

AtBuffalo

The magazine for alumni and friends of the University at Buffalo Summer 2018

Cosplay on the Spine **p7**

Blockchain explained **p13**

The year that was ... 1951 **p40**

What it means to be

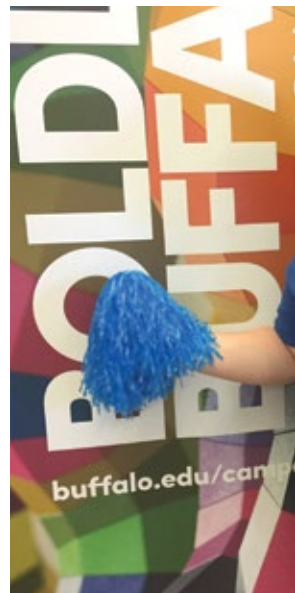
BOLDLY BUFFALO

THE CAMPAIGN FOR UB **p22**



“This campaign is your campaign. It belongs to the entire university.”

SATISH K. TRIPATHI





FIRST LOOK

Photographs by Meredith Forrest Kulwicki, Douglas Levere, Ann Brown and Dawn Baumgarten

The Biggest and the Bluest

By Sally Jarzab » Boldness was the theme and the tenor on April 30 as UB publicly launched its Boldly Buffalo campaign, the largest fundraising campaign in the history of the university.

Special gatherings on all three campuses, and on Facebook Live, marked the momentous occasion. In the Student Union, horns blared and cowbells rang when President Satish K. Tripathi announced the \$650 million goal. With more than \$451 million already secured—inclusive of successful [Visit buffalo.edu/campaign for details.](https://buffalo.edu/campaign) campaigns by the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and the School of Law—celebration was definitely in order. (Cue the confetti cannons!)

“We believe access to an outstanding education transforms the lives of our students, inspiring them to think bigger and lead the way,” Tripathi said. “We believe that boldly tackling research is the best way to improve the quality of life, elevate the human condition and deliver sought-after answers. And we believe that fueling the growth of vibrant, healthy and inclusive communities here and around the globe is the most direct way to a better world.” **B**

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Girls Inc. President & CEO
Judy Vredenburg

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Behind Boldly Buffalo

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UB's historic campaign is set to transform the university in nearly every way imaginable. Learn about the aspirations, the people, the stories—and the big, bold future that lies ahead.

Story by Jennifer Boscia-Smith and Mary Cochrane

At Buffalo's Summer Reading List

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Our readers are a smart bunch with diverse interests. The same can be said of our alumni authors. Find your next page-turner, opinion-informer or bedtime story in our first summer roundup of alumni-penned books.

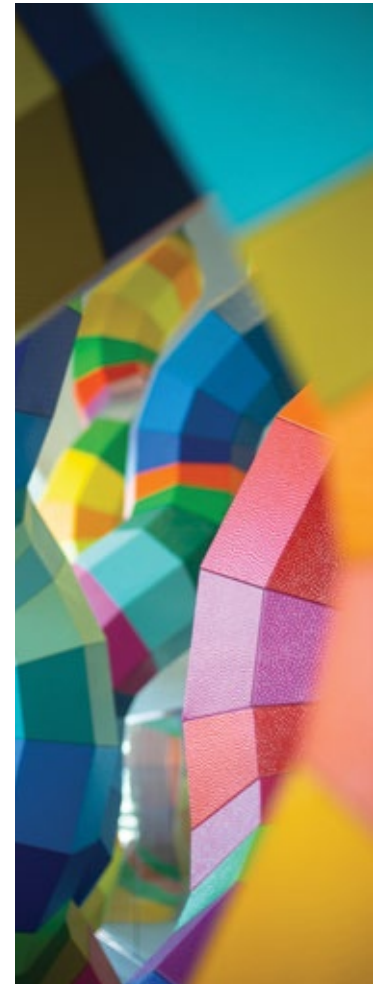
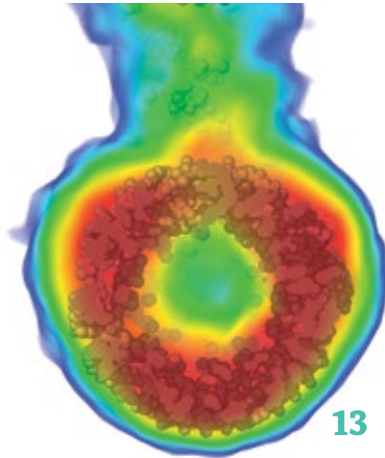
Illustration by Barry Fitzgerald (MFA '90)

Run the World, Girls

p34

Judy Vredenburg steered a successful and hard-fought career in the world of retail toward an unusual destination: the top of a nonprofit organization serving young girls. But it's there that she found what power is really good for.

Story by Jennifer Kitses
Photographs by John Emerson



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On the Cover:

This colorful close-up of Shasti O’Leary Soudant’s (MFA ’11) “Gut Flora” sculpture serves as a fitting backdrop for At Buffalo’s announcement of the largest fundraising initiative in university history. Much like “Gut Flora,” a project that deftly marries art with science, the Boldly Buffalo campaign encompasses the full “biome” of UB—from the sciences to the humanities, from learning to research, from Western New York to the wider world.

Photograph by Douglas Levere

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MOVED?

Please send address or name changes to Office of Alumni Engagement, University at Buffalo, 201 Harriman Hall, Buffalo, N.Y. 14214, or email ub-alumni@buffalo.edu.

EDITOR'S ESSAY

Being Bold, Every Day

What does it mean to be bold? Our cover sends you to page 22 to find out. That's where you'll find our in-depth feature story on the Boldly Buffalo campaign, the biggest fundraising initiative in the university's history. The campaign is certainly bold—rooted in an inspirational vision of who we are and where we're going, and focused on the ambitious goals of transforming the student experience, empowering our faculty to solve the major challenges of our era, and improving lives in Buffalo and around the world.

But boldness at UB doesn't start or end with a campaign. It's a defining characteristic of who we are as an institution; it was that before we started counting campaign dollars and it will be that long after we've reached our \$650 million goal. That's why you

could turn to almost any page in this issue and find an answer to the question, What does it mean to be bold?

You could turn to page 34, for example, and read about a woman who navigated every obstacle put in her way as a rising executive in the male-dominated retail industry to finally become a CEO—and then left it all behind to lead a nonprofit dedicated to girls. Or to page 15, where you'll discover that the 86-year-old Jim Horne—the former UB basketball star who then played with the Harlem Globetrotters—isn't spending his golden years resting on his impressive laurels; instead he's teaching hundreds of inner-city kids the game of golf, helping to set them on a course to success in life.



DOUGLAS LEVERE

Or to page 38, to learn about the boldly futuristic cryogenics research undertaken by chemist Xiaoxi Wei, who, as a child, saw her grandfather die from cirrhosis of the liver, and determined then and there she was going to discover a better way to preserve organs.

