DePaul magazine

Turning 100
Success Stories in Business, Music & Law

Fall 2012
Celebrate the Inaugural DePaul Blue Demon Day on Feb. 2, 2013

Cheer on the men’s basketball team as it takes on Notre Dame at Allstate Arena or catch the game on ESPN2 at one of our game watches across the nation. On Blue Demon Day, be sure to sport your DePaul gear and show how proud you are of your alma mater. For more information, visit alumni.depaul.edu/events.

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DePaul is now home to Latino Studies, the leading peer-reviewed journal in the field. Lourdes Torres, Vincent de Paul Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies, was appointed its editor as of June 2012. The journal is central to the enrichment of interdisciplinary scholarship on Latino communities across the United States.

DePaul's Master of Science in Taxation program was ranked the No. 1 tax program in the nation in a survey conducted by JobsInTax, the largest online network of tax professionals. Corporate tax departments and alumni of M.S.T. programs were surveyed.

The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president, received an honorary doctorate on July 16 from Adamson University, a Vincentian institution in Manila, Philippines, in recognition of his contributions to Catholic higher education. The event celebrated the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Vincentians in the Philippines and the 80th anniversary of Adamson's founding.

DePaul University is one of the country’s 25 best academic institutions for entrepreneurship education, according to the annual rankings issued by Entrepreneur magazine and The Princeton Review. Of the more than 2,000 schools surveyed by The Princeton Review for Entrepreneur magazine, DePaul's graduate entrepreneurship program was ranked 17th and its undergraduate program was ranked 20th.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation has awarded Antonio Polo a $458,000 grant to further his work with African-American and Latino middle school students who suffer from depression. Polo, an associate professor of psychology, will use the grant to deliver the Act & Adapt Program in Chicago Public Schools for the next four years.

DePaul's College of Computing and Digital Media has been ranked No. 7 on Animation Career Review’s list of the 20 best animation programs in the Midwest. Highlighted are DePaul’s game development programs, which offer project management and business along with design and programming courses to ready graduates for jobs.
“Rosalind Franklin’s program is based on interprofessional training, so that a student preparing to become a physician will sit in some of the same classes as students preparing to become physical therapists or podiatrists. They are looking for students trained in interdisciplinary studies, which is one of the things we do well.”

Jerry Cleland
interim dean of the College of Science and Health
(See p. 7)
Alumni Engagement Figures in Vision 2018: Dedication to Excellence, Commitment to Community

As the academic year began, the DePaul community launched a six-year strategic plan with a kick-off celebration at the Lincoln Park Quad. Vision 2018 includes goals and initiatives to reinforce the university’s strengths and enhance academic excellence that will “inspire new ideas and motivate all segments of the university to search for ways to make an even stronger DePaul,” says the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president. The plan was formed with input from all corners of DePaul, including alumni.

As the university moves ahead, so do its alumni

“What I hear most often from our alumni is that they want to know that their degree mattered and that the continuation of DePaul’s mission and the strengthening of DePaul’s model—even its business model—are important,” says Scott Van Hoose (BUS ’90), alumni board president and leader of DePaul’s Colorado alumni chapter.

Van Hoose and other alumni board members joined the strategic planning process last year in a working session with Interim Provost Pat O’Donoghue and Jay Braatz, vice president for planning and presidential administration. The board learned about elements that might be considered in the plan and were invited to consider how those might engage and benefit alumni. In a second session, alumni board members met with Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Lawrence O. Hamer, who served on the strategic plan steering committee. The group focused on ways to deepen connections with Chicago through the DePaul experience.

Because living in Chicago was such a large part of being a student at the university, the “ever-present connection with Chicago is also a key component for alumni,” Van Hoose says. “To deepen its roots into the city of Chicago will bring continued prestige to DePaul and more visibility, which creates a stronger link with our alumni.”

“The opportunity to engage in planning allows alumni to voice what they want to see or what they wish they had while at DePaul. We’re able to reflect on our experience and put thoughts into actions,” says board member Valerie Ruiz (CMN ’09).

For more information about Vision 2018, please view the plan video at vision2018.depaul.edu.
New DePaul/Rosalind Franklin Alliance for Health Sciences Addresses Nation’s Shortfall in Health Care Education

Responding to increasing national shortages of health care professionals and the programs through which they are educated, an alliance between DePaul University and Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science will create new pathways in health care education.

At an announcement event Oct. 3 at the Lincoln Park Campus, DePaul and Rosalind Franklin administrative and academic leaders and members of the Chicago-area health care community heard about the array of opportunities the alliance will create for students pursuing careers in health.

“This is good for the workforce, good for the community, and good for our students,” said Rosalind Franklin President and CEO K. Michael Welch.

Faculty members from the two institutions will work together to design curricula that emphasize interprofessional collaboration and hands-on experiences from the freshman year through completion of a professional degree. Early admission pathways available beginning in fall 2014 to highly qualified and motivated students will streamline progress through undergraduate work at DePaul into highly competitive master’s and doctoral programs at Rosalind Franklin. These programs include medicine, pharmacy, pathologist’s assistant, podiatric medicine, physician’s assistant and physical therapy.

The two institutions will deepen each other’s academic programs, develop programs as needs emerge and expand student access to clinical sites. The alliance opens up many opportunities for collaboration and research involving faculty and students.

“This is a historic day for DePaul, and I congratulate the many faculty and administrators who worked so hard for three years to bring us to this moment,” said the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul.

Visit alliance.depaul.edu for details.

Former Kraft Foods Executive Named VP for HR at DePaul

Stephanie Smith, who was senior vice president of human resources for Kraft Foods North America until September 2010, joined DePaul on Nov. 26 as vice president for human resources. She will step into the post that has been held on an interim basis by DePaul’s Deputy General Counsel Kathy Stieber.

“I am drawn to DePaul because it is a mission- and values-driven institution. It will be extremely rewarding to work in service to future generations,” says Smith, a first-generation college graduate.

Over the course of a 30-year corporate career, she says, “I’ve been well-trained at looking at strategic plans and determining the HR implications that can help grow the plan. I look forward to working in collaboration with faculty, staff and administration to achieve the vision for the university.”

“We are thrilled to have such an accomplished and dedicated leader as Stephanie Smith on our human resources team,” says the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul University.

Smith has long been active in the community, serving on the board of trustees for Steppenwolf Theatre Company and the board of directors for the Yellow Tractor Program, which advocates for sustainable growth and food security by building vegetable and fruit gardens. She is a member of the Executive Leadership Council, a nonprofit organization of African-American executives whose mission is to develop leaders and build an inclusive leadership pipeline in companies and institutions.

A native of Detroit, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Science in journalism from Northwestern University.
The African and black diaspora studies program and the Center for Black Diaspora in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences hosted a reception on Oct. 11 to welcome Daniel McNeil, the 2012-13 Ida B. Wells-Barnett Professor. On Nov. 8, McNeil presented a talk titled “‘America is not the world’: The after-life of James Baldwin” at the DePaul Art Museum.

“The African and black diaspora studies program is excited to have Dr. McNeil’s contribution to its academic offerings,” says Julie E. Moody-Freeman, program director and assistant professor. “In winter 2013, he will be teaching the course Black Cultural Criticism: Race, Representation, and Resistance.”

McNeil comes to DePaul from Newcastle University in the United Kingdom, where his research and teaching focus on the shape and contours of a Black Atlantic—a transnational and intercultural formation forged, in the first instance, by the transatlantic slave trade. His most recent book is “Sex and Race in the Black Atlantic: Mulatto Devils and Multiracial Messiahs,” part of the Routledge Studies on African and Black Diaspora series.

McNeil is completing a manuscript on black cultural criticism inspired by the explorative, provocative and imaginative work of anti-colonial intellectuals in the 1950s and ‘60s.

In addition to his work at Newcastle, McNeil has taught courses on media, culture and society at the University of Toronto, University of Hull and Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation.

“I am most delighted that we have been able to recruit such a noted scholar for this position,” says Professor Sandra Jackson, director of the Center for Black Diaspora.

The Latin American and Latino studies program is delighted to have Maria Hinojosa as one of our faculty members. She is a distinguished journalist who has done more than anyone to bring the diverse realities of Latino communities to U.S. audiences. We are certain that students and the DePaul community will be enriched by their interactions with her,” says Professor Lourdes Torres.

A special screening of “America by the Numbers with Maria Hinojosa: Clarkson, Georgia” in early October celebrated Hinojosa’s appointment. Produced by The Futuro Media Group as part of PBS’ “Need to Know” Election 2012 special presentation, the film is an intimate look at how changing demographics are reshaping the political landscape of this country.

Dateline: Kingston, Jamaica

“The opportunity to conduct research offered me the conscious space to levitate between my understanding of privilege and the harsh reality of hitting rock bottom.”

– Paapa Kwabena Okyere Arnold L. Mitchem Fellow

See photos and stories from Okyere and other Mitchem Fellows on the research trip to Kingston, Jamaica, at de paul.edu/magazine.
A Century of Academic Quality and Innovation

Driehaus College of Business
Conceived in the fall of 1912, DePaul's business college opened in January 1913—the first business college in Chicago's Loop. In 1957, when its undergraduate business program earned accreditation from what is now the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), only 80 of the then-400 AACSB member schools had earned the designation for high-quality business curricula.

Today, among many other accolades, the college is accredited by AACSB International, a distinction held by a limited percentage of business schools around the world. The Kellstadt Graduate School of Business continues to be highly respected, according to U.S. News & World Report's annual ranking of part-time MBA programs, and Bloomberg Businessweek's 2012 rankings gave the college an A+ for teaching quality.

On Sept. 19, in a centennial ceremony to honor Chicago investment pioneer and philanthropist Richard H. Driehaus (BUS '65, MBA '70, DHL '02), the college was renamed the Richard H. Driehaus College of Business. As part of its centennial festivities, the college will host a birthday celebration for students on Jan. 14. Later events include an executive speaker series and an alumni event featuring mini-lectures by faculty members.

For the latest events, a list of “100 Facts and Firsts” and more centennial information, visit alumni.depaul.edu/anniversaries.

College of Law
In 1912, the College of Law was established as DePaul's first postgraduate professional school and included religious diversity in its student population. The college's first class graduated in 1915 and included a woman—rare for the time. By 1924, the American Bar Association fully accredited the College of Law, which was among the first few evening law schools to be so recognized.

Over the years, alumni have included prominent judges, elected officials and distinguished public servants—including two mayors of Chicago—as well as innumerable private-sector leaders, from CEOs to heads of foundations to managing partners of law firms nationwide. The college's students, faculty and alumni contribute to their communities through work on death penalty cases, immigration rights, intellectual property and many other issues.

For the latest event details, as well as a timeline of College of Law achievements of local, national and international importance, visit alumni.depaul.edu/anniversaries.

School of Music
Walter Keller, organist at St. Vincent de Paul church, approached DePaul President Francis McCabe, C.M., in 1912 with his proposal for a school to train music teachers. So began the DePaul University School of Music, near its present location, with a class of 30 students.

