

IC VIEW

THE MAGAZINE OF
ITHACA COLLEGE

WINTER
'20

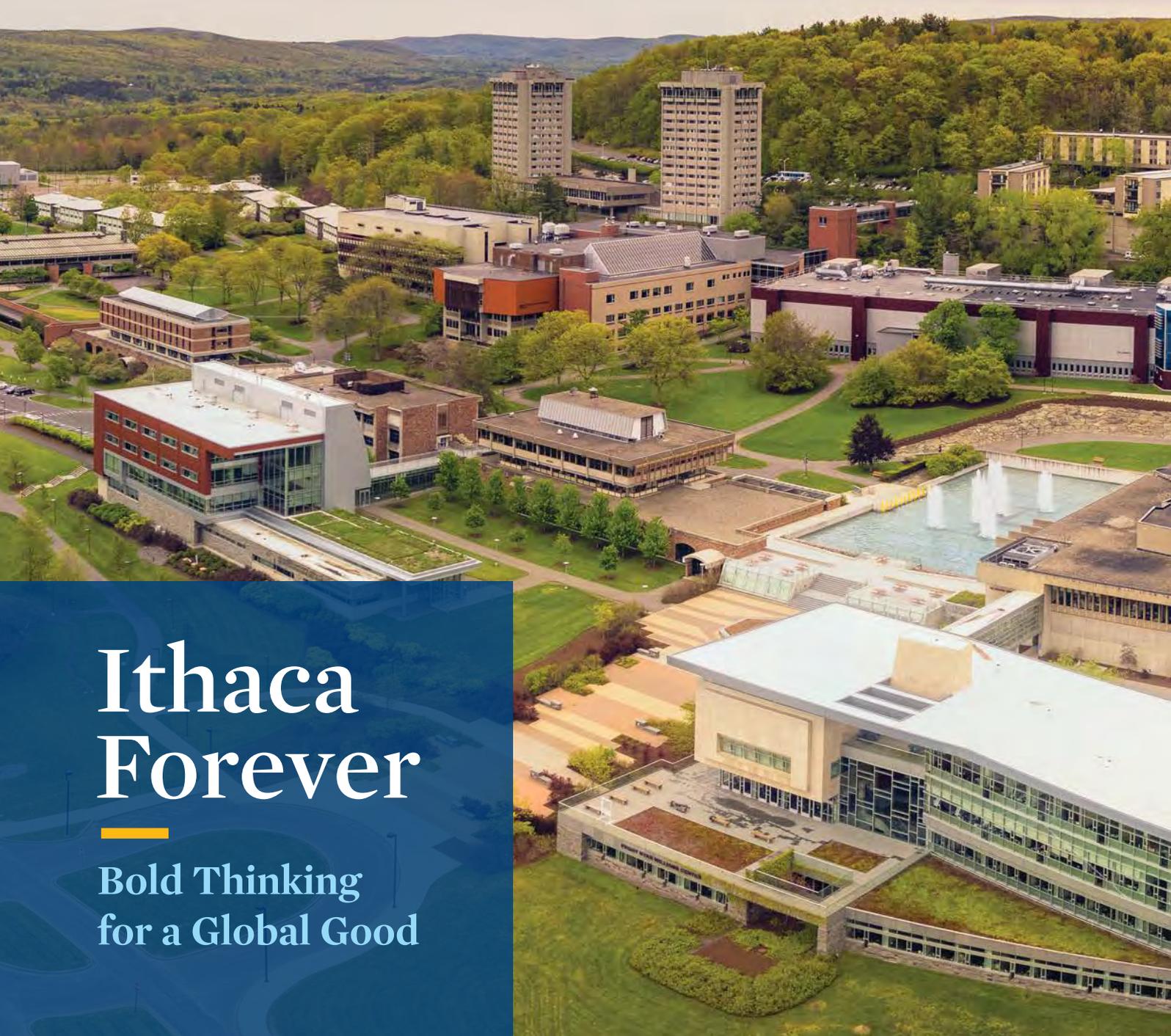
ITHACA'S
STRATEGIC PLAN

ALUMNI AWARD
WINNERS

SNOW BUSINESS

Ithaca Forever

**Bold Thinking
for a Global Good**



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PHOTO BY STETSON DOGGETT '20

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PHOTO BY DAVID SARNEVITZ '18

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PHOTO BY ADAM BAKER



PHOTO BY DAVE BURBANK PHOTOGRAPHY

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IC VIEW

THE MAGAZINE OF
ITHACA COLLEGE

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ON THE COVERS

FRONT AND BACK: Photo by Adam Baker,
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MISSION: *ICView* is the magazine of the Ithaca College community of alumni, parents of current students, employees, retirees, supporters, friends, and neighbors.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



PHOTO BY CHARLES MCKENZIE

THE ITHACA COLLEGE COMMUNITY

had a major moment last November, a moment that united, not only the sports fans among us but our entire IC family as well, around the promise of Ithaca College.

On November 16, IC's football team won the 61st annual Cortaca Jug game against rival SUNY Cortland on a national stage: MetLife Stadium, home of the NFL's New York Giants and New York Jets. A record crowd of 45,161 attended the game, and a record number of our IC alumni gathered to be a part of the event.

Thousands of you were there on game day, and hundreds more participated in events geared toward IC grads—at MetLife Stadium and around the country at Cortaca viewing parties.

The amount of enthusiasm and energy was

absolutely incredible, and it was truly amazing to see how this game activated an entire community in so many different ways. As I talked to many alumni throughout the weekend, it became very clear that this moment pushed beyond the boundaries of our football program. It was about the essence of the IC experience and how this place connects people for a lifetime.

The next five years will bring change to Ithaca College as we move forward with the implementation of our strategic plan, Ithaca Forever. In looking ahead, we have made it very clear—both on campus and with our greater IC community—that students are our “why.”

Because Ithaca College is an institution that strongly centers the liberal arts within a context of an experiential and professional education, moments like the 2019 Cortaca game are emblematic of our purpose, our reason for being.

From the beginning, our students were involved in so many aspects of the event, with interdisciplinary opportunities that encompassed our campus. Our television-radio students called and covered the game; our sport management students ran the on-campus ticket sales; student volunteers helped plan and execute Cortaca-related alumni events; and many student performers had once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, including our cheerleaders, our choir students, and the members of our African Drumming and Dance Ensemble.

This game reminded me of the power of our community and how a deep connection to a shared experience can span generations and perpetuate incredible energy.

We are keeping this momentum going as we work through our first year of implementing our new strategic plan. As we do this work, we not only think about the future but also about our past. In the midst of this effort, we think about how the programs IC has offered have changed over time—and why. We think about the different students who've come to this place: how the gender and ethnic diversity has shifted. We think about the major decision to relocate our campus to South Hill—something that seemed impossible at the time.

Finally, we think about the people who made it all happen—not just the leaders or past presidents or philanthropists but also the faculty, the staff, the community members, and the alumni whose individual and collective will to adapt has meant that this institution has endured for 126 years.

In this moment, we are those people: those of you reading this magazine, those of us on campus, and members of the IC family around the globe. We are the people who are building the future, one which centers a transformative student experience by calling upon the strength, energy, and joy found within our IC family as we build an Ithaca Forever community together.

All my best,

SHIRLEY M. COLLADO

President



PHOTO BY CHLOE-HART KINDELBERGER '20

CORTACA JUG SETS DIII ATTENDANCE RECORD

A record number of fans came out to this fall's Cortaca Jug game, as the "biggest little game in the nation" lived up to its nickname. This year's contest—played on November 16 at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey—drew 45,161 attendees, breaking the previous NCAA Division III single-game attendance record of 37,355. It also more than tripled the previous Cortaca Jug attendance record of 12,620, set in 2001.



"The entire experience was an overwhelming exuberance of connection, unity, pride, and love for Ithaca College."

— DEB MOHLENHOFF '92

While it's difficult to determine exactly how many of those in attendance were IC alumni, it's safe to say this was the largest gathering ever of IC alumni in one place at one time. The last time thousands of alumni were gathered in one place was during the 125th anniversary celebration, which took place on campus in the fall of 2017.

The Bombers won the historic contest, 32-20. It was IC's third straight victory over Cortland, and the Bombers

now lead the Cortaca series by a margin of 37-24.

"The entire experience was an overwhelming exuberance of connection, unity, pride, and love for Ithaca College," said **Deb Mohlenhoff '92**.

In addition to the scholar-athletes on the field, students from all five schools received hands-on experience leading up to and during the game. Students in the sport management major organized and promoted on-campus ticket sales, and physics students helped create a series of videos about the physics of football that were played on the Jumbotron during the game. Student journalists were at MetLife Stadium working on the production of the game that was livestreamed from the ICTV website, and a team of students gathered content for IC's social media channels. The Ithaca College Choir performed the national anthem and, during halftime, the African Drumming and Dance Ensemble performed.

The Bomber faithful showed their support for the college in another way during the week leading up to the big game by taking home a victory in the Cortaca Jug Giving Challenge, another competition with SUNY Cortland that encouraged alumni and students to give to their respective colleges. A total of 938 Ithaca College community members made a gift to the college during the challenge.

ALUMNI REACT TO CORTACA ON SOCIAL MEDIA



EMILY CHAVEZ '19:
Beyond thankful I was able to spend the weekend with great friends for the record-breaking Cortaca Jug at @MetLifeStadium! Even more thankful @IthacaCollege won #GoBombers. Now back to reality!!



BRIAN KLUGER '14:
Watching from row 1 section 112 at MetLife. I lost my voice from screaming, but it was worth it.



DEB MOHLENHOFF '92:
Let's go Bombers!
#proudtobeabomber
@icalumni @IthacaCollege
#Cortaca2019
#metlifestadium
#gobombers



RICK STONE '01:
Yesterday was so. much. fun. Thanks to all who didn't let the winds or cold stop us from raging at MetLife for #cortaca Special shout out to @crlvideo for including me in the group shot.

BOB DYLAN CONCERT EXEMPLIFIES COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Legendary folk-rocker Bob Dylan performing at Ithaca College would be big news in any year, but the event took on greater meaning this year as the college began to implement its strategic plan. The concert encompassed several of the themes and goals of Ithaca Forever, including community partnerships, utilization of all parts of the IC campus, and prioritizing experiential learning for students.

The November 17 show was presented by local concert promoter DSP Shows and Madison House. Working with a local promoter like DSP Shows is a prime example of the community partnerships the college seeks to take advantage of to offer experiential learning opportunities to its students. DSP Shows is one of several partners involved in IC's new specialized MBA in entertainment and media management.



PHOTO BY JOE MINISALE '22

Students in the program rotate through different internship positions at DSP Shows, and they assisted with the promotion of the concert at IC.

"We all gained a fresh perspective about all the important details that must be attended to in order to make our show a success for both the artists and fans," said **Jacob Generali '19**, a student in the MBA program.

PARK FOUNDATION ENDOWS PROGRAM

A \$30 million gift—the largest to a single endowment fund Ithaca College has ever received—will facilitate access to the college’s Park Scholar Program, helping to ensure that high-achieving students from across the nation will continue dedicating themselves to making IC’s campus, the Ithaca community, and the world a better place.

“For more than 20 years, the Park Scholar Program has brought top young talent to our school, invigorating our academic discourse and creative productions and providing important service to the Ithaca community,” said **Diane Gayeski ’74**, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications. “This endowment secures a bright future for this transformative program and positions us as a leader in preparing future communication professionals with a rigorous education and a solid foundation of ethical principles.”

The endowment supporting the Park Scholar Program, which is also distinctive in that it is the first endowed cohort scholarship at Ithaca College, is the sum of gifts from the estates of Roy and Dorothy Park and the Park Foundation. Housed within the Roy H. Park School of Communications, the program awards scholarships each year to a select group of incoming students who aspire to be part of a dynamic learning community and conscientious communication professionals. The scholarships cover the full cost of attendance, including tuition, living expenses, and

IGER AND BAY ESTABLISH SCHOLARSHIP

Bob Iger ’73 and his wife, Willow Bay, have committed to a \$1 million gift to establish the Iger-Bay Endowed Scholarship at Ithaca College in support of academic excellence and the institution’s goal of becoming a national model for colleges committed to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The scholarship, which is funded through proceeds from sales of Iger’s recently released memoir, *The Ride of a Lifetime*, will be awarded to incoming students in the Roy H. Park School of Communications who demonstrate financial need;



PHOTO BY ITHACA COLLEGE

Park scholar **Anna Gardner ’19** volunteers with the Tompkins County Public Library’s Reader Program.

a books and technology stipend. Through a mixture of academic and service programming, scholars take action and give back to their communities, and use the power of mass communication to make a positive impact on the world.

Park Scholar Program alumni have received highly competitive Fulbright awards; they attend graduate school at prestigious universities, including Harvard, Stanford, and the University of Pennsylvania; they provide service through organizations such as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, GLAAD, and City Year; and they land jobs at outlets such as *CNN*, *Time* magazine, *The Atlantic*, and *National Geographic Explorer*. To date, the program boasts 285 alumni.

have declared a major of journalism, sports media, or documentary studies; and hail from communities that are historically underrepresented and underserved in these fields at Ithaca College and nationally.

As CEO of the Walt Disney Company, Iger is a powerhouse media executive whose blockbuster features, including *Black Panther*, have proven to be critical and commercial smashes that resonate with audiences around the world. Bay, who is dean of the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, is likewise committed to ensuring that students possess a deep understanding and appreciation of diverse voices in media.

NSF GRANT AWARDED TO INCREASE INCLUSIVITY IN STEM

This past fall the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Ithaca College a five-year, \$650,000 grant to recruit and retain low-income, academically talented computer science, mathematics, and physics/astronomy students. The grant will allow the college to award 14 scholarships, contribute to a positive campus climate, and support engaging academic activities.

“We must start early to continue to build a large and diverse pipeline of students who will make an impact on the future of innovation and progress,” said Kelley Sullivan, associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy and principal investigator for the grant.

The grant also aligns with a key goal of the Ithaca Forever strategic plan: to become a national model for colleges committed to the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Part of that aim is to develop a campus climate that ensures students feel supported and understood.

“Oftentimes when students leave a STEM-related program it is not because they weren’t capable or no longer interested in the field,” said Sullivan. “It is

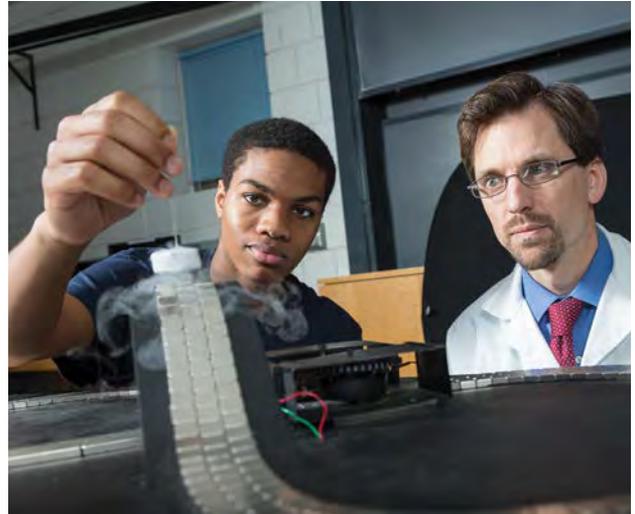


PHOTO BY ADAM BAKER

because they don’t feel comfortable in the department. There is a sense of not belonging.”

IC is looking for scholars to discover common ground and strengthen support for each other by encouraging students to connect with others from different backgrounds and experiences but who share a similar interest in STEM studies. One aspect of this is a STEM residence hall floor and social events that will unite STEM students and help create meaningful connections.



PHOTO BY DAVE BURBANK



PHOTO BY GIOVANNI SANTACROCE

DEANS TO STEP DOWN

After serving for more than a decade at the helm of one of the preeminent communications programs in the nation, **Diane Gayeski** announced that this academic year will be her last as dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications. A 1974 graduate of the school, Gayeski will return to teaching in the Department of Strategic Communication after a fall 2020 sabbatical.

During her tenure, Gayeski inaugurated programs that recognize the critical role media play in society, such as Women in Media Month, which includes the presentation of the Jessica Savitch Breakthrough Award and the Rod Serling Award for Advancing Social Justice through Popular Media, and the John Keshishoglou Center for Global Communications Innovation, which hosts the MS in communications innovation degree program and Media for Social Responsibility minicourses.

Dean of the School of Music, Karl Paulnack also announced that he would be stepping down as dean at the end of the academic year. Paulnack returned to campus as dean in 2013, after having served on the IC faculty from 1986 to 1998 as an associate professor of piano. During that time he created and directed the school’s bachelor of music in performance–collaborative emphasis degree program. Paulnack’s signature achievement as dean was shepherding the successful reaccreditation of the School of Music by the National Association of Schools of Music, which will run through the 2027–28 academic year.

IC ROWER MEDALS AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

When Pearl Outlaw '20 and her partner, Josh Boissoneau, raced in the PR3 mixed double sculls at the 2018 World Rowing Championships in Bulgaria, everything that could have gone wrong did.

Boissoneau, who has a nervous system disorder, and Outlaw, who has retinitis pigmentosa, a genetic disorder of the eyes that causes vision loss, compete in para-rowing, which is open to male and female rowers with disabilities who meet certain criteria. Para-rowing, formerly called adaptive rowing, is integrated with the World Rowing Federation, and para-rowers compete alongside able-bodied athletes at international competitions. But things weren't going well for Boissoneau and Outlaw.

"Josh was already trying to tough out a broken wrist," she said. "Then we lost our bags, and when we went to get classified, Josh wasn't able to, which essentially means they didn't think he was disabled enough to row."

The pair were eventually reclassified and cleared to race, but the stressful times didn't make it easy to focus on the race, and the pair finished in fifth place.

A year later, at the 2019 World Rowing Championships in Austria, things once again threatened to go awry. "Josh actually fell off his seat at the start of the race," Outlaw said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF U.S. ROWING

It could have been easy to let this start derail them. Instead, she and Boissoneau dug deep and wound up on the medal stand, clocking a third-place finish of 8:17:51, behind Russia and Austria.

"Despite everything that happened at the start, I just settled in and kept on pulling. After all that happened in 2018, it was nice to just focus on racing," said Outlaw.

In the fall, she competed for the Bombers at the Head of the Charles race in Boston and is looking forward to the spring season. Although Outlaw will not try to qualify for the 2020 Paralympic Games in Tokyo, she isn't closing the book on her international career.

"Earning this last medal has opened the door for other international competitions," she said. "So I'm going to keep training and see what happens."

STRONG LIKE NORA

When the Ithaca College field hockey team started its season this fall, the players had a new teammate cheering them on. The Bombers "adopted" Nora Zelko, a three-year-old child battling cancer.

Nora and the team were paired through the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation, an organization that connects children with pediatric cancer with high school and collegiate sports teams so that the teams can provide the children with love, support, and friendship. Nora has stage four neuroblastoma, a rare form of cancer commonly found in the adrenal glands.

The team personalized a locker for Nora and equipped it with a field hockey stick signed by the team and a backpack for her first year of preschool. They took her out onto the field after games and sent her messages of support when she had medical appointments.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

"Before every game, we always write a little saying on our arm," said Kendall Keil '20. "The word is something to motivate the team for the game. We wrote *strong*, and our reasoning was if Nora can fight neuroblastoma, we can fight through this game. We can push ourselves to our limits."





Ithaca Forever

Bold thinking for a global good

This past fall, Ithaca College launched its five-year strategic plan: Ithaca Forever. The plan is a result of a yearlong, inclusive collaboration between faculty, staff, students, alumni, and off-campus community members.

And it's just getting started.

The plan provides a framework for how the college will deliver an exceptional educational experience that is accessible, affordable, and responsive to the needs of the next generation of Ithaca College students. The field of higher education is facing myriad challenges, including affordability, accessibility, and the demographic decline of the college-age population in the Northeast. These challenges caused us to think deeply about our purpose, what we are committed to, what we want to invest in, and what our future will look like. Read on to see how we plan to address these challenges in the future and for examples of current initiatives that help illustrate the plan.

▶ For an in-depth look at the plan, visit ithaca.edu/ithaca-forever.

OUR PURPOSE

Students are at the center of everything we do.

We want IC to become a model for student success, engagement, and well-being, and to help students develop their unique potential.

To that end, we are working to provide even more experiential learning opportunities and a lower cost of attendance for students and their families.



PHOTO BY ADAM BAKER

OUR COMMITMENTS

Become a year-round campus

Ithaca College already offers a number of programs during the summer catering to high school students, such as the Summer Music Academy, the Summer College for High School Students, and the Ithaca Young Writers Institute. What if we added more of those types of programs so that IC could become a vibrant, 12-month place of learning for multiple generations?

Support collaboration and cross-sector partnerships

Ithaca College has deep roots and long-standing relationships with organizations in the local community. We now look to expand beyond those traditional partners to work with organizations that can help create innovative opportunities.

Become a national model for colleges committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion

We value diversity as a source of strength for our community that will build understanding and fuel vibrancy, creativity, and innovation on our campus.

“Not only are we launching Ithaca Forever, we are honoring this community, honoring our resiliency, and honoring the promise of this institution.”

— SHIRLEY M. COLLADO, PRESIDENT

Examples

The following examples show the goals and objectives of the strategic plan brought to life.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL GRIPPI '10

BECOMING A MODEL FOR STUDENT WELL-BEING, LOWERING THE COST OF ATTENDANCE, AND CULTIVATING CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATIONS

IC Dining

In response to concerns from students and families, the college decided to end its relationship with Sodexo, bring dining operations in house, and partner with Cornell Dining. Now, we aim to become a national model for in-house dining services by 2024, providing experiential learning for students and lowering the cost of meal plans.

< Students enjoy a meal in the redesigned Campus Center Dining Hall.



PHOTO BY SAVANNA LENKER '20

BECOMING A MODEL FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION, AND LOWERING THE COST OF ATTENDANCE

Grant to Recruit More Diverse STEM Students

This fall the National Science Foundation awarded Ithaca College a \$650,000 grant to recruit and retain low-income, academically talented computer science, mathematics, and physics/astronomy students. The grant will allow the college to award 14 scholarships and contribute to a positive campus climate. (See page 6 for more information.)

< Eli Robinson '22 and Antara Sen '23 in a physics lab.

“This is the very embodiment of what the strategic plan hopes to achieve—bringing in revenue, partnering with a community organization, and giving students a valuable learning opportunity. It’s a great sign for the future.”

— MARY JO WATTS, LEARNING APPLICATION COORDINATOR, ON THE BOB DYLAN CONCERT



PHOTO BY GIOVANNI SANTACROCE

OFFERING MORE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

The Bob Dylan Experience

Students in the first cohort of the MBA in entertainment and media management helped local concert promoter DSP Shows promote Bob Dylan’s concert in the Athletics and Events Center on campus November 17. The concert also served as an example of how we can better utilize spaces on campus. (See page 4 for more information on the Bob Dylan concert.)

< Dan Smalls talks with the inaugural cohort of the MBA in entertainment and media management.



PHOTO BY CHARLES MCKENZIE

CULTIVATING CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATIONS AND OFFERING MORE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Cortaca Jug 2019

This past fall the Cortaca Jug was played in MetLife Stadium, home of the New York Giants and New York Jets, as a result of an invitation from the National Football Foundation and collaboration among more than a dozen cross-functional teams on campus. The event also created multiple opportunities for hands-on learning for students from all five schools and was the largest-ever gathering of IC alumni. (See page 3 for more on this year’s Cortaca matchup.)

< Students and alumni came together to support the Bombers.

“As we strive to create an Ithaca Forever community and a culture of philanthropy, we rely on alumni to share their experience, their passion, and their expertise.”

— WENDY KOBLER, VICE PRESIDENT
OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

OUR INVESTMENTS

We are committed to the financial stability of the institution, so we will determine and maintain an appropriate size for our programs and structures and look for ways to improve space utilization on campus. We will also seek to advance the Campus Master Plan in ways that will enhance teaching and learning, including revamping the Campus Center.

OUR FUTURE

We want to cultivate an Ithaca Forever community, inspired by the power of the Ithaca College experience.

Ithaca College’s alumni are among our most valuable resources. We seek to build a community devoted to Ithaca Forever, sharing our talents and developing relationships and skills that will serve a lifetime of learning and growth. We want to build a culture of philanthropy that will support the college through the power of social, educational, and economic connections, which will put Ithaca College firmly on the path to another 125 years of excellence in education. 🍓





Ways to Get Involved at IC

MENTOR

➤ icmentorconnect.com

VOLUNTEER

➤ ithaca.edu/volunteering

MAKE A GIFT

➤ ithaca.edu/giving

THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE *Snow Business*

IC's snow removal team
plows the extra mile

BY KERRY C. REGAN

PHOTOS BY STETSON DOGGETT '19*



You may look back fondly on your winters at IC, remembering days when classes were canceled and you played in the snow with your friends—when all that white stuff made for a world of fun and wonder. Or you may recall a more challenging time when there was something you wanted to do, but Mother Nature had a different plan. Either way, chances are everyone who spent time on Ithaca’s South Hill has at least one story of “that time it snowed at IC.”

Last winter, a storm dumped more than a foot of snow on Ithaca during the same January weekend when students were returning to campus for the spring semester. A team of 30 grounds and transportation employees worked around the clock to clear the roads, sidewalks, and parking lots to make the campus safe. What’s more, they were doing it in single-digit temperatures and wind chills of -30°F.

During that storm, snow removal operations lasted from 9 a.m. on Saturday morning until 11:30 p.m. on Monday night. About a dozen team members spent the night on campus from Saturday to Sunday, staying in their offices, in bunks at the Office of Public Safety, or in rooms provided by residential life. “We have a very dedicated staff,” said **Ernie McClatchie ’01, MS ’03**, executive director of maintenance, grounds, and transportation.

ON CALL

Team members are assigned specific zones on campus for plowing roads and sidewalks or shoveling stairs. That way, when they’re called, they already know what to do. Additionally, facilities setup and event technicians and facilities attendants clean and maintain entrances of their buildings.

Each week, six team members are on standby during their off hours if needed. But when a significant amount of snow falls, the entire team is called in. A 3 a.m. start time is typical for clearing an overnight snowfall by 8 a.m.

Too much back-to-back overtime can be difficult, such as during the winter of 2015–16, when the full team was engaged for four consecutive days. “We try to limit consecutive working hours to 16,” McClatchie said.

Other challenges include finding places to put the snow—inevitably some must be trucked out of parking lots—and plowing the narrower, five-foot-wide sidewalks on campus, which requires special tractors. The difficulty with the sidewalks is that they are so spread out that the plow drivers must travel long distances to get to them all. To ensure that significant snow removal challenges aren’t introduced in future campus construction, McClatchie reviews all plans to ensure they are snow-removal friendly.

“Our mission is to keep everyone who comes to campus safe,” McClatchie said. “And if there’s an overnight storm that’s finished by 2 a.m., when people arrive in the morning they may not even realize there was a storm last night.”

“”

Our mission is to keep everyone who comes to campus safe. And if there’s an overnight storm that’s finished by 2 a.m., when people arrive in the morning they may not even realize there was a storm last night.

—**ERNIE MCCLATCHIE ’01, MS ’03**
Maintenance, grounds, and transportation executive director

TELL US YOUR STORY

What’s your memory of “that time it snowed at IC”? Email us at icview@ithaca.edu, and we may include your story in a future issue of the magazine.



PHOTO BY ADAM BAKER

IC SNOW REMOVAL BY THE NUMBERS

36

**ACRES OF
PARKING LOTS**

(equivalent to about
27 football fields)

7

**MILES OF
ROADWAY**

10+

**MILES OF
SIDEWALKS**

1,200

**EXTERIOR
STAIRS**

(equivalent to about
a 60-story building)

30

**SNOW
REMOVAL
TEAM
MEMBERS**



PHOTO BY EVAN MONTGOMERY '18

DID YOU KNOW?

- **The team removes snow** from the Higgins Stadium artificial turf field for lacrosse team practices, which begin in January.
- **Additives such as magnesium chloride** are incorporated into the salt the team uses to make it less corrosive, more eco-friendly, and more effective in melting snow and ice than traditional rock salt.
- **Making sure that people with accessibility** needs can get where they need to go is always a top snow-removal priority.





LEFT: PHOTO BY CHARLES MCKENZIE
RIGHT: PHOTO BY STEVE HOCKSTEIN/HARVARD STUDIO

CORTACA 2019

ITHACA WINS, 32-20

The 61st Cortaca Jug game on November 16 was truly one for the record books: not only was the Division III football single-game attendance record shattered by the 45,161 fans who showed up to cheer on the Bombers and Red Dragons from the stands of MetLife Stadium, but this year's matchup also undoubtedly brought together the largest-ever gathering of Ithaca College alumni.

➤ For more photos from the weekend, visit the [Ithaca College Facebook](#) page.



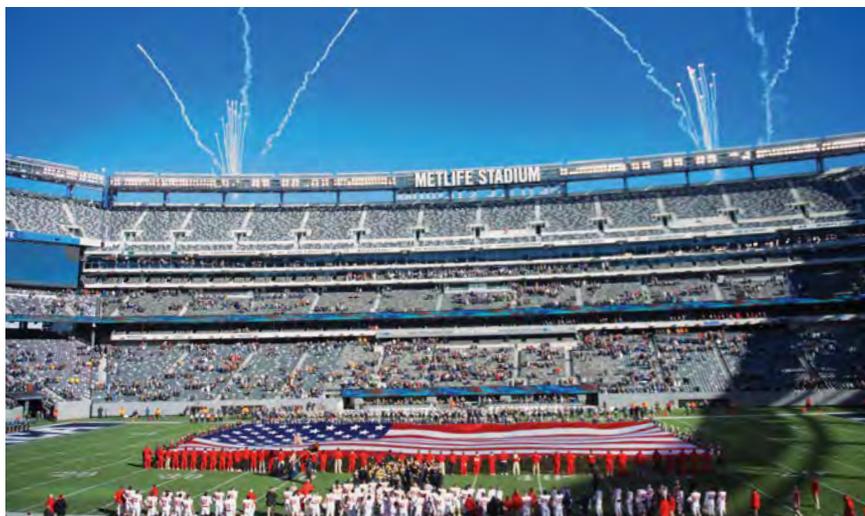
LEFT: PHOTO BY GIOVANNI SANTACROCE
RIGHT: PHOTO BY KERRY C. REGAN

Top left: Student-athletes emerge from the tunnel at MetLife Stadium. Top right: Many large groups of alumni came to the event, and 25 of them competed in a tailgating contest. Bottom left: Student media from *The Ithacan*, WICB, and ICTV covered the event. Bottom right: Alumni caught up at the Friday Night Lights event the evening before the big game.



“Cortaca at MetLife was a truly special event, but I think the most magical part was just having so many Bombers in one place celebrating a school we’re so proud of.”

- ZACK FORD '07, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR



Top left: IC’s African Drumming and Dance Ensemble performed at halftime. Top right: Bob Garone ‘87, chair of the IC Board of Trustees Dave Lissy ‘87, and Marc Hudak ‘90 pose with a ceremonial game ball. Middle: Hundreds of students filled the stands. Bottom left: Family members participated in Fan Fest activities before kickoff. Bottom right: One hundred student volunteers unfurled a 75-by-100-foot American flag.

PHOTOS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: (1) BY WHITNEY ROSENFELD '21 (2) BY STEVE HOCKSTEIN/HARVARD STUDIO (3) BY CHARLES MCKENZIE (4) BY PERRY BINDELGLASS (5) BY CHARLES MCKENZIE



PHOTO BY SHERYL SINKOW

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2019

Hundreds of alumni and their guests returned to campus this past fall to attend the college's Alumni Weekend. Special events included 50th anniversaries of IC's Athletic Hall of Fame, African-Latino Society, and Higher Education Opportunity Program.

➤ Visit ithaca.edu/alumniweekend to see more photos.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT ALUMNI WEEKEND, OCTOBER 23-25, 2020.

Graduating classes ending in 5 or 0 are celebrating reunions, but all alumni are invited! If you're interested in serving on your class reunion committee, please contact Kristin Van Ormer, associate director of constituent relations, at kvanormer@ithaca.edu or (607) 274-3314.



LEFT: PHOTO BY SHERYL SINKOW
RIGHT: PHOTO BY SHEVORY GENE '22

Top: The class of 1989 celebrated its 30th reunion. Bottom left: Alumni from the class of 1969 and earlier enjoy a fall day. Bottom right: Alumni look at photos during the ALS/HEOP 50th anniversary social.

Alumni HONORED

BY KELLI B. AN '04

There just seems to be something special about an Ithaca College education that sets the stage for students to go on and do extraordinary things.

"Ithaca provided an environment of opportunities for me that I was able to dig into, participate and learn," said **Tom Everett '66, MS '69**, one of two alumni recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award this year—and the college's only alumnus to have earned the Harvard Medal.

It's a sentiment that all of the 2019 Alumni Awards recipients share. "It's just amazing how Ithaca still has such a tremendous impact on my life," said **Daniel Haack '10**, winner of this year's Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

"I meet a lot of people whose college educations or college experiences were not as transformative or as impactful long term," Haack explained. "And it really seems to be consistent among Ithaca alumni that it really was that life-changing experience that you hope college will be."

Meet the alumni award winners who have built on their years at Ithaca to do something amazing. >>

**NOMINATE A FRIEND OR CLASSMATE
FOR AN ALUMNI AWARD.**

Visit ithaca.edu/alumniawards.

*The deadline for nominations
is January 31, 2021.*



PHOTO BY SHERYL SINKOW

ANNE MCCLURE FURRY '55, MUSB '56 | *Lifetime Achievement Award*

If you've ever flown into the Tompkins County Airport, shopped at the Pyramid Mall (now the Shops at Ithaca Mall), or driven north on Route 13, then you've seen firsthand some of the impact **Anne McClure Furry '55, MUSB '56**, has had on the area.

As one of the cofounders of the Village of Lansing in 1974, Furry has quite literally shaped Tompkins County over the years.

"In 1972, the southern end of the town of Lansing where I live was a rural farming area," she said. When the state constructed a divided highway—Route 13—through the area, Furry and other citizens saw the potential for problems. "The town had no land use planning or zoning regulations," she explained.

"I did not consider that it was less common for women to be professionals and community leaders. I spoke my mind and tried to work for the good of the whole."

Their Village Study Group first attempted to propose land use planning guidelines to the Lansing Town Board and, when that failed, they went through the contentious process of forming a village.

"I was a major player in the formation of the village," Furry said—and it was a project she undertook while working full time and raising three children.

After the Village of Lansing's formation, Furry became a trustee and then served as deputy mayor and mayor.

Furry credits her college days for setting her on that path. "Ithaca College began my lifelong commitment to the Ithaca community," she said.

Furry put her Ithaca degrees to use first as a private music teacher and then for the Ithaca City School District, where she spent more than two decades as a teacher and district coordinator for the music staff. "I was able to develop a solid vocal and instrumental music curriculum, K-12, consisting of 10 schools," she said. "My staff had the opportunity to collaborate with the Ithaca Opera Company in student-written and [student]-produced operas in the classroom, which won the National Education Arts Award."

When Furry retired, Ithaca College invited her back as a lecturer and asked her to observe and mentor students preparing to teach. In 2005, she established the Anne McClure Furry '55 Endowment Fund for the Promotion and Support of Pedagogical Training in Classroom Music Education.

Her professional and community efforts have earned Furry honors including the Women Making History Award and inclusion in *Who's Who of American Women*. But she said she didn't set out to be a pioneer.

"I did not consider that it was less common for women to be professionals and community leaders," she said. "I saw the need for good planning in both my teaching profession and my community, so I became involved. I spoke my mind and tried to work for the good of the whole."



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN DOOHER

TOM EVERETT '66, MS '69 | *Lifetime Achievement Award*

Shortly after retiring from Harvard University, **Tom Everett '66, MS '69**, received a phone call from the university, letting him know that he was to receive the Harvard Medal, awarded to recognize extraordinary service.

"I was shocked that someone thought to nominate me," he said. "I saw myself as kind of being under the radar."

"Harvard's Music Man," as the university president referred to Everett during the 2016 medal ceremony, had a big impact over his 42-year career as the university's director of bands. He founded Harvard's jazz program and groups including its jazz band and wind ensemble, as well as advised the student-run marching band. Conducting those groups brought Everett to every major event, from commencements and convocations to football games.

And in his spare time, the bass trombonist performed: "I was fortunate enough to play with the Bolshoi Ballet, the Boston Opera, the Boston Ballet, and the Boston Pops Orchestra," he said. "And if I didn't have rehearsal in the evening, I had an opportunity to play with the bands of Ray Charles, Tommy Dorsey, and Dizzy Gillespie."

Everett credits his high school band director and his private trumpet teacher, both Ithaca College alumni, as inspiration for applying to the college as a music education major. "Without ever visiting Ithaca, I had decided that's where I would like to go to college," he said.

Everett had three experiences at Ithaca that changed the course of his career. The first was hearing a recording by bass trombonist George Roberts. "I so identified with [the sound]," he said. "The next day I started looking for a

bass trombone." The second was joining a classmate's jazz band. And possibly the most significant influence was the creative depth of professor of music Warren Benson.

"One of my most passionate crusades... has been to increase the awareness of the contributions of jazz artists, composers, and arrangers," he said. Another was to "help promote the bass trombone as an instrument that people know."

"One of my most passionate crusades... has been to increase the awareness of the contributions of jazz artists, composers, and arrangers."

When Everett first discovered the bass trombone, he said there was little by way of literature written specifically for the instrument—a gap he set out to fill, in part, by commissioning composers. Over his career, he premiered more than 30 solo works written for the bass trombone. In 1972 he founded the International Trombone Association to foster communications among trombonists.

Harvard had come calling soon after Everett wrapped up his master's degree at Ithaca and had taken a teaching job in Batavia, New York. An Ithaca connection—**Frank Battisti '53, MS '64**—had briefly held the university director of bands position and recommended Everett as his replacement.

"It was the opportunity of a lifetime," he said—and that's exactly what he made of it.



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN DOOHER

KIMBERLY ZEOLI '89 | *Volunteer Service Award*

"One of the things that I am passionate about is helping the students and trying to get more of our alumni back to campus to do the same," said **Kimberly Zeoli '89**.

Zeoli, a senior partner in the Risk and Financial Advisory practice at Deloitte & Touche, visits campus at least twice a year to speak on panels and in classes. She mentors students and young alumni on and off-campus to help them navigate the professional world and is active with groups and events in Ithaca and the Boston area, including the IC School of Business Advisory Council (BAC), Ithaca Today, Admitted Students Program, Network Nights, Meet the Firms, and the IC Women's Network. Last fall, she was elected to IC's Board of Trustees.

Working with IC's president, the alumni relations office, and others, Zeoli is planning the first-ever Ithaca sponsored event on Nantucket in June this year to reach out to hundreds of alumni who live or vacation in the Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and islands region. President Collado will be there to share news from IC, specifically about the college's new strategic plan, Ithaca Forever.

Zeoli said her father was an accountant for General Electric in Utica, New York, and she used to go to work with him as she was growing up. Applying to Ithaca College as an accounting major felt like the right fit.

"Ithaca felt like home as soon as I arrived on campus for my first visit," she said. "There was an immediate kind of connection to the community and the beauty of the area."

Zeoli aspired to earn a job with one of the world's biggest accounting and consulting firms, become a certified public accountant, and work up to partner.

"In the fall of my senior year, I accepted a job offer

from Coopers & Lybrand, to join them in their Syracuse office, right after college," she said. She passed her CPA exam shortly after and worked her way up the ranks, first in audit and then in the health care advisory practice.

Zeoli made the move to Boston—and Deloitte—in 2000, joining the firm as a senior manager. She was admitted to the partnership in 2004 and now works with several of Deloitte's consulting clients in the health care/health tech industry that are headquartered in the U.S., Germany, and the Netherlands. In addition, she is a leader in Deloitte's New England practice for their industry programs and health care sector.

In 2015, the newly hired School of Business dean, Sean Reid, invited Zeoli to join his Business Advisory Council, composed of alumni and local community leaders. Spurred by her involvement on the BAC, Zeoli began finding other ways to connect with the college.

"They would invite me to either come speak to larger student groups or be part of a [Professions Week] panel," said Zeoli. Working with Reid and other faculty, she schedules one-on-one meetings with students to answer questions, review résumés, or do mock interviews; she visits classes to talk about her own journey or career opportunities in the "big four" accounting firms; and she gives guest lectures on specialties including forensic accounting.

Balancing work, family and her commitments to Ithaca can take some effort, Zeoli said. "What I've learned over the years is that it's important to plan ahead and schedule time for Ithaca into my calendar," she said. "I overall feel I get so much more back from the Ithaca College community than I can give."



PHOTO BY CANON BROWNELL '15

DANIEL HAACK '10 | *Outstanding Young Alumni Award*

Daniel Haack '10, who grew up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, didn't know a lot of people working in media.

"When it was time to start looking for colleges, I just kept looking for the best schools in the country for media. Ithaca always came up at the top of that list," he said. "It just felt like there were so many exciting opportunities offered at campus and that alumni were doing really cool and exciting things, as well."

When Haack was offered a full-ride scholarship as a Park scholar, that sealed the deal.

"Kids really need to see themselves and see their families represented in the media that they watch or read. It was really important for me to be able to show that LGBTQ people and themes can be represented in children's media in a kid-friendly and universal way."

Opportunities abounded for the integrated marketing communications major. Haack won a fellowship with the International Radio and Television Society, which set him up with internships at Walt Disney Studios and Viacom's Logo TV channel, and he earned an award from the Park School's Center for Independent Media, which enabled him to work with the Center for Media and Democracy.

He interned at Channel Four in London during a semester abroad and later traveled to Qatar as part of a group working with Park School professor Kati Lustyik on

a paper about children's media around the world.

"Children's media, in many ways, is just a lot more fun and fascinating and fantastical," Haack said. "There's a tendency for more interesting world building and really kind of pushing the boundaries."

After graduation, he started a career in advertising—but when an opportunity with educational media franchise StoryBots came up, he said it felt like a more natural fit. As StoryBots' head of marketing and digital product, he said his job involved "taking these characters that people—and especially kids—really love, and figuring out ways to expand the StoryBots story." That includes elements like the brand's music collection, its books with Random House, and its interactive apps. He won a Daytime Emmy in 2017 as part of the team behind Netflix's *Ask the StoryBots*. Haack left the StoryBots team in November to take on a new role as a creative executive, developing engaging and enriching kids' programming for YouTube.

One of Haack's proudest achievements is the publication of the award-winning children's books he's authored. *Prince & Knight* and *Maiden & Princess* are modern fairy tales with LGBTQ heroes.

"Kids really need to see themselves and see their families represented in the media that they watch or read," he said. "So, it was really important for me to be able to show that LGBTQ people and themes can be represented in children's media in a kid-friendly and universal way."

And Haack is just getting started. He recently received his master's degree in technology, innovation, and education from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and is working on a sequel to *Prince & Knight*.



PHOTO BY STEVE HOCKSTEIN

STEW LEONARD JR. '77 | *Professional Achievement Award*

In his 32 years as president and CEO of grocery chain Stew Leonard's, **Stew Leonard Jr. '77** has seen the business expand to seven food stores and 10 individually owned and operated wine stores in three states. The "Disneyland of dairy stores," as *The New York Times* dubbed the company, is known for its curated selection of fresh foods and homemade goods, its emphasis on customer service, and its in-store entertainment, including animatronic displays, live music, and petting zoos. The food chain does roughly \$500 million in business, Leonard said, and appeared on *Fortune's* "100 best companies to work for" for 10 consecutive years.

"Obviously I'm pretty proud of Stew Leonard's today," he said.

"I think my Ithaca education, not only academically but also socially and athletically and just emotionally, was solid as could be."

But it's a story that might have played out very differently, were it not for a fateful conversation Leonard had on a flight across Asia in 1977.

Leonard had just graduated from IC with a degree in accounting and had a job lined up with what was then called Price Waterhouse. As a graduation gift, his father—Stew Leonard Sr., who founded Stew Leonard's—had bought him a ticket on Pan American World Airways Flight 002. The round-the-world flight started in New

York City and made stops in London, Frankfurt, Istanbul, Beirut, Delhi, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Honolulu, and San Francisco. Passengers could disembark and resume their trip at will.

"It changed my life," he said. "I really didn't understand how the rest of the world lived. And it was just a big eye-opener to me with the different customs and different cultures, different foods."

On the leg to Delhi, Leonard had a conversation with a stranger from India that sent his career in a different direction.

"He talked me out of going to work for Price Waterhouse... He said, 'No, no, no, you should work for your family. Put all your energy into your family's business and help your father.' I basically got off the plane and said, 'Hey, Dad, I think I changed my mind. Would you still want me to come and work for you?'"

The answer, of course, was "yes."

Leonard also devotes his energy to giving back. He and his wife, Kim, established the Stew Leonard III Water Safety Foundation in honor of their son, who accidentally drowned in a pool at 21 months old. The nonprofit's primary aim is to teach children about water safety, which it does by subsidizing swimming lessons through local groups like the YMCA and through safety-focused children's books and apps.

Leonard credits his time at Ithaca for setting him up for professional success.

"I think my Ithaca education, not only academically but also socially and athletically and just emotionally, was solid as could be," Leonard said.



PHOTO BY DAVE BURBANK

FREDERICK LAUB '71 | *Edgar “Dusty” Bredbenner Jr. ’50 Distinguished Alumni Award*

If **Frederick Laub '71** had his druthers, you might not be reading this. “I usually give very anonymously and very quietly,” he said.

Laub started the Beverly Baker '54 School of Music Travel Ensemble Fund, which provides support for ensembles to represent the college at competitions and events around the country and abroad. And he has continued the Laub Family Scholarship—established by his late father, David J. Laub, who served on the Ithaca College Board of Trustees from 1965 to 1982—which benefits an upperclassman in the School of Music. Over the years, he has served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, worked as an alumni admissions volunteer, and given to the IC Annual Fund, but his focus has been on scholarships.

“I want to be able to help people help themselves,” he said.

His love for the college began with an act of rebellion. “I did not tell my parents that I had applied to Ithaca,” Laub said. His family wanted him to attend Yale as his father and other male relatives had. “I wanted co-ed, and I wanted small, and I wanted to work,” he said. Attending Ithaca “was my first time that I was on my own to make my own decisions, and I just enjoyed everything about it.”

With a bachelor’s degree in economics from Ithaca and an MBA from Cornell, Laub left for New York City to work with Saks Fifth Avenue. The company sent him to Boston as the second in command of the Saks Fifth Avenue store at the Prudential Center, in charge of operations.

Moving to Boston led Laub to a new hobby: interior design. “I bought the worst house in a nice

neighborhood outside of Boston, fixed it up, and then had a party for the neighbors,” he said. “They said, ‘If you can do what you did with this house, what can you do with ours?’ And so I did that on a part-time basis.”

But the winters proved difficult, so Laub took a job with Burdines in Miami and moved to Florida. Several career hops later, he decided to go full time with interior design.

“I want to be able to help people help themselves.”

These days, Laub’s company, Utmost Interiors, works with a wide range of clients, projects, and budgets. One of his favorite challenges is working with young homeowners who don’t have a lot of discretionary income, giving him an opportunity to “take a \$5,000 look and create basically the same thing with \$500.”

“It’s great fun,” he said. “Every job is different. Every client is different. Your home should reflect you, not me. I help you get what you want.”



EVAN ROBBINS '87 | *Humanitarian Alumni Award*

Evan Robbins '87 was reading *The New York Times* one morning in 2006 when a front-page article about a six-year-old trafficked child in Ghana caught his attention. "He worked 16-hour days on these fishing boats, eating one meal a day—life-threatening work," said Robbins. "My younger daughter was six at the time, so the story really bothered me."

The social studies teacher talked about the story with his classes at Metuchen High School in New Jersey. "We decided to do a project based on it," he said, and the class hosted a fundraising walk to raise money against trafficking. Subsequent classes opted to continue the project.

"By empowering our students with the education and tools they need to be successful, we hope they will mature into self-sufficient adults who will help combat child trafficking."

In 2010, Robbins went on a rescue mission to Ghana with the International Organization for Migration. "After an 11-hour flight and a 14-hour drive, we came to this place called Kete Krachi," he said. "We were able to rescue five children." After that trip, Robbins came up with the idea to broker a deal to build a school in exchange for the release of 19 trafficked children. The school was built the next year.

The experience convinced Robbins to form his own nonprofit so that he wasn't solely relying on other organizations to effect change. In 2011, Breaking the Chain Through Education was born. It brought Robbins, who was a marketing major at Ithaca College, full circle. A semester abroad in London had prompted him to travel after graduation. "I saved up money, and then I went backpacking on my own for nine months," traversing Southeast Asia and Australia, he said.

"I didn't think my marketing degree would really pay off much. But, it turned out that it's been very helpful," he said. "Running a charity is a business."

Fast-forward to 2019, and Breaking the Chain has an office in Ghana, a staff of six, and 99 children in its care. According to Robbins, Breaking the Chain is unique in taking a long-term view on rehabilitating rescued children.

"I wanted to continue caring for them until they were independent and able to care for themselves," he said. The nonprofit pays for their schooling and vocational training. As Breaking the Chain's site puts it: "By empowering our students with the education and tools they need to be successful, we hope they will mature into self-sufficient adults who will help combat child trafficking."

Operating the nonprofit requires daily contact with his staff in Ghana. "I kind of say I have two full-time jobs," he explained. "I basically raise the funds here to provide all the care there. There's so many more children who need our help than we're able to service at this point," he said. "And the only thing that prevents us from helping more of these kids is raising additional funds to do it."



PHOTO BY LISE METZGER

SHEILA KATZ '05 | *Humanitarian Alumni Award*

Throughout her career, **Sheila Katz '05** has worked to advocate social change, leading programs that—among other aims—prevent sexual assault on college campuses, inspire dialogue about diversity, promote equality for women in the workplace, and encourage young people to vote.

Katz spent more than a decade at Jewish campus life organization Hillel International, working her way up to become its youngest-ever vice president. Most recently, the National Council of Jewish Women, a social justice group, tapped her to serve as its CEO.

It's a path that started with a literal path, one that Katz developed after visiting Ithaca College as a prospective student. "My mother is in a wheelchair. She has multiple sclerosis," Katz explained—and there wasn't a way for her to easily take the campus tour. So one of the first things Katz did as an incoming student was work with the Office of Admission to design an accessible tour route for visitors who might find it tough to navigate the campus's hills and stairs.

"That was my first moment of activism at Ithaca," said Katz. She went on to be active in Hillel and residential life, earning her a Campus Life Award that recognizes seniors who have made outstanding contributions to the college community.

Upon graduation, Katz went into the Teach for America program, which led her to a Hillel job at the University of North Carolina. At Hillel, Katz cofounded Ask Big Questions, an initiative that engages college students in reflective conversations to foster civil discourse and inclusivity. "The basic premise is to re-teach college students how to have conversations with

people different from themselves," she said.

More than 100 campuses now use the program, which has been featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine* and *The New York Times*. Since the program's inception, more than 300,000 students have participated.

"As people were coming out of the voting booth, we'd pick them up on chairs like they were at a bar mitzvah."

Another Hillel project the politics major is proud of is MitzVote, a play on the 613 Jewish obligations known as mitzvot. MitzVote, she said, pitches the idea of voting as the 614th important duty—a fun one. During the 2018 election, the program registered more than 20,000 first-time voters and held more than 100 poll parties to encourage turnout. "As people were coming out of the voting booth, we'd pick them up on chairs like they were at a bar mitzvah," she said.

Katz has also been an outspoken advocate on preventing sexual assault, working to raise awareness with the Obama-Biden White House initiative It's On Us. "We wanted to make sure...that anybody who had a story of sexual assault is being met with love, with kindness, and with a firm belief that they were telling the truth," she said. ■

IC ATHLETICS INDUCTS 50TH HALL OF FAME CLASS



The 2019 IC Athletic Hall of Fame inductees with athletic director Susan Basett '79 (far right) and emcee Kevin Connors '97 (far left)



The 1980 baseball team with assistant coach Frank Fazio '67 and head coach George Valesente '66 (lower right)

PHOTOS BY DAVE BURBANK

EIGHT STUDENT-ATHLETES

and one team were welcomed into the 50th Ithaca College Athletic Hall of Fame class in a ceremony during Alumni Weekend on October 11.

The 1980 baseball team was inducted for securing the college's second-ever national title, the first of two won by hall of fame head coach **George Valesente '66**. The squad compiled a 33-4 record and won the title by defeating Marietta College.

GARY BUCCI '76 has been involved with Ithaca athletics for more than two decades as a two-sport athlete, assistant football coach, and radio broadcaster. Bucci was a three-year starter for both football and baseball. After graduating, Bucci worked as an assistant football coach on the staffs of Jim Butterfield and Mike Welch. He returned to the coaching staff as a running backs coach under Dan Swanstrom in 2017.

Arguably the greatest player in IC men's basketball history, **SEAN BURTON '09** is the program's only three-time all-American. He ranks first in career free throw percentage, second in assists, third all-time in points, third in three-pointers, and sixth in steals. After graduating, Burton played professionally in Iceland for two seasons and was a two-time all-star for the Iceland Express.

ROBERT DRISCOLL '74 was a three-year captain of the ice hockey team and led the team in scoring all three seasons. Driscoll also played two seasons on the baseball team. He began his postgraduate career at Union College, serving as an assistant athletic director and coaching several sports. He also spent six years at Mills College and 14 years at the University of California, Berkeley, prior to his current stop at Providence College.

ABBY HANRAHAN '03 was the winning pitcher of the 2002 World Series championship game against Lake Forest College. In that 1-0 victory, Hanrahan earned her 22nd win of the season by allowing only three hits in five and a third innings, propelling Ithaca softball to its first and only national title.

MEGHAN MORNINGSTAR '07 was the first and only four-time all-American in the high jump for the women's track and field program. She placed third at the NCAA Division III Indoor Championships two times, earning all-American status. Morningstar also played two seasons for the volleyball team.

LINDSAY HICKS REEVES '79 was a standout diver for three years on the swimming and diving team, and competed on the gymnastics team for one season. Reeves qualified for

the NCAA championships her senior season and held the school record in the three-meter dive for nearly 20 years. Reeves is currently in her ninth year as the director of athletics at the University of North Georgia, and she is the first female athletic director in the school's history.

One of the most prolific offensive threats in Ithaca women's lacrosse history, **JESSICA WELCH SHEA '03** played on some of IC's most successful teams. From 2000 to 2003, the program won 56 games and reached the NCAA tournament twice. In 2001, she scored two second-half goals against St. Mary's (Maryland) in the program's first-ever NCAA tournament victory.

A four-year starter at midfield for the Bombers, **DAN SHEEHAN '95** helped the IC men's lacrosse program to an NCAA tournament appearance in 1992. But his lasting impact on lacrosse would be made as head coach at Le Moyne College. Since 1996, Sheehan has an overall record of 298-51 and has won five national championships, including in 2016 when the team went 20-0. ■

➤ More details about the inductees, as well as the hall of fame process, can be found at athletics.ithaca.edu.



PHOTO BY CHARLES MCKENZIE

IC ALUMNI MAKE AN IMPACT

Alumni can help current students discover their passions, hone their skills, and engage in transformative experiences.

Getting involved in shaping the IC experience might sound like a huge time commitment, but there are multiple levels of engagement, so even those with only modest amounts of time can contribute. The Office of Alumni and Family Engagement encourages alumni to think of their engagement level in terms of Ithaca's famous waterfalls: Ithaca Falls (relatively low yet still spectacular), Buttermilk Falls (higher), and Taughannock Falls (highest).

For example, an alumna who is interested in admission-related engagement could display an IC pennant in their school or workplace (Ithaca Falls), connect with an admitted student in their region (Buttermilk Falls), or host a New Student Welcome Party in their home (Taughannock Falls).

If alumni-to-alumni engagement is more interesting to you, consider following the college's social platforms and sharing content (Ithaca Falls), participating in a webinar (Buttermilk Falls), or becoming a reunion committee chair during Alumni Weekend (Taughannock Falls).

Below are just a few of the ways you can ensure the vitality of the IC experience:

- **Identify and recruit prospective students.** Contact the Office of Admission at admission@ithaca.edu, (800) 429-4274, or (607) 274-3124.
- **Help build IC's career communities.** Assist us with new opportunities, mentors, and partnerships as we help train the next generation of student leaders. Contact the Office of Career Services at careers@ithaca.edu or (607) 274-3365.
- **Participate in (or facilitate!) an IC webinar.** Enhance the bond between alumni and IC through these lifelong learning opportunities. Contact the Office of Alumni and Family Engagement at gvanvalen@ithaca.edu or (866) 4IC-ALUM.
- **Serve as a volunteer** by hosting an event, speaking on campus, or joining a committee. Contact the Office of Alumni and Family Engagement at lpierce@ithaca.edu or (866) 442-2586.
- **Make a gift.** The IC Annual Fund supports the entire IC experience, and your gift goes right where it's needed most, right when it's needed most, to make students' time on campus the best it can be. Contact annualfund@ithaca.edu or (877) 250-3269.

➤ To learn more about all the ways you can get involved, contact the Office of Alumni and Family Engagement at alumni@ithaca.edu or (866) 442-2586.

ALUMNI NOTES



PHOTO SUBMITTED

DEAR IC FRIENDS,

The year 2019 was full of celebration! Our dedicated alumni provided leadership by collaborating with the college to realize student-focused initiatives such as the Neeson Business Analytics Labs and the First Generation Center. The college also launched innovative programs, including the MBA in entertainment and media management. And on top of it all, we closed out the year by besting SUNY Cortland at the record-shattering Cortaca Jug game at MetLife Stadium. It really was a fantastic year to be a Bomber.

What do all these things have in common? They all present incredible opportunities for students from myriad majors to put their skills into action—the core of Ithaca Forever, the college’s new five-year strategic plan. Ithaca Forever encourages student-centered, bold thinking in our entire community, inspired by the college’s mission to educate, engage, and empower through theory, practice, and performance.

As alumni with experience and networks across countless fields, we have crucial roles to play in cultivating an Ithaca Forever community. We want you to leverage your expertise to serve as mentors to today’s students. We need you to encourage your fellow alumni to volunteer or support an IC initiative. Your engagement will be critical to reinventing Ithaca College as a bold and dynamic institution with a strong future ahead.

To find out how you can contribute to this progressive plan, see the “Connections” column on page 33 of this issue. You can read more about Ithaca Forever by visiting ithaca.edu/ithaca-forever. And don’t forget to read the feature story on page 8 to learn about the college’s vision to become a global destination for bold thinkers seeking to build thriving communities!

AMI MAKI '94

President, Alumni Association Board of Directors

1969

RICH NEWBERG was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by publishing company Marquis Who's Who. Rich's award celebrates his many years of experience in his professional network and notes the achievements, leadership qualities, and credentials he has accrued during his 46 years in the field. Formerly, Rich was the senior correspondent for WIVB-TV in Buffalo, New York. He later became a main anchor for the 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts and was named senior correspondent in 1999 before retiring in 2015.

1971

KENNETH E. ARNOLD was named vice chair of Covenant Health's board of directors. In 2016, he retired from his position as senior vice president, general counsel, and secretary of Lifespan Corporation, an integrated health care delivery system and the largest employer in Rhode Island. At Lifespan, he had responsibility for legal affairs, risk management, and insurance and was special advisor to the board of directors and senior management. Over the course of his tenure, he had executive responsibility for development and managed human resources on an interim basis. Kenneth has a master's degree in health systems management and a law degree from Tulane University.



Bud Forrest '70 and Barbara Friedman Berman '71 reunite annually when Bud's production of "In the Mood Live" plays at the Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank, New Jersey. Barbara is the wardrobe supervisor at the theatre and gets the maestro's outfits ready for the performance.

1975



GRETCHEN SCHLABACH was inducted into the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Hall of Fame at the

NATA 70th Clinical Symposia. Gretchen, who served on the inaugural NATA Women in Athletic Training Committee, has worked at both Western Michigan University and the University of Mississippi as an athletic trainer. After completing her doctoral work, she coauthored the first text dedicated solely to professional ethics in the field, *Professional Ethics in Athletic Training*. She is the founding chair of the inaugural NATA Professional Responsibility in Athletic Training (PRAT) Committee, which is dedicated to promoting legal, ethical, and regulatory awareness and action. Gretchen earned professor emerita honors from Northern Illinois University in 2014 and has been the recipient of the NATA Athletic Training Service Award, Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award, and Gail Weldon Award of Excellence.

1978

ROB ENSINGER was featured as a guest conductor for Lycoming County's Junior High Honors Band Festival in Pennsylvania last March. Nearly 100 students from seven districts were hosted in the Montoursville Area School District during the two-day festival.



JIM HYNES is an active arranger and conductor who played with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra after

receiving his master's degree from the Eastman School of Music. Eventually he made his way to New York City, where he quickly became an in-demand studio trumpet player. His work can be heard on many TV shows including *The Price Is Right*, *CBS Evening News*, and *NBC's Sunday Night Football*. He has also performed with numerous Broadway shows and has recorded and performed with artists including Paul Simon, Sting, Cyndi Lauper, and Beyoncé.



JOYCE SIMARD developed Namaste Care, a small-group activity program for people with advanced dementia, nearly 16

years ago. This program has blossomed into one that can be delivered in home, in a hospital, or in hospice. Last year, her program broadened to Namaste Care International and is currently being used in 11 countries.

1980



TOM GRAPE, chair emeritus of the Ithaca College Board of Trustees and the CEO of senior living services provider

LONG LIVE AFTER FOREVER

LGBT-themed drama created by
Michael Slade '74 wins a record-breaking
number of Emmys

BY ASHLEY REEDMAN

Daytime television writer and playwright **Michael Slade '74** made history with *After Forever*, claiming the most Emmy Awards ever for an LGBT-themed drama series. Cocreated and coproduced with veteran daytime actor Kevin Spirtas (*Days of Our Lives*), *After Forever* follows a man's struggle to find his new normal after the loss of his longtime partner and husband to cancer.

Though the story is fictitious, Slade drew from his own experience losing his partner to aggressive cancer. He knew from the beginning that he wanted to create a short-form digital series rather than a feature-length film. Slade was also aware that the perspective from which the story is told (that of a gay man in his 50s) was unusual in the world of television and cinema.

“The world I live in is diverse, and it's important to me that the worlds I present in my work, whether it's a series or a play or film, reflect that.”

“When Kevin and I first met to discuss creating a series, he said he was looking to tell a story about gay men who were his age, 50-ish. This totally spoke to me, because we gay men, like women, tend to disappear from the canvas of popular culture once we are no longer the hot 20- or 30-somethings...not returning until we're the asexual neighbor down the hall with a cat,” said Slade. “We discussed building the series around someone who was dating, but my question kept being, ‘Why is someone 50-ish single?’”

Slade said he decided after a lot of thought that his own experience with loss could be the answer. “There were definitely times when I, emotionally, needed to take a break from a particular scene. That said, I think my willingness to be that honest, raw, and vulnerable is part of why [the show] affects people so deeply.”

The effect the show had on people became evident in its first read-through to an invited audience. “We did [a read-through] of the entire season. The rehearsal



PHOTO SUBMITTED

room was standing-room only. The temperature was 85. Everyone was sweating, and people were riveted. People stayed and talked to us, to each other, to the actors. They talked about how it had touched them and shared their own stories. That's when we knew we really had something,” Slade said.

The series also sports a diverse cast of actors as well as crew, which Slade made a point to include in the show's production. “The world I live in is diverse, and it's important to me that the worlds I present in my work, whether it's a series or a play or film, reflect that. [Also] we are particularly proud of the fact that we have a woman director, producer, director of photography, and editor. The diversity of ages, sexes, and sexualities of our entire team—creative, cast, crew—and the perspectives they bring to *After Forever* contributed in all sorts of fundamental ways to its success,” said Slade.

The series has pulled in viewers of all types. “Our demographics show that it is being watched, recommended, and loved by people of all gender identities, sexualities, and ages. That feels like a statement about where we have come as a society,” said Slade.

First aired on Amazon Prime Video in April 2018, *After Forever* won five Emmys, including Outstanding Digital Daytime Drama Series, Outstanding Writing for a Digital Daytime Drama Series, and Outstanding Lead Actor in a Digital Daytime Drama Series.

“It's been the most extraordinary experience of my professional life,” said Slade in response to the reaction of the series. “*After Forever* began as this little project we were creating out of love, and then it launched and suddenly it was getting amazing reviews and winning festivals and awards. And then there's the fan mail. We get the most extraordinary letters from people of all ages, sexes, and sexualities, writing about how it has touched them, moved them, helped them through their own grief. It's ultimately why one creates art, and it is incredibly humbling.”

The second season of *After Forever* began filming in September. ■

Benchmark, received the Massachusetts Assisted Living Association’s inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award. Tom was recognized for his pioneering efforts over the last 30 years, which have led to the establishment and growth of the assisted living industry in Massachusetts and nationally.

1985



DREW GOODMAN is in his 18th year as the television play-by-play voice of the Colorado Rockies after having spent 10 years in the same

role with the Denver Nuggets. He is the longest running television play-by-play broadcaster in the franchise’s history. When he’s not on the air for the Rockies, he continues to work as an announcer for college football and basketball. Drew, a 13-time Colorado Sportscaster of the Year Award winner, has also won multiple Emmy Awards.

1988



The Suffolk County Music Educators’ Association recognized **Luella B. Pinelli** with the Elementary School of Musical Excellence Award for her work at Oakwood Primary Center in Huntington, New York. This award is the highest honor the county bestows on elementary school music teachers. Luella has been teaching at South Huntington Union Free School District for 30 years. She taught orchestra for the first five years and has been a K-2 classroom music teacher for the past 25 years.

1989



TONY DEFAZIO, a public relations professional who currently practices in Philadelphia, was a featured breakout speaker at the 2019

International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Heritage Region Communications Conference this past September. During the conference, Tony and his longtime collaborator, David Evanson, spoke about contributorships.

1991



VICKIE ALLEN was named the executive director of Educational First Steps (EFS). The organization’s mission is to

increase the number of economically disadvantaged children receiving high-quality early childhood education. Previously, Vickie was senior vice president of development at the United Way of Tarrant County, Texas.

1992

MIKE CAPOZZOLA recently made the shift from San Francisco to London, where he works as a stand-up comedian. He also does television work and voiceovers and is most well-known for his commercial for Trelegy. He also had a role as an agent in the film *Men in Black: International*.



**REGIONAL
EVENTS
FROM COAST
TO COAST**

The Office of Alumni and Family Engagement is dedicated to bridging the IC alumni experience through regional events for alumni and families across the country!

We are currently seeking alumni volunteers to help expand programming for the college’s regional chapters (and also to help us identify areas of the country where a regional chapter would be of interest).

Visit alumni.ithaca.edu/regional-chapters to see how you can become more involved with the chapter in your area or attend an upcoming event, or contact Maura Donovan, associate director of alumni and family engagement, at mdonovan@ithaca.edu or **(607) 274-1179**.

DESIGNING RESILIENT BUILDINGS

Alex Wilson '77 hopes to better prepare communities to weather the next storm

BY TODD MCLEISH '84

When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast in 2005, **Alex Wilson '77** was the publisher of *Environmental Building News*, a trade publication he founded 15 years earlier to encourage the construction industry to pursue more sustainable building methods. The magazine was influential in the development of building design and construction practices that were more environmentally responsible and resource efficient.

But the hurricane got Wilson thinking in a new direction, one that focused on construction principles that emphasized resiliency in places where living conditions were not optimal.

“ ”

The climate is changing, and it's changing in a way that's increasing vulnerabilities to a lot of different threats. It's becoming clear that we need to make our buildings and communities more resilient to them.

"I noticed that older homes in the gulf that weren't flooded but still lost power for weeks or months were more livable than newer homes," Wilson said. "Older homes, constructed before air conditioning, were built with passive features to keep them comfortable, with wrap-around porches that shaded windows, designs that channeled summer breezes through the building."

He knew that future storms would result in lengthy power outages, so he thought about how to design buildings that would improve livability and ensure safety. He called it passive survivability.

"The idea is that buildings should be designed to maintain habitable conditions passively when the power goes out," said Wilson. "I got excited about the concept because I saw it as a motivation to get people to build greener buildings. I argued that even people who didn't care about the environment still want to keep their families safe."

Over time, he shifted the terminology from passive survivability to "resilient design" so that people



PHOTO SUBMITTED

didn't think he was advocating for the installation of survival bunkers. He reduced his involvement in Building Green Inc., the company he had founded to encourage green building practices, and launched the Resilient Design Institute, a nonprofit that promotes the idea of resilient design, so buildings and communities are better prepared to weather the next storm.

"The climate is changing, and it's changing in a way that's increasing vulnerabilities to a lot of different threats—more intense storms, more frequent tornadoes, increasing drought conditions, flooding, sea-level rise, wildfires," he said. "It's becoming clear that we need to make our buildings and communities more resilient to them."

To Wilson, who majored in biology at IC, the idea of resiliency is about creating buildings that are better able to bounce back from disturbances. It may mean building with fireproof materials, designing structures to resist wind damage, or improving energy performance.

"The first task is understanding the vulnerabilities," he said. "The vulnerabilities in Ithaca will be a lot different [from the ones] in Tuscaloosa, and it's important to understand what can be done to mitigate them for particular locations."

Wilson used these ideas in helping develop resilient building guidelines for Boston, New York City, and Washington, D.C. He also led an effort to create credits for resilient design in the LEED rating system of the U.S. Green Building Council.

On a more personal note, Wilson is looking toward the next chapter in his life. As he begins to think about transitioning to retirement, he is searching for the right individuals to take over the Resilient Design Institute, so he can spend more time on his farm in southern Vermont.

"I want to build a writers' cabin by the pond we have," Wilson said. "I want to finish up revisions to the paddling guides I've written for the Appalachian Mountain Club. And I'm looking forward to [the arrival of] my first grandchild." ■

1993



JASON HENKEL was named Skydance Media’s vice president of animation casting and talent relations. Prior to joining Skydance, Jason was head of casting for Disneytoon Studios.

JESSICA R. MEIGHER was presented with the John T. Hamilton Jr. Esq. Award for Excellence in the Legal Representation of Children this past April. The Hamilton Award is presented each year to a Third Judicial Department attorney who demonstrates a commitment to outstanding legal representation of children and to the well-being of child clients. Jessica graduated from Quinnipiac University School of Law in 2000. While at Ithaca College, Jessica double majored in anthropology and political science. She has managed her own law practice in Albany, New York, since 2009, and her practice is largely focused on child welfare and child custody issues in Albany County supreme and family courts.

1999



Former Ithaca College roommates (from left) **Margie Obreza Chetney**, **Cindy Herbein Schaeffer**, and **Kristi Clark Guetti** '98, MS '99, got together in Albany, New York, in August 2019.

2002



Ashley Shelden is an associate professor of English and director of the undergraduate English major at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. She teaches courses in literature, cultural studies, and film. The Literature of Scandal, Fantasies of History, Filming the Mafia, and Making Love Modern are a few of the courses she offers.

2003



Sara DeVillano came in third during the *Jeopardy!* Teachers Tournament, winning \$25,000. She teaches middle school instrumental music at a private school in Maryland and gives private music lessons.



Chris Gaffney's website, uncommondiscourse.com, received the National Society of Newspaper Columnists' first-place award for online humor writing. Chris is pictured here with Chris Carosa, president of the society, and Kathleen Parker, a Pulitzer Prize-winner.



**INTRODUCE
A FUTURE
BOMBER
TO ITHACA
COLLEGE!**

Visiting campus is the best way to picture student life at Ithaca College, so encourage prospective students (and their families) to attend IC's spring open house—or schedule a visit anytime!

APRIL 25, 2020

The open house features a hop-on/hop-off campus tour, information sessions, and conversations with faculty, staff, and current students in the classrooms, labs, trading room, and performance spaces where theory becomes practice.

For more information, see ithaca.edu/visit or contact admission@ithaca.edu or call **(800) 429-4274**.

STAGE PRESENCE

Greg Thymius '86 steps onto the Broadway stage

BY SHERRIE NEGREA

The second act of *Kiss Me, Kate* opened at Studio 54 on Broadway this year with an unusual performer on stage: **Greg Thymius '86**, playing a jazz clarinet solo just as the cast begins performing the showstopper song "Too Darn Hot."

Like the others, Thymius wore a white shirt and suspenders, blending right in with the dancers swirling around him. "It's very inspiring to be that close to the dancers and watch them and see what they do," he said. "And the arrangement gives me a little bit of freedom to do some more improvising than when I'm playing in the reed section."

The idea to bring the clarinetist onstage came from the show's Tony Award-winning choreographer, Warren Carlyle, known for his creative twists on Broadway revivals. Carlyle felt the musicians had become invisible to the audience and wanted to show that they are an integral part of the production, Thymius said.



My mind was very much expanded musically at IC.

"Warren told me, 'Music and dance have become more and more separate in the public's mind, and that's wrong. That's why having a musician on stage and really having you interacting with the dancers and being part of the action was important to me,'" Thymius said.

Though it is still rare to see pit musicians on stage, it has become increasingly popular on Broadway in the past decade. Besides *Kiss Me, Kate*, Thymius has played on the set of two other musicals—*The People in the Picture* (his first full-time position in a Broadway show) and *Music Man* (a substitute gig).

His appearance on Broadway, however, was not the first time Thymius has played an instrument in a performance on stage. The summer before graduating from IC, Thymius joined the jazz band at Busch Gardens Williamsburg, in Virginia, and returned



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES FOR THE TONY AWARDS

Greg Thymius '86 (far left) performs at the Tonys.

to the ensemble after earning a double degree in performance and education.

"When I first played there, I played in a German polka band," he recalled. "We were on stage in costumes, which prepared me for what I did in *Kiss Me, Kate*."

He also credits his training at IC for giving him the ability to play all types of music, from classical to big band. "My mind was very much expanded musically at IC," he said. "I loved that we were introduced to a variety of styles, and I'm glad that I wasn't discouraged from exploring."

After earning a master's degree in clarinet performance at the Mannes College of Music, Thymius toured with musical productions for eight years before he started substituting in pit orchestras in New York. Since playing in *Miss Saigon* in 1998, he has performed in 25 shows on Broadway and on tour.

As the final curtain call for *Kiss Me, Kate* arrived in June, Thymius had two gigs lined up: as a substitute at *Frozen* in New York and with the tour of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. He didn't know when his next full-time job on Broadway would be, but he wasn't worried.

"I tend to live in the present," he said. "I don't really plan very well, and that has served me well. When I used to go back to Ithaca College and talk to the students, I would say, 'Practice and find your voice, and your talent and temperament will tell you where to go.'" 🎵

BRIDGET RUSSO, the senior news editor at WSOC-TV in Charlotte, North Carolina, recently won two Emmy Awards, one for best evening newscast for her work on the station's 5 p.m. newscast and the other for outstanding community service for an investigative special, "Priced Out of Charlotte," which exposed the critical shortage of affordable housing in the Charlotte area. In an effort to provide outreach and solutions, the station held a four-hour phone bank during the airing of the prime-time special and provided a free county-by-county resource guide.

2005

ERIC LEIBENSPERGER was honored with the 2019 Chancellor's Award for Excellence at the State University of New York (SUNY) Plattsburgh due to his research record, which consists of publications, grants, outreach with media, and inclusion of students. Eric is an associate professor of environmental science in the Center for Earth and Environmental Science. He earned his PhD in applied physics from Harvard in 2011 and a postdoctoral research position at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before moving on to SUNY Plattsburgh. Eric currently teaches classes on climate change and atmospheric science, air quality, and climate issues in the Adirondacks and Lake Champlain.

2007



EMMA ANDRUCZYK

was promoted to senior assistant director for career education at the University of Illinois Career Center. She is responsible for effective outreach to University of Illinois students and campus partners as well as the development of career education services and resources that meet the needs of their 45,000+ students. In this role,

Emma provides career coaching training to new career services professionals and contributes to the coordination of career readiness education throughout the university.

MANDY GUTMANN ARCUS has been promoted to senior vice president of communications for Brooklyn Sports and Entertainment (BSE) Global. She will continue to lead the business communications efforts for BSE Global teams and arenas, including the Barclays Center, Brooklyn Nets, NYCB LIVE (home of the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum), Nets' NBA G League team, Long Island Nets, and Webster Hall. In her new role, she also oversees internal communications and community relations for BSE. Mandy, who was previously the vice president of communications, has been with the company since 2012.

MATTHEW ROTJAN is a curriculum consultant and the conductor of the Morningside Orchestra for InterSchool Orchestras of New York. He is also the cofounder of the Rockland Youth Orchestra and teaches orchestra at Scarsdale Middle School. A doctoral graduate of Teachers College, Columbia University, Matthew features his research and pedagogical practice in his guest speaking, professional development, writing, and teaching at national and international levels.

2008

SARA-MARIA SORENTINO

is an assistant professor of gender and race studies at the University of Alabama. She researches and teaches where the questions of race, slavery, political theory, Marxism, and psychoanalysis intersect.

2009

ANGELA DIORIO BIRD, who is a vocal instructor, received the Watchung Hills Regional High

School Teacher of the Year Award. She is in her 10th year of teaching and has spent eight of those years at Watchung Hills, where she is also an alumna.

2011

CHRISTOPHER WILBER is the head coach of the men's and women's cross country and track and field programs at SUNY Oneonta. As head coach, Chris is responsible for organizing and managing all aspects of the cross country and track and field programs including implementing practices, recruiting, scheduling travel and competitions, managing budgets, and monitoring the academic success of student-athletes. His coaching career began at Ithaca College as a graduate assistant coach with the men's track and field program. He spent the previous four years at SUNY Oneonta as the associate head coach for cross country and track and field.

2012



JASON YOUNG

was named associate athletic director for external affairs at Fairleigh Dickinson University. Prior to his position

with the Knights, Jason was the director of ticket operations for the University of Vermont's athletic department. He facilitated all aspects of the department's ticketing operations, including sales and management as well as marketing and ticketing campaign development for all sports and fan engagement. Jason also worked in Edinburg, Texas, as an assistant coach for the NBA Development League's Rio Grande Valley Vipers during the 2014-15 season.

2013

MONAMI CHOUDHURY works for InCrowd Inc., a small business in the health care market research industry located in the Boston

BROADWAY, HERE I AM!

Jonathan Burke '08 vividly remembers the moment he decided to be an actor

BY NANCY J. MCCANN

"I was doing a production of my middle school spring musical, *Motown Spectacular*, playing Stevie Wonder and singing 'My Cherie Amour,' **Jonathan Burke '08** said with nostalgia in his voice. "The minute I stepped on stage, the audience went crazy. When the song was over, I got a standing ovation. At that moment I said, 'I could do this for the rest of my life.'"

With his warm, infectious smile and cup-overfloweth personality, Burke embodies the "it" factor—and Broadway has noticed. This fall he starred in the new two-part Broadway show, *The Inheritance*. The play, an exploration of gay history, is set in New York City a generation after the HIV/AIDS crisis of the '80s and '90s. The story follows a group of gay men as they struggle to connect to and maintain a sense of the past. It won the 2019 Laurence Olivier Award for best new play and just might be destined for the Tony Award equivalent.

— — — — — “ ” — — — — —

One of the main influences during my college years was Mary Corsaro. She's the one who discovered I could dance, and so she took me on as her assistant and dance captain. She has been a mentor—and still is to this day.

Burke has already been to the Tonys—last June when he performed in a dance number from the acclaimed Broadway show *Choir Boy*. The play is a coming-of-age drama about a gay choir leader at an elite boarding school for black men.

"One of the most thrilling moments of my life was that performance," he said.

Burke was initially cast in the ensemble of the four-time Tony-nominated hit and was the understudy for the lead role of Pharus Jonathan Young. Burke eventually took over the lead role during the extended run of the production.

"It was two wonderful, life-changing weeks—a dream come true, a privilege, and an honor," Burke said. "But it also felt right—like where I was supposed to be. The



PHOTO BY CAILIN MCNANEY

show means so much to me, and so for the New York Broadway audience to be introduced to Jonathan Burke via *Choir Boy* is the introduction I always thought of for myself."

The Inheritance and *Choir Boy* are but two of many theatre credits to Burke's name—on and off Broadway—including *Tuck Everlasting*, *Toni Stone*, *Joan of Arc: Into the Fire*, and Langston in *Harlem*. He was also in touring shows including *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Mary Poppins*, *A Christmas Story*, and *Cats*.

Burke has done regional theatre all over the country as well: *Choir Boy*, *Head of Passes*, *Amazing Grace*, *Hairspray*, and *Meet Me in St. Louis*, just to name a few. And, his very first professional acting gig, *The Wiz*, was at Ithaca's Hangar Theatre, in summer 2005 while he was still a college student. Then he was in *Hello, Dolly!*, *Hair*, and *Oklahoma!* each summer thereafter, through 2008.

Burke has worked mostly in theatre, but he made his TV guest appearance debut this year in the premiere season of the NBC series *New Amsterdam*. The episode aired the very same day that *Choir Boy* opened on Broadway.

"I've been blessed," he said. "I've never had any outside job other than acting. I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had. I think it's largely about the relationships I've built with people, doing good work, and being a good team member and cast member."

Burke credits his supportive family, his middle school drama teacher, and others for helping him achieve success. He also touts Mary Corsaro, coordinator of IC's BFA in musical theatre program.

"One of the main influences during my college years was Mary Corsaro," Burke said. "She's the one who discovered I could dance, and so she took me on as her assistant and dance captain. She has been a mentor—and still is to this day." ■

area. She began working for the company nearly four years ago with the project management team.

ADAM NETZER ZIMMER received a Fulbright-National Science Foundation Arctic Research Grant to live and conduct research in Reykjavík, Iceland, for the 2019–20 academic year. This grant allows him to gather data for his dissertation in biocultural anthropology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Adam's research looks at how medical schools acquired bodies for research and teaching purposes, especially anatomical teaching, during the late 1800s and early 1900s. He conducted initial research in Iceland during the 2017–18 academic year through funding from the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program and the Leifur Eiríksson Foundation.

2014

ALEXANDRA GRECO studied the ecological, cultural, and spiritual landscapes of the Western Ghats, a mountain range in India, during summer 2019. Alexandra, who is a mammal keeper at the Bronx Zoo, lives in Bronx, New York, and is a graduate student in Miami University's Global Field Program in Ohio.

ADRIAN ANDERSON PHUNG is marketing manager at the Barnes Foundation, which houses one of the world's largest collections of impressionist, post-impressionist, and early modernist paintings. Adrian manages the creation, trafficking, and metrics reporting of advertising and marketing campaigns for collections, exhibitions, and public programs. She also designs multimedia assets for email, digital advertising, and promotions. Adrian previously worked at Walnut Street Theatre as a marketing assistant.

2015

STEPHANIE KHOURY is one of 23 mentees selected for the 2019–20 Karen Schmeer Diversity in the Edit Room Program. This yearlong mentorship is for editors and assistant editors in the documentary field. The mentorship facilitates small groups discussing self-selected topics centered around the craft of editing, work experiences, and the industry. Stephanie is an editor and producer for Talking Eyes Media, a documentary production company. She has worked as an editor on several shorts and an associate editor for a feature documentary about the industrial legacy of the Ironbound neighborhood of Newark, New Jersey.

ALISSA TUBBS joined CenterState CEO as strategic operations manager for the Economic Inclusion Portfolio Work Train Program. CenterState CEO is an independent economic development strategist, business leadership organization, and chamber of commerce. As the strategic operations manager for Work Train, Alissa is responsible for managing the program's data collection, continuous improvement efforts, process evaluation, communications, and vendor contracts.

2017



Christian Savini was selected as a member of the 36th cohort of the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX) for Young Professionals program. The fellowship is a cultural exchange where selected participants serve as junior ambassadors for a year in Germany. Only 75 fellows are selected each year. Following his year abroad, Christian will return to the United States to attend the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he will be a dual master's candidate in modern/contemporary art history, analysis, and aesthetics and arts administration and cultural policy.



The Office of Alumni and Family Engagement is accepting proposals for its 2020–21 webinar series. We're looking for content experts who can present information on topics such as career planning, work-life balance, retirement planning, leadership development, time management, and team building.

Webinars are typically scheduled for the noon hour on Wednesdays and last approximately 45 minutes. Submit your proposal and check out archived webinars at alumni.ithaca.edu/webinars.

ALUMNI NOTES

2018



Nick Fustor is a coordinator for the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) community relations team. In this role, he manages partnerships between the WWE and nonprofit organizations such as Make A Wish, UNICEF, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, especially during key pay-per-view events such as WrestleMania and SummerSlam.

DANIEL HAYWARD and **KELSEY SEAMAN** were both part of the national tour of *Finding Neverland*, where Daniel played Mr. Turpin and understudied the lead, JM Barrie. Kelsey, who was making her national tour debut, played Miss Jones and understudied Sylvia, Mary Barrie, Mrs. DuMaurier, and Miss Bassett. In addition, Daniel performed as Vince Fontaine in *Grease* at the New London Barn Playhouse in New London, New Hampshire, while Kelsey played Cecily Pigeon in a production of *The Odd Couple*, also at the New London Barn Playhouse.

2019

NOAH AUSSEMS is an associate for accounting firm KPMG's Global Mobility Services. His position is a hybrid role in tax and advisory. Noah handles various tax responsibilities for firms, alleviating the stresses that come with the ever-changing international tax landscape.

KIMBERLY BACON reaches out to prospective clients and businesses and also works as an inside sales representative for Brooklyn Sports and Entertainment (BSE) Global. Her primary responsibilities include handling all ticketing for Brooklyn

Nets games, as well as all other events held at the Barclays Center.



MARIAH LYTTLE is playing Celie in the North American tour of the Tony Award-winning Broadway revival of *The Color Purple*.

At Ithaca College, her roles included Sarah in *Ragtime* and Marta in *Company*.

Celebrations

DAVE KOHUT '04 and Alyssa Brulé; April 6, 2019, in Los Angeles, California. **Pete Lalayanis '04** and **Chris Donnan '04** were in the wedding party.

ELIAS LAUERMANN '05 and Keleigh Thompson; August 25, 2018, in Newport, Rhode Island.

SARA GERSTENBLATT '09 and **MICHAEL MANDY '08**; October 20, 2018, in Newport, Rhode Island. **Rachel Rauch '09**, **Lindsey Nadolski '09**, **Eleni Hardman '09**, **Nick Corasaniti '08**, **Dan Hausermann '08**, **Drew Appleton '08**, **Jordan Rait '08**, **Trevor Dolge '08**, and **Ben Mayhew '08** were members of the wedding party.

JESSICA GAZIN SMITH '10 and Stefan Smith; October 6, 2018, in Dillon, Colorado.

JOSH GETZOFF '11 and **MADELEINE RIMPAS GETZOFF '11**, **DPT '13**; August 19, 2017, in Waltham, Massachusetts. **Britt Lillie '11**, **DPT '13**; **Jillian Santer Grabowski '11**, **DPT '13**; and **Marissa Speno '11**, **DPT '13** were bridesmaids. **Charlie Shaddock '11** served as officiant.

SAM LUPOWITZ '12 and Mandy Golden; October 20, 2018, in Alpine, New York. **Heather Rowley '12** was a bridesmaid, and **Erik Johanson '12** served as the officiant.

KARI ABRAMSON '14 and Tom Davis; June 22, 2019, in Rochester, New York. **Alice Steel '14**, **Natalie Lazo '15**, **Kendall Griffin '15**, **Dana Kempf '16**, and **Stephanie Moore '14** were members of the wedding party.

Introductions

ALLISON SAMON '98 and **CHRISTIAN JEAN '98**: Logan Eric, March 12, 2019.

DAVID A. MANCUSO JR. '99 and Casey Mancuso: David III, May 1, 2019.

KATHARINE OWEN '01 and Nathaniel Dean: Caleb Theodore, December 31, 2018.

AMBERLY FOULKROD JOHNSTON '06 and Peter Johnston: McKenna Skye, May 5, 2019.

SUSAN FERAIDOOD '10 and **DAVID FRANKEL '10**: Cyrus Solomon, December 19, 2018.

Farewells

FRED CROFT '52, February 2, 2019, at age 87, in the Villages, Florida. After graduating with a degree in accounting, Fred served in the U.S. Army with the First Infantry. He later worked at Cargill for over 40 years, where he retired as the regional operations manager. Fred was a Boy Scout leader, coach for Little League baseball, and former member of the Lansing Community Council. Fred is survived by his wife, Marlene; sons, Norman, Mark, and Brian; nephew, Matthew Croft; and brother, **Bruce Croft '60**.

ANN RUDOLF '54, July 2, 2019 in East Hill, Southbury at age 87. Ann was born in Fleischmanns, New York. After graduating from Ithaca College with a degree in physical education, she taught for two years in the Vorheesville, New York, central school system and following that, taught for the school system in Southfield, Michigan. After returning to New York, she

served as a substitute teacher and was the director of recreation for the town of North Salem. Ann later served as a bookkeeper for her husband Bob's firm. She is survived by her husband, daughters Robin and Beth; sons Steven, David, Mark, and James; 10 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her sisters Virginia and Carol.

DIANE RIFENBURG FUNG '64, November 26, 2018, at age 76. A graduate of the School of Music, Diane started the string program in the Liverpool Central School District and also taught in Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. She was an avid tennis player. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, **Gordon Fung '64**; her daughter, **Darelynn Fung '91**, and son, Mark; brothers, Bob and Ron Rifenburg; and grandchildren, Aeryn, Sam, Elta, Cole, and Paige.

DEBORAH BRAINARD TREIBER '70, May 14, 2019, at age 71. Deborah was born in Rome, New York. After completing a bachelor of science degree at Ithaca College, Deborah moved to Plattsburgh, New York, where she worked as an elementary school physical education teacher in the Plattsburgh school district. She also worked for numerous insurance businesses, including her father's insurance agency in Waterville, New York. She was a workers compensation underwriter while working at Travelers Insurance Company, in Orlando, Florida, until 2004, and then worked at American Sail Inc., in North Charleston, South Carolina, as an office administrator until her retirement in 2016. A founding member of the Gateway Open Arms Board of Directors, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Moncks Corner, South Carolina, Deborah was the organization's first secretary and was benevolence director, assisting persons needing food and other resources. Deborah was a passionate musician and enjoyed

playing the piano and organ. She was also an accomplished singer and taught others to sing and play the piano. She was the Gateway Community Church choir director, where she organized and conducted Christmas, Easter, and other special programs. Deborah was predeceased by her adoptive parents, Charles G. Brainard Jr. and Marion T. Brainard, and her sister, Sandra Brainard Bush Culham. She is survived by her husband, Daniel R. Treiber.

JASE BARRACK '20, May 9, 2019 in Ithaca, New York, at age 21. Jase was an athletic training major who worked with the women's soccer team, men's football team, and women's softball team. Jase also served as the goalkeeper on the college's club soccer team. Jase loved Ithaca College, the AT program, his professors, classmates, and soccer teammates. He is survived by his parents, Lisa and David; his sister Sara; and his brothers, Matthew and Daniel. Jase's family honored his wishes to donate his organs to offer others the gift of life.

TO PLACE AN ALUMNI NOTE, Celebration, Introduction, or Farewell, please visit ithaca.edu/icview and fill out the online form.

ICView reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

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PHOTOS

Photos should be at least 3.5 inches wide and have a resolution of at least 300 dpi. If you mail a glossy print to us, please make sure to include your contact information and the names of any people in the photo.

FAREWELLS

Farewells honor alumni, current or retired employees, and students who have passed away. Space limitations may compel us to include only career, military, and volunteer activities.

This Alumni Notes section includes news that was received by September 16. Because of the nature of a tri-annual publication and the volume of notes we receive, you should expect to see your note about six months after you submit your information.

MIXED MEDIA



THESE BOOKS HAVE BRAINS

The popularity of Max Brallier's book series is spreading as fast as a zombie plague.

The contagion started four years ago, when Brallier, a 2005 graduate of IC's cinema and photography program, released the first book in *The Last Kids on Earth* series. The apocalypse-set story, featuring zombies and giant monsters, is written for an elementary and middle school audience. The series, which has now spent 25 weeks on *The New York Times* bestseller list, has its own animated Netflix special and a forthcoming series, created by Atomic Cartoons and voiced by stars like Rosario Dawson, Bruce Campbell, Mark Hamill, and Catherine O'Hara. The sixth installment in the book series will come out in April.

"It's been incredible to watch the series grow—and I'm just incredibly grateful to Viking Children's, Netflix, Atomic Cartoons, and everyone else who's been involved," said Brallier, who acts as creator, writer, and producer for the show. "To see this book series that started as a little spark of an idea in my head one afternoon grow to something so much bigger is just, I dunno, strange, cool, exciting? There's not quite one word to describe it."

The books center around 13-year-old Jack Sullivan, an Oreo-eating, Mountain Dew drinking, unlikely hero who lives in his tree house and joins forces with his classmates to fight zombies and Godzilla-sized monsters. *Fast Company* described it as *The Walking Dead* meets *The Goonies*.

Next on the horizon for *The Last Kids*? A line of toys and action figures.

"It's beyond my wildest dreams," Brallier told *Fast Company*. "If you told me in 2015 when I was delivering the first manuscript that the idea I had for a Little League baseball bat that becomes a sword would be an electronic toy that lights up and glows, and is going to be available in the stores for people to buy, my brain would've melted." ■

JANIE BIBBIE, MS '94

Alzheimer's: Up Close and Personal

(Independently published, 2019)

Bibbie's first book contains excerpts of journals kept after her husband was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. The journals chronicle his behavior, notes, and drawings as he slowly succumbs to the effects of the disease. This book reveals a range of experiences, and even humor, as the Bibbies went from a routine and familiar life to one completely impacted by the effects of Alzheimer's.

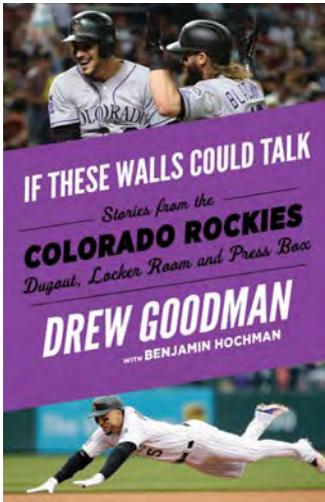


TARA GERAGHTY '98

Making Cancer Fun: A Parent's Guide

(Minipoka Publishing, 2019)

This book was written as a resource for families facing childhood cancer. Endorsed by oncology professionals nationwide with a five-star rating, it offers practical ideas, tools, and tips for parents, interwoven with a personal story of resiliency and hope. Additionally, each chapter contains interactive workbook pages for parents that are designed to help meet the individual needs of their child.



DREW GOODMAN '85

If These Walls Could Talk: Stories from the Colorado Rockies Dugout, Locker Room, and Press Box

(Triumph Books, 2019)

A multi-time Emmy Award winner and 13-time Colorado sportscaster of the year, Goodman has been the play-by-play voice for the Rockies for 18 years. The book, written with Benjamin Hochman, features colorful anecdotes and conversations with players.

RICH GOODWIN SR. '71

Running Life Matters: A Celebration of Running and Life Connection

(Self-published, 2019)

Goodwin's book not only celebrates the running community, but—through the stories told by a dozen runners including Goodwin himself—also imparts the valuable life lessons, experiences, and insights running provides.



ALEX LEE-CLARK '07 and BRIAN THOMAS '98

BT ALC Big Band: The Search for Peace

(Ropeadope, 2019)

The Search for Peace, written by trombonist Brian Thomas and trumpeter Alex Lee-Clark, uses an old-school approach to capture the high-volt energy of BT ALC Big Band's live performance. With three horn sections—five saxophonists, four trumpeters, and four trombonists—in the same studio as the rhythm and melody players, they rip through seven compositions.

TISH ONEY, MM '94

The Best Part

(Blujazz, 2019)

Oney's fifth album showcased IC Professor Emeritus Steve Brown as a featured composer. Oney had previously performed as a featured soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors.

TISH RABE '73

The 100 Hats of the Cat in the Hat: A Celebration of the 100th Day of School

(Random House Books for Young Readers, 2019)

The best-selling author of more than 170 books, Rabe's latest

featuring the iconic Cat in the Hat celebrates the number 100 by providing tools to count, add, subtract, multiply, and divide.

TONY SCARINGE '70

Mighty Mary

(Independently published, 2019)

Scaringe's book is a fictional take on a historical event—the 1995 all-female America's Cup team, Mighty Mary. In the book, Scaringe weaves three unique storylines throughout the narrative, which details the struggles the women faced as they strove to compete for the oldest trophy in international sport.



MICHAEL SOKOL '10

Sokol is the creator, host, and producer of a new podcast, *Same Wavelength*. It's a series of conversations with artists exploring the relationship between their creative work and our current political situation. Each episode presents a thoughtful dialogue with an artist discussing how they choose to use their platform in light of current social and political issues as a means to reframe the times through the artist's lens.

ONLY IN ITHACA

CITY OF DRAGONS

Did you know that Ithaca has a Dragon Boat Club? Dragon boat racing is a 2,500-year-old tradition that started in China and is still going strong today. Rowers compete in large boats with decorative dragon heads and tails on them and drummers keeping a beat for the rowers.

The Ithaca Dragon Boat Club practices on Cayuga Lake and competes at races throughout the Northeast, including the Finger Lakes International Dragon Boat Festival. Ithaca College staff member Joe Schlimmer has trained on and off with the club, and this year he tried out for and made the U.S. team. He traveled to Thailand with the team this past August to compete at the International Dragon Boat Federation World Championships in Thailand and won four medals.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Joe Schlimmer (fourth paddler from the back on the right) and the U.S. team row to victory in the mixed premier two-kilometer race at the world championships.

I REMEMBER WHEN... I WORKED MY FIRST GRAVEYARD DJ SHIFT!

Twenty years ago at 3 a.m. I worked my first radio DJ shift (3 to 6 a.m.!) on VIC Radio's early cable-broadcast incarnation at Ithaca College. My floormates stayed up late to hear me DJ. The first song I ever played on the radio? G. Love's "Rodeo Clowns."

– **Chris O'Leary '03** shared this memory on Twitter, and it was retweeted by G. Love himself.



PHOTO BY ADAM BAKER

Students participate in the VIC 50-hour marathon, a fundraiser for local charities.



You dream big. So do they.

Making a bequest to Ithaca College puts the IC experience within reach for students and their families.



“What better way to show my gratitude than to give back to the college?”

—GARY CHOLLET '65, MS '70

In thanks for the careful training and excellent ensemble experiences that IC provided for him, longtime music educator and musician Gary Chollet established The Gary Chollet Class of '65 Endowed Scholarship. Gary funded his scholarship by blending gifts from his IRA's annual required minimum distributions combined with a bequest to support current and future IC students.

The generosity of alumni like you keeps the IC experience alive. Please contact our office for more information about how you can make an impact with a bequest or other planned gift.

Office of Planned Giving | (607) 274-1395 | plannedgiving@ithaca.edu



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