As these and so many other stories in At Buffalo illustrate, we are a tenacious bunch. We pursue our dreams and reinvent ourselves without fear. But it's never just about us; at the root of all our endeavors is the desire to make the world a brighter place. We seek to save lives through more effective organ preservation. We break through barriers of discrimination and then fight to keep the gates open for others. We pass our knowledge and our lessons learned to the next generation, determined to give all young people a chance—in sport and in life.

And that brings us back to page 22. When you give to UB, you're not just supporting an institution. You're investing in a shared belief, backed up by hard work and real discoveries and actual lives improved, that we can, in the words of alumnus and donor West Richter (p. 26), "leave things better than when we arrived."

Laura Silverman, Editorial Director

Thinking Boldly for UB's Brightest Future

This spring, I had the pleasure of announcing the launch of Boldly Buffalo, the largest fundraising campaign in our university's history.

Appropriately, we kicked off our historic campaign during a traditionally festive season for UB, one that began with our final "Accepted Students Day" event of the academic year and concluded with our 172nd annual commencement exercises.

It is fitting that these two occasions bookended our campaign kickoff. With a goal of \$650 million, Boldly Buffalo seeks to

brighter as they go out into the world as UB alumni.

It is always gratifying for me to learn how our alumni are making an impact locally, nationally and internationally. As you strive to make the world a better place, you embody our mission of excellence, and we take no small amount of pride in all that you accomplish.

Your achievements show that you are not content to stand still. You appreciate what it means to be bold. Through your example and support, you are fueling the aspirations of our current and future students.

And we see the difference you are making around every corner of our three campuses.

Your philanthropic giving helped advance the new downtown home of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences from dream to concrete reality. It is why the Murchie Family Fieldhouse is rising up on the North Campus, and why the new Stephen Still Institute for Sustainable Transportation and Logistics is helping us think differently about complex global issues.

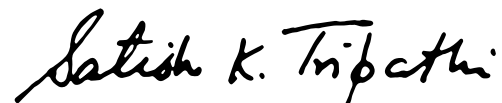
To date, nearly 40,000 alumni have stepped forward to contribute to the Boldly Buffalo campaign. Your support—big, small, strategic, targeted—goes to work in profound ways. For instance, your gifts to the UB Fund have made it possible for our medical students to deliver care to Buffalo's homeless, improving outcomes for one of society's most vulnerable populations. Your forward-thinking commitment has allowed our students to present their scholarship at professional conferences in their respective fields. It has initiated student projects that have reduced UB's carbon footprint.

As a member of our incredible alumni community, you help write UB's ongoing success story each and every day.

And like your alma mater, you recognize that this is no time for us to rest. Even as UB's reputation continues to rise, we still have big dreams, ambitious visions and much to accomplish in the years ahead.

On behalf of our entire university, thank you for your contributions, your support and your generosity.

Together, we will reach the bold goals we have set for our university—goals that will power a promising future for all the communities we serve, near and far.



Satish K. Tripathi, President

enhance the arc of the UB experience, from the moment our students set foot on campus to the day they walk across stage at graduation.

How will we accomplish this?

By increasing the availability of experiential learning programs. By making our transformative education more accessible through increased scholarships. By building and modernizing the places and spaces where our students learn, discover and create. By investing in our world-class faculty, who inspire the next generation of change-makers to follow their lead.

In short, this unprecedented campaign—one of my top priorities as UB president—will help our students shine even

President Tripathi and his wife, Kamlesh, celebrate the campaign kickoff with Honorary Campaign Co-Chair Jeremy Jacobs.



MARLEIGH FOREST/TUWICK

We want to hear from you!

Send letters and comments to atbuffalomagazine@buffalo.edu with the subject heading "Letters." Or mail to Editor, At Buffalo, 330 Crofts Hall, Buffalo, N.Y. 14260. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity. Please include a daytime phone number for verification.



Grotjan Gets Her Due

"An American Hero" [Spring 2018] is absolutely great. Ann Whitcher is a wonderful researcher and writer, and I am so glad to see this information getting out. Of all the pioneering women codebreakers, Genevieve Grotjan is the one about whom so little is known, and At Buffalo has done an excellent job helping to fill in the historical record.

Liza Mundy
Arlington, Va.

Mundy is the author of "Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II."

I loved the article on Genevieve Grotjan's codebreaking! That's what I did for five years as a cryptanalyst and Chinese Mandarin linguist in the USAF Security Service, an arm of NSA. The depth of research and explanation of complex concepts are remarkable, making this piece easy to understand and a pleasure to read.

Ken Hood (MLS '81, MA '79)
Kenmore, N.Y.

Hood is facilities planning and management officer for the UB Libraries.

A Polarizing Figure

History is more complicated than people realize. As a UB grad who majored in history, I appreciate this more than most. The events which led to Millard Fillmore signing the Compromise of 1850 ["A Commemoration in Context," Spring 2018] are complex. In June 1850 a convention of Southern states considered secession. The increasing factionalism created a national crisis as Millard Fillmore became president. Sens. Clay, Calhoun and Webster worked hard to reach a new compromise, which included the Fugitive Slave Act. The perception was that to avoid civil war, Fillmore had to sign the Compromise of 1850.

Louise T. Gantress (BA '69)
Armonk, N.Y.

It's time to recognize what Millard Fillmore really stood for. Anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic and worst of all, the signing of the Fugitive Slave Act. It's time to consider renaming buildings, streets and hospitals. If Confederate flags hanging in the South are controversial, why is it OK to honor Fillmore?

Cynthia Silverstein (EdM '82)
Buffalo, N.Y.

Sad About Schoellkopf

It is very sad for me to learn of the planned removal of Schoellkopf Hall, UB's first dormitory ["A Sense of Place," Spring 2018]. My roommate and I were among the first students to move from off-campus housing into the hall in January 1953, my last semester at UB. We couldn't wait! On college campuses in that era of innocence, we had a self-governing system to maintain discipline, and I was elected "alderman" of Schoellkopf, which ensured that there was no discipline. I don't remember what the rent was, but I believe it was \$5 a week. I can't believe that this shiny new modern miracle (for us) is going to disappear. Thank you, Schoellkopf Hall, and UB, for being our home.

Vincent "Jim" Cipollaro (BA '53)
New York, N.Y.

Setting the Record Straight

In the recent article "Gone With the Windmills" [Spring 2018], the statement was made that Costa Rica "has announced plans to become the first carbon-neutral country in the world." This statement is misleading since there already exists not only a carbon-neutral country but an actual carbon-negative one. That country is Bhutan. I heartily applaud Costa Rica's movement in this direction but I believe it's important to give recognition to this very special Asian nation for its environmental stewardship.

Paul Penner (PhD '94, MA '92 & BS '65)
Silver Lake, N.Y.

Ed: We agree, and regret the error.

From the Editor's Desk

"What Did They Die From?" That was the answer to our Spring 2018 pop quiz, in which readers had to name the offbeat honors seminar taught by the late Peter Nickerson, a beloved professor in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

As our winner, **Melissa Whitford (BS '01) of Pittsford, N.Y.**, recalls, "It was a fun and interesting class, and it still comes up in conversations to this day." Whitford, whose name was randomly chosen from the correct submissions, will receive an At Buffalo mug.