The school has evolved to educate and produce renowned musicians in every field. Its alumni perform with the Metropolitan, Lyric, Houston and Santa Fe opera companies; orchestras in Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Minnesota, St. Louis and Berlin; and in jazz ensembles and pit orchestras around the world. Alumni include a Pulitzer Prize winner in music, a winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, the former concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, MacArthur Foundation Fellows, the senior vice president of marketing at Warner Bros. Records, the president of CEMA (the distribution company for Capitol Records), the directors of entertainment for all of the Disney enterprises, and members of the rock group Chicago.

For information about a performance of “The DePaul Preludes,” commissioned for the centennial, along with other centennial events and information, visit alumni.depaul.edu/anniversaries.

See the following eight pages for anecdotes and photos from business, law and music alumni.
“Over the last 100 years, literally thousands of students gained the foundation for their life’s work as they studied in the College of Law, the School of Music or the College of Business. As these colleges turn 100, we’re most proud to celebrate their alumni.”

The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M.
President
Francis ‘Fran’ Ferrone  
B.S.C. ‘53  
President, Gray Line of Chicago  
Executive vice president, American Sightseeing Company  

“I learned a lot about business, law, economics and marketing, and that was of real value to me, because I was eventually going to be running our family business [American Sightseeing Company]. … It was a good education you got from DePaul, good teachers. That’s why I continuously support them.”

“Business classes were held at 64 E. Lake Street, which was next door to the Pixley and Ehlers Restaurant, which had delicious doughnuts that everybody loved. … I remember that our student union (at the Lincoln Park Campus) was a Quonset hut. That place also had delicious doughnuts. I couldn’t wait to go in there between classes.”

Robert ‘Bob’ Brooks Sr.  
B.S.C. ‘63  
Partner, Brooks & Robertson, L.L.P.  

“I learned character, honesty, integrity—all of those things that have nothing to do with the particular course that much, but that’s how you operate, and that’s how you survive the crazy business world because you’re always subject to so many pressures to compromise. They taught values.”

“[Former instructor] Art Farber (B.S.C. ’57, MBA ’59) is my favorite memory. … He caused me to have a love affair with accounting because he was very capable. … He made me really understand accounting and know I had made the right choice.”

“Almost everybody who was going [to the College of Business] was working somewhere. They would get to school at 9 and leave at about 1. That was a full-time student. Then we went to work after that.”

“As long as you’re in Chicago, there’s always a bunch of people in the group who have some of their professional and educational career attached to DePaul.”

Edited interviews by Kris Gallagher
“My husband and I were the first couple to complete the master of business science degree.”

“The cafeteria really was our Greek system. There were sororities and fraternities, but there were no houses on the uptown campus, so cafeteria tables became not unlike the dining hall concept that they have at Princeton. It was a wonderful way to meet people and provided a kind of glue. ... It really was our home base.”

“You came to school, you took your classes, you went to your job—most of us worked part time—and then you’d come back again to take an evening class.”

“At the graduate school level, I remember a closeness. Classes tended to be smaller, and we did considerably more work as teams, which I think prepared us beautifully to come out into the corporate world.”

“In undergraduate school, I had a professor who taught impressionist and post-impressionist art. It had an amazing effect on me ... how it fills your life to include things beyond what I’m going to call practical. Today, I am on the American Craft Council board, the McColl Center for the Visual Art board, and have served several other arts-based organizations. My afterlife, if you will, has been very heavily influenced by that class and the importance of the visual arts and culture in our economy.”

“There were two women who were part of a women’s auxiliary group at DePaul. ... They took a series of coeds under their wing and made a point of walking us through the paces of etiquette—how to sit, how to stand, which spoons and forks you want to use when. ... It was a confidence-builder. You don’t want to go to a luncheon meeting with the next echelon and be uncomfortable about whether you’re going to make an etiquette faux pas.”

“There is literally no doubt in my mind that in Chicago a DePaul degree is also an extraordinary networking opportunity. It gives you access you wouldn’t otherwise have had.”

“When most of the people I worked with were headed for the train home, I was on my way over to DePaul. And most evenings I couldn’t wait to get there because I felt surrounded by smart, motivated people and brilliant, caring professors.”

“[Richard Chalecki] made economics fascinating, and he was exceptionally entertaining. What’s more, he knew many of us had arrived at class straight from work and hungry. So he would buy a big bag of Fannie May candy to pass around the class. And, on test evenings, he brought Fannie May candy.”

“Dr. Bob Peters has an unparalleled teaching style and also a great sense of humor. His immortal final-exam ‘bond problem’ is remembered across generations of his students.”

“The College of Business provided ample opportunities to gain leadership skills, whether within the classroom or through involvement in organizations. These skills helped me to embrace leadership opportunities as they arose during my career. The College of Commerce gave me real-world experience.”

“I remember the classroom sizes, which provided ample opportunities to build relationships with professors and classmates, many of which have continued on into my professional career.”

For centennial events and information, visit alumni.depaul.edu/anniversaries.
Tenacity, Good Advice from Mentors Created Success for Law Alumni

Earl S. Wylder  
BUS ’53, LAW ’58  
Retired; Attorney  
The Walter L. Gerash Law Firm

Legendary DePaul Coach Ray Meyer gave Earl Wylder a basketball scholarship after a tryout scrimmage. Though he started only one game, Wylder always hustled while absorbing his mentor's lessons about the game and about life.

“Ray taught me to master the fundamentals, to be well-prepared and to do my best,” he recalls. “Before starting law school, I approached Coach about the possibility of being an assistant coach. He asked, ‘Do you want to be a coach, or do you want to be a lawyer?’”

Wylder chose the court of law over the basketball court. The Denver lawyer’s 50-plus-year career has included clerkships with two federal judges and dozens of significant cases—including the successful defense of a falsely accused murder suspect and a landmark trial ethics case that went to the Colorado Supreme Court.

“The fundamentals that I learned in law school—and from Ray Meyer—have helped me every day of my personal and professional life.”

Frank Clark  
BUS ’72, LAW ’76, LLD ’04  
Retired; Former CEO, ComEd

Frank Clark made a successful career out of solving complex problems, a critical skill that contributed to his rise from Commonwealth Edison mailroom clerk to the company’s CEO and chairman.

Clark, who retired after 46 years there, recalls the significant impact of “a cadre of excellent professors”—especially John Mortimer—in the law school.

“The most lasting benefit of my law school education was learning how to approach case study,” says Clark. “We were taught how to look at a problem and to determine potential solutions. Never accept the obvious answer. Always dig deeper. That has served me well for my entire career.”

The service-minded alumnus, a continuing member of DePaul’s Board of Trustees, says the university’s focus on urban populations and first-generation college students provided him a chance to achieve his potential. Providing similar opportunities for others remains a hallmark of his personal and professional life.
Robert Clifford
BUS ’73, LAW ’76
Principal, Clifford Law Offices

Robert Clifford’s ascent from the unpaved streets of Chicago’s Southeast Side to the ranks of top U.S. aviation attorneys was not always smooth, but he took off at the right time.

Limited resources kept him home for college and law school, and he worked at a lumber and hardware business to help fund his education. Law clerk positions would follow, with legal experiences complementing his course work.

Professional contacts also proved provident—particularly a guest lecture by renowned attorney Phil Corboy. “I asked my professor what it would take to work for a guy like that,” Clifford recalls. “My professor said, ‘He went to Loyola and only hires Loyola grads.’”

Undeterred, he found the firm’s address and walked over to Corboy’s office pose his question. “Phil said, ‘It took courage for you to come down here,’” Clifford recalls. “I like that, and if your dean likes you, I may be able to find you some work here.” He started clerking the next week and stayed as an attorney for eight years.

Clifford’s initiation to aviation cases arrived with the 1979 DC-10 crash near O’Hare Airport, and the now-senior partner at Clifford Law Offices has represented victims in every major commercial airline disaster since then—including the 9/11 attacks.

Patricia Mendoza
LAS ’82, LAW ’84
Associate Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County

Patricia Mendoza’s first semester of law school was so difficult that she planned to drop out before final exams. Withdrawal forms in hand, she approached Professor Rodney Blackman.

But instead of signing, he asked why she was quitting. “Because I’m going to fail,” she recalls saying. “He said, ‘You don’t know that. Finish the term, take the exams and then come back [to withdraw] if you’re not successful.’”

Mendoza took that advice and went on to earn her J.D.—as well as a fellowship in legal services. Now in her eighth year as associate judge in Cook County’s juvenile court circuit, her legal career also has included work as the bureau chief of the Attorney General’s civil rights division and regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal and Educational Fund.

“I might not have survived law school without the support system of professors, advisors, colleagues, the Latino Law Student Organization and alumni who helped pull me up.”

Aurora Abella-Austriaco
BUS ’87, LAW ’90
Of Counsel, Clark, Hill, PLC

During her College of Law tenure, Aurora Abella-Austriaco leaned toward practicing criminal law. However, she graduated into a miserable hiring market and gratefully signed on with a real estate litigator.

“I learned about the specialty, as well as a lot about credibility among peers and strong ethics, and I fell in love with it.”

The experience also reinforced lessons from school: work hard, don’t cut corners. “Law school was hard,” says Austriaco, who emigrated from the Philippines at 18. “But I decided that I was going to make it, especially as a woman and a minority.”

Now an authority in her field, she concentrates on real estate litigation and mortgage issues—including a great deal of mortgage foreclosure defense.

As president of the Chicago Bar Association, Austriaco’s agenda includes providing support to unemployed attorneys considering solo practices, renewing the profession’s commitment to diversity and representing area victims of human trafficking.

Frank Sommario
BUS ’97, LAW ’00
Attorney, Romanucci & Blandin

The son of a Chicago-area police officer, Frank Sommario learned about the law at an early age and always aspired to a career in the legal field.

A strong work ethic—instilled by both parents—proved critical for the driven young man, who worked throughout his DePaul undergrad and law school tenure. From a suburban public works job to clerking for the Illinois Attorney General’s office, the commuter student kept his goal in mind.

“I used every minute of every day: on the train, on the job when I could, just read, read, read,” Sommario recalls. “It helped that DePaul granted credits for my professional work, which gave me hands-on training in addition to work experiences shared by professors and colleagues.”

Sommario, who specializes in Illinois worker’s compensation cases at Romanucci & Blandin, says winning cases is rewarding but providing top-notch representation for clients creates its own satisfaction.

He was named one of the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin’s 2012 Top 40 Under Forty attorneys. “That means the most to me because candidates are nominated and voted upon by their peers. That says everything.”

Guinevere Moore
LAS ’03, LAW ’08
Associate, Holland & Knight

The Latin phrase pro bono translates as for good. In the practice of law, it connotes providing free legal services to needy individuals, nonprofit groups or humanitarian or civic causes.

In Guinevere (Gwen) Moore’s experience, that definition hardly suffices for a service that can help impoverished individuals, provide hands-on experience for young attorneys and law students, fulfill corporate public service commitments, and sometimes translate into billable hours.

The associate at Chicago’s Holland & Knight concentrates on resolving tax controversies, and she has represented clients and negotiated resolutions in courts and before the Internal Revenue Service—including significant pro bono work.

“People can feel intimidated by the IRS and the courts, and they need support and representation,” says Moore, who helped launch a clinic to serve low-income individuals summoned to tax court.

She sees a connection between her practice and her DePaul education. “I was very fortunate to participate in the death penalty clinic with Professor Andrea Lyon,” she says. “I gained a lot of insight, and writing motions and doing extensive document research gave me practical experience that better prepared me for my career.”

