESHMEN AT SALEM STATE. I AM ON THE RIGHT. FRIENDS AND RELATIVES SEEING THIS PHOTO HAVE GENERALLY REMARKED BY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THEY WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED US

ANYWHERE. HOWEVER, WE KNOW AT THE TENDER AGE WE HAVE IN COMMON—73—THAT WE LOOK AND FEEL SO VERY DIFFERENTLY THAN WE DID BACK THEN. IT IS A GIFT THAT WE EVEN RECOGNIZE OURSELVES WHEN WE LOOK IN THE MIRROR EACH MORNING.



I recently spent a few days in New Haven with Lee, the one in the middle. Walter, on the left, met us north of New York City for lunch. It was a joyful reunion. Back then, we shook hands along with an occasional pat on the back. Today, we embrace, and they know I love them because I have told them on more than one occasion. I like how we men have become more affectionate and openly caring of one another.

Let's go back to the beginning and distinguish some of our similarities. We matriculated to Salem State College because of three factors: economics, economics and economics. While our high school grades weren't spectacular, had our parents had enough money, we might have "gone off to college" as they say. So, we mostly lived at home and commuted. All three of us are the first born in our families. Walter has 13 brothers and sisters; Lee has a younger sister, and I have two younger sisters. Fifty-five years later in our retirements, each of us volunteers.

Out-of-awareness, we were all slow bloomers. While we sort of thought we might like to become teachers, none of us made a career in education. We all held part-time jobs as full-time students. None of us were outstanding academically. While Walter and I continued at Salem State and graduated, Lee dropped out after freshman year.

What these two men gave me, now so long ago, was their friendship. More so, they became my "adopted brothers." And because we lived at home and commuted, their families became my extended families. For four years, I was often the 17th person around the dinner table at Walter's house, where his mother often said to me, "Tim, what's one more mouth to feed!" His younger brothers and sisters were so much fun, and I always felt welcome.

Lee often spent the week in a rooming house near campus as he had the farthest to drive. During exams, I would stay with him and we would be heads down studying.

Come on! No, we weren't! We found older folks to buy us beer and then, we would study in between giggling and carrying on.

And, of course, life happened and we all changed. Walter and Lee were there for me when heartbreak and tragedy occurred. When a lovely rising junior with whom I had quietly fallen in love was killed in an automobile accident, Walter, Lee and another buddy, Ken, were right there with me. Shortly thereafter, when my father died from lung cancer, Walter and Ken were two of his pallbearers. And they carried me as well.

All three of us were patriotic and idealists. When President

Lyndon Johnson began escalating the war in Vietnam, Lee decided to beat the draft and join the army. Extensive testing revealed he had a talent for foreign languages, as well as the capacity to survive by himself. He was sent to language school for one year and arrived in Vietnam fluent in Vietnamese. His mission was classified, but I can say this: because of Lee's incredible courage, tenacity and resilience, there are not more names on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Walter knew he never wanted to teach long before graduation, only desiring to marry his sweetheart. He reported for duty one week after his wedding and then served in Vietnam. Both men suffered much emotionally upon returning stateside. I have always been grateful they were part of the all who gave some, not the some who gave all.

While I came from a military family, I wanted to serve differently. I applied to Peace Corps and served in Brazil. Returning from Vietnam or Brazil, we all tried to fit in, find our way and normalize what happened, especially Lee. He continues to heal from those 15 months of trauma and simply stated, hell. But he has always cared for people. Today, he prepares soup for a church group each Sunday and is the primary caregiver of his 101-year-old mother who lives with him.

Walter came home from Vietnam to greet his firstborn son, who arrived during his deployment. He returned to the food industry, where he began as a part-time employee in college, rising through the ranks.

Lee discovered his keen acumen in jewelry design, becoming one of the most sought after goldsmiths in New Haven. While as a kid I could never put stuff back together that I took apart, like watches, I learned I wasn't too bad at helping people put themselves back together psychologically and emotionally, spending most of my career as a mental health professional.

Our lunch together was in many ways a celebration that we are alive, especially since all three of our fathers died young. More than this, the way in which we were with each other at that lunch was not unlike the way we were with each other 55 years ago. We laughed and had serious conversations. The bond was still there. I think on one level we were all saying to each other, "Thank you for being a good friend." To each of these men beyond today I say, "God bless and God speed." ■

Tim Schnabel '66, MEd., is a retired mental health professional living in Georgia.



'89

**CLAIRE KALLELIS '93G** has come a long way since being a server at the age of 19 at the Hawthorne Hotel in Salem. Recently, Michael Harrington '81H, the owner of the Hawthorne Hotel, announced Claire as the new general manager. "Claire is a highly motivated, dedicated individual with a strong work ethic," Michael said in a statement.

Claire earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's in business administration from Salem State.