Bullhorn

Life at UB,
on and off
campus

Engineers at play [p8](#)

Fixer-uppers [p9](#)

Let's get physical [p10](#)

Compiled by Sally Jarzab. Written by Sally Jarzab and Andrew Coddington



Cosplayers, or costumed players, competed for the top prize at UBCon XXIX.

Family of Fans

A ninja, a space princess
and a T. rex walk into the
Student Union ...

By Andrew Coddington » “What time is it? It’s Adventure Time!” shouted host Kaitlyn Johnson, a senior, into the microphone. The audience erupted in cheers. If ever there was a group who could appreciate the reference to the cartoon series, it was this one, gathered in the Student Union theater in April to watch the 29th annual UBCon cosplay contest. For the next hour, contestants dressed in an array of elaborate, mostly handmade costumes drawn from their favorite fandoms strutted across the stage as if it were a catwalk.

The cosplay, or “costumed player,” contest is among the most popular events held during UBCon, the university’s own multimedia fan convention. This year, the three-day affair welcomed more than 2,000 gamers, anime aficionados, manga maniacs, creative cosplayers and

other fans to the North Campus to take part in a boggling array of activities. Among the 200-plus scheduled events: tabletop, card and videogame matches; two overnight Nerf wars; displays of original art and merchandise offered by dozens of vendors; and numerous panels, workshops and signings featuring celebrity guests, such as actor and author Spike Spencer, who has dozens of credits in movies and games, like *World of Warcraft*.

“It’s all about community,” says senior Brendan Loos, vice president of the UB Strategists and Role Players Association (SARPA) and this year’s UBCon director. “It may be run by a small team of undergrad students, but in reality, it’s more of a community project that’s 29 years in the making.”

CONTINUED

Bullhorn

The roots of that community run deep, as many organizers continue to mentor new generations of students in the ways of the Con. Over the nearly 30 years the convention has been around, David Schwartz has missed only two. Schwartz helped run events like the cosplay contest as a student here in the early 2000s and has returned many times to serve as emcee. This year he was invited to serve on the guest judges panel. Introduced alongside professional cosplayers, Schwartz received the longest and loudest applause by far.

"I'm 40 now," Schwartz says. "But to have the younger generation still remember me and appreciate what I did ... it was absolutely unreal," he says, admitting that the show of support brought a tear to his eye.

The high-running emotions are a testament to the bonds that students past and present form with one another through their shared interests. Says Loos: "If not for this, a lot of people—myself included—might have stayed in their dorm room all day and not branched out. It welcomed me in as a lost freshman, as it did for many before me, and as it will for many after me." 🗣️



DOUGLAS LEVER



DOUGLAS LEVER

Where else but at UBCon can you duke it out in medieval-style battles (top) or meet furries on a stroll down the Spine (bottom)?



MEREDITH FOREST KILWICKI

There's an egg in there!

UB Bucket List

(100 things every student should do before graduating)

NO.

18

ENGINEERS WEEK Who says engineers don't know how to have fun? Each February, a weeklong celebration organized by UB's student engineering clubs turns work into play through a series of competitions, including 3-D printed boat races, spaghetti-tower building contests and three-story egg drops. In the main event, Robot Wars (below), custom-built remote-controlled robots battle in a scaled-down arena while a crowd of onlookers cheers them on.



MEREDITH FOREST KILWICKI

*In case you missed it

ICYMI

(Good news worth sharing)

RANK YOU VERY MUCH. In its 2019 ranking of “America’s Best Graduate Schools,” U.S. News & World Report placed several UB programs among the finest in the nation, with the School of Social Work now claiming a spot in the top 25.

BUILDING SOLUTIONS. A School of Architecture and Planning initiative will address a critical need for affordable housing by having students and faculty plan, design and construct housing prototypes in underserved Buffalo neighborhoods, replicable around the country.

SEASONED EXPERTS AND RISING STARS. Five UB faculty have been named SUNY Distinguished Professors, the highest faculty achievement in the SUNY system:

Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Christopher Cohan
Steven J. Fliesler
Zhen Yan

School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Stelios Andreadis
Andrew Whittaker

Another five UB faculty have earned 2018 CAREER awards, the National Science Foundation’s highest accolade for junior faculty:

School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Johannes Hachmann
Oliver Kennedy
Lukasz Ziarek

School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Juliane Nguyen

College of Arts and Sciences

Luis Velarde



ALEXANDER J. BECKER

The Affordable Housing Initiative kicked off with a symposium in April.

ONE-LINER “Nothing went into ‘The Handmaid’s Tale,’ the novel, and nothing goes into ‘The Handmaid’s Tale,’ the TV series, that does not have a precedent in real life.”

Award-winning author Margaret Atwood, best known for dystopian novels like “The Handmaid’s Tale” and the “MaddAddam” trilogy, speaking at UB on the importance of the humanities to the survival of humanity

Mending the Planet, One Item at a Time

In March, UB hosted a Repair Fair in the Student Union to encourage a more sustainable approach to the goods we consume. The community event enlisted the help of volunteer “fixers” who set to work on visitors’ busted appliances, fried electronics, worn-out clothing and more. “Although not everyone can do huge things, we can all incorporate green practices and choices little by little into our daily lives,” says UB staff member Carrie Zaenglein, who was on hand to repair jewelry at the event. “Together, we can fix a broken system.”



DOUGLAS LEVIERE

Above: Volunteer fixers Fran Sullivan (MS '81) and student Martin Seeger. Inset at left: UB staff member Carrie Zaenglein.



Rec'ing Crew

UB's Division of Athletics has launched a new website dedicated to the recreation programs, classes and intramural leagues offered at UB's many athletics facilities, from the 6,900-square-foot Fitness Center (left), indoor jogging track and 50-meter pool in Alumni Arena to the Clark Hall squash court and soft-ball diamonds. Memberships are available to everyone, and alumni get discount pricing. Visit buffalo.edu/recreation to learn more.

A sampling of available classes to get you moving:

- » Barre
- » BodyCombat
- » Country Heat Live
- » Hatha Yoga
- » Muscle Make-Over

PAUL HOKANSON

351,805,356

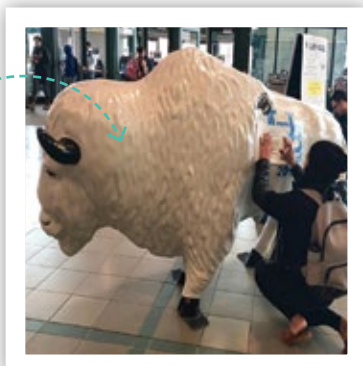
» That's almost 15 percent over last year!

The collective number of steps logged during the month of April by the 1,725 participants in the School of Public Health and Health Professions' 2018 Step Challenge, an initiative to get the UB community on its feet.

