

# THE **magazine**

## **Novel Approaches to Writing**

Authors

Yona Zeldis McDonough '75  
and Zoë Rice '94 share their  
experiences of writing  
their way to successful  
careers



## ~~Scratching at the Service (come on) Surface~~ ~~Insights Into~~ A Behind-the-Scenes Look into the Writing Process

This issue of the Berkeley Carroll School Magazine (*still don't like that name*) is dedicated to writing, which is ~~apt~~ fitting ~~since the school itself feels so strongly about writing.~~ because Berkeley Carroll values and promotes the writing of even ~~the~~ its youngest students ~~is celebrated.~~ As they work their way up through the Lower, Middle, and Upper School, students learn the rigors, frustrations, and ultimate joy ~~that comes from~~ ~~accompanies~~ that comes from expressing oneself on paper (*who am I kidding? No writes on paper any more. Whom am I kidding?*). Gertrude Stein said, "Writing and reading are synonymous with existing" (*what does that have to do with anything? We were talking about writing. I know, but it's a cool quote. You've used it before. I know, but the secret to life is effective recycling. THAT'S the secret to life?*). (*I'm hungry. Finish this and then you can see what's in the fridge. I wonder if there's anything on TV...*). The students write, their parents write, the faculty write, the alumni write. This love for and appreciation of writing differentiates our school and elevates (*elevates? That's either really lame or really good. Sad that I can't tell.*) our students. ~~We~~ (*that's kind of funny, isn't it? Taking the editorial "we" a bit too far*) I invite you in to see for yourself.



Jodie Corngold  
Editor

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# THE magazine

## CONTENTS



10

### < MYWORD

An introduction to this issue from the editor

### 2 HEADLINES

Insights from the Head of School



13

### 7 Coming to a School Near You. **Vitalo on the Move**

Just who is incoming head Robert D. Vitalo?

### 10 Hearing from the Voice of **Yona Zeldis McDonough '75**

A writer, Berkeley alum, and Berkeley Carroll parent talks about her latest novel, *In Dahlia's Wake*.

### 13 Sharing Novel Pleasures with **Zoë Rice '94**

A Berkeley Carroll alum traces her career arc from student, to editor, to novelist.

### 16 A Look At Berkeley Carroll's **Writers in Residence Program**

Enhancing Berkeley Carroll's rich literary culture.

### 18 Three Perspectives On **Literacy at Berkeley Carroll**

The Lower, Middle, and Upper School directors share their views.

### 32 Student Profile **Zoe Cohen '08**

Catching up with a most valuable player.

### 3 CONNECTIONS

News and views from inside and outside the halls of Berkeley Carroll



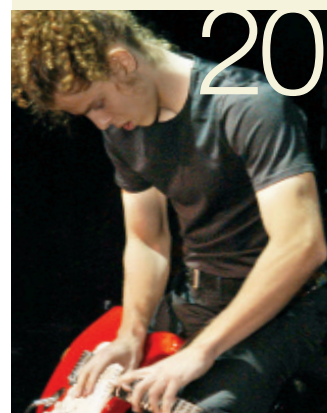
16

### 20 CLASSNOTES

Profiles, reviews and personal alumni updates

### 31 INPASSING

Deaths in the Berkeley Carroll family



20

## Beyond the Dwelling: Onto the Road of Individualism

**E**mily Dickinson told us to dwell in the possibility. Dwelling back at my two years at Berkeley Carroll, I think that is exactly what we have been doing, and doing well. Whether you have been here two years or 14 you quickly embrace and enjoy the opportunity to be part of a caring school community with individuals who live life with feelings of infinite possibility. A life that flows from the classroom, to the art studios, to the stage, to the athletic fields and ever extending out into America's greatest city—New York! That is a great gift, a gift enjoyed daily at Berkeley Carroll. We are fortunate to be part of such a dynamic community, an experience that places the world at our feet. How lucky we are to be in a community where the hearts and minds of children are molded by dedicated teachers who encourage and support young minds down the path of knowledge and onto the road of individualism. We may dwell in a comfortable asylum of Shakespeare, calculators, technology, paint brushes, sports, and self-expression, but there is always an end line in sight. In time enthusiastic learners do move on from this nurturing refuge and stop dwelling in possibility as they confront reality and rise to conquer to challenge and to break out of possibility with unbounded prospects and risks and chances to change the world. In the following pages you will read

more of specific events and people that make Berkeley Carroll such a special and distinctive house of learning.

At Berkeley Carroll we remain committed to a school culture in which all people value integrity in their relationships and where kindness, civility, social justice, and respectful listening to the perspectives and feelings of others is an automatic first step in any dialogue. Effective and responsible communication is given a high institutional priority. To the degree we succeed we will have made a significant contribution to the moral growth of our students. This outcome is worth our best effort and a goal we reach for every day. I hope you will enjoy reading about some of the successes and personal accomplishments of students, faculty and alumni in the following pages. These essays and staff perspectives on the teaching of writing at Berkeley Carroll should be of particular interest. ✚



**Richard F. Barter**  
*Head of School*

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*Richard F. Barter*

## Forget About Heaven

### This Match was Made at Berkeley Carroll

**D**alienne Majors and Jim Kent were married Saturday, September 17, 2005 at St. Augustine's Church on Sixth Avenue in Park Slope before a crowd of some 200 family, friends, and Berkeley Carroll faculty, parents, and students. The bride, who will retain her name, is chair of the Dance department at Berkeley Carroll. She wore



Dalienne Majors and Jim Kent at their September 17, 2005, wedding.

a handmade yellow silk dress and matching hat. The groom is the school's theater tech teacher and manages the Performance Space at 181 Lincoln Place; he wore a suit, surprising some of his colleagues, who for the past six years have been used to seeing him in the black "tech department uniform" he sports around the school.

Ms. Majors joined Berkeley Carroll

in 1994, having been a teaching artist in New York and the Midwest for some 10 years before that. She continues to choreograph and teach outside Berkeley Carroll, and her work includes collaborations with the First Street Quintet, which performed at the couple's wedding. Last year, she started a group called Parents Who Dance, which has six Berkeley Carroll parents who do just that one evening a week in the Dance Studio.

Mr. Kent came to the school in 1999, having taught for four years at St. Ann's in Brooklyn Heights. Prior to getting into education, he was a master puppeteer. For 16 years, he was a warehouse manager by day, but at night and on weekends he worked with an Italian Commedia dell' Arte company out of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and was a "busker" on the streets of New York, performing at such venues as South Street Seaport, Central Park, and the Caramoor Summer Music Festival in Katonah, New York. In 2004, he received the school's John Reidy Award for excellence in teaching, given annually to a Carroll Street and Lincoln Place teacher who has been at the school between three and five years and has distinguished himself/herself by demonstrating talent, enthusiasm, and commitment in the classroom and in the broader school community.

The happy couple spent their honeymoon chaperoning a contingent of Berkeley Carroll student walkers at the Walk to Cure Juvenile Diabetes through Lower Manhattan and across the Brooklyn Bridge on Sunday and were back in school on Monday morning. How's that for dedication!

## Berkeley Carroll

### Students Learn about the Law Up Close

It's one thing for Middle Schoolers to study the Constitution; it's quite another for them to dissect and question it, but this is exactly what 7th grade English classes at Berkeley Carroll do during a three-week long unit called "The Constitution Works."

First introduced to the school nearly 10 years ago by Middle School Director **Jim Shapiro** when he taught English and History, the program allows students to plumb the nuances of the First Amendment and learn what it means to have free speech. Students become lawyers for a fictitious newspaper defending their paper's right to publish what it wants, or they take on the role of the government prosecutors trying to keep the paper from publishing what they believe to be incendiary information, or they become Supreme Court justices who have to decide who's right.

To get to the point where they can realistically take on these roles, the 7th grade studies case law, writes arguments and briefs, and steep itself in the First Amendment. This year the climax of the unit occurred when, accompanied by their teachers **Catherine LoMonico** and **Kate Singh** and several parents, they held an actual hearing held in federal court (Southern District), an august building dedicated to Thurgood Marshall, the walls of which are lined with bronzed copies of the Bill of Rights. No photos were allowed during the proceedings, but if you close your eyes you can picture the 7th graders as they approach the bench, addressing the chief justice with, "May it please the court."

## Other Students Witnessed the Law Up Close

This fall, Upper School history chair **Lorne Swarthout's** Supreme Court class visited the courtroom of the Hon. Ronald Ellis in the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse at 500 Pearl Street in Manhattan. Judge Ellis, father of two BC alums and husband of **Kathleen Ellis**, librarian at 181 Lincoln Place, seated the group in the comfortable leather swivel chairs of the jury box and introduced himself and his court. After hearing about Judge Ellis's career transition from NAACP Legal Defense Fund attorney to the federal Magistrate Judge, the class observed arguments in a discrimination suit brought by a hospital worker who claimed she was denigrated at work and denied a promotion because she was a Muslim. The public arguments were

fascinating, but the class had to leave when Judge Ellis took the two parties into chambers to discuss a possible settlement.

Later, the students headed over to 100 Center Street where Frank Paone (father of Alex Paone '06), their guide for the day, arranged for them to have front row seats in the arraignment section of the Criminal Court. They heard from the judge and witnessed the wheels of justice up close. The students were most affected by the drama of a young man, a senior in a Manhattan high school, charged with selling drugs, asking the judge to set bail so he could get back to his schooling. Frank Paone explained some of the fine points of class C felonies, cash bail, and "rap sheets" in an impromptu seminar. Quite a teacher! The afternoon proved to be an introduction to law and order, high and low, that no one in Mr. Swarthout's class will soon forget.



Chloe Lew '06

## Lending Counsel to the Student Council

Student Council president, **Chloe Lew '06**, is unabashedly positive, upbeat, enthusiastic, mature, and ingenious promoter of the school. How could one fail to be completely charmed when she said, "I don't like to complain. I'd rather work to fix a problem than sit around whining about it."

Consider the Student Council. There are an unimaginable number of priorities clamoring for a high school student's attention, not the least among them academics. It is perhaps as a result of these competing school priorities that, according to Chloe, Student Council traditionally enjoyed second-class citizenship. But not this year. "The kids serving as officers this year are excellent," says Chloe, "in fact our theme for the Student Council is 'this is the year,' because our goal is to create a strong and relevant Student Council that will stay behind and thrive even after this year's senior officers have graduated."



The Honorable Ronald Ellis (front row, left) enjoys a rare visit to the jury box with members of Lorne Swarthout's Supreme Court class.

Chloe has spent practically her entire life at Berkeley Carroll, even down to the fact that she was born a few blocks away at Methodist Hospital. Her pride in the school is evident at every turn. "The 9th graders on Student Council are excellent. They've really taken the initiative, and I think they totally get it that they can use the Student Council to make a difference."

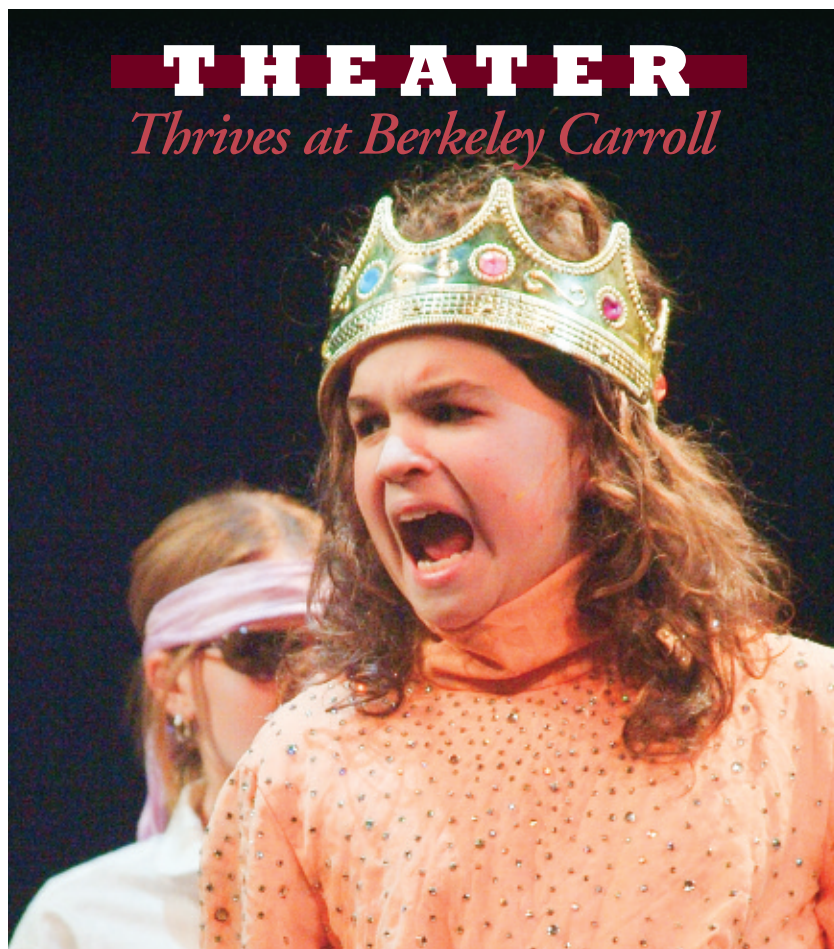
One way in which the Student Council, under Chloe's leadership, worked to make a difference was through its Upper School Coffeehouse, a first-ever fundraising event whose proceeds went to hurricane victims by way of Habitat for Humanity. Per Chloe, the evening promise was excellent. Berkeley Carroll jazz bands and rock bands played. Between sets, students read their own and published works, and the Student Council sold student-designed T-shirts, printed and donated by Brooklyn Industries.

The event took place in the Lincoln Place gym and owed its enormous success to the contributions of a host of student and parent volunteers. Chloe says, "It was very complicated to conceive, organize, and pull off something like this Coffeehouse, but when we do something it's successful."

Chloe's brand of success touches many other aspects of the school. She organized a student group called Nia ("purpose" in Swahili) that meets on Wednesday evenings at Lincoln Place and gives students a venue to talk about diversity, and she's a peer leader. Outside of Berkeley Carroll her leadership skills have taken her to the 92nd Street Y, where she serves as a teen representative, and to Oregon, where she spent a summer building homes through an agency for the homeless. "Berkeley Carroll has taught me to be a part of a community," says Chloe, who credits her role model, Madeleine Albright, with setting her in the right direction, "but each of us has to take

the initiative and assume the responsibility required in order to make a difference in the world. Change is possible, one step at a

time." And under Chloe's leadership, which will clearly follow her long after she's left Berkeley Carroll, that change will be excellent.



Julia Rittenberg '11 as *Gulliver's Travels* Queen of Luggnagg, flanked by Ingrid Lyons '11 as an attendant.

**T**he Upper School and Middle Schools each put on a production in the fall and again in the spring. Framed by the school's state-of-the-art performance space, the productions are of professional quality and the acting and direction superb.

This past fall, the Middle School Players brought to life *Gulliver's Travels*, Jonathan Swift's irreverent satire of politics and human nature. Director **Harold Lehmann** set the fantastical world of the novel as an unset-

tling dream that invades the study of the 18th century author. Featuring giant puppets, miniature circus, and a parade of dancing scholars this was an amazing production. The 10' tall puppet, which stood in for Gulliver during his sojourn in Lilliput, was created by theater tech director **Jim Kent** and his theater tech class. Seventeen middle school students played a combined 33 roles, and the resulting ambitious play was, by turns, hilarious and thought-provoking.

Many people know that Galileo discovered the four moons of Jupiter and was a key figure in the invention of the telescope as well as many other discoveries. However, how many of us are aware of the Inquisition's involvement in silencing him and trying to prevent him from contradicting Church dogma by spreading the knowledge that the sun—not the earth—was the center of the universe? In the current climate of continuing discourse between religion and science, the Upper School production of *Galileo*, as directed by **Joanne Magee**, provoked the audience into relating past history to current events. Using Brechtian production techniques, this play aroused the senses and encouraged critical thinking.



Romeo and Juliette, as portrayed by **Gabrielle Schechter '06** and **Sasha Hirsch '06**, in the Upper School winter production.



## MUSICALLY SPEAKING

**We boast that music is an integral part** of the curriculum at Berkeley Carroll, but what does that mean, really? During its annual Middle and Upper School winter concert, chamber music groups under the direction of music teacher **Igor Kraevsky**, jazz bands

directed by music teacher **Adam Bernstein**, and choirs directed by music teacher **Matthew Brady** performed music that spanned the Renaissance to the 21st century. The Lower School concerts, under the direction of **Don Militello** and

(l to r). Musicians **Sam Adler '08**, **Mia Kellman '13**, and **Alexi Shalom '11**.

**Carolyn Sloan**, delve into and develop the musical abilities of the children while delighting their audiences.

Even when they're not performing, music students excel. For the past several years Upper School jazz students have the opportunity to work with master jazz educators and performers. During the all-day workshop held at the neighboring Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, students worked on improv skills, ensemble playing, and playing with a blues feeling. The jazz workshop is funded by parents of jazz students from the class of 2005. Additionally, the Upper School jazz band travels to the Boston area each year to compete at the prestigious Berkeley College of Music High School Jazz Festival. ✚

## INTERVIEW



Coming to a  
School Near You.

# VITALO on the MOVE

Like many people in the Berkeley Carroll community, I've been wondering about Bob Vitalo. Are there moments when this current head of the Fairfield Country Day School and soon-to-be head of Berkeley Carroll feels like he works for two schools? Betwixt and between, are there moments when he feels he doesn't belong to either? Why was he leaving a situation where he has been positively beloved? Why was he coming here? I tried not to get too existential about it, but it was hard not to wonder "who" Bob Vitalo was. Hence, I was quite pleased when this kind, genial, and approachable person agreed to meet for coffee so I could attempt to find out.

### **Q. What drew you to teaching?**

» "When I was a student at Bishop Ford High School in Brooklyn I connected with a couple of incredible teachers—my 10th grade English teacher Mr. Clifford and Brother Jonathan Ringkamp, an incredibly charismatic and inventive drama teacher. They both had an enormous impact on me, getting me to read, to think, pushing me in new directions. They were great teachers and great role models, and they ultimately really influenced the direction I took. »

✦ BY JODIE CORNGOLD ✦



After graduating from Bishop Ford in 1972, Bob won a scholarship to New York University's School of Education, where he also met his future wife, Jackie Montras. He went on to earn his master's degree from Teacher's College at Columbia University.

"I was never happier than the day I started my student teaching, but by now we were in the late 1970s, and New York City was in the throes of difficult, economic times that, not surprisingly, affected the school system. I bounced around for a while in the system—I was so young and naïve and, in my own defense, eager and enthusiastic—and I happily took any teaching position that came along. At a time when other teachers said 'no' to teaching on Roosevelt Island I, having no idea where Roosevelt Island was or that a tram ride was involved, jumped at the chance. Later, when an opportunity opened up in the South Bronx, I leaped at that as well. That was a really complicated situation. For economic reasons, a Dutchess County school for emotionally handicapped children had been forced to close its doors and relocate to the South Bronx. I was assigned to teach a class of mixed-age elementary school kids, and I was very excited. I had a classroom, colleagues, everything...except students. The school had no students. Every day I

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sat in an empty classroom. The bell would ring, but no one came in.”

The South Bronx school became Bob's public school swan song; he left when a teaching position became available at Grace Church School in Greenwich Village. He taught for several years and served in administrative positions, surrounded by like-minded, thoughtful people who taught because they wanted to be effective and were given the support and flexibility by their school to do so. Bob ultimately left Grace Church School to serve as head of Media-Providence Friends School in the suburbs of Philadelphia, a position he held for seven years. He left Media-Providence Friends School to begin his tenure at Fairfield Country Day School.

**Q. If every teaching job is also a learning experience, what was your take-away message from the Media-Providence Friends School?**

▶▶ “Like all Friends schools, Media-Providence is modeled on Quaker philosophy, a philosophy I readily embraced, because it's a very sensible, livable, ethical way to live and work. The school challenged me personally and in many ways shaped me as an

administrator. When an issue raised in a faculty meeting can't be resolved until consensus is reached, you quickly learn effective communication skills. You also learn how to be a good listener.

"The Quaker influence also affected me as a teacher. Although I've been an administrator for many years, like most of us in this position, I'm still a teacher at heart, and I've been fortunate at Fairfield to be able to continue teaching. I teach ethics to the 6th grade, and it's continually fascinating to me. The boys—because FCDS is a boys' school—understand, exhibit, and can articulate their thoughts about compassion, courage, perseverance, and honesty. At times, though, they're conflicted about honesty. I'll say to them, 'How do you know how to do the right thing? What is the right thing?' and they'll say, 'It depends.' I'm not a fan of moral relativism—it doesn't 'depend.' My challenge as a teacher is teaching that values should not be shaped to conform to particular circumstances."

**Q. What about honesty? Adults lie every day, yet we're forever extolling the virtues of honesty to children. Is it okay to lie, just not okay to lie if you're young?**

► "It's hard to talk to kids about lying and honesty without being affected by it. Lying is a slippery slope. I don't know that I 'extol the virtues of honesty' as you say, but I have found that teaching about honesty has made me a more honest person. I challenge myself to be direct and kind as well as honest, and this is what I teach my students."

**Q. What gets you out of bed in the morning, figuratively speaking?**

► "My goal, wherever I work, is to help make a place better. An

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institution and its inhabitants' needs are always changing: sometimes I have to immerse myself in the little things; other times the needs are momentous. Either way, whatever it takes to make people and things the best they can be is my primary motivation. I guess you could say I'm fueled by the satisfaction I get from making a difference in other people's lives. As the head of a school, I am charged with enabling people to do their jobs to the highest degree possible and rewarding them for doing so. I'm charged with creating or sustaining—or both—the best possible environment for children to learn, and I'm obligated to make sure all these sometimes disparate components come together."

**Q. How do you achieve all that?**

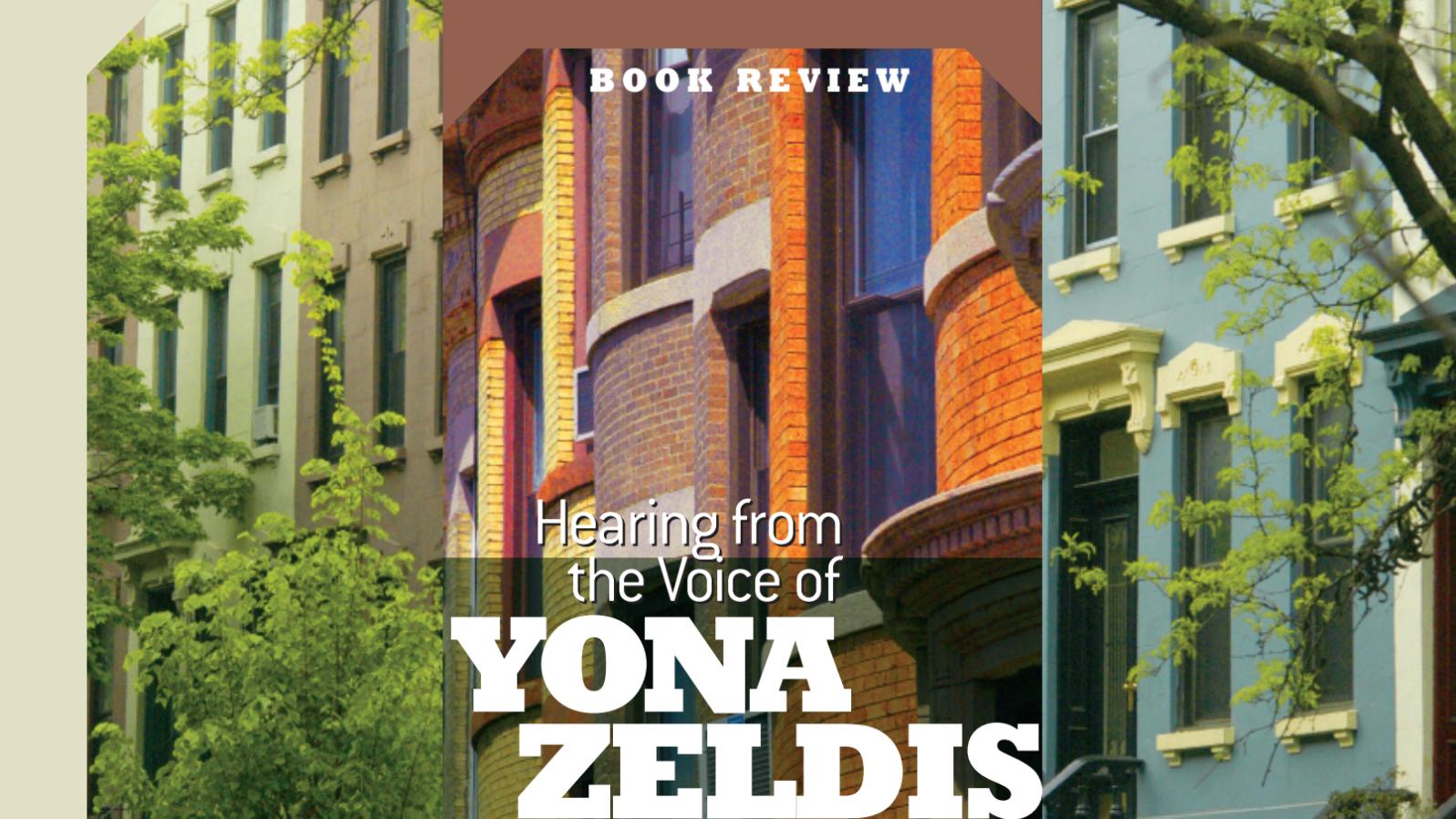
► "There's nothing more important than communicating with people. I think about Hubert Humphrey's approach: first you tell people what you're about to tell them, then you tell, then you let them know what you just told them. He said this more eloquently than I did, but you get the idea: communicate, communicate,

communicate. You also have to evaluate and re-evaluate. Evaluating a school, evaluating one's self...neither of these has to be a negative experience or result in negative consequences. Sometimes evaluation results in learning that everything is fine—that's certainly worth knowing—but mostly the process of self-evaluation leads to the knowledge that everything changes. That's the fun part.

**Q. I've heard from people at FCDS that you know by name every student and parent in the school.**

► "And, in many cases, babysitters and grandparents as well. It has always felt important to me to know the members of my school. People crave being known. It's a simple thing, but when someone knows you by name you feel that they know you. I think it helps sustain, if you will, the spirit of a school to help engender that feeling. Berkeley Carroll has more students than FCDS so learning the names of everyone here may take a little longer, but it's my personal challenge.

"One of the reasons I'm leaving FCDS, which is an excellent school and one at which I've been very happy and have experienced professional fulfillment, is that I don't want to be thought of as stale. I want to be at a school where I'm asked questions that I don't yet have answers to. I don't want ready access to all the answers—for me, searching for the answers—being personally challenged—is vital to personal growth. I think this is true for everyone. I want to be challenged while, at the same time, I want to challenge those around me—students, parents, teachers, and administrators. If you already have all the answers you have to ask yourself if what you're doing is still vital." ✚



BOOK REVIEW

Hearing from  
the Voice of

**YONA  
ZELDIS**

**McDONOUGH**

NOT LONG INTO YONA ZELDIS  
McDONOUGH'S LATEST NOVEL,

*In Dahlia's Wake*, the reader learns that Naomi Wechsler's young daughter, Dahlia, has died in a fluke automobile accident. Dahlia's father, Rick, was at the wheel, just a few blocks from their brownstone on Carroll Street in Park Slope. The Wechsler family's life had been a Park Slope ideal of Saturday morning dance classes, bike rides in Prospect Park, and friendly if competitive relationships with other families. In an instant, their world changes. Yona McDonough deftly traces the ripple effect

✦ BY JENNIFER CRICHTON ✦

*Middle School English and History Teacher*

of this devastating event as it disrupts the lives of all associated with it. With a fine hand, she delineates the fissures that grief and remorse carve into Rick and Naomi's marriage as the couple moves through their lives in a benumbed dance of guilt, blame, and counterblame.

Delving into the intricacies of grief might prove overwhelming for most of us. Not so for Yona Zeldis, Berkeley '75 alum. Asked how she managed to navigate through this world of grief without foundering herself, she laughs. "I'm actually very joyful about writing a book," she answers, seeming surprised by both question and her own response. "Any book—even a dark book!"

Yona McDonough begins not with a plot or an idea, she explains, but with "a voice telling me something that seems very important. I'm not creating the story so much as becoming a conduit for it. Naomi Wechsler spoke to me with a story she had to tell." As with Yona's first novel, *The Four Temperaments*, which was set in the high-stress world of a New York City corps de ballet, McDonough shifts perspectives throughout the novel, "channeling" many voices: the podiatrist Rick struggling with a sexual attraction to Lillian, the talented office manager whose career potential in life has been derailed by an early pregnancy; Naomi's mother Estelle, installed in a nursing home, who struggles to maintain a grip on her life. As Yona says, "Everyone is in the center of their own life. Everyone has their own story to tell." And she wants to tell them all.

In *In Dahlia's Wake*, Park Slope is almost more of a character than setting—"the little village that was Park Slope," as one of the book's characters, Michael McBride, head of pediatrics at Holy Name Hospital, has

come to think of it. This was no longer the "South Brooklyn" in which he grew up: "Park Slope was a name he didn't hear back then. Their neighbors were civil servants, garbage collectors, grocery store owners, the occasional salesman or schoolteacher, not the hedge fund managers and corporate lawyers who surround him now."

The Park Slope of *In Dahlia's Wake* is a landscape of Cousin John's fruit tarts, coffee from the Seventh Avenue Barnes & Noble, and a newly buzzing Fifth Avenue. While the novel's Gowanus Canal is still odoriferous, this isn't the same neighborhood in which Yona Zeldis attended Berkeley Institute back in the 1970s.

"When I was a student, the neighborhood struck me as in decline," Yona recalls. "The seniors were allowed to go to the Purity Coffee Shop (then around the corner on Seventh Avenue) but even a few blocks away seemed iffy. I would babysit for a couple who lived between Seventh and Sixth Avenue, opposite Methodist Hospital. They

were considered real pioneers. Now their house must be worth millions. And good for them!"

Yona Zeldis McDonough speaks from her own Carroll Street brownstone—not quite a pioneer, but not part of the latest wave of professionals discovering the Slope's village-like charms. When their rent-controlled apartment in Manhattan seemed to contract with the birth of son James in 1991, Yona and husband Paul McDonough, who teaches photography at Pratt Institute, found themselves back in Park Slope. Yona's response once she found her house on Carroll Street was, "What was I waiting for?" James is in 9th grade at BCS and his sister Kate will enter BCS in the fall as a 6th grader.

Yona Zeldis may not be the ►►



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**The Park Slope of *In Dahlia's Wake* is a landscape of Cousin John's fruit tarts, coffee from the Seventh Avenue Barnes & Noble, and a newly-buzzing Fifth Avenue.**

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typical Berkeley Institute alumnae. Not a Park Slope native, Yona was living on Ocean Parkway and bound for Erasmus Hall High School when she discovered the school almost by accident. She'd met a Berkeley Institute student at a ballet program who described a stimulating academic and arts program that sounded a good deal more desirable than the public school education she had experienced. "My father had socialist leanings and had always opposed the idea of private school," Yona recalls. "Amazing as it sounds in this day when even elementary students are prepped for school admissions, I somehow took myself over to

Berkeley without his knowledge, took the admissions test, was accepted, and presented my father with the acceptance as a *fait accompli*. He was so impressed by my initiative, he overcame his dislike of private school."

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ary Susan Miller was headmistress at the time, and Theodora Day was director of the upper school. "What set the school apart was the caliber of the teachers," Yona remembers. "I still

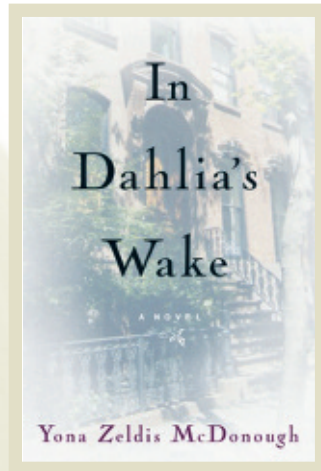
have my poetry books from those days. My margin notes from classes I took with Carol Locke are as trenchant and compelling as anything I might think of now. There seemed to be so many PhDs on faculty. Marvin Pollock was my teacher in

under her wing, advising her on college choices. Vassar was beautiful, welcoming and stimulating, and Yona McDonough remains deeply attached to the college. On graduating, she entered the masters program in Art History at Columbia, an experience she describes as "cold, impersonal, bureaucratic. Everyone in my department had a briefcase so I, too, got a briefcase—into which I put my lunch and a crossword puzzle." Taking a creative writing class on campus, Yona realized that she was to be a writer—a realization that arrived as a "sudden and wonderful blow, even if it was not apparent how I was to get from that impulse to a career."

Day jobs and freelance writing followed until Yona McDonough landed a two-book contract with the publication first of *The Four Temperaments* and now, *In Dahlia's Wake*. She writes at home while James and Kate are in school, "even though they're old enough for me to write while they're home. But writing is very absorbing. I tend to get grumpy when interrupted and my children don't deserve to have me snap at them when all they've ventured is 'Mom?'"

Yona McDonough has just finished the first draft of another novel set in Park Slope, a novel in which a single mother's expectations go awry and yet, as always with fiction, "there is always the possibility of redemption. Some things you can't fix and some things you can make better."

Writing in the finished basement of her Carroll Street home, McDonough is surrounded by the antique dolls she collects and "a beautiful dollhouse my husband built for me. When I get stuck with my work, I get up and move things around in the house." And wait for the voices to tell her their stories—at least until the kids come home from school. ✚



European history. It was his first year teaching, and he was wonderfully inspired and inspiring." Evangeline Thoms, a French teacher about whom Yona wrote an essay for Oprah Winfrey's magazine, *O*, was another who made a difference, "with high standards and a matter of fact belief that we would meet them." Although there were only 16 girls in Yona's graduating class, "I adored the attention. Perhaps if you'd gone all the way through with so few girls, you might have felt somewhat confined—but I didn't."

Yona's parents were preoccupied with a divorce at the time of her graduation, and Theodora Day took her

## BOOK REVIEW

Sharing  
Novel Pleasures  
with

**zoë**

**RICE**

IT'S PROBABLY SAFE TO SAY THAT MOST PEOPLE HAVE GUILTY PLEASURES—SOME

of which can even be spoken about in mixed company. For many, such pleasure takes the form of reading books that might not necessarily find their way onto the syllabi of English Literature courses but DO find their way onto the *New York Times* bestseller lists—the genre known affectionately as “chick lit.”

Hence, it was a great delight to have lunch recently with Zoë Rice '94. Although she quickly shrugs off the compliment, Zoë is the editor of the first three books in the wonderfully appealing “Shopaholic” series (written by Sophie Kinsella, published by Delta [the trade ►

✦ BY JODIE CORNGOLD ✦

paperback imprint of The Dial Press]). In the series, the smart, sexy protagonist lives so far beyond her means that she is threatened with foreclosures at every turn. That she is able to reverse her circumstances without compromising her personality speaks to the character's charisma and the charms of the books. That they read so flawlessly speaks to the great charms of the editor.

"Patently untrue," said Zoë over turkey burgers and ice water at the decidedly untrendy "Old Castle" restaurant in Manhattan. "The Shopaholic books I worked on were beautifully written. They were a publisher's dream."

What a metaphor. New York figuratively bursts at the seams with English majors and creative writing majors trying to break into publishing. For the subways full of would-be editors arriving daily, fresh from writing programs, armed with newly minted MFAs, the notion of working with *any* sort of writer is a dream. One can only imagine that a dream of a dream would be a complete...well, you know, dream.

There are many dream-like qualities about Zoë Rice, not the least of which are her beautiful, ethereal curls. A passerby was emboldened to ask if they were real. Zoë smiled graciously. "Everyone asks that," she said, by way of response. But even dreamier than her hair is Zoë's career: her first novel, *Pick Me Up*, will be published by NAL this June.

The novel is aimed at young women, a category that more or less encompasses teens through women in their 40's. Although it bears no resemblance to the Shopaholic books edited on Zoë's watch, she readily admits to having been inspired by the series.

"The heroine is Isabel Duncan, 'Izzy' to her friends," said Zoë. "The action is set in the New York City art world, and Izzy is a gallery director. According to

Izzy, she has the greatest job in the world."

Comparisons between Izzy and Zoë started to emerge: their names, their lives, their passions. "It's true that I borrowed some aspects of my life and put them in the book," Zoë said.

"For instance?"

"Izzy grew up in Park Slope," said Zoë, fresh from 2nd Street between 6th and 7th Avenues in the heart of the same Brooklyn neighborhood. Her parents, Rena and Shel Rice, have lived there for nearly 30 years. "She attended private school, and she was also a scholarship student. I came to Berkeley in the 4th grade and received a very generous scholarship when I entered high school. But these are just details. Izzy isn't Zoë."

“

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education.**

”

Try saying *that* ten times really fast.

"There are a few other similarities," she continued. "Izzy's mother has a tattoo. My mom would probably prefer I not talk about it, but..." She trailed off.

"Where does the title come from?"

"A guy friend of Izzy's writes a newspaper column about the New York city dating scene, which sets the stage for the subplot. Every chapter of the book is named with a pick up line, for example, chapter 1 is called 'There's Art and Beauty. Hi, Beauty. I'm Art.'"

"It's not really subtle."

"Pick up lines don't tend to be," said Zoë, "that's part of their charm. They're silly, sometimes even shocking, but they provide a guise behind which the user can hide while, for the moment anyway, being someone else."

Z

oë understands being someone else, because she's had the opportunity to reinvent herself many times. An accomplished actress and a brilliant student at Berkeley Carroll, was she a writer? "I wrote essays and the usual assignments," she said, "but I never thought of myself as a writer. One of the great benefits of a small school is all the extras: theater, yearbook, student government. I was busy doing other things."

One of those "things" included getting into Yale, from which she graduated cum laude with a degree in sociology. "I was always Yale bound," she said. "It's all I ever wanted."

It was at Yale that the girl who excelled in math and science in high school blossomed into a writer, thanks, in no small part, to her Berkeley Carroll education. "Freshman year, when our first college paper was due," Zoë remembers, "I was, without a doubt, better prepared than were any of my college peers to write a

paper. Our first assignment was in political philosophy, and my classmates had no idea how to write a college-worthy paper, but I was ready. I got an A minus.”

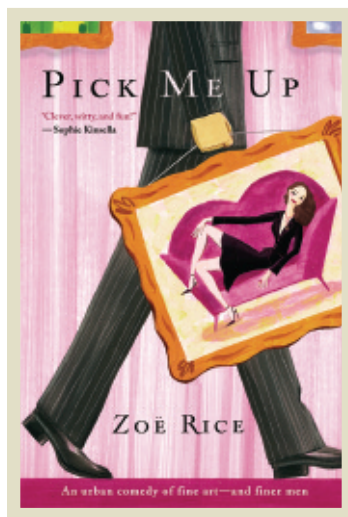
It was at Yale that Zoë had the opportunity to work with fabulous writing professors, including Robert Stone, National Book Award-winning author of *Dog Soldiers*. She also joined the staff of the *Yale Daily News Magazine*, ultimately becoming the youngest editor-in-chief in its history. The summer after her junior year she landed a highly coveted internship at the *New Yorker* magazine where she was the lone undergrad amid MFA students in the internship pool. Her *New Yorker* internship dovetailed nicely with the experiences garnered previously during her Berkeley Carroll senior year internship at St.

Martin's Press, her entrée into the world of publishing. As soon as she graduated from Yale, she went straight to The Dial Press (“a dream of a publishing house,” said Zoë) and began editing the Shopaholic book series. Ultimately, the literary agent for the series—Kim Witherspoon at Inkwell—became Zoë's agent for *Pick Me Up*.

To what does she owe the success of her rapid career arch? Talent? Luck? Connections? She admits to all of the above, but hastens to add that much of what has helped propel her from one step to the next she learned at Berkeley Carroll. “My class was so small that we had the teachers' attention,” she remembers. “Berkeley Carroll taught us how to have our voices heard. I used that skill at Yale, and I was able to use it to my advantage after I graduated.”

When she burst upon the publishing

world, Zoë also used to her advantage the fact that she was not an English major, having immersed herself in the study of sociology. Sociology incorporated her love of science with her rapidly developing interest in writing. At Yale Zoë wrote her senior thesis on a study of images of masculinity in advertising over a ten-year period, in which she predicted a transgressive male image—in other words, she predicted the emer-



gence of the metrosexual. Her 120-pages thesis won the sociology department's best senior essay award, and she won the Mildred Priest Frank Memorial Award for the highest GPA in the sociology major. Already Manhattan-bound, those

two prizes paid for her first two months' rent when she got there.

“Thank God,” said Zoë.

As she eagerly awaits the debut of her novel she continues to reinvent herself. Ultimately, nearly everything Zoë encounters becomes grist for her mill. During a college semester abroad she spent studying art at the University College of London, she collected details that later found themselves recast as texture for *Pick Me Up*. Many of the book's technical details were derived from conversations with her boyfriend, an artist. Art imitates life, of course, but when Zoë's boyfriend began painting abstract, flat minimalist paintings along the lines painted by one of the characters in the novel, Zoë found that occasionally art imitates life imitating art as well.

Zoë's next book? “I'm eager for *Pick*

*Me Up* to come out, but in the meantime, I'm writing mental drafts of my next one.”

“Will it be a sequel or are you thinking of going in an entirely different direction?”

“Everyone asks that,” she said, by way of response. ✚

“  
**Sociology  
incorporated  
her love of  
science  
with her  
rapidly  
developing  
interest in  
writing.**”

# A Look at Berkeley Carroll's

Writers  
in  
Residence  
Program

**T**hroughout their career, Berkeley Carroll students are writers; like all great writers, they are also readers. The Berkeley Carroll School has an usually rich literary culture, including many writers, editors, and publishers among its parent body, alumni, and faculty; even the neighborhood is literary—Park Slope, home to fabulous writers, has also appeared in many contemporary novels.

For Berkeley Carroll students, the interface between being a writer and being a reader comes together, in large part, through the school's Writers in Residence program. Funded in large part through parents, this remarkable program invites exceptional writers into the classroom. Visiting writers reveal their creative lives, the genesis of their ideas, the discipline required to write every day, the challenge of revision, and the deep

love and commitment they have for their art. The following provides a highlight of the 2005-06 Writers in Residence Program at Berkeley Carroll.

## Jhumpa Lahiri Brings the Audience into the Story



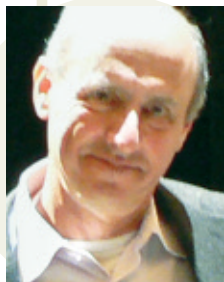
the Performance Space while Ms. Lahiri read to them from her novel *The Namesake* and from her Pulitzer

Jhumpa Lahiri was captivating. The season's first Writer in Residence met with 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students who sat transfixed in

Prize—winning collection of stories, *The Interpreter of Maladies*.

Ms. Lahiri told her audiences that she would have never become a writer if she hadn't loved reading, mentioning several of her favorite authors (James Joyce, Flannery O'Connor, and others). In addition, she shared with the 8th graders that a seminal scene from *The Namesake* was loosely based on a family anecdote involving a relative she'd known only in passing. Nevertheless, she told the rapt audience, she'd saved the story in the back of her mind because she'd always felt its potential to evoke miracles. When she said that decades after first hearing the story she was able to channel it into her writing, students sat forward in their seats. It would have been difficult to listen to this wonderful writer without thinking, even fleetingly, "I have stored-up memories, too. Maybe someday I'll be a writer."

## The Glory of David Lubin



Last fall, the junior class was treated to a remarkable afternoon when Dr. David Lubin, art history professor from Wake Forest University, presented his lecture,

“Sculpting Memory: The Art of Augustus Saint-Gaudens” as part of Berkeley Carroll’s Writers in Residence program. The Performance Space lights went down, the slides went up, and for the next hour and a half Dr. Lubin brought the students into the world of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, a 19th century American sculptor whose flawlessly crafted masterpieces were easily a century before their time yet also told the stories of the time in which the artist lived (the Shaw memorial became the basis for the movie, *Glory*). Dr. Lubin, an expert in the fields of art history, popular and visual culture, and film studies, had previously presented this compelling lecture at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

## A Visual Writer: Peter Arkle



In preparation for their class with Writer (or, in this case, Illustrator) in Residence, Peter Arkle, 10th and

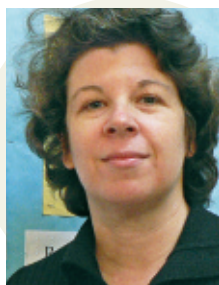
12th grade students created their own visual pieces, emphasizing Arkle’s brand of visual, witty, and engaging art with commentary. The students created their own personal version of the *The Peter Arkle News*, in which, like

the quirky, Scottish-born cartoonist and illustrator, they made the mundane important. Spending the day with 10th and 12th grade English classes, Mr. Arkle relayed the ways in which his work and talent developed. For example, he said that when he jotted down things he observed around him, he would illustrate his notes in order to help himself remember the events later. Ultimately, the drawings became an integral part of his stories, and his illustrations, combined with observations of life around him, offered an honest, humorous, and smart take on everyday life. Mr. Arkle, whose work has been published in the *New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, and other publications, encouraged the students to become “note-taking tourists, highlighting some of his own experiences “eavesdropping” on passers-by (one story, involving vomit and an ATM, truly falls into the category of “you had to have been there.”) Fortunately for these Upper School students, they were there (in the classroom, not at the ATM). Spending time with this wonderful illustrator (whose work can be viewed on his website, [www.peterarkle.com](http://www.peterarkle.com)), who also spoke engagingly about the importance of the illustrator-pen relationship (“It takes about six months to wear the pen nib down to how I like it. The problem, though, is that since I keep a pen for about a year is the six months leading up to that moment and the six months following.”)

## The Meg Wolitzer Challenge

Even if one had not had the great pleasure of reading Meg Wolitzer, one could tell she was a wonderful writer just by listening to her speak. Thoughtful, metaphorical, lyrical, she

challenged her audiences of 11th and 12th graders to think about what it means to be a reader and the resonance of classic books in the life of a writer. The award-winning fiction writer, who published her first novel (*Sleepwalking*) a year after graduating from Brown and her most recent novel (*The Position*) last year, told the students about her experiences as a reader but really engaged them when she asked them about their own. When she asked, “What does reading do?” hands shot up. “It lets you escape into a different world”; “It leads you to find out the truth about yourself.” Ms. Wolitzer agreed, “Fiction can contain more truth than nonfiction. It can give you access to something in yourself.” Another student volunteered that literature encompasses all the great themes; Ms. Wolitzer concurred, saying that good prose can be described as “muscular.” She went on to say that the companion to muscularity is “flexibility,” and that being flexible as a reader allows you to develop as a more complex thinker. She spoke of numerous great books and significant short stories that have influenced her, many of which she rereads every few years knowing she will find intriguing new depth in them. She counseled the students to think of the “imperative”



in a work of fiction and challenged the writers in the group to be aware of this imperative, which forms what she called the “engine” of a written work. In closing, she told the

seniors, “Books make you aware of ambivalence you might not otherwise face in your life. Art elevates life, heightens our perceptions of the world we live in.” ✦



## Three Perspectives On **Literacy at Berkeley Carroll**

### **Lower School**

In the Lower School, literacy can be thought of as a puzzle: how can we teach children to make sense of seemingly arbitrary squiggles on the page. As children mature, develop their skills, and are better able to express their thoughts, the hope is help them develop an opinion, express it, and make it into an argument. Such arguments, be they poetry, fiction, or even paragraphs that will later develop into essays, form the basis of their writing.

Brownstone Brooklyn values opinions, and whether it's an opinion on politics, real estate, religion, or any of those other things you aren't supposed to bring up in polite company, the goal in the Lower School is for children to be able to form opinions, back them up with careful thought, and express themselves clearly. Whatever passions Berkeley Carroll children develop, whatever career they ultimately choose, they need a voice, and that's what we hope to teach them as we show them how to read and write.



BY

**BENEDICT CHANT**

*Lower School Director*

**JAMES SHAPIRO**

*Middle School Director*

**SUZANNE FOGARTY**

*Upper School Director*



### **Middle School**

At the end of four years of Middle School we have held our children in thrall for over 5000 hours. What are they ready for as writers? Can you really say to a youngster that the world of facts trumps the world of imagination? Children in Middle School are beyond delightful.

When you read a story they act as a shadowing presence acting out with the sounds and the barely restrained mimetic gestures of a rapt audience the skulking movements of Grendel, the silly burlblings of a fool in a Grimm tale, or the grandeur of a concert pianist of verse like Shakespeare or Edgar Allan Poe.

Kids effortlessly incorporate subtle and arcane distinctions of fantasy worlds with hierarchies of potency, mayhem, and magic. In their own quest for identity, they are, in fact, engaging with the world of facts and logic. Through language and through writing they can honestly—by their lights—become the thing itself. They fulfill some of their thirst for becoming and for experimenting through the medium of writing. Middle schoolers respect language more uncritically than any adult. When you pick up that slender piece of paper and glance over the spidery lines of cursive graphite, you have a complete, unwittingly complete, essence and complex portrait of a child.

tingly complete, essence and complex portrait of a child.

A piece of writing is an indelible watermark that to the trained eye yields forensic clues about a child's nature, tone, tenor, the complex crisscrossing of mental habits we call personality. Language allows you to travel everywhere, be everything and do everything. That gives them the confidence to die, to fly, to be a hero, or to be cast into the most sanguinary of ghost stories Middle schoolers stand in a door frame: half in dark; half in light, looking out on a world in which they are fully rooted but from which they are simultaneously absent.

In fifth grade the paragraph is "king." We train the young eye in deciding what fact, what concept reigns supreme and then proceed to justify that topic sentence with further development of logic, reasoning, and proof. In sixth grade paragraphs are located in a basic sequential structure. The rudiments of an argument begin to appear. The sustained voice of persuasion takes its first extensive shape.

In seventh and eighth grades our young writers begin to find the beginnings of their true voice. They locate a thesis and proceed to develop and sustain their argumentative claims.

Middle school students approach the highly magnetized vector of creativity from a multitude of directions: imagining yourself as a drop of water in the ecosystem or as a Puritan settler in New England; composing briefs or legal opinions in a Supreme Court unit on a first amendment/national security dust-up; issuing autobiographical sum-

maries of themselves as historical personages sprung to life in the eight grade Wax Museum—the list is endless.

We call upon our students to write for their science courses, language courses, math, history, dance, music, theater, and, of course, English. They write stories, essays, poems, plays. We read aloud to them. They read back to us. We encourage them to sit in a circle as co-equal listeners and contributors.

Kids are extraordinarily sensitive about their writing. Hard as it is for them to learn to absorb a critique, it's equally hard to learn how to give worthwhile criticism. The human ego in regards to writing is extraordinarily dry soil. It takes a lot of watering, a lot of affirmation for robust expression to take deep root.

Perhaps that's not so surprising. Writing is about your competency, your lovability, your understandability and your ability to reach others. Ultimately, our students learn, the most persuasive voice is their own. Writing takes us by the hand and we discover, ultimately, who and what we are meant to be.

## Upper School

E.M. Forster once said, "How do I know what I think until I see what I say?" This question is the driving force behind our writing curriculum in the Upper School. We teach writing to help our students better understand how they think. But learning how to express oneself requires a lot of patience; writing is not a skill that is mastered by high school graduation. It is a life-long challenge.

We live in a world that is increasingly dependent upon sound bites and instant messaging, modes of communication that are sorely lacking in reflection. Therefore, one of our greatest responsibilities as educators is to teach our students to slow down, to pause, and to reflect.

Every time we assign a paper, ask students to sum up their observations for a science lab, or require students to explain a math problem, we are asking them to search for the right words and phrases that reveal the integrity of their logic, their imagination, and their opinions. Writing is also a process of discovery. We never

quite know what will hit the page until our pen starts moving or our fingers start tapping.

Teaching writing to high school students is gratifying because they are willing to take risks to make these discoveries. During the process, students share and critique each others' prose and poetry on a daily basis. This kind of work requires a strong balance of honesty, sensitivity, and the patient discipline of revision.

Students themselves contemplate the process: "I'm excited about taking my work to the next level, with the help of others' feedback. Ironically, this is also what I'm worried about...things I write never sound as good outside my head as they do inside...." "Basically I want to learn to write better so that I don't create anymore teenage-angst garbage that's all cliché metaphors and ignores real language." "Writing has always intrigued me but I've always been hesitant about actually doing it—for fear of not being good enough, not having enough discipline or time...but I want to find ways to express myself..." ✚



the  
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School

**The annual fund** supports our faculty and ensures that the school can continue to attract and retain our most valued educational resource—**our teachers.** Your gift to the 2006 annual fund will help sustain the Berkeley Carroll legacy.

For more information, contact the Berkeley Carroll School Institutional Advancement Office at 718-789-6060 x 6586 or email [advancement@berkeleycarroll.org](mailto:advancement@berkeleycarroll.org).

## Keeping up with a very active WHITEHOUSE.

Despite being officially retired from her job as Director of the Sayville, NY planetarium, **Elizabeth Catlin Whitehouse '40** is busier than ever. Betty is in the process of publishing a series of children's books that she wrote and illustrated about astronomy and are fun for adults as well. The books are aimed at pre-K to first grade. She is also the president of her local Garden Club, a past president of the Rotary, sits on the board of the Sayville Historical Society and is a member of a group of local citizens who provide scholarships to deserving graduating high school seniors. As part of her work for the Sayville Historical Society, Betty has garnered over \$45,000 in grants for the town's 9/11 memorial park. On a personal note, Betty has 10 grandchildren with one, **Caroline Mayhew '01**, also an alumnae of BC.



## 1930s»

■ **Jules Boykin Simpson '36** keeps in touch with her classmates and is "happy to say that I am well, busy and enjoying my life among friends."

■ **Trudy (Gertrude) Colson Nicholson '38** has joined the online generation with a new email connection. She and her husband, Howard, live in a retirement community and really enjoy it. She regrets the loss of her classmate, **Jeanne Barth**. Trudy and Jeanne kept in touch for many years.

■ **Betty (Nexsen) DeVries '39** has been involved with the DAR for many years and plans on running for Honorary Reporter General, a national elective office that she will retain for life. She is also the president of the Manhasset Community Club, the treasurer of her local chapter of PEO International (PEO promotes educational opportunities for women), the moderator of the Congregational Church of Manhasset (she is currently serving a three-year term and runs the church's business meetings), and Vice Regent of the North Riding Chapter of

the DAR, where she assists the Regent in running chapter events.

## 1940s»

■ Honorary Alumna, **Lenora Brennan '41** sends her fond regards to alums with special regards to her honorary classmates of 1941. "I am doing some consulting in board development and fundraising, and a lot of traveling with my family." She is off to Rome in early November.

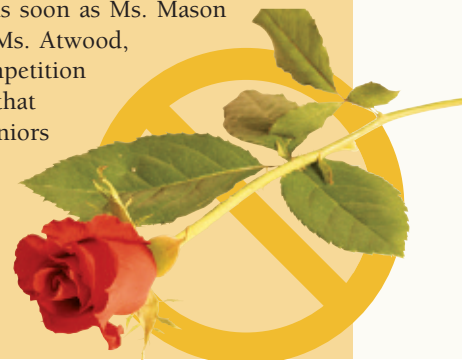
■ **Joan Ross Rafter Keyes '40** is busier than ever. Joan retired from teaching school in 1994 and is anything but retired. Joan is the author of the Oxford Picture Dictionary for Kids series. How did she end up writing this impressive series? Joan taught ESL for all ages for over 20 years and was presenting at a convention for educators where an

Oxford editor spotted her. She was asked to write for Oxford on the spot after Joan convinced them that they needed an interactive children's dictionary, a dictionary that would talk with the kids so they could hear their new language.

■ When **Gloria Alberta Carbonell '43** is not acting as a real estate broker, she travels and spends every summer in Cambridge, England, studying the Middle Ages in Cambridge's summer school program.

■ Last Spring, **Arlene Williams Stern '43** participated for the sixth year in the Prejudice Reduction Program for elementary age children in the NYC public school system. She reports, "It is still exciting for me to try and reach these kids on a subject dear to my heart." Arlene stays in touch with her classmates:

**Barbara Birch Smyth '48** and her husband are currently in the midst of planning for their move to a local retirement center in the summer of '07. In the meantime, though, they have been busy traveling: first to eight national parks this past summer and soon to Russia with their daughter. With nine grandchildren, two of whom live down the block from her, the Smyth's lives are full and active. As for the Berkeley Institute traditions, Barbara reminisces that her class of 1948 was the last class to have flower girls chosen from the lower grades. As soon as Ms. Mason took over as head from Ms. Atwood, she decided that the competition and social maneuvering that occurred as the rising seniors hand-picked their flower girls was best left to the dustbin. The flower girls presented each graduating senior with her bunch of roses.



**Ann Perry Albere, Gloria Carbonell, Ruth Benjamin Brooks and Marjorie Koster Beinfeld.** Arlene loves living in NYC and says that she is “grateful that I can still use the wonderful city that has been my cultural home for so long.”

■ **Susan Sirius Wexler '46** has, in her retirement, become a student again at the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement and is “enjoying it immensely!”

■ **Martha Davis Schroeder '47** has moved with her husband, Fred, to a retirement community in upstate New York which they are slowly getting used to. Her children and grandchildren all live in the local area as do many of their longstanding friends. As Martha says, “We are very lucky!”

■ **Jane Bennett Smith '47** is now retired, and pursuing some of the interests that she had at Berkeley—working for the library and preparing local newsletters. Both her husband, Fred, and she enjoy singing and traveling with choral groups. They are also golfers; though as Jane states, “Fred is, and I am still trying after umpteen years.” She has three grandchildren: Ellery, 13; Mack, 12 and Leah, 10, who live within 2 hours of her. As Jane says, “I’m lucky!”

■ **Caroline Moody Roberts '49** is “busy relaxing,” going to Florida and staying in touch with her classmates, **Barbara Meyer Bognar '49** and **Gloria Dillon Burdge '48**. Caroline left Brooklyn for Pittsburgh 50 years ago and stays active by

sitting on the board of a local children’s center.

## 1950s»

■ The Class of 1950 had a reunion last April in Boston. **Carla Linscheid Lerman, Judy Acken Aylward, Betty Manson Pyle, Norma Gatje Smith, Ann Mackey Peters, and Gladys Buchholtz Beloff** attended along with their husbands. Ann reports that “we all had a marvelous time and will certainly meet again in the next year.”

■ **Ann Mackey Peters '50** officially retired from her career in fundraising and development a while ago and now volunteers as a board member of the St. Paul Conservatory of Music. She also started the planned giving

**Penny Crowell '53** lives in Wayland, Massachusetts (where they can be near their children) with her husband of 32 years.

Having retired some years ago from her career in systems analysis, teaching, and writing, she and her husband now operate a family cranberry company.

They have 5 children from previous marriages. Penny enjoys spending time with her 13 grandchildren—the oldest are out of college and the youngest is 5 years old. She spends her spare time “tinkering” with computers, reading, doing some gardening and traveling. Most recently they traveled up the Erie Canal and St. Lawrence River and have toured Nova Scotia and the Gaspé Peninsula. Penny has fond memories of Mlle. Palisse and communicated with her after graduating from Berkeley.

program at the Minneapolis Cathedral. Last fall Ann and her husband had a romantic holiday in New York City to

celebrate their 50th anniversary. They tried to escape without their three children knowing their whereabouts, but somehow the couple received multiple, and anonymous, room service orders at their hotel, the Waldorf Astoria. Seems the kids caught up with them and sent their congratulations via bottles of champagne, delicate cheeses, roses and cheese-cake, a special favorite of Ann’s.

■ **Elizabeth Whitney '50** is using the knowledge and experience she gained from being the Assistant Director of Financial Aid (retired) at Brandeis as a trustee for METCO’s scholarship fund. The Metropolitan Council for Economic Opportunity (METCO) is located in Weston, Massachusetts, and has the mission of developing and promoting quality integrated educational oppor-



In 1978 **Elizabeth Root '51** founded and then headed the Phillips Brooks School, an independent elementary school, in Menlo Park, California for many years. Though she has been retired since 1996, she sits on the boards of several schools in her local area. She is particularly proud of the Phillips Brooks School’s involvement in the Summer Bridge program. This program brings middle school aged children from the economically disadvantaged East Palo Alto neighborhood to her former school, along with other local independent schools, for an intensive summer academic enrichment program. When Elizabeth is not occupied with board work, she enjoys playing bridge, “having fun,” and traveling. For fall 2006 she will be traveling from Sweden to Iceland on an ice breaker wildlife tour. Always the educator and life-long learner, Elizabeth travels to England every summer to Marlborough College to take classes.



**Ellen Waters Singer '53**

is an avid traveler in pursuit of her art, having visited many parts of the globe as evidenced in her work. She travels to England almost annually to work and collect subject matter. Ellen graduated from Columbia School of Dramatic Arts, taught at the Art Student's League of New York, and is on the council of The Society of American Graphic Artists. Her work can be seen in the gallery of the "Old Print Shop" in NYC and on her web site at [www.ellennathansinger.com](http://www.ellennathansinger.com).



(Top left)  
"Bouquet" etching  
(Top right)  
"Ennui" woodcut  
(Bottom)  
"City Snow" woodcut



tunities for urban and suburban students in the Greater Boston community. After being widowed for some years, she married a good friend of hers from her home town about ten years ago. Between the families they

have ten children and 22 grandchildren.

■ **Barbara Papae Barteaux '53** has lived in various places in California since 1971, most recently in Roseville. Now retired, she previously worked

for a printing company and was a journeyman printer for 15 years. She later worked for a newspaper that owned a printing company. Barbara still misses the East Coast, though she is pleased to be near daughters, Heidi and Elizabeth, and her 5 grandchildren.

■ **Joan B. Berstein Berman '53** left Berkeley at the end of 7th grade, but still keeps in touch with several classmates. She transferred to Birch Wathen in Manhattan when her parents moved there from

Brooklyn. Joan graduated from Barnard College with a major in art history. She went on to work for *American Home* magazine, and the house magazine at the Institute for Radio Engineers. After time off to raise two sons, she volunteered at the Asia Society Art Museum in NYC. She later attended the Weist Barron School for TV Acting and Commercials which led to several small acting spots. Her special loves include her grandson in San Francisco and the French language.

■ **Barbara Smith Bernardo '53** celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary last year. She has 4 sons and 6 grandchildren. A cancer survivor, she enjoys vacationing most winters in her Florida home.

■ **Ann Dillon Byrnes '53** celebrated her 50th wedding

anniversary this year. She and her husband are taking a one-month driving tour, first to North Carolina to visit their 1st grandchild and then through Florida to visit relatives. They have 15 grandchildren. One, Darcy Byrnes, is under contract with "The Young and the Restless" in California, playing the part of Abby Carrington. After traveling to and living in Germany, France, and briefly Hong Kong on IBM business, Ann and her husband are now settled in Poughkeepsie, New York.

■ **Sona Robbins Cohen '53** is well, happy, and thoroughly enjoying living in New York City. She has kept up her piano playing, and last year won an award for a play she wrote. While she continues to write, she is also involved in numerous other activities. She has been happily married to her husband, Bob, for 31 years.

■ **Judith Yokell Jacobs '53** has recently moved to the Tucson area from New York. Having visited the area, she fell in love with the climate and the people. While still settling, Judy sculpts and paints and continues a long career in Interior Design. She is also active in the "Red Hats," an organization that raises funds for charity. She is very excited that one of her two sons will be moving to the area with his family and her first grandchild—a girl.

■ **Marybeth E. Griffiths Reed '53** deeply regrets that she missed her 50th class reunion

because she was moving to Chapel Hill, North Carolina from the Cleveland, Ohio area at the time. A former 6th grade Social Studies teacher, Marybeth also worked as a Media Specialist in Ohio for 21 years. Now retired, she pages part time at the Chapel Hill Public Library and loves the people and setting. "It's a fabulous alternative to joining a gym." Her daughter, Molly, is continuing graduate studies in Shepherdstown, West Virginia where she is a Civil War re-enactor. Her daughter, Meghan, works in Charlotte. Marybeth now goes by the family name of Betsy, "because there were too many first names to juggle."

■ **Ann Hurley Trabulsi '53** remembers the class 50th reunion with fondness; she says she enjoyed reconnecting with friends. But her heart and home are in Massachusetts where her two children and one-year-old grandson reside. Ann is a Director of The Berkshire Bank in Pittsfield, and is also on the board of the local downtown development group there. Fascinated by the current medical situation in our society, Ann was a past Chairman of the Board of Berkshire Health System where she now serves as Trustee.

■ **W. Katherine Hoak '54** had been out of contact with Berkeley Carroll for many years, but after her granddaughter recently began attending a private school in Connecticut, she realized how deeply she has been influenced by her Berkeley education and how it has supported all her endeavors



■ **Ginger Sund Casciano '55** has fond memories of being a member of the Gold Team, yellow "pinnies," archery, and taking taxis to play field hockey in the park. Ginger has remained in touch with BCS over the years and stays in close contact with several of her 1955 classmates. She recently retired from her position at Altria where she assisted the Chairman Emeritus of Philip Morris. Now she has the time to spend with her grandchildren with one expected at the end of April.

as an adult. Katherine is now retired but no less active. Feeling disappointed and upset over the results of the 2000 presidential election, Katherine decided to become involved in the local League of Women Voters and is now the co-president of the Suffolk County, Long Island League. Katherine hopes to be in contact with her classmates via the new directory.

■ **Demetria Daniels '59** would love to hear from her classmates. Demetria lives in Brooklyn and works in public relations. She has her own web site, Gotham Gossip at [www.demetriadaniels.com](http://www.demetriadaniels.com), featuring news about events around the city. Demetria can be contacted at [demetria571@yahoo.com](mailto:demetria571@yahoo.com).

## 1960s»

■ **Valerie Perrins '63** has moved back to her home city of Troy following the death of her husband, Newton, in August 2004. Valerie does get back to Brooklyn occasionally to visit her son, Tim, who lives in Park Slope. Valerie's other son, Doug, lives in Albany.

■ **Helen Epps '64** is a psychotherapist in private practice in Arlington Virginia, and lives in Washington, DC.

■ **Karen Andreozzi '65** is currently the Systems Training Coordinator for the Division of Human Resources at the NYC Department of Education.

■ **Collette Berkeley Bronstein '68** is living in Jupiter, Florida, and her life is filled with her family. Collette's daughter, Caitlin, is now a junior at Florida State University studying criminology/psychology. She and her husband, Richard, will be celebrating their 34th wedding anniversary this December. Both are still working and don't expect to slow down anytime soon. Collette said that "it would be nice to hear what my fellow classmates of 1968 are doing now." Feel free to contact Collette at her email [cfb92@aol.com](mailto:cfb92@aol.com). Collette says that email is the best way to get in touch because she is so busy.

## 1970s»

■ **Debra Tannenbaum Birenbaum '71** is proud to announce the "newest addition" to her family, her granddaughter, Samantha Miriam Birenbaum, born on November 5, 2005.

■ **Caren Lobo '75** is going to graduate school at North Carolina Central University with the goal of studying counseling and psychology. She is still living in Chapel Hill and would love hear from her classmates. Caren can be reached at [cal@computingworks.com](mailto:cal@computingworks.com).

■ **Peter Brown '79** has been with the NYC Fire Department for 16 years and is looking forward to getting to his 20th. He is now a docent at the Ground Zero site and was at the World Trade Centers on 9/11.

## 1980s»

■ **Jamie Smida '83** is a beloved kindergarten teacher here at Berkeley Carroll and is married to BC athletic director, Joe Wood. Joe and Jamie are the parents of BC first grader, Jillian Smida-Wood.

■ **Michelle Menendez Olgers '84** writes "My husband and I just finished restoring half of our 200+year old plantation house (nice term for a termite-eaten, large wooden structure that costs a fortune to upkeep and used to employ slaves!). We closed his antiques store in Petersburg, Virginia and will be opening his new store, Sutherland's Tavern Antiques, in this half of the house. Life should become a lot less complicated for us and our two-year-old daughter, Emma, with his working "out of the house." As for me, I'm still working at a near-by ad agency and fox hunting as often as possible. Life is good, and I would love to hear from some of my old classmates at [michelle@hallpartners.com](mailto:michelle@hallpartners.com)."

■ **Eve (Walter) Waltermaurer '86** received her PhD in epidemiology and specializes in violence, particularly intimate partner violence and methodology. She is the Criminology Program Coordinator for the Sociology Department at SUNY New Paltz. After getting her BS in Communications, she knew that the media was not for her, began working with at-risk youth, and went back for her masters, in Community

Health. Eve hopes that any alum hoping to go to New Paltz will look her up.

■ **Chea Castor '87** is currently studying culinary arts at Le Cordon Blue in Minnesota. Chea is in the process of starting her own business, selling her baked goods to small coffee and tea houses in the Twin Cities area.

■ **Kristin Juska Mulvaney '87** has a dual career of Mom and teacher. She is an Adjunct Lecturer at Kingsborough College.

■ Congratulations to **Brad Sinrod '88** on the birth of his third child, Charles, last fall.

■ **Heather Cunningham '89** is both producing and performing in plays in New York City. She is the founding Artistic Director of the River Heights Production Company, [www.riverheightsproductions.com](http://www.riverheightsproductions.com), and her newest production, *Mrs. California*, began in March. Heather has had continual success in nearly every performance medium since her days under the lights on the Berkeley Carroll stage.

■ **Dario Shuster '89** has graduated from medical school and passed the US medical licensing exam step 2. He can now apply to be a resident physician.

## 1990s»

■ Former Head of Berkeley Carroll, **Bongsoon Zubay**, connected with **Matthew Strozier '91** (Wesleyan University '96) for

food  
network  
.com

Nic Sims  
prepares  
one of her  
notable tarte  
specialties  
which was  
featured  
recently on  
"All-Star Kitchen  
Makeover"



## Berkeley Carroll Alum Featured on THE FOOD NETWORK

Following her passion and making a bold move, **Nic Sims '84** left her career as an established project manager at a website company to become a professional chef. Her bravery was rewarded by a new sense of professional fulfillment and by the Food Network. One of several things that inspired her to realize her dream was an inscription on a sculpture in a museum near her Ann Arbor, Michigan home that read, "What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?" Nic knew exactly what she would do—she would cook. It was her love of cooking that led Nic to begin a successful catering business, *Skip to My Roux*, as well as enroll in the culinary arts program at Schoolcraft College. It was that same, unmistakable passion that appealed to producers at the *Food Network* when they viewed her video application for a \$50,000 kitchen makeover contest. Nic's kitchen was one of four selected to be redesigned with the input of a celebrity chef. In Nic's case that chef was Alton Brown, her personal favorite.



Sims cheerily posing during the height of construction of her dream kitchen redesign.

lunch in Manhattan and had a wonderful time reminiscing. Upon completing his B.A. from Wesleyan Matthew received a master's degree from the Columbia University School of Journalism and is now an assistant city editor at The Stamford, Connecticut *Advocate*, overseeing the night city desk. Matthew met his wife, Shola Olatoye, at Wesleyan, and they are expecting their first child in 2006. Matthew and classmate **Salima Matthews Millott '91** are neighbors.

■ **Janine Kenna Dozier '91** and her husband, John, welcomed their first child, Jack, on April 21, 2005. Jack weighed in at 8 lbs, 4 oz and continues to delight his parents, aunts Jordan, '94, and Justine, '96, and his grandparents with new tricks every day. Janine is currently the Director of Family Wealth Services for the Private Bank at Merrill Lynch and can be reached at Janine.dozier@gmail.com.

■ After graduating from Amherst **Andre Hurwitz '92** spent several years in video and teaching math at Prospect Heights High School. He graduated from Tulane Law School and is now back in New York.

■ **Daniel Lipton '92** currently attends Columbia Business School. He is scheduled to receive his MBA in 2007.

■ When **Josh Prinsky '92** and his wife, Julie, came to visit classmates **Sarah Brennan '92**, **Tina Rosan '92**, and her husband, Karl Munkelwitz, in

Boston, they decided to call on **Rachel Klein '92** at her new restaurant, OM, in Harvard Square. Since it was opening week, Rachel was busy making sure everything was perfect, but she did manage to sneak away from the kitchen to say hello to her BCS classmates.

■ **Amy Straus Yochum '94** gave birth to twins on Valentine's Day. Amy and her husband Andrew have named their two little ones Zoe and Theo.

■ **Leah Foster '95** is attending law school at CUNY Queens College. Her mother, Sheryl, is continuing her BCS involvement, too, appearing in last fall's Readers Theater production.

■ **Alex Hurwitz '95** is currently getting her MBA at Baruch.

■ **Kenan Juska '95** is currently a bartender at South Paw by night and an artist by day.

■ **Sean Waltrous '95** is making the big move! Instead of working and taking pictures for someone else, he will work as a freelance photographer.

■ **Nicole Ayala '96** received an MS in Public Policy and Management from the Heinz School at Carnegie Mellon University in spring, 2004. She was recently promoted to Assistant Vice President & Investment Product Manager at Mellon Financial Corporation in Pittsburgh, and became engaged to Val Fouron of Queens, a fellow alum of Carnegie Mellon.

■ **Vanessa Agard-Jones '96** (Yale '00), is now studying at Columbia University's Institute for Research in African American Studies. Ms. Zubay met up with Vanessa and **Michael Trano** (BCS faculty on leave) for a late afternoon lunch last September and was fascinated to learn about Vanessa's recent experience teaching middle school in Atlanta and also her prior job working for Prison Activist Resource

Center, a not-for-profit organization in San Francisco.

■ **Shanida Gutierrez (NG '96)** is working in Panama for Las Garzas, which runs movie and international TV festivals. The Movie Festival Las Garzas recently presented a TV program on the Manhattan Neighborhood Network here in NYC. The program included short movies and the work of Pan-American and Latin American directors. For more

Classmates **Tina Rosan '92** (left), **Josh Prinsky '92** (middle right), and **Sarah Brennan '92** (far right) met up with classmate **Rachel Klein '92** (center) at Rachel's Harvard Square Restaurant, OM, celebrating the opening week.



Newborn Jack Dozier (left) is the delight of his parents, **Janine Dozier '91** and her husband John.

(Right) **Vanessa Agard-Jones** and **Michael Trano** shared experiences with Bongsoon Zubay (left) at lunch recently.



information check out their web site at [www.lasgarzas.org](http://www.lasgarzas.org)

■ **Justine Kenna '96** married Matthew Fludgate on April 30, 2005 in New York City. "My sisters Janine Dozier '91 (who had my nephew Jack 9 days before!) and Jordan Kenna Smith '94 were my matrons of honor. We had a wonderful time celebrating with friends and family and it is hard to believe it has almost been a year since the wedding! I'm am currently working in the asset management group of Bank of America. Matt and I live in New York City and can be reached at Justine\_Fludgate@yahoo.com."

■ **Timothy Chevar '97** is leaving New York to travel around the world!

■ **Clieve Christian '97** is currently teaching at Tilden High School and is considering attending law school in the future.

■ **Zoe Klein '97** has been designing lights, dancing

and performing acrobatics in NYC since her graduation from Hampshire College in June 2001. This past summer she took a break from her position of Technical Director at the Brooklyn Arts Exchange and Danspace Project, Inc to give her the time to design the lighting for Eva Dean Dance Company's Dance Theater Workshop performance, continuing a four year working relationship with the company. Zoe has been performing, teaching and training salsa and acrobatics in Los Angeles, Germany, Holland and Montreal with her partner, Dave Paris. During their August 2005 Asia tour, they visited Thailand, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia. Zoe continues to collaborate with Marlene Clary at BC doing the lighting for the fall 2005 Readers Theater production of *Prison Stories from Death Row*.

■ **Michael Eisdorfer '98** received his BS in corporate communications from the College of Staten Island in 2004



**Karen Keltner '00** is the Program Director for the Ambassadors to the Environment Program in Santa Barbara for Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society ([www.oceanfutures.org](http://www.oceanfutures.org)). How did a Brooklyn girl end up at the Pacific Ocean side of the US? Aside from her persistent curiosity in and jealousy of her parents' annual Caribbean diving trips, Karen credits her career and life path to Cindy Molk, Karen's Upper School Science instructor at BC. After completing an independent study project in marine biology with

## Passion for phytoplankton?

Cindy, Karen spent her junior summer at the Scripps Institute in

Santa Barbara where she recognized her overwhelming interest in the field. Karen decided to return there for college, attending the University of California in Santa Barbara where she received her BS in marine biology along with a California teaching certificate.

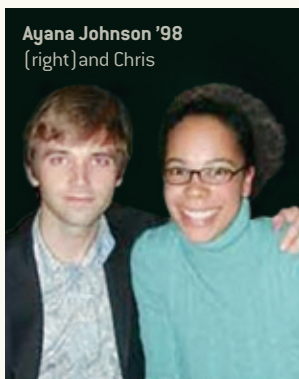
Not only has she been able to pursue her love of everything outdoors in Santa Barbara—hiking, kayaking, sailing, scuba diving, beach volleyball,...!—but she has also been able to pursue her scientific passion, the study of phytoplankton. Karen has been at the center of several research projects that have studied the health of our oceans and will soon have some of her work published. She has already presented at conferences around the world. Right now, though, Karen is delighted to be teaching children from 4th to 12th grades about the local marine biology and being part of an organization that promotes environmental and political action. Karen would love classmates to contact her at [kkeltner@oceanfutures.org](mailto:kkeltner@oceanfutures.org).



**Justine (Kenna '96) Fludgate** with her husband Matthew Fludgate. They were married last April.

and is now a candidate for the MBA program at Ithaca College scheduled to graduate in 2006.

■ In October **Bongsoon Zubay** and her husband, Geoff, went out to the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California where Geoff is a visiting scholar. While there they were thrilled to run into **Ayana Johnson '98** (Harvard '02), and invited Ayana and her boyfriend Chris for dinner one evening. Ayana is currently working on her



Ayana Johnson '98  
[right] and Chris

PhD in marine biology at the University of California, San Diego.



Alexandria (left) and Jaael (right)

and is also completing her masters in non-profit management and organizational development. Through her academic and professional endeavors she hopes to "ignite our social justice nerve."

■ Until this fall, **Kirsten Tempel '98** worked for CAMBA, a Brooklyn based community development and social service organization. As of this past December, she has been going to school in Austin, at the Texas College of Chinese Medicine to study acupuncture and other forms of Eastern healing techniques.

■ **Kara Von Blasingame '98** spent her 2005 spring semester at the University of Witwatersrand Law School in Johannesburg, South Africa. She is now back for her final year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School. While in South Africa, Kara had the chance to hear Jean Aristede speak on campus and was able to tour around Soweto and Alexandra with her friends, normally no-go areas for tourists.

■ **Alyssa Whitbeck '98** is engaged and has just purchased a house in Connecticut with her fiancé. She will

finish her graduate studies at University of Connecticut in May 2006 with a double degree—an MSW and a JD. Her wedding is planned for October 2006. Alyssa got back in touch when, during packing for her move, she found her BCS class ring.

■ **Matthew Fleck '99** is now teaching at Lehman High School in the Bronx. He just received his master's degree in education from City College here in NYC.

■ **Deborah Greig '99** is currently in South Korea teaching English in a winter camp program. She admires how they grow vegetables all year round despite the cold winters and have comprehensive recycling programs that include composting; waste goes partially to feed their pigs and the rest to nourish fields. After she leaves South Korea, she will travel for a month in Israel before setting off to the University of Santa Cruz for an apprenticeship in ecological horticulture. Deb will be learning about small-scale sustainable agriculture with the goal of working with urban youth in city-based agricultural projects. She just finished an apprenticeship at Hawthorne Valley farm "learning how to grow beautiful vegetables and to milk cows." As Deb says, "food helps connect all of us," and she wants to be part of that process!

■ **Eric Naison-Phillips '99** has moved back to New York and "really enjoys" his job at the Winged Keel Group, an insurance brokerage firm. His family is doing well, and Eric

became an uncle last year which is "very fun!" Eric keeps track of BC's baseball team and tries to catch a game or two when possible.

## 2000s»

■ **Jaanel Cudjoe '00** has joined Berkeley Carroll's Institutional Advancement office in the position of Development Assistant. In addition to working with the Annual Fund, Jaanel will also work on alumni affairs.

■ **Rebecca Kleinhandler '00** is currently studying for her MA in Jewish literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary in Brooklyn. Rebecca graduated from Cornell in 2004 with a BA in Near Eastern Studies and Comparative Literature.

■ **Cole Matteson '00** is working at his father's newly opened Thai restaurant, Long Tan, at 196 5th Avenue, Brooklyn, between Union and Berkeley Place. Cole graduated from Syracuse University with an economics degree. His girlfriend, Rebecca Rent, and Cole are the proud parents of Claire.

■ **Brad Bongar '01** graduated with honors in 2005 from Wesleyan with a degree in studio art and a concentration in print making. He spent a junior semester abroad studying in Tasmania and this fall began teaching in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.

■ **Annie Devine '01** is an AmeriCorp VISTA volunteer at the International Rescue Committee. While a student

at Smith College, through the School for International Training, Annie spent part of a semester living with a family on the outskirts of Kampala, Uganda. She lived an 'easy' life there—the family had one spigot in their courtyard for running water, and she took local buses to her classes. Annie became fully aware of the on-going political strife affecting the northern part of Uganda where children, in particular, are subject to kidnapping and mutilation by the rebels. On returning to the US, Annie has worked with UNight ([www.unight.org](http://www.unight.org)), an international organization to assist the children of Uganda who are adversely affected by the political instability. As an IRC Vista/AmeriCorps volunteer here in NYC, Annie is the Youth Program Coordinator. She works with refugee children ages 4-20 from all over the world and helps orient

them to New York and American life, including the public school system. She administers an afterschool program at the International High School in Prospect Heights. Annie credits Berkeley Carroll with nurturing her interest in international affairs. Her ability to get involved and pursue her interests while at BC only reinforced her growing passion. Annie hopes to return to Africa in the near future to work on clean water projects.

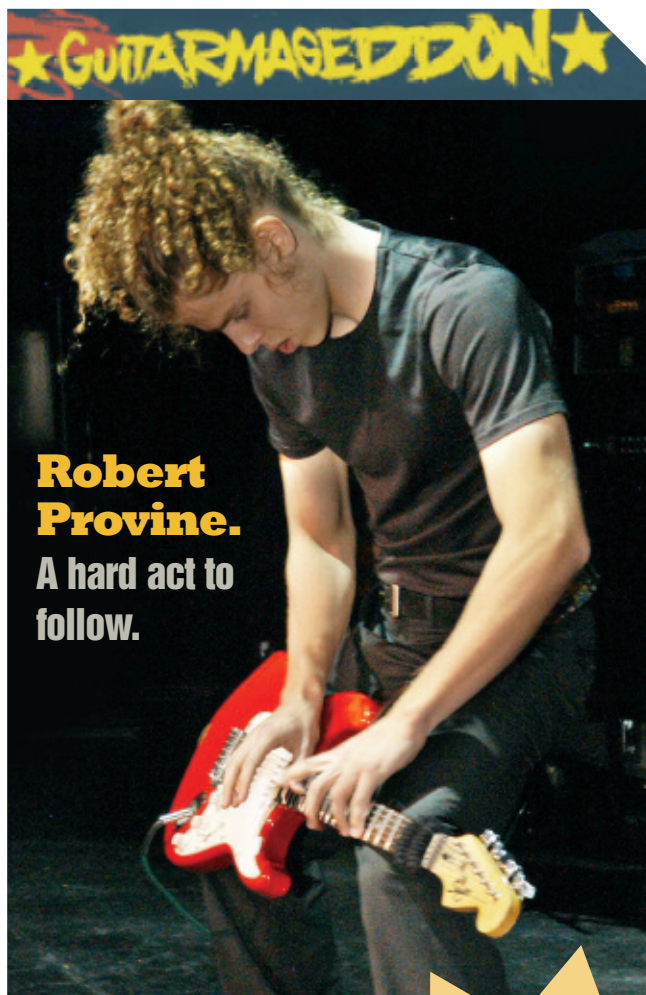
■ **Patrick DeVine '01** graduated from Emerson College in June as a film major and did a summer internship with a New York based studio.

■ **Jeremy Friedman '01** graduated from Pace University in 2005 with a BA in biology and environmental studies.

■ After graduating from Spellman College with a

## A design for the future.

**Ben Downard '01** graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design this past spring with a goal of being a freelance designer and illustrator. Ben initially wanted to be a fine arts painter but moved to illustration to improve his technical skills and career opportunities. He is now interviewing with small companies that are more interested in hiring young artists to do graphic design. He is also doing independent web design and graphics work.



**Robert Provine '01** is the proud winner of the 2005 Guitarmageddon, a national guitar competition sponsored by Guitar Center. Robert was selected from more than 3000 "undiscovered" guitarists nationwide. The competition was featured in the November 2005 issue of *Guitar World*, page 50, the edition with Keith Richards on the cover! Robert has been opening for the Victor Wooten Band and performing with Ray FUTUREMAN Wooten along the east coast. Read about Robert at [www.neilsonclyne.com/guitarcenter/Guitarmageddon\\_2005\\_winner/2005Guitarmageddon\\_Winner.html](http://www.neilsonclyne.com/guitarcenter/Guitarmageddon_2005_winner/2005Guitarmageddon_Winner.html) or [www.roadrunnerrecords.com/blabbermouth.net/](http://www.roadrunnerrecords.com/blabbermouth.net/)

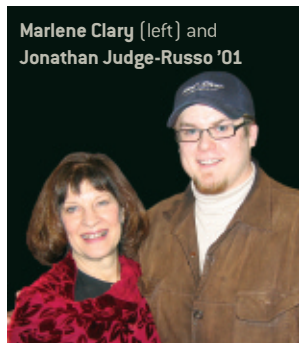


Among winnings for Provine in the Guitarmageddon victory was a handsome Scion XB.

degree in economics, **Crystal Hudson '01** learned about the economics of a premier sports team, the NY Yankees, as a paid summer intern with the franchise. A varsity athlete in three sports while at BC, Crystal hopes to attend the sports management program at George Washington University.

■ **Jennifer Hosten '01** graduated from Columbia Union College in July and will remain in the Washington, DC area where she hopes to become a physician's assistant for a few years before heading off to medical school.

■ Even though **Jonathan Judge-Russo '01** decamped to Regis for high school—he attended BC for lower and middle school—his strong bonds to BC remain. He recently returned and met with one of his BC faculty mentors, Marlene Clary.



Jonathan was on the Regis speech and debate team and found he loved the speech-making part of the competitions. From Regis Jonathan went on to attend Loyola College where he realized that if he went into the theater. He became so good at it, that while still in college, he auditioned at the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Maryland's well-known classical theater company, and was cast as the lead, Troilus, in their production of *Troilus and Cressida*. Jonathan is now back in the heart of theaterland, wants to become a full-

time professional actor and is in the process of applying to graduate level acting programs. He thanks Marlene for "setting the bar" high for her theater productions, and Mike Trano who worked his English students "hard" but taught Jonathan a lot.

■ **Jamie Wrubel '01** graduated this spring from Clark University receiving a BA in studio art.

■ **Leon Hartman '02** has transferred from Boston College to Bard and is actively studying music and education and is composing music and writing. He recently performed for the Brooklyn Community Chorus playing a Corelli violin solo to great applause. He hopes to open a music club in NYC.

■ **Austin Irving '02** spent last summer photographing for *Sports Illustrated* before heading back to NYU for her senior year.

■ After spending fall 2004 studying abroad in Edinburgh, Scotland, **Sam Nathan '02** was an operations intern at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Manhattan during the summer of 2005. He is majoring in diplomatic relations at the University of Pennsylvania.

■ **Erin Iwanusa '02** has recently become engaged to Tom Fraatz, a fellow Gettysburg College graduate. The wedding date is set for August 26, 2006, and the event

will take place in Michigan. Erin will graduate from Gettysburg College in May with a degree in English and psychology. This fall, in Boston, she will pursue a master's degree in developmental and social psychology.

■ **Anthony Pardo '02** worked for *Newsday* this past summer and is president of the St. John University Young Democrats organization.

■ **Adam Ottavino '03** was an amazing pitcher and shortstop during his four years as a Berkeley Carroll Upper School student, averaging 17 strikeouts per game and once striking out 54 batters over a three-game stretch. Adam ended his senior year at BC as a captain and as a draft pick of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Luckily for Northeastern University, Adam decided to pursue baseball at the collegiate level and postpone his aspirations to play professionally. Adam has proven to be perhaps the team's most valuable asset as their starting pitcher. During his sophomore season, in a game against Holy Cross, he struck out 11 batters and only gave up seven hits and two runs.

■ **Michelle Dushi '03** is studying abroad this fall in Melbourne, Australia. She attends Vassar College.

■ **Julia Loonin '03** continues her fine play on the Bowdoin College basketball team and scored 16 points in their Eastern Connecticut Tournament game against Endicott (Bowdoin won 75-29). She made 6 of 9 shots including

**Clara Sofie Bratholm '03** was an exchange student from Norway and spent her senior year at BCS. Clara returned to Norway to complete 13th year (common at schools in Europe) and then went overseas for her "gap year," the year that European students take between high school and college. She spent her first year in Paris living with a family and learning French and then moved on to South America where she worked as a volunteer and picked up her fourth language, Spanish. Accepted at many medical schools in Europe, Clara will begin her medical studies in February 2006 in Copenhagen. Clara's brother, Edvard Nore, also spent a year at BC. Clara hopes that all is well with her classmates and invites everyone from her grade to come and see her if they are traveling in Norway/Denmark. She can be contacted via email at: clara\_cow\_2000@yahoo.com.



3 of 4 three pointers. In a recent game against the University of Southern Maine, Julie made 15 points (including 4 of 6 three-point shots) and had 6 rebounds.

■ **Amari Richardson '03** is currently studying abroad at Smolny College in St. Petersburg, Russia. She recently returned from a winter study program in Treblisi. Amari is a Russian/French and Political Science major at Williams College.

■ **Sonia Nayak '04** is at Brown University and is studying music. She has performed for the Brooklyn Community Chorus performing Mozart's, *Un Moto di gioia*. She is direct-

ing her vocal studies more towards opera.

■ **Julie Ebsenstein '05** reports she is "loving Vassar" and is already in a student theater production this fall, "Hysteria," by Terry Johnson. "It's about Freud," says Julie, "and I'm sort of playing a figment of his imagination."

■ Last fall, **Nora McTwigan '05** took part in an international "Emory Cares" day at her college. She and fellow students filled shoe boxes with personal toiletries and fun items for children and teens who will be entering a foster home in Newton County, Georgia, near Oxford College, where she is a freshman. ✚



**Chloe Kroeter '04**

is enjoying her sophomore year at Barnard College where she intends to declare her

major in Art History with the hope of focusing on art in the 19th century. She also is pursuing an interest in Deaf culture and American Sign Language. Over the winter break a group of 2004 classmates got together at a gathering hosted by **Alex Dean '04** and his family. Chloe says, "It was wonderful to see some BC friends again, reminisce about high school, and catch up with everyone's latest passions." Chloe is pictured here along with Alex, **Rachel Lew '04** and **Joanne Arnow '04**. Chloe sends her best wishes to all her classmates.

**the BerkeleyCarroll School**

120 YEARS OF LEARNING



120th  
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weekend

One of the oldest independent schools in the New York City area, Berkeley Carroll is

pleased to be celebrating its 120th anniversary.

2006

April 20-22

## DEATHS IN THE BERKELEY CARROLL FAMILY

**Elizabeth Schaefer Dorsey '34** on January 30, 2005. She always had fond memories of Berkeley, and her three daughters—Lucy Solomon '72, Melissa Gevertz '65, Wallis Larocque '59,—attended as well. Elizabeth ran a program through her Neptunian Woman's Club for young artists. For over 12 years she held an annual art contest with at least 100 elementary to high school age children competing for first prize. She will be greatly missed in her community of Manhattan Beach, California.

**Dorothy Aston Coleman '34** on Christmas Eve, 2004. After having surgery in May 2004 Dorothy experienced a decline in her health. She was always proud of having attended the Berkeley Institute and kept in touch with her classmate, Elizabeth Schaefer Dorsey '34 and attended reunions every May, many times with her brother, George Coleman, or with her daughter, Nancy Mily.

**Florence Fiske (Friskie) Wheeler '36** passed away suddenly in December 2005 of natural causes in Branford, Connecticut. Active in the Branford community for many years, Friskie is survived by her son, daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren.

**Jeanne Barth '38** died on November 28, 2004 at Augusta Medical Center in Fishersville, Virginia. Helen had lived in Virginia for the past nine years. After graduating from Katherine Gibbs, she taught accordion and piano at the

Maida Music School in Deer Park, New York. She is survived by her husband of many years.

**Elizabeth Eldert Townsend Fugitt '40** on December 12, 2005 in Woodlinville, Washington. Elizabeth had life-long loves of classical music, playing the piano, French, and other romance languages. She also loved the outdoors. Accomplishments that brought her joy included being a co-founder of Grace Episcopal Church in Duvail, and co-authoring a book on birds of the Northwest with her husband, Doug. Doug died in May 2005.

**Doris Chandler Smith '43** on October 31, 2005. She is survived by her daughter and son.

**Elizabeth Soden Hansen '56** died on September 30, 2005 after battling colon cancer. She is survived by her husband, Ole.

**Susan Evans '74** passed away suddenly on January 31, 2005. She is survived by her mother and siblings.

**William Mullestein**, father of Life Trustee, Mary Shuford and grandfather of Rebecca Shuford '90 and Virginia Shuford '95, passed away last April.

**Raleigh Cox**, former Trustee and mother of former students Amanda Cox and Samuel Cox. Raleigh played and instrumental role in the 1982 merger that formed the Berkeley Carroll School and was an influential presence in the Parent Association. She is survived by her children. ✚



### THE ALUMNAE/I COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!

It's great to be a Berkeley Carroll School alum. It's even better to be a member of the Berkeley Carroll Alumni Council, because the Council plans fabulous alumnae/i activities.

The Alumni Council is looking for new members. Responsibilities include:

- Talking about the good old days
- Thinking of activities that might appeal to your former classmates
- Meeting over lunch at Berkeley Carroll 4 times a year... if you're local. Joining the group via conference call if you're not
- Being creative, having fun, re-establishing a connection to your alma mater!

**If you'd like to become involved or would like more information, call, email, or visit**

**Holly Kempner, Director of Alumni Relations**

718-789-6060 x 6583; [hkempner@berkeleycarroll.org](mailto:hkempner@berkeleycarroll.org);

Berkeley Carroll School 808 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215

## STUDENT PROFILE



# Zoe COHEN '08



**B**erkeley Carroll 10th grader Zoe Cohen was awarded the girls' varsity Most Valuable Player Award. But rather than dwell on what must have been an incredible moment, Zoe would rather talk about her teammates and her coach, Walter Paller.

"Mr. Paller is a great coach. He's funny but also serious and he totally knows how to bring out the best in us. The other coach, Anthony Giudice, is very cool," she said. "As for our team, well, we're like family. We're all really close, and our team captains, Katie Renzler and Izzy McTwigan, are great.

We practice every day, of course, but what makes our team so great is our closeness. No one's a prima dona. We all play together, and since we know each other so well we know how to play together."

Mr. Paller called Zoe a "coach's dream." Zoe received the Most Valuable Player plaque in November 2005. The girls varsity basketball team

**Varsity  
basketball  
player  
Zoe Cohen  
received  
the Most  
Valuable  
Player Award  
in November  
2005.**

earned its first ever BC tip-off championship, during which Zoe, a forward, made 29 points. There were only nine girls on the team, so the effort of everyone really counted. This effort, combined with tenacious defense and leadership, propelled the team. Zoe averaged 18 points per game as well as four assists. One of her best qualities as a player was her ability to make her teammates better. Per Mr. Paller, Zoe, who also plays on an intramural team outside of Berkeley Carroll, is unselfish and extremely coachable.

Zoe entered Berkeley Carroll in the 9th grade after graduating from Mark Twain middle school. She already knew a few girls here, but what really eased the transition for her was sports. As a freshman she played tennis as well as basketball. Being a member of the teams helped her meet other people and quickly gave her a sense of belonging. "You become friends with one girl on the team," she said, "and the next thing you know you're friends with her friends. Playing sports at Berkeley Carroll really makes you feel like you're part of the school. My sports life is really valuable." ✚



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### Have you considered Berkeley Carroll in your estate plans?

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