After working as a server from 1986 to 1991, she was promoted to banquet

captain. From 1991 to 1994, she worked for other properties around Boston and New England. In 1994, Claire came back to the Hawthorne Hotel as banquet manager. She was then promoted to director of food and beverage, and was able to lead the department to success for almost 25 years.

But Claire didn't stop there. In 2005, she was promoted to her most recent position as assistant general manager. She has been recognized as a key contributor to many of the hotel's awards, including the Best City Center Historic Hotel from Historic Hotels of America, and numerous Certificate of Excellence awards from TripAdvisor. "I am so proud to be leading such a historic

property in the city where I grew up," Claire said in a statement. "As Salem grows as a vibrant community and thriving travel destination, we at the Hawthorne will continue to embrace our history of serving the community and its visitors."

The Hawthorne Hotel was established in 1925 in the heart of Salem. It is a member of the Historic Hotels of America. Over 1 million guests have stayed at the hotel over the years, and many have held their weddings, anniversaries and prom celebrations in the Grand Ballroom.

Congratulations, Claire! We can't wait to see what you'll do next. ■



## Thank You, Event Sponsors!

Sponsoring an event with Salem State University is the perfect opportunity for your company to make an impression on one of the largest greater Boston alumni and friend networks—more than 70,000 strong. We offer several special events for you to network at and advertise your products and services to the Salem State community of alumni, faculty, staff, donors, and friends. Event sponsorship packages for 2018 range from \$500 to \$25,000 and are fully customizable. Contact Taylor Dunn at 978.542.7560 or [tdunn@salemstate.edu](mailto:tdunn@salemstate.edu) for more information.

### Homecoming 2017



### Friends of Social Work Workshop



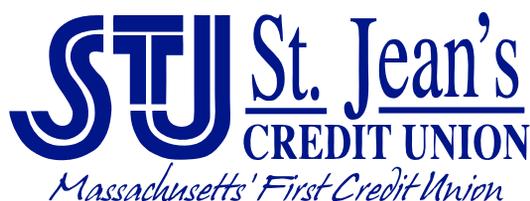
Commission for Case Manager Certification

### Crosby Society Breakfast



Securities and advisory services offered through SII Investments, Inc (SII), member FINRA/SIPC and a Registered Investment Advisor. SII, Peabody Wealth Advisors, Salem State University and the Crosby Society are separate and unrelated entities. SII does not provide tax or legal advice.

### Pomp18: Party on Mckeown Plaza



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



## Homecoming and Family Weekend

In October, we welcomed current students and families along with alumni and friends to take part in a weekend's worth of activities celebrating Salem State University. Featured events included "The Cripple of Inishmaan" at the Sophia Gordon Center, and the Viking Tailgate.





Pictured left, Maureen F. Imbrescia '91, left, and her mother Mary Louise Johnson '62, center, pose for a photo with President John D. Keenan during the 2017 Homecoming and Family Weekend.



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



An open skate at the Rockett Arena was part of Homecoming and Family Weekend.

## Volunteer Summit

The Volunteer Summit event brings together a diverse group of passionate supporters to learn, brainstorm and collaborate in the name of engagement, leading to supporting Salem State in the fullness of its mission.



Attendees pose for a photo after a seminar.



Brian Castellanos '16G, offers the keynote address.



## Scholarship Reception

In December, Salem State students and benefactors came together for our annual scholarship and awards recognition ceremony. This event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our future alumni and their hard work during the year.



Pictured left, Kim Gasset-Schiller '83, right, with her scholarship recipient Jaclyn Peary '19.

## Honors

In recognition for her generous support of the Commonwealth Honors Program at Salem State, we celebrated a naming ceremony in honor of Efrosine Yeannakopoulos Richards '59, '62G. The Commonwealth Honors Program fulfills the university's commitment to offer a more challenging curriculum to students whose abilities and previous performance are demonstrably higher than the norm.



Efrosine, pictured with her classmates, from the left, Estelle Stilianos '59; Jeane M. Bouras '59, '61G; Efrosine Yeannakopoulos Richards '59, '62G; Gina M. McGurn '59; Kathleen C. Gagnon '59, '75G; and Eileen Smith Connolly '59, '77G

'90

**MICHAEL CITINO** was recently recognized as Swampscott's Educator of the Year. Congratulations, Michael!

'91

**GINA HAGEN** created a holiday-themed design for cards and candles, with proceeds benefitting Dana-Farber patient care and cancer research. Congratulations Gina! For more information about her business, see page 37.

'92

**JOEY FAVINO** is currently an artist concentrating on geographic subjects, which he calls "Quasimaps," incorporating many of the cartographic techniques he learned at Salem State. His work can be found at [jfwoa.com](http://jfwoa.com).