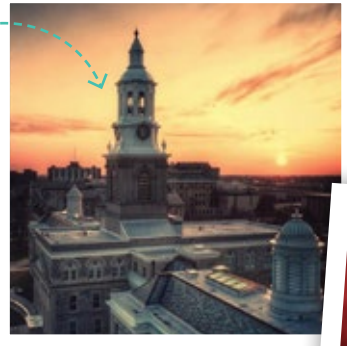


Instaworthy Our best Instagram snaps from UB and around the world. Tag up with #Good2BeBlue or #UBuffalo.

Graduating seniors sign off in style.
@UNIVERSITYATBUFFALO



A stunning sunset is the perfect backdrop for Hayes Hall.
@K290



The 2018 International Fiesta embraced pride as its theme.
NANCY J. PARISI



Celebrating Diversity Day at the World Bazaar.
@UBSTUDENTEXP



Eureka!

[The truth about helium p12](#)

[Why people leave the church p12](#)

[Blockchain 101 p13](#)

From Reality TV to Real Presidency

Parasocial bonding was key to Trump's 2016 victory, says a UB psychologist

By Bert Gambini » Ever since Donald Trump won the 2016 presidential election, political experts have been debating how it happened. One critical factor often overlooked, says UB psychologist Shira Gabriel, is Trump's 14-year reign as a reality TV star.

"I strongly believe that Donald Trump would not be president if it weren't for his being on 'The Apprentice' and 'The Celebrity Apprentice,'" says Gabriel, lead author of a recent study, published in the journal "Social Psychological and Personality Science," that examines how parasocial bonds people forged with Trump through their television sets contributed to his victory.

A parasocial bond is a one-sided relationship formed with a person one has never met; it could be a celebrity, a media personality, even a fictional character. The relationship is not reciprocated, but the bond is keenly felt. And though parasocial bonds can be formed in many ways, television is a particularly potent and immersive multisensory medium. In a way, says Gabriel, television mimics reality in that relationships develop slowly over time at regular intervals.

"We feel like we know these people," she says. "We feel interested in their lives and happy when good things happen to them. Logically, that doesn't make sense, but we still feel connected to them when we spend time with them—and it's a relatively healthy and common thing to do."

Gabriel has been conducting research on parasocial bonding for the past decade. For this study, she and her co-authors used an online survey to gather information from 521 voters, including how much they watched Trump's shows, how they feel about him generally and whether they believed his campaign promises. They also asked for party affiliation and voting behavior, and measured each participant's tendency to get emotionally involved in their favorite TV shows.

Results showed compelling evidence that parasocial bonding led people to like Trump, to believe the promises he made and to discount the negative stories about him that surfaced during the campaign, says Gabriel. They also revealed a correlation with

CONTINUED

Eureka!

voting behavior: The more people watched Trump on his reality shows, the more likely they were to form bonds, which in turn predicted whether they would vote for him.

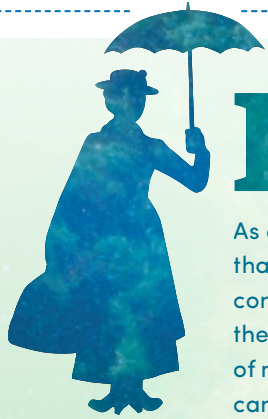
Gabriel wasn't overly surprised by the results. "The mass of shows is amazing," she points out. "Fourteen seasons of hourlong episodes presenting Trump as a calm, infallible decision-maker, who listened to others but came to his own conclusions." People who "got to know" Trump through his character on TV grew to like him; when he ran for office, they believed

many of his campaign promises, as if trusting the word of a friend. And much as they would do for a friend, when negative stories about Trump surfaced, they were less likely to be influenced by them.

"This makes sense," Gabriel says. "It's how we would behave with real relationships. For example, if you had a friend in real life for 14 years and saw evidence, again and again, that he was a great leader and decision-maker, exhibiting wise and sound behavior, you would be likely to discount negative things said about that friend because you

would feel as if you knew him better."

The research also helps explain the most surprising Trump supporters—those who crossed party lines to vote for him. Parasocial bonding proved to be an especially strong predictor of voting among Trump backers who weren't lifelong Republicans. In other words, the study suggests that some people who would not have chosen Trump for political reasons felt that they knew him and liked him due to "The Apprentice"—and voted for him because of that. **E**



HELIUM AS A NANNY

As anyone who took high school chemistry knows, helium is a noble gas, an element too "aloof" to react with others. Turns out that was wrong. New research by UB chemistry professor Eva Zurek and others, inspired by an earlier study that got helium to combine with sodium, indicates that helium might be playing an important role in the formation of stable solid compounds—the myriad combinations of chemical elements that create all kinds of materials. When a compound contains unequal numbers of negatively and positively charged ions (the blue and green circles below), repulsion between them creates instability. Helium can stabilize the compound by inserting itself between the clashing ions, much the way a nanny can settle the back seat of a car by sitting between bickering kids.

Chemical compound with **REPELLING IONS** (A_2B)



Same chemical compound with **HELIUM** as a buffer between repelling ions (A_2BHe)



Beaker Briefs

Research highlights from the desk, lab and field in 50 words or less

By Andrew Coddington



High Tech Meets Ancient Art

Inspired by kirigami, a variation of origami, a UB-led research team is designing flexible electronic components that can expand and contract like an accordion while maintaining strength and increasing conductivity. The innovation could improve a host of new technologies, including electronic skin, bendable screens and smart clothing.

LED BY: Mechanical and aerospace engineering researcher Shenqiang Ren

A Sigh of Relief

A 15-year UB study of COPD is yielding unprecedented insights into its most harmful pathogen. Samples collected monthly from 192 patients revealed how it adapts to human airways in real time, creating hundreds of unique strains. Now that researchers know the wily bug's secrets, they can focus on eliminating it.

LED BY: Medicine researcher Timothy Murphy

Losing Their Religion

Is the political polarization that's dividing America like the Red Sea also driving down church membership? UB research found that partisanship is not a major impetus for departing congregants. Churches are rarely influenced by outside factors, and those who are leaving were generally on the periphery to begin with.

LED BY: Political science researcher Jacob Neihsel



60 SECONDS WITH Bina Ramamurthy

Interview by Andrew Coddington

Blockbuster

Cryptocurrencies like bitcoin are generating mega-buzz these days with accounts of fortunes won, and lost, on the many volatile digital exchanges. But according to Bina Ramamurthy, UB associate professor of computer science and engineering, the real story is blockchain, the technology that underlies these currencies. Ramamurthy taught a wildly popular course on the technology during the winter session and in April organized Buffalo's first blockchain "buildathon," in which hundreds of students and tech enthusiasts gathered to write new applications for the platform.

What is blockchain and how does it work?

Blockchain is a trust model that enables entities that are not necessarily known to each other to interact directly, peer-to-peer. It does this via a distributed, immutable ledger that all of the peers on the blockchain have a copy of and validate. The individual items on the ledger—the blocks—are encrypted, so only people involved in the transaction can read it. All of this is automatically implemented using software algorithms, which makes it absolutely efficient and removes the need for intermediaries, like banks or governments. So, the three aspects of blockchain are decentralization, disintermediation and distributed, immutable ledger: D, D, D!