For centennial events and information, visit alumni.depaul.edu/anniversaries.
Ken Iversen
B.M. ’49, M.M. ’53
Jazz Pianist, High School Teacher

More than 60 years have passed since Kenneth Iversen was a DePaul student, yet he recalls those days as if they were yesterday.

“I remember how many of the students were World War II veterans, and the teachers we had like Leon Stein and Herman Shapiro,” Iversen says. “And I remember Dick Marx, who was an extraordinary jazz musician. He wrote commercial jingles and the movie score for ‘A League of Their Own.’”

Iversen was 24 when he entered DePaul, having served in the Pacific with the U.S. Army Air Corps. He taught for decades at Austin and Clemente high schools in Chicago, served as a music supervisor giving area workshops, and was a professional jazz pianist.

“Last year, I ran into an oboe player at a musicians’ union gathering,” says Iversen, referring to Richard Kanter, who retired in 2002 after 41 years with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

“Richard was a student at Austin. He thanked me for giving him a grounding in music theory, which helped him get into the Curtis Institute of Music. That was nice to hear all these years later.”

Samuel Magad
B.M. ’55
Retired; Chicago Symphony Orchestra Concertmaster

Anyone with even a casual interest in classical music is familiar with the name Samuel Magad.

Magad retired from the CSO in 2007 after 48 years as a member of the violin section, 34 as concertmaster. He also founded the Northbrook Symphony, serving as its music director and conductor for 20 years, and was the concertmaster of Chicago’s Grant Park Orchestra and the Aspen Festival Orchestra. He notes that his distinguished career began at DePaul.

“I have fond memories of DePaul for many reasons. First, I had a wonderful violin teacher in Paul Stassevitch,” says Magad, 80, who still performs occasionally. “And there was the chamber and orchestral study program that was so important. It was a steppingstone for me. If I hadn't been involved in that program, I might have gone in a different direction.

“I was lucky to have found a school that was interested in helping me start my career.”
Marie Culjak-McGuckin
M.M. ’64
Professor, Northeastern Illinois University; High School Teacher

“All I wanted to do was be the best music teacher I could be.”

That’s what Marie Culjak-McGuckin was thinking as she worked her way toward a master’s degree. She didn’t disappoint herself or the thousands of students she influenced.

“I was with the Chicago Public Schools for 16 years and Northeastern Illinois University as a professor of music for 27—43 years total as a teacher,” she says.

Culjak-McGuckin was an enthusiastic student even before entering grad school, taking private piano lessons at DePaul. She recalls rigorous classes with John Hamilton: “He put pressure on us to think for ourselves, to be disciplined, focused and independent.”

She still plays the organ every Sunday at “my old Croatian church, Holy Trinity, in Pilsen,” and funds the annual McGuckin Harpsichord Recital Series in memory of her husband, Charles McGuckin (LAS ’55, MED ’56).

“I received a gift from the Lord,” Culjak-McGuckin says. “Music has been a life of love for me.”

Anne Perillo Michuda
M.M. ’75
DePaul School of Music Instructor, Soprano

Anne Perillo Michuda was already a seasoned soprano when she started teaching vocal classes at DePaul in 1966. But it was suggested she acquire more academic credentials in order to continue teaching.

“Those two years earning my master’s were tough,” the Juilliard graduate recalls. “I was going to classes, teaching, raising three children and building a new home in Frankfort, Ill. Let me tell you, it was a thrill walking across the stage to receive my degree.”

Perillo Michuda, who retired in 2001 after teaching for 36 years, also compiled a lifetime of thrills as a performer, including singing with Howard Keel in a New York production of “Carousel,” performing with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in Central Park and singing for President John F. Kennedy.

“All those experiences enriched me as a singer and as a person,” says Perillo Michuda. “and all the knowledge I gained from those experiences I took with me in teaching DePaul students. I would have been a good teacher thanks to my Juilliard education, but those experiences as a performer made me a great teacher. I sincerely believe that.”

Joe Clark
B.M. ’08, M.M. ’10
Composer, Trumpeter, Bandleader, Teacher

Joe Clark isn’t exaggerating when he says he owes his career to DePaul. “I was only able to assemble my big band thanks to the grant I received,” he says, referring to being the 2011 recipient of The Claire Rosen and Samuel Edes Foundation Prize for Emerging Artists. The award also will enable him to record and promote an album of original works.

The 26-year-old trumpeter's Joe Clark Big Band, formed in the spring of 2012, is composed mostly of DePaul faculty and alumni. Its first album, “Lush,” will be released in February 2013.

“A healthy chunk of my experience is from working with people in the School of Music like Tom Matt, Cliff Colnot and Bob Lark,” says Clark, an adjunct professor. “DePaul’s faculty has always encouraged students to get out there and work, get your hands dirty—write, play your music, be professional.”

Sasha Gerritson
CER ’99
Director, Northeastern Illinois Opera Program
Soprano

How might her résumé have read, Sasha Gerritson has asked herself, had she not taken the suggestion of her teacher?

“Harry Silverstein, director of DePaul Opera Theatre, changed my life,” she says. “I was going to be a singer.”

One afternoon, Silverstein suggested that the aspiring soprano consider a career in directing. Says Gerritson, laughing: “That wasn’t what I wanted to hear. Harry said something along the lines of: ‘The world has a lot of good sopranos, but the world doesn’t have a lot of great directors. You should give it a try.’ When I did try directing and got a taste of it, I loved it. I’m so happy with what I do.”

Gerritson is director of the opera program at Northeastern Illinois University and also maintains a career as a solo performer and serves on the School of Music’s advisory board.

“I was not expecting that DePaul would have this long-term effect on my life,” Gerritson says. “I feel really connected to and engaged with the whole university. I didn’t know when I applied to DePaul that one day I’d be meeting my new family.”

Orbert C. Davis
B.M. ’82
Jazz Trumpeter, Composer, Conductor, Artistic Director

It’s fair to say that the music of trumpeter and composer Orbert Davis is heard throughout the world—due to his numerous recordings and the performances of the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic, which he co-founded and serves as conductor and artistic director.

The foundation for such success was laid at DePaul even before he enrolled as a student. Davis was a high-school freshman in Momence, Ill., when elementary-school teacher Charles Danish would drive him to music professor Mark McDunn’s studio in Oak Park every Saturday morning for lessons.

“Mr. McDunn opened my eyes to the musical possibilities that were available to me,” Davis says. “I quickly saw myself as a DePaul student.”

Davis, a clinical assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, adds: “The instructors at DePaul had a lot to do with my success. You can’t build a career on your own, but you have to take advantage of what is given to you. In my instructors, I was given a gift—and I opened it.”

For centennial events and information, visit alumni.depaul.edu/anniversaries.
As we all munch our way through the holidays, consider some of the wellness options available at the Lincoln Park Campus for the DePaul community—including alumni.

**Mind/Body at The Ray**

Maureen McGonagle, director of campus recreation, began her position 14 years ago, before the Ray Meyer Fitness and Recreation Center was built. Today, she and her colleagues operate from this state-of-the-art facility at 2235 N. Sheffield Ave., known as “The Ray.”

Students, faculty, alumni and community members keep fit at The Ray. McGonagle says that the group fitness program—free classes including Zumba, crunch, WERQ, dance party and yoga—is a big draw. Though students are in the majority, staff, faculty and alumni also attend classes.

John Henkel (CDM ’00) trains for triathlons at The Ray. As a student, he was a lifeguard at North Avenue Beach and worked at some of Chicago’s most highly rated health clubs. He ranks The Ray, “with four basketball courts, and a nice track, it’s right up there.”

Dale Tobias (CDM ’88), a former track and field star who earned All-Central Collegiate Conference honors in the 100- and 200-meter events, says he “has been a member since day one.” These days, he plays basketball a couple of evenings a week, works out on the track on Sundays and plays intramural chess. He also is part of The Ray’s advisory board.

“I’ve met some of my best friends and established some of my best relationships at The Ray, including John Henkel,” Tobias says. “Playing basketball there is a lot of fun and the competition is somewhat better than at Hayes Healy, which most alumni remember as one of their most favorite gyms in the city.”

Members also take advantage of the abundant individual wellness services—and fees are discounted for DePaul folks. Fitness assessments, personal trainers, nutrition assessments with a trained dietician, and massage are available.

“We’ve re-launched our massage therapy services with a new provider, Body Peace Chicago,” notes Chris Arterberry, campus recreation associate director. Professional practitioners—members of the American Massage Therapy Association—offer various types, including Swedish and therapeutic massages.

Physical therapy services are also available, and, if you’re wondering whether that knee you just strained is worth a trip to the doctor, the PTs will do a free injury screening.

**Look to DePaul for Wellness**

A steaming bowl of noodles with fresh vegetables. Therapeutic massage. Zumba, yoga and WERQ classes. A personal trainer.
Lee often guides freshmen with special dietary needs and their parents through the dining area to see food options that were rare even a few years ago: Gluten-free, non-dairy choices and vegan entrees are all available in hot and cold dishes. He also works to keep it interesting with special features, such as a chili bar or Latin American favorites.

Lee says that the most popular of the seven food stations is still the grill. "Burgers and fries," Lee says. "But instead of fries on the side, you can choose fresh fruit. The healthy choices are there."

**Mental Health Wellness**

"There is a very high demand for counseling services," says Jeffrey Lanfear, director of University Counseling Services (UCS), a crucial part of student wellness and prevention. He says he and his staff address "a wide range of students' issues, from personal adjustment and developmental issues to depression, substance abuse or other serious mental health concerns."

In addition to providing psychological and psychiatric services to students, outreach and prevention are essential activities for UCS. "Along with the Dean of Students Office, we train 'gatekeepers,' that is, student leaders, RAs, residential education directors, academic advisors and a variety of faculty and staff to recognize and refer distressed students.

Nearly 25 percent of our student clients come from faculty and staff referrals," Lanfear says.

UCS counselors visit classrooms to inform students about counseling services or offer consultation on coping with stress or adjusting to college life. They provide workshops on managing emotions, stress management and other mental health wellness practices.

Lanfear’s guidelines for maintaining mental health wellness are not only for students—they are good reminders for all of us: Learn how to stay in the present moment with compassion for self and others; maintain strong connections with friends and family; have a spiritual practice; stay engaged with your core values; and keep healthy diet, exercise and sleep routines.

"The good news is that so many things work. It's an active process which requires daily attention to the 'care of the soul,'” he says.

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**Alumni advantages**

- Alumni membership at The Ray is half-price up to one year from your graduation date. Membership entitles you to reduced prices for classes and special services [campusrec.depaul.edu/Pages/default.aspx#2](http://campusrec.depaul.edu/Pages/default.aspx#2)
- Healthy and delicious campus dining [dineoncampus.com/depaul](http://dineoncampus.com/depaul)
Curtains rise and stage lights blaze at the Cort Theatre in New York City this fall. A trio of major talents from DePaul is there as the key creative forces behind the scenes of award-winning playwright Craig Wright’s dark comedy, “Grace.”

Dexter Bullard, head of DePaul’s graduate acting program and artistic director of The Theatre School’s Showcase Series, sits in the director’s chair for “Grace.” Costume designer Tif Bullard (SNL ’07) and Nan Zabriskie, head of the makeup program at The Theatre School, complete the trio. It’s the Broadway debut for all three of them, and they all were members of the creative lineup for Wright’s off-Broadway success, “Mistakes Were Made.”

“‘Grace’ asks the big question, ‘How do we establish faith for ourselves?’” Dexter Bullard says in a pre-opening interview.

“And since we really are not in control, how then do we explain what actually happens to us?”

The play’s story revolves around an eager, young evangelical Christian couple that met in a Bible study class in Minnesota. They have moved to Florida to pursue the husband’s dream of launching a chain of gospel motels.

Or, as the New York Daily News labels the potential concept, “Where would Jesus stay?”

Life in their rented condo brings Sarah (Kate Arrington, Chicago’s Steppenwolf Ensemble) and Sam (award-winning actor Paul Rudd) in contact with two personalities whose beliefs are distinct departures from their own. Michael Shannon of HBO’s “Boardwalk Empire,” an ensemble member of Chicago’s A Red Orchid Theatre, and one of television’s most revered stars, Ed Asner, share the stage. (above) Tif Bullard (SNL ’07), costume designer for “Grace.”

by Myra Eder
“Grace” opens with the play’s conclusion, a deadly accident that has claimed the life of one person and left another seriously disfigured. The tension builds as the script rolls backward and works toward the life-shattering catastrophe.

Asked about his Broadway first, Dexter Bullard, who has garnered awards across Chicago’s huge theatrical landscape, says a director’s role does not change when the production has a Broadway address.

“I realized the directing you do for any project is what you need to get done. It depends on the material and what you want the results to be,” he says.

“Directing involves practicality and effectiveness.” That is, the director must figure out what will work for any particular scene in a script.

In a 2011 interview with Chicago Public Radio, WBEZ-FM (91.5), Bullard was more specific: “Every project is another example of active sculpture, a different way of applying the same tools: rhythm, structure, motion, intention (all in a) 360-degree world.”

Bullard sharpened those tools during 17 years with the now-shuttered Plasticene, an experimental Chicago theatre company he founded that garnered rave reviews. “Grace” calls on Bullard’s eclectic theatre background with a demanding script. “It’s about humanity, damages, choices and human vulnerability … about what’s happening to people who live in a mundane world and who have these extraordinary experiences—people like all of us.

“(As director) I would like to think (audiences) are reminded that each person has to negotiate what they believe with what actually happens in their lives.”

If Dexter Bullard has a muse, she is Tif, his wife and costume designer for the play.

When asked about her collaboration with Dexter on their Broadway debut, Tif Bullard says, “It came down to who can give Dexter the looks he wants and who will work best with him to do this.”

“For Dexter, it’s all about the play. And we work really well together.”

A dancer, writer and performance artist, she credits her degree from DePaul’s School for New Learning for nurturing her eclectic interests in the arts.

And she is convinced that clothes—costumes—have an intense impact in a play and in daily life.

“I loved clothes as a kid,” she says. “In the fifth grade I began to notice kids treated me differently depending on how I was dressed … and I could manipulate how people saw me with just an outfit.”

“Clothes can create a lasting impact,” she says.

She talked about the first time her now-husband of eight years saw her. “I had blonde hair and was wearing a strapless dress, classic looking, a waif-like Audrey Hepburn. That moment stuck in his brain, and he always sees me as that blonde 22-year-old character.”

“When I’m reading a script, my train of thought focuses on ‘How can I get this (character) across to the audience symbolically, visually. How do I see this character (dressed) and how will the audience perceive it.’ I want the actor to take possession of the costume.”

Zabriskie, who is head of makeup and wigs at TTS, approaches her craft similarly. “Few people really consider the work of a makeup designer. But the effects are critical to how a character is perceived,” she says.

“Makeup is an evolving process, a tap dance between the needs of the theatre and script, the budget and the repeated applications to the actor’s skin.”

“Grace” calls for one complex design. “Michael Shannon’s character lost a lot of skin on his face. It’s an accident,” she says. Zabriskie spent countless hours designing a prosthetic for that effect.

Asked about Asner’s makeup for “Grace,” Zabriskie quips, “There’s no makeup for Ed Asner. He’s wonderful.”

Visit graceonbroadway.com.

Reporter and columnist Myra Eder covered politics and the arts for Star Newspapers in Chicago’s south and southwest suburbs for more than 25 years. As a freelancer based in Tinley Park, Ill., she writes about the arts and business worlds.

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Coming up at The Theatre School

Showcase Series
At DePaul’s historic Merle Reskin Theatre
For tickets, call 312.922.1999

“Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika”
by Tony Kushner
directed by Jane Drake Brody
Feb. 8 to 17
Previews: Feb. 6 and 7
Wednesday through Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m.

“Measure for Measure”
by William Shakespeare
directed by Catherine Weidner
April 19 to 28
Previews: April 17 and 18
Wednesday through Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m.

MFA 13
World Premiere
by Ike Holter, Alumnus
directed by Dexter Bullard
May 17 to 26
Previews: May 15 and 16
Wednesday through Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m.

New Directors Series
At the Greenhouse Theater Center
2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
To reserve free tickets, call 312.922.1999

“Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy”
by Gary D. Schmidt
adapted by Cheryl L. West
directed by John Jenkins
Jan. 19 to March 2
Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.
Saturday, 2 p.m.
Excluding: Jan. 26, 29, 31

“The Coral King”
by James Ambrose Brown
directed by Ann Wakefield
April 2 to May 25
Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.
Saturday, 2 p.m.
Excluding: Apr. 6, 9, 11, 13 and May 4, 7, 9
Sometimes, all it takes to solve a problem is for a roomful of people to put their heads together. Rick Omanson recalls doing just that during a creative workshop when he was a consultant to Bell Labs.

“We had 10 people standing in a circle and had to pass a tennis ball around so that every person touched it in a minute,” he says. “So we tossed it to each other. Then the time was cut in half, and we moved closer. By the fourth time we had cut the time in half, we had redefined the problem.”

Initially, the instructions were interpreted as each person having to throw the ball to the next person. But as the group brainstormed, they changed the problem’s parameters and changed their assumptions. They could stand close and just hand the ball to one another. Even as time decreased, the group wasn’t achieving maximum efficiency.

“So we got as close together as possible and stacked our hands like fists in a huddle at a basketball game and dropped the ball through our hands. Everyone touched the ball in a second.”

That was innovation on the fly.

“Necessity is the mother of invention,” says Omanson, an adjunct instructor in DePaul’s College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM), who has acquired patents for user interface design for call-center applications and Web browsing.
Yes, innovation can be as simple as dropping a tennis ball through 10 pairs of hands. Or it can be as challenging as improving communication network protocols, or creating a device to enhance knee-replacement surgery, or finding homes for thousands of men and women recovering from drug and alcohol addictions.

Usually all it takes to spur innovation is a problem to overcome and a creative mind focused on solving it. As Thomas Edison said: “There’s a way to do it better—find it.”

“Ill innovation is challenging yourself to think to the next level,” says Rich Rocco, an assistant professor in the Driehaus College of Business and the Center for Sales Leadership who has acquired several patents, including one related to both a method and apparatus for arthroplasty of the knee. “Often, innovation is going where others are not bold enough to go.”

Innovation, and the need for more of it, is a hot topic today as doubts about a sluggish economy persist, and America’s reputation for out-creating the rest of the world seems to be slipping at home and abroad.

“The first step in winning the future,” President Barack Obama has declared, “is encouraging American innovation.”

Nowhere is that being done with more enthusiasm than at DePaul, where many professors and instructors—some of whom hold patents of their own or acquired them for companies for which they have worked—have one foot in the academic world and the other in the working world. They are encouraging students to think that no problem—technological or social—is insurmountable.

“Innovating is about being pragmatic,” says Ron Koziel, a lecturer in CDM who has worked as a wireless networking professional for various companies, including Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs, where his team acquired several patents. “It’s thinking outside the box, looking for solutions that other people are not looking for, doing things differently, more effectively and more efficiently.”

First to Market, First to Profit

“Innovation is important because those innovations that are successful are the ones that fulfill people’s needs,” says Dale Buchholz, a CDM lecturer and the inventor or co-inventor of 24 patents in communication network protocols. “Whether it’s basic needs or entertainment needs or something that’s cool and useful in the future—the innovations are targeted at pushing society forward to new levels. That’s important for the evolution of society.”

It also usually means economic growth.

“Innovation is a kind of sustaining-growth mechanism,” Buchholz says. “If you’re an innovative culture, the economic and cultural environments will move forward more rapidly than in other places.”

Or, as Koziel bluntly states: “Innovation is critical because the first to market with a new idea reaps most of the profits.”

It’s not, however, just the marketplace that rides innovation to profits. There is societal profit in innovation, too.

In the 1990s, Leonard Jason, a clinical and community psychology professor and director of DePaul’s Center for Community Research, patented Earn TV, a device that controls the amount of time children watch television. For the last 20 years, he has worked with the nonprofit Oxford House, which provides housing for men and women recovering from drug and alcohol addictions.

“Innovation isn’t just about who can invent the next gadget,” Jason says. “The real innovation is how we solve some of our social problems in inexpensive ways. That’s what much of my career has been focused on.”

Oxford House has created a network of 1,400 group homes in the United States and other countries, accommodating more than 10,000 people who pay their share of the house expenses.

“It’s what I call ‘second-order change,’” Jason says. “Rather than cosmetic, just putting a bandage on something, you’re getting to the structural roots of a problem. How do you do that in inexpensive ways? That’s what the Center for Community Research is about: trying to solve social problems in innovative ways.”

Bridging academia and the working world

While students are not taught how to innovate, they are encouraged to develop that frame of mind.

“The challenge,” says Rocco, “is to inspire students who are in a position to be innovative, to help them channel those thoughts and ideas so they can actually move forward with them.”

Finding time to flesh out those ideas is crucial.

“Many DePaul students are working one, two or three jobs,” Rocco notes. “They’re already coming into the classroom with a range of experiences and perspectives. But they’re so busy that, sometimes, the hardest thing for them is to sit down and take a minute to draw a connection with the real world in order to develop their ideas.”

Buchholz says lightning bolts usually strike when one’s mind is decompressed: You’re in the shower, eating lunch or exercising. But he tells students that “the initial creative idea doesn’t take a lot of work. As Edison said, ‘It’s 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration.’ It’s getting the idea really shaped up as something that would be applicable to the current marketplace. That’s the hard work.”

Jason boils down bursts of innovation even further.

“The first step is to find out what your passion truly is. What is it that you care about? Then you’ve got to trust your intuition,” he says. “It’s not always going to be right, but the reality is we need to believe in things that are not always rational. Sometimes things bubble up that can be tremendous guides for where you need to go.”

As teachers, he adds, “We have to listen to innovative students and support them. Sometimes the craziest ideas are the ones when you have to say, ‘Go with it.’”

Dave Wieczorek is a longtime journalist who has been a staff writer and editor for magazines in Florida and Chicago. He is now a freelance writer.

Editor’s note: For this story, we looked for DePaul people who held patents. We know there are many more of you. Let us know who you are via email to depaulmag@depaul.edu.
“I’ve worked for a number of different people at the highest levels. Many of these opportunities were due to the fact that I had a background at DePaul because people knew they could trust me to be honorable and ethical.”

Malcolm O’Neill (CSH ’62)
U.S. Army Lieutenant General (ret.)
(see p. 29)
As it entered its final 18 months, DePaul’s Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign was progressing well toward its goals. After eclipsing the original $250 million campaign goal early in 2012, trustees voted to increase the overall target to $300 million to assure the fulfillment of goals for scholarships, new facilities, faculty support, and academic programs and student life.

As of October 17, 2012, campaign progress stood at $263.2 million in philanthropic support. More than 30,000 alumni and friends have made gifts to the campaign. Well before its scheduled conclusion in June 2014, the historic effort is having a profound impact on students, faculty and the campuses.

Funding from campaign donors has driven a major revamp of the Lincoln Park Campus that will create an academically based arts corridor. A new theatre building, designed by Pelli Clarke Pelli, will serve as the entry point for the Lincoln Park Campus’ west side, while the new and renovated music buildings will flank the east side of campus.
The Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan Environmental Science and Chemistry Building, an early outcome of the campaign, has served thousands of students since it opened in 2009, elevating our ability to teach science with leading-edge technology. The interdisciplinary Arts and Letters Hall opened for students last spring and is abuzz with activity and courses.

The campaign has helped create many faculty positions and has established nearly 400 new scholarships. Campaign leaders are committed to exceeding all goals set forth in the campaign, with a special focus on the $100 million scholarship goal—critical to maintaining DePaul's historical commitment to attracting talented students from all backgrounds. To date, we have raised 77 percent toward this total and expect that, through concentrated efforts, alumni will take advantage of the opportunity to provide much-needed scholarship support for the next generation.

Donors have been inspired to make legacy gifts in record numbers, with more than 1,000 alumni and friends making a commitment to include DePaul in their estate plans. The value of those commitments is $97.4 million in philanthropic support. The number of commitments has doubled compared with the six years leading up to this campaign, while the total dollars committed has quintupled. “People have opened their hearts and proved their dedication to the mission of DePaul University and the students that we serve,” says Mary Finger, senior vice president for advancement.

Finger adds that of the more than 30,000 donors to the campaign, about 2,000 are corporations and foundations. “The rest, more than 27,000 people, are mostly alumni, but also faculty, staff, friends and neighbors who have dug deep to support the mission of this university.”

More than half of the donors to the campaign are making their first gift to DePaul, Finger says. “We are sparking a whole new spirit of philanthropy at DePaul and living up to Vincent’s call.”

John and Barbara Keeley Make Gift to Promote Excellence in Finance

Having built his own highly successful investment firm, John Keeley understands what it takes to become a successful trader. That’s why he and his wife, Barbara, recently made a $1 million commitment to the Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign to help equip the virtual trading room at the Driehaus College of Business.

This specialized classroom, one of the largest of its kind in North America, doubles the existing capacity to 60 students at 30 dual-monitor work stations—all hosting Bloomberg software and a range of other products that reflect the finance marketplace. Its creation translates into substantial increases in the academic quality of DePaul’s finance education and the caliber of students and graduates. It is expected that these students will be recruited at higher levels by the leading firms in the finance field, as this resource prepares them for the technologically sophisticated, rapidly changing finance marketplace.

This is not the Keeleys’ first generous gift to the Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign. They were among the leadership donors early in the campaign, endowing the Christopher L. Keeley Chair in the Department of Finance in memory of their late son. Christopher Keeley graduated from DePaul in 1994 and became a successful trader and vice president in his father’s firm before he died suddenly from a pulmonary embolism in 2002.

Since making the previous gift, John Keeley says, “I have been spending time in DePaul classrooms with dedicated students and exceptional faculty. These experiences led me to support the university’s effort to equip the virtual trading room with the latest in analytical software. This support will keep the cost of finance education affordable for DePaul students.”

For more information on the campaign, including the current fundraising total, please visit campaign.depaul.edu.
Officially, Kristin Lietz (CSH ‘89) has 26 godchildren, but that count doesn’t include dozens of teenage girls for whom Lietz is part mother, part disciplinarian and part counselor. As the director of Casa Isabel, a residential program for impoverished young women in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca, Lietz empowers her niñas to overcome challenges and find success. “The girls are often suspicious and distrustful when they come here,” Lietz says. “They come from poor families where they didn’t get the chance to go to school.” Through Casa Isabel, the women receive financial support to attend school, as well as emotional support to pursue their educational dreams.

From a young age, Lietz knew she wanted to serve others. At DePaul, she was president of the community service club, and her desire to understand and help others led to a degree in psychology. A few years after graduating, Lietz returned to her alma mater for a Spanish course, which ultimately led her to Mexico.

In 2006, Lietz began working with the Center for Sharing, an organization dedicated to servant leadership and faith-based learning. “Our vision was to help young people develop their own mission,” Lietz explains. Casa Isabel, which is located in El Espinal, provides a safe and supportive environment for young women from marginalized Mexican communities. Residents receive free room and board, and their school fees and supplies are also covered. Families contribute toiletries and spending money. The program started with two teenagers and currently serves 15 young women in two homes.

Casa Isabel’s focus on education, personal and spiritual development, and volunteer work helps the women gain confidence and leadership skills. For example, each resident designs her own service project. Two teenagers are building solar ovens, while others tutor elementary school students or spend time with the elderly. One young woman studying for a law degree provides pro bono assistance to the local mediator. “It’s very important to learn that they can give back and influence change in their community,” Lietz says. “We’re trying to plant those seeds.”

The educational aspect of the program is equally critical. Oaxaca is ranked last in educational achievement among all Mexican states, but Casa Isabel’s residents defy the trend. The program boasts two college graduates, eight high school graduates and five middle school graduates. All of the high school graduates are currently attending college, and four of the middle school graduates are enrolled in high school. Furthermore, one of the college graduates is sponsoring her younger sister to go through Lietz’s program.

“It’s been an incredible journey,” reflects Lietz, before turning her attention to the future. “Our next steps are helping these girls get employment after college, and we’d like to take the personal and spiritual development component to the wider community, and we want to bring the girls further afield to expand their horizons.” With Lietz as their advocate, the future looks bright for the young women of Casa Isabel.

To learn more about Casa Isabel, please visit casaisabel.org or centerforsharing.org.
As a young boy growing up in Chicago, Malcolm O’Neill (CSH ’62) never imagined that one day he would be briefing the president of the United States on military matters. O’Neill, a retired three-star general, didn’t intend to enter the Army, but when he tried to sign up for a physical education course as a DePaul undergraduate, an administrator redirected him to the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC).

“I didn’t want to take ROTC, and I went into it with a very bad attitude,” O’Neill recalls. “Then I learned to like it.”

O’Neill, who majored in physics at DePaul, ended up at Fort Bragg following graduation. “I was 22 years old, and I had 40 guys working for me,” he remembers. With so many young men looking to him for leadership and guidance, the young parachutist was grateful that his undergraduate experience had “got me on a proper course in terms of ethics, integrity, doing the best you can and understanding your own limits.”

Like many young men of his generation, O’Neill soon ended up overseas, fighting in the Vietnam War. On his first day of combat, O’Neill was shot in the head by a North Vietnamese soldier hidden in a ditch 10 feet away. South Vietnamese troops came back to get him, putting their own lives at risk, and several were wounded during the rescue.

Later on, O’Neill witnessed the death of his counterpart and friend, who was the leader of a South Vietnamese reconnaissance unit.

O’Neill’s military career progressed quickly. He was promoted to major four years earlier than most officers, achieving this rank in only six years.

The Army sent him to graduate school at Rice University, and O’Neill overcame a rough start to complete a doctorate in atomic physics. “I hadn’t cracked a book in six years,” O’Neill recounts. “I’d been in the jungle!”

In the following years, O’Neill researched high-energy lasers for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency; served as director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, now the Missile Defense Agency; and spent a decade with Lockheed Martin Corp., including six years as chief technical officer. Along the way, he briefed the president of the United States, as well as the prime ministers of both Israel and the United Kingdom.

More recently, President Barack Obama nominated O’Neill to serve as assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, a post he held from March 2010 until June 2011.

When O’Neill considers his rewarding career, he attributes much of his success to the early lessons he learned at DePaul. “I’ve worked for a number of different people at the highest levels,” he says. “Many of these opportunities were due to the fact that I had a background at DePaul because people knew they could trust me to be honorable and ethical.”

While O’Neill couldn’t have predicted the path his life would take when he was a student at DePaul, he remains grateful that the university “set the stage” for his meaningful life’s work.
Celebrations and Memories at Reunion Weekend 2012

Reunion Weekend 2012, which took place Oct. 12 to 14, was a resounding success, with more than 700 alumni and friends gathering at a variety of events throughout the weekend. The fun began right away as alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago came together for the Reunion Luncheon on Friday, Oct. 12. DePaul's president, the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., offered congratulatory remarks, and more than 80 alumni were inducted into the Fifty Year Club. That evening, alumni from the past five years shared stories and memories during their special celebration at Moe's Cantina.

On Saturday night, guests convened at the Palmer House Hilton for the Reunion Celebration, which featured cocktail receptions in honor of each anniversary class, as well as exclusive receptions for alumni who were Campus Recreation student employees or resident advisors. College of Law alumni reconnected with old friends and made new ones during their own reunion celebration at the Hotel InterContinental.

Sunday Mass, followed by brunch, closed out Reunion Weekend 2012. DMaC, an all-male, student-run a capella group, provided lively entertainment as alumni and friends mingled over brunch. The celebration will begin all over again next year, when graduates from class years ending in “3” and “8” will return to their alma mater for Reunion Weekend 2013.

To see more photos from Reunion Weekend 2012, please visit alumni.depaul.edu/reunion.

1. Robert Weber (JD ’60) and his wife, Millie, smile for the camera during the Reunion Luncheon on Friday. 2. Alena Cloud (CMN ’94, MBA ’03) and Jeffrey Cloud (BUS ’97) with their children at Sunday’s Reunion Brunch on the Lincoln Park Campus. 3. The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul, welcomes guests to the Reunion Celebration on Saturday evening. 4. Hari Singh (CSH ’62) and Glorianne Jackson (LAS ’62) display their certificates after being inducted into the Fifty Year Club at the Reunion Luncheon. 5. Mary Kosinski (BUS ’82), holding the 1982 DePaul University yearbook, shares memories with Theresa Naccarato (BUS ’82) and Stefania Cosentino (BUS ’07). 6. Ryan Dunigan (LAS ’08), Adam Slade (LAS ’08), Edward Washington (BUS ’07) and Roger Rios (CDM ’10, MS ’12) reminisce at Moe’s Cantina on Friday evening. 7. Kellie Halsted-Scott, Mary O’Reilly (JD ’82, LLM ’12) and Robert Scott (JD ’82) catch up during the Law Reunion on Saturday night. 8. College of Law alumni and friends celebrate their reunion at the Hotel InterContinental: (from left)
Eric Martin, Kathryn Starshak (MUS ’98, JD ’02), Megan Sheridan (JD ’02), Jacie Zolna (JD ’02), Aileen Bhandari (JD ’02) and Reginald Parks (JD ’02). 9. Vianna Rue Guillermo (BUS ’09) mingles with fellow alumni at the Reunion Celebration. 10. Edward A. Dickey Jr. (LAS ’62) poses for the camera with DePaul’s president, the Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., during the Fifty Year Club induction ceremony on Friday. 11. Carol Caridine (SNL ’07) and her husband, Dale, enjoy the Reunion Brunch. 12. The Young Alumni Reunion brought these happy alumni together: (from left) Kavita Saluja (BUS ’11), Barbara Obregon (BUS ’11), Darius Savickas (BUS ’10), Kalli Mulvey (BUS ’10) and Kyle Shiel (BUS ’11).

To see more photos from these and other alumni events, please visit the DePaul Spirit Flickr Group at flickr.com/depaulspirit.
Career Week 2013: Move Up, Move On, Move Forward

Mark your calendars for Career Week 2013, which takes place Sunday, Feb. 17, through Friday, Feb. 22, at DePaul. This annual event offers networking sessions, workshops and career-building opportunities for the experienced professional, as well as those transitioning between jobs. Participants can learn strategies to launch or advance their careers, gain tips on developing leadership skills and explore job resources, among other offerings.

To kick off Career Week 2013, Eric Hellige (CMN ’05), career services manager at Careerbuilder.com, will discuss job seeker best practices, including building an online brand, during the Keynote Brunch on Feb. 17. Career Week activities are open to alumni and adult DePaul students, including graduate and Continuing and Professional Education students. Since the inception of Career Week in 2008, the program has grown steadily, engaging greater numbers of alumni and students each year. In 2012, hundreds of individuals participated in 37 Career Week events, which were hosted by 19 different departments. Events are free to attend and occur on the Lincoln Park, Loop and suburban campuses, as well as via webinar and teleconference.

To get ready for Career Week 2013, tune in to the Alumni Career Conference Call on Wednesday, Jan. 9. This teleconference will provide an overview of the opportunities and resources available during Career Week 2013. Please visit the events calendar section at alumni.depaul.edu/events to register for the conference call.

Career Week registration opens in mid-January. Visit careerweek.depaul.edu for more information.

Alumni Board Announces New Members

DePaul University welcomed four new members to the Alumni Board on July 1. Christina Butler (LAS ’05), Elizabeth Gifillian (MED ’07), Michael McKeon (EDU ’04) and Nick Romo (BUS ’05) were each elected to three-year terms.

Members and officers of the Alumni Board work closely with the Office of Alumni Relations to enhance the connection of DePaul graduates to the university community. In addition to their committee responsibilities, board members attend alumni events and activities, stay current on university news and initiatives, and act as enthusiastic ambassadors for DePaul.

Applications for board membership will be accepted during winter 2013. To access the application or learn more about the Alumni Board and its current members, visit alumni.depaul.edu/about/AlumniBoard.aspx.

Giving Update

The following alumni gave their generous support to DePaul University from May 2012 through August 2012.

$100,000 to $499,999
- Estate of John R. Vogrin (BUS ’55, MBA ’67), Ann and Joseph Vogrin Endowed Scholarship

$50,000 to $99,999
- Estate of William T. Brannen (CSH ’58), William T. Brannen Endowed Scholarship
- Richard C. Dunsay (JD ’64) and Dr. Anita Artstein-Dunsay, Richard C. Dunsay and Dr. Anita Artstein-Dunsay Endowed Scholarship
- Terry J. Kenney (BUS ’80), KPMG Professorship, KPMG Endowed Scholarship
- Howard A. Sulkin (DHL ’90) and Connie Sulkin, Howard and Connie Sulkin Endowed Scholarship
- Mary R. Zavada (LAS MA ’59) and John M. Zavada, Jr., Eva Sobala Memorial Endowed Scholarship

$25,000 to $49,999
- Russ Bach (MUS ’58, MM ’60) and Mary Ellen Brumbach, School of Music Performing Arts Capital Campaign
- Dr. Barry J. Epstein (BUS ’67) and Paula L. Epstein, Helene Ramanauskas-Marconi Endowed Scholarship in the School of Accountancy
- Michael J. Evans (BUS ’91) and Colleen Evans, Department of Finance Advisory Board, DePaul University General Scholarship
- David G. Franckowiak (BUS ’85, MAC ’85) and Jean A. Franckowiak (CSH ’85), Ledger & Quill
- Kenton J. Klaus (BUS ’82), Center for Students with Disabilities
- Vito Mitria (BUS ’85), Richard H. Driehaus College of Business Endowed Scholarship

New Planned Gifts

The following indicated that they will support DePaul University through a planned or estate gift of $25,000 or more.

- Patricia A. Mendell (BUS ’44) and James R. Mendell
- George L. Ruff (BUS ’74) and Tanya S. Ruff
- Robert Shook (GSD ’72) and Leslie Shook
**Take Your Seat and Support The Theatre School**

The creation of a new facility for The Theatre School was a key priority of the Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign, and this highly anticipated project is now nearing completion. DePaul’s talented artists will soon hone their craft in a theatre space befitting The Theatre School’s national reputation. Alumni and friends are invited to support The Theatre School Capital Campaign and secure a permanent place in this facility through the gift of a named seat.

A limited number of seats are available in both the thrust theatre and the Healy Theatre at multiple giving levels. In recognition of your gift, a plaque bearing your name will be permanently affixed to your seat. Don’t miss this opportunity to make your gift and become a lasting part of this transformative space that will inspire generations of students and audiences.

Make your gift online by visiting alumni.depaul.edu/TakeYourSeat.
Log in to alumni.depaul.edu to read additional class notes and to discover the many ways to connect with other alumni and the DePaul community.
Boris J. Steffen (MUS ’78, BUS ’85) was named managing director of Gavin/Solomonec LLC in Washington, D.C. Steffen brings more than 25 years of experience in accounting, corporate finance, valuation and solvency to the new consulting firm, which specializes in corporate restructuring and public affairs strategy to help organizations navigate and capitalize on business change.

Robert N. Hermes (JD ’79) was ranked among the top reinsurance lawyers in Illinois by Chambers USA. Hermes is a partner at Butler Rubin Saltarelli & Boyd LLP, which was also recognized as the No. 1 firm for “Insurance; Dispute Resolution; Reinsurance; Illinois” for the seventh consecutive year.

Kenton J. Klaus (BUS ’82) received the Illinois CPA Society’s 2012 Outstanding Leadership in Advancing Diversity Award. Klaus is a partner in the Global Employer Services division for Deloitte Tax LLP in Chicago.

Keith A. Hebeisen (JD ’83) was invited to participate in a mock medical malpractice trial at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America in Chicago in November.

Steven C. Mayer (MBA ’83) joined Citibank as senior vice president of commercial banking in Miami.

Joan I. Millsaps (BUS ’83) was named vice president, regional manager and hub & spoke manager at Fifth Third Bank in Chicago. She has more than 34 years of retail banking experience and previously served as vice president for Citibank’s retail division.

Deborah L. Bivens (CSH ’84) retired from federal service at the Department of Veterans Affairs on Aug. 29.

Debra A. Robinson (MBA ’84) joined Rabjohns Financial Group as a financial representative, focusing on the insurance and investment needs of corporate executives, professionals, business owners and their families.

Steven D. Impari’s (CDM ’85, JD ’92) website, maledepression.com, marked its 10th anniversary of providing information, resources and an online community for men who have depression, bipolar disorder and other mood-related health conditions.

George Onofrio (CDM ’86) is vice president of insurance applications for The AAA Auto Group Club. Previously, he served as vice president of claim technology for the group.

S. William Grimes (BUS ’90, JD ’93) was promoted to assistant general counsel - litigation in NiSource’s legal department. His responsibilities include labor and employment matters and litigation and claims in Indiana and Massachusetts. He has been with NiSource since 2004.

Peter A. Hinch (MUS ’90) was elected to the national board of trustees for the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, a professional organization of music educators. He is a region VI representative and chair of the leadership/nomination committee.

Miriam S. Fleming (JD ’92), a partner at the law firm of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, was elected chair of Jewish Family Services for the 2012-2014 term.

Christopher J. Lilly (EDU ’92, MED ’98) earned his Ph.D. from Concordia University Chicago in 2012 and works at the university as an associate professor of curriculum and instruction in the College of Graduate and Innovative Programs.

Adam Z. Orth (THE ’92) plays Aaron in “Revolution,” a post-apocalyptic, dystopian drama on NBC.

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Ghida S. Neukirch (CSH ’93) is the new deputy city manager of Highland Park, Ill., after spending 13 years working in Buffalo Grove, Ill., most recently as the deputy village manager.

John L. Nisivaco (JD ’94) was elected secretary of the Illinois State Bar Association. Nisivaco is a partner with Chicago firm Boudreaux & Nisivaco LLC, where he represents victims in personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Ronald Packowitz (JD ’94), a foreign service officer since 2000, is the deputy principal officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Donna M. Welch (JD ’94) was awarded the Edward J. Lewis II Pro Bono Service Award from the Chicago Bar Foundation.

Ramzi Hermiz (MBA ’96) is the president and CEO of Shiloh Industries Inc., a company that makes custom blanks for automakers. Previously, Hermiz was vice president of vehicle safety at Federal-Mogul.

Patricia S. Carrera (JD ’97) relocated to Madison, Wis., from Chicago to become director of the State Bar of Wisconsin Pinnacle.

Sheila M. Cawley (LAS MA ’97) is the vice president of external affairs at the Museum of Science and Industry, leading fundraising and membership initiatives.

Anita Ivory (CMN ’97, LAS MA ’99) was promoted to assistant principal at George W. Tillot Elementary School in Chicago.


Ryan P. McLaughlin’s (LAS ’97) company, Mac Strategies Group Inc., won its 15th industry award for its public relations and public affairs programs. The company was established in 2008 and has offices in Chicago and Springfield, Ill.

Rudresh K. Mahanthappa (MUS MM ’98) was named alto saxophonist of the year by Downbeat Critics Poll.

Michael F. Tutaj (MUS ’98) received the Michael Maggio Emerging Designer Award for 2012. Tutaj has been a projection designer for many Chicago-area theatre productions.

Gina Bellisario’s (LAS ‘99, MED ’02) debut picture book, “The Twelve Days of Christmas in Illinois,” was published in October by Sterling Children’s Books. It will be followed by four titles in the Cloverleaf Books—Community Helpers series by Millbrook Press.

P. J. Byrne (THE MFA ’99) played Rick in the feature film “The Campaign,” starring Will Ferrell and Zach Galifianakis. Byrne will also play Wigwam in Martin Scorsese’s upcoming film, “The Wolf of Wall Street.” He directed and wrote his first short for Funny or Die called “The Last Supper.”

Anne M. Johnson (CSH ’99), writing as A.J. Knauss, released her first novel, “Room Four.” Johnson is currently practicing emergency medicine in Milwaukee.

Assja H. Metzger (MUS ’99) completed her master’s degree in clinical psychology and serves as a psychotherapist at a mental health clinic.

Steven L. Smith (BUS ’99) received the Chicago Defender Men of Excellence award. Smith is an adult education instructor and coordinator at South Suburban College in South Holland, Ill., and was nominated by his students.

Lisa J. Acevedo (JD ’95) was named to Diversity MBA Magazine’s 2012 Top 100 Under 50 Diverse Executive Leaders list. Acevedo is a partner at Quarles & Brady LLP in Chicago and focuses her practice in health law.

Jeffrey H. Emme (MST ’95) was inducted into the Hall of Fame for the College of Business at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Emme is a senior vice president at Sara Lee.

Michele Seeley (SNL ’95) graduated from Amberton University in Dallas in May with a master’s degree in professional counseling.

Ramzi Hermiz (MBA ’96)

Jason S. Chao (MBA ’00) was promoted to principal in the transaction advisory services practice for Ernst & Young’s Los Angeles office. He provides valuation and transaction services to a variety of global public and private companies. Chao was previously a senior manager.

Natalie L. Kamberos (CSH ’00) is an associate in pediatrics at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, Iowa. She recently graduated from the pediatric hematology-oncology fellowship at the University of Iowa.

P. J. Byrne (THE MFA ’99)

Jason S. Chao (MBA ’00)

Catherine Swan (JD ’00) was a speaker at the American Bar Association’s Construction Forum annual meeting in Las Vegas in April. She is an attorney with Holloway Brabec & Karet P.C. in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Jill Eckert McCall (JD ’01, MBA ’01) joined The Chicago Bar Association’s board of managers in June. She is the director of the American Bar Association Center for Continuing Legal Education and serves on the ABA’s business continuity planning task force.

Rita M. Patel (BUS ’01) has been promoted to director at MillerCoors LLC, overseeing Miller64. Foster’s and Molson. Previously, she worked as the brand manager for Miller64.

Denis E. Dhenin (JD ’02) was promoted to deputy assistant chief counsel for the training division of U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Artesia, N.M., where he has worked since 2003. Dhenin resides in Carlsbad, N.M., with his wife, Laura, and their two children.

Jackson F. Doe (MBA ’02) established the Jackson F. Doe Foundation in honor of his late father. The foundation, which is based in Monrovia, Liberia, will focus on education, entrepreneurship, culture preservation and more.

Herschel L. Henry (EDU ’02) was promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army and moved to Fort Irwin, Calif., to serve as an observer/controller-trainer at the National Training Center.

Johnetta G. Paye’s (CMN ’02) law practice, J. Paye & Associates, was profiled in the July issue of the American Bar Association Journal.
Mina M. Zikri (MUS '02, MM '05) toured Europe with Daniel Barenboim and the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra. Pope Benedict XVI and Italian President Giorgio Napolitano attended the concert at Castel Gandolfo in Italy.

Bibek Das (JD '03) was selected for inclusion in the Illinois Super Lawyers magazine’s rising stars edition for 2012. Das is an attorney at the law firm of Tribet Orpett & Meyer P.C. in Chicago.

Katie P. Jacob (LAS '03) is an associate in the immigration law group at Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

Peggy A. Murphy Hasenauer (CDM '03) is the executive director of the University of Chicago Kovler Diabetes Center. In addition, Hasenauer is on the board of the James Tyree Foundation, a member of the Illinois Diabetes Policy Coalition, and a member of the Souch Circle of the Catholic Extension Society.

Crystal Mary Willingham (CDM '03) is working in executive human resources at BET Networks in New York City. She is also serving her fourth year on the DePaul University Alumni Board.

Karl S. Galko (LAS '04) is a Peace Corps volunteer in the Kyrgyz Republic. He teaches English and works on local community projects near Pokrovka village in Talas Oblast, Kyrgyzstan.

Lisa Joyce (THE '04) plays Mary Dittrich on HBO’s “Boardwalk Empire.” She will play Hilde in an Andre Gregory and Wallace Shawn film adaptation of Henrik Ibsen’s “The Master Builder,” to be directed by Libby Emrich, a company that offers Wisconsin-made, ready-to-drink bottled sangria.

James M. Zdroik (MBA '05) recently launched Sangria by Lovino, a company that offers Wisconsin-made, ready-to-drink bottled sangria.

Logan A. Walters (THE '06) started SoL Theatre, a nonprofit children’s theatre company, in Carbondale, Colo. Walters also directs children’s theatre and teaches acting for Jayne Gottlieb Productions in Aspen, Colo.

Brion W. Doherty (JD '07) was appointed to the board of Chicago Volunteer Legal Services in May. Doherty is the president-elect of the Chicago Bar Foundation’s Young Professionals board. He serves on the Chicago Bar Association’s YLS executive council and is a vice chair of the American Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division’s litigation committee.

Bryan Miller (LAS '04) appeared on “The Late Late Show” with Craig Ferguson to perform stand-up comedy in spring 2012. He is currently working as a professional stand-up comedian and writer in Minnesota.

Ernest A. Nolan (THE MFA '04) adapted and is directing “Alice in Wonderland” at Emerald City Children’s Theatre through Dec. 29. The cast includes Maddy La Roche (THE '12), Allison Martone (THE '12), Manny Ortiz (THE '12) and Alex Seeley (THE '12).

Chloe G. Pedersen (BUS '04, JD '07) was elected to the board of directors for the Women’s Bar Association of Illinois. She is an assistant attorney general with the Office of the Illinois Attorney General.

Jeffrey J. Kearny (MBA '05) is a senior managing director at Northern Trust, where he focuses on business development for institutional clients in the western United States.

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Ryan E. Gable (MBA '07) is CEO and broker at StartingPoint Realty, a company that focuses on first-time home buyers. StartingPoint Realty began while he was a student and has grown to employ eight agents.

Marco A. Silva (LAS '07) recently opened El Cafe next door to his other business, The Yuppy Puppy Grooming & More Inc., in Lakewood, Ill. Silva and his wife are expecting their first child in November.

Susan DeCostanza (JD '08) was awarded the Kimball R. Anderson and Karen Gatis Anderson Public Interest Law Fellowship from the Chicago Bar Foundation.

Diane T. Ledet (SNL '08) presented her book review blog, bookwinked.wordpress.com, at the Chicago Italian-American Author Presentation on June 16.

Eve Samson (LAS MS '08) joined the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in June as the associate director of development for public and private grants. Previously, she served as assistant vice president of resource development and community planning at the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. Ryan Wietholder (CHS '08) joined Walker Process Equipment as a project engineer in Aurora, Ill.

Lindsey Wills (JD '08) joined Faegre Baker Daniels LLP as an associate in the labor and employment group. She will practice from the firm’s Chicago office.

Kelly Chiricotti (CMN '09) was promoted to supervisor at Spark Communications. She will be the digital supervisor on both Starz and the newly formed digital investment team.

Serdar Cizmeci (MUS MM '09, CER '11), a trombonist, won his audition with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago for the 2012-2013 season. Flutist Kathryn Flum (MUS MM '10) is an associate member of the orchestra.

Christopher Huberts (BUS '09) joined Amazon as a senior product manager in its post-MBA retail rotation program in Seattle.

Katie M. Janiga (EDU '09) rappelled 27 stories down the Wil Hotel in Chicago’s Loop to raise money for the Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago in May. Together, 90 participants raised more than $120,000 for local lung disease research and programs.

Stephanie M. Nielsen (LAS '09) received her J.D. degree from Bond University in Queensland, Australia, in 2011, and was admitted as a lawyer in the Supreme Court of Queensland.

Eric Vicens (CSP '09) was promoted to school resources coordinator at Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, where he works with at-risk high school boys. Vicens is currently pursuing a master’s degree in social work and is due to graduate in 2014.

‘10s

Justin M. Cerone (LAS '10, BUS MS '12) launched a tech startup company in Chicago that develops and manages TABAPP, a new iPhone application that allows bar and restaurant customers to place and pay for their orders directly from a phone.

Sean P. Chiricotti (CMN '10) is a client associate at Bank of America Merrill Lynch in Northbrook, Ill.
Kelsey R. Jorissen (THE '11) wrote, directed, acted in, and edited “Sanctuary,” a feature-length film. Christopher Allen (THE '11), Dan Dvorkin (THE '11), Clancy McCartney (THE '11), Lauren Plazi (THE MFA '11) and Bridget Schreiber (THE '11) are in the film, which was submitted to both The Percolator and Chicago Underground film festivals.

Shaymus K. McLaughlin (CMN '11) joined the Grand Rapids Herald-Review as a sports editor.

Hamoda Mohamad (LAS '11) founded Statewide Insurance & Financial Group Inc. in January 2012. The company is active in four states and continues to grow at a rapid pace. Mohamad also is a law student at John Marshall Law School in Chicago and plans to complete his J.D. by 2013.

Kelly Wieland (CMN '11) received a 2011 Texas Exes Teaching Award for excellence as a graduate teaching assistant in the College of Communication at the University of Texas. She was nominated by students in her Public Relations Techniques class.

Juliana T. Johnson (CSH '12) accepted a position as a research lab manager at the University of Notre Dame. She previously worked as a lab manager at DePaul.

Kelly E. Sloan (THE '12) has signed with Ford Models Plus Size Women’s Division. Sloan is a freelance makeup artist for film and stage.

Nikki Lint (THE '03) married Charles Kellogg Banting on April 27 in Jupiter, Fla.

William M. Locke (CDM MS '04, MS '07) married Kelly LaClair on June 2 at St. Hubert's Church in Hoffman Estates, Ill. Locke is a developer for Bilsky Trading LLC in Burr Ridge, Ill., while LaClair is an account group supervisor for Cline Davis and Mann Inc. They live in Schaumburg, Ill.

Mary Carol Kobler (LAS '06) married David Kobler on July 14 in Brookfield, Ill. They currently reside in Arlington Heights, Ill. She is a teacher assistant at Seton Montessori School in Clarendon Hills, Ill., and he is a network analyst in the IT department at Harper College in Palatine, Ill.

Celeste P. Vanduch (SNL '08) married Justin Vanduch on July 7 in Elmhurst, Ill.

Kathryn A. Baxter-Greene (MED '10) married Christopher Greene on May 12 in Staten Island, N.Y. She teaches fifth-grade writing at the Bedford Stuyvesant Collegiate Charter School in Brooklyn, and he is an associate at the Manhattan law firm Sullivan & Cromwell.

Jaclyn E. Chaves (BUS '10) married Dennis Chaves in Arlington Heights, Ill., on Nov. 12, 2011. She is a customer accounts representative at Honda Financial Services, and he is a CAD drafter at Esscoe Engineering. They reside in Cary, Ill.

Evan T. McDowell (MBA '10) married Alyson Scaletty (MBA '10) in September. They met at DePaul in 2008.

Births & Adoptions

Mark Miskewitch (CMN '97, MA '10) and his wife, Anne Miskewitch (LAS '00, MA '03), welcomed their daughter, Nina Olivia Lynn, on May 10. Nina joins her big brother, Andrew.

Ryan W. Kitley (THE MFA '08) and his wife, Kelley, welcomed their fourth child, Emma Jane, on April 23. Emma joins siblings Connor, Maggie and Murphy.

Jaime L. Holt (BUS '99) and her husband, Reggie Holt (BUS '99), welcomed their second daughter, Rachel Alexandra, on June 27. Rachel joins big sister Morgan. The family resides near Indianapolis.

Katie Jeep (THE '00) and her husband, Hunter Andre, had their first child, daughter Sloane Lily Andre, on Sept. 25.

Christopher J. Moncada (CMN '00) and his wife, Sara, welcomed their daughter, Olivia Josephine, on July 13.

Shanna L. Jimenez (CMN '02) and her husband, Andres Jimenez (LAS '04), welcomed Emma Jane Jimenez to their family on July 6.

Art Munin (CMN '04) is proud to announce the birth of twins, Vincent Jerome and Ava Margaret on May 30.

Marriages & Engagements

Morton H. Kaplan (BUS '56) married Hedy Ratner (MED '74) on July 1 at Orchestra Hall in Chicago after more than 40 years of dating on and off. Kaplan is a professor emeritus on Columbia College, and Ratner is founder and co-president of the Women’s Business Development Center.
Joanna Vera (BUS ’09) and her husband, Nestor, are proud to share news of the birth of their daughter, Katelynn Madison. She was born nine weeks prematurely on March 5, 2011, but is now thriving.

Caroline Nikolakakis (MED ’10) and her husband, George, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Maeve Catherine, welcomed with love on May 22 by her parents and big brother, Liam.

Jeffrey M. Williams (MBA ’10) and his wife, Farrah, welcomed their first child, Ava Madeleine Williams, on May 16.

Lord, we commend to you the souls of our dearly departed. In your mercy and love, grant them eternal peace.

Alumni
Joseph C. Platt (JD ’37)
Evelyn R. Thomas (BUS ’38)
Robert F. Zadek (LAW ’39)
Arlene Belcore (BUS CER ’41)
Robert P. Zelinski (CSH ’41)
James N. Cimino (BUS ’42)
Jean A. Zenk Rudloff (MUS ’45)
Samuel Konefsky (JD ’47)
Charlotte Malone (EDU ’48)
Geraldine Cassidy (LAS ’49)
Grace A. Donnellan (LAW ’49)
Sister Clare Gleeson (LAS MA ’49)
Thomas E. Gavin (EDU ’50)
Suzanne Moreau (CSH ’50)
Lamorne W. Schurtz (CSH ’50, MS ’55)
Mary L. Zich (MUS ’50)
Norman M. Dubin (BUS ’51)
Nancy H. Amstard (LAS ’52)
Harry N. Peterson (LAW ’52)
Frank I. Wesolowski (LAW ’52)
Martin C. Ashman (JD ’53)
Edmund J. Kuziemka (CSH ’53)
Marshall K. Gordon (LAW ’54)
Carole R. Nolan (LAS ’54, MA ’61)
Carl V. Kristan (LAS ’55, LAS ’58)
Weldon A. Beverly Jr. (MED ’56)
Richard E. Costello (CSH MA ’56)
Leo L. Dillon (MED ’56)
James W. Kinnavy (CSH ’56)
Elizabeth A. Niquette (BUS ’56)
George P. Pauly Jr. (BUS ’56)
David J. Shields (JD ’56)
Hubert A. Adams (JD ’57)
Jerry V. Svec (BUS ’57)
George F. Kollowitch (LAS ’58)
Robert F. Meersman (JD ’58)
Carol G. Natke (CSH ’58)
Richard R. Dolezal (LAS ’59, MA ’60)
James L. Rodi (BUS ’59)
Richard E. Davis (MED ’60)
Eugene D. Catrambone (LAS MA ’61)
James L. Czech (BUS ’61)
Edward T. Graham (LAS ’61)
O. Richard Hughes (BUS 61)
Henry W. Antos (BUS ’62, MBA ’71)
Oliver Feschyn (LAS ’62)
John H. Cole (MBA ’64)
William J. Fruit Jr. (LAS ’64)
Norman E. Carroll (LAS MA ’65)
Robert C. Gerlach (LAS ’65)
Thomas P. Cunningham (LAW ’66)
Alexander T. Starasiak (LAS ’66)
Terrence F. Kiely (JD ’67)
Mary J. Putzler (EDU ’67)
Jerry M. Brandes (CSH ’68)
Ruth A. Nichols (MED ’68)
Joseph B. Nigro (LAS ’68, JD ’73)
Monica L. Zabor (LAS MA ’68)
Richard T. Crowe (LAS ’70, MA ’73)
Burton R. Lindner (JD ’70)
Peter A. Maren (JD ’70)
Mary Lou C. Splinter (LAS MA ’70)
Roger C. Elliott (CSH ’71, JD ’74)
Sister Mary H. Rump, O.S.F. (MUS MM ’72)
Roseann Tripke (MED ’73)
Clarita H. Bonner (MED ’74)
Ernest M. Kranich (BUS ’77)
Donna G. Wilkinson (SNL ’78)
James M. Costello (LAS ’79)
William H. Thullen (BUS MS ’80)
Daniel J. Piron (MBA ’82)
Sylvia M. Ruhwiedel (LAS MS ’82)
David H. Lindgren (BUS ’83)
Robert D. Modelski (BUS ’83, MBA ’90)
Ellen G. Sutton (LAS MA ’85)
Charmaine E. Atkinson (JD ’86)
Regina A. Bronson (JD ’87)
Gregory P. Swanson (BUS ’89)
Mary L. Kreuza (MBA ’91)
Consuelo A. Williamson (LAS ’92)
Robert J. Cannell (SNL MA ’93)
Jeffrey W. Barnes (MBA ’95)
Robert M. Knight (SNL MA ’96)
Kari Laegeler (MBA ’96)
Mark T. Kotwica (BUS ’97)
Robert S. Hensel (JD ’01)
Christopher R. Al-Aswas (LAS ’03)
Jessica L. Hook (LAS ’04)
David Ghaussy (MBA ’05)
Brian A. Izzo (LAS ’06, MS ’11)
Julia K. Graham (SNL ’07)
Eric Hollifield (SNL ’07)
Alexander R. Amber (LAS ’08)

Friends
Victor Altay
Richard M. Altheimer
Philip H. Corboy Sr.
Tessa Craib-Cox
Rev. Patrick V. Harrity, C.M.
Patricia Monaghan
Deborah Rapuano
Stephen Vagi
Maggie Varner
Ray Waters
Dr. May Weber
Linda Wilson
Joseph Winograd

Editor’s Note: Due to space limitations, this memorial list includes only those alumni and friends whose offices have confirmed have passed away since the previous issue was printed.
**Event Calendar**

Visit alumni.depaul.edu/events or call 800.437.1898 for further information and to register. Fees and registration deadlines apply to some events.

**January**
- Jan. 9: Alumni Career Conference Call: A Sneak Peek at Career Week Teleconference
- Jan. 12: Pre-game Reception & Women's Basketball vs. USF Chicago
- Jan. 15: Ravenswood Community Kitchen Volunteer Project Chicago
- Jan. 19: Pre-game Reception & Men's Basketball vs. St. John's (with Hall of Fame Induction) Rosemont, Ill.
- Jan. 19: Pre-game Reception & Women's Basketball vs. Providence (with Hall of Fame Induction) Chicago
- Jan. 20: Alumni & Friends Reception with the President Naples, Fla.
- Jan. 21: Center for Intercultural Program's Annual Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast Chicago
- Jan. 23: Alumni & Friends Reception with the President New York City
- Jan. 24: Alumni & Friends Reception with the President Baca Raton, Fla.
- Jan. 28: Young Alumni Second City Outing Chicago
- Jan. 30: Alumni & Friends Reception with the President Chicago

**February**
- Feb. 2: Inaugural Blue Demon Day Pre-game Reception & Men's Basketball vs. Notre Dame Rosemont, Ill., plus game watches around the country.
- Feb. 3: Young Alumni Super Bowl Party Chicago
- Feb. 9: Pre-game Reception & Men's Basketball vs. Marquette Milwaukee
- Feb. 12: Pre-game Reception & Women's Basketball vs. Rutgers Chicago
- Feb. 16: Pre-game Reception & Men's Basketball vs. Rutgers Rosemont, Ill.
- Feb. 17: Career Week 2013: Keynote Brunch Chicago
- Feb. 19: Career Week 2013: Creating and Sustaining Momentum in Your Job Search Teleconference
- Feb. 20: Career Week 2013: G.R.O.W. Your Professional Network Chicago
- Feb. 22: Career Week 2013: Utilize Your Alumni Network Chicago
- Feb. 23: “Lizzie Bright & the Buckminster Boy” Family Theatre Performance & Ice Cream Social Chicago
- Feb. 23: Pre-game Reception & Men's Basketball vs. University of Connecticut Rosemont, Ill.
- Feb. 24: Pre-game Reception & Women's Basketball vs. Notre Dame Chicago
- Feb. 26: Alumni & Friends Reception Orlando, Fla.
- Feb. 26: Young Alumni Brewery Tour & Beer Pairing at Goose Island Chicago
- Feb. 26: Alumni & Friends Reception Hinsdale, Ill.

**March**
- March 5: Speaking Engagement: Techniques for Eliminating Stress Chicago
- March 9: Josephinum Academy Volunteer Project Chicago
- March 13: Alumni Career Conference Call: Job Interview Prep Teleconference
- March 14: Alumni & Friends Reception with the President Scottsdale, Ariz.
- March 15: DePaul Opera Theatre Performance of “La Bohème” Chicago

**Recent Alumni Events**

**Fall Alumni Events**
Alumni around the country enjoyed a variety of events during the past several months. With options ranging from bike tours to baseball games, there were plenty of opportunities for alumni to reconnect and meet fellow DePaul graduates.

**Solemn Oath Brewery Tour and Tasting**
In September, Chicagoland alumni visited Solemn Oath Brewery in Naperville. John Barley (LAS ’08) is president and CEO of the brewery, which opened its doors this year. Alumni toured the production facility and sampled the latest drafts while learning about the beer-making process.

**Reception with the President in Beverly Hills**
The Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., president of DePaul University, received a warm welcome from alumni and friends in the Los Angeles area. In addition to sharing the latest updates and news from DePaul, the president mingled with guests over hors d’oeuvres during this mid-October gathering.

**Volunteer Outing at the Greater Chicago Food Depository**
Alumni assisted with a food packing project at the Greater Chicago Food Depository in October. Working with other volunteer groups, DePaul alumni helped pack nearly 5,000 pounds of dry pasta for families in need. Each quarter, DePaul offers at least one volunteer activity for alumni and friends.

More alumni photos at flickr.com/depaulspirit.
Thank You,

George and Tanya Ruff,
FOR DEVELOPING EXCELLENCE ON MANY LEVELS.

When their generous gift established The George L. Ruff Endowed Professorship in The Real Estate Center, George and Tanya Ruff paved the way for DePaul students, faculty and community members to learn from leading, innovative scholars and practitioners.

The George L. Ruff Endowed Scholarship for the School of Hospitality Leadership supports students who will learn the latest best practices for their businesses and put them to work in the marketplace and community.

In addition to these generous contributions, Ruff serves DePaul in many ways—as a member of the university’s board of trustees; the Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign Committee; and the School of Hospitality Leadership Advisory Board—to elevate academic excellence and student achievement at DePaul.

Ruff, who graduated cum laude from DePaul in 1974 with a degree in accounting, has 30 years of leading excellence in his own profession. He is senior principal and co-founder of Trinity Hotel Investors in New York, which owns and invests in boutique hotels around the world.

Learn how you can support DePaul University and its students by visiting campaign.depaul.edu.
“You came to school, you took your classes, you went to your job—most of us worked part time—and then you’d come back again to take an evening class.”

Barbara Laughlin (BUS ’66, MBA ’71)

(See p. 13)