'94

**EVA MONTIBELLO** was named the executive director of the Homeless Empowerment Project. Congratulations, Eva!

'95

**Laurie Hilson** was recently named dean of Becker College's School of Nursing and Behavioral Sciences. Congratulations, Laurie!

'96

**JANET BESKY** was recently named the senior vice president of marketing at Leominster Credit Union. Congratulations, Janet!

'98

**JANE GILLETTE** has been self-employed as a math tutor for over 20 years. She recently published her first article for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' *Mathematics Teacher Magazine*, "A Graphic Organizer for Problem Solving." It appeared in January 2018's edition. Congratulations!

'99

**KATHLEEN OLSON** is the recipient of the Robert Frost Chair for Teaching Excellence for the 2017-2018 school year, as nominated by the faculty of the Amherst Regional High School in Amherst. Kathleen, who is a speech language pathologist and special education teacher, has been working for the Amherst Regional School district for the past 16 years. She is currently coordinator for the A.I.M.S. program at Amherst Regional High School, which focuses on providing support for students on the Autism Spectrum in mainstream classes. Congratulations!

'00

**KERRY CONNOLLY** recently celebrated her 10th year as national director of programs and services of the Scleroderma Foundation in Danvers. Congratulations on the milestone!

'02

**CHRISTINE (CORCORAN) SALAS** combined her degree in business with her lifelong hobby of sewing into a business called 14th Rose. She is currently running an eCommerce site in which she designs and sells handbags. Visit her site at [14throse.com](http://14throse.com). Congratulations, Christine! See page 33 for full story.

GREGG GILLIGAN '02G

was recently selected as the next superintendent for North Andover School District. Congratulations, Gregg!

'03

**KAREN PEAKE** was recently named vice president of business development for Knovva Academy, an international education company focused on development of leadership, cross cultural communication and literacy for youth. Congratulations, Karen!

**JESSI ROBINSON** was recently elected to the New England College Personnel Association Presidential Trio. She will serve as president-elect in 2018, president in 2019 and past-president in 2020. Jessi has been a member of the directorate board since 2013 and is excited to continue her involvement with NECPA and ACPA. Congratulations, Jessi!

'04

**GINA TILLOTSON-CORDY '11G** was recently selected as the next recipient of the Salem State Friends of the School of Social Work's Outstanding Social Worker Alumni Award. Congratulations, Gina!

**HEATHER RILEY** was recently named detective sergeant of Groveland's police department, the first female to hold the position. Congratulations, Heather!

'05

**JESSICA BROWN** is a documentation lead for Boston Scientific. She recently participated in a panel for Jude Nixon's class in the fall called Exploring Careers in English.



**AIMEE KHAN MD, MPH** is a pediatrician at Crystal Run Health in West Nyack, N.Y. and was recently featured in the company's digital marketing campaign.



**CRAIG MARKIEWICZ '12G** and his wife Kristal welcomed their third child, Nathan Albert, into their family on Jan. 2, 2018. Congratulations!

'07

**MICHAEL MITCHELL** was recently hired as a staff assistant in alumni relations at Salem State. Welcome back, Mike!



**MICHELLE (BERNIER) PETRYK** and her husband Jon welcomed their first child, Garrett William on Jan. 3, 2018. Congratulations!

'08



**PATRICK VITALONE** was married in October 2017 to Bing Peng. Congratulations, Patrick!

**JENNA ARSENAULT** and her husband Joseph welcomed a child to their family on Sept. 22, 2017. Congratulations!

'09



**ALBIE PELLECCIA** and his wife Colleen (Quinn) welcomed their first child, Juliette Elizabeth, into their family on Jan. 18, 2018.

## Upcoming Events

**SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN TO JOIN US AT ONE OF THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!**

To learn more and to register visit [salemstate.edu/alumni/events](http://salemstate.edu/alumni/events)

**MAY 3**

Viking Warrior Day

**MAY 9**

8th Annual Veterans Stole Ceremony

**JUNE 7**

Reunion Society Reception

**JUNE 8**

Class of 1968 50th Reunion

**JUNE 8**

Youth at Risk Conference and Alumni Networking Reception

**JUNE 9**

Global Day of Service

**JUNE 9**

Party on McKeown Plaza (POMP)

**JUNE 10**

Jazz and Champagne Brunch

## SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

# Help Is Here

## SCHOLARSHIP PROPELS GRAD STUDENT CLOSER TO THE FINISH LINE

A math teacher at Ipswich High School, Bruce Mabbott spent his spare time pursuing a master's degree in middle school mathematics. The nine-year Salem resident was making the 10-minute walk from his home just off Lafayette Street to the Sullivan Building for most of his classes. He says being the recipient of the DeSimone Scholarship helped "tremendously" in getting close to the finish line.

"As a teacher, married to another teacher, and having a young daughter, we don't have a lot of disposable income.

## DESIMONE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

### DONOR NAMES

Mary "Midge" DeSimone '76  
and Thomas DeSimone

### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT NAMES

Kristen McCarthy, Bruce Mabbott

The scholarship meant that we didn't have to take out more student loans," he explains. "I am very grateful for the DeSimone scholarship as it reduced the financial stress of going to college."

"My husband (Tom) and I have always believed in the importance of education to life success," said Midge DeSimone, who was recently appointed to the Salem State Board of Trustees. "We are happy and privileged to have the opportunity to assist students achieve their education goals."



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Far left, former Viking golf coach George Jacobson presents the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association 2017 George A. Jacobson Special Recognition Award to his past team captain Steve Campbell '72.

Left, Kevin Daly '91 is looking forward to continuing a golf legacy when he takes over as the program's next coach in the fall.

## Recognition Award Is Extra Special

GOLF LEGACY SPANS 47 YEARS AND COUNTING

BY JIM GLYNN '77

When retired Viking golf Coach George Jacobson had the distinct pleasure of awarding the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association (NEIGA) "Special Recognition Award" to a worthy recipient this past fall in Brewster, the moment took on added significance when Steve Campbell '72 stepped to the podium as the recipient.

Not only was Campbell retiring as the Viking coach of the past 16 years, but, as a student majoring in history here in the early '70s, he twice captained Jacobson-led teams beginning some 47 years ago. Campbell was the Viking team captain for the '70/'71 and '71/'72 seasons, "and that really made (this presentation) very special," said Jacobson, who coached the Vikings from 1966 to 1988.

Campbell, a former Gordon McCullough Award winner, coached the Vikings from 2002 to 2017. He led the program to 34 team tournament titles and produced 35 individual champions. Campbell was named the NCAA Northeast District 1 Coach of the Year in '05/'06 and again in '06/'07.

He led Salem State to two NCAA Tournament appearances and seven Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference championships, including six individual titles and one North Atlantic Conference Championship with one individual champion. As a three-year player, the two-time captain

competed in three NCAA Championships: 1970, 1971, 1972, and played in the International Tournament at the famed St. Andrews Golf Club in Scotland where he earned the low round trophy, and finished sixth overall.

And the legacy lives on. Following in Campbell's footsteps as the new Viking coach in the fall will be Kevin Daly '91, a Salem State two-time All American who played during Jacobson's final season in 1988 and went on to captain the '89/'90 and '90/'91 Vikings. "I think I can speak for all who've played for Jake in saying how fortunate we feel that he's part of our lives," said Daly. "It's remarkable, a testament to his legacy, that, decade after decade, players refer to the positive influence he had on our lives."

Daly, who was inducted into the Salem State Hall of Fame in 1998, pointed out that the future of the Viking golf program is bright, and the reason is its past. "I still think of it as Jake's program," he added.

The George A. Jacobson Special Recognition Award was named in his honor after he retired from NEIGA, having served as its executive director for 20 years. Salem State recognized Jacobson's 23-year reign as head coach when it dedicated a practice room at the O'Keefe Center in his name in 2008. ■

## REMEMBER WHEN?



1

## Remember When?

We present, from our archives, photos from yesteryear. Can you guess the year of any one of these photos? Can you guess the year of two or more?



2



3



4



5

Send an email to Jim Glynn '77: [jglynn@salemstate.edu](mailto:jglynn@salemstate.edu) or Sara Ward: [sward@salemstate.edu](mailto:sward@salemstate.edu) providing the photo number and your best guess of the year. If you're correct, we will send you a Salem State University T-shirt!

## REMEMBER WHEN?



6

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**ALEX FINN** recently married Lauren Varney on Jan. 19, 2018. Congratulations!

## '10

**CHRIS COULON** has been instrumental in creating many of Lynn's community murals. Keep up the good work, Chris!

**ERICA DUMONT** was recently named executive director of the Lexington Historical Society in Lexington. Congratulations, Erica!

**HILLARY MACKAY-SMITH** is an English teacher at the Landmark School in Beverly. She participated in a panel for Professor Jude Nixon's class in the fall called Exploring Careers in English.

## '11

**JESSI HARDESTY** was recently named the curator of collections and exhibits at Carroll Community College in Maryland. Congratulations, Jessi!

## '12

**KERRIE TINGLE '12G** recently began a new position in Institutional Advancement at St. John's Prep in Danvers. Congratulations, Kerrie!

## '13

**MELISSA CARELLA** is a content specialist for UBM Life Sciences and participated in a panel for Professor Jude Nixon's class in the fall called Exploring Careers in English. Melissa is currently in her master's program for English and literary studies at Salem State.

**BRIAN DENAHY** has been instrumental in creating many of Lynn's community murals. Keep up the good work, Brian!

**ERIN WILSON** recently concluded a volunteer opportunity with Mercy Ships as a nurse onboard the world's largest private hospital ship, the Africa Mercy. Thank you for your commitment to service, Erin! See page 7 for full story.

## '14

**SARAH LOPEZ** recently began a new teaching position at Baystate Academy Charter Public School. Congratulations, Sarah!

**JOBITA RODRIGUEZ RIOS** was recently engaged to Phearun F. Mao '15, to be wed in August 2018. Congratulations!

## '15

**ERICA BOURBEAU** recently began a new position in annual giving at Salem State. Congratulations, Erica!

## '16

**NATASHIA AYERS** was recently married to her husband, Patrick, and currently works at Addgene, a nonprofit plasmid repository in Cambridge. Addgene supports scientists around the world by facilitating the exchange of biological materials for research and innovation. Congratulations, Natashia!

## '12

**NICOLE FREEMAN** is a doctoral candidate at Ohio State University in modern European history. Her dissertation studies the education, care and rehabilitation of Jewish children in Germany and Poland after the Holocaust.

In 2017, she was awarded the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The Fulbright-Hays DDRA program provides grants to colleges and universities to fund individual doctoral students who conduct research in other countries, in modern foreign languages and area studies for periods of six to 12 months.

The Office of International Affairs at Ohio State administers the Fulbright-Hays program for Ohio State University, and grant competitions are held annually.

Nicole arrived in Poland and Germany on Dec. 4, and will stay there until Aug. 4. She is researching "A Time to Rebuild – The Education and Rehabilitation of Jewish Children in Postwar Germany and Poland." Her archival research will look at the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and its collaborative efforts on behalf of Jewish children in Poland and Allied-occupied Germany from 1945 to 1953, according to an Ohio State press release.

She will be spending six months in Poland and two months in Germany.

Her areas of expertise include European History; modern European history; Women's, Gender, and Sexuality History; and Race, Ethnicity and Nation.

Her language skills include German, Yiddish and Polish.

Nicole received a master of arts in history from Ohio State University in 2015. She received her bachelor of arts degree in history from Salem State in 2012.

Congratulations on all of your success since graduation, Nicole! ■

## OBITUARIES

### Faculty and Staff

From July 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018

**Jane M. Claffey, 88**, of Salem, died on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2017, at Salem Hospital. Jane, who graduated from St. Mary's Girls High School in Lynn, received her bachelor of science degree in mathematics from Emmanuel College. She pursued post-graduate studies in chemistry and biology. She worked for 20 years in laboratories at MIT and then began a second career at Salem State University, working in the math lab. Jane held many roles in the department, mentoring many students with great patience and skill, and continued tutoring at Salem State until the age of 87.

**Joan M. (Laborde) Doyle, 81**, died peacefully on Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017, at the Kaplan Family Hospice House in Danvers, following an extended illness. Born and raised in Salem, Jane was a graduate of Salem High School, class of 1954. She worked as a secretary of the nursing program at Salem State College for both the Graduate Nursing Program and the Undergraduate Division until her retirement.

**Kenneth Guy Griswold, 86**, of North Reading and formerly of Rochester, N.Y., died Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017, at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Cambridge, after a lengthy illness. He was a graduate of Bates College, class of 1953 (BS), University of Rochester (MA) and Bowdoin College (MS). Ken worked for Matthews and Field Lumber and Monroe High School, as a math teacher, both in Rochester, N.Y., and as a professor at Salem State College. Ken was a beloved professor for over 30 years and his passion for educating people, his sense of humor and quick wit made him a favorite on campus.

**Antonio E. HARRIS, 91**, died Dec. 29, 2017, at Hanover Hill Nursing Home following a brief illness. He was a graduate of Manchester Central High School, where he was captain of the basketball team. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II. He earned his bachelor's degree from St. Anselm College, a master's degree from University of New Hampshire and his doctorate from Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. Prior to his retirement he was a professor of biology, microbiology and parasitology at the University of Southern Mississippi and Salem State University.

**Jane Mulsman, 79**, of Peabody was entered into rest on July 16, 2017. Jane was an administrative assistant at Salem State University for 25 years, retiring in 2002.

**Neil Bradford Olson, 88**, died Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017, at Beverly Hospital. He was born in Boston and was a graduate of Simmons College and Tufts University. He was an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Marines, serving in both World War II and Korea. Neil was the director of libraries at Salem State for 30 years, and was a trustee of Beverly Public Library for 40 years. He was a member of the John Holmes poetry workshop in Cambridge in the 1950s. His acquaintances included Maxine Kumin and Donald Hall. Neil published several chapbooks of poetry over his life, including "Death of a War Dog," the title poem of which appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*.

**Richard Paul "Dick" Zollo, 91**, passed away in San Francisco on Dec. 18, 2017, after an extended illness. Richard was born in Danvers on Sept. 30, 1926, and received his EdD from Boston University. Richard worked as an English faculty member at Salem State College after teaching at Danvers and Masconomet High Schools. He authored and collaborated on numerous books and articles on local history, and was deeply involved with the Danvers Historical Society and the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. Professor Ann Taylor remembers Professor Zollo as a "kindhearted person who enjoyed teaching writing and discussing assignments." He came to Salem State in 1967 as an assistant professor. After retiring in 1986, he continued to use the Salem State Library for his ongoing research of local history. At the time of his retirement he wrote, "Of all the professions I could have chosen, teaching is the only one, I'm sure, that could have been as rewarding."



# Alumni

From July 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018

Virginia "Ginger" A. Kay Jones '41  
 Norma R. (Reynolds) Cavanaugh '42  
 Mary E. (Connors) Higgins '42  
 Helen (Thomas) Macheras '43  
 Mary M. (McElaney) Wall '43  
 Charlotte W. (Williams) Steeves '44  
 Carmella "Millie" (Pepe) Lopresti '45  
 Margaret "Peggi" S. (Shiel) Langlois '46  
 Catherine (Pantazopoulos) Papacostas '47  
 Kathleen "Kay" A. (Mahoney) Claffey '48  
 Patricia A. (McCool) Stokowski '49  
 Barbara L. (Cryan) Bransfield '50  
 Elizabeth "Betty" C. (Atwood) Nilsson '50  
 Edna M. (Chase) Barrowclough '51  
 Beatrice "Bea" Glass '51  
 Mary A. Byrne '52  
 Eleanor A. (Johnson) Franey '53  
 Thelma Spitz-Hessell '53  
 Rosemary T. (McHugh) Carey '54  
 Suzanne I. (Collins) Curran '54  
 Cecelia "Ceil" T. (Fishman) Wheeler '54  
 Hope F. (Fellows) Jones '55  
 James "Jim" J. Neenan '55  
 Marjorie A. (Hovey) Sletterink '57  
 Mary R. Bemis '58G  
 Francis "Fran" (Cooney) Edward '59  
 R. Lucille Gilbert '59  
 Robert "Bob" A. Barrasso '60, '61G  
 Patrick W. Phaup '60  
 Virginia "Ginny" R. (Rye) Mitchell '62, '67G  
 Donald F. Raffier '62  
 John E. Huttunen '62G  
 Patrick J. Carrette '62G  
 Patricia A. (Connolly) Delaney '63  
 Richard "Dick" E. Neal '63G  
 Francis F. Grose '63G  
 Elizabeth L. (Plant) Kelley '64  
 Annette "Anne" L. (Fuccillo) Minichiello '64  
 George P. Munroe '64  
 Kenneth B. Wood '64G  
 Claire F. (Cullity) Broughton '65  
 Anne L. (Lane) Smith '65G  
 Cornelius "Neil" M. Moynihan '66, '80G, '89G  
 Edward "Ted" E. Pringle '66G  
 Charles "Charlie" R. Stortstrom '66, '70G  
 Maybelle "Meg" W. (Warren) Conant '67  
 Robert "Bob" D. MacEachem '67  
 Edward M. Leen '68G  
 Patricia "Patty" M. Walsh '68  
 Aurora M. Zola '68  
 Julie Frances Gildea '68G  
 Elinor B. (Brown) Spofford '68  
 John "Jack" D. Buckley '69, '81G  
 Agnes "Aggie" L. (Britton) Carnevale '69, '72G  
 Arthur R. Main '69  
 Thomas Mamos '69  
 Mary C. Curcio '69G  
 Ronald R. Thomas '70, '73G  
 Thomas A. Lynch '71  
 George S. Marshall '71G  
 Gerald "Jerry" J. Foy '72G  
 Julia S. Corcoran '72G  
 Ronald G. Hiscock '73  
 Verda L. McAleer '73G  
 Robert "Bo" J. Tierney '73  
 Virginia "Ginny" A. (Smith) Foster '74, '80G  
 Craig A. Gates '74  
 Alfred "Al" A. Leclair '74G  
 Robert J. Nohelty '74  
 Christine "Chris" A. Perry '74  
 Andrew T. Chapman '75  
 James A. Fowlie '75  
 Donna M. (Savastano) Heal '75  
 Lorraine "Lori" K. (Knight) Lentini '75G  
 Carole A. (Scheri) Nelson '75, '79G  
 Dale A. (Perruzzi) Knowles '76, '04G  
 Angelo J. Bertolino '77G  
 Eleanor H. (Hennessey) King '77  
 Rachel M. Moore '77  
 Richard A. Fitzgerald '78  
 Dolores J. (Dipalma) Painchaud '78  
 Elizabeth "Betty" F. (Gaffey) Stone '78G  
 Marcia "Hess" C. Hess '79  
 Mark S. Kennefick '79G  
 Stephen W. Merrill '79  
 John F. Richardson '79G  
 Raymond "Ray" J. Harrington '80G  
 Gail A. (Quinn) Nugent '80  
 Carol R. (Roberts) Cooke '81G  
 Richard A. Coner '81  
 Timothy C. Gentleman '83  
 Hilda D. (Baillie) Allen '84  
 Sheila A. (Hayes) Coughlin '84  
 Nancy B. (Burpee) Cutter '85G  
 Patricia A. Johnson '86  
 John J. Lewis '88  
 Frederic R. Berg '89  
 Vivian R. (Grenon) Rawlins '89  
 Shawn J. McDuff '90  
 Eileen T. Downing '91G  
 Christine N. Corcoran '92  
 Mary M. (Laubner) Gambale '92  
 Paul F. Rodden '92  
 Laurel "Laurie" A. (Taylor) Dumas '98G  
 James "Jim" P. Lynch '00G  
 Michael J. Williams '00G  
 Ditmar G. Jaenisch '02  
 Matthew A. Bowden '05  
 Derek J. Dover '06  
 Courtney M. Beals '06  
 Morva G. Hilaire '07  
 Suzanne (Poirier) Silvernail '08G  
 Joseph A. Pramas '09, '17G  
 Vanessa G. (Masucci) MacCormack '11G  
 Neil L. Chayet '16H

# '16

**ALISSA FULFORD '16G** always knew that she was going to work with children and families in some capacity. For several years she was an early childhood educator, and she says that the role allowed her to gain valuable experience in working with children directly to help them gain skills and reach developmental milestones. She was also able to learn how to maintain positive relationships with families.

“This experience taught me that I wanted to take these skills outside the classroom setting into more direct work with families,” Alissa says. She then decided to pursue her master of social work degree at Salem State, that she applied at Pathways for Children in Gloucester in many different roles.

“My time at Pathways has been a valuable learning experience, as I had the opportunity to work collaboratively with other social workers, teachers and families while also continuing my education at Salem State,” Alissa says. “Pathways was supportive of me going back to school, and having the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills I was learning in my courses to the direct work with families in this setting was incredibly helpful to my professional growth.”

Alissa has been at Pathways for about seven years, and she is currently a Head Start social worker.

After receiving her master’s degree, Alissa stayed connected to Salem State through the Youth at Risk Conference (YAR), which is put on every year to support communities of professionals serving children, youth and families and to provide them with affordable continuing education and collaborative networking opportunities.

Alissa says she decided to attend the conference because YAR has a great reputation and she was encouraged by peers to attend when she was very new to the field.

“Since YAR is geared toward providing training to different professionals working with children and youth, I felt that this was a great opportunity to gain knowledge and insight into the work being done to support this population, in addition to the work I do on a daily basis,” Alissa says.

Each year provides a different type of learning experience based on the trainings offered. The training that she has enjoyed the most are ones that provided youth and families with the platform to share their stories.

“I find it to be a powerful experience to hear how they have utilized support

from different helping professionals to overcome challenges,” Alissa says.

Alissa believes that YAR is important because it is an opportunity for continuing education that also encourages networking amongst professionals.

“Making connections is so important to our work, and it’s nice to have this experience to get out of the day-to-day routine and interact with other professionals who may work in a different role but share the common goal of supporting youth and families,” Alissa says.

YAR 2018 will be held on Friday, June 8, at the O’Keefe Athletic Complex. For more information, contact yar@salemstate.edu or call 978.542.2085. ■

# '17

**OLIVIA DUMANE, KRISTAL HERNANDEZ, CHRIS KANDRA AND DAVID PICARIELLO**

joined Speak About It, a nonprofit organization that offers sexual assault prevention and consent education, as touring actor-educators.

**DUSTIN DUBE** recently began a position as a mortgage loan originator at HomeBridge Financial Services. Congratulations, Dustin!

## 2018 SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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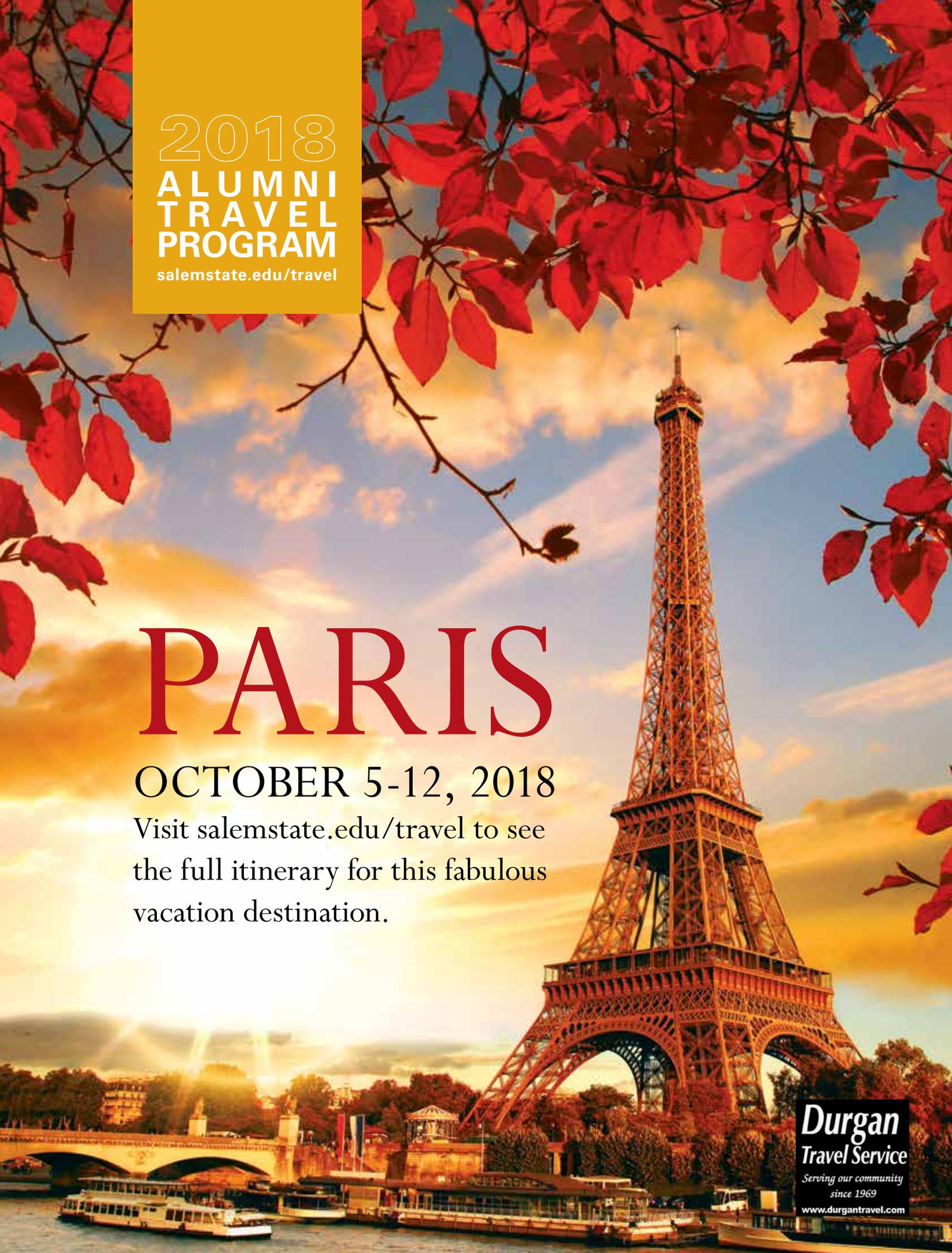
### MEMBERS AT LARGE

Barbara L. Baggs '13G  
 Mary Bertrand '13  
 Ed Brzychcy '15  
 Robert Callahan '72  
 Brian Castellanos '16G  
 Guy Clinch '89  
 Grazia Crivello '09  
 Stephen Daly '84  
 Kathryn D'Amour '63,  
 '67G, '81G  
 Carol DiMento Esq. '65, '67G

Josue Flores '11, '12, '15G  
 Patricia M. Libby '71  
 Suzanne Macaluso '15, '17G  
 Teury Marte '00  
 Joanne Mendes '79  
 Janet Merriman '82  
 Linda Hayes '90  
 Timothy Shea '83G  
 Kerrie Tingle '12G  
 Carol Vara '85, '92G  
 Hope Watt-Bucci '96G

### LEGACY MEMBERS

Erik Champy '89, '94G  
 Eileen Smith Connolly '59,  
 '77G  
 Dorothy Foley '48  
 Judith Josephs '63, '65G  
 Josephine Kennedy '72,  
 '76G  
 Frank Lillo '64, '69G  
 Jane Moroney '60, '62G  
 Frederick Sannella '64  
 Deirdre Sartorelli '83



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# SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018 NORTH CAMPUS MCKEOWN PLAZA 6-9 PM

At this unforgettable evening under the stars, mingle and experience reunion tents, lawn games, local food, beer, and wine, while enjoying live entertainment by the Felix Brown Band.

Tickets are \$30 (\$20 for under 21) and available at [salemstate.edu/alumniweekend18](http://salemstate.edu/alumniweekend18). Each ticket includes food, drink and entertainment. Public and families are welcome.



Party on McKeown Plaza

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