What problems does this technology address?

Blockchain was actually created by cryptocurrency folks, and it began with one particular cryptocurrency: bitcoin. Bitcoin is the currency, but blockchain is the underlying infrastructure. Bitcoin was released in January 2009 when everything was crumbling down on Wall Street. So you can see the benefits of peer-to-peer, decentralized transactions—no intermediaries like banks—and a distributed, open ledger.

Are there applications other than cryptocurrencies?

Around 2013, a few other technical folks introduced what is called a smart contract. It piggybacked on

bitcoin, essentially giving it a more useful spin by allowing for transactions around utilities and services to be recorded on the ledger in addition to cryptocurrency. That's where we are right now. In the future, government services will be one of the prominent applications for blockchain. Because blockchain protocol is all about verification, validation and agreement on what goes on it, and it all takes place instantly, many operations of government—like going to the DMV—will be streamlined: ownership and management of assets, such as art, or authenticity of collections, land deeds. The foundation for this technology is in computer science, but the applications are in everything.

Sounds promising!

We are at the infancy of this technology. Blockchain has tremendous potential for inclusive applications, and you want to be included in them. Everyone on the planet will be peers who are interacting directly. Just like the smartphone leapfrogged so many societies into a new connected world, the hope is that blockchain will leapfrog everybody. Think about it: one identity for everybody in the world—global citizenship—with individuals united on the blockchain, contributing to and benefitting from being a part of the world. The focus is on taking everybody there. **B**

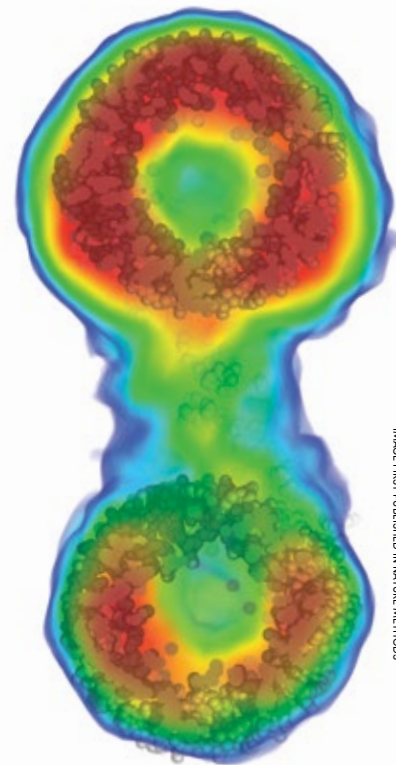


IMAGE FIRST PUBLISHED IN NATURE METHODS

SMALL WONDERS By Charlotte Hsu

The Inner Life of Molecules

A powerful new imaging method—developed by UB structural biology researcher Thomas D. Grant—reveals a biological molecule's intricate internal structure in red, orange and yellow. Until now, scientists would have been able to view only the blue outline. Grant's technique employs math to capture data that other visualization tools miss. His method dramatically improves how scientists "see inside" viruses, proteins and other molecules, opening the door for exciting innovations in fields from astronomy to drug discovery. "Like being able to see all of a person's facial features instead of just the silhouette of their face, this added information will enable researchers to better understand molecular structures," Grant says.



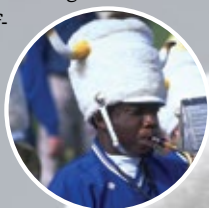
PHOTO: DOUGLAS LEVIERE. BACKGROUND IMAGE: DEPOSITPHOTOS

This quirky busby had a short but sweet life with the UB Marching Band

The March of Fashion

Found in the University Archives in a collection simply dated “ca. 1935-,” this hat (main image) had us scratching our heads. Especially when the only photos we could find of the UB Marching Band wearing horned busbies showed a slightly different “banded” version (inset).

The photos were from 1999 and 2000, so we



reached out to Mark Flynn, the band’s director at the time. As Flynn explains, the band had a “very small budget,” having just been reinstated following UB’s return to Division I-A play after a 29-year hiatus, “so equipment and uniforms were whatever we could borrow.”

The busbies in the photos were donated by a local high school; the band added the horns.

The band started using cavalier-style hats at halftime, but the busbies were popular as a pregame hat, so the university ordered a new batch, without the band in the middle. In 2004, under current director James Mauck, the band ordered all-new uniforms, and that was the end of the horned headwear.



DOUGLAS LEVINE

To the Beat of Its Own Drum

Of the several iterations of the UB Marching Band, first formed shortly after World War I, the 1960s version known as the “Pride of the East” generated the most acclaim—and the most controversy. Considered one of the best marching bands on the East Coast, it represented New York State at Richard Nixon’s inaugural parade in 1969. Just one year later, the band returned to the spotlight with a contentious halftime show at Rotary Field using peace-themed music and formations to protest the Vietnam War. ABC, which was televising the game, switched its cameras to views of Bailey Avenue.

Marching Band Fashion 101

Marching bands, and marching band fashions, have their roots in the military. Starting in the 19th century, in part influenced by Napoleon’s army, military uniforms took on more elaborate styles with a single-breasted “coatee,” braided epaulets, ceremonial swords and a bell crown cap with a colored feather or plant on top signifying the soldier’s branch. Due to costs, the lavish uniforms were eventually consigned to regimental bands. When the military had no more use for these bands, they found a new home at universities—and brought their sense of style with them.



No Snooze Button in Space

UB was without a marching band from the early ’70s through 1999, but in 1981, four years after the Bulls returned to football at Division III, the UB Pep Band formed. In 1989, it staked its own claim to fame when it was approached by NASA to record the UB “Victory March.” The recording was played on the space shuttle Atlantis to awaken crew member and UB alumna Ellen Shulman Baker (BA ’74)—part of a NASA tradition of waking up astronauts with music—and it ended with the band shouting, “Wake up, Ellen!”



LockerRoom

New Bull in town p16

Gaming glory p16

Getting their kicks p17

Opportunity Fore All

A legend on the hardwood, Jim Horne is now changing lives on the green

By David J. Hill » It's mid-morning on a wintry Saturday in Amherst, N.Y. But inside the Wehrle Golf Dome, Monique McIntosh is relaxing in a cushioned chair, book in hand, while her 12-year-old son, Gyan, gleefully swings at some golf balls, the "tink" of impact echoing throughout the dome.

A self-described "mama bear," McIntosh is comfortable taking her attention off her son for 90 minutes because she knows he's in the capable hands of Jim Horne (EDB '55). "He gives the kids the best of him," she says. "All his heart is put into the foundation."

She's referring to the Jim Horne Golf Foundation of Western New York, through which Horne has given hundreds of inner-city kids like Gyan a chance to try a sport they'd otherwise have little opportunity to play—and for free. The foundation supplies the equipment; all the parents have to do is bring their child and relax.

