

GENESIS

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GENESIS

A Report to Concerned Individuals

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PERFORMING ARTS SEASON: SI's actors, singers, dancers and instrumentalists kept SI entertained during the Fine Arts Festival (top row and left), the Piano Recital (above, second from top) and, above, the number "If You Could See Her" from the Cabaret performance directed by Emily Shick '10. Photos by Sam and Ariel Soto-Suver '02 of Bowerbird Photography.



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BELOW: Mike Mibach '94 of KTVU interviewed *VICE News Tonight* correspondent and producer Gianna Toboni '06 at the Downtown Business Lunch at the Julia Morgan Ballroom. Photo by Bowerbird Photography.



FIRST WORDS

Now that I'm several months into my semi-retired job, one in which I write and edit this magazine from home, I'm experiencing something that many of you know well: perspective.

You know how you feel when you visit friends and are shocked by how much their children have grown? And their parents aren't? It has to do with time and distance. If you experience slow, incremental growth, you just don't notice it that much.

When I visit SI, I'm regularly surprised in a good way. One day I was delighted to see a new group of sixth graders at the Father Sauer Academy, and the current seventh graders all seem to have enjoyed growth spurts.

I also see young teachers and counselors who are becoming seasoned professionals, and I hear of plans for some fascinating revisions to the campus.

I've also read about changes in leadership, including Michelle Levine being named our new principal. On July 1, she will succeed Patrick Ruff, who has been such a wonderful leader these past 11 years. Look for an in-depth interview with Michelle in this issue and an interview with Patrick in the summer issue.

I've also seen the growing success of so many other women who are part of the SI community — a nice follow-up to the winter edition of this magazine that celebrated 25 years since the graduation of the first coed class. Since then, Gianna Toboni '06, a five-time Emmy-nominated correspondent and producer for HBO's *VICE News Tonight*, was the featured speaker at the Downtown Business Lunch and at an alumni gathering in New York. At the San Francisco event, KTVU anchor Mike Mibach '94 interviewed Gianna, who spoke brilliantly.

Danielle Devencenzi '97, another wonderful leader and former social science department chair, was named assistant principal for academics; her predecessor, Carole Nickolai, returns to the classroom in the fall after 10 years in that role. I served as Danielle's sophomore year English teacher and know that she will be fantastic administrator, following in the footsteps of Carole and Kate Kodros.

I've also seen the establishment of an SI women's group by Alumni Director Alexa Contreras '05 and the celebration of the girls' soccer program, one where the varsity, JV and frosh squads all took first in the WCAL thanks in large part to the leadership of Tracy Hamm, who is the subject of a documentary about overcoming adversity. (Read more about Tracy in this issue.)

Being apart from the school feels different, too, in that I used to be involved in major events, such as the Fathers' Club auction. This year, I walked into it knowing only the theme — Strictly, Hardly Red and Bluegrass — and came away amazed by the quality of the event, one that featured five music venues, great auction items and decorations that didn't just seem authentic — they were the real deal. Gary Brickley '71, who for years has been involved in the Hardly, Strictly Bluegrass festival in Golden Gate Park, was able to bring real props to give the school a down-home makeover. All this effort and fun, of course, is in the service of our scholarship fund and the Compass Campaign, which seeks to bring our endowment to the level we need to help so many deserving students.

When I visit SI these days, I feel the creative energy that has always powered the school; I just experience it more vividly now, and it gives me great joy knowing that the next generation of students and educators are getting ready to solve problems that face us today as they seek to build a more just world.

— Paul Totah '75



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ON THE COVER: **MICHELLE NEVIN LEVINE**, who will serve as SI's new principal starting in July, with students, including many who are children of faculty members.



ABOVE: **RYAN AGUIRRE '07** on the set of *The Late Late Show with James Corden*. Ryan helps publicize this show as well as many other CBS programs. [Story on page 40.](#)

Michelle Nevin Levine, Next Year's Principal, to Focus on Wellness & Balance

Michelle Levine, who will serve as SI's 16th principal beginning July 1, is one of the school's most experienced and respected administrators. A 24-year veteran of SI, she has served as dean of students and director of the counseling office.

She follows in the footsteps of Patrick Ruff, who will finish his 11th year as principal June 30. (Look for an in-depth tribute to him in the summer edition of this magazine.)

In naming Levine to the job, SI President Edward Reese, S.J., noted that her "love for St. Ignatius and our students, coupled with her energy and many talents, will support the mission of our school to help students become the children of God they have been called to be."

She is a graduate of Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School, Mercy High School (San Francisco) and Chico State University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in developmental psychology. She went on to earn from USF both a master's degree in educational psychology as well as a pupil personnel services credential.

Levine worked in special education for the San Mateo County Office of Education and served as an intern at Wallenberg High School before coming to SI in 1995 as a counseling intern to fill in for Bob Drucker '58, when he went on a sabbatical leave. She became a full-time counselor when Greg Goethals, S.J., left the counseling office to become campus minister.

Over the years, she has taught AP Psychology and served as a personal and academic counselor, a college counselor, dean of students and director of counseling. She has also moderated the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes at SI and worked with the Student Council on their efforts.

She was instrumental in designing and implementing SI's Wellness Program in 2010 and has been the school's Crisis Response Team leader for 13 years. She has served on the Admissions Committee, led immersion trips and retreats at all levels and has been a member of the Faculty and Staff Salary and Benefits Committee.

She also completed the Ignatian Leadership Seminars, a three-year program to prepare future leaders in Jesuit education. This program is run by the Jesuit Schools Network, which began as the Jesuit Secondary Education Association, a group founded by her great-uncle Edwin McDermott, S.J. '36.

Her SI connections also include her late father, former San Mateo County Supervisor and Daly City Mayor Mike Nevin '61, and her brothers, Michael '86 and Timothy '90. She makes her home in Redwood City with her sons Ryan, 14, and Connor, 9.

In early February, she sat with *Genesis* editor Paul Totah '75 for this interview.

Q. How has SI been a good home for you over the years and a place where your skills and talents could flourish?

A. When I first enrolled in my graduate program, I expected to work with young children in grammar school. After my internship at Wallenberg and SI, I fell in love with teenagers. That was a new discovery for me. I found out that all the best things about teenagers helped me to feel inspired and comfortable in my work.

Teenagers, whose brains change as they develop more autonomy, can, in the same day, be passionate, indignant, creative, curious, hyper-ethical, focused on hypocrisy, excited, upset, sad and happy. Sometimes they can experience this full range of emotions in a few hours. Those are my people — people who feel deeply as they ponder the questions of life.

I found a home here first with the students and quickly grew into a position where I could relate to and serve teenagers. I discovered that that was one of my gifts. Later, I felt the same joy being a part of a community of colleagues, first as I was mentored by Phyllis Molinelli and Bob Drucker and, later, by the faculty and by the Jesuits. They all helped me understand how Jesuit education offered a unique style of education and mission. I knew I wanted to be at a Jesuit school, and I felt honored and privileged to work here.

I grew up celebrating holidays with my family on 26th Avenue between Irving and Judah with my dad's uncle, Fr. McDermott, saying Mass at our home and talking about his experience as principal of most of the schools in the Province. I can remember having a great interest in his work, given how passionate he was. I also felt excluded in that I couldn't share in those experiences as a girl, as SI was an all-boys' school when I was in grade school and high school, and I knew I could never be one of SI's student leaders.

Q. You came to SI six years after we went coed. Did you have a hand in shaping coeducation in those early days?

A. No. I felt my job was to watch those who were shaping it, including Kate Kodros, Katie Wolf, Donna Murphy, Phyllis Molinelli and Barbara Talavan. Even though SI was coed, it was still very much a boys' school. That didn't bother me; instead, it presented me with a challenge that excited me. I wondered how I could change SI so that girls could become student body presidents and leaders in the classrooms and on retreats.

Men, including the Jesuits, were very generous in these efforts. I never felt as if any human at SI, man or woman,

continued on next page



From Left: Erin Manning '21, Michelle Nevin Levine, Renee Moore '21 and Hannah Kohmann '21.



stood in my way of being my best self in this place. I always felt listened to and respected and knew that my voice mattered. I didn't feel as if anyone was holding me down. Men such as Bob Drucker, Art Cecchin '63 and Charlie Dullea '65 deliberately supported me and helped me and my colleagues succeed. I loved watching Bob and Jim Dekker '68 coach the girls' basketball teams. They were so inspiring and loved to see the girls kicking butt.

Q. You come to this job after years of experience in the deans' office and counseling office. How will this shape the way you are a principal at SI? In other words, what lenses do these roles offer you as distinct from being a teacher?

A. These jobs have forced me, thankfully, to be student-centered. All of the decisions I will make in the future are around the best interests of our students regarding how academics, discipline and co-

curricular activities affect their everyday lives. It's all about the students. My individual work with families has helped me look through the lens of mental health and well-being. I want teachers and administrators to have an understanding that the way students view themselves directly affects their ability to learn.

I don't look at our responsibilities as a Jesuit institution simply around curriculum and classroom time. If we say we want to nurture the whole person, then we have a responsibility to make sure they are physically and mentally healthy. We can effect that by putting systems and structures in place so that we can support them as they learn.

When I first got here, I was told that this wasn't a mental health institution. Our job is to teach and coach students. I understand what was meant by that, but my view of education has been altered over the years because of my experiences with the changing teenager. If we want our students to have access to Ignatian values and ideals, then we are going to buy into the fact that students need to feel safe, healthy and balanced in order to access their education.

Q. Will you hit the ground running with some changes, or will you take a year to observe before launching any new initiatives?

A. My style isn't really to sit back and watch and observe. I've been here 24 years and have a good sense of what is currently happening and some ideas of where I want things to go. That being said, I'm excited to harness the talents of the people I work with and think things through and make concrete plans prior to implementing any dramatic changes. In general, I can tell you that I want to see more student

engagement, stronger school spirit and pride and a more authentic experience of joy for our students.

Q. How are you your father's and mother's daughter?

A. My mother and I are in some ways similar and in some ways different. She is very social and has a good sense of humor. My mom's best trait is she always thinks positively and always looks at the bright side. She is a genuinely happy person. I love that about her, but I'm not all that similar to her in that way. I wish I was. I am more of an overthinker and a realist. That's not the most ideal way to live, some might say, except that I'm always prepared for a crisis and have learned how to manage the unexpected fairly well.

I'm far more like my father, who passed away in 2012. He was action oriented and determined to know people by listening as intently as he could and making decisions after receiving all the contextual information he could get. He also wasn't afraid to get his hands dirty or to piss off friends. He didn't like doing the latter, but if it meant doing what was right, he would do the difficult thing.

My dad was big on the concept of just showing up, even when you don't know what to do. That's directly related to my work in grief counseling. When my brothers and I were little, we went to a funeral for one of his best friends. He went early to stand with family, and we came later, closer to the start of service, and stood in the line to walk up to the open casket. We were afraid and uncomfortable and didn't know what to say. My father saw this and knew we were considering just taking our seats. He left his place, walked to us, and told us, "I know you're afraid, but don't ever let your fear stand in your way of doing the right thing. We always show up for people."

He modeled that for us. He was deliberate in delivering his message, and we followed him because we trusted that was the right thing to do. We always felt better about doing things that were difficult. That's the way I am. I don't always know what to say or do, but I always know to show up, to listen and to pay attention to what people need and what they are asking for.

Q. Given your years at SI, what do you see as the core strengths of the school?

A. Our faculty and staff are incredibly bright and actively involved, and we have remarkable students. When I served as dean along with Bill Gotch, we would bring our students to meet with students from other schools in the league to talk about sportsmanship. They would gather in groups to develop ideas while the deans went into another room to hold our meeting. When we returned, the kids would report back to us.

Each time, for nine years in a row, SI students would be the ones reporting for their groups. Either they would be voted to report or they volunteered to represent their groups. They were articulate, thoughtful leaders. I was so proud of that. I know that's a credit to our teachers.

There's something about an SI kid — that intangible thing we call leadership. It's not false bravado but about having the confidence and the skills to get the job done. When others dig in their heels or hesitate, our students step up. When I

compared them to students from other great schools, our students stood out. I love that about SI.

I also love the unique balance we offer as a Jesuit school. We pay attention not just to academics but also to co-curricular and spiritual formation of students.

Q. We're in the midst of an accreditation process that includes a self-study where we identify areas of growth. Where would you like to see SI grow in the coming years?

A. The biggest area of growth is around wellness. I've been passionate about wellness since I came here, and I devoted myself full-time to that topic during my sabbatical in 2008. I visited other schools to research wellness programs and sought out information on how schools support students psychologically and emotionally.

I still think that's an area we can pay attention to, especially as mental health issues, such as anxiety and depression, are reaching crisis levels across the nation. About a third of all teens cope with these disorders. I want SI to be on the front end of discovering how to help students socially and emotionally navigate their way through high school.

Q. SI is located in one of the most expensive cities in which to live. Can you speak to the challenges this entails? Are we paying teachers enough to live in San Francisco?

A. We all know teachers don't teach for the money. Coaches, too, don't coach for the money. Thanks to our Business Office staff and their willingness to do research, we know we offer a competitive salary and benefits package at SI.

We are currently looking at ways to help teachers with housing loans and student loans. More than anything, we want our teachers and coaches to feel that they work in a great place among tremendous colleagues and administrators who support them. We want them to love the kids because, ultimately, that's what keeps people coming back year after year.

Q. SI will soon launch a new campaign to replace McGucken Hall with a new learning commons. Why is this an important project for the school? How will it, along with the Classroom of the Future project, reshape the way students learn?

A. The new learning complex is very exciting! It's hard to believe that we have the opportunity to improve upon our existing school site and more than double the space, not to mention that it's needed and that we are outgrowing our current facilities.

The new building will be broken up into learning lofts, which will provide us with both classroom

space and open spaces where students will be able to approach learning in new and innovative ways with virtually limitless possibilities. We've been touring spaces like Google and other learning facilities to get ideas. All I can say is that it's very exciting, and I can't wait.

Q. What do you want to tell SI families about the kind of person you are?

A. I want SI families to know that I'm the kind of person who takes my job very seriously, yet I don't take myself very seriously. I want to do things right the first time, but I'm not afraid to make a mistake. I model that for students. I tell them to work hard and play hard and pick themselves up when they fall. I encourage them to ask for help when they need it and show up for others when they need you.

My connection with students is my lifeblood. I want students to grow through their experience of SI by allowing themselves to be challenged while also feeling supported, encouraged and loved. I want them to experience disappointment and demonstrate an ability to bounce back from it. I want students to feel confident enough to make their own decisions and push beyond their limits, knowing that we are here to help buffer any possible fall from grace. I want families to know that their children, among all that I'll have to think about as Principal, will remain my top priority. ∞



Photos by Carlos Gazulla.

Help future generations of students join our family.



We thank those alumni, parents and friends who have joined the Father Harry Carlin Heritage Society by remembering SI in their estate plans. Anyone who has made a legacy gift to SI, such as naming SI as a beneficiary in a will or trust or of a retirement plan or other account (regardless of the size of the gift), is welcome to join this special group. We especially welcome our newest members whose names are bolded.

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CHUCK NAN '79 CREATES THE LOUIS NAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WITH A LEGACY GIFT

When he graduated with his degree in finance in 1983 from LMU, Chuck Nan '79 became the first person in his family to finish four years of college.

Three years later, his father, Louis, died of multiple myeloma at the age of 52.

To honor his father's memory and to thank him for inspiring his life and sending him to two great Jesuit schools, Chuck created the Louis Nan Memorial Scholarship, which will be fully funded upon the passing of both Chuck and his wife, Holly.

Both made provisions in their estate plans to ensure that Louis would be honored and that future generations of SI students will have a chance for the same kind of excellent Jesuit education that Chuck enjoyed during his high school years.

That gift also places both Chuck and Holly in SI's Fr. Carlin Heritage Society. They hope that their example will inspire other Ignatians to also join by making provision for the school in their estate plans.

"Frankly, there's not enough of this kind of participation," Chuck noted. "There are so many successful people out there in the SI family who have the means to do this. They don't have to leave behind a fully endowed scholarship. The key thing is not to think about yourself but to consider the loved ones who helped you get to where you are today. Maybe it's a parent or an SI coach or teacher,

such as John Becker, S.J., who inspired in me a love for writing."

For Chuck, however, it was his father who was the primary inspiration. Louis, the son of Italian immigrants, was 16 when his father died. "He only had the benefit of a public school education and worked for the telephone company all his life."

Louis and his wife, Marguerite, made their home on the border of the Excelsior and Mission Districts in San Francisco and sent their son to Mater Dolorosa in South San Francisco. "Fortunately, the Barisone family lived across the street from us, and all their sons went to SI. That's how my father learned about SI, and he set his sights on having me go the best Catholic school in the city."

Louis, Chuck added, "knew the value of Jesuit education and was proud when his son joined a CLC, the Spirit Club and the Military Club with Col. Vern Gilbert. I was also a terrible athlete, so I served as the announcer for our home basketball and football games. My parents never missed a game, even though I wasn't on the field or on the court. They were proud of me for what I did and always supported me."

Chuck described his father as "having a large heart. He was a simple man living a simple life. He didn't try to keep up with the Joneses. He didn't care about driving a fancy car or living in a fancy home. For him, the nuclear family mattered, as did his faith. Then, just as he was about to take an early retirement, he was diagnosed with cancer at 49 and died at 52."

The Louis Nan Memorial Scholarship will be given to a student who mirrors these values, said Chuck. "I hope it will assist students in achieving their academic, social and co-curricular goals at SI and support those with an eye to continuing at the collegiate level."

For Chuck, the scholarship, too, is an expression of his own faith. "I want it to be in concert with the spirit and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, with Christianity and with Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. That's the scholarship to me."



Because Louis was a proponent of science and math, Chuck hopes the scholarship goes to a student who has had a 3.5 GPA or higher for two years in grade school or at SI and "who exhibits an interest in math and science as well as clubs and volunteer work. My wife and I want the students who benefit from the scholarship to be well-rounded."

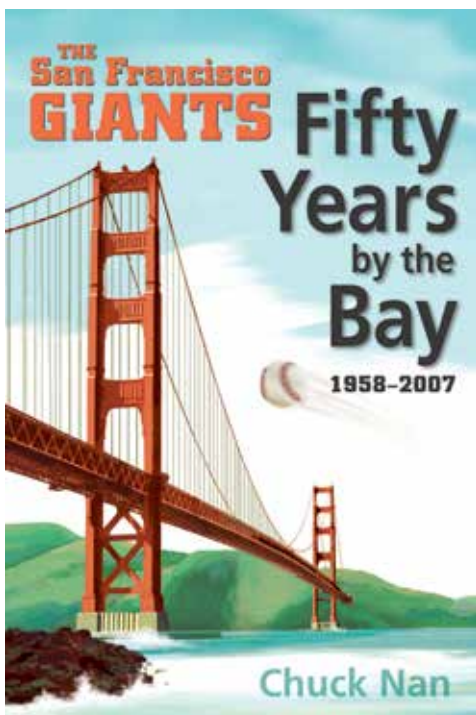
Getting started was easy for Chuck. "I had this idea for several years before I shared it with my wife and mother. Then I spoke with Joe Vollert '84, SI's vice president for advancement. The next thing I know, my name appeared in *Genesis*."

While living in the Bay Area, Chuck pursued sports journalism and wrote a history of the San Francisco Giants. He also wrote stories for *Genesis*, which he continues to do from his new home in Southern California, where he moved several years ago with his wife. Most recently, he wrote about several grads and coaches honored by community organizations, including Bob Drucker '58, whom Chuck nominated for the Dante Benedetti Trophy, given by the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club last May. He currently writes for Cal-Hi Sports and serves as a statistician for Santa Margarita Catholic High School.

If you would like to learn more about the estate planning process or how to join the Carlin Society, contact SI Planned Giving Coordinator Annie Reilly at (415) 731-7500, ext. 5122, and at areilly@siprep.org.

ABOVE: Chuck Nan and his wife, Holly.

LEFT: Chuck's book, published in 2007, celebrates the team that he loves.



FATHERS' CLUB AUCTION GETS ITS SHINE ON WITH STRICTLY HARDLY RED & BLUEGRASS THEME

Matt Niehaus envisioned Strictly Hardly Red & Bluegrass — the March 2nd Fathers' Club auction — as a tribute to his homes, both old and new.

Niehaus, who served as auction chairman, grew up in Kentucky, where he first heard bluegrass music. His love of Americana continued when he moved with his family to Virginia. As an adult, Niehaus has made his home in San Francisco with his wife, Erin, reconnecting with the music he loved at the city's Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival, a gift of the late Warren Hellman to the people of San Francisco.

"The Strictly Hardly theme was, in a much smaller way, my gift to the SI community," said Niehaus. "It was a way for me to share the music I love with SI, to bring the community closer together with the help of great music, good whiskey and some fun sprinkled in."

Guests arriving at the sold-out auction were greeted by three bands and a harmonica player, all playing bluegrass music in a school transformed into a festival venue, complete with multiple stages, a grass carpet underfoot, cyclone fencing, Porta Potties and posters from past concerts. Niehaus even brought in two mechanical bulls for guests to ride alongside a whiskey tasting area.

"Gary Brickley '71, who created the décor and the stage, is the secret to making something on this scale happen," said Niehaus. "Those new to our auction and even a few veterans were blown away by what we pulled off." Guests were also impressed by the \$900,000 Niehaus and his two vice-chairs — Stephen Wynne '90 and Brian Heafey '86 — netted for SI's scholarship fund.

The event included a special celebration of SI Principal Patrick Ruff, who will leave SI at the end of June after 11 years helming the school. "We will miss Patrick greatly. He cares about the kids individually and collectively, and they feel his care and concern," said Niehaus. "My two boys know that Patrick has their back and wants the best for them — a critical quality in a leader of young men and women."

The auction garnered donations of \$265,000 to the Patrick Ruff Scholarship. "The SI Fathers' Club wanted to honor Patrick in a public

way and send him off with gratitude for all he has done for our kids and many others," added Niehaus. "I hope the contributions to the scholarship continue, as we'd love to see it keep growing." Donations can be made at www.siprep.org/patrick.

Niehaus also thanked Events Coordinator Tricia Brown, whom he called "a tireless worker on our behalf," and Director of Communications Tom Murphy, "a new member of the team who got into the bluegrass spirit and helped us build awareness." He also praised Food Services Director Rick Yang and his entire staff, "who did their usual top-notch job."

Niehaus attributed the auction's success to his vice-chairs and a core team of 25 dads "who brought their wide range of talents and boundless enthusiasm. Our auction committee was truly fantastic and fun-loving. I knew that if we had good fun planning the event, then it would be a success. We enjoyed working together so much that I wouldn't even call it work."

He also singled out last year's auction chairman, Dave Hollister, who helped secure the 61-story high Ohana Floor at the Salesforce Tower for the Chairman's Circle thank-you party on March 30. "As chair emeritus, Dave, by all rights, could have taken a break after working so hard last year. But he did so much to ensure our success. Dave was a great resource to our committee as well as a friend and supporter to me."

Auction items included four Goldendoodle puppies that generated equal parts affection and fervent bidding as well as a VIP concert experience with Nick Miller '08, who goes by the stage name Illenium. "We were blessed by the generosity of current and former parents as well as alumni and friends who were eager to help when asked. That speaks volumes about SI's reputation and the quality of the community."

Strictly Hardly Red & Bluegrass had a tagline — Get Your Shine On, Niehaus added, "which Urban Dictionary defines as exceeding the expectations of one's peers in a public setting. So many of the SI faithful most certainly got their shine on that Saturday." ∞



LEFT & ABOVE: SI Principal Patrick Ruff received a standing ovation for his leadership at SI these past 11 years.
RIGHT: Auction chair Matt Niehaus and his co-chair Steve Wynne '90.



IGNITE THE FIRE WITHIN: THE CREATIVE SPARK

When St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote to Jesuits who were leaving for far-off missions or who were already abroad, he would end his letters with these words: *ite, inflammate omnia* — go and set the world on fire. Perhaps he had the image of Pentecost in mind and hoped his brother priests would be inspired by the Holy Spirit to evangelize the world.

This year, SI's theme, "Ignite the Fire Within," echoes Ignatius' call, and for this and the next issue,

we will offer stories of graduates whose lives are marked by a creative spark. These artists, actors, dancers and poets — and, as will be featured in the summer *Genesis*, photographers — do more than entertain; they teach lessons, build community and shed light on what is sometimes overlooked.

I hope their stories inspire you to share your creative side with the world or to be open to the stories, images and ideas these grads are sharing with us. — *Paul Totah '75*

Pixar's Rosana Sullivan '02 Creates an Unlikely Friendship Between a Pit Bull and a Kitten With *Kitbull*



ABOVE: Rosana Sullivan '02 was given six months to create *Kitbull*. She has worked on many of Pixar's films, including *Coco*, *Incredibles 2* and *Monsters University*. Photo by Deborah Coleman / Pixar.

Pixar artist Rosana Sullivan '02 attributes some of the success of her animated short, *Kitbull*, to growing up in a unique time and place — San Francisco's Mission District, where the film is set, and where she used to hop on a bus to school in the days before smart phones were invented.

"I loved drawing ever since I can remember," said Sullivan at Pixar's Emeryville headquarters. "I always took a sketchbook with me wherever I went and drew what I observed. I tell young people that if they ever want to work at a place like Pixar, then they need to draw nearly every second of their free time, just as I did. Thankfully, I didn't have a smart phone to distract me while riding on the bus."

What made *Kitbull* a success — with nearly 20 million YouTube views since its Feb. 18 release — has more to do with Sullivan's heart than her hand.

Her story involves an unlikely friendship between a stray black kitten and a pit bull whose owner uses it for dog fights. (You can see the story yourself at Pixar's SparkShorts YouTube channel.)

In a behind-the-scenes look at the 2D animated short (a departure from Pixar's mainly 3D offerings), Sullivan noted that she loves "watching cat videos in times of stress, and I wanted to draw a little kitten doing something silly and very catlike. At first, I just wanted to draw something that made me feel good and was fun. It evolved into something more personal to me. Growing up, I was always very sensitive and very shy and had trouble making connections and friendships."

Sullivan also chose to tell a story about these animals "to explore ideas behind taboos and prejudice. People are afraid of black cats and pit bulls, but these two animals learn to overcome their own walls to form a relationship."

The project also let Sullivan tap into an early dream she had of becoming a veterinarian. "I've always been interested in animal welfare in hopes of preventing animal cruelty. I've followed news about pit bulls and know that there's no easy answer to the issues surrounding them. They have the capacity to kill but can be very sweet. If a pit bull and a kitten can learn to love each other and have a connection, then what can that mean for us in our own humanity?"

Sullivan joined Pixar in 2010 as an intern and was hired full time the following year. Since then, she has drawn for *The Good Dinosaur*, *Coco*, *Incredibles 2* and *Monsters University*.

Her work on *Kitbull* happened thanks to a program Pixar offers called SparkShorts that allows any employee to apply to take six months off to work on a short project.

"We want to discover that new creative spark, and this allows us to think about the future storytellers, directors and producers," said Lindsey Collins, vice president of development and new media for Pixar-Disney. Those shorts now include *Smash and Grab* and *Purl* as well as *Kitbull*, with more slated to join the lineup on Disney Plus, the company's upcoming streaming service.



The mother of a son about to turn 2, Sullivan wasn't able to fly to LA to see *Kitbull* on the big screen when it appeared at the El Capitan Theatre for a week in January along with the other two SparkShorts, but she has viewed every one of the more than 46,000 comments posted on YouTube by the story's fans. "What's always so touching is when I read about people's own experience with their pets."

She was pleased that SFGate featured her film, given its setting in the Mission District. Sullivan grew up on 24th and Shotwell and learned to love "everything about the Mission, including the diverse cultures and the Bohemian spirit of the place. I even love the grittiness of it and thought it would be a great location."

Even though she lives in Oakland, she has fond memories of her time in San Francisco and as a student at SI in Katie Wolf's art class. "She made me feel safe and welcome," said Sullivan. "She was confident and bold and stood out as someone passionate about art. She became a role model for me of what an artist can be."

As for SI, she is grateful to the school for filling her with "a lovely spirit of compassion and camaraderie. I loved my time at SI, especially the Kairos retreat. It taught me empathy and helped break down the assumptions you have about people. I was blown away by that."

Sullivan has another project due out in April, a book published by Disney (which owns Pixar), called *Mommy Sayang*. The title of the book uses a Malaysian term, as Sullivan's mother comes from Malaysia, and it tells the story of a girl coping with her mother's illness, something inspired by Sullivan's own life, as her mother fell ill when Sullivan was young. "When you are young, you see your parents as superheroes, and when they become sick and vulnerable, you feel helpless as a child. My book ends on a positive note to give hope to children who might be facing the same situation at home." ∞



ABOVE: A scene from *Kitbull*, set in San Francisco's Mission District. Courtesy Pixar Animation Studios.

LEFT: Outside Pixar's Emeryville headquarters.



BELOW: Characters from *The Incredibles* greet visitors as they enter Pixar.

Agnes Pierscieniak '97 Helps People Who Crave Artistic Expression With Innovative Workshops

Agnieszka Pierscieniak '97 lives in the intersection of art, graphic design and architecture, as her various careers and studies have helped her succeed in each of these arenas.

Her greatest satisfaction, though, is sharing this unique space with others. To do that, she has created

Crave Workshops and has offered nearly 20 of them thus far. About a dozen or so strangers gather and make art for several hours. They leave having made new friends and having created something new and useful to take home with them. Along the way, they learn about the history of a particular art form and get hands-on training from Agnes — as she was known at SI and to most of her friends.

In the two decades following her high school graduation, Pierscieniak has lived and worked in community with artists in India, Japan, Mexico and Portugal. She has also worked for architectural and graphic design firms, done freelance work, designed online greeting cards and helped Harvard-Westlake School with their alumni magazine and in-house graphics.

That she stresses the power of storytelling in all she does shouldn't be surprising given the remarkable story of her early years.

A native of communist Poland, Pierscieniak, as a child, fled her homeland with her parents and older brother. Her father had worked at a Polish TV station, and her mother was employed by a computer company. They

boarded a bus with their children to seek asylum in Germany, leaving behind their apartment and all other possessions.

After a year in Germany, they were welcomed by the U.S., where they rebuilt their careers. Her father eventually found work at SFSU's broadcast department and her mother at tech companies.

Whenever her grandmother came to Pierscieniak's San Francisco home to visit, she would teach Agnes to paint watercolors. "When I got to SI, I wanted to make things by hand, as my grandmother instilled that passion in me."

Pierscieniak took several classes from Katie Wolf as well as classes from the Academy of Art and the San Francisco Art Institute. Her success at SI garnered for her both the Fine Arts and English Awards and a full tuition Trustee Scholarship to USC, where she chose to study architecture, thinking that was a safe way to earn a living as an artist.

However, after receiving her bachelor of architecture degree from USC, where she graduated cum laude, and working for several companies, she decided to go to the Rhode Island School of Design for an MFA in graphic design. "I wanted a job that was more about helping people achieve tangible goals. I found that doing a wall mural and creating way-finding graphics for a children's hospital was more fun than drawing ADA bathrooms."

Her time at RISD helped her connect the dots among architecture, art and graphic design. "I saw a common path that involved making things by hand, experimenting and showing my voice through my artwork. I'd rather make something by hand than design on a computer just to solve a problem. I enjoy the time and effort as there shouldn't be shortcuts in graphic design."

In her second year at RISD, she was honored by the school with a Graduate Award of Excellence, and her success led to a job offer with LA's Sussman/Prezja — the firm that did the branding for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. "I found kindred spirits there — folks who were into color and pattern."

She left for another firm — Rios Clementi Hale Studios/Not Neutral, where she created designs for environments and products in California colors of hot pink and orange. After several years of full-time employment, Agnes started doing freelance work, including branding restaurants owned by the Calvo-Perez family — Puerto 27, Pasion and Fresca. She also began teaching graphic design at local universities, including her alma mater, USC, and Otis College of Design.

She nurtured her passion to travel to art-centered destinations with a trip to Morocco in 2012. That planted the seed for what would eventually lead her to create Crave Workshops. Upon returning, she signed on as the art director for an Evite subsidiary, Postmark. After that position, she took a job helping the global architectural firm CRTKL market their projects in Asia, including a condo in the Philippines.

"That's where the power of storytelling comes in," said Pierscieniak. "Everything you create needs to be connected and tell a consistent story, whether it's a restaurant or a condo and hotel complex. You need to use a visual language to create a mood. For the high rise we built in Manila, I created a marketing plan that





showed a young woman living her life throughout a typical day. I wanted that material to be vibrant and fun and aimed at younger potential buyers.”

In 2015, Pierscieniak stepped back from a series of positions filled with long hours and intense work. She traveled to Spain and India, where she found her joy not in museum hopping but in staying with local artists and learning art forms such as block printing. “Travel makes more sense if I can talk to people, take art and absorb a place.”

Before translating that experience into her Crave Workshops, she took a job at Gensler and, later, at Harvard-Westlake as its creative director. She also traveled to Japan and Mexico, where she continued finding community living and training with local artists. She learned Shibori (a traditional Japanese textile art, creating patterns from resist methods and indigo) from a master craftsman in the outskirts of Tokyo and traditional backstrap weaving from Indigenous tribes outside of Oaxaca. “I realized I didn’t want to do this just once a year, so I asked myself how I could create something that was part of my daily life in LA.”

That gave birth to her first Crave Workshop in 2017 in a friend’s Venice Beach backyard. She now offers them to larger groups and to companies as a way to create team building, and she rented studio space in Hawthorne to

experiment with new art forms and to create her own work. She hosts monthly workshops through Airbnb Experiences and in partnership with local shops.

For Pierscieniak, these events are unique ways of creating community. “I’m a bit shy. For me, art is the way I get to know people. I talk to someone next to me for an hour and then make a friend for life. Creating community is important, and how you create it is just as important. By making art together, everyone feels included.”

In 2019, Agnes has expanded her corporate workshops and private events and is now offering special classes to tech firms, design teams and innovative companies to inspire their teams with hands-on making, which she calls “a powerful tool for expanding their creative brains, inspiring new approaches to problem solving and building teamwork.”

By bringing out your inner artist, Pierscieniak adds, “we learn that we are more similar than we think. Art can empower us all. I invited my parents to do a Crave Workshop with me. Even though they are creative people, they have never made anything by hand. They joined a group of Airbnb Experience participants who came for the day, and I shared my love of art with them and with my parents. This was a powerful moment for me, as two engineers who had never made anything by hand experimented with new textile techniques while making art together.”

ABOVE: Agnes Pierscieniak at a Crave Workshop, where she helps budding artists build community and learn new art techniques.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Agnes took a modern approach to a traditional Japanese kimono printing technique called Katazome. Artisans cut patterns on rice paper stencils and then print with indigo in a resist dyeing technique. Agnes reinterprets the Japanese katazome designs in a bold geometric pattern using indigo dye. For more information, go to craveworkshops.com and cravecreativity.com.

Francis Jue '81 Follows his Tour de Force Performance in *Soft Power* at The Curran with a Turn in *King Of The Yees*



Francis Jue '81, who ranks among the most successful of SI's alumni actors, has performed numerous roles on stage, screen and TV — everything from Sebastian in the stage production of *The Little Mermaid* and the title character of *M. Butterfly* to the Chinese foreign minister on CBS TV's *Madam Secretary*.

He has picked up a host of awards along the way, including the Obie Award and the Lortel Award for his role in *Yellow Face*, the Dramalogue Award for his performance in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, the Eliot Norton Award for his work in *Miss Saigon* and, most recently, the best featured actor award March 25 from the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle for his role in David Henry Hwang's *Soft Power* at The Curran last summer.

Jue gladly goes where his theatre work takes him; he has performed on and off-Broadway, at The Muny in St. Louis and at dozens of other regional companies around the country. He came back this January to play the character of Larry in *King of the Yees* at the San Francisco Playhouse.

"I've chosen to be a nomad in order to do the work," he noted. "I can't just rely on the work near where I live. Also, because I like to be challenged in new ways, I go where those challenges are." His return to San Francisco is significant because he got his start in acting at SI watching his brother perform in *The King and I* before

auditioning for roles himself. He also learned that his grandfather worked as a filmmaker both in China and in the U.S. before co-owning The Palace Theatre in the city.

"Growing up, I didn't know much about his career," said Jue. "Only later did I learn that he was a really big deal in Chinese cinema."

Despite these roots, Jue hesitated taking to the stage. "I was a shy, sensitive, serious kid who couldn't talk to other people. Still, deep down inside, I knew that I was a performer by nature. Among my earliest memories is wanting to be Elvis. If you had seen this underweight, pimply little Chinese kid, you'd know how funny that was."

Watching stories on TV captivated him, as did attending Mass and seeing Catholic rituals. "I always saw performance as a kind of sacred contract. Telling stories seemed more real than real life, because in stories, you are able to express yourself with power. When I saw my brother in *The King and I*, I was so moved that he was playing someone else. I could relate to this show even though there weren't many Asians in it. As far as I was concerned, they were all Siamese. I saw people who could transform themselves. I decided then that I wanted to do what they were doing."

When he wasn't cast in the first show he auditioned for, Jue joined the backstage crew and began his appreciation "of the craft of the theatre. If there's one thing I learned from Peter Devine '66, it's that theatre involves work, and I learned to enjoy the process of everything that goes into a show, from analyzing a script to the hard work of telling a story with honesty. That has helped me so much in my career, and I'm grateful to SI and to Peter for preparing me for this life."

Devine did cast Jue in *My Fair Lady* as a busker. "I learned how to sing and dance for the role and to speak with a posh accent. I'll never forget the rehearsal when some of the actors didn't know what they were doing. They told Mr. Devine that they would fake it. He whipped around and reminded us all what a big responsibility we had. If we didn't know something, we were to tell him and he would teach us. That impressed me. Ever since then, being on stage has been, for me, about being honest and true so that I can accurately explore the human condition and express a part of it."

Looking back on his education, Jue noted that he loved his time at SI, "as it gave me a grounding in a life dedicated to service, to values and to making meaning."

He had a different experience as a student at Yale, where he encountered people who "flat out told me that I was only there because of affirmative action. But I learned how to fight back and express my own opinions. I came out of the closet, and that gave me confidence to succeed."

At Yale, he helped to found the gay-straight alliance and joined the anti-apartheid movement. When he turned 20, he took a year off school after being asked to audition for *Pacific Overtures* for the role of the Boy in the Tree. "I was making money for the first time while also

being introduced to the world of professional theatre and other Asian-American actors who were making it in this business. Working with Steve Sondheim and John Weidman, two of the creators of *Pacific Overtures*, I saw how hard they worked to put a show together in order to elicit an emotional response from an audience.”

When the show closed, Jue did temp work to make enough money to finish Yale. After earning his bachelor’s degree, he came home to work for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation while still performing when his work day ended. His second big break came when he got a call to audition as an understudy for *M. Butterfly* in New York.

“The casting director gave me a ton of notes to work on, and she also convinced the producer Stuart Ostrow to fly me to New York and put me up in a hotel for a night so that I could attend the callback. When I walked into the Eugene O’Neill Theatre to audition, I thought this would be my one and only time on a Broadway stage, so I had better enjoy it. The casting director thanked me for paying attention to her notes, and the next thing I knew, I joined the Broadway company of the show.”

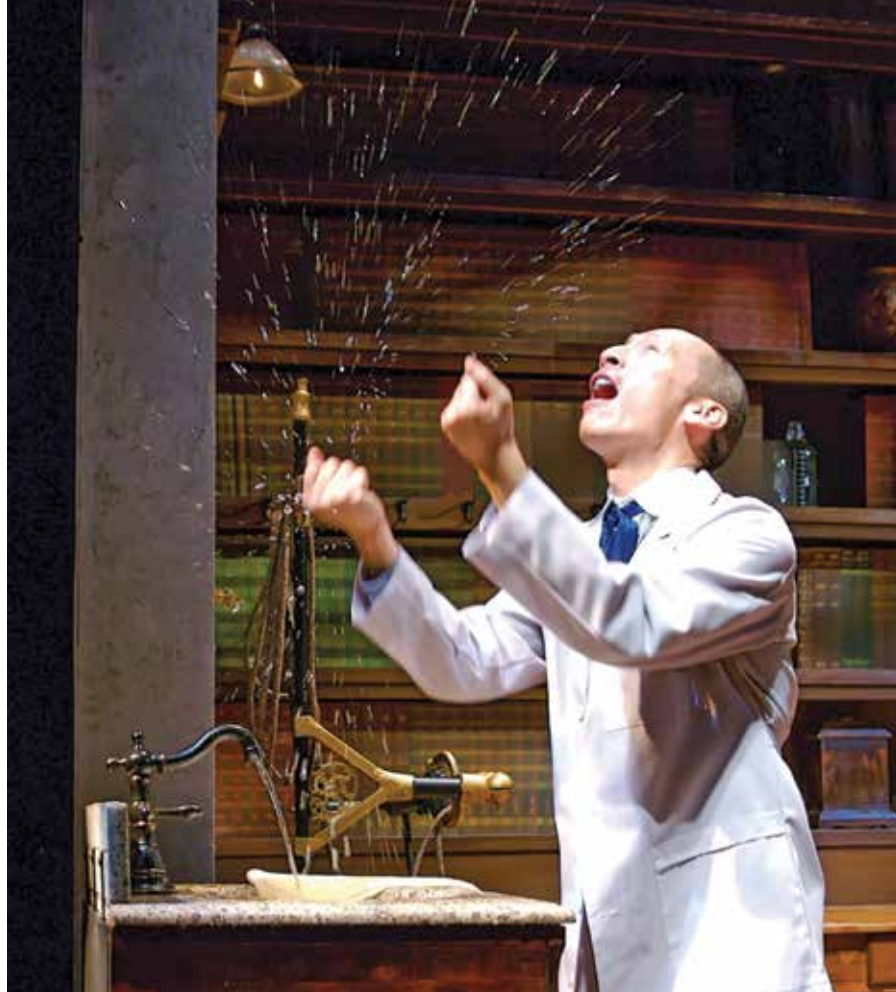
From that point in 1989, Jue has made a living as an actor, including performing the lead role in the second national tour of *M. Butterfly*. He loved working with playwright David Henry Hwang, the man who also authored *Soft Power*, *Yellow Face* and *Kung Fu*, pieces that also show up on Jue’s credits.

“I first met David in 1989 when I auditioned for *M. Butterfly*, and after all these years, I still have trouble putting a sentence together in front of him, as I admire him so much. I get his use of language, his sense of humor and the things he writes about. I just feel as if they are coming out of my own soul.”

Later, he originated the role of Bun Foo in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, first at the La Jolla Playhouse and then on Broadway, and he has spent much of his career thinking about the way Asians and Asian-Americans are represented on the stage and screen.

“There are many people who feel like outsiders in their own country, especially right now, when lines are being drawn about what is the real America, what makes America great and who deserves to be American. Others who are gay or who don’t fit the gender they were assigned at birth feel like outsiders, even in their own families. I’m grateful that I’m given the opportunity to respond to these issues in my work. That’s one of the obligations of theatre — to make the world a more understanding place by bringing strangers together to have a common experience, even if it’s just for one show. A work like *Soft Power* challenges people to re-examine their own beliefs and perspectives. Whether or not you agree with the show’s message, you are challenged to see how you define yourself and others.”

For Jue, a touchstone musical continues to be *The King and I* — the first musical that inspired him to be an actor and one that he starred in at The Muny. “Done well,



it is a revolutionary piece of theatre that discusses the colonial gaze and condescension in a compassionate way. Done badly, the show falls into all the prejudices and stereotypes that the play is trying to combat. It’s easy to fall into those traps and do the show in a sexist and racist way. What Hammerstein tried to do after World War II was show how we make up stories for ourselves in order to create the world we live in. I said no several times before agreeing to be in the play at The Muny, after the director and I agreed that the King should be portrayed with dignity and as a thinker and searcher, just as in the production I remembered at SI.”

When Jue agreed to play the King at The Muny, he became the first Asian-American actor to star in that role at that theatre. “Some who saw the show told me that watching it was the first time they realized that Anna had something to learn and not just the King.”

For all his performances, Jue sees a common strand. “Every piece involves the same craft. Whether I’m playing Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid* or a character in a Shakespearean tragedy, I begin by asking what the show means and what the playwright is trying to say. *The Little Mermaid* is a musical about a young woman who feels like an outsider in her own home. She knows she belongs somewhere else. We go to the show to see how her quest works out. As Sebastian, I explored how I fit into that story as a mentor, guardian and parental figure. What did I have to teach her? I have a responsibility to be both honest and vulnerable. Exposing yourself to the world can be a scary thing, but that’s also the joy of it all.”

ABOVE: Francis Jue ’81 performed in *In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)*, a 2009 work by Sarah Ruhl. Photo by John Groseclose.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Francis Jue is known for his iconic performances in *M. Butterfly* and *Pacific Overtures*. Photo by Laura Marie Duncan.

Joseph Patrick O'Malley '01 Honored for Kingly Cal Shakes Performance



ABOVE: Joseph Patrick O'Malley '01 in *The War of the Roses* at Cal Shakes as Henry VI (TOP) and as Hastings. His performance there earned him a nomination for a Theatre Bay Area Award. Photos by Jay Yamada / Cal Shakes.

Joseph Patrick O'Malley '01, years ago, made the leap from being an actor who supported himself with other jobs to someone who makes almost all of his living acting.

He starred as Adolph in August Strindberg's play *Creditors* at the Aurora Theatre in Berkeley in January and February. Before that, he performed in Cal Shakes' production of *War of the Roses*, which earned him a Theatre Bay Area Award nomination.

His path to the stage started when he was 12 while in the audience of *A Phantom of the Opera* at The Curran Theatre. "I managed to be sitting directly below the chandelier as it dropped and then swung toward the stage," he recalled. "It was my first taste of the largeness of the theatre. I had never seen anything like it before. I was overwhelmed by the idea that real people made this thing happen night after night."

At SI, O'Malley acted for Peter Devine '66. "Coach Kevin Quattrin '78 encouraged me to try out for freshman football, but I knew that wasn't the route for me, as I probably weighed 70 pounds then."

The year before his freshman year, he saw Adam Jacobs '97 — who went on to star in Disney's *Aladdin* on Broadway — when he performed in the SI production of *Carousel*, and that made him even more convinced that he belonged on stage. He spent a semester in ACT's Young Conservatory program and then spent much of his four years at SI in plays and musicals.

When Devine decided to retire as head of SI's theatre program in 1999, he staged *Man of La Mancha* and cast O'Malley as Sancho Panza. "That was a collective moment when all the actors felt as if they were part of something special and a large community. Peter was great about getting people to act who didn't see themselves as having a career in theatre."

O'Malley praised Devine for being "a great mentor. I doubt I would still be making a living in theatre if it weren't for the direction that Peter gave me."

He continued acting at Santa Clara University and managed to be a part of nearly every show staged in his four years there. "At SCU, I found the same ideas of Jesuit education that stressed lifelong learning and community. Acting there made me feel as if I could cultivate a long career based on relationships."

His work after college included a stint with Jonathan Moscone '82 at Cal Shakes. "There I met a local actor named Jim Carpenter. After one show, he took me aside and told me, 'You know, there are easier ways to make a living. You don't have to do this ... unless you have to.' That clarified for me my choice to live in the theatre. The fact that I have a choice makes doing this all the sweeter."

He then moved to Southern California to earn an MFA in acting from USC. In Los Angeles, he found a vibrant theatre community. "The talented actors I met were making exciting work from the ground up." Behind the scenes, he served as an assistant director for a production at Circle X Theatre that starred Laurie Metcalf and Jimmy Simpson. He also consulted on an Academy-Award-nominated short film called *Dekalb Elementary* and wrote and produced his own short film, which earned a showing at the Napa Valley Film Festival and the Best Comedy Short Film Award at the Central Florida Film Festival.

"Los Angeles, I came to find, is a city of creators as much as actors. In LA, you move forward by writing and producing your own material. I grew to love LA for this." He also acted in *Blood Ties*, a 2013 film starring Marion Cotillard, Clive Owen and Billy Crudup, who "was really welcoming when I came on in the last two days of shooting."

He moved back north in 2016 and now makes his home in Crockett, which he calls "the strangest corner of the Bay Area. It has charm for days." While there is enough regional theatre to keep him busy, he knows his home is the stage, "wherever the stage may be. I've come to realize that no one place is the end-all and be-all."

His work spans the Bay Area, and he has performed with the Marin Theatre Company in its original production of *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* and *A Number* — a story about clones — at the Aurora Theatre in Berkeley, as well as David Ives' *The Liar* at Center Rep. He also teaches theatre at Berkeley Rep and the Marin Theatre Company.

He finds in his students and fellow actors many who agree with him that "theatre is a shared moment unlike most other experiences. It forces us to be transparent as we stand up in front of people and allow ourselves to be seen. All of this creates a common connection between actors and audience. This is the same lesson of community I learned at SI. I'm just grateful that I get to make my living doing this." ∞

Chloe Treanor '22 on Dancing the Lead in *The Nutcracker*

Chloe Treanor '22, one of four girls who shared the role of young Clara in the San Francisco Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*, freely admits that she started taking dance classes as a 2-year-old under protest.

Today, however, she is grateful that her mother enrolled her at a San Mateo dance studio along with her sister, Sophie '20. "She was the one who had musicality and who was always good at dance," said Treanor. "Luckily, I grew more interested as time went by."

She also grew in talent and joined the San Francisco Ballet at 9, dancing in the company's production of *The Nutcracker* each year since then, including as the lead, Clara, starting in 2017.

Treanor performed from Dec. 12 to 29 last season, dancing in each show either as Clara or in other roles, including a dragonfly in a garden scene.

While neither of her parents is a dancer — her mother is an architect and her father works in high tech — she does have an aunt who performed in her youth.

Over the years, Treanor has advanced in the San Francisco Ballet, and she is currently at level five. Every year her teachers invite a handful of girls to audition for Clara and choose only four of the best. Each girl is then paired with an older ballerina who plays the grown-up Clara in the second half of Tchaikovsky's famous ballet. Last year, Treanor was paired with Maria Kochetkova, who also danced with the American Ballet Theatre of New York.

Treanor loves performing as Clara, both because she feels an "adrenaline rush from being on stage at the War Memorial Opera House dancing in front of such a large audience" and because she enjoys the camaraderie with the principal dancers.

She has also mastered the art of the fast change. At one point in the ballet, she has to rush off stage and change shoes, costume and hair with the help of three people in almost total darkness.

She also loves the challenge of acting while dancing. "The trick isn't just acting the role but truly being the role and feeling all the emotions authentically."

She has also danced for the San Francisco Ballet and the San Francisco Opera in *Coppélia*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote* and *Frankenstein*. In the latter, she played the younger version of the show's female lead.

To advance to the highest levels of the ballet school, Treanor will have to be invited by her instructors and be homeschooled, as dance practice takes place during the day. "I'm not sure I'm willing to leave SI, as my education comes first," said Treanor, who does hope to major in dance in college.

Currently, dance takes up most of her after-school life. For half the year, she rehearses between 4 and 7:30 p.m. five days a week, but as big shows grow close, that increases to six and sometimes seven days a week.

She admits that her friends find it "a little surreal that I'm with the San Francisco Ballet, but for me it feels like a normal life." One person who does understand Treanor's life is her SI classmate Sarah Golden, who is also part of her dance class. "It's nice to have a friend and classmate in my level," she added. ∞

ABOVE & LEFT: Chloe Treanor '22 as Clara in the San Francisco Ballet Company's 2018 production of *The Nutcracker*. Photos courtesy of the San Francisco Ballet.



Award-Winning Poet George Stanley '51 Recalls His Days as a Writer in the San Francisco Renaissance



George Stanley '51, a leading figure from the San Francisco Renaissance poetry movement, has received the sort of praise the poets long for, including, in 2006, the Shelley Memorial Award, which honors a living American poet selected “in reference to his or her genius or need.”

Of this award, one critic wrote that “George Stanley sounds like nobody else. This is true, and rare, and leaves unstated what makes his poetry seem deserving of this award, given ‘with reference to genius ... and need....’ Stanley’s capacity to grasp both the personal and the social, the local and the conceptual — and how they are always reaching for each other, dreaming of each other, failing each other and themselves — is surprising, moving, seductive.”

Such acclaim came from the success of his many collections of poetry though before the publication of his 2014 work, *North of California St.*, in which the long poem “San Francisco’s Gone” explores his roots growing up as a third-generation San Franciscan.

He is still very much a San Franciscan, even though he moved to Canada in the 1970s to work in Vancouver before leaving to teach at a British Columbia college. He recalls his SI classmates with fondness, and they speak of Stanley in the same way when they gather for their regular lunches at the Balboa Café and take pride in his accomplishments.

Born in the Haight Ashbury District, on Carl near Cole, Stanley was named after both his grandfather and father and grew up along with his younger brother, Gerald, who went on to become a priest before giving up his collar to serve as a social worker.

His parents sent him to SI “and that’s the greatest thing my parents gave me,” he noted. “My teachers gave me a wonderful education, including Edward Dermott Doyle, my junior-year English teacher, who required us all to write poems. Later, he took me aside to tell me I had talent.”

Stanley also credits Doyle for giving him the inspiration for the title for his *North of California Street* collection.

“He gave me a reason to travel to the northern part of San Francisco, beyond California Street, where I had rarely gone.”

Doyle taught his students about the history of San Francisco, which Stanley came to see “as a great world city, even though it’s not very large. I learned that we think of ourselves not primarily as Americans or Californians but as San Franciscans. For me, cable cars and Fisherman’s Wharf weren’t tourist attractions, which is, sadly, what the city eventually became. As a result, I went north of California Street and then went a great deal further north when I moved to Canada.”

His first move, though, was to college in Utah. “Then my parents read my letters to my brother, some of which dealt with theological ideas, including atheism. They thought I was endangering my brother’s faith, so they dragged me back to San Francisco.”

They also worried about their son’s homosexuality and made him see a psychiatrist. He enlisted in the Army to find an escape, “and now my brother and I have great conversations about philosophy and theology, and I’m no longer a danger to his faith!”

When his stint in the Army ended, he enrolled at Cal. “I left after a year because I didn’t want to stay in academics. I wanted to be a North Beach poet.”

Stanley found mentors on the North Beach scene in older poets, including Robert Duncan and Jack Spicer, and he regularly encountered Beat poets, such as Allen Ginsberg, Lew Welch and Joanne Kyger. He honed his own poetry while taking courses at San Francisco State toward his bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Stanley thinks of himself as a modernist poet, but he’s not a huge fan of “what passes these days for postmodernist poetry.”

He published small chapbooks before his 10 books, which include *Beyond Love; You (Poems 1957–67)*; *The Stick: Poems, 1969–73*; *Opening Day*; *Gentle Northern Summer*; *A Tall, Serious Girl: Selected Poems 1957–2000*; *Vancouver: A Poem*; *After Desire*; and *North of California St.*

Like most of the poets in the Bay Area, Stanley wrote poems that were both personal and political and took part in poetry readings related to the anti-war movement and civil rights.

In the early 1970s, he moved to Vancouver, where he worked on an underground newspaper and New Star Books before teaching in 1976 at Northwest Community College (now called Coast Mountain College), a 15-hour drive north of the border. He taught another 11 years at Capilano College before retiring.

ABOVE: George Stanley '51 now lives in Canada, but he spent his youth in San Francisco during the heady days of the Beats and the San Francisco Renaissance, reading his poems along with Robert Duncan and Jack Spicer. Photo by Mark Mushet.

When you read “San Francisco’s Gone” — which was first published in 1991 (and reprinted in his latest collection) and which he dedicated to his brother and to Doyle — you see both his talent and his fondness for a city that once was. In it, he writes the following in a section subtitled “**The White Cliffs of Doelger**”:

Henry J., developer, when land was free
& work was cheap (& the 17 car 5 cents)
financed and oversaw the building of
good houses in long, north-south blocks

on the Parkside slope. Retained damp sand
by concrete wall, water pipes
the City put in, big creosoted redwood poles,
crossarm’d, upheld the wires (as they still do).

Each bungalow, stucco’d painted white (a few
pink, yellow, green — the colors of frosted cakes)
looked down blacktop streets with white lines

to the Pacific. And the ocean breathed its condensation back
high as Twin Peaks over my head
all spring & early summer, mornings’ womb.

VERACRUZ **BY GEORGE STANLEY ’51**

In Veracruz, city of breezes & sailors & loud birds,
an old man, I walked the Malecón by the sea,

and I thought of my father, who when a young man
had walked the Malecón in Havana, dreaming of Brazil,

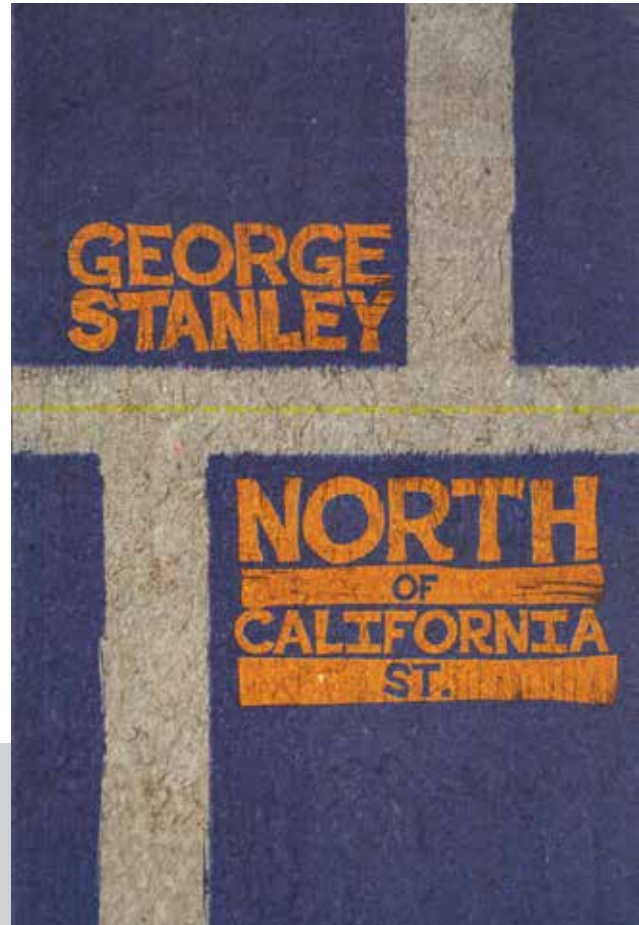
and I wished he had gone to Brazil
& learned magic,

and I wished my father had come back to San Francisco
armed with Brazilian magic, & that he had married
not my mother, but her brother, whom he truly loved.

I wish my father had, like Tiresias, changed himself into a woman,
& that he had been impregnated by my uncle, & given birth to me as a girl.

I wish that I had grown up in San Francisco as a girl,
a tall, serious girl,

& that eventually I had come to Veracruz,
& walking on the Malecón, I had met a sailor,
a Mexican sailor or a sailor from some other country— maybe a Brazilian sailor,
& that he had married me, & I had become pregnant by him,
so that I could give birth at last to my son—the boy I love. ∞



ABOVE: George Stanley's *North of California St.* was published in 2014 and is his most recent work. The poem “Veracruz,” published here, is included in the book.

SI READIES FOR THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION WITH THE CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE PROJECT

When you visit SI in the years to come, you won't find desks in neat rows with students staring at one blackboard.

You will find the results of SI's Classroom of the Future Project, one that seeks to find the best learning space to accommodate the best learning practices.

For Jennifer Gaspar-Santos, SI's director of educational technology and innovation, the work isn't so much about piloting new furniture but about examining the most effective teaching techniques that enhance learning. She took the lead on the project three years ago along with Pedro Cafasso, then the chair of the Language Department.

"Pedro and I ran a design thinking exercise with students," said Gaspar-Santos. "The goal of the design exercise was to incorporate student voice, and I was convinced a new learning space was a step towards re-imagining education at SI. I remember feeling excited. Then, one of the student participants stopped to tell us that while all the new furniture was great, 'at the end of the day, if the teachers keep teaching the same way, it doesn't matter. It's always about the teaching, not about the chairs.'"

For the past three years, Gaspar-Santos and other administrators have collected feedback from teachers and students. The school has settled on two classroom

models that the school will integrate throughout the campus.

One part of that feedback involved "open house" tours for teachers of each different model classroom and "student achievement results to see which classrooms were most conducive to student learning," said Assistant Principal for Academics Carole Nickolai.

This past February, the school decided to move forward with a re-design of six classrooms next year. "We hope to redesign an additional 10 classrooms each year for the next few years," Nickolai added.

The key to each of the prototype designs is flexibility. Each model "classroom of the future" uses chairs and tables on rollers to allow for quick reconfiguration to make group work and individual study more effective. Some rooms have white boards from floor to ceiling, and others have a mix of overhead projectors and large monitors.

In addition, some classes use soft seats and sofas to create comfortable reading spaces and reading nooks. Others use A-frame white boards on wheels to section off parts of the room to allow students to work on different projects with minimal distraction.

That conversation led to changes. Gaspar-Santos researched and visited innovative spaces at various local tech firms, start-ups and neighboring private schools. "Our team would roam the halls, look at catalogues, talk with their

facilities people and even sit in various chairs to get the feel and quality of the furniture. In retrospect, I realize that these visits should have been observations of teaching practices, not just observations of space."

She was impressed by observations made by Sandy Speicher, managing director of IDEO, an innovative design firm that focuses on applying design thinking in education. She stressed the role of teachers as designers. "Everything is designed, not just clothes or interiors," said Gaspar-Santos. "If you think about a school, there are so many things that have been designed, from the building and curriculum to interactions between teachers and students. This also includes the role of the teacher and educational standards. Once we recognize how much has been designed, we can actually start to design them better or more intentionally."

She stressed that teachers need time to share their insights and new approaches with one another. "It's designing space for teachers to reflect and examine the way space influences and even transforms the way they approach teaching and the way students learn. It's designing a culture where students feel heard."

She recommends that teachers ask each other three questions: "What new approaches to teaching have you tried in your space? What new insights or observations have you made? What are you excited to try next time?"

The next step involves incorporating even more student voices through surveys and asking students to rotate around classrooms "so each student can experience a different part of the Classroom of the Future from different vantage points."

The Classroom of the Future, ultimately, "is an investment in people and their professional growth. When we began the pilot, we sought out teachers by inviting all our faculty. By design, we wanted to assess teachers' willingness to try new teaching approaches and as well as their appetite for re-thinking how students learn. We then asked teachers to re-evaluate their teaching methods and engage in dialogue with their colleagues around how space influences their teaching philosophies and then share their plans for the future space. We knew that if teachers could imagine plans for a space that didn't even exist yet, then they were going to do something special."

At the end of the first semester, Gaspar-Santos heard teachers "noticing changes



in student engagement and a decreased level of distraction, which illustrates the connection teachers are drawing between pedagogy — teaching methodology — and space. As they reflect on their comparisons to the more traditional rooms, they have noticed that their lesson plans have changed, and they are more excited for the opportunities the Classroom of the Future affords them. Some teachers have noted that it has been challenging to shift between the classrooms of the future and the more traditional set up. Now that the teachers know what's possible, they prefer spaces that allow them flexibility to explore. While there is still a lot of work left to be done, this feedback is promising. We are just starting to examine the shift on teaching, not just the shift in space."

TEACHERS REFLECT ON THE CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE

Spanish teacher **Pedro Cafasso**, one of the leaders of the Classroom of the Future project, noted that "the thought of reimagining the learning space sprang from a very likely experience: a workshop for the burgeoning use of technology in the school. I had an eye-opening experience watching a teacher lead a session on adjustable classroom spaces and learning styles in a typical class. The overarching rationale involved student needs and student voices. If we are to prepare our students for what's ahead of them, we need to start with them."

For his colleague, Spanish teacher **Joe Bommarito**, the new furniture and technology have allowed students to be "more dynamic in terms of movement and communication. We get to spend more time in real dialogue and interaction with authentic resources by spending less time adjusting furniture and tech displays. Students seem to claim ownership over the space more than the old classroom. The immense increase in whiteboard space on several walls allows for more student movement, collaboration, writing and thinking."

Yolanda Medina Zevas '94, a 20-year veteran social science teacher, chose a design "to emphasize student-centered learning as well as movement and collaboration. It has allowed the students to interact with each other more easily and to share ideas in an efficient way. It's comfortable and welcoming, and students have used the couch seating, whiteboard space and movable chairs to



connect with each other and the content. I've enjoyed the challenge to think about my content and pedagogy in new ways."

Psychology teacher **Eric Castro '92** has had four different sets of classroom furniture over the 18 years he has taught at SI, "and a fifth set of furniture when I shared an English classroom on the second floor for two years. The three previous sets of furniture were an attempt to strike a balance between being in high school and teaching a college-level psychology course. I needed a degree of flexibility in seating arrangements that allowed for learning activities more commonly found in high school, such as debates and group work, yet conducive to college-like lectures.

"With the new single-piece desks on wheels, physically rearranging the room as we transition between learning activities is seamless. Further, having writing surfaces around three sides of the room and three separate projection sites allows for a much wider range of instructional strategies. The short version is that I love the new class setup that we have, and I feel it really helps students learn the material."

His fellow psychology teacher **Yosup Joo** is of the same mind. "Classrooms of the future are really the labs, workshops and collaboration spaces of the present. We are finally realizing that teaching (via lectures) is not the best form of learning (via doing). It is in doing and then reflecting on the doing that we learn. These classrooms make that much more possible, visible and communal."

Math teacher **Kevin Quattrin '78** finds that "students really enjoy the uniqueness of the math Classroom of the Future. SI should

be applauded for recognizing the different needs of different subjects and not making cookie-cutter rooms. It is not easy to manage the diversity, but it is so important."

Religious studies teacher **Patrick Lannan** added that "modular seating and multiple whiteboards have improved the quality of collaboration among students. The class feels more like a workshop now."

His colleague **Lisa Traum** noted that, "while there are different ways one can teach a religious studies course, I have found that students do their best when they have the opportunity to collaborate with each other verbally, visually and physically. My new classroom allows students that space. Thanks to more whiteboards to track ideas and multiple projectors that focus and direct attention, I am enjoying the most productive and efficient use of time I have ever spent in the classroom."

Assistant Principal for Academics **Carole Nickolai**, who has worked with Gaspar-Santos on this project for three years, has been impressed with how well the changes "have allowed teachers to create student-centered learning environments where our students can engage in deep, collaborative thinking. Students are learning skills that will help them succeed in college and also their future workplaces." ∞

ABOVE: Justin Sautter '19 and Keo Chui '18 from Katie O'Reilly's BC Calculus class last year in a classroom Katie shares with Kevin Quattrin '78.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Psychology teacher Yosup Joo and his students doing group work in a flexible space.



ABOVE: From left: Robert Weber, Jack Dyke, Jameson Bonthron, Blake Carter and Will Burkett.

SENIOR BOYS AND THEIR MOTHERS PART OF INAUGURAL SERVICE CORPS SAN FRANCISCO

When six SI senior boys were students in grade school, they wondered why their mothers and sisters had the opportunity to volunteer together on weekends through the National Charity League and they didn't.

When they had asked enough times, their mothers decided they had a point, and five years ago, these moms and sons began Service Corps SF, which now involves more than 250 mothers and sons.

Many of the boys in the group attend SI — including seniors Jameson Bonthron, Will Burkett, Robert Weber, Blake Carter, Jack Dyke and Johnny Dahlem — who were instrumental in launching the organization, along with John Pollak '18.

The volunteer work they do while in high school also counts for their community service hours, but that's only part of the reason they do this.

According to the organization's website, the group exists "to nurture the mother-son bond through the act of serving the San Francisco community together." They also hope to "inspire a legacy of social awareness and compassion, provide depth of support, empower young men with skills and confidence to lead" and far more.

Since its inception, the organization has provided a way for moms and sons to volunteer more than 10,000 hours to local agencies.

The program is especially important to these six seniors, as they were classmates and friends at Stuart Hall for Boys and were part of the inaugural group of 8th graders.

Dyke hoped that the club would form as he had an older sister at SI and knew how busy she was. "I knew I could use a structure to help with my service," he noted.

Carter learned the value of the organization "as it allowed us to interact with parts of the community that we normally don't get to see."

At Brady Therapeutic Riding in Golden Gate Park, he and the other boys, along with their mothers, worked with children struggling with a host of physical issues, such as cerebral palsy.

"I worked with one boy who didn't speak very much," said Bonthron. "I'm intimidated by horses, and to see a kid with disabilities excited to jump on a horse and ride by himself was incredible."

Bonthron also hoped that Service Corps SF would give him and his best friends from school a reason not to drift apart once they entered high school. "It ended up being a great way to maintain and build community," he added.

KRISTIN CHAI '19 TAKES PART IN NANOSCIENCE WORKSHOP AT UCLA



Imagine a future where doctors fight cancer using nanomagnets to detect malignant cells or where nanoparticles can be embedded into surfaces to make them self-cleaning using UV light.

You can also think big and foresee a time when carbon nanotube-based materials are used to create ultra-thin solar sails to carry spacecrafts to distant planets.

Chances are, if these come to pass, Kristin Chai '19 will have a hand in crafting big breakthroughs in small tech.

Chai, who plans to major in engineering at Tufts University, took part in a nanoscience workshop at UCLA this past summer led by university professors and graduate students.

She and other high school students in the program learned about nanotechnology as it applies to biotoxicity, biopolymers and super capacitors.

"We were able to put on bunny suits to go into the clean room and see the photolithography lab there," she noted.

The labs were hands on, and she learned how to design and craft circuit boards by using light to strip away layers of silicon. She saw, too, how nanoparticles could be used to help scabs form faster to heal wounds.

This wasn't Chai's first summer experience in engineering. In the summer of 2017, she spent a week at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's EPIC engineering camp to learn more about materials engineering. She also did labs on

a variety of engineering fields, including nanotechnology.

"Working with particles that small is like using oven mitts to assemble Legos," she noted. She did get to work on larger projects, including working with her team to assemble a cardboard boat, similar to SI's annual cardboard boat regatta put on by Mike Santos's engineering students.

Her team also used paper and duct tape to craft bumpers for small cars. "We used tiny crash-test dummies and saw which designs could generate the least amount of G-force."

In addition to her focus on engineering, Chai takes part in SI's dance workshop and is a skilled painter, helping with classes and camps at Burlingame's Art Attack. She is part of SI's InSignis team, leading retreats for underclassmen. She also participates in paint crew for the musicals and plays and is part of Music Ministry at SI for the Friday Morning Liturgies and other liturgical celebrations.

She isn't sure yet what she hopes to create in college and in her career, "but whatever I do, I want to use design and engineering to solve problems. I'm more about hands-on solutions than taking a theoretical approach to our world's problems." ∞

LEFT: Kristin Chai, who is also a skilled dancer, painter and singer, learned how to design circuit boards by using light to strip away layers of silicon.

Weber volunteered at Magic Zone, an afterschool and summer program held at the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center. There he met Devi Zinzuvadia '95, director of engagement for the organization, and loved working with her so much that he turned it into his Core Project at SI. "Those kids were wonderful and loved the haunted house we set up for Halloween."

At St. Anthony's Dining Room, Burkett waited tables and "spoke to some wonderful people, including the clients who were coming in for meals and volunteers who came from as far away as Texas."

Each of the boys also found value in working side by side with their mothers, and their mothers also loved volunteering alongside their sons. Jack's mother, Kelly Dyke, noted that volunteering with her son "levels the playing field. For a change, I can't do any better or worse than he can. We have to figure everything out together."

Mrs. Dyke has seen her son and the other boys "throw themselves into unfamiliar situations. I'm impressed with their willingness to put themselves out there."

Jack also learned some tricks from his mother. "At one agency, I was distributing new shoes to children while my mother was passing out new backpacks. She was good at asking the kids what

colors they liked and was genuinely excited to help them. I saw how happy it made them feel, and it was wonderful seeing how good she was at her job. I learned that it mattered to the people we helped that we were excited to be there too."

The organization starts taking applications for a 6-year commitment when boys are entering seventh grade, and up to 30 boys and their mothers are asked to join. Service Corps now has 226 mothers and sons. There are four student-led meetings each year, with the boys participating in all aspects, from set-up and acting as emcees to interviewing guest speakers and running activities. Each of those meetings also offers a chance for volunteer work, from helping with toy drives to baking lasagna for families staying at Hamilton House.

Members are required to attend three of those meetings and volunteer at least 15 hours a year, though most go well beyond that requirement. Mothers and sons can also log onto the organization's website to choose from a host of volunteer opportunities and get verification for their hours.

To learn more about the group, go to servicecorps-sf.org. ∞

RACQUEL RAMAYLA '19 DEVOTES HER SERVICE TO THE VIETNAMESE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Like most SI students, Racquel Ramayla '19 has done her required 100 hours of community service. Most of her work, however, “hasn’t been for service hours but to change her community for the better,” said counselor Anna Maria Vaccaro. “She breathes and is all about social justice.”

Ramayla’s resume is already impressive, beginning even before her freshman year at SI. Looking to make some money to help her parents afford tuition at both SI and at Riordan, where her brother goes to school, she applied to work at the Vietnamese Youth Development Center (VYDC) in the Tenderloin beginning in June 2015.

The center helps low-income youth and families from Southeast Asia by offering jobs, academic support, cultural guidance and language services.

The center is far from Ramayla’s home in Richmond, Calif., but it’s close to where both her parents work, and she commuted to her job during the summer — and to SI during the school year — with them.

Working as an intern, she helped with the center’s garden, planting herbs, kale and tomatoes, and she did a host of jobs preparing for events by researching data, creating elevator pitches and presentations and attending job fairs. She also handed out flyers, hung up posters, called volunteers and created maps of the city. She even produced a video filled with interviews to promote the center.

“My mother was at first afraid about me working in the Tenderloin,” said Ramayla. “I was frightened, too, by all the homeless people and the filth on the streets. I couldn’t believe we were so close to the touristy parts of the city.”

She came away from that job, one that she held until 2017, impressed by the work of the center to address the needs of Tenderloin residents who live in a food desert. “There are plenty of liquor stores, but hardly any place in the neighborhood sells fresh produce.”

Ramayla helped spread the word about the Tenderloin People’s Garden, run by the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation, and educated residents about the dangers of living in a place without a



single full-service grocery store. “That made me aware of the privilege I have being able to buy fresh produce any time I want near my home,” she noted.

The work proved so rewarding that she stayed with the organization through 2017, though at times, she found it “uncomfortable approaching business owners who wouldn’t speak to me” when she tried to hand out posters and flyers.

She also worked for the Mayor’s Youth Employment and Education Program doing office work and representing the VYDC at job fairs. She conducted surveys and collaborated with co-workers to create oral presentations. While learning job skills such as public speaking, she also networked and met other students of color.

“We drew from each other’s experiences and motivations, and I learned from one supervisor that my age shouldn’t stop me from trying to change the world for the better despite some adults who may dismiss me because of my youth.”

For most of her sophomore year, she also helped the VYDC educate residents about the dangers of tobacco through the center’s Tobacco Free Project. Her work ranged from more data gathering to picking cigarette butts off the street. “We worked also to keep teens from becoming addicted, and we educated them on the dangers of vaping, which many see as a gateway to tobacco.”

In her junior and senior years, she found a job with SF Youthworks assisting public defenders at the Hall of Justice to prepare herself for a career in law. “That’s where I learned that the government isn’t the enemy but a way to fix problems.” After law school, she hopes to help craft legislation “that will help create a more just society, one that serves marginalized communities better than we currently are doing.”

The Tenderloin taught Ramayla that addiction can create a dystopian neighborhood, but it also revealed to her “a diverse and beautiful world, one that taught me so much about myself by forcing me to step out of myself. The Tenderloin gave me my dream to study civil

law and helped me forge friendships with community members, so much so that I now worry about their well-being.”

For her community service work, Ramayla volunteered at the Bayanihan Community Center, which serves the Filipino community, researching the history of Filipinos in San Francisco. “That’s not a well-known or well-recorded history,” she added. “I helped rewrite some of the history and created a visual aid for an event.”

Those events, she added, “can be physically taxing, as most involved me walking around the neighborhood. The weeks of preparation could be tedious, and I would spend hours perfecting speeches and doing research. But the events themselves were my favorite things to do, because I was among the residents of the Tenderloin, and getting to know the community has been the favorite part of my work.”

ABOVE: Racquel Ramayla also worked with the Mayor’s Youth Employment and Education Program.

COLBY PAINE '19 HELPS TO SAVE THE LIVES OF TWO SWIMMERS

Larkspur resident Colby Paine '19, who helped in rescuing two swimmers in the waters off Rodeo Beach Jan. 3, calls the day “a perfect storm.” He means that in a good way, given the lucky breaks that came their way.

He and three friends from Marin — Wes Porter, a senior at Redwood High School; Jack Richardson, a junior at Sir Francis Drake High School; and Ray Holmberg, a junior at Drake — were headed to Ocean Beach to catch a few late afternoon waves.

“We decided at the last minute to surf the waters off Cron,” he noted, using the nickname he and his friends use for Rodeo Beach near Fort Cronkite.

By the time the sun had set, around 4:30 p.m., only Paine and Holmberg were still in the water. “That’s when we heard our friends on the shore shouting,” said Paine, who had trained and worked as a lifeguard along with his three friends starting when they were 11 in the Stinson Beach Junior Lifeguard program. The four stayed close by playing water polo on the same team — the SHAQ Water Polo Club, run by Sleepy Hollow Aquatics.

Paine and Holmberg, who were 50 yards off shore, then spied a pair of swimmers in their late 20s about 50 yards further out to sea. “It was still a little light, and we could see the swimmers struggling, even though they were wearing wetsuits,” said Paine. “The water was cold and the waves were big, and they were caught in a rip tide, with water swirling around them. We yelled at them to swim toward us, parallel to the beach, but they were unresponsive though still conscious. In our lifeguard training, we learned that this is called ‘active drowning.’ They were doing everything they could to stay vertical.”

The two paddled over to the swimmers along with two other surfers — Alex Newkirk and Kossen Miller — who aided in the rescue.

“We paddled right up to their faces, got off our boards, and encouraged the swimmers to grab ahold of the boards,” said Paine. He and the other surfers hopped back onto their board while the swimmers held onto the ankles of their rescuers, who paddled away from the current.

“As soon as we got out of the current, we paddled toward the beach. I had a moment of fear, as I realized this was farther out than I had been in a while.”



Halfway back, a large wave crashed over their heads, and the surfers and the swimmers had to separate to dive safely under the waves.

What followed was a stroke of luck. “We knew the waves were predicted to be huge, but we had 10 minutes of calm waters, which allowed us to return to the beach safely.”

The surfers and those they rescued then returned to their cars. “Just as we were changing, the first ambulance arrived. Our two buddies on the beach and many others had called 911,” said Paine. “A door opened, and a first-responder raced out wearing a wet suit. We had to chase him down to say that the swimmers were safe.”

Seven more first-responder vehicles arrived at the beach within minutes, including one driven by Fire Apparatus Engineer Rick Racich, who knew the surfers well and praised them for their heroics. “Without a doubt, these guys should be commended for their heroic efforts today,” said Racich.

The swimmers were taken by ambulance to a hospital, where they were later released. Life also returned to normal for Paine and the other rescuers until the story broke in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Marin Independent Journal*, a surf magazine and on CBS5.

“I was out doing something with my friends and had no cell service. As soon as I got to my phone, I saw dozens of texts from my mom’s friends congratulating me.”

Dean of Students Bill Gotch even made an announcement on the school’s PA system the first day back from Christmas break congratulating Paine, who didn’t hear it, as he was out surfing on Ocean Beach. “I have a resource period first thing in the morning, so I got to school after the announcement.”

When Paine isn’t surfing, he competes on SI’s Water Polo team, a sport he will continue in the fall at Bucknell University, where he will major in finance.

In the meantime, he’s enjoying a modicum of celebrity. “A local surf shop even gave us free beanies,” he added.

He does advise parents to enroll their children in swimming and water safety classes so they know what to do if they find themselves in dangerous waters. “No matter how competent you are, the ocean can be a tricky place to swim, given big waves, cold water and dangerous rip tides.”

ABOVE: Colby Paine, while surfing off Rodeo Beach, helped two struggling swimmers make it to shore.

DANIEL NG '20 HELPS OLD GLORY FLY PROUDLY THANKS TO EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Daniel Ng '20 channeled a little bit of Aretha Franklin's song "Respect" on his path to earning his Eagle Scout rank.

"Respect is one of the core values of Scouting," he noted. "I'm bothered a little when people just walk by the flag of our country without thinking too much about it, as that flag represents so much history and sacrifice."

That frustration inspired in him a bit of patriotism when he led members of Troop 101 in Burlingame to erect a flagpole at Coyote Point Recreation and Park for Camp Ta-Ki-Ma, a Cub Scout Day Camp.



He also channeled a little school spirit by purchasing the 15-foot aluminum flagpole from L. Ph. Bolander & Sons, owned by Larry Bolander Jr '89, whose family has owned the business for six generations.

He enlisted several classmates in his troop to help with the project including Cole Smolinski '22, Jordan Ansari '22 and the Mariani brothers — Matt '20, Luke '22 and Owen '22 — as well as several other scouts.

The boys worked on three separate weekends stretching from Dec. 23 to Feb. 17, when they finished the project.

Ng paid for the flagpole, flag and all the materials — about \$800 in all — using money he had raised from family and from his earnings as a lifeguard.

The boys took an existing split-rail fence and modified it to form a barrier around the flagpole, which they set into a 2-foot hole they had dug. "On the day we mixed and set the concrete, we had to be careful about how much water to add, as the site was threatened by rain and a potential concern for a high water table from the nearby harbor," said Ng, who also led the team to add recycled tree bark and gold-fines sand around the concrete base of the pole.

He thanked the rangers at Coyote Point, who provided trenching shovels, digging bars, post-hole diggers, gloves and wheelbarrows. He is especially thankful for Ranger Paul Jordan, who supported and oversaw the project from beginning to end.

At SI, Ng is part of the leadership team of the Finance Club, and he competes for the varsity swim team. He also serves in the Outdoors and Pet Nation Clubs. Away from SI, he relaxes by playing piano. He has earned a certification from the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music and attained Grade 8 level, the



standard required for entry to higher study in a music college.

In college, however, he hopes to study either engineering or one of the sciences. "I earned a merit badge for chemistry, and I enjoyed it so much that my counselor recommended I get into that field." ∞

ABOVE: Daniel Ng earned his Eagle Scout rank by leading a team to erect a flagpole at Coyote Point.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS HEAR FROM FORMER SAN QUENTIN INMATE

SI's Criminal Justice class visited San Quentin State Prison to better understand the social justice issues facing mass incarceration, sentencing, racial disparities, prison reform and rehabilitation — something that social science teacher (and next year's assistant principal for academics) Danielle Devencenzi '97 (center) has been doing for the past decade. Over that time, she formed a friendship with inmate Curtis Robert (left), who had been serving a sentence of 50 years to life. Last Dec. 31, Gov. Jerry Brown '55 commuted that sentence and freed Roberts, who now lives in a transitional house in the Haight. He came to SI to talk with students about his thoughts on the California Three Strikes law, what rehabilitation looks like in prison and his experience as he re-enters society. Students also met Earlonne Woods, whose sentence was also recently commuted. He created and continues to produce the 2017 and 2018 *New York Times* top 10 podcast, *Ear Hustle SQ*, which tells stories of life behind the walls of San Quentin. Devencenzi's students listened to the podcast to hear Roberts' story, and you can too. All episodes must be approved by Lieutenant Samuel Robinson, "who generously led all of our tours," said Devencenzi. She invites you to see more photos and read insights into this class visit at Twitter (@msdevencenzi) or by searching #CrimJustSI. ∞



ALUMNI TEAM UP TO HELP COUNSELOR'S SON WITH AUTISM

Parents of children with autism know the challenges of helping their sons and daughters learn skills that allow them to live on their own, find work and earn a living.

Anna Maria Vaccaro, a college counselor and Magis college advisor at SI, did not have to look far to find the help that she needed for her son, Mateo Zelaya, as a host of SI students over the years have stepped up to teach him life skills and cope with his autism.

When Mateo, now 19, was in grade school, he had help through the San Francisco Unified School District. "That changed once he entered middle school," said Vaccaro, who also has two other sons and one step-daughter.

"Fortunately, I was working at ICA at the time, and I found extraordinary students, people I could trust and who were filled with compassion. When I came to SI several years later, I found SI students who also happened to be in the Magis Program who had similar gifts."

Those young men and women, who were paid through Golden Gate Regional Services, worked with Mateo after school, on weekends and during the summer to help him deal with his autism. "If he is given three steps to complete a task, he sees it as a million steps," said Vaccaro. "That applies to meal time, transportation and communicating his thoughts and needs." Their work proved so successful that Mateo now lives on his own and is holding down a job at Whole Foods helping to fulfill orders placed through Amazon.

Andrew Abueg '16, a junior at Chapman University currently studying at City, University of London, worked with Mateo, as did Emmanuel Ramirez '15, a computer science major at Colgate University. "He knew what busses to take, but I'd be there to make sure he knew the right stops in case he got confused at any point," said Ramirez. "I also learned how to explain the same thing in different ways."

Christian Barraza '15, a business major at the University of Rochester, helped Mateo find his way through Chinatown "despite how noisy and crowded that neighborhood is. Mateo is courageous and smart and was eventually able to navigate all by himself. Working with him, you learn what makes him frustrated, and sometimes that make you frustrated. Then you recall what he's going through with his thinking process and you grow in patience."

Sened Haddad '16, a computer science major at SCU, added that Mateo "at first was overwhelmed learning how to make an Arduino processor illuminate lights in a certain sequence. As complicated as it was, he pushed through to get to the point where it would work. He has great will power and didn't let any of his challenges stop him from completing his task. I never worked with someone with autism before and didn't know what to expect. I came to see Mateo as quite capable despite his disability."

Gaby Portillo '16, who is studying sociology at the City College of San Francisco, worked with Mateo while he served as an intern at the Southern Exposure Gallery and helped him apply for and win a scholarship offered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. "He would ask a lot of questions, as he is a perfectionist. I thought

I was a patient person, but this job helped me grow even more in that regard. I also love how he is eager to discuss everything from social justice issues to current events, movies and comic books."

Serena Villanueva '18, a sociology major at USF, who is currently working with Mateo, noted that "he surprises me every day, and he challenges me to find new ways to explain things in order to help him understand something. Also, being younger than Mateo, I'm forced to leave my comfort zone. Working with him has helped me become more vocal. I wasn't expecting to form such a connection with him. I'm also considering a career in this field thanks to Mateo."

These SI grads all noted that they grew along with Mateo. Ramirez noted that he became a better teacher's assistant for fellow computer science students at his college thanks to working with Mateo. "I also teach young children in a summer program, and I help my niece, a 7th grader, with her math. I realized I could explain solutions in multiple ways thanks to my time with Mateo."

For Haddad, "seeing how resilient Mateo is helped me with my struggles in my computer engineering class. The material is hard to understand, but if you stick with it, you can follow the logic despite a lesson's complexity."

Barraza hopes to become a big brother down the road to someone with autism, and Portillo spent some time questioning her own major. "I enjoy working with people who have special needs. Perhaps I'll volunteer down the road or become a special education teacher or case worker."

For Vaccaro, pairing her son with talented students has left her "impressed and grateful. What amazing role models these students are. I brag to people that Mateo has his own LinkedIn page, but what's behind all his success are these students. I don't have enough words to praise them, and they warm my heart every day. They are why it's easy for Mateo to show gratitude and why I'll be eternally grateful for my former students. They have helped Mateo not only to be successful in his tasks, projects and career but also to be a contributor in our society. They helped pave a way so he can be happy, resourceful and a proud young man. They are not only game-changers but also life-changers." ∞

ABOVE: Mateo Zelaya, center, with (from left) Emmanuel Ramirez '15, Sened Haddad '16, Christian Barraza '15, Serena Villanueva '18 and Gaby Portillo '16. Not pictured: Andrew Abueg '16.

JAHAN JAZAYERI '19 WORKS WITH UCSF RESEARCHERS TO COMBAT MALARIA, TB AND HIV



Jahan Jazayeri '19 found a way to combine his passion for medicine, math and family through a brand-new summer internship sponsored by UCSF's Institute for Global Health Sciences.

Jazayeri, whose Persian-American family includes numerous medical professionals, spent six weeks last June and July at UCSF using his math and computer skills to create charts that illustrated the correlation between money spent on treating malaria, HIV and tuberculosis in low-income and middle-income nations and the success of that funding.

"We were immediately impressed by Jahan's enthusiasm for learning and willingness to pitch in wherever needed," said Jeremy Alberga, COO of UCSF's Global Health Group. "Jahan said he had not used Excel in some time. However, by the end of the six weeks, he was creating pivot tables and producing graphs and charts that were used in country-led presentations."

Alberga came to SI in January to encourage juniors to apply for a spot for the summer of 2019, and he invited Jazayeri to share with his peers both his work and his passion for global health. He also praised Jazayeri for serving as

"a leader among his peers. Jahan was a quick study and was impressive when called upon to engage in group work."

After graduating from SI this June, Jazayeri hopes to major in global health at Georgetown, where he knows he will find a multicultural and multilingual community. He is fluent in English, Farsi, French and Spanish and has roots in Iran as well as Switzerland, where his mother lived, worked and studied.

"I'm excited to be near the National Institutes of Health while studying at a Jesuit school," he noted. "Both would feel like home, and majoring in global health would be the perfect intersection of my family values and Jesuit values."

His relatives include physicians, pathologists, dermatologists and psychiatrists, and he grew up talking medicine with his extended family. "We had medical journals on our kitchen table and blood samples in the back of my uncle's car. I'm not shy about asking them questions, and I love hearing their stories, too. One uncle ran a clinic in Iran and left everything behind after the revolution. When he came to the U.S., he had to start from scratch by building a clinic in Irvine.

Jazayeri is also fascinated with advances in artificial intelligence, nanotechnology and lasers in diagnosing and treating patients.

UCSF chose him, along with six other rising seniors from city high schools, to work with faculty, staff and graduate students on a various projects.

Jazayeri took data from countries such as Cambodia, Sudan and Myanmar to see how global fund allocations and grants are affecting treatment success rates in those countries.

He used that data to create sophisticated charts, graphs, maps and schematics that showed how aid workers had the most success in densely populated cities, where they could treat hundreds of children at a school. "They weren't willing to travel 10 miles out of town, where people lived

farther apart," he noted. "There we found higher rates of disease and a low percentage of success. Traveling outside cities was just too time-consuming for health workers. The trick now is to determine ways to have greater success in rural areas and insure that people will do their job and not just do what's easiest."

Working for eight hours in an office cubicle proved challenging, he noted. "My fellow interns and I were able to complete our tasks in half a day and didn't know how to be proactive. It took about two weeks for us to figure out that we could take breaks together and discuss our work while walking to a local café. Just that change of scenery motivated us to be more productive."

His skill in math helped him improve his use of Excel, and he found that "when you can help others visualize data, then they find it more meaningful. It was heartening, too, to know that the charts would be used in Geneva at a gathering of researchers to influence policies related to funding and research."

Jazayeri is interested, too, in the ethics and politics of global health initiatives. Two years ago, while on a trip to D.C., he was able to attend a session of Congress during an attempt to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. He met his representative, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, and saw Sen. John McCain defeat an attempt to repeal and replace Obamacare by giving a dramatic thumbs-down vote.

"I saw people connected to oxygen tanks shouting in the Senate gallery and realized just how much Obamacare matters to them. Their lives are on the line, and this made a political issue more personal."

Alberga was so impressed by the interns he hired that he is planning to continue the program this summer and expand the number of students and schools for the summer of 2019. He is also planning a global health bootcamp for high school teachers "to help them increasingly incorporate global health into their curricula. The program is so important as it provides several opportunities to meet global health leaders, learn more about our field and engage in several learning exercises." ∞

ABOVE: Jahan Jazayeri '19 was joined by his UCSF colleagues in January at SI to speak about his work at the medical center. He created charts to show the correlation of funding to successful treatment of diseases in developing nations.



Each year, SI students, parents and alumni take part in the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** march in San Francisco. This year, the African American and Latino Parents Association, along with the BSU, ASC, ALAS, SIPAC, the Fathers' Club and the Ignatian Guild, joined in the 1.5-mile walk across the Lefty O'Doul Bridge to commemorate the crossing of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. The group ended the parade at the Yerba Buena Gardens with an interfaith commemoration to celebrate the life of Dr. King. Photo by Carlos Gazulla.



Twenty-eight members of the Asian Students' Coalition, led by moderators Ray Orque '03 and Stephanie Wong, participated in the Annual Southwest Airlines **Chinese New Year Parade** in San Francisco, continuing SI's longstanding tradition of involvement. The SI contingent performed a choreographed routine to honor the Lunar New Year of the Pig.

SI Live, the sketch comedy club, performed in January to sold-out crowds. Pictured here are Aidan Deal '20 (left) and Kiana Ansari '20. Moderators are Annelise Morris and Mike Santos. Photo by Bowerbird Photography.



KAREEM GUILBEAUX '01 ORGANIZES JV AND FROSH BASKETBALL TEAMS TO HELP FOSTER CHILDREN

This past Christmas, 15 of SI's JV and frosh basketball players volunteered their time to offer a skills camp that allowed participants to play Santa for 250 foster children.

These SI athletes volunteered at a skills camp organized by Admissions Outreach Associate Kareem Guilbeaux '01, who also serves as head coach for the JV boys' basketball team.

The 100 students who came to the camp ranged from third graders to eighth graders. In lieu of paying for the camp, they brought in 250 new toys to donate to the Potrero Hill

Neighborhood House, which offers a Head Start program for young children and supports young people who live in foster homes.

This toy drive happened after the entire student body had worked to supply food boxes and toys to families — an annual effort done in cooperation with the San Rafael Dominican Sisters through St. Dominic's Church.

Guilbeaux, who leads a club basketball program called SF Champions in the spring and summer, was approached by one of his fellow coaches in the program, Fale Mallepei, who had the idea for the Christmas skills camp and toy drive.

"When he asked me if this could happen, I said absolutely yes." Guilbeaux, Mallepei and eight other coaches in the program then had two weeks to get the word out through printed flyers and social media posts.

The drive was so successful that San Francisco Mayor London Breed and State Senator Scott Wiener came to SI on Dec. 23 to thank the campers and their families for their donations.

"I'm so grateful to both these busy politicians, to our SI athletes and to the volunteer coaches who gave up quality time with their families to take part in this program," added

Guilbeaux. "I'm especially grateful to Fale, as his father died two months prior to the camp. Now both his parents are deceased, and in the face of that tragedy, he was able to create a happy holiday season for so many kids whose families can't afford to buy toys. I feel blessed to be around him and all the others who gave of their time, including the campers' parents, who helped by organizing the gifts for boys, girls and toddlers."

One highlight for Guilbeaux was seeing his campers drop off toys. "It's never too early to understand how privileged some of us are and how much in need others can be. Our camp does more than teach basketball skills; it helps young people understand how good luck and bad luck affects us all and to be thankful for our blessings."

Guilbeaux has met Sen. Wiener several times at various events. "Even though he is 6-feet, 7-inches, he knew early on that he wasn't great at basketball, so he became a swimmer. When I saw him at SI, I told him not to worry and to continue coming back to our camp, where we would teach him everything he needed to know about basketball." ∞

LEFT: Mayor London Breed joined Lorraine Guilbeaux and David Davies, parents of Kareem Guilbeaux (left), at the event.



Raymond Wong (center), the commander at the VFW's 91st Division/Chinatown Post 4618 in San Francisco, came to SI in March to present awards to several students for excellence in the **Voice of Democracy audio-essay contest**.

From left are SI Principal Patrick Ruff, Felix Andam '20, Matthew Shugarte '21 (whose late father was a Vietnam veteran) and Conor Murphy '21 along with counselors Terri Law, Chris Delaney and Anna Maria Vaccaro.

SPORTS WRAP

PHOTOS BY PAUL GHIGLIERI



BOYS' SOCCER

Coaches: V: Alan Downey assisted by Daire O'Connor; JV: Nick Harb assisted by Matt Favela; F: John Stiegeler '74 assisted by Patrick Cody '96.

Records : O: 16-2-2; L: 12-1-1 (first in league for third season in a row; JV: L: 6-3-5 (4th); F: 4-4-2 (3rd).

Awards: WCAL Defender of the Year: Sean Bilter; WCAL Forward of the Year: Cormac Gallagher; All League First Team: Sean Bilter, Cormac Gallagher, Kol Van Giesen; Second Team: Sean Fitzgerald, PJ Rich, Jack Shelley; HM: Reid Pollino.

Graduating Seniors: Sean Bilter, Cormac Gallagher, Kol Van Geisen, Sean Fitzgerald, PJ Rich, Peter Peterson V, Johnny Dahlem, Kyle Adelman, Andrew Kau, Chase O'Brien-Steele, Armen Demirjian, Finn Fogarty.



GIRLS' SOCCER

Coaches: V: Tracy Hamm assisted by Brooke Bruneman '13, Jaclyn Kurtela '06; JV: Jody Lingafeldt assisted by Nicki Rucki and Summer Langsam; F: Libby Rappolt assisted by Illeana Mercado.

Records: V: O: 10-5-7; L: 6-0-4. JV: O: 9-2-3; L: 7-0-3; F: O: 8-1-4; L: 5-0-3

Highlights: Winning WCAL championship taking second in CCS; first win over Mitty in 8 years; league champs at each level.

Awards: League striker of the year: Lauren Frohan; co-defender of the year: Lexie Lotti; All League First Team: Lexie Lotti, Lauren Frohan, Audrey Schaffer, Elle Van Giesen; Second Team: Olivia Carroll and Katrina Avila; HM: Kelly Wall. Team Awards: Defensive player: Lexie Lotti; Offensive player: Lauren Frohan; Wildcat/Jan Mullen Award: Audrey Schaffer; JV: Defensive player: Sam Gotch; Offense player: Chloe Hudson; Wildcat Award: Shannon Williams, Eve Sloan.

Graduating Seniors: Lexie Lotti, Cat Hegarty, Lauren Frohan, Daphne Carwin, Lizzy Reardon, Nicole Feeney, Audrey Schaffer.



GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Coaches: V: Mike Mulkerrins '91 assisted by Bill Kelly; JV: Donnisha Taylor; F: Sean Mulhern '06.

Records: V: Preseason: 11-3; L: 4-6; Postseason: 1-2; JV: Preseason: 6-2; L: 8-2 (2nd place); F: Preseason: 8-1; L: 6-4 (3rd)

Highlights: The varsity won the Marin Catholic Tournament and went 2-1 in the highly competitive Roseville Tourney. SI beat eventual state champions Menlo High School twice as well as Oakland Tech.

Awards: All League First team: Maddie Ennis; Second Team: Rachel Harvey; HM: Angie McAdams, Emily Jones.

Graduating Seniors: Maddie Ennis, Kerry Fitzgerald, Dara Murphy.

Wildcat Award: Kerry Fitzgerald; MBS Award: Angie McAdams.



BOYS' BASKETBALL

Coaches: Rob Marceletti '96 assisted by Ali Thomas '97, Jamal Baugh and Paul Bourke; JV: Kareem Guilbeaux '01 assisted by Steve Murphy; F Red Team: Tim Egan assisted by Bryan Thomasson; F Blue Team: Stevie Joo assisted by Bryan Thomasson.

Records: O: 14-13; L: 8-6; JV O: 15-17 ; L: 9-5; F Red: O: 19-2; L: 12-2 (League Champs); F Blue: O: 18-3; L: 13-1 (League Champs).

Highlights: In league play, the 'Cats split with Mitty, Riordan and Serra, who finished their seasons, respectively in first, second and third place. SI closed out the second half of league 4-1, advancing to the Open Division CCS Tournament and NorCal tournament.

Awards: All League First Team: Wrenn Robinson; Second Team: Neal Begovich. Team Awards: Dennis Carter Award: Ross Klein; Vincero Award (Outstanding work in the weight room): Jackson Canady.

Graduating Seniors: Wrenn Robinson, Neal Begovich, Ross Klein, Sam Nangle, Quinn O'Connor, Johnny Yu, Garrett Cason. ∞

TRACY HAMM LEADS GIRLS' SOCCER PROGRAM INTO HISTORIC SEASON OF FIRSTS

Head Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach Tracy Hamm, while coaching the women's soccer team at SFSU, also oversees a program at SI that achieved undefeated varsity, JV and frosh league seasons.

If that weren't enough, she also witnessed the premiere of a film on March 16 about her setbacks and successes as a coach.

The documentary, fittingly called *Coach*, has this tagline: "She was denied the opportunity to pursue a top-tier coaching license. She did it anyway. This is her story."

A star player at Campolindo High School, Hamm played all four years at Cal, where she earned Pac-10 All-Conference and All-Academic honors while serving as team captain for two years.

Graduating from Cal in 2006, she had to wait three years before a professional women's soccer league came into being. After that, she played two seasons professionally for the Women's Professional Soccer league in both San Jose and Atlanta.

In 2015, when she applied to U.S. Soccer for a waiver that would allow her to accelerate her path to the top license program for professional and college coaches, she was told she didn't have enough pro experience, even though she had no option to play professionally for three years after college and, at that point, had been coaching for more than 10 years.

She later pursued a license through the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) in Wales and expects to receive her A-level license in Europe before the end of the year to add to B-level licenses she earned from both the UEFA and U.S. Soccer Federation.

"Soccer is one of the only sports that requires licensure," said Hamm, who is often asked if she is related to Mia Hamm. (She isn't.) "The lack of opportunity to play professionally has been a barrier to my generation of female soccer players who want to pursue high-level coaching education."

Her tenacity is the focus of the documentary, which premiered at SFSU, where she has served as head coach since 2015. The film will later be shown at the Fort Myers Film Festival in April in Florida and at other film festivals and soccer clubs around the country.

The film also touches on the challenges faced by women soccer coaches who, said Hamm, "feel constant pressure to prove themselves. For me, that has been as much a motivator as a deterrent. As a female coach, you feel you have to over-explain yourself to the boys' club. It can be lonely and isolating being the only woman in a licensing course among 30 men, but you have to hold your own and be confident. You have to believe in yourself regardless of what you face."

Hamm, who previously served as head coach at Santa Rosa JC and as an assistant coach at Cal, was asked to lead SI's girls after meeting with Athletic Director John Mulkerrins '89.

Mulkerrins had heard of Hamm through her boyfriend, Gabe Saucedo '95, who serves as head men's soccer coach at Skyline College. "When I met with John, he told me he'd like me to strongly consider the position. I said no several times, as I thought it would be too much to put on my plate. I said yes finally when I thought about all the amazing SI alumni and coaches I had met through Gabe. Thankfully, there is just a short overlap between the college and high school seasons."



Her success as head coach and leader of the girls' soccer program came, she said, "because the support from players and fellow coaches and administration exceeded my expectations."

For the first time in years, the program featured only women coaches. Brooke Bruneman '13 and Jaclyn Kurtela '06 served as assistant varsity coaches, Jody Lingafeldt as head JV coach, Nicki Rucki and Summer Langsam as assistant JV coaches, Libby Rappolt as frosh coach, and Illeana Mercado as assistant frosh coach.

Hamm led the varsity to a 6-0-4 season to win the WCAL outright before taking second in CCS after a loss to Mitty in the Open Division finals.

"It was a great feeling to finish undefeated on all levels," Hamm added. "The JVs had to beat St. Francis, which was first in the league



at the time, to win the league crown, and the frosh girls had already won the league title outright before their final game.”

The program involved many new coaches, “and they probably felt a little nervous having to prove themselves to a new head coach,” added Hamm. “That led to a high level of competition from day one. The players and coaches showed tremendous effort and intensity, including the seniors on my team, who exhibited a high level of leadership and great team chemistry.”

All of that came to play in SI’s first two games against Mitty. “The first time we played Mitty, we led until the final 3 minutes, when Mitty scored to tie the game.” In the second game, the ‘Cats won 2-0, the first victory over the South Bay powerhouse in eight years. “Our win over St. Francis one week later clinched the title for us. I loved seeing the team run on the field cheering and dogpiling each other.”

She praised her team captains, seniors Lexie Lotti and Lauren Frohan, and goalkeeper Audrey Schaffer. “These are special players and special people,” she added.

At the team banquet at the end of the season, Hamm compared her own path to that of her team. “As I pursued the A-level license, I had a bit of a chip on my shoulder and something to prove. That journey was both a little scary and incredibly rewarding. I told the girls from the first day that what mattered wasn’t where we started but where we finished. Despite some bumps in the road, we ended up making some waves. I’m so happy to be part of this amazing program and creating a new legacy.”

OPPOSITE PAGE, ABOVE: Tracy Hamm and her dog, Murph. **OPPOSITE PAGE, BELOW:** The varsity girls’ soccer team celebrating their league championship season. **BELOW:** Coach Tracy Hamm (center) with Brooke Bruneman ’13 and Jaclyn Kurtela ’06. Photos by Noel Danesco.



KOL ’19 & ELLE VAN GIESEN ’20 HAVE SOCCER IN THE FAMILY

BY ANNE STRICHERZ
SPORTS EDITOR

The Van Giesen family can discuss a variety of topics at the dinner table, but the success of the SI boys’ and girls’ soccer programs is more than likely their favorite.

Elle Van Giesen ’20, who started for the varsity girls’ squad at center back, was part of a program that saw the varsity, JV and frosh teams all take first place this past season. She was also the first and only girl to play baseball at SI, something she did in her freshman year on the frosh team.

Soccer, though, is her current passion, and she is pleased with the depth of the program and the all-women coaching staff.

Her brother, Kol Van Giesen ’19, who played right midfield and served as a captain on the boys’ varsity team, noted that he is “in awe of what we’ve been able to do” as part of a team ranked second in the nation last year. “Even winning three open division titles as part of the WCAL and CCS is nearly impossible.”

Born less than two years apart, Elle and Kol didn’t specialize in any one sport in their youth. “Those who do tend to get burned out,” said Kol. Through San Francisco recreation leagues, the Van Giesens grew up playing a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, soccer and track.

Elle added field hockey to her repertoire when she tried out for another successful SI program. “Whether it’s field hockey or soccer, I love being with my teammates,” she added.

The Van Giesens attribute the success of SI soccer both to great teammates and to outstanding coaches, including Alan Downey, who was named the 2017-2018 California Coach of the Year and the 2018



United Soccer Coaches Regional Coach of the Year. “No one on this team wants to let him down,” said Kol. “You want to make him proud, and we know he has our back. He’s the best coach I’ve ever had.”

First-year head coach Tracy Hamm made an impression on the girls from the start. (See story on the previous page.) “We learned to trust her and where she was taking us,” said Elle. “Her high soccer-IQ paid off.”

Hamm inherited the girls’ varsity program from Carlos Escobar ’96, “who laid a strong foundation for us,” said Elle. “When I think about the success of this season, Coach Esco also deserves credit.”

“Everyone on our team had such a sense of community,” said Kol’s teammate Kyle Adelman ’19. “There was a palpable sense of chemistry, where 11 players become one connected body.”

Elle agreed. “It was fun for me to cheer for my brother and his teammates. I loved knowing he was doing the same for my team.”

THREE COACHES RECEIVE TOP HONORS

Three coaches received honors for superlative seasons over the past two years.

Field Hockey Coach **HALEY SANCHEZ** was named the 2018-2019 Santa Clara Valley Athletic League Coach of the Year (DeAnza Division).

JULIUS YAP ’74 was named 2017-2018 California Coach of the Year for boys’ and girls’ golf.

ALAN DOWNEY was named the 2017-2018 California Coach of the Year for boys’ soccer as well as the 2018 United Soccer Coaches Regional Coach of the Year.

Congratulations to these outstanding coaches!

DAINE DANIELSON '10 WORKING TO KEEP PEOPLE HEALTHY AND THE WORLD SAFE

If the work of Daine Danielson '10 comes to fruition, patients will receive better and faster diagnoses than they currently receive, and the world will become safer from the threat of nuclear weapons.

BELOW: Daine reassembled the mini-CAPTAIN Time Projection Chamber, capable of detecting neutrinos, neutrons and other particles and imaging their trajectories in three dimensions. "University of Hawaii engineer Marc Rosen is assisting me in reattaching one of the detector's motherboards. After we finished reassembly, these motherboards were responsible for amplifying electronic signals generated by subatomic particle interactions inside the detector and relaying them to our scientific apparatus outside the detector."

Even while graduating from UC Davis with his bachelor's degree in Computational Physics and Math, Danielson co-founded a start-up company, won a Distinguished Student Award from Los Alamos National Lab — where he now works — and saved the scientific community \$50 million. Not bad for a recent college grad.

Most of his classmates identified Danielson with the trumpet that he played in the SI orchestra and jazz band. Not many knew that he worked as an intern at SFSU while at SI, helping to design and build X-ray detectors for use in experiments at the Advanced Light Source at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to identify chemical processes that enable enzymes to function.

He was encouraged to pursue physics at SI by his AP teacher Byron Philhour. "He knew I wanted to be a scientist, and I don't know that I would have discovered my love of physics without him," said Danielson from his home in Los Alamos. "Early on, I had doubts about my abilities, as I struggled in math. English was always my stronger suit, but Dr. Philhour's encouragement showed me that, through persistence, I could become good at math."

Danielson became involved in his current business venture after walking into a Davis coffee shop and hearing Keisuke Nakagawa talk about an idea he had. Nakagawa, who has since earned his medical degree at UC Davis School of Medicine, "was talking about the power of artificial intelligence to help medical professionals speed up diagnoses," said Danielson. "I was inspired by his ideas and introduced myself to him. We hit it off really well, as there was a lot of synergy between his dream and my technical training in machine learning and computational physics."

The two joined forces with Eugene Kang, a UC Berkeley grad, to launch their company, Whitecoat, in 2014. Currently, they are uploading diagnostic images related to Alzheimer's disease, including pathology slides and MRIs. Experts at UC Davis will then annotate these images with diagnostic information. "Once they do that, our AI software will begin to learn the diagnostic information in a predictive way."

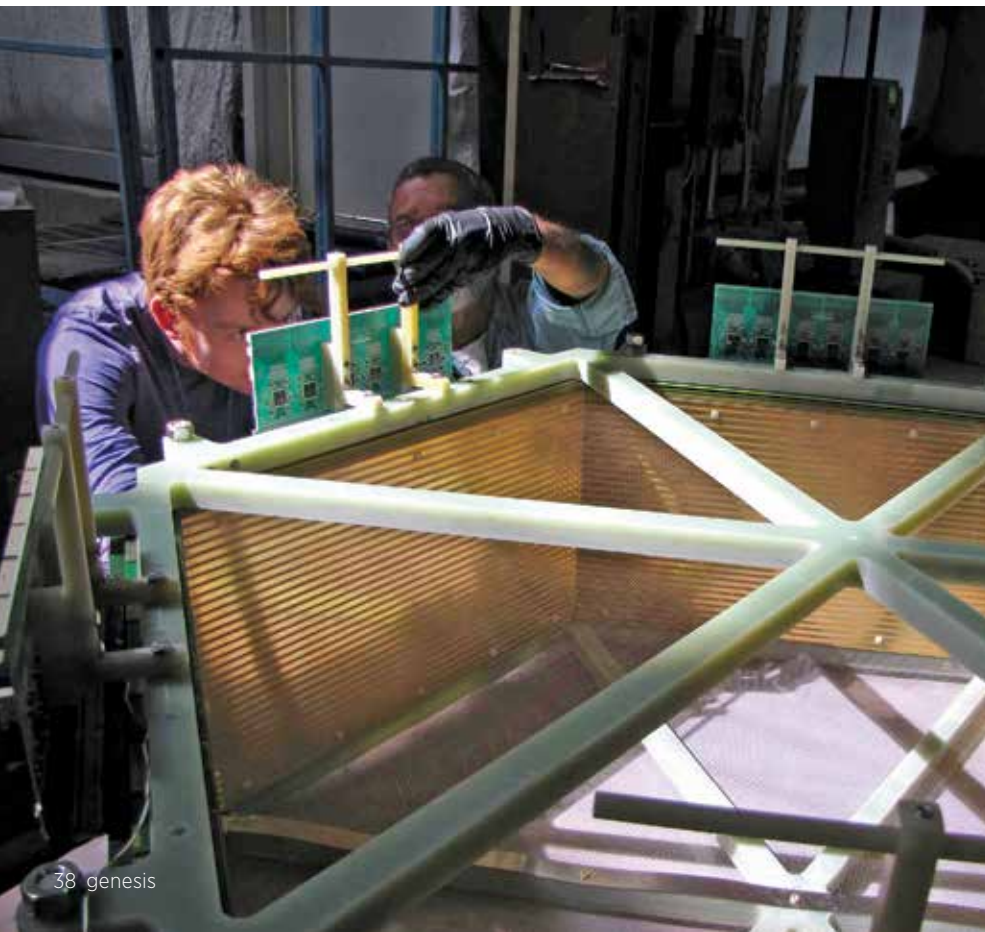
Danielson, who serves as Whitecoat's co-founder and chief architect, has already helped sell his company's services to institutional customers. Later, he hopes researchers, hospital administrators, insurers and health care networks will purchase Whitecoat on behalf of their patients and customers.

"The efficiency will justify the costs. The problem now is that medical professionals are faced with too much medical data, and the amount is increasing exponentially as diagnoses become more precise and detailed. We are reaching a critical point where the amount of information available to medical researchers will begin to exceed their personal bandwidth to solve problems in the most exhaustive way. That's where we envision a computer assistant. At some point in the future, doctors will go to an online platform to diagnose patients."

Doctors, he added, "will never be nor should ever be replaced by computers. Online tools should augment doctors' capabilities, but medical professionals are the last line in diagnosing and treating patients."

While the company expects to make a profit within two years, "our goal is mission driven," said Danielson. "Eventually, we hope that technology like Whitecoat will be in the hands of patients, too, though we also understand that overwhelming patients with clinical details is not a good way to have them take charge of their health."

Given both the needs of his company and his desire to pursue his passion for physics, Danielson accepted an invitation to join Los Alamos National Laboratory for a year-long post-baccalaureate appointment in the theoretical physics division. Over the summer, he received the lab's 2018 Distinguished Student Award for both his experimental and theoretical work.



“The cross pollination of ideas from modern physics into the techniques we use to understand health is surprising,” he noted. One point of intersection deals with neutrinos, a subatomic, quantum particle with barely any mass. “Right now, we hardly understand them at all, though they are thought to be fundamental building blocks of the universe.”

Researchers will spend the next decade trying to determine the different mass quantities of the three known types of neutrinos, with one major effort centered around China’s Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory, known as JUNO. Danielson helped save the scientific community millions, as some believed a second detector needed to be built at a cost of \$50 million. Danielson’s work at Los Alamos, along with the efforts of his mentor, Anna Hayes, and colleague Jerry Garvey, “has shown that the concern motivating the second detector is nowhere near as serious as people thought.” The team’s paper, bearing Danielson’s name as the first author, “should save us millions and bring us closer to understanding this fundamental question about nature.” That paper was published in early 2019 in the *American Physical Society Journal, Physical Review D*.

Danielson is also working, in conjunction with researchers at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, on a project called Water Cherenkov Monitor for Antineutrinos, also known as WATCHMAN. The program aims to help inspectors monitor nuclear reactors to ensure that they aren’t being used to create unauthorized nuclear weapons and to “see if there might be a nuclear reactor or a nuclear test where there shouldn’t be one.”

WATCHMAN is currently a prototype, and its success will depend, in part, on the neutrino research Danielson and others are doing. If efforts prove successful, then the device can be located near existing nuclear power plants to detect the production of weapons-grade material. “To ensure that countries uphold their treaties with us, we need transparency, which WATCHMAN can provide. Currently, we have on-site inspections and satellite surveillance. Having a machine that can detect neutrinos would give us a new and unprecedented picture about what’s happening inside a nuclear reactor and would open up a new level of transparency around the issue of treaty verification in nuclear energy.”

He also hopes that one day these devices could be portable “and be moved around the world to give us more insight into the proliferation of nuclear weapons.”

To advance his work towards nuclear nonproliferation through WATCHMAN, Siegfried Hecker (formerly director of Los Alamos National Laboratory) invited Danielson to join the Young Professionals Nuclear Forum at Stanford’s Center for International Security and Cooperation. Starting in May, he will meet with international scholars

and members of government to find novel solutions to problems in nuclear security and energy.

Danielson is now looking at graduate schools, where he will pursue a doctoral degree to continue his work on neutrino physics. In addition, he hopes to explore the connection between quantum mechanics and space and time. “If history has taught us anything, it’s that what seems like blue-sky research bears fruit after several decades. Quantum physics is now a vital piece of every electronics device that powers modern civilization. In the future, we’ll see advances in quantum information and quantum computing as well as space travel.”

Danielson’s partners at Whitecoat are keen on the quantum computing part, “as it holds the promise to speed up certain algorithms and computations that would require impossible time scales to complete given today’s technology. We’re looking at a paradigm shift that will move us forward in advances in artificial intelligence. Our ultimate goal is to build personal medical assistants that you can relate to, just like you relate to your family physician. In order to do that, computers will have to be far smarter and far more capable than they are now.”

Working at Los Alamos, he added, “is thrilling. Most people don’t realize the diversity of research that the lab does. It began with the Manhattan Project, but today it spans all scientific disciplines, from the Human Genome Project to the latest Mars rover. There’s so much interdisciplinary work here. If you’re working on one kind of physics but need to talk to a plasma specialist, then you just walk over and talk with a world expert. Then you walk down the hall and talk to another leading expert on quantum physics. This is a place where I can walk into a coffee shop and notice almost every conversation is about science.”

Danielson still plays music on a grand piano at a church across from his apartment, as he finds that music helps him both relax and problem-solve. “At SI, my classmates knew me for my trumpet playing, but piano is my first love, as I’ve been playing since I was 4. Right now, I’m working on Rachmaninoff’s “Prelude in C sharp minor,” and it’s a thrill. The creative aspects of physics and music are related, and playing or writing music, besides being a catharsis, is a fantastic inspiration for science. It’s all very intangible and very weird.” ∞



ABOVE: Daine holds a 12-inch photomultiplier tube in Professor Svoboda’s photonics lab at UC Davis. “Prof. Svoboda is chair of the physics department and head of the neutrino group as well as my research mentor throughout my time there,” said Danielson. “These quantum mechanical light sensors are sensitive enough to detect even a single photon. These tubes detect the telltale light byproducts of neutrino interactions in many neutrino detector designs. They are handmade by craftsmen in Japan and are extremely delicate, not only because they are encased in glass, but also because their interior contains a vacuum making it vulnerable to implosion if impacted.”

RYAN AGUIRRE '07 HONORED FOR HIS WORK PROMOTING *THE LATE SHOW WITH STEPHEN COLBERT*



The *Late Show with Stephen Colbert* may not have won the Emmy for Outstanding Variety Talk Show last year, but Ryan Aguirre '07 did receive an Emmy nod of sorts, as he was honored for his work promoting the show's bid for that honor.

Aguirre, a senior publicist at CBS Television Studios, received the Maxwell Weinberg Publicist Showmanship Television Award at the 56th Annual ICG Publicist Awards last February for the creativity and effort he puts forth in doing his job, one that he believes is among the best on the planet.

He also promotes *The Late Late Show with James Corden*, and several other primetime and on-demand programs including *Hawaii 5-0*, *Magnum P.I.*, *MacGyver*, *The Good Fight*, *Star Trek: Discovery*, *Jane the Virgin* and *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*.

His work paid dividends for him in many ways. For example, this past March he was able to meet his childhood heroes — the Jonas Brothers — on Corden's show. "I was such a fan of them while I was at SI, and after a week of meeting them, I was able to give them a hug — one that was shown on the program. I generally admire folks from afar, but sometimes you get to enjoy moments like this. It's what we call a 'Why We Do It' moment."

He is also proud to promote these shows because they comment upon "the current political climate. Our audiences are trying to navigate the political landscape and are looking for people who can assist them. Colbert, being the brilliant person that he is, has emerged as one of those voices. He also happens to be a devout Catholic. He did an interview recently with James Martin, S.J.,

and spoke directly about his faith. Everything that we were taught in high school about putting faith into action, he does, including testifying before members of Congress."

To promote both Colbert's and Corden's shows, Aguirre plans and executes extensive publicity campaigns, including sending clips of the previous night's shows to entertainment and news outlets, "and our team strategizes about just where to place these clips." During awards season, he lobbies those who vote for the awards, and he arranges for Colbert to fly out to Los Angeles to meet the Hollywood press.

In the past, shows measured their success through Nielsen ratings. "These days, that's tough to measure given how many platforms and programs that exist," added Aguirre. "It's no longer a question of ratings and shares. That's why we stress awards like the Emmys. Everything serves everything. You want to put yourself on the cultural landscape and declare yourself zeitgeisty. The Emmys are the best way to do that."

Aguirre, like Colbert and Corden, is a natural entertainer and started as a theatre kid. "I would always perform shows when I was young, and my mom would make me sing in front of our family."

At SI, he acted in the musicals and sang in the SI Chorus. "I appreciated Mrs. Sablinsky, as she brought out the love in the music we sang." He also praised his religious studies teachers — Chad Evans, Bill Hardt and Boom Martinez, S.J., — as helping him develop his own Catholic identity. "I still go to Mass every Sunday and try to be a good person doing good for others."

He went to NYU first hoping to go into social work but switched to film and

communications after one class in that field. Publicity seemed a natural course to take "as I have been a personable, talkative guy all my life. I'm always the one making friends and setting up friends with other friends. Publicity is the grown-up version of that."

Some days, his job involves more crisis-control than sending out clips of Carpool Karaoke. "We have to be ready to release statements when late-breaking news happens, including tragedies. James Corden's responses are always so poignant and well done that people look to him for comfort."

Most of the time, Aguirre isn't star-struck as he goes about doing his job. "At the end of the day, my job is to promote actors, and I look on them as my co-workers. That being said, every so often, I'll meet one of my heroes, such as Allison Janney, and that goes out the window. I also loved meeting Ang Lee, an Asian director whom I admire very much."

He also runs into fellow SI grads, including Will Kircher '10, an agent with ICM Partners, and Darren Criss '05, himself an Emmy winner. "We see each other everywhere, from award shows to talk shows," said Aguirre. "It's nice to see my SI friends and classmates succeeding in their fields and to have that connection to home here in the industry. Going to SI gives you these lasting bonds, and I see that in every corner of Hollywood. I even had my birthday party at the bar Darren owns. Darren's publicist is also a young Filipino man, and people confuse me with him all the time."

While doing publicity for *Star Trek: Discovery*, he contacted Chris Scarabosio '84 of Skywalker Sound to invite him to the Emmys. "We got to talking, and I learned that he was an SI grad too. I now know that I can run into SI grads in every corner of the world."

He does admit to working long hours, "but I love the job because I'm away from my desk as much as I'm sitting in front of my computer. Most of the time, I have to pinch myself, especially the first time I attended the Emmys. My job involves meeting a revolving door of incredible people and being on set to watch shows being made. When I was a kid, I could never have imagined being a part of this." ∞

ABOVE: Ryan hugged Joe Jonas after the Jonas Brothers performed on *The Late Late Show with James Corden*. Ryan promotes that show as well as *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*.

TIMOTHY ALAN SIMON '73 TO HEAD BOARD OF CALIFORNIA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Timothy Alan Simon '73, who dealt with issues of power as a California Public Utilities Commissioner, has a new opportunity to empower others as the newly-elected board chair for the California Black Chamber of Commerce.

That Sacramento-based group seeks to help African Americans find economic and social justice in their pursuit of establishing new businesses or expanding existing ones.

Simon, a current trustee and former regent of SI, is also president of TAS Strategies and the first African American to serve as appointments secretary to a California governor.

The co-founder of SI's Black Students Union, he served as keynote speaker Feb. 23 during SI's "Young, Gifted and Black" BSU Showcase.

"I am honored and humbled to be duly appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors of the California Black Chamber of Commerce," said Simon. "I thank my fellow board members and look forward to working with them in transparent and accountable governance of the CBCC. This organization will continue to lead in the economic support and development of African American businesses in California, the fifth largest economy in the world."

Simon praised his time at SI for preparing him for this role. "SI gave me both the

education and spiritual preparation I needed to fight for economic and social justice, as did my experience with the BSU. I also saw first-hand how the distribution of resources matters in helping to create success in college and in careers. There is a need for resources and opportunities to be shared in order to achieve justice."

His studies have taught him about the role government can play in helping or hindering communities in their desire for economic growth. "When I heard about red-lining as a child, I thought it was performed by real estate brokers and banks. I was surprised to learn the government had a hand in red-lining, preventing Black Americans from entering the middle class in the last century. My hope is that the Chamber will continue to work to eliminate these barriers. If we're going to make America the country it should be, we need to advance fair and equitable access to resources."

Simon's experience includes appointments by two Department of Energy Secretaries to serve as a member of the National Petroleum Council. He also served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at U.C. Hastings College of the Law and Golden Gate University School of Law. Prior to public service, Simon was counsel and Chief Compliance Officer advising major financial institutions.



Ken McNeely, president of AT&T's West Region and a long-time supporter of the Chamber, praised Simon. "We are fortunate to have such an experienced and respected leader join as the new board chair. The CBCC is one of the leading voices in ensuring that economic development efforts throughout the Golden State help lift up every community in California. I believe his perspective will be essential for helping lead the CBCC through this period of transition and guarantee that the Chamber will continue its demonstrated track record of success." ∞

JOSEPH HALLISY '70 SELECTED AS USF'S DON OF THE YEAR

BY CHUCK NAN '79

Joseph Hallisy '70 was named USF's "Don of the Year" Feb. 22 at the Father Hubert "Hub" Flynn Hall of Fame Dinner on the hilltop campus.

The annual award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to USF athletics and its student-athletes. Hallisy has served as the school's public address announcer for over 33 years for several teams, including men's and women's basketball and volleyball.

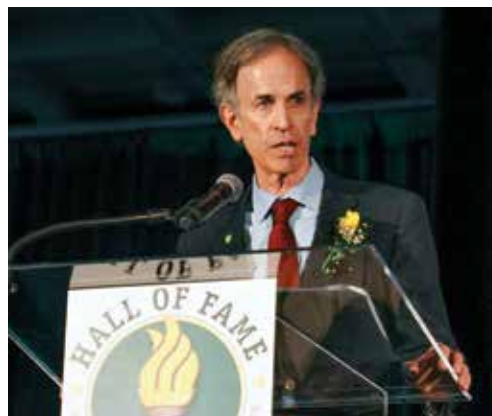
Although Hallisy graduated from SFSU, the family has deep roots at USF. Joe's father was a member of the Dons' soccer team during the mid-1930s before going on to a long career with the San Francisco Police Department. His brother, Jim, is a 1968 graduate. His wife, Claudine, graduated with the class of 1976, and his daughter, Kelly, is a 2013 graduate. His father, who passed away in 1967, was such a

diehard Don's fan that he taught all seven of his kids the fight song at an early age.

Hallisy's career as a Don began Nov. 29, 1986, when he announced his first men's basketball game at War Memorial Gymnasium. Since then, he has called close to 1,000 Dons' home athletic events and has become one of the most recognizable voices on the Bay Area sports scene, missing only three games during his tenure.

In addition to his duties at USF, Hallisy has handled public address assignments for a bevy of other local and regional athletic events, at all levels, including Golden Gloves boxing, the NCAA basketball regionals, the U.S. Olympic boxing team trials, CIF's regional and state basketball games and World Cup soccer.

He is also the voice of the City's famed St. Patrick's Day Parade each March. Hallisy has also served as a back-up for the San Francisco Giants since 1993. His voice, which some describe as possessing "smooth, modulated tones that resonate" can also be heard at 5 p.m. Saturday Masses at St. Ignatius Church, where he serves as a lector.



Hallisy spent 30 years with the SFFD, leading the San Francisco Fire Department's FLAME program during his last years with the department before his retirement in 2011. FLAME serves the youth of the City by holding girls' volleyball tournaments, boys' basketball tournaments, a baseball program, boxing training and competition and free fishing trips.

Hallisy continues to serve his community, as he is in his 47th year of teaching PE at St. Thomas Apostle School. ∞

ABOVE: Joe Hallisy. Photo by Chris M. Leung.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

1955 Dr. Edward Chow was reappointed to his eighth term on the San Francisco Health Commission by Interim Mayor Mark Farrell '92, and currently serves as its president as well as chair of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Joint Conference Committee.

1969 Donald Williams retired from his wood floor business in 2014 and in November was elected to the Calistoga City Council in Napa County.

1974 Michael Hart is CEO of Hemispheres Investment Management; the firm recently earned a Top Guns award in the PSN institutional investment management database. Hemispheres' Global Broad Equity strategy ranked tenth compared to more than 600 global equity products on a 3-year return as of year-end 2018.



1975 Michael Malekos hosted a gathering of accomplished anglers during a fly-fishing outing to Baum Lake, Calif. Attending were founding members of SI's celebrated "Casting Flies, Telling Lies" Fly Fishing Club: (standing, from left) Rob Unruh '64, Bill Stewart '66, Pete Bonardi '64, Dennis Norton '64; (sitting, from left) Dr. John Quilici '55, Mark McDonough '74, Michael Malekos and John Cleary.

1976 After 30 years of teaching middle school, Rob Paulukonis has called it quits, cashed in on the Bay Area housing madness and moved to Atlanta with his wife, Susan (Tamalpais High, Class of '79), an epidemiologist who works with the Atlanta-based CDC. Daughter Annie is working on her master's degree nearby at UGA, while son Joe (Sonoma State '19) remains in the North Bay working for Russian River Brewing. Come on down y'all!

1982 Michael Maysenhalder celebrated his 10-year anniversary working for Stanford Health Care's Planning, Design and Construction Department. He also completed construction of Mayseum, a museum showcasing vintage memorabilia of the Giants, 49ers, Cal, Stanford and Joe Louis. Michael plans to use sports memorabilia to fundraise for the Fathers' Club auction and the BSU Showcase.

1986 John Ring, former SI alumni director and current development director at Riordan, was named Hibernian of the Year at the Hibernian Newman lunch in March. Joining him were classmates Tim Reardon, Bill O'Connor, Thomas McKeon, Dr. Randy Green, Matt Miller, Dan Burke, Mark Cota and Jon Canapary.

1987 Alvin Albano (top of next column on left) was promoted to the master rank of 5th Dan Black Belt in the International Hapkido Federation. Additionally, in Mandala Mandirigma — an

organization devoted to Filipino and Southeast Asian martial arts — he was promoted to an advanced instructor rank of Assistant Maestro.

1989 Jacob Wang has worked as an office assistant at the California Division of the State Architect since March 2008.

This agency supervises the building of such facilities as San Francisco State's new recreation center. He reports that he "was pleasantly surprised that my classmate Darren Barboza was involved in a project with the San Francisco Unified School District, whose bond projects also come through our office."

1990 James Tom DDS, MS, led the effort as president of the American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists for official American Dental Association Specialty Recognition. Dental Anesthesiology is now the 10th recognized dental specialty, and Dr. George Jaber '04 and Dr. Ryan Cheung '04 are active members of the society.

1993 Stephan Marshall is running for San Bruno city council. The value of public service was instilled in Stephan at a very young age, and he is thrilled to have the opportunity to possibly serve his city in this capacity. Check out his Facebook page: Stephan Marshall for San Bruno City Council 2019. Website: www.Marshall4SanBruno.com. / Alex Thacher (right) has joined Armanino LLP, one of the top 25 largest accounting and business consulting firms in the U.S., as a partner. He will lead the firm's state and local tax (SALT) practice. Ricardo Martinez '94 is also a partner at Armanino.



2003 Heidi Kelly-Tuason is finishing her Doctor of Public Health degree while on UCLA's Fielding School of Public Health Ruth Roemer Social Justice Fellowship and is simultaneously working as a music ministry pianist and choir director at St. Raymond in Menlo Park and as a Clinic Manager for San Francisco Department of Public Health. Heidi married Bellarmine alumnus David Kelly in April 2018 (and they played piano, bass and cajon at their own wedding). Also present at their wedding were SI alumni Justin Crisostomo, Jennifer Tuason Salomon, Olivia Tuason Abar '96 and Enriqueta Tuason Tanaka '93. On the side, Heidi



and her husband continue to play in orchestras for musical theater productions as they both did in high school; she recently played for *Hairspray* and *Aida* and will be doing *Mamma Mia* this spring.

2005 Darren Criss completed a grand slam for the awards season for his role in *The Assassination of Gianni Versace*. He followed his Emmy Award with best actor honors from the Golden Globes, the Screen Actors Guild and the Critics' Choice Awards.

2007 Ryan Aguirre won the 2019 ICG Publicist Award, which rewards the

year's best guild campaigns in the film and TV industry, for his work on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*. See story in this issue for more.

2008 Kristin Halsing married Dan Salgarolo in Los Angeles on Nov. 3 in an SI-filled event. **Ryan Aguirre '07** was the Man of Honor with **Olivia Roth Schreader** and **Marianne Hom** as bridesmaids and **Scott Lensing '07** as a groomsman.



2013 Shelby Miguel, after graduating from USC in December 2017, moved to New York to pursue her dreams of performing on stage. She was cast in a principal role in a new musical touring nationally — *American Girl Live*.

2018 Juliana DaRoza, a student at Cornell University, was featured by the Cornell Fashion Collective's website for her work creating a collection of designs influenced by Yves Saint Laurent and Christian Dior.

2022 Cole Smolinski, a member of Troop 101 at Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame, was featured in *Catholic San Francisco* for his Eagle Scout Service Project that raised \$8,000 to purchase 75 backpacks filled with useful items for homeless veterans.

BIRTHS



1990 Darin Fong and his wife, Francesca, a daughter, Sarafina Julianna (left), born Dec. 14, 2018. She joins older brother Trevor, 5.

1996 Beth Spotswood and her husband, Dustin Daza, a son, Leonardo Maitland (right), born Oct. 23, 2018. Leo's grandfather is **Richard Spotswood '65** and his godmother is **Kate Ryken '97**. Beth wrote about her pregnancy and birth experience in her weekly *San Francisco Chronicle* column.

1998 Matthew Caselli and wife, Ashley, a son, Dominic (Nico) Clark (left), born on April 22, 2018. He joins big brother Rob, and his aunt is **Mollie Caselli '00**.

2007 Elliot Ferrara and his wife, Jessica, a son, Vincent Anthony (right), born Dec. 29, 2018.

2008 Jim Mezzera and his wife, Tina, a son, Owen Henry (left), born Sept. 26 2018.



IN MEMORIAM *(read more at siprep.org/memoriam)*

1938 Charles E. Henry
1940 (Thomas) Gregory Collins
1940 Robert J. Asselin
1941 Gerald B. Cullinane
1944 William "Bill" L. Ramirez
1944 Joseph (Joe) D. Zuffi
1945 James F. Pagano, Jr.
1946 Kevin J. Conroy
1946 Francis A. Kavanaugh
1946 Carl F. Rollandi
1947 Bernard A. Dunne
1947 Arnaldo G. Piatti
1949 Francis Kane
1949 John "Jack" McSweeney
1950 Noel de Nevers
1951 Lloyd G. Fabri
1951 James J. Halligan
1951 Edgar "Bud" R. Rice
1952 William A. Carroll
1952 Peter R. Domenici

1952 Ronald J. Raven
1952 Frederick P. Tollini, S.J.
1953 George A. Roensch
1957 Joseph "Joe" V. Wolden
1958 Dr. Charles de Lorimier
1959 Robert H. Crane
1960 Michael L. Byrne
1960 Clayton K. Mew
1963 Don (Deonne) T. Burdusis
1964 Leonard R. Labagh
1964 David J. Lavelle, Jr.
1965 Eugene C. Payne III
1973 Kevin Clarke
1976 Bradley H. Jack
1980 Steven M. Scolini
1991 Shane A. Sanchez
1997 Michael W. Gonzalez
2005 Ryan G. Partee
2011 Everett Watson
Janina Martin, assistant to Fr. Sauer

Charles Henry '38, speech teacher

Charles Henry '38, Who served at SI while he was a Jesuit priest between 1957 and 1973, died July 2, 2017, in Topeka, Kansas.

A San Francisco native, he entered the Society of Jesus and held master's degrees in education and political science and did graduate studies in other fields, including linguistics.

Known by his students at the time as Fr. Henry, he joined the SI faculty in 1957 as an English and Latin teacher, and he also coached basketball and moderated the Speech and Debate team to lead SI to national championships.

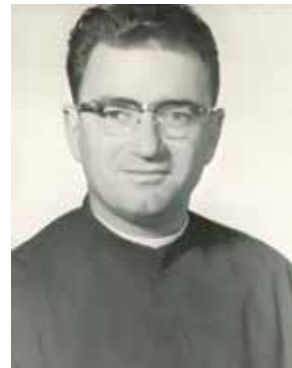
"Not until his tenure as debate coach in the 1960s did SI qualify a debate team for the National Forensic League national championship tournament," said former SI faculty member Dave Mezzera '64, who followed him as club moderator. Charles also led debate teams to be invited to national invitational tournaments such as the Georgetown Invitational Tournament in the 1960s and 1970s. He was recognized as a "Diamond Key Coach" by the National Forensic League and was a founding father of the California State High School Speech Association in the 1950s.

Charles left the Society of Jesus to marry. He and his wife, Barbara, made their home in Kansas, where he continued his professional life teaching educators and graduate and high school students in the fields of American government and history, Latin and English as a second language.

His last teaching years were spent at Hayden High School, Topeka High School and several of the middle schools in USD #501. He also enjoyed many years of coaching athletic programs in golf, soccer and basketball. He felt most privileged to be a former assistant basketball coach to Pete Newell and Phil Woolpert at the University of San Francisco and their NCAA National Championship teams, which were among his many treasured memories.

Charles was devoted to his Catholic faith. He enjoyed reading, golfing, camping, hiking and traveling with his students to introduce them to history.

He is survived by his wife and two nieces. ∞



FRANK KAVANAUGH '46, NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVIST, FORMER TEACHER AND BASKETBALL COACH

Frank Kavanaugh '46, who taught English and religious studies and coached basketball at SI between 1960 and 1976, died on New Year's Eve, just days shy of his 90th birthday.

Born Jan. 3, 1929, he moved with his mother and brothers to San Francisco when he was 2. He earned an academic scholarship to SI, where he made lifelong friends. After graduation, he worked as a contractor for the Forest Service and served in the U.S. Navy and in the Marine Corps at the end of the Korean conflict before enrolling at USF on the GI Bill.

A chance encounter at USF resulted in an invitation to come to SI to coach and teach English and religious studies. He also supported the Black Students Union as it launched in the early 1970s, donating to the group his extensive library on the Civil Rights movement. He returned to SI in 2017 to discuss the early days of that organization, sharing the podium with two of its founders, Timothy Alan Simon '73 and Jerome Williams '75, as well as Andrew Walker '80 and the late Steve Phelps.

He was also a devout Catholic who met his wife-to-be, Mary Elfering, at a gathering of Third Order Franciscans at St. Boniface Church. "The Franciscans, just as much as the Jesuits, formed me," said Kavanaugh in a 2008 interview for *Genesis* magazine. "Mary and I both tried to live the Gospel according to how we saw it."

Early in the 1960s, Kavanaugh worked with the Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council (HANC) to stop the building of the proposed Panhandle-Golden Gate Freeway that threatened to bisect the neighborhood.

During the Summer of Love in 1967, Kavanaugh saw his neighborhood descend into

chaos when hundreds of thousands of people, mainly teenagers, arrived in San Francisco. The Kavanaughs and their six children lived in a large Victorian and converted two extra rooms into temporary shelter for a host of homeless men, women and teens, including three men in their early 20s "who had come from Minnesota to find out about the excitement. They were underdressed for our cool summers and broke. We took them in, got them jobs with people in the neighborhood and helped them get back on their feet."

At the Offramp, a teen resource center run by Methodists, word got out that the Kavanaughs would house teens in trouble, and even more young people found their way to the Kavanaughs' door, including one person who, in the middle of the night, staggered drunk into Frank's backyard. Another boy came from Boston trying to avoid a jail. "We put him in touch with authorities and gave him some money to travel back and face his responsibility. He later wrote us a nice letter, thanking us for helping him receive a second chance."

Frank didn't want to leave the Haight, which had been his home since his childhood. "I chose to raise my kids in that neighborhood, and I wasn't about to be driven out," he once said. In response to concerns raised by fellow San Franciscans regarding the turmoil in his neighborhood, he delivered a message filled with kindness and tolerance on behalf of HANC.

He and his family moved in 1976 to Vale, Ore., where Frank found a job at a local community college before teaching in the Harper Valley School District. He also served on the Vale City Council and was a leader among the St. Patrick's Church community. Frank rallied the religious and community leaders of Vale to support a refugee family from Laos. The Kavanaughs later moved to Portland, where he served on the Peace and Justice Committee of St. Philip Neri Church and helped a refugee family from the Congo.

"They worked all their lives for peace and justice," said their daughter, Katy. "Frank and Mary stood up for civil rights, immigration and equality. They pushed their children in strollers to march with Caesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers, and their children reciprocated by walking with Frank and Mary in their wheelchairs so that they could join thousands in Portland and millions worldwide for the Women's March in January 2017."

Frank is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary Anna; by their son, John; by their daughters Catherine, Elizabeth (Neil Collie), Elena (Scott Sullivan), Maria (Kale Haggard), Christina (Andrew Rosbach); by eight grandchildren; and by many relatives.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be sent to Habitat for Humanity, Immigrant Relief and Community Organization and Catholic Relief Fund. ∞



Frank Kavanaugh was instrumental in helping the BSU in its early days and was a neighborhood activist in the Haight-Ashbury during the 1960s.

GEORGE LIPPI, FORMER REGENT

George Lippi, a former SI regent and successful travel agent, died Jan. 29. He was 87.

The brother-in-law of Leo La Rocca '53, Mr. Lippi was long involved with the SI community. His late son, Leo '88, was a graduate, and he later established a scholarship fund at SI in his son's name.

A graduate of Galileo High School, he helped his father and uncles in the family business of Lippi Bros. Market in North Beach before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps to serve in Korea.

After his honorable discharge in 1952, he

graduated from Cal and attended USF Law School, but his desire for a law degree was cut short by a bout of pneumonia.

He then began a long career in travel and, along with partner Joseph Bagnatori, bought Fugazi Travel Agency, which was established in 1869 by John Fugazi and A.P. Giannini to assist immigrants with their voyage to the U.S. The business later merged with Guisti Travel.

Mr. Lippi married Annette La Rocca in 1956, and they enjoyed a long and happy marriage until her death in 2012.

Mr. Lippi is survived by his two daughters: Alessandra Granelli (and her husband, Steve);

and by Melissa Ornstil (and her husband, Jon); and by Leo's widow, Darine Lippi; as well as by five grandchildren and many relatives.

In addition to his service to SI, Mr. Lippi was a member of The Olympic Club and was a Knight of Malta and a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, as well as a member of the Marines' Memorial Association and of the Salesian Boys' and Girls' Club, which honored him as its 2017 Man of the Year.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to SI's The Leo A. Lippi Scholarship Fund, the Semper Fi Fund or the Salesian Boys' and Girls' Club of San Francisco. ∞

EUGENE PAYNE '65, FORMER REGENT

Eugene Payne III, Esq. '65, a former SI regent (1998–2004), a member of the Fr. Carlin Heritage Society and longtime supporter of the school, died Jan. 18 surrounded by his family after suffering a series of strokes. He was 71.

A native Californian, Gene was the son of the late Joan and Eugene Charles Payne II and grew up in San Francisco along with his brother, Steven Payne '68.

After graduating from St. Cecilia School, he became an accomplished debater at SI and graduated with honors. He excelled at Georgetown University, where he was editor-in-chief of the school's undergraduate newspaper, *The Hoya*.

He earned his law degree from Harvard Law School and practiced law in San Francisco for 45 years, primarily as a partner at Tobin & Tobin.

In addition to his service at SI, he served on the executive committee of the board of directors of Hanna Boys Center and on the boards of the Archbishop Alemany Scholarship Fund, the Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center, the St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation and the Waterbridge Outreach: Books + Water.

He served as a director of the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage

and as a director and treasurer of the San Francisco Public Library.

He received the St. Thomas More Award in 1995 and the Janet Pomeroy Banner of Love Award in 2007. He was a member of the Order of Malta for 28 years, and served as Hospitaller of the Western Association from 2003 to 2008. Gene was also an active member of his beloved Summerhome Park, where he spent almost every summer of his life.

Each year since 2011, Gene and fellow Knight of Malta Steve Leveroni '69 organized a Super Bowl party for hundreds of homeless men and women through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Gene worked on this with Tim Szarnicki '04, who was then in charge of the organization's volunteer program.

"We served the homeless people who spend their nights at MSC-South, the largest homeless shelter in Northern California," said Szarnicki. "That shelter is usually at full capacity. To make their lives a little more pleasant, at least for a day, I suggested a Super Bowl party with hot dogs and chips. Gene and Steve went miles beyond this modest idea, and, since then, have created an all-you-can-eat buffet of chicken, franks, chili, three kinds of salads and rolls, all donated by fellow SI grads Larry Strain '71, Peter Carcione '59, brothers Jim '65, John '61 and Marty Monfredini, and Dan Giraudo '97."



Gene is survived by his wife, Lin, and their children: Mary Beth Cecchini '94 (J.T.), Gene '96 (Michelle '97), Michael '99 (Elizabeth), and Catherine '02; and by eight grandchildren.

The family asks that donations be made in memory of Eugene C. Payne III to St. Ignatius Class of 1965, Golden Diploma Scholarship, The Janet Pomeroy Center, St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation or The Order of Malta Oakland Clinic. ∞

BRAD JACK '76, LEHMAN BROS. COO

Bradley Jack '76, who had served as co-chief operating officer at Lehman Brothers and as a speaker at a SI Downtown Business Lunch, died in his sleep in his home in Westport, Conn., on Feb. 16 after a yearlong battle with pancreatic cancer. He was surrounded by his wife, Lara; his children Sam, Olivia, Katherine and Will; and his older brother, John '73. He was 60.

Born Sept. 28, 1958, Brad grew up from humble means in San Francisco's inner Sunset District along with John, their sister, Sandy, and their mother, Janet. He made lifelong friends at SI. "Out in the Irish corners of the Sunset, it was said that you could only survive by being tough or funny," said longtime friend Kevin Kern '76. "Brad was both. He could scrap and fight if it came to that, but any jam he talked his way into he could talk his way out of."

He graduated from Cal before making his way to New York, where he worked for Bank of America before joining Lehman Brothers. He worked his way up from a trader to co-chief operating officer.

At a 2005 SI Downtown Business Lunch at the University Club, Brad spoke about his

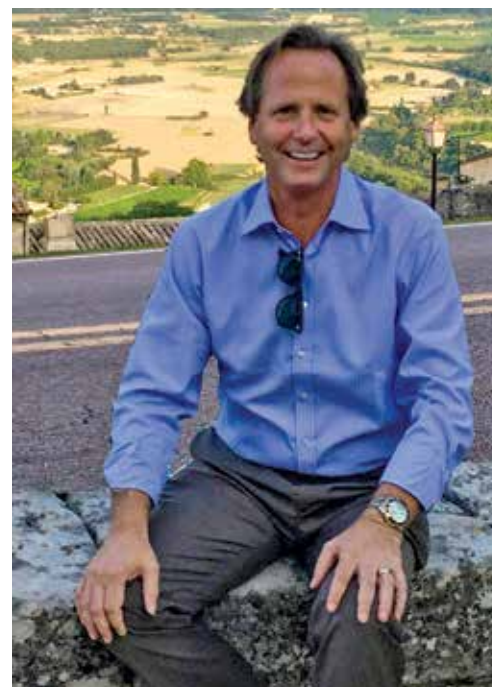
work helping Lehman Brother quickly recover from the attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. He told the audience that he drove around Manhattan and spied a hotel that was being remodeled. He quickly negotiated a deal for Lehman Brothers to use that property to restart operations. He left the company in 2005 before the 2008 financial crisis led to the firm's closure.

Although his work meant long hours away from his children, Brad was a supportive father who instilled an avid love of travel in his children, taking them on trips around the world even as he fought cancer, which first struck him shortly before he turned 40.

After his first marriage ended, he married Lara Cairns, who grew up in Belfast, where they often visited. "When his cancer returned, he still mustered the energy to keep everyone around him laughing, either at big family dinners or with the other patients in the chemo ward at Yale University Hospital," added John. Shortly after Christmas, he discontinued chemo and went home to hospice care.

Brad had served on the board of his children's school, Greens Farms Academy, and as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Juilliard School of New York.

He is survived by his wife, Lara; by sons Sam and Will; by daughters Olivia and Katherine; by stepson Jack Cairns; and by his sister, Sandy; and by his brother, John, and John's wife, Susan, and their daughters Jennifer (Brian), Kendall '12 and Michelyn '18. ∞



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To make a donation today, visit www.siprep.org/giving or use the enclosed envelope.



CALENDAR

MAY

1 Spring Pops Concert (Bannan)	7pm
2 Father/Student Dinner (Commons)	6pm
3 Spring Pops Concert	3&7pm
4 International Food Faire	4pm
7 Ignatian Guild Meeting	7pm
7 Senior Breakfast (Commons)	8:15am
9 Ignatian Guild Installation Mass & Luncheon	11:30am
9 Transition to College (Orradre Chapel)	7pm
10 College Signing Day (Commons)	7:30pm
13 Returning students receive financial assistance notifications	
15 AALPA Meeting	
15 Class of 1952 Lunch, OJ's Westlake	
16 Fathers' Club BBQ (Commons)	5:30pm
17 Faculty In-Service (Holiday)	
18 Senior Prom	
22 Performing Arts Star Banquet	6:30pm
23 Transition Liturgy	
23 Day on the Green (following liturgy)	
24 Awards Assembly	
27 Memorial Day Holiday	
28-30 Final Exams	
29 SIPAC meeting (Wilsey Library)	6pm
30 Baccalaureate Mass	7:30pm

JUNE

1 Graduation	10:30am
8 Red & Blue Campus Crawl	5:30pm
10 High School summer school and camps begin	
17 Summer School begins	



Seeing the Giants in the Arizona Sunshine

Alumni Director Alexa Contreras '05 (center) led 50 SI Alumni to Arizona to see the Giants play during spring training. Tickets sold out overnight. Next year's trip will offer an affordable vacation package and even more tickets for alumni to join in the fun.

Saguaro Hotel room block rate will be \$280; VIP Charro Lounge tickets will be \$100. Other special activities will be announced later in the summer. Stay tuned for information or email us at acontreras@siprep.org to be alerted of the presale.

save the date

Red & Blue Campus Crawl

Saturday, June 8, 2019

All Alumni (*age 21 and older*) are invited to join us for an evening at the Prep! Bring a guest and enjoy campus tours, an Alumni Restaurateurs' Tasting Pavilion, an Alumni Craft Brew Beer Garden, music and dancing.

Questions? email slaveroni@siprep.org



BRINGING THE BRUCE-MAHONEY TROPHY TO SI

The varsity baseball team (right) defeated SHC 4-3 March 16 at Oracle Park, the home of the San Francisco Giants. After SI lost in football and won in basketball, the trophy game came down to this match-up. SI was down 3-1 before rallying to defeat the Irish. The following Monday, a group of fall, winter and spring athletes from SI (above) went to SHC to bring the trophy back to the Sunset District Campus.

Photos by Paul Ghiglieri and Sean Lawhon '87.

