

THE magazine



HOW WE ACT

at Berkeley Carroll

At Least Some of the World's a Stage

Orson Welles once wrote that, "in a perfect world, all of us should be allowed some short vacations from our own identities." Far be it from me to correct one of the most accomplished dramatic artists of the twentieth century, but I'm not sure I agree. Welles seems to envision "identity" as something ironclad and constricting—a place from which one requires vacations. At Berkeley Carroll, students are encouraged to construct more elastic identities: ones that allow for variety, experimentation, and built-in "vacations." Almost nowhere is this versatility better displayed than in Berkeley Carroll's stable of actors—students who manage to play dozens of roles with flair and aplomb.

In this issue of the *Magazine* you'll have the opportunity to peer behind the curtain at four alumni who honed their craft at Berkeley Carroll. Sergei Burbank '98 spent nine years under the wing of Marlene Clary, our late beloved theater director. Lynda Rodolitz '60 dabbled in a lifetime of creative endeavors before "starting from scratch at 60" and returning to the New York stage. The inexhaustible Heather Cunningham '89 produces and performs in revivals of classic plays that hew to their retro antecedents, and Michael Micalizzi '03 is a fast-rising member of the Flea Theater's repertory company.

Speaking of greasepaint, our stage veritably exploded in March with the production of the Middle School's *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. The minute those actors took their final curtain call, our theater department was in full swing with the Upper School's spring performances of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Far from taking vacations from their identities, our theater students jump feet first into as many as they can, be they sentient beagles or carnivorous plants. But this willingness to try on new selves is not limited to the students on stage. As an editorial in the Upper School *Blotter* newspaper stated this February, Berkeley Carroll students are defined by their versatility. Junior Adam Kochman wrote, "Yes, we are artists. And we are athletes. And we are scientists.

We are driven and we are passionate. We are the school of the Renaissance student."

Enjoy the issue.

Jodie Corngold
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Cover: "Parade of the Woodstocks, from *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*"
Photo: Jackie Weisberg

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The Berkeley Carroll School *Magazine* is published by the Communications Office for parents, alumni, grandparents, faculty, and friends of the school. The views expressed in this publication are solely those of the authors.

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Printing

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Website: www.berkeleycarroll.org

Telephone: 718-789-6060



Printed on recycled paper



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THE magazine

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An Actor Prepared

Quiet professionalism paid off for this actor—*The New York Times* has praised his “deliciously understated” work.

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Setting the Stage to Set the Stage

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This performer formed a lifelong professional bond with BC drama teacher Marlene Clary.

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Following a Circuitous Path

Finding the courage to pursue her theatrical passion was a lifelong struggle for this BC grad.

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CONNECTIONS

PERFORMANCE!

Public speaking is believed to be the single most common phobia, affecting as much as 75% of all people. Standing up and addressing an audience is seen by some as a fate worse than death! This is hard to believe if you have ever spent time around Berkeley Carroll. Our students are provided almost endless opportunities to perform, speak, sing, play and dance and they embrace each and every one of them.



BOB VITALO

In this issue you will be introduced to a number of alums who have pursued performing in creative and professional ways. Our goal at BC is not just to produce men and women who can enthrall audiences. We take pride in that, but our major job is more profound: we need to nurture each child's distinctive voice and equip each of our students with the skills and self confidence to make sure that they are heard.

Beginning with our youngest students, our teachers are prodding our children to step out in front of the group to share feelings and ideas. Our students grow to be comfortable reading in a group, playing on a team, singing in a chorus.

And if you walk the halls of BC, you will experience that some of our greatest performances happen one-on-one between teacher and student. These can be quiet exchanges, but the encounters that occur in our class-

rooms are designed to increase self assuredness and support the voice of the individual.

Of course, if a student wants to take a more public role, the chances to do so are limitless. Beginning in Middle School, students can join our nationally ranked Speech and Debate team; they can perform in an orchestra; dance in an ensemble; or sing in a chorus. All of these activities feed each child's need to creatively express their experiences.

Next year we will initiate the Senior Speech program. Over the course of the school year, the Upper School student body will hear from each of our seniors on a topic that is near and dear to the individual. My guess is that some will be funny, some will bring tears, and others will be delivered with trembling voices and rushed speech. Not all of the seniors will be thrilled at the prospect of standing in front of several hundred people and delivering a meaningful message for five minutes, but each and every one of them will have had an experience that will help to build a skill for life.

Our students are going to be performing on the global stage when they leave BC, we want to make sure that they are prepared to express themselves in all ways.

Enjoy the articles within and please keep in touch with us. Let us know how your "performance" is going. ✚

Sincerely,

Robert D. Vitalo

Head of School

“

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We take pride in that, but our major job is more profound: we need to nurture each child's distinctive voice and equip each of our students with the skills and self confidence to make sure that they are heard.

”

WAX?

THEY ALMOST LOOKED REAL!

Some led revolutions, some transformed fashion, some wrote poems and plays that are dearly loved hundreds of years later, but all—either significantly or less so—changed history. Every year, the 8th grade undergoes a transformation. Choosing a person (living or dead) whose contribution warranted either a biography or autobiography, they read a book written about their subject, write and memorize a three-minute monologue (in the first person) about their subject, then—dressed and in character—meet the public.

For two hours on February 3, 2011, teachers, students, and parents wandered from Julia Child to Julius



also had the opportunity to speak to the students who were expected to answer all questions about their character—while keeping in character.

For the students, the assignment required reading, writing, research, condensing a large amount of information and facts into a short piece, memorization, creativity, and—ultimately—the ability to improvise for two hours. The visitors had it easy: their only requirements were to listen attentively, ask good questions, and have fun.

Cleopatra and Che Guevara were among the luminaries represented at this year's Wax Museum.



Caesar, from Steven Spielberg to Steve Jobs, from Anna Pavlova to Anne Frank. Visitors to the living wax museum heard more than the students' monologues, however. They

THE STAGE IN THE LINCOLN PLACE PERFORMANCE SPACE

was almost unrecognizable during its transformation into an Upper East Side apartment for the performances of Neil Simon's *Prisoner of Second Avenue* (far right) last fall. And speaking of transformations, there was quite a bit done about quite a bit during the Middle School staging of *Much Ado About Nothing* (right).



Berkeley Carroll Students Take a College Engineering Course at College



The minute they got out of school each Monday during the fall semester, ten Upper School students hopped on the subway. Four quick stops later they were in downtown Brooklyn, on their way back to school. Excited by the prospect of taking a college engineering class, these motivated students who ranged from sophomore to senior took a freshman engineering class at New York University's

NYU/Poly campus through a



[top] A lemon-fueled car.

[left] The challenge of propelling a toy car.

unique collaboration between Berkeley Carroll and NYU.

This survey course introduced them to the principles of electrical, chemical, and mechanical engineering, with even a little metallurgy thrown in. One lab required figuring out how to make a toy car run using lemons. During other labs the students had to

build a viable hot-air balloon and figure out how to propel a toy car using a conventional mousetrap, to name two more. Class times not dedicated to labs were given over to recitation. Each student was required to present his or her findings using Power Point but, beyond this, each was required to hew to a very specific engineering rubric and present cogent findings. That part presented a challenge for some of the students at first but, according to Upper School math teacher Doug Crane, the feedback they received from their professors and TAs enabled them to quickly learn, for instance, that a table displaying data was far more effective a tool than was a narrative or a group of bullet points.

Going into this program the students all had a reasonable expectation of learning about engineering. That they also learned how to *think* like an engineer was an unexpected—but exciting—addition. When asked what in particular he liked about the class, Josh Goldin '11 mentioned he liked the challenge of writing lab reports. "They require a different form of writing than what we're used to," he said, referring to the technical writing.

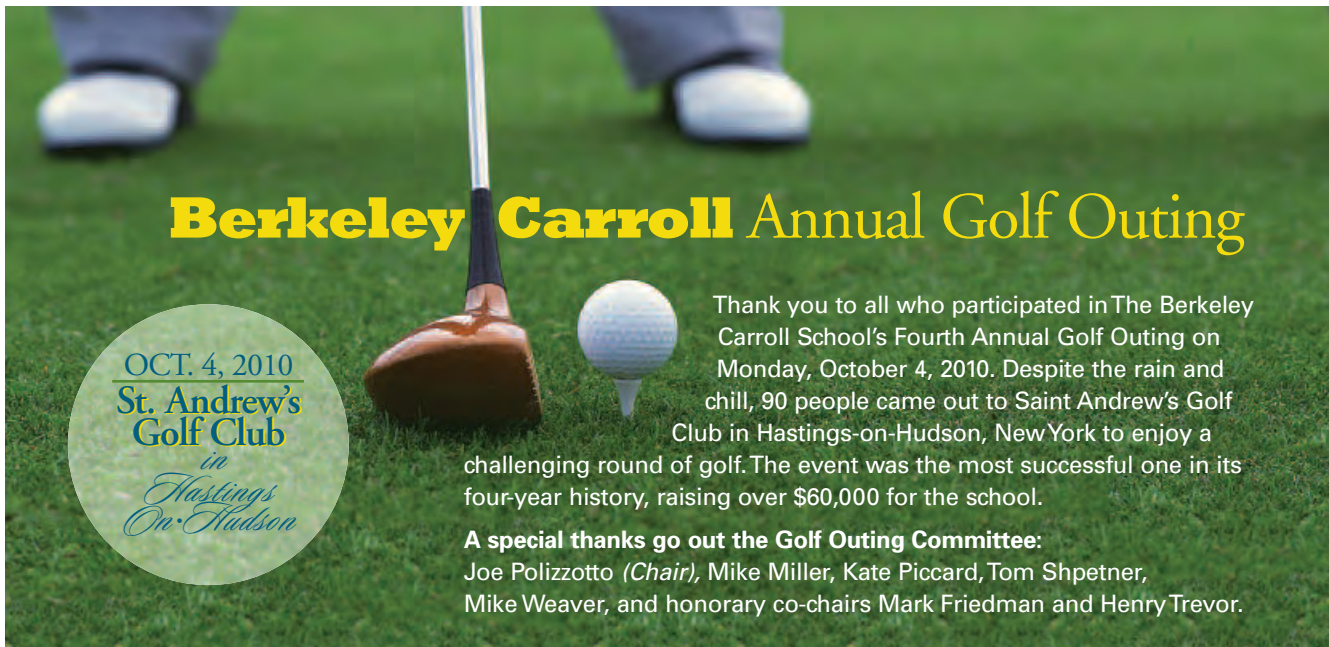
The class met once a week from 4pm to 7pm, which was a not insignificant time commitment for students who have already spent the day at school. Was it worth it? You bet. Teacher Doug Crane said, "This class taught them to be resourceful, independent, and flexible insofar as they had to learn how to meet new standards." And the work? "There was a lot of work—in addition to three class hours a week, preparation for the labs requires an additional two or three hours each week. But at the end of the day, these students successfully completed a course intended for college freshman."



Dylan Scher

Speech and Debate Team Continues its Upward Trajectory

Dylan Scher '12 has debated against some of the best varsity Lincoln-Douglas debaters in the country. During a prestigious by-invitation-only set of daylong round robin competitions sponsored by the Bronx High School of Science last October, Dylan dominated the preliminary rounds with a 7-0 record and extremely high speaker points, earning him the Peter Colavito Award for top speaker. This traveling trophy was last "owned" by a BC student in 2005 when Jacob Levi '06 was on the debate team.



Berkeley Carroll Annual Golf Outing

OCT. 4, 2010
St. Andrew's Golf Club
in Hastings-on-Hudson

Thank you to all who participated in The Berkeley Carroll School's Fourth Annual Golf Outing on Monday, October 4, 2010. Despite the rain and chill, 90 people came out to Saint Andrew's Golf Club in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York to enjoy a challenging round of golf. The event was the most successful one in its four-year history, raising over \$60,000 for the school.

A special thanks go out the Golf Outing Committee:
Joe Polizzotto (*Chair*), Mike Miller, Kate Piccard, Tom Shpetner, Mike Weaver, and honorary co-chairs Mark Friedman and Henry Trevor.

Visiting Author Moustafa Bayoumi

The Upper School welcomed prize-winning author Moustafa Bayoumi in September. Mr. Bayoumi, winner of the American Book Award; the Arab American Book Award; and author of *How Does it Feel to be a Problem: Being Young and Arab in America*, was an intelligent, charming, and wonderful storyteller.

He told the gathered students about the genesis of his book.

"Humanizing a population that has been dehumanized ever since the events of 9/11" was at the basis of his decision. He also cited public opinion polls indicating that anti-Arabic



sentiment had grown following that day. Because of his commitment to overcoming prejudice, Mr. Bayoumi also took the opportunity to educate his Berkeley Carroll audience by explaining that the majority of Arab-Americans were Christians not Muslims, and talking about the history

of the Arab population in New York City.

Mr. Bayoumi spoke passionately about the individuals in his book. He wanted to tell the story from the point of view of young people, he told the young people in his audience, because they're already caught up in trying to figure out who they are.

Playing off W.E.B. Du Bois, who asked in *The Souls of Black Folk*, "How does it feel to be a problem?," Mr. Bayoumi in his book asked the same question of another population. The book examines the lives of seven Arab-Americans living in Brooklyn, home to the largest Arab-American population in the United States. Their stories include those of a family subjected to government surveillance, workplace discrimination, and fighting in a war while questioning "sides." Throughout the book, this Canadian born of Egyptian parents who is an English literature professor at Brooklyn College said his goal was to humanize each of his subjects.

College Connection

On Wednesday, November 24, 2010, nine Berkeley Carroll alums participated in the College Connection, sharing their college experiences with current students and parents.

Those alumni were: **Katie Cunningham '09**, **Matthew Cunningham '07**, **Sean Cunningham '10**, **Emma Goldberg-Liu '10**, **Max Goldberg-Liu '07**, **Alex Pelliccione '10**, **John Norris '10**, **Chandler Rosenthal '10**, and **Bari Saltman '10**.

A group of eager seniors and their parents gathered at the home of David and Nancy Rosenthal, parents of Clarke '06, Chandler '10, and August '13. They asked many insightful questions about the college application process and life on campus.

Mark Your Calendars!



• FRIDAY, MAY 13

COCKTAIL PARTY 6:30 - 8:30 pm



Vitalo

Start the weekend off at a cocktail party in the Library at 181 Lincoln Place, hosted by Head of School, **Bob Vitalo**. Connect with old friends and relive your memories of Berkeley Carroll.

• SATURDAY, MAY 14

DISCUSSION 10:00 am



Lorne Swarthout, Upper School History teacher and Class of 2001 dean, will begin the day with a historical perspective on the job market with a discussion entitled "The Best Job Applications Ever".

You think you put a lot into your last job application? Forget about it! Nicolo Machiavelli wanted a job with Lorenzo the Magnificent, ruler of Florence. He wrote down some cool ideas about government; they became the book we know as *The Prince*. He got the job.

In 1871 an ambitious young French artist, Fredric Bartholdi, got it in his head to build a colossal figure in New York harbor holding a torch. In order to get the Americans—and especially New Yorkers—to take his idea seriously he sent them a full size statue of Lafayette, General Washington's Revolutionary War aide. Impressed with this free gift, the Americans gave Bartholdi the contract for the Statue of Liberty, then put Lafayette in Union Square. Perhaps a historical perspective might help you with your own job search!

LUNCHEON/AWARDS 11:00 am



Distinguished Alumni Award:

Jennifer Gordon '71

For her service to the school as a member of the board and the Alumni Council.



Lions Award

Cecilia Burgin Streit '87

For her service to the school as a member of the board and the Alumni Council.



Young Alumni Award

Reed Morgan '05

For exemplifying the Berkeley Carroll mission in his work in public health.

**TOUR OF
181 LINCOLN PLACE 1:00pm**

Tours will be given by our Student Ambassadors.

Free babysitting will be available from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.

FALL SPORTS

Not even the unexpectedly strange weather events of September and October, including a Park Slope tornado, could prevent Berkeley Carroll's fall athletes from enjoying highly successful and competitive seasons. The presence of strong senior athletes and new coaching staffs resulted in many highlights and dramatic moments on the volleyball court and soccer fields.

Volleyball coaches Eileen Herr and Vanessa Charles took charge of a core of returning veterans and a host of young newcomers. Senior leadership was provided by Chanda Chin (All ACIS), Danielle Regis (All ACIS), Bianka Bailey, and Lauren Malotra-Gaudet. This solid foundation was strengthened by the skilled play of returning juniors Samantha Bellamy, Hana DeHovitz, Antonia Giles, and Courtney Wipf, along with sophomores Samantha Giles and Elena Hirsch. These upperclassmen helped the team's six freshmen adapt to the fast pace of play in the ACIS.

Highlights were many, including wins over traditional rivals. The closing days of the season were the most dramatic of the entire fall. A late

October win over UNIS earned the Lions a spot in a four-way tie for first place in the highly competitive ACIS and a spot in the tournament.



BY HENRY SCHWAB '11

Lions Pounce



at Victory



Undaunted by the tiebreaking procedures that made them the four seed, the team traveled to face top-seeded Brooklyn Friends. The Lions rallied to win a seesaw third set (25-22), moving on to face a powerful St. Ann's team. In what some spectators called the most exciting final in league history, St. Ann's eked out a victory. The third set was highly dramatic. Both teams had opportunities to serve for victory, but St. Ann's finally broke through to take a 28-26 victory. Special thanks to an outstanding group of seniors for their many contributions to volleyball at Berkeley Carroll.

Varsity Girls Soccer lived up to the standards set by previous teams. 24 players met new coach Jason Dorn in August, and together they embarked on a season that had many highlights. Contributions to the team's 14-4-1 record came from too many players to mention by name in this limited space; the Lions exemplified the word "team" in their style of play. The team earned a second place finish in the PSAA, highlighted by exciting wins over excellent teams from Portledge, Long Island Lutheran, and Columbia Prep.

The league recognized the play of midfielder Phoebe Miller '11, defenders Keyanka Bailey '11 and Amanda Cordisco '11, and goalie Anna Saltman '11 by naming them "All ACIS" following the season. Their play sets the standard for our many returning soccer players to meet next fall.

While their record wasn't quite as strong as that of the girls, Varsity Boys soccer also made strides. New head

coach Arnold Gaston and Jimmy Nestor emphasized skill development for all 22 players on the team. Improved ball handling was evident over the course of the season, allowing them to compete with some superb teams from Friends Seminary, UNIS, and St. Ann's, and earn a spot in the ACIS Divisional playoff round. A loss to Dwight closed the Berkeley Carroll soccer careers of a pair of excellent captains, striker John Steines '11 and goalie Dan Schwartz '11.

WINTER SPORTS

A cold, snowy winter did not dampen the winter seasons. The Varsity swim teams were both successful. The boys team might have been small in number but, overall, was as speedy as ever. A relay team consisting of Ben Bogart '11, Connor Luong '11, Jawan LaMont '12, and Henry Schwab '11 broke school records for both the 200 and 400 yard freestyle relays, with times of 1:52 and 3:59, respectively. In their final meet of the season at Riverdale, the boys surprised even themselves, placing first in every event they swam despite the fact that Riverdale's team was much larger.

The girls team had an equally busy season. The teams' ninth-place finish overall at AAIS Championships at Asphalt Green did not reflect their performance. "It was all numbers," said senior Catherine McWilliams. "We had girls finishing second and third out of 40 places. We're hoping the team grows next year." Coaches Brooke Rea and John Stewart are both new to the swim team and are confident that next season will be a time of improvement and growth.

Upstairs in the Athletic Center,





things went even better; all three Berkeley Carroll basketball teams earned spots in the league playoffs.

Coach Morgan Seigny led the Girls Varsity to a second-place finish in the PSAA, and a tie for third in the ACIS. Seniors Keyanka Bailey, named Most Valuable Player in the PSAA, and Tess Salvatore (PSAA All Conference) were outstanding leaders, both on and off the court. Although they will be missed, they leave behind a core of 13 returning players to take the next steps in Berkeley Carroll's climb up the standings.

The boys basketball teams also advanced rapidly. Varsity basketball more than doubled last year's win total, including a win over eventual league champion Friends Seminary. They entered the final week of the season tied with rival UNIS for the last spot in the playoffs. In the deciding game, they fell behind by 18 points in the third quarter. A stifling full-court press turned the game around, ending in a seven-point Berkeley Carroll victory and a playoff berth.

With no graduating seniors on the roster, an experienced group looks to go even farther next year. They have help on the way. The JV team, led by sophomore captains Michael Dosik, Robert Graham, and Josh Rosas and under the guidance of Coach Walter Paller, stormed back from a 0-3 start in league play to finish 10-6 and earn a home seed in the ACIS playoffs. They won a hard-fought quarterfinal game over SIA, with Will Reagan '14 scoring a game-high 21 points in a comeback victory.

While the season ended with a semifinal loss to Packer, it was ultimately a successful season. With 15 freshmen on the roster, Berkeley Carroll basketball looks forward to success in future seasons. ✚



MICHAEL MICALIZZI '03



A N A C T O R P R E P A R E D

Over the course of researching his work, watching his clips, engaging him in a lengthy e-mail correspondence, and interviewing him, one gets an impression of just how serious Michael Micalizzi's commitment to acting is. The word "professional," for example, comes out every few sentences, and its clear Michael means it as a high—perhaps the highest—compliment and goal.

In an industry that seems to thrive on dreams of overnight stardom, Michael, who graduated from Berkeley Carroll in 2003, provides a refreshing example of sedulous apprenticeship and patient determination. He has learned from, performed with, and now emulates so-called working actors, "people whose names you might not know but who have been working forever... people who I see in a lot of Off-Broadway theater in small theaters and people who make a living doing this."

✦ BY JONATHAN DAVENPORT

Do not, however, conflate his assiduity with a lack of ambition; rather, take it as a sign of Michael's keen awareness of what it means to be a practitioner of the craft instead of an aspiring movie star. When asked about his recent success landing lead roles at The Flea, a prestigious Off-Off-Broadway theater, he replies, "I personally don't feel like I've come that far. Talk to me in five years, ten years." Consider that he has been a practicing actor for the past fourteen years.

It was Marlene Clary, Berkeley Carroll's late drama teacher, who introduced Michael to such a deliberate approach to acting upon his ninth grade BC matriculation in 1997. In fact, Michael met Marlene before meeting any of his future classmates, when he auditioned for her as part of his BC application. "I did my monologue," he recalls, "and then afterward she told me to do it again, to just try it differently. Throw out everything I had prepared and try something else." This practice was typical of a teacher known for her ability to treat students as peers while making them realize just how much they could learn from her.

Michael took every acting class Marlene taught at Berkeley Carroll, explaining that she used "classic acting methods from the method school of acting... the method of Marlon Brando that all the theater masters were teaching, and she didn't sugar-coat it." But perhaps more importantly, she "treated you like a professional from day one, and expected the same in return." Her students called "her by her first name, the only teacher who [allowed] that, and it was part of all she did, trying to instill mutual respect." Talking to Michael now, it's evident how extensively Ms. Clary's sober and thoughtful approach influenced him. For instance,



"THIS WHOLE PROFESSION IS ABOUT DOING EVERYTHING YOU CAN TO INSURE THAT WHEN EVERYTHING LINES UP, YOU'RE READY TO BE SHOT OUT OF THE CANNON," MICHAEL SAYS. "MARLENE WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE READY. I'M FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR THAT."

he still stresses the importance of punctuality, a famous Clary dictum, and appreciatively contrasts himself with those "people coming in late, not prepared in some way."

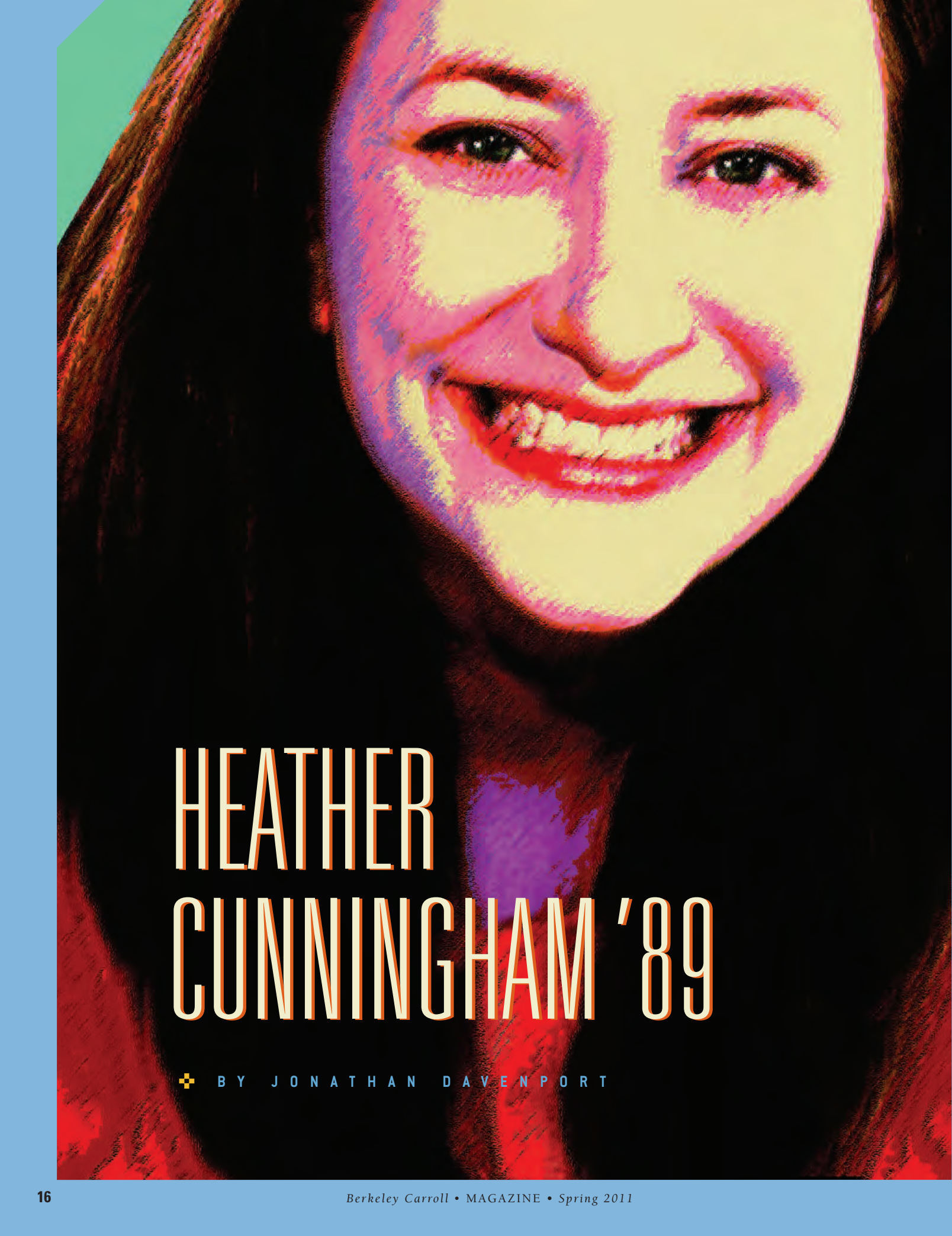
Though Ms. Clary has passed, her lessons stay with Michael. He brought them with him to Wheaton College where he majored in Theater Studies; after graduation he packed them up and traveled with them from theater to theater, honing his craft, acting out of a suitcase. Finally, he brought them back home to New York, to fulfill the dream he dreamt fourteen years ago in front of a single audience member, on a bare stage, in an unfamiliar school. The lessons Michael learned then and there from Marlene Clary, he now draws on in packed theaters, under bright lights, and to glowing reviews—and, most of all, he performs professionally. "This whole profession is about doing everything you can to insure that when everything lines up, you're ready to be shot out of the cannon," Michael says. "Marlene wanted to make sure you were ready. I'm forever grateful for that."

Michael has had success landing roles at The Flea, a prestigious Off-Off-Broadway theater, including the lead in the world premiere of *Looking for Christmas* last winter. The play was filmed by WNET at the end of its run, and will be broadcast next holiday season as part of the channel's "Great Performances" series. When asked about his recent success, Michael replies, "I personally don't feel like I've come that far. Talk to me in five years, ten years." Consider that he has been a practicing actor for the past fourteen years. ✚

Michael with other cast members from *Spoon River Anthology*, fall semester 2001.

The production was held in the dance room because Berkeley Carroll's Performance Space was under construction.





HEATHER CUNNINGHAM '89

✦ BY JONATHAN DAVENPORT

SETTING THE STAGE TO SET THE STAGE

With a costume-designing mother and a set designer father, Heather Cunningham, Berkeley Carroll Class of 1989, was born into the theatrical craft; the stage was set for her to star. Heather's interest in performing was not a gradual, dawning realization, but existed "from the first moment [she] can remember." Indeed, performing seems nearly as compulsive for her as, say, an air of general hostility is for most NYC public transit passengers. Evidence exists that she was fascinated with acting before she can even recall. For instance, Heather's mother likes to tell a story of a visit she paid to Heather's kindergarten class, costumes in tow, to help the children mount a production of the *Three Little Pigs*. When time came to assign the parts, Heather "begged" her mother to play the wolf. "A character actress from the start," Heather notes, smiling.

✦ BY JONATHAN DAVENPORT



[l to r] Lowell Byers, Lauren Kelston, Elise Rovinsky, Casandera M.J. Lollar and Heather E. Cunningham in Retro Productions 2010 World Premiere production of *Women and War* by Jack Hilton Cunningham, photo by Kristen Vaughan. *Women and War* is now published by Baker's Plays (an imprint of Samuel French, Inc.).

In contrast to her seemingly congenital will to perform, Heather's taste in what to perform developed slowly. Marlene Clary's class "Drama and Society" played an early role in this process. "We studied four plays and their context within social history," she says. "Wonderful. In many ways, it's what I still do today." But perhaps more influential was her mother's old college professor and dear family friend who instilled in Heather "an appreciation for old things." She confesses this appreciation has formed both her personal and theatrical aesthetic. Heather's apartment is festooned with Nancy Drew books, 1950s glasses, and vintage kitchen tools; she refuses to put on shows set after 1985.

Combining her passions for theater and history, in 2005 Heather founded—and performs in—Retro Productions (www.retroproductions.org). The productions benefit from her parents' experience—her mother now designs sets and her father now writes plays—and Heather's apparently inexhaustible dedication. That she often has to design props, clean theaters, or



Heather E. Cunningham as Peg Costello in Retro Productions 2010 (6 time New York Innovative Theatre Award nominated) production of *The Desk Set* by William Marchant.

THAT SHE OFTEN
HAS TO DESIGN PROPS,
CLEAN THEATERS, OR
UPDATE HER WEBSITE
HERSELF DOES NOT
SEEM TO BOTHER HER.
HEATHER ADMITS,
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"I'M MORE AT PEACE WITH
MYSELF AS AN
ARTIST...BECAUSE
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WANT TO DO."

update her website herself does not seem to bother her. Heather admits, "I certainly never thought I'd end up producing my own work," but finds that "I'm more at peace with myself as an artist...because I'm doing what I want to do."

Retro Productions's mission statement declares their intent to perform "20th-century period pieces that tell us something about their time periods," and era-accurate décor, precise settings, and time-specific social issues characterize all Retro Productions plays, including the most recent, Michael Frayn's *Benefactors*. Heather spends hours researching the historical context of each play, and, as if to prove it, now excitedly recites whole swaths of late-1960s London social and housing history vis-à-vis *Benefactors*. She says that such attention to detail serves to "transport [one] to the time of the story...and the story is why we are all here," while ruefully acknowledging the irony in this adult hobby, since at BC she "had horrible grades" in and far less enthusiasm for History.


As setting serves a great role in her productions, so it plays a great role in her life. Heather seems to have a better memory for places than people sometimes. Berkeley Carroll's "unbelievable" staircase and "spectacular" original brick building represent the school to her as much as her favorite teachers and classmates. These settings influenced her adolescence, opened up her understanding of theater, and contributed to her classic aesthetic sense. In a rare look forward for a woman constantly exploring the past, Heather only desires that her own settings and performances with Retro Productions accomplish the same for others. ✚





(left) Heather E. Cunningham as Jessica Collins in Retro Productions 2008 production of *The Tender Trap* by Max Shulman and Robert Paul Smith, pictured with Ric Sechrest.

(right) Heather E. Cunningham as Angel in Retro Productions 2009 production of *When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?* by Mark Medoff, pictured with Christopher Patrick Mullen.

A close-up portrait of a man with short, dark hair, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a dark, textured jacket. The background is a solid, vibrant blue. The lighting is soft, highlighting his facial features.

SERGEI BURBANK '98

✦ BY JONATHAN DAVENPORT



A D R A M A T I C C A R E E R

Sergei Burbank '98 speaks intelligently but playfully, every now and then dropping a startling curveball into the conversation. He prefers his theater to do so as well. For Sergei, drama puts “a narrative frame on [our] lives...an attempt to contextualize our lives within a larger story.” But his productions and he himself revel in disrupting these comfortable narratives. For instance, Sergei is obviously of color, but it is not clear which specifically. His heritage remains difficult to pin down, and guessing it turns into a first curious, then slightly torturous kind of Rorschach test that eventually convinces his audience to just let it go; some things deserve more than labels. Sergei refers to himself as “inconclusively brown,” which serves him well; in many ways the difficulty of drawing conclusions has become the work of his lifetime.

One conclusion is clear to Sergei, though: “I would not have ever done theater,” he says, “had it not been for the late, great [BC Drama teacher] Marlene Clary. She dragged me into auditions and the rehearsal room.” Sergei’s nine years at Berkeley Carroll were studded with theatrical triumphs—chief among them a senior-year production of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* in which Sergei and his best friend Danny Isquith '98 played the title roles.

Sergei recalls that “we’d been developing comic bits for four years—we didn’t even realize what we’d been working on them for until we brought it all onstage.” By the end of his time at BC, Sergei—who was also involved in the Creative Arts Program, where he worked with Marlene—was working with Marlene Clary “continuously, for almost eleven months a year.” He planned to abandon acting, though, in order to study history. Sergei’s *Two Gentlemen* program bio read, “This is the last time he shall take any stage, and [he] wishes to thank all the real actors.” Sergei remembers being confronted backstage by Ms. Clary, who, he says, “asked me point-blank if I was serious. I told her I was.”

Upon matriculating at Kenyon College, however, it became clear to Sergei that a career in history “was not going to work out,” in part because, he says, “I’m more interested in whose story is being told [than trying to find] the truth with a capital T.” Feeling adrift in Kenyon’s “middle of nowhere Ohio” campus, Sergei enrolled in an introductory drama course in hopes that it would provide “something familiar in an otherwise very unfamiliar place.”

The course, known colloquially as “Baby Drama,” turned out to be one “of the most brutal, academic, jargon-filled, joy-killing studies known on campus.” But unlike history, it excited him; “my assumptions about theater—that it was playful, for fun, and not at all serious—were being challenged on a daily basis...my perception of theater shifted from an ethereal, emotive experience to a vocation and craft.” Producing, directing, acting, and writing have been his “home” ever since.

Unsatisfied with many historically definitive and politically didactic plays he found in playhouses after graduat-



“MY ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THEATER— THAT IT WAS PLAYFUL, FOR FUN, AND NOT AT ALL SERIOUS— WERE BEING CHALLENGED ON A DAILY BASIS... MY PERCEPTION OF THEATER SHIFTED FROM AN ETHEREAL, EMOTIVE EXPERIENCE TO A VOCATION AND CRAFT.” PRODUCING, DIRECTING, ACTING, AND WRITING HAVE BEEN SERGEI’S “HOME” EVER SINCE.

ing from Kenyon, Sergei decided to produce his own work. In 2007, he co-founded the Conflict of Interest Theater Company with film and stage director Adam Karsten. COI plays are “intimate,” says Sergei, adding, “We mount our shows so that our actors and our audience have a sort of communion” each evening. “We go right up to that final conclusion and avoid making it, and that’s what divides good theater from propaganda.”

In March 1998, Marlene Clary wrote a note to Sergei on the eve of *Two Gentlemen*’s opening; in it, she said, “This may be our last exploration of theatre together, but certainly not our last collaboration.” Her statement proved prophetic. Exactly ten years later, in Conflict of Interest’s second season, Sergei convinced Marlene and her husband, Roy Clary, to join the company. Marlene was named Director of Readings and Young Artist Development, and in 2009 she directed Sergei and Roy in a production of James O’Connor’s *Timor Mortis* that Sergei says was “incredibly challenging” but ultimately rewarding. Sergei takes pride in the symmetry of having “pulled them back into professional theater” when Marlene was the one who had pulled him into the theater world in the first place. He even keeps her name on the COI letterhead, “as a reminder to ourselves that the work she started with us will continue.”

Interestingly, what Sergei values in drama, he also valued in Berkeley Carroll. “What was so precious about BC for me,” he says, “is that it was such an intimate setting. I was lucky enough to feel very free, and so I could take risks with who I was and how I presented myself. Having that feeling at an early age definitely translated into theater.” ✚



Sergei and Danny Isquith in the
1998 production of *Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

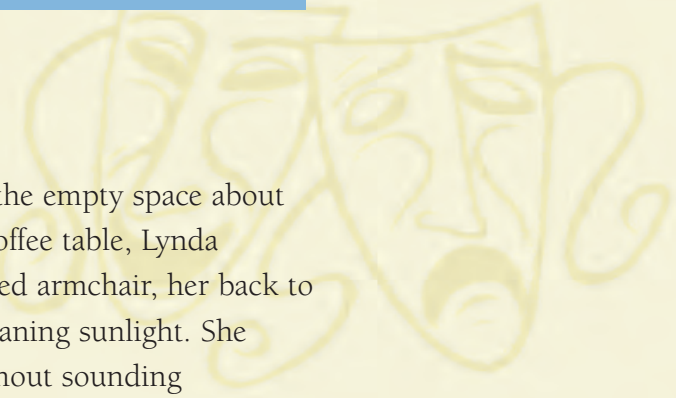
A close-up portrait of Linda Rodolitz, a woman with short, dark, curly hair and bright blue eyes. She is smiling slightly and looking directly at the camera. The background is a gradient of blue and green. The text 'LINDA RODOLITZ '60' is overlaid on the bottom left of the image in a large, white, outlined font.

LINDA RODOLITZ '60

✦ BY JONATHAN DAVENPORT

FOLLOWING

A CIRCUITOUS PATH



Looking ruminatively into the empty space about fifteen inches above her coffee table, Lynda Rodolitz sits on a cushioned armchair, her back to a large window and the waning sunlight. She reflects upon her past without sounding exceedingly self-involved or prideful, but rather with an informed distance available to only those well over a certain age and its paired psychological hang-ups. Raising her eyes, she interrupts a story to remark, “People like talking about themselves.” She is perhaps realizing the platitude’s simple truth herself in this expanding moment of multi-layered reflection, more than submitting it as an apologetic defense. But she picks up where she left off easily, waiting for neither response nor encouragement.

So Lynda continues, “I came to living as an artist much later than maybe what you are looking for,” a warning she repeats several times throughout the evening. She has reason to be cautious; preconceived expectations played a large role in her adolescence. Throughout her 1950s childhood, Lynda’s parents emphasized “social graces,” pressured her to become a teacher, and hoped she would marry someone wealthy.

“I grew up,” she says, “in a time when young women were expected to be artistic but not artists.” Such traditional assumptions shadowed her from an early age and by high school she felt eclipsed, hidden. “I was literally told, ‘Never let a man know you’re too intelligent,’” Lynda explains, and public school only reinforced this “definite model of what

women should be like.” There is not rage in her voice so much as irritation; she admits later to protesting for women’s rights throughout adulthood.

Her junior year, as she sees it, was her first big break: she transferred from public school to The Berkeley Institute. The new environment transformed Lynda; “Being smart and funny was what made you popular,” she says, adding that “none of the girls had to cover up what they are to be attractive to boys ... you were there to shine.”

She leans a bit forward in her chair. Classmates, she says, “would sit in a big circle in her [French teacher’s] room and people would do funny sketches about F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald,” tell stories, and entertain each other. As she discusses these two brief but formative years at BI, her eyes light up and her gaze becomes more intent, as if these sketches were being performed there again, inches above her coffee table.

From Lynda’s Boston University matriculation through her graduation, theater was not part of her plan. Her parents remained insistent that she become a teacher, so, to avoid confrontation, Lynda, a pre-med Biology major, lied to them. “I think I was so frustrated I decided to major in the hardest thing I could,” she says. “It was interesting, but I had shown no indication up until then that I was interested in science. I wanted to be a fashion designer; my parents thought I was studying elementary education up until the day I graduated.” She falls back in her chair. When speaking of her parents, her tone changes slightly; it remains informative, but with a hint of regret, of sadness. Their relationship was complicated.

Though accepted to medical school, Lynda declined, explaining, “my parents wouldn’t let me go.”

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Instead she spent the next few years teaching high-school biology back in New York City. It’s clear at this point that she still wonders about alternative paths her life could have taken—daydreams about a minute in the life of Lynda Rodolitz, MD—but not for too long or too wistfully; though she might have enjoyed biology, she doesn’t seem to miss it much.

In 1970 both her parents passed away, and so, emerging from the expectations they represented, Lynda finally dared to live the life she wanted: “I became a video artist through some major coincidences, and through video I became interested in acting.” She started auditioning, joined the Medicine Show Theater, and eventually got into performing cabaret and comedy. By the mid-1980s Lynda had been performing for 12 consecutive

years, and felt the need to change. She left show business. She worked as an activist. She moved to Santa Fe. She became a photographer.

But with her friends’ encouragement and some time to think, Lynda realized she had left her heart in New York, on the stage. “So I came back,” she says. “It was not easy, but I have been studying and auditioning... It’s like starting from scratch at 60, not a time when most women actresses are most welcomed.” She’s used to it. Having had her dreams challenged her whole life prepared her well for life as an auditioning performer.

Despite living in the constant shadow of such preconceived expectations, Lynda is grateful. Catching the women’s movement in the 1970s, falling in with accepting, supportive artists, and attending the Berkeley Institute: these are her fortunes.

Lynda’s realization that “the only real way to any kind of success in your life is to follow your passions and to trust what you love and not listen to the song and dance that the culture tells you” stems from and returns her to those adolescent moments in “that little circle of girls—it was like Hogwarts—it was this wonderful atmosphere... to show yourself.” Lynda sits reflecting; the sun has fallen and the window behind her glitters with lights.

It should be noted that not only does Lynda credit Barbra Streisand with breaking the mold of “that perfect American look” for leading actresses, but that Lynda also resembles Streisand to a frightening extent, specifically as she, Streisand, appears in the 1976 hit rock musical, *A Star is Born*. That Lynda could have found steady employment as a dead-ringing double, if not in the pictures then with plain identity theft, should be taken as given. ✚



SEND US YOUR

BLOTTERS!

B

ERKELEY CARROLL's student newspaper, the *Blotter*, was first published in May 1929. The paper—then called the *Inkwell*—was just four pages long (Funny about the name change. We would have liked to have been privy to that conversation....)

We're fortunate to have a mint-condition copy of the *Blotter's* debut issue, but as the school newspaper ballooned in both size and ambition, our archives grew patchier. (We're in particular need of issues from the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s). As part of a continuing effort to preserve Berkeley Carroll's history, we're asking BC alumni, family, and faculty to donate any back issues of the *Blotter* you may have tucked away. In the long term, our goal is to digitize and make searchable the entire *Blotter* collection, in what we hope will be a kind of trove or Hit Parade representing 82 years of BC news, opinions, and culture.

Please send issues to:

The Berkeley Carroll School

808 Union Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215
Attn: Jodie Corngold

1940s»

■ On the occasion of their 70th Reunion, the nine remaining members of the **Class of '41** sent greetings to Berkeley Carroll with fond memories of their halcyon days here.

■ **Susan Siris Wexler '46** had a drawing accepted in the Cambridge Art Association Annual Member's Show, juried by Arthur Dion, Director of the Naga Gallery on Newbury Street. The drawing, *Portrait of Yani*, is in colored pencil.

■ **Elizabeth H. Keely '49** writes: "Just to let you know, I have been living in Dublin for many years now, completely on my own with no relations here, there or anywhere, but fortunately many good friends made here over the years. What spurred me into action about looking up the Berkeley Institute (as it was then) was that all my friends here, no matter what age, seem to still be in touch with school friends, so I thought I'd take a chance and see who was left in my class."

1950s»

■ **Phyllis J. Marsteller '59** recently sent in "William H. Whistler, IPY 1882-1883," an article published in September by the American Littoral Society. The article is about her distant relative who served with the Greely expedition in the High Arctic from 1881 until May 1884, encompassing the first

International Polar Year, 1882-1883. The IPY was the first time that the United States participated in a cooperative international scientific research program.

Led by Adolphus W. Greely, the expedition had many accomplishments, including a new record for farthest north, upsetting 300 years of British records in the polar regions. Unfortunately, because of bureaucratic mismanagement and the failure of relief ships to deliver provisions for the expedition, most of the men starved to death in a camp on Pim Island in the area now called Nunavut. At least six of the men, including Whistler, were cannibalized.

Phyllis' article draws on information published by Greely, on secondary sources, including material held by the Carroll County Historical Society in Delphi, Indiana, and on her travels to the High Arctic in 2006.

The Greely expedition was featured on PBS' "American Experiences" on January 31st.

1960s»

■ **Carol Sawade Mastromichalis '64** writes: "I just reunited with a former Berkeley student on Facebook who had moved away and did not graduate with us. She sadly informed me that her sister, **Carmen Maluvius '60**, passed away in 2002 from cancer. Having re-met some of Carmen's classmates at last year's reunion (their 50th and

our 45th), I thought you might want to include this."

■ **Susan Rabinowitz Davis '60** writes: "It just occurred to me



■ The Class of 1961 is gearing up for their 50th reunion! **Jean Martinson Davio '61** writes: "Early in October, eight classmates met at the home of Ken and **Bunny Wagener Libby '61** in Stowe, VT for a week-long mini-reunion. Along with Bunny and I, the classmates were **Carol Atiyeh '61**, **Genevieve Twohig Hamway '61**, **Nancy Winkler Naftulin '61**, **Claire Ghattas Pitzer '61**, **Gwen Skelton '61**, and **Carole Forster Swan '61**. What a great time we had. We went for walks down country roads, shopped in town and at a Craft Fair, had a picnic lunch at Derek's hunting camp, had more bridge lessons from **Carol Atiyeh '61**, sipped some wine, ate heartily, laughed a lot, studied old yearbooks, made some plans for Reunion 2011, and stopped talking only long enough to eat and sleep. It might have been raining outside, and how those winds did blow! But inside, it was warm and fuzzy as we shared memories of years past. It seems like just last year we were walking the halls of BI, but so much has happened since then, and we never seem to tire of talking about it.

"We are ALL anxious for our big reunion next year, to see classmates we haven't seen for 50 years! There is so much catching up to do. We have been in touch with most of the class but are asking the help of other BI grads to locate **Louise (Kirsten) Foy '61**, **Naomi Arenstein '61** and **Ellen Blank Ehrlich '61**. If you can help us, please contact Jessica in the Alumni Office or Jean at jdavio@embarqmail.com. Berkeley—here we come! We can't wait to walk your halls, see the changes, recall our teachers and remember the good friends and times we had 50 years ago."

that I may have missed my 50th high school reunion (class of 1960), and would love to make contact with 'old' classmates. Can you help?" To contact Susan, please email alums@berkeleycarroll.org

■ **Colette Berkeley Bronstein '68** writes: "As much as I hate to share this, I have been diagnosed with multiple myeloma. This isn't a great diagnosis, but when is cancer ever a good diagnosis? Anyway, we are fighting it with radiation treatments, chemotherapy and then stem cell transplantation. I will win this one."

The bright side of our lives is our daughter, Caitlin. She is currently attending Hofstra University Law School in Hempstead, NY. We are so proud of her, and know she will be an awesome attorney. It would be nice to see some news from my class."

1970s»

■ **Zelda R. Tetenbaum Yoder '75** writes: "I am currently the Coordinator of Pre-Developmental Education at Reading Area Community College. Work, husband, kids, dog...all good! Regards from PA!"

1980s»

■ **Sandra D. Clarke '81** writes: "Hello: I graduated some time ago but, would like to get back in touch." To contact Sandra, please email alums@berkeleycarroll.org

■ **Dawn Ericsson Provine '88**, an obstetrician and gynecologist in Tampa, FL, just appeared in an episode of MTV's "16 & Pregnant" with her patient, Markai. The episode originally aired on November 16th.

■ Congratulations to **Jeanine Walton '88** on her marriage to Kevin Britt on October 2nd. Two BC classmates were in attendance at the wedding - **Dawn Ericsson Provine '88** and **Robyn Evans '87**.

1990s»

■ **Terry Sacchi '96**, a documentary filmmaker, had his film *Facing Trauma* aired on The Discovery Health Channel in February.

■ **Zoe Klein '97** is now living in San Francisco, CA and attending "circus school"—a 10-month professional training program at the San Francisco Circus Center.

■ Congratulations to **Eric Naison-Phillips '99** on his marriage to Laura Halzack, which took place on November 27, 2010 in New York. Eric and Laura met in 2007 in the restaurant Barna at the Giraffe Hotel in Manhattan. Their wedding was profiled in the *New York Times*.

2000s»

■ **Elliot Tucker-Drob, '00**, a psychology professor at the University of Texas, was interviewed on Good Day Austin: www.myfoxaustin.com.

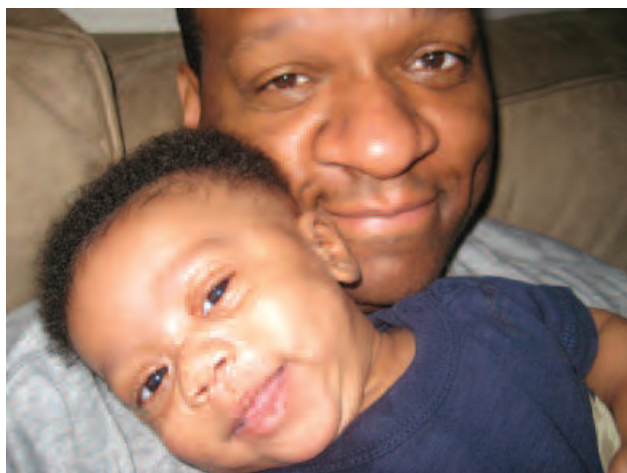
In addition to the *MAGAZINE*, class notes are published in our email newsletter. At the beginning of the month during the school year, we email the newsletter to all alumni with email addresses on file. If you aren't receiving the newsletter and would like to, please contact Jessica Langbein, Alumni Relations Coordinator, at jangbein@berkeleycarroll.org with your current email information.

You can also submit class notes online at www.berkeleycarroll.org/alumni or by mail to **Jessica Langbein, Berkeley Carroll School**
808 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215

■ **Sarah Murphy '01** writes: "I finally got engaged in May to my very long-time boyfriend (of more than 10 years!), Elliott Gersowitz. I'm pretty sure we're going to get married next September in Brooklyn, after I've sat for the Bar this summer."

■ **Helen O. Ogbara '01** was elected to Prep for Prep's Associates Council.

■ **Joanna Guest '06** wrote: "In November, I finished up working on Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's re-election campaign in Reno. I was a field organizer for the Nevada State Democratic Party and was responsible for turning out 2.6% of Senator Reid's ultimate vote goal in Nevada. Basically that's a lot of calling voters, knocking on doors, and recruiting and maintaining a volunteer



■ **Eric Chapman '92**, member of the Board of Trustees, and his wife Karine Blemur Chapman welcomed a healthy and happy addition to their family on June 30, 2010. Malcolm Isaiah Pierre Chapman was born, weighing 4-lbs 15oz and measuring 17 inches. Eric looks forward to connecting to any former classmates at ekc5000@gmail.com—just be ready to see a lot of baby pictures and hear stories about the first time Malcolm found his feet!

force of about 120 people who I could count on to help me out. Good times all around (and by that I mean 18 to 20-hour days for two months). Now that that's all said and done, I'm moving to Washington D.C. where I will be working for The Mellman Group doing research and polling for various foundations, politicians, labor unions, nonprofits, causes, and other organizations. Once the research and polling is done, we will work with those clients to develop a communications and marketing strategy to help them reach their desired."

■ **Jacob Levi '06** graduated from Pomona College in spring 2010 with double major, in French and Philosophy. He is currently teaching English in a public middle school in Paris and plans to stay there for graduate studies in philosophy next year.

■ **Chloe Lew '06** wrote, "Since graduating from George Washington University in May, I have been working with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation with Global Technical Policy in Washington, DC. Within the Programs, Innovation, and Policy Department, my unit helps the Foundation achieve its mission of elimination of pediatric HIV/AIDS through the development, dissemination, and implementation of global technical policies and standards. Working with our programs and partners in 16 countries, I recently coordinated a conference on the implementa-

tion of WHO Guidelines in Johannesburg, South Africa. Back in Washington, I am coordinating the Foundation's presence at the International AIDS Society conference in July and work with our country teams on technical abstracts and presentations to present at the meeting in Rome, Italy. It has been a truly enriching experience and I look forward to continued work with the Foundation on the elimination of pediatric HIV/AIDS."

■ **Max Goldberg Liu '07**, a senior at Bowdoin College, has been selected by Bowdoin's French Department as one of four French majors to teach English at the college level in France from September 2011 through June 2012.

■ **Isaac Block '08** is in Bolivia where he is matriculating in their State University for the spring semester. He'll be a member of the Literature Department taking classes in Spanish, living in a shared apartment with two other people in Le Paz, 13,000 feet above sea level!

■ **Elena Levi '08**, currently a Carleton junior, spent the fall semester abroad in Peru through SIT (School for International Training) studying Spanish and anthropology. She did her month-long research project on Andean understanding of hanaqpacha, kaypacha and ukupacha (three different layers of the universe) in the tiny town of Patabamba, in the region of Cusco, where the basic language was Quechua. She will grad-



■ **Max Hardy '08** (pictured above and right) wrote to us about his experiences fall semester in South Africa: "I spent most of my time living with Zulu families and learning about what a recent transition to democracy looks like on the local level. Questions South Africans ask are whether their needs are being represented in the government, and whether the right programs are in place to help the country climb out of the grave that is its violent past. Sixteen years after their first free elections, the income gap between the richest and poorest is one of the most unequal in the world. That said, there is remarkable progress being made, and South Africans are an exceptional bunch.

"I was honored to intern with the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)—an NGO contracted by, among other entities, the African Union and the United Nations to run workshops with peacekeepers. I worked in their Knowledge Production Department, conducting research on environmentally motivated conflict in countries bordering the Nile River."



■ **Izzy Corngold '08** spent the summer working on Andrew Cuomo's (as it turned out very successful) campaign for governor.



uate in 2012 with a major in art history.

■ Several other members of the class of 2008 are studying abroad this semester, including **Robin Riskin**, studying in Germany; **Lizzy Spain**, studying in London, and **Emma Considine**, studying in Paris.

■ **Emma Goldberg Liu '10** is a member of Skidmore College's Vocal Chamber Ensemble, Skidmore's Community Chorus, a co-ed a cappella group, The Dynamics, and is performing in Stephen Sondheim's musical *Assassins*, in the role of the Proprietress.

■ **Chandler Rosenthal '10** had her Yale theatrical debut, playing the role of Veta Louise Simmons in the Yale Freshman production of *Harvey*.

DEATHS IN THE BERKELEY CARROLL FAMILY

■ **Mary Noaks Myers '35**, born on March 15, 1916, died on July 23, 2010. She was 94 years old. Her son Gordon F. Myers says, "She always remembered her days at the school with great affection, and of course kept her year-books."

■ **Lucy Estrin Kavalier '41** died on October 30, 2010 at Lenox Hill Hospital. She was 87. An author of 17 books, Lucy's best-known work was *The Astors: A Family Chronicle of Pomp and Power*. In addition to her writing, she worked for human rights and was particularly passionate about free speech issues. Lucy was a lover of the arts, particularly opera, and travel. She leaves behind her husband of 62 years, Arthur, a daughter, Andrea, and a son, Roger.

■ **Carol Chiarello Paolicelli '56** passed away on February 23, 2010 from Alzheimer's disease. Her family wrote: "Your school was always a great memory and comfort to Carol in the last few years of her life. I read your magazine to her, which always brought a smile to her face."

■ **Naeem Webster '00** died in a traffic accident on November 24, 2010 in Massachusetts. A memorial service for Naeem was held on Saturday, December 4 at the Trinity-St. John's Episcopal Church in Hewlett, New York. Naeem came to Berkeley Carroll through the Prep for Prep program and was involved with them professionally. His relationship with Berkeley Carroll extended beyond his graduation, as he also worked as an assistant in the Lower School Admissions office in 2006. Naeem had recently begun attending business school. Donations in Naeem's name can be made to the Prep for Prep program (www.prepforprep.org).



■ **Mary Ellis** died on March 31, 2011, of brain cancer. Mary began her teaching career at Berkeley Carroll in 1988. Originally from Nebraska and the third of nine children, Mary received her BA in French from St. Mary's College in Indiana and her Master's degree from Hunter College in New York City. During her long career at Berkeley Carroll, Mary was a positive force in the lives of generations of our students. In addition to her siblings, Mary leaves her two children—Peter and Eve.

At an assembly honoring this beloved longtime French teacher,

Middle School director Jim Shapiro praised her egalitarian spirit, patience, and sense of fun. He explained that when he visited her at home, "Mary and I talked about students, past and present. She was the one who was sick and struggling with memory and eyesight, but every time I faltered on a name from 20 years ago, she nailed it."



■ **George Desdunes '09** died on February 25, 2011. Supported by loving family—particularly his mother Marie Andre—friends and neighbors, George lived his life with energy and joy, entering into it with a spirit of enthusiasm and adventure. He was a talented and dedicated student at Berkeley Carroll, ultimately winning a scholarship to Cornell University where he was a sophomore in the school of Human Ecology. George loved sports—he played soccer and swam for Berkeley Carroll—and music, playing trumpet for the Berkeley Carroll jazz band. Even as a born and bred city kid, George spent seven summers as an enthusiastic

camper at Keewaydin in Vermont where he learned to swim, canoe, kayak. After his camping days, he returned to Keewaydin as a staff member.

George will be sorely missed by his very large circle of family and friends. A Berkeley Carroll memorial will be planned for later this spring. ✚

Dona Chumasero Everson '41

is grateful to Berkeley Carroll

for the impetus it gave to her chosen career. Starting in elementary school, then on to the *Blotter*, with encouragement from her mentor, English teacher Margaret W. Arnold, she became a journalist. One of her gifts enabled the Berkeley Carroll library to choose 31 books related to writing to guide others along that path. Today's remarkable students and alumni make her proud to be in their number and inspire her to keep on giving.

How can you remember Berkeley Carroll forever?

- A gift of a bequest
- A gift of life insurance
- A gift of real estate
- A gift from which you receive income such as a Charitable Remainder Trust, Pooled Income Fund or an Annuity
- A Charitable Lead Trust

For more information contact:

advancement@berkeleycarroll.org

the BerkeleyCarroll School

808 Union Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215
www.berkeleycarroll.org

Address Service Requested

Nino Boornazian'11 lays down the bass line for
the Upper School Jazz Ensemble at this year's Winter Concert.

PHOTO: JAMES BURGER