Horne, who is 86, has been doing this work for almost 25 years, mostly out of the public eye. It stands in contrast to his younger self. He was a celebrated basketball player at UB in the 1950s; his name is sprinkled throughout the Bulls record books and his retired No. 13 jersey hangs on display in the Alumni Arena rafters. After UB, he spent seven years with the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters before settling into a career with the New York State Department of Labor.

DOUGLAS LEVINE

CONTINUED

Buffalo stance: Jim Horne helps Gyan McIntosh perfect his swing.

Locker Room

Malcolm Eiken, Horne's basketball coach at UB, introduced him to golf while he was a student-athlete. "I was horrible," Horne recalls of his first outing. "Here I was, a star athlete, and I couldn't hit the ball for nothing." But he was hooked and spent years perfecting his swing.

A few years after retiring from the state in 1991, Horne began offering golf lessons to a handful of Buffalo kids. At the time, he had no intention of establishing a foundation. "I was just trying to introduce some inner-city kids to golf," he says. "But once I got into it, it just became so rewarding. I was providing a service to young people who had never had a chance to get involved with this sport."

Horne and his volunteer staff provide lessons to kids 7 and older at the Wehrle Golf Dome in the winter and at the Airport Driving Range and in Delaware Park in the summer. In addition, the foundation is designated as a Buffalo District Golf Association club, meaning kids can participate in events held at BDGA golf courses across the region.

Dozens of Horne's students have received golf scholarships to college. McIntosh hopes Gyan will become one of them. "It balances him because golf is so much about concentration," she says. For now, she's just grateful for the positive influence Horne is having on her son, who's so excited about his new hobby, the first thing he does when someone comes to their house is show off his golf gear.

Maybe in a few years, it'll be that college scholarship letter he's showing off. 📧



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLIZZARD ENTERTAINMENT

They've Got Game

Five online gamers fall just shy of being the ultimate Heroes of the Dorm

"We thought we'd do well," says UB junior Robert Sands III. "But only in my wildest dreams did I think we'd get this far."

Sands is talking about Heroes of the Dorm, the esports tournament in which collegiate gamers brawl it out in Blizzard Entertainment's multiplayer online battle game Heroes of the Storm. He was one of five players on Improbabull Victory, the UB team that beat out more than 300 other universities to make it all the way to the Grand Final in Burbank, Calif. There, before a packed studio audience and viewers watching around the globe via Twitch livestream, UB finally fell, to Université Laval.

Improbabull Victory—made up of Sands, Jianyu Zhang, Allen Hu and grad students Marc Coiro and Justin Goo—went 16-2 in tournament play en route to the final, beating the likes of UC Irvine, Michigan and Cal Poly Pomona. Not bad for a team one Blizzard exec called "an insane underdog."



Above: The UB team dabs its way into Blizzard Arena in Burbank, Calif. Right (from left): Robert Sands III, Justin Goo, Allen Hu, Jianyu Zhang and Marc Coiro.



TWEETABULL: Congrats to @UBAthletics on winning a New York Emmy Award for its behind-the-scenes TV series "UB Football Insider: Training Camp Edition."

Alnutt joins the Bulls family as new AD

Mark Alnutt was named UB's new director of athletics in March, succeeding Allen Greene, who left for the same post at Auburn. A former Division I football player—he was a linebacker and tight end at Missouri—Alnutt joins UB from the University of Memphis, where he was deputy AD. Alnutt helped Memphis achieve a \$40 million capital campaign and assisted in developing the Tigers' \$45 million athletics program. The Kansas City native joined UB at the perfect time. Both Bulls basketball teams posted historic seasons that garnered national attention, and several other sports are faring increasingly well. "The positive trajectory of this athletics program is second to none," Alnutt said in a written statement.

Mark Alnutt has his UB horns up at his introductory news conference in March.



MEREDITH FORRESTER KULWICKI

The Clubhouse

Stats from right, center and left field

Compiled by Michael Flatt



On to the NCAAs

Women's tennis earned its second straight NCAA Tournament appearance after topping Miami to win the MAC tourney title. The Bulls also tied the program record for wins (17), and captured their first MAC regular-season title.

17

Dynamic Duo

After beating ranked pairs from Columbia and Harvard, Petr Vodak and Vidit Vaghela were elevated to 64th out of 90 by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, becoming UB's first doubles team to be nationally ranked. Keep taking it to those Ivy Leaguers, boys.

64

Power Ball

Ally Power served up five goose eggs against the Eastern Michigan Eagles in March—a near-perfect outing for a pitcher. In the five-inning game cut short by the mercy rule, Power allowed zero hits and struck out five in the first no-hitter by a Bulls softball team since 2014.

0

A Bull Among Bison

Discus thrower Miranda Daucher logged the second-longest throw in the MAC this season and set a facility record at the Bucknell Bison Classic in April, chucking the discus 176 feet 2 inches. That's roughly the length of 352 hot dogs!

176' 2"

Owning the Dream

How soccer-loving alumni turned a fan fantasy into reality

By Jeff Klein

What sports fan hasn't imagined owning their own team? Giving it a name, picking the colors, building up the fan base, becoming a pillar of the community ... it's a reverie worthy of Walter Mitty.

And yet some UB alumni are making it happen. Nick Mendola (BA '05) and Donny Kutzbach (BS '96), along with Scott Frauenhofer, who also attended UB, are the proud owners of FC Buffalo of the National Premier Soccer League (NPSL), a top amateur league in the fourth tier of the U.S. soccer pyramid. They purchased the rights to the football club in 2009 with six other Buffalonians who have since dropped away, leaving the three UB men in charge.

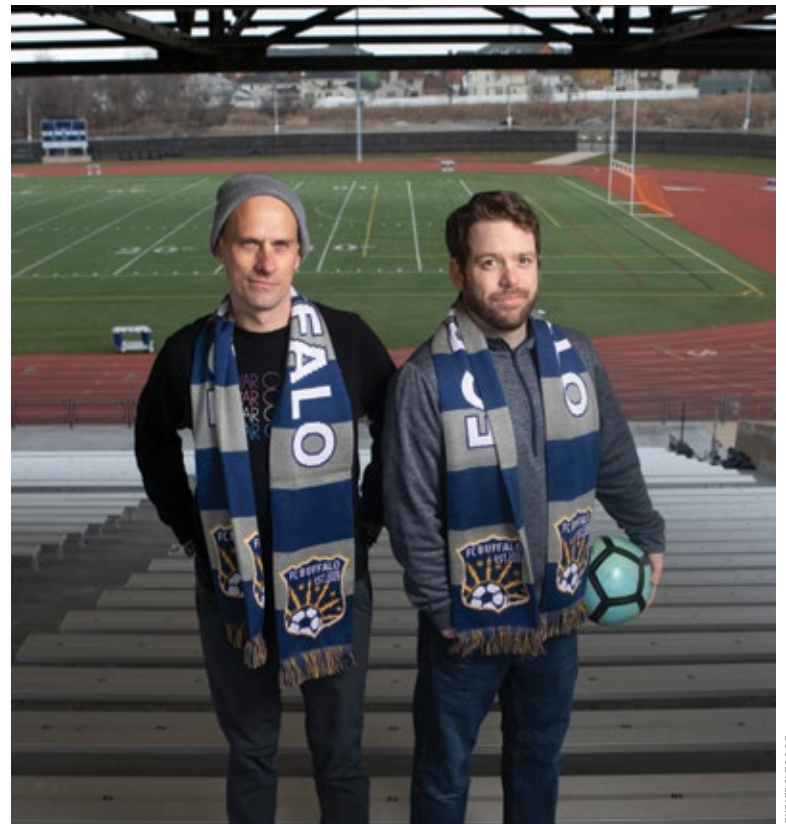
"At its best it's intoxicating," says Mendola, a sports journalist who writes for NBC Sports. "Assembling a roster and hiring coaches, getting the food trucks to come, working the PA. And when we win and you pop on Sam Cooke, 'Bring It On Home to Me'—just looking over the stadium and seeing all the happy people and the happy players..."

Owning a team at this level, however, doesn't mean sitting back,

collecting a paycheck and getting rich. Mendola says it cost about \$1,000 to buy in, but that was just the start. "We had to hire people, buy uniforms, arrange bus charters for games as far away as Indiana, rent All-High Stadium." The overall budget was close to \$70,000 a year. Before commercial sponsors came onboard, the owners had to use a lot of elbow grease to keep costs down.

"For the first few years it was a lot more work than I would've expected," says Kutzbach, who co-owns the Town Ballroom and the booking agency Funtime Presents. "On game day, the nine of us would get to the stadium early. I'd go to the grocery store and buy 50 oranges, 100 granola bars and eight cases of water for the players. I'd end up manning the pizza tables, selling slices. Halftime, here they come, they're all gonna get pizza! We'd bring in the stuff for the locker room, all the equipment, the signage for the game. Zip-tie it up. We'd be pulling up in eight cars, loading, unloading."

All that effort has helped make FC Buffalo—nicknamed the Blitzers, after Buffalonian and UB grad Wolf Blitzer (BA '70)—a small-scale success: Crowds of 100 in the first season



Donny Kutzbach (left) and Nick Mendola at All-High Stadium, FC Buffalo's home ground.

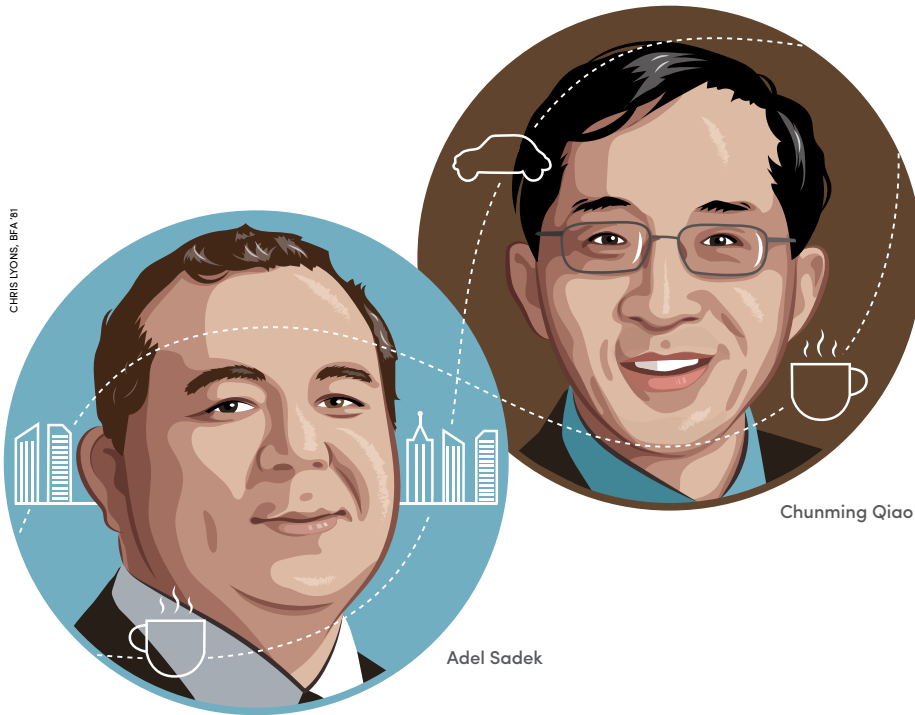
have grown steadily over nine years to the current 1,000-to-1,200 range. Modest, to be sure, but in a city that was utterly bereft of soccer culture when the nine investors first pooled their savings, there is now a loyal cult of singing, flag-waving, scarf-flourishing FC Buffalo fans.

The team's amateur status helps make it a viable venture for the owners. The NPSL is a summer league with rosters comprising mostly NCAA players on break and others

trying to make their way up the soccer pyramid (three FC Buffalo players have been drafted by teams in Major League Soccer, the top-tier league in North America; another player went to the top league in Finland).

A few stick around just because they're into it, like Chris Walter, a Nichols School and Hartwick College grad now in his eighth season with FC Buffalo. "Who wouldn't like playing in front of people who sing their name?" says Mendola. **B**

CHRIS LYONS, BFA '01



How Will Self-Driving Cars Change Cities?

As driverless cars begin to appear on our roadways, experts have started to ponder how their eventual adoption on a large scale will impact cities. What are the implications for land use, highway systems and public transit? More generally, how will urban labor forces and economies be affected? We posed these questions to Adel Sadek, civil engineering professor and associate director of the Stephen Still Institute for Sustainable Transportation and Logistics, and Chunming Qiao, SUNY Distinguished Professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

Adel Sadek: The answers depend on how we're going to use autonomous vehicles. One model is that we use them the same way we use passenger cars, in which case the only big difference would be that we could use our commuting time in a more productive way. If we use them to complement public transportation, that could solve the "first and last mile" problem. Because public transportation follows a fixed route, people need another mode of transportation to get to and from the bus or metro stop; self-driving shuttles could be used to cover those first and last miles. A third model would make transportation a service, so that you wouldn't need to own a car. Think Uber, but with self-driving vehicles.

Chunming Qiao: I don't think we should use Uber as the point of comparison anymore. Waymo, which is owned by Google, is going to be the first company to have these autonomous taxis. In any case, all three models you describe are likely to co-exist. You will always have a need for public transit, while some people will always want to own a car. In terms of energy consumption and miles driven, I think autonomous vehicles will increase both. People will find it convenient and cheap, and so they'll probably go out more. Another study I read said because of the convenience, people won't mind living in the suburbs as much. That of course would increase the miles they have to travel.

AS: Right. It would encourage people to live farther away from the urban core.

CQ: They will travel more often and travel farther.

AS: Exactly. You could be in your vehicle and logged onto your company network, working. You could have the car drive your kids to soccer practice. It could help with the mobility of the elderly and people who are visually

impaired. If all this happens, you have more driving, more demand, more urban sprawl. Cities would get larger in some ways, though the density would be lower. If less space is taken by parking, you can replace that with more businesses. That would make cities more commercial at the core and more residential at the outskirts. None of this would be very sustainable from an environmental standpoint. But if people started adopting the idea of self-driving cars as a service, as shared mobility, or using them to complement an existing public transportation network, there would be a significant drop in the number of passenger cars on the road and that would be sustainable.

CQ: The public transit system could transform itself by embracing autonomous driving. On the other hand, people might say, "Forget about public transit. I'll take the autonomous vehicle all the way." Waymo could potentially wipe out public transit as we know it, and that could be a problem.

AS: You're absolutely correct. A big argument for why you need a public transportation system for people and big vehicles for freight is the labor used to operate them. We use 18-wheelers instead of pickup trucks to move goods because labor is expensive. So once you replace that cost component, you might not need truck drivers, bus drivers or taxi drivers. That might not be a positive from a societal standpoint.

CQ: Automation will inevitably affect certain labor forces. I think the Industrial Revolution has shown that. Political scientists may have a better answer for how to cope with that.

AS: The hope is that there are going to be other industries that spin off of this that would absorb some of these workers, like what happened with the Industrial Revolution. That's why institutions like UB have to rethink how we're going to train the future workforce. But the idea behind automation is not that you're trying to replace the human being; you're trying to find ways to help humans use their time in a more productive way. And from a transportation engineering standpoint, we're hoping automation helps us reduce accidents and fatalities, control traffic better and reduce energy consumption.

CQ: I definitely feel very passionate about the safety issue. They shouldn't allow companies to do on-road testing without showing prior results from simulation or modeling to show that it's safe enough. When human beings want to get a driver's license, they need to pass a test. And right now there's no test for autonomous vehicles. There's no standard test by a third party. This is where we're coming in. We're developing a system that would allow us to test all different kinds of autonomous vehicles, subject them to a standard set of testing scenarios, score them and say if they are safe enough or not. ☺

How do you take your coffee?

Adel: With milk and sugar.

Chunming: I drink tea.

Full Exposure

An expansive new survey of Marion Faller's photography draws well-deserved attention

By Sally Jarzab » “The Unseen Marion Faller” exhibition at Buffalo’s CEPA Gallery, presenting work by the late photographer and UB professor, is resonantly titled. The work is “unseen” in part because many of the show’s pieces have never been presented in a gallery setting—but also in part because Faller’s renown has long been obscured by the captivating figure cast by her husband and frequent artistic collaborator, Hollis Frampton. In fact, fanfare for Frampton is often accompanied by mesmerizing images of him created by Faller, who, behind the lens, is literally unseen.

This show and sale puts Faller (MFA '79) squarely in the limelight. Her work focuses on everyday phenomena from an understated feminist perspective: Viewers see neighborhood markets, children at play, homes decked out for holidays, backyard parties. One group of pictures, titled “Hey Baby, Take My Picture,” shows a variety of guys on the street mugging for the camera. Faller made the series by photographing the men who would call out to her as she walked with her camera in early 1970s New York City.

Faller, who died in 2014, exhibited widely in her lifetime, and her photographs are held in several museum collections. She taught at UB from 1982 to 2006. “Almost every photographer in the area has had a class with her or knew her in some way, so [the show] is very personal,” says Dean Brownrout, the fine art dealer representing Faller’s work.

“Many people have a connection to Marion who haven’t had an opportunity to celebrate her life and work.” The CEPA exhibition, which runs through July 8, is their chance to do just that. **B**

A detail of “Statue of Liberty, Ed Krier’s Independence Day Display, Cheektowaga, NY” (1998)

ARTWORK/PHOTO COURTESY OF CEPA GALLERY





DOUGLAS LEVIERE

From left: "Dig" podcast producers Elizabeth Garner Masarik, Marissa Rhodes, Averill Earls and Sarah Handley-Cousins.

'70s ... that we got a sense of what was going on historically besides what prominent white men were doing.'

The podcast reflects a trend exemplified by period dramas like the TV series "The Alienist," but it has more scholarly goals. "It's about building a bridge between the ivory tower of academia and the public," says Earls. It's also about building a bridge between past and present, as Handley-Cousins explains. "We live in a time when people, no matter where they fall on the political spectrum, are trying to understand how we got here."

Each episode of "Dig" requires a monthlong process of researching, writing, recording and editing. The team divvies up topics according to their individual specialties, though they often present in pairs. Episodes are recorded four at a time in Earls' guest bedroom, and, by midday, "we get a little punchy," laughs Handley-Cousins. (Listeners can enjoy some of their bloopers in a comical outtakes clip at the end of each episode.)

After three years in production, the podcast now boasts subscribers in the thousands. The project earned its producers a Leadership in History Award from the American Association for State and Local History. It's a nice pat on the back for what is essentially a labor of love by four people collectively juggling dissertations, full-time jobs, families and interests as diverse as baking and power lifting. But those crosscurrents give context to their work and underscore their passion for their discipline.

"We love doing this," says Masarik. "It's like lecturing to the world." 📣

Stirring Up the Past

Four UB historians have gained a following with their provocative podcast

By Holly Atkins

Let's face it, people are killed every day," Marissa Rhodes bluntly remarks at the start of a recent episode of "Dig: A History Podcast." "But sometimes crimes and murders strike such a cultural thread that they become sensationalized, and people just can't get enough of the story. And often, that's where history comes into play."

Does it ever. Rhodes (MLS '11) is one of the producers of "Dig," a history podcast that's making a name for itself by bringing listeners a range of riveting tales of the past replete with crime, politics, war and sex. She and the other three producers—Averill Earls (PhD '16), Sarah Handley-Cousins (PhD '16) and Elizabeth Garner Masarik (MA '14)—met as graduate students in UB's history department and are now collectively debunking the myth that history is boring, old news. Says Handley-Cousins, "It just depends on whether or not you can deliver it in the way it deserves."

With "Dig," that means almost a hundred episodes' worth of unconventional topics, well-researched facts, smart insights and funny asides. The goal is to share accounts of the past in a way that matters by going deep into the underlying context, an approach informed by their feminist history orientation. "Women, people of color, immigrants ... are often hard to 'hear' in history," explains Masarik. "For many years, traditional history didn't tell their stories, because their stories weren't on the surface. It wasn't until the 1960s and



Want to hear history from a new perspective? "Dig" has you covered with such episodes as:

- » "Puritan Sex: The Surprising History of Puritans and Sexual Practices"
- » "The Vietnam War, Protest and Liberal Academia: The Buffalo Nine"
- » "Victoria Woodhull: Free Love, Feminism and Finance"
- » "The Cock Lane Ghost: A Haunting Hoax in 18th Century London"
- » "Death, Mud and Guns: Military Revolution and the Birth of Bureaucracy"



TWEETABLE:

@UB_English grad Emily Anderson (PhD '16) was elected to the City Council in Eau Claire, Wis., with a platform that advocated the leadership potential of poets, writers and artists.

The Performance of a Lifetime

By Sally Jarzab

A lasting devotion to making beautiful music together

Like many artists, Joanne Castellani (MFA '76, