

# ch<sup>star</sup>tham **STRONGER THAN HATE**

*Dedicated to the victims and survivors  
of the Tree of Life shooting.*

Chatham  
Recorder

WINTER 2018

RECORDER

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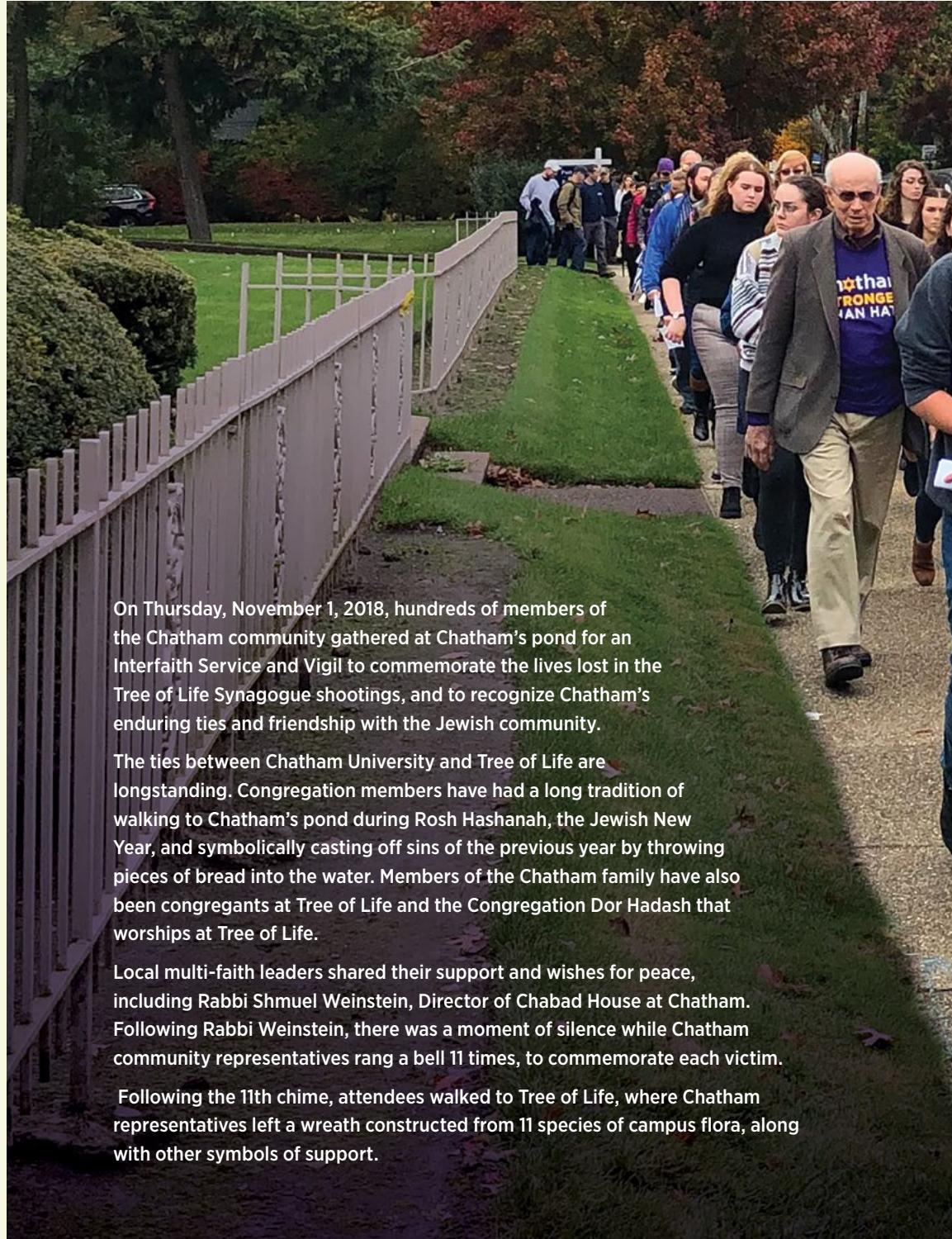
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On Thursday, November 1, 2018, hundreds of members of the Chatham community gathered at Chatham's pond for an Interfaith Service and Vigil to commemorate the lives lost in the Tree of Life Synagogue shootings, and to recognize Chatham's enduring ties and friendship with the Jewish community.

The ties between Chatham University and Tree of Life are longstanding. Congregation members have had a long tradition of walking to Chatham's pond during Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and symbolically casting off sins of the previous year by throwing pieces of bread into the water. Members of the Chatham family have also been congregants at Tree of Life and the Congregation Dor Hadash that worships at Tree of Life.

Local multi-faith leaders shared their support and wishes for peace, including Rabbi Shmuel Weinstein, Director of Chabad House at Chatham. Following Rabbi Weinstein, there was a moment of silence while Chatham community representatives rang a bell 11 times, to commemorate each victim.

Following the 11th chime, attendees walked to Tree of Life, where Chatham representatives left a wreath constructed from 11 species of campus flora, along with other symbols of support.

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# News

## CHATHAM RANKED AS A BEST COLLEGE

**BY U.S. NEWS** Chatham University was once again selected as a 2019 Best College by *U.S. News & World Report*. Chatham's ranking jumped 13 places over the previous year in the Regional Universities – North category. Chatham was also ranked as a Best Value School in the same category this year.

## CHATHAM RANKED IN THE TOP 5 OF THE 2018 SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS INDEX

Chatham has been recognized as a top performer in the 2018 Sustainable Campus Index, ranking 4th overall among master's institutions and tying for 2nd in the Grounds category. The Sustainable Campus Index, a publication of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), highlights top-performing sustainable colleges and universities overall and in 17 impact areas, as measured by the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System™ (STARS).

## EDEN HALL CAMPUS WINS BEST OF

**GREEN SCHOOLS AWARD** Chatham's Eden Hall Campus and K-12 Program received a 2018 Best of Green Schools Award from the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council in collaboration with the Green Schools National Network. Chatham was honored in the Higher Education category, which recognizes institutions or faculty members who have made a significant contribution to the K-12 green schools movement through partnership, research and/or scholarship.

## CHATHAM RECOGNIZED AS A TOP UNIVERSITY FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Chatham University has been named one of the 2018 Career Development Colleges of Distinction. This ranking is in recognition of Chatham's integrated career exploration and preparation; accessible programs and training; and dedicated, career-centered staff.

For more information, visit  
[chatham.edu/news](http://chatham.edu/news).

# We're on t



# Events

# the rise.



## PENNSYLVANIA CENTER FOR WOMEN & POLITICS HOSTED NEW LEADERSHIP 2018

The Pennsylvania Center for Women and Politics (PCWP) at Chatham held the annual National Education for Women's (NEW) Leadership™ Pennsylvania program, a weeklong (June 3-June 8) intensive institute for women college students focused on the role of women in politics and policy making in Pennsylvania. NEW Leadership 2018 brought over 40 students from 26 different colleges and universities across Pennsylvania to the Chatham University campus.

## BREAKING BREAD: A STORYTELLING DINNER ABOUT BREAD AND GRAINS

On July 14, the Center for Regional Agriculture, Food and Transformation (CRAFT) at Chatham University hosted a pop-up dinner at Eden Hall Campus. The six-course farm dinner was the culminating event for CRAFT's oral history project entitled "Babka and Beyond: Bread, Grains, and Baked Goods in Western Pennsylvania," and featured locally sourced grains, produce, and meat. Each course reflected themes and stories from the project, and diners were treated to storytelling as they enjoyed a meal reflective of our region's rich food history.

## CONNECTING CLIMATE AND HEALTH: WORKING TOGETHER FOR SOLUTIONS

On September 25, Chatham hosted a panel discussion on the connections between climate change and health. Moderated by Assistant Professor of Nursing and Practice Experience Coordinator Jennifer Wasco, DNP '15, the panel brought together representatives from healthcare and professional organizations; academic institutions; and local government to address this critical issue and promote health, well-being, and equity.



# Celebrating Chatham's 150th Anniversary

Chatham's LEGACY is 150 years of seeing not just what is, but what could be. Of empowering women, challenging assumptions, and helping our students create lives of fulfillment and purpose.

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Chatham's SPIRIT can be heard in a sustained chord held at Candlelight. Seen in a smile shared at Reunion. Recognized in the understanding that what connects us is deeper than a degree.

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Chatham's PROMISE is that we will uphold our values, safeguard the memories we share, and continue to extend this promise to others.

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*This year, join us for a joyous and thought-provoking year of talks, gatherings, and other events as we honor our legacy, celebrate our spirit, and realize our promise.*



# Join us for a year-long celebration

In 2019, we're coming together across the country and throughout the year for workshops, lectures, parties, conferences, and more to share our experiences (past and present), be inspired by speakers, and celebrate our community.

## JANUARY

- 31** . . . Lecture: "Healing People, Not Patients: Creating Authentic Relationships in Modern Healthcare" featuring author and physician assistant faculty, Jonthan Weinkle

*Also, a Pennsylvania Center for Women in Politics (PCWP) breakfast introducing newly-elected women in office*

## FEBRUARY

- 9** . . . Diversity & Inclusion Professional Development Conference
- 21** . . . Office of Career Development hosts biannual Job & Internship Mixer
- 22** . . . Chatham 150 Celebration in Philadelphia @ the Arlen Specter Center
- 23** . . . PCWP Ready to Run Program in Philadelphia

*Also, Chatham 150 celebrations in Florida with President Finegold and Alumni Relations*

## MARCH

- 4** . . . Open House for Eden Hall K-12 Programs during Seeds of Change Conference
- 9** . . . Food Studies Workshop featuring the Center for Regional Agriculture, Food, and Transformation (CRAFT)
- 12** . . . Women's Institute presents the Hollander Lecture featuring Vivian Lowery Derryck '67

## APRIL

- 3** . . . PCWP presents the Elsie Hillman Chair Lecture featuring Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Maggie Haberman of *The New York Times*
- 12** . . . 3rd annual "Day of Giving"

## APRIL (continued)

- 12** . . . Center for Women's Entrepreneurship's Women Business Leaders Breakfast Series, Fireside Chat with alumnae Nancy Humphreys '63 and Trustee Stephanie Novosel '90
- 28** . . . Spring Commencement with keynote speaker Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland

*Also, Chatham 150 celebrations in New York City and Chicago*

## MAY

- 3** . . . Bucket and Blossom Day

## AUGUST

- 25** . . . Opening Convocation

## SEPTEMBER

*Center for Women's Entrepreneurship (CWE) Learn. Grow. Connect. Conference for Women in Business*

## OCTOBER

- 10-13** **Chatham 150 Celebration Weekend and Reunion** . . . . .
- (classes ending in 4 & 9)

## NOVEMBER

*Chatham 150 Celebration in Boston with Alumni Relations*

## DECEMBER

- 6** . . . Candlelight
- 11** . . . Official Charter Day
- 13** . . . Commencement



► October 10-13  
150th Celebration Weekend  
and Reunion

The legacy of the past inspires, informs, and lives on through the Chatham of today. Next year, we will come together to celebrate our alumni and campus community—who you were on campus, and who you've since become. During this sesquicentennial celebration, Chatham 150, we celebrate not only our traditional reunion classes ending in 4's and 9's, but the thousands of alumni who make up our long purple line spanning from 1869 until today. We invite all alumni and campus community members to join us for an exciting weekend of programming featuring alumni, faculty, and students from across the ages and highlighting the best of Chatham and Pittsburgh. From music to farm-to-table workshops, to engaging speakers and behind-the-scene tours, you will experience Chatham in a way that you will not soon forget. The weekend's activities will culminate on Saturday, October 12 with an immersive, interactive, and memorable celebration ushering participants along Chatham's historical *long purple line* featuring the sights and sounds of each era of Chatham's history. Whether your diploma reads Pennsylvania College for Women, Chatham College, or Chatham University, the *long purple line* unites us all.

Chatham  
**150**  
Years  
1869-2019

Beginning January 1, 2019, you'll be able to visit the 150th anniversary website to get involved in events, sign up for activities, dive deeper into Chatham's history, and share your stories. In particular, submit stories—of yourself or of your alumni friends—for categories including "The Daredevils," "The Shape-Shifters," "The Healers," "The Creators," and more.

[chatham.edu/150](http://chatham.edu/150)

**ALUMNI PROFILE: MARGY WHITMER '74**



Illustration by Marvin Alonso



By Cara Gillotti

# A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

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If you've seen the trailer for *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*, the 2018 American documentary film about Fred Rogers, host and creator of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, you've seen Margy Whitmer '74.



**W**hitmer is the first person to be interviewed on camera, charismatic, bright-eyed, and fashionable. “If you take all the elements that make good television,” she says in the documentary, “and do the exact opposite, you have *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood*. Low production values, simple set, unlikely star. Yet, it worked!”

Raised in Clarion, PA, Whitmer came to Chatham and majored in history and minored in education, cross-registering at Carnegie Mellon University to take child development courses. “Kids are important to me, and I care about them,” she says. “That was really what my heart was about.”

Whitmer remembers getting an exceptionally well-rounded educational experience. “Each of my education classes had a requirement that we tutor out in urban

schools that needed tutors, like Homewood and East Liberty. I realized at that point that this was pretty cool. We had to figure out how to get ourselves there; most of us didn’t have cars; it was a real learning experience on lots of levels. It was terrific.”

In college, Whitmer and her friend had briefly volunteered for a public television show in Boston called *Zoom* while working on their senior tutorial. On the strength of that work experience, she was offered a job at WQED after graduating to work on a state-wide initiative, a series of programs about alcoholism. During the next five years, she moved up the ranks, from production assistant to assistant producer to producer. As a freelancer, she did some work for Fred Rogers’ company, which was located in the same building as WQED. She worked on an early documentary about him, collecting

photos at his house in Latrobe. “I remember thinking, there’s really something about him. If I ever get a chance to get on that show, that’d be great.” Then one day, she got the call.

Only they weren’t looking for her.

“They were looking to contact a friend of mine about an associate producer position on *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood*,” Whitmer laughs. “I gave them her number, then hung up and thought, ‘Wait, I’d really like to be considered for this.’” So she called back and made the case that, even though it was a lower position than the one she held, she’d learn more working on that show. A week later, she got the job. It was 1981.

Whitmer had met Mister Rogers before then—after all, his studio and WQED were in the same building. “I used to have this obnoxiously bright green raincoat,” she says. “And one day we were in the elevator at the same time. I said ‘Hi, Mister Rogers,’ and he said ‘How are you?’ and I said I’m fine.’ He said ‘So what color is that coat?’ I said ‘It’s green.’ He said ‘Nice raincoat.’ I scratched my head and thought ‘Wow, what’s going on with this guy?’ I later learned that he’s partially colorblind, and when I started, one of my jobs was to make sure that his necktie and the sweater he put on didn’t clash.”

As producers, “Fred would come up with ideas, and we’d make them happen,” Whitmer says. “Does he want to see people make crayons? Have a celebrity guest? Go to Moscow? Sometimes he’d write something and we’d have to create a new set for it, and those sets were huge—they took up the whole studio. Sometimes we’d have, say, an extra four minutes we had to fill, so we’d think, what kind of activity can we do? Who can we find? The times when it was just him on camera were his least favorite parts, so we tried to make them as short as possible.”

“He loved doing the puppets. They were his voice. His inner child remained so strong all of his life. He had a saying that I think about: ‘The child is in me still, and sometimes, not so still.’ He remembered being a child, that vulnerable, small, creature, wondering about the world, how things worked, and trying to figure out who he was. Through his work with the puppets, he was able to validate children’s experiences,” she says.

Today, Whitmer works on a show called *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood* that is based on the offspring of characters from the Neighborhood of Make Believe—Henrietta Pussycat's daughter Katerina, X the Owl's nephew O, and others. "We do two animated stories focused on a social or emotional issue, and what we call 'Sweater Kid Visits,' in which regular, non-actor kids go check stuff out around town (Mineo's Pizza, the Duquesne Incline), and further afield (the National Zoo in Washington D.C. to see the baby panda)." Whitmer produces the Sweater Kid Visits. "We want to transfer the legacy of Fred into this program," she says.

"Fred worked as hard as he could to never speak in absolutes," Whitmer says admiringly.

"He would say 'you can feel better' instead of 'you will feel better.' He really wanted to help kids find that place in between. Just because you're no longer mad doesn't mean that you're going to be happy right away. We really want to create that space for kids. We've sometimes had to struggle with that with *Daniel Tiger* because there's only so much time in each episode – sometimes it's hard to model all that emotion."

Whitmer enjoys working on *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood*, but the original occupies a special place in her heart. "As crazy as the studio was, it was still very calm compared to what I know movie and TV sets can be like. Even when it was tense, we all had fun. Fred had a great sense of humor, and

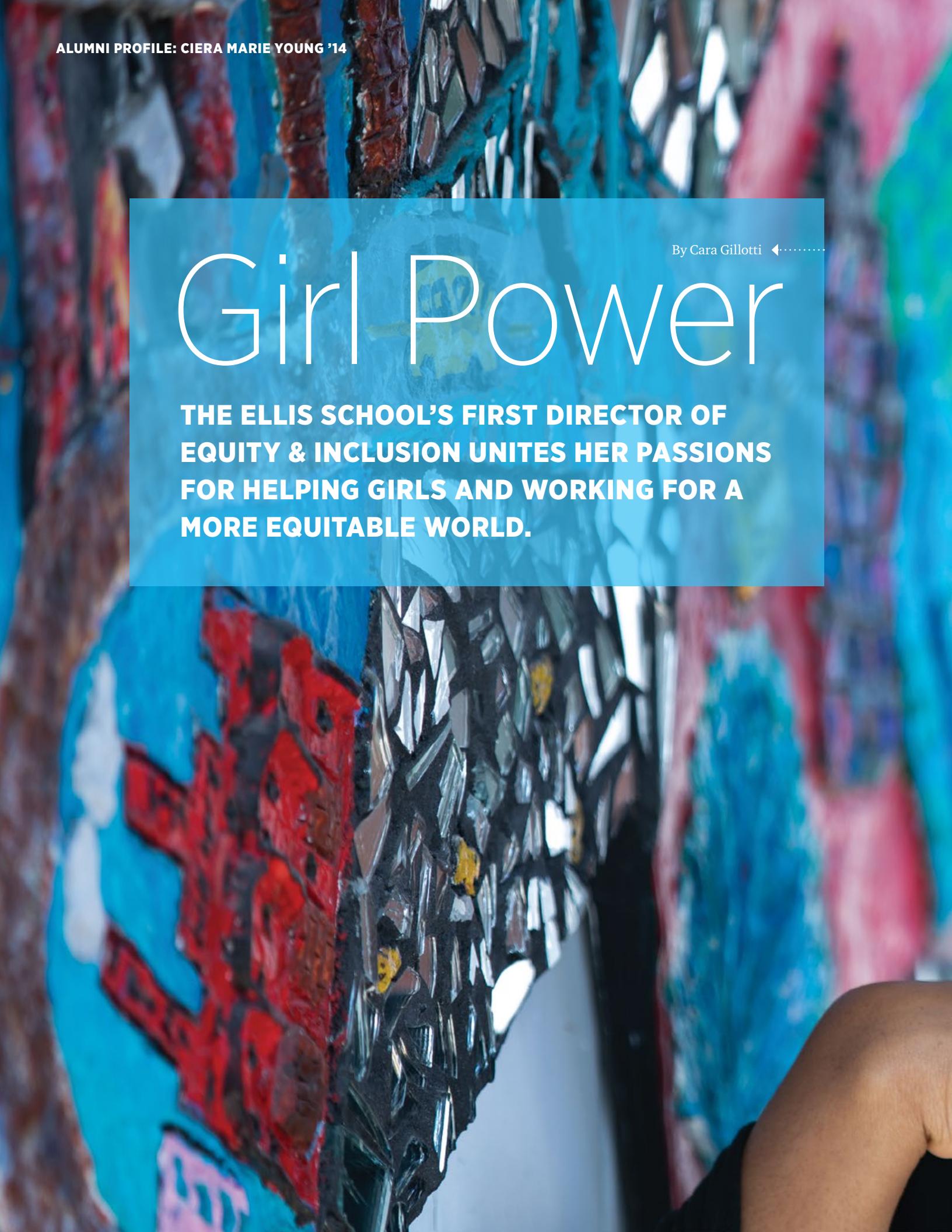
we played lots of jokes. There was a piano in the studio, and sometimes Fred would play it as he waited for us to change things around. So one day I put a glass jar on the piano, like for tips. And Fred was playing, and I came by and put a dollar in the jar, and said 'Can you play Misty?' I forgot all about it, but at the end of the day, I went back to my office, and on my desk was the jar with the dollar in it and a note in an envelope from Fred that said *Dear Margy, Some people say this isn't enough...most say it's too much.* I still have that note, the dollar, and the envelope." ▲



# Girl Power

By Cara Gillotti ◀.....

**THE ELLIS SCHOOL'S FIRST DIRECTOR OF  
EQUITY & INCLUSION UNITES HER PASSIONS  
FOR HELPING GIRLS AND WORKING FOR A  
MORE EQUITABLE WORLD.**





**G**rowing up in a low-income neighborhood in Columbus, Ohio, Ciera Marie Young '14 got some mixed messages. Her father called her "Dr. Young," and told her that she could be the first in her family to get a college education, but people in her neighborhood made it clear that she needed to be thinking about looking good, about getting married. Then in high school, a growing concern in her community caused her priorities to snap into focus.

One day after school, Young's cousin, a fifth-grader, was waiting for Young to pick her up at the designated place—a corner a few minutes away from the school entrance. "A car had driven up to her," remembers Young, who was 16 at the time. "She was leaning over into the window. I hustle up to them, and the car drives off." The driver was a much older man. He had told her cousin how good she looked, and asked for her number.

"This is just a situation that no one should have to deal with," says Young. "I was like, why is this happening?" Young herself had been approached by much older men. "Just because we are growing up in this neighborhood and going through puberty," she says, "does not make it okay for us to

be approached. But it felt like everywhere I looked, men were approaching girls and women with the intent of grooming us for sex work."

Young gathered a group of people to create a block watch that would make sure girls got to and from school safely, and report any suspicious activity to law enforcement. A teacher in high school urged her to aim higher, and she connected with the Council of World Affairs and received a spot in the Junior Council Fellows Program, where they successfully lobbied for the first anti-human-trafficking bill in the state and helped create the first legal safe house in Ohio.

When it came time to start thinking about college, Young's high school guidance counselor suggested Chatham. "It wasn't too far from home; I could pursue my interests in social justice, and the school was small enough that I wouldn't have to compete with hundreds of people just to get a meeting with someone," she says.

Young credits Professor Anissa Wardi's Race and Representation class with opening her eyes. "For the first time, I had words to put to my experiences and feelings," she says. Young got involved with the Black Student Union; became a Resident Assistant for the International Living and Learning

#### **CHATHAM GRADUATES IN THE 30 UNDER 30**

Fully 10 percent of the *Pittsburgh Business Times*'s 2018 30 Under 30 Awardees were Chatham alumni:

- Annia Aleman '13 (global policy studies): Civic Innovation Specialist at the City of Pittsburgh
- Ciera Marie Young '14 (cultural studies and international studies): Director of Diversity and Inclusion at The Ellis School
- James Snow (MSUS '14): Manager of Corporate Relations at Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and Vice-President of the Chatham University Alumni Association Board



Community; participated in Women of the World Leadership retreats; and studied abroad in Gambia (with best friends Suad Yusuf '14 and Annia Aleman '13), where she volunteered with a feminist non-government organization (NGO) called the Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (GAMCOTRAP).

After graduating with a double major in cultural studies with an African American concentration, and international studies with an Africa concentration, Young spent a year working for the Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Service Experience, and then completed the prestigious and rigorous Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs—nine months of "using the city as a classroom", switching out placements in non-profit organizations every eight weeks. "It really prepared me to do the work I'm doing now. It also taught me to work long hours," she laughs.

“Education has the power to change the trajectory of a family in just one generation, and I always find myself coming back to it. I love helping young people develop the confidence and skills to take them to new places.”

CIERA MARIE YOUNG ’14

After Coro, she worked with the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation, helping to connect youth to employment opportunities. “I realized that I have a calling to serve through education and working with youth,” Young says. “Education has the power to change the trajectory of a family in just one generation, and I always find myself coming back to it. I love helping young people develop the confidence and skills to take them to new places.”

“I had been working part-time at Ellis for a year and a half as a diversity and inclusion coordinator, and I realized that there’s so much more work to be done there. I remembered my negotiation classes, trainings we had, being told to fight for our worth. So I advocated to become full-time at Ellis, to receive promotion to director of diversity and inclusion, and a higher salary. And I received it!”

At Ellis, Young makes it a point to collaborate with other schools, including Westinghouse High School, with whose students Ellis

students collaborated on a podcast (yet to be aired). The podcast focused on the students’ lived experiences, and perceptions of how the city views them based on what school they go to, and what they would like to tell adults if they could.

One of the initiatives of which Young is most proud is Ellis’s Culture Jam, a daylong student-led diversity summit that won a Racial Justice Award from the YWCA. This year, students came from as far away as Maine and Philadelphia—as well as from various neighborhoods in Pittsburgh—to run workshops and give presentations. “Culture Jam used to be just Ellis students giving presentations,” says Young. “It was still valuable, but it wasn’t equitable. So we invited students from all over to attend and present, and not just present, but to share their stories through dance, film, or art. There are so many stories that don’t get presented because they don’t fit in the dominant narrative.” Young says that she got a little pushback because of those changes,

because there’s a strong sense of tradition. “But I wanted to move the needle a little bit,” she says, “so we can get closer to where we say we want to be.”

I ask Young what it’s like going from working with children from underserved communities to students at a private school like Ellis. “I always say that regardless of where I work, I am in the space-disruptor and space-expansion business,” she says. “At the end of the day, regardless of resources and funding, kids want to aim for the stars, and I’m here to help them do that. I challenge students to think outside of the ‘Ellis bubble,’ to think about their own personal narratives, how they fit in the world outside, and how they can leverage what they have to call attention to issues that they care about.” ▲



ALUMNI PROFILE: MEG SCANLON '16



The background of the entire page is a dark, slightly blurred photograph of a building at night. Warm, golden-yellow lights are visible through the windows, and a few bright streetlights or lanterns are scattered across the scene.

by Chloe Bell '15

# The Pleasures of Being Meg

“What’s your pleasure?” asks the slogan of the fascinating Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, Massachusetts. For Meg Scanlon ’16, the answer is simple and unwavering: to give people meaningful opportunities to experience art.

**W**hile it's rare to know where in the world Meg Scanlon is—she moves quickly and plans ahead—she is never far from an art museum. Though smarter than most, Meg's talent lies in making you feel smarter and more capable the longer you know her; luckily, I'm on year five. Presently, sitting across from me in a Boston coffee shop, she speaks intentionally, patiently, taking the time to find the perfect word, her speech as curated as her wardrobe, her shades of nail polish, and her career. But if you want to break through her composure, you need only mention John Singer Sargent or Henri Matisse or that time in Venice she saw a Pollock out of the frame. Once, when visiting Meg in Italy with Phoebe Armstrong '15, an Australian couple seated next to us at dinner began lamenting the shortcomings of modern art. Phoebe and I gulped our wine excitedly, aware of the impromptu lecture Meg would soon give.

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Management and Museum Studies, Meg has spent four months in Venice, Italy; six in Portland, Oregon; a year in Philadelphia; and a few sprinkled weeks in Switzerland, Scotland, Pittsburgh, and Indiana. Currently, she is working at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (ISGM) in Boston as the Von Hess Visitor Learning Intern, but will soon return to finish her Masters in Museum Education at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Though I suspect she is a little fatigued from perpetual motion, a life in flux has its merits—she can navigate public transportation better than anyone, including Venetian water taxis.

Meg first went to Italy as a Vira I. Heinz Program for Women in Global Leadership scholarship recipient in 2015, spending a summer studying the language. She returned a year later, after graduating from Chatham, for a semester-long internship at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, a major destination for fans of contemporary art. Within two months, she was supervising the rest of the interns. On paper, it's quite remarkable, but the longer you know her,



*Author Chloe Bell '15 with Meg Scanlon '16*

the more these impressive feats begin to run together—Meg manifests opportunity and opportunity loves Meg. Despite an indisputably solid resume, she maintains that her most educational moments have come from watching the way others interact with art, particularly those from different backgrounds. Meg notes that at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, “there were about 25 interns every month and only a few other Americans at any given time...it was the first time that I really felt the importance of working professionally with people who have different cultural perspectives.”

Inside the ISGM, Meg directs me to the museum’s fife canary, a shockingly yellow fellow named Whistler. He is my favorite part of the museum and she knows he will be; that’s her job. Inclusions like a pet canary make a museum feel kind and welcoming, rather than stuffy or pretentious. These are the touches that Meg values most deeply, because they make the visitors feel as attended to as the art.

Meg’s appreciation for museums has been blooming since adolescence. When life

failed to be consistent for her, art showed up. Growing up first in Cleveland, then Pittsburgh, then Portland, Oregon, her scattered homes needed a tether. In Cleveland, she remembers the massive John Singer Sargent coffee table book her mother, an artist, kept in the dining room. It was Pittsburgh where Meg discovered her love of introducing others to museums in an accessible way. Working as a teen docent in the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Meg spent adolescent Saturdays encouraging museum visitors to touch pieces of fabric that simulated the texture of animal exhibits. She says of the museum: “The Carnegie immediately felt like my home...it always felt special and comforting.”

Meg eventually returned to the Carnegie, this time as an intern at the Carnegie Museum of Art, when she came to Chatham in 2013. “I was very timid...but you made me feel comfortable,” she says of the beginning of our friendship, one that started with me as her first-year orientation leader. She found a rare kind of family at Chatham, one that resulted in letters of recommendation,

**"I think the sense of community at Chatham was the biggest thing, not just with the students, but with the faculty."**

MEG SCANLON '16

cross-continental friendships, and, in the rarest cases, Swiss Army knives. Meg was universally respected, not just because of her characteristic studiousness and hunter-green tights, but because of the way she wholly committed herself to Chatham amidst significant change. In the long exhaustive discussions we had leading up to the co-ed transition, she was always by my side, and when we devoted ourselves to maintaining Chatham's essence, she led the way: "I think the sense of community at Chatham was the biggest thing, not just with the students, but with the faculty."

She goes on to list her faculty mentors: Beth Roark, Prajna Parasher, Corey Escoto, Bill Lenz. "I probably wouldn't have applied for the Guggenheim internship if Dr. Roark hadn't told me that I should," she says. And her ties to Pittsburgh remain strong: She is

collaborating with the Carnegie Museum of Art on her graduate thesis which will explore dialogue-based public tours and the connections they create between the visitor and contemporary art.

There is no doubt that Meg will continue to be successful, and beyond that, her work seems to affirm her every day. She recalls a day at the Guggenheim when a blind sculptor named Felice led vision-impaired children through an exercise. First the children interacted with 3-D reproductions of some of the museum's paintings, allowing them to touch the landscapes and look up closely at them. Next, Felice led them through a workshop where they made a self portrait out of clay. He guided them in touching their faces, sculpting the clay, touching again. Meg's eyes fill up with tears.

"Often times people feel like a museum is only for a certain type of person with a certain type of understanding; museum education really shows that this treasure can be relevant to everyone's life."

Once, shortly after we'd become friends, Meg told me that she admired me because of the contradictions that made up my identity (like my majors, English and chemistry). It was my favorite compliment. Now I look at her, and the life she is building, and can't help feeling the same thing. Her favorite works in Isabella's collection are *Christ Carrying the Cross* by Giovanni Bellini, a self-explanatory piece, and *El Jaleo* by John Singer Sargent, a portrait of a woman dancing for an audience in a dimly lit dancehall. She is both steadfastly devoted and weaving her way through a hazy room, navigating the dreams she has amassed like metrocards. ▲



WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP



*Jessie Ramey, Dana Brown, and Rebecca Harris*

# “Proud to Be Educators in This Space” A Conversation Around Women’s Leadership

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Cara Gillotti, senior writer at Chatham University, sat down with Dana Brown, Ph.D., executive director, PA Center for Women and Politics; Rebecca Harris, MBA, executive director, Center for Women’s Entrepreneurship; and Jessie Ramey, Ph.D., director of the Chatham University Women’s Institute, to talk about women’s leadership in 2018.

**CG:** What is a tangible, irrefutable, bottom-line benefit to having women in positions of power?

**RH:** The primary research shows that when companies have women in the C-suite (e.g., CEO, CFO) and more women on the boards of directors, companies actually do better. The returns on investment are higher, the bottom lines are better. There is a tangible correlation.

**DB:** We know from political science research that when we increase the number of women serving in government, then we have an increase in transparency. We know also that as you have more women at the table there tends to be an increase in bipartisanship, and an increase in policy initiatives that have bipartisanship co-sponsorship, which makes the likelihood of bill passage much greater. And that means you have a body of public policy that is potentially more reflective of the people it's trying to serve.

We also know that there are many public policy issues that are being brought to the table for the very first time because of women's lived experiences. It has literally taken Acts of Congress for women to get credit cards in their own name and to get women's bodies included in the National Institutes of Health studies.

**JR:** I was thinking about this in terms of women having more power. Not positions of power, but power more broadly, like economic

power. When we lift up women living in poverty, we are also lifting up children and improving entire communities. Last year, a really great study showed that 68% of Black girls under the age of five in the City of Pittsburgh live in poverty. And in thinking about this, how do we support them? It comes down to policy and economic empowerment.

**CG:** What is a question or misunderstanding you are most tired of hearing, and what would you like to say so that you would never have to address it again?

**DB:** One question I get quite often is why do we care if women are in elected office? Can't men lead on these issues, too? But I think I just described why it matters to have descriptive representation of women. One thing I should underscore is that women elected leaders tend to lead around “care” issues, such as veteran’s issues or FMLA. So that's why it matters.

**JR:** One of the frustrating things that keeps getting asked when I'm out giving talks I think stems from the fact that we do in fact have a few successful women running businesses; there are a few visible women out there, so there is a misunderstanding or misperception that if those women can do it, we must have successfully deconstructed all the barriers to women's leadership. And if women

According to the Center for American Progress,  
**women make up a majority (50.8%) of the U.S. population.**

- They earn almost 60% of undergraduate degrees and 60% of all master's degrees.
- They earn 47% of all law degrees and 48% of all medical degrees.
- They earn 38% of MBAs and 48% of specialized master's degrees.
- They account for 47% of the U.S. labor force and 49% of the college-educated workforce.

aren't getting into positions of power, it must be because they've made individual choices to not pursue leadership. So there is this erasure of what are still structural and institutional barriers to women's leadership and a lot of this then gets assumed or posed as women's individual choices.

**RH:** I am asked a lot why we need entrepreneurship centers for women. Why can't there just be general training for anyone who wants to be an entrepreneur? And my response is "Well, when women have the same opportunities to start businesses as men, and grow them as men, and get the same funding as men, then maybe we won't, but in the meantime the discrepancies are so profound."

When women and men finance their companies by getting loans, men get twice as much as women. The playing field is so unequal, even when starting a business. There is also research that shows that women who are learning in cohorts with other women tend to be less intimidated and will take more risks and be less afraid and actually do better in this learning environment. That's why the U.S. Small

"This natural-born leader model is something that was created by men for men to create more male leaders."

**DANA BROWN, PH.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PA CENTER FOR WOMEN AND POLITICS**

Business Administration, for example, has mandated that there's now 120 women's business centers across the country in addition to small business development centers which serve everybody. When you analyze the differences between having women in all the classes and having men and women in classes, the outcomes for women are much better, which translates into more successful businesses.

**CG: What do you see as a major challenge to women in leadership today and how is your organization helping to address it?**

**DB:** We know that voters do evaluate men and women candidates differently. They assume that women candidates are "better" on issues such as education and not as strong

on issues like foreign policy or tax. And that media outlets generally do report on women candidates differently, with more of an emphasis on her appearance, though this effect is lessening, but sometimes they will just cover female candidates less.

Women are great voters – women have outvoted men consistently now for decades. Women are now almost on par in terms of graduation from law school, and other grad schools so we see that women have these leadership traits; they have just as many degrees now as men, and so there's this weird assumption that somehow just naturally women are going to ascend to become the U.S. senator from wherever and that's just demonstrably false. We have to teach these young women

## **However:**

- While they are 44% of the overall S&P 500 labor force, they are only 25% of executive- and senior-level officials and managers, hold only 20% of board seats, and are only 6% of CEOs.
- In medicine, they comprise 37% of all physicians and surgeons, but only 16% of permanent medical school deans.
- They were only 6% of partners in venture capital firms in 2013—down from 10% in 1999.

that there is a space for them, and teach them the skills with which to do it, and that there's nothing "natural" about it. This natural-born leader model is something that was created by men for men to create more male leaders.

So we try to demystify how to run a campaign through the Ready to Run campaign training, which offers skills-building and workshops on how to navigate this political party system which has been determined to be an institutional barrier for most women candidates. We're always trying to remind our participants that leadership can be taught and that running a campaign is not intuitive. These are all skills that can be gained, and we are proud to be educators in this space.

**RH:** If you look at the statistics, women are still running households as well as working. The shift has not been equalized between partners. There are only 24 hours in a day, so how do you make all those choices? One of the things we are doing effectively is teaching women (and students) to think entrepreneurially. That's going to be really important because the days of 40 years

in an organization and a gold watch don't really exist the way they used to. Many more people are going to be involved in a gig economy, going from one thing to another. Another thing is that through the prototype design lab, we're training women and students to use their minds in new and creative ways. The third thing is that there are many more opportunities now for millennials and women to get money through crowd-funding websites like Kickstarter. So you might not have to have credit or go into regular banking institutions. We try to make all these different types of lending opportunities available.

**JR:** One of the main challenges is that gender inequality is harder to see in some ways now than it was decades ago. It shows up more in ways like implicit bias. But what do you do about that? We are actually working on several fronts that I think are useful. One of the things, for instance, that we are doing this year which is brand new is co-hosting a negotiation skills clinic for undergraduate women in the spring. So absolutely we are continuing to provide skills training and helping women acquire those skills. We're also using a lot of the latest scholarship on implicit bias to help educate faculty and staff in service of promoting a welcoming, inclusive campus for everybody. ▲

**"One of the things we are doing effectively is teaching women (and students) to think entrepreneurially."**

**REBECCA HARRIS, MBA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

If you Believe in yourself Anything is possible



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CHATHAM UNIVERSITY  
**WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER**  
AT THE CENTER FOR WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP

“Phenomenal.  
So empowering.”

Earlier this year, Chatham’s Women’s Business Center (CWBC), part of the Center for Women’s Entrepreneurship (CWE) at Chatham University, was selected by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) as the 2018 Women’s Business Center of the Year. We look at why.

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..... By Cara Gillotti .....

## BACKGROUND

In 2015, the SBA district office invited CWE to apply for a five-year grant to start a Women's Business Center. "It was a great opportunity—though we had been offering events including training and networking, we hadn't been able to offer formal one-on-one counseling services," says CWBC Director Anne Flynn Schlicht, MBS.

In April 2016, they won the grant. Since then, the CWBC has:

- Offered 101 training programs, serving over 1410 women entrepreneurs with 217 training hours
- Provided 987 hours of counseling to 468 clients, which has directly contributed to 82 new businesses and \$3.8M in raised capital

"We've exceeded our goals each year we've operated, which is what I think led to us getting the award. The Administration was impressed with the amount of training and counseling we do and also our metrics in terms of business starts and access to capital," says Schlicht.

## MISSION

The CWBC works across Pittsburgh and throughout Allegheny and surrounding counties. Counselors offer programming and counseling at the CWBC office at Chatham Eastside, and meet with clients and organizations in neighborhoods including Wilkinsburg, the Hill District, the North Side. Their mission is to serve especially women in underserved communities, such as minorities and immigrants.

Along with one-on-one business counseling, the CWBC offers six-week entrepreneurial training programs; half-day workshops; webinars; and seminars on topics including financing a business, digital marketing, traditional marketing, accounting, exporting, certification, legal issues, hiring employees, veteran business ownership, and business startup, growth, and new product/service development.

"Entrepreneurs need not just money to start their business, but also to grow it, and that's one of the biggest barriers for women," says Schlicht. "Their businesses are often more service-based, so they might not have access to collateral. One of the aims of the SBA is that all businesses need access to capital to grow. That means they'll hire people, create jobs, put more money back into the economy."

A look at a few clients of the CWBC...



## CAROLYN KLASNICK BROOKS

*Partner & Executive Producer at Post Script Productions LLC*

Established: 2010

[www.postscriptproductions.com](http://www.postscriptproductions.com) and [www.postscriptfilms.com](http://www.postscriptfilms.com)

Carolyn Klasnick Brooks founded her company in 2010 with her partner Michelle Hammerbacher the year after she graduated from college. "We went to a restaurant, drew on a napkin, and that was our logo," she laughs. A networking connection suggested that they look into the Women's Business Center, where she met CWE Executive Director Rebecca Harris. "I was just blown away," she says. "That woman has so much energy, the nonstop thinking, the brain always moving." Brooks became a member of the CWE, began attending the breakfast series, and participated in the eight-week business growth workshop. "I've been part of more traditional networking groups, but they don't focus so much on continuing education," she says. "The CWBC brings in speakers, and our business sponsored a coffee hour, hosted at our offices. It gave me an opportunity to showcase my business and allowed me to connect with women in a different way."

Among the things that the CWBC helped Brooks with was getting her business designated a Certified Woman-Owned Disadvantaged Business Enterprise by the Pennsylvania Unified Certification program. "It was very paperwork-intensive, and I had to be very organized!" she says. "You can't really think of another place where you can get what you can get (at CWBC). It's a unique organization."

## KELLY CARNEY '96

*owner of Eva Bryn Shoetique*

Established: 2018

[evabrynshoetique.com](http://evabrynshoetique.com)

Auspiciously, Kelly Carney was inspired to start her shoe boutique while living in Dollar, a village in Scotland, to which she and her family had temporarily relocated for her husband's career. "One of my dear friends there owned a shoe shop, and she took me under her wing," Carney says. The friend introduced Carney to vendors, and when her family returned to Pittsburgh, Carney looked to the Center for Women's Entrepreneurship to help with the business end.

Carney attended the "Concept to Launch" class. "You've got 32 women with 32 business ideas. It's great to know all these other people who also want to do something, but also don't know how to do it," she says. "We soaked up as much as we could."

"The most important thing is that you're surrounded with strong, independent, powerful women. You really have no choice but to be inspired. Going there changed my life."

In nine months, Eva Bryn Shoetique went from an idea to a storefront in Zelienople, PA, with a soft opening held on September 7. Carney credits the CWBC. "Phenomenal," she says. "So empowering." She says that she will continue to draw on the resources of the CWBC as she takes her business online.



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## ELSA SANTOS

*owner of Azorean Café*

Established: 2018

[azoreancafe.com](http://azoreancafe.com)

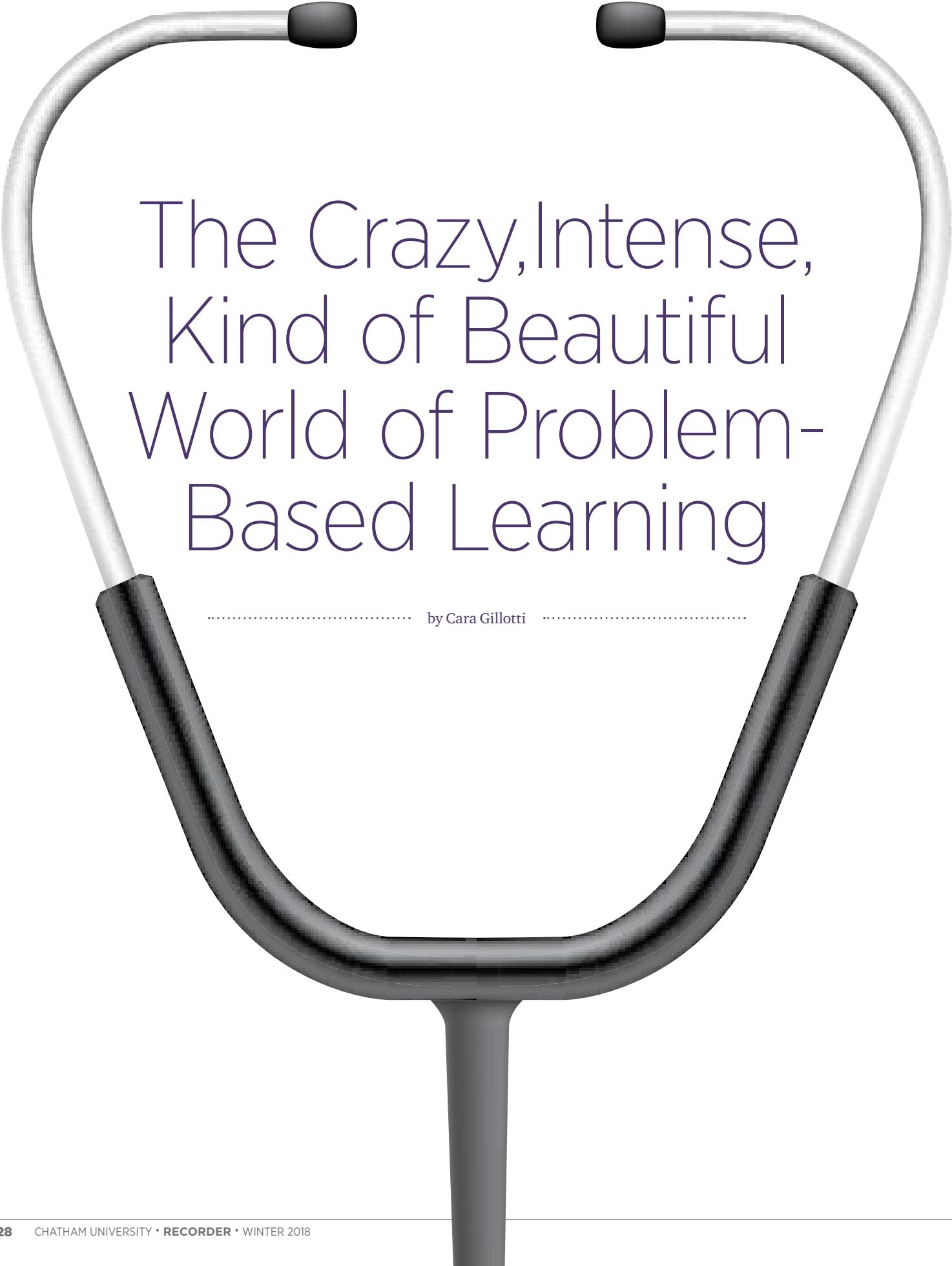
Elsa Santos moved to the U.S. 17 years ago from Portugal's Azores Islands. She had spent years working in management in the coffee industry, but always dreamed of having her own business. Five years ago, she and her family moved to Pittsburgh, and she felt it was time.

Santos worked part-time jobs in restaurants to learn the business firsthand while working on her business plan for the Azorean Café. She came across the CWBC while researching how to get involved with women's entrepreneurship, and it was a perfect fit.

"The CWBC has helped me so much," she says. "I got my attorney and my HR company through them, and I did the class on how to develop a website. It seems like whatever you need, they can suggest someone who can help with it. It's been very good."

"The institutions that we need to help us have a hard time accepting that a woman by herself can succeed in such a big project," Santos continues. "I've seen the difference when my husband is present. The restaurant industry is hard enough as it is; being a female doesn't help. But that's why we're here, to prove the opposite." ▲





# The Crazy, Intense, Kind of Beautiful World of Problem- Based Learning

..... by Cara Gillotti .....

**Y**ou can't talk for very long about Chatham's Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) or Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) programs without someone mentioning problem-based learning (PBL). If you tell them you're not familiar, they might say something like *students are responsible for teaching themselves or they work on simulated patient cases*, or, if you press, *it's definitely not for everyone*, or *it was the number one thing that attracted me to the program*.

I sat in on a number of sessions of a PBL course (called Essentials for the Physician Assistant II) for the MPAS program to learn what all the fuss was about, and let me say: This might be the best way anyone has taught anyone anything, ever.

## PBL: THE BASICS:

PBL is the cornerstone of MPAS students' first year. Here's how it works:

1

The incoming class is divided into groups of eight or nine students each.

2

Groups (and their faculty instructor/facilitator) work together for five weeks. Class meets for 3.5 hours, three times each week. (Groups meet together outside of class, too.)

3

They try to "solve" (diagnose and provide patient education and treatment recommendations) 5-8 simulated patient cases that are presented by a robust software program called DxR Clinician.

4

At the end, they take two exams that cover what they might be expected to have covered during those weeks, one of which requires that they work through a clinical reasoning problem similar to a PBL case.

5

Steps 1-4 repeat five more times. Students might work together in more than one group, but they encounter each instructor only once.

And look at that: starting over every five weeks, working with ever-changing groups of people, having to show up at different times? The very structure of PBL prepares students for their clinical rotations before they've cracked a single book.

**W**ednesday, 8:30 a.m. Eight students and Associate Professor of Physician Assistant Studies and PBL Coordinator Susan Hawkins are seated around a hexagonal table, dotted with water bottles, that leaves little room for anything else. Lists bloom on butcher paper hung on the walls. Students wear hoodies, leggings, running shoes. No laptops are allowed in the classroom.

The class is eager to start a new case, and today, roles are assigned by picking slips of paper from a hat:

**THE PATIENT** is Maddie Bell. She serves as the interface between the class and the DxR Clinician program, typing questions and reading out the answers.

**THE TYPING SCRIBE** is Brooke Scheider. She takes notes on what the group learns on the Google Doc projected on a screen at the front of the room.

**THE WRITING SCRIBE** is Loren Tetzlaff. He darts around the room, writing the lists that allow the class to keep track of, well, everything—information, ideas, “learning issues” (gaps in their knowledge to research later), problems the patient is having, tests and procedures they want to do.

The role of physician assistant is shared among the other members of the group—Arsh Kaur, Margaret Kasper, Mia Ryckman, Chelsea DiVella, and Sarah Huber. Everyone can ask the patient questions.

Hawkins pulls the new case up on her laptop, also projected at the front of the room. There’s a photo of an elderly man, and a description, which Arsh reads aloud:

“Patrick Benedetti is a 70-year-old white male. He was brought in by his neighbor, who found him unconscious on the floor of his hallway, where he had been incontinent and appeared to have been lying for some time. By the time he arrived at the Emergency Department, Mr. Benedetti was awake, and able to answer questions coherently.”

“PBL starts off as unsettling, honestly,” says Arsh, “because it’s very different from what undergraduates are used to. We’re all used to being the smart ones in the room, but now the room is filled with people like that, and we’re asked all these questions that bring us to the bottom of our knowledge base, rather quickly.” Everyone laughs. “And there are times when we’re just silent, because no one has an answer. And it’s important to not be discouraged by moments like that, because they will happen, a lot.”

“What would you like to do next,” asks Arsh. The options appear on the screen, but having gone through this process many times, she recites rather than reads them. “Ask questions, physical exam, order lab tests?” But what they do next, every time, is brainstorm everything that it could possibly be. Loren writes all suggestions on a piece of paper, titled IDEAS, on the wall—everything from dehydration to elder abuse, seizure to medication imbalance. Then the group decides to ask the patient some questions,

including: “Mr. Benedetti, do you have any long-standing illnesses or chronic conditions?”

Maddie reads the answer. It’s a lot of disconnected information, including “all the usual childhood illnesses” and “arthritis in right knee following a fall.” Brooke types information into the Google Doc. The benefit of having the “patient” read the answer aloud, instead of displaying it on screen, is that it trains the student to pay close attention to what a patient says.

“Part of being a PA is documenting things, so it’s definitely great practice to take what the patient says and write it down in medical terms on a document,” says Maddie. “You also get the benefit of having everyone in the class look at what you’re writing, so they can help you phrase things better, or find things you’ve missed,” adds Mia.

The group decides to ask for the patient’s vitals—weight, blood pressure, and temperature. Maddie types and reads out the numbers. “What are the words we can take away from these vitals?” asks Arsh. Someone says “severely underweight.” Temperature seems to be low.

Someone wonders if temperatures tend to be low in geriatric populations. Up the question goes on the Learning Issues list.

While students talk over the implications of what they’re learning about Mr. Benedetti, here’s what else is happening: Loren is not only adding to the list of potential diagnoses, but also “up-” or “down-arrowing” some of the entries, indicating increased or decreased likelihood based on new information. ▲

Read the whole story at: [pulse.chatham.edu/blog-stories/PBL](http://pulse.chatham.edu/blog-stories/PBL)

## PBL IN PHYSICAL THERAPY

PBL is also used in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program, though the implementation changes to reflect the goals of the program. For example, students are given a diagnosis along with contextual information about a hypothetical patient, and need to work together to come up with a strategic treatment plan. The class that I visited

discussed how to best motivate a young gymnast to practice with a prosthetic limb (including a fascinating discussion of the implications of prosthetic hands that default to either opened or closed), and how to come up with exercises that would allow him to reach his goals as quickly as possible.

# NEXT: The Campaign for Chatham Raises Over \$100 Million



## **NEXT: THE CAMPAIGN FOR CHATHAM** embraced

*transformational change at a time when nothing less would do. We are thrilled to announce that thanks to our generous alumni and friends, we have exceeded our goal of \$100 million, and through the contributions of 4,924 individual donors and 259 organizations, raised \$101.26 million to make the extraordinary promise of Chatham a reality.*

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“Thanks to all who made this possible, Chatham has created more scholarships, expanded faculty support, sustained our commitment to women’s leadership, and expanded our university’s size and reputation.”

— DAVID FINEGOLD, DPHIL, president



THE CAMPAIGN FOR CHATHAM

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE:**

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Michael Murphy

Jennifer Potter ’66

S. Murray Rust, III

Henry Simonds

Thomas VanKirk

Nancy Follett Waichler ’55

# Alumni Reunion Weekend 2018: Recap



1



2



3



6



5



8





4



7

1. Christine Hall McClure '73, Cornerstone Award for Women in Law
2. The Rt. Rev. Chilton Richardson Knudsen '68 pays tribute to those members of our Chatham community who we have lost since Reunion 2017
3. A celebratory cake for Chatham's successful completion of the \$100 million NEXT: The Campaign for Chatham.
4. Ashli Molinero '93, Cornerstone Award for Advocacy
5. Evelyn Lewis Freeman '70, William Trimble Beatty Volunteer Award
6. 2008 Class Party at Pittsburgh's Wigle Whiskey
7. Judith Myers '63, Cornerstone Award for Women in Science
8. Members of the Class of 1968, 50th Reunion
9. Robin Landerman Zucker '78 displays her photography in an exhibit entitled, *DEJAVIEW: DARKROOM/DIGITAL*
10. Not an empty seat at the Encore Lecture on Islam and the Middle East with Professor Emerita, Dr. Christina Michelmore

10



9

# 184

Reunion Weekend, October 12-14, 2018, brought together over 180 alumnae and friends to Shadyside and Eden Hall campuses



# 19

Representing 19 states and two countries, alumnae were in attendance all the way from California to Florida, from Vancouver, Canada to Maine.





3



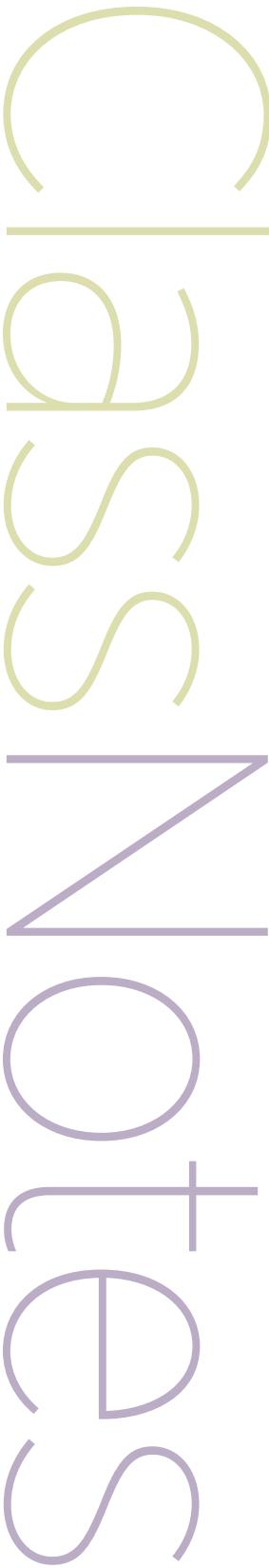
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# 1948 2013

Classes present spanned from 1948, celebrating their 70th Reunion, to 2013, celebrating their 5th Reunion.

1. Elaine Scarry '68, Distinguished Alumna Award Winner
2. Members of the Class of 1958, 60th Reunion
3. The All-Alumni Brunch would be incomplete without Bloody Marys and Mimosas!
4. Members of the Class of 1963, 55th Reunion
5. Marianne Boggs Campbell '48, Cornerstone Award for Women in Communications
6. Our #WomenThrive @ Chatham Panelists. From left to right: Kathi Elliott, DNP '14 and University Trustee, Dr. Jessie Ramey, Nancy Fendrich Humphreys '63, Rebecca Harris, MBA, Ashleigh Deemer '05, and Dr. Dana Brown
7. The 1968ers gathered around the piano in Welker Room during their Class Party.
8. All smiles at the Eden Hall Farm-to-Table Dinner
9. 2014 Masters of Arts in Food Studies alumna Kelsey Sheridan teaches alumnae how to pair cheese in Eden Hall Campus' test kitchen
10. President Finegold delivers his annual University Update in the Eden Hall Campus Barn.





**48** Marie Elaine Chiles is pictured with Judge Ken Starr, his wife Alice, and the Dean of the Baylor Nursing School in front of the stained-glass window in the Chapel dedicated to the Starrs, who are great supporters of the School. Marie's husband John is a Baylor graduate and they are very much involved with the University—especially the nursing school. Marie shares, "How blessed John and I are to have each other for 63 years with many great memories to share. Dallas is a long way from Pittsburgh, but it would be fun to be with you all to celebrate 70 years at Reunion in October."



**58** Carole Ashman Briggs, is one of 29 recipients of the Jefferson Award for volunteerism, sponsored by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and Highmark, for thirty years of volunteering at the Jefferson County History Center in Brookville, PA, where she has served as executive director, exhibit designer, grant writer, educator, and curator. She was part of the team that worked to turn a historical society in a house into a first-class small museum on Historic Brookville's Main Street. A retired teacher of gifted students, she has authored several books and writes columns for local newspapers and websites, all pertaining to rural Jefferson County.

**69** Dr. Mibs Bainum married Earl McCullough on September 22, 2018.



**72** Joanne Fiedler with Duff McCrady, Chatham Trustee and his wife Sibby '81, have an impromptu Chatham reunion in Chatham, Mass!

Georgena Terry shares, "In 2006, I took a bike ride around Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge on Maryland's Eastern Shore and discovered amazing habitat and cycling. One thing led to another and in 2008, my company and Gore Bike Wear created the Wild Goose Chase, a women's bike ride to benefit the Refuge. Over the years, the ride has raised about \$170,000 for the Refuge. In September, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the event, the Friends of Blackwater honored me with this neat plaque and erected a permanent bike repair stand to be used by all cyclists who enjoy Blackwater. Like to bike? Come ride with us in 2019!"



**75** Lt. Col. Barbara Bechtol Cross was inducted into the McKeesport High School 2018 Hall of Fame. "Eleven years ago, my father, William H. Bechtol, now deceased, received the same honor!"

**79** On June 22, 2018, Chatham alumna [Carrie Pevarnik Swing](#) checked a major item off her musical bucket list. She can now claim to have performed on the stage of New York City's Carnegie Hall. She made her appearance as part of the Charleston (WV) Chamber Orchestra during the Viennese Masters Invitational Festival. The CCO, one of three groups selected for this festival,



is headquartered at West Virginia State University in Institute, WV, and is under the direction of Dr. Scott Woodard. It has been in existence since 2015 and is comprised of WVSU faculty, students, and other community musicians. Carrie plays flute and piccolo in the CCO and has been part of the group since its inception. While at Chatham, Carrie was a music and English double major. She also sang in the Choir and studied flute with James Walker and David Tessmer.

**86** Heidi Hoffman Bros is excited that her niece, Cassie Gerr, chose Chatham and is now Class of 2022! She joins Heidi's son Jon in Pittsburgh. Jon is a junior at Point Park University working towards a BFA in Stage Management.

**95** Nya LeClair-Stesiak lives in St Petersburg, FL with her 13-year-old son, Ethan, and their "crazy dog and two cats." Nya went back to school when her son started kindergarten and now works as a critical care RN on a cardiovascular ICU, specializing in open heart recovery. She explains that it is "not

that much of a departure from my psych degree from Chatham. I use it every day!" Nya also traveled to Europe for six weeks with friends last year and hopes to do more traveling soon. Nya enjoys napping and exploring the growing culture in St. Petersburg in her down time. "I work hard and rest hard! I still refer to our alma mater as Chatham College. I think of its beautiful campus all the time. Hope to get back up to PGH soon and see the changes and would love to tour Eden Hall Campus. Hit me up if ever in St Pete!"

**97** In 2018, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court reappointed [Lisa Bennington](#) to the Domestic Relations Rules Committee for a second, 3-year term. The Committee consists of only seven divorce lawyers in the state and the role is to advise the Supreme Court on matters related to the procedural rules governing actions for divorce, support, custody, paternity and protection from abuse.

**04** Eileen Kinch and her husband visited Egypt this past spring. She visited with Rachida El-Diwani, a Fulbright Scholar to Chatham in 2002-2003. To the right is a photo of Rachida and Eileen catching up during her visit to Alexandria in May 2018.

**05** Bethany Lynn Ackerman received her Doctor of Philosophy degree for Counselor Education/Supervision from Duquesne University on May 11, 2018. She is a drug and alcohol supervisor at WPIC in Pittsburgh, PA. She was hooded with her family in attendance, including her son Lucas. She received her BS from Chatham in 2005 and her Master of Science in Counseling Psychology in 2006.



## To Submit

To submit a Class Note or photo for publication in the *Chatham Recorder*, visit [chatham.edu/classnotes](http://chatham.edu/classnotes).

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@chatham.edu](mailto:alumni@chatham.edu) or 412-365-1255. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

**08** Dr. Janet Fraser joined the faculty of the College of Business and Economics at West Virginia University in the fall 2018 term as a Teaching Assistant Professor of Business Data Analytics and serves as the coordinator for the MS in Business Data Analytics program.

**09** Anastasia Rygle James is currently Curator of Exhibitions and Programs at The Dorsky Museum, SUNY New Paltz and adjunct faculty in the Art History Department. Her recent exhibition "Cary Leibowitz: Museum Show," originated at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, SF and toured to the ICA Philadelphia, and CAM Houston. In 2017, Anastasia and her husband, Dagon James, welcomed their first child, Winter William James.

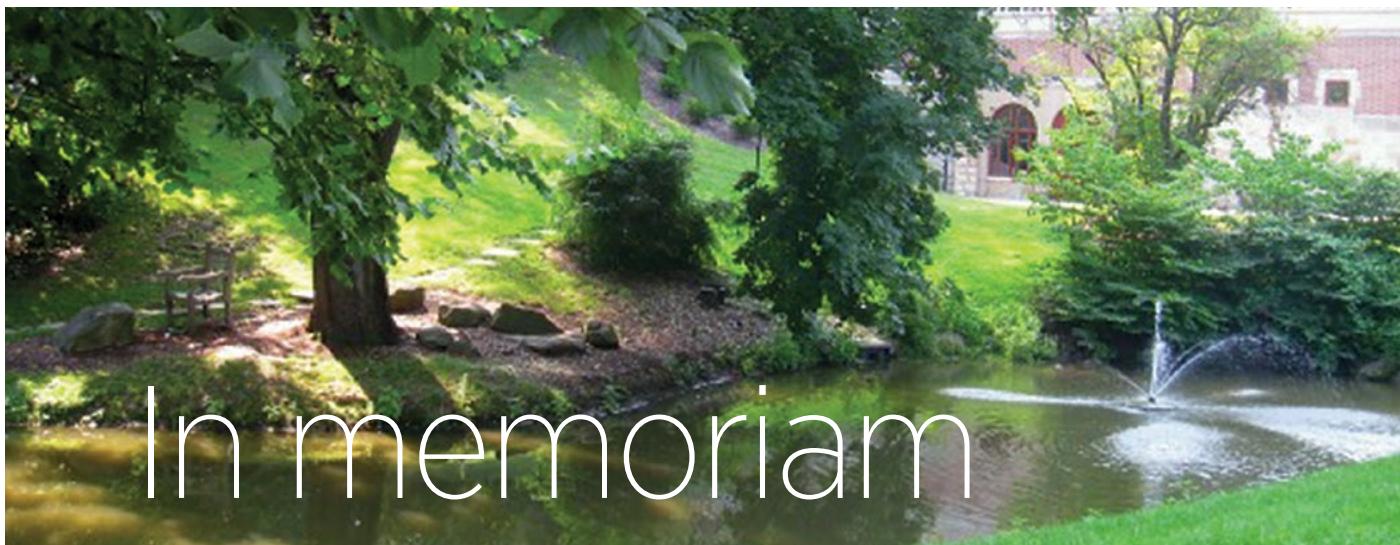
**10** Kate Forrest, MFACW has recently released her first romance novel! *The Crusaders Heart* is the first in a Scottish historical romance series, with the next book expected to be released next year. The book can be found at Barnes and Noble online or on Amazon. More information on the book can be found here: [kateforrestauthor.com](http://kateforrestauthor.com)

**12** In recognition of her service to Omicron Delta Kappa, Elizabeth Dorssom has been inducted into ODK's Five Star Society. Elizabeth served on ODK's Inaugural Student Advisory Board from 2014-2016, and on the National Advisory Council from 2016-2018. Throughout her service to ODK, Elizabeth also presented alumni retention techniques to the ODK Foundation Board of Trustees. Elizabeth also traveled to Chicago to attend a policy research seminar. While there, she met up with fellow Chatham University alumna Tierney Manning '10 to tour Chicago!



**14** Paige M. Carrigan, D.O. received her medical degree on June 3, 2018 from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Carrigan will begin her residency in psychiatry at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, PA. She is a 2014 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Chatham University and a 2010 graduate of Mt. Lebanon High School. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Carrigan, Naples, Florida.

**17** Maryem Aslam has completed her fellowship with PULSE (Pittsburgh Urban Leadership Experience). "Currently, I am serving as an AmeriCorps KEYS Service Corps member at Reading Is FUNdamental (RIF) Pittsburgh! My role as Literacy Outreach Coordinator allows me to participate in all three of RIF's core programs: Everybody Wins!, Books for Keeps, and the Storymobile! I am also excited to share that I will be featured in the upcoming International Studies Abroad (ISA) Alumni Newsletter! I studied abroad in Morocco in summer of 2016! I love crafting for my scrapbook, and I am about to begin making a t-shirt quilt from the plethora of Chatham shirts that I have associated with a sentimental memory of my college experience. I live on the Northside with my three wonderful housemates!"



# In memoriam

## ALUMNI

Wendy Abbott '78  
Martha Yorkin Berman '46  
Betsy McGregor Cooley '66  
Elizabeth Reed Dann '56  
Barbara Jeanne Hoy Dible '51  
Susan Fetterolf '74  
Sally Geary Hansen '48  
Claire McGrael Johnston '53  
Hannah Honig Kamin '57,  
former Trustee  
Kathleen Chalmers Kondylas '68  
Carolyn Cosel Lampl '45  
Henrietta Southard Lenz '63  
Miriam Letchinger '77  
Rosemary Spierer Love '69  
Deborah Waller Lyles '08  
Linda Goorin Marcus '59  
Barbara Weitsman Marks '58  
Mary Moreland '85

Sarah "Sally" Richards Nurminen '65  
Jane Seed Pattie '57  
Bernadette Rankin '81  
Lynn Leister Rojahn '62  
Helen Davis Rowe '57  
Jane McClung Sincell '42  
Barbara Shields Sullivan '49  
Patricia Singer Talotta '56  
Jacqueline Davies Templeton '50  
Alexis Troll, MAP student  
Suzanne Sliger Winsby '74  
Elizabeth Shollar Worley '45

## FACULTY

Valentina Barsom, former Professor  
of Russian  
Marvin "Keen" Compher,  
former Professor of Biology  
Albert Ossman, former Professor  
of Political Science and Economics

Information about deceased alumni may be submitted to the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@chatham.edu](mailto:alumni@chatham.edu) or by mail to Chatham University, Office of Alumni Relations, Woodland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15232.

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Alumna Margy Whitmer '74 was a producer for *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. We asked about some of the lessons she took away from working on the show:

1. Words matter.
2. When making a hard decision, the right thing to do is usually the kind thing, even though at the time it may not be the easiest thing.
3. Respect your audience.
4. The important work in life happens “in the wings” (i.e. behind the scenes), not on center stage.
5. Giving is easy, being a gracious receiver is hard!

Read more about Margy on **page 8**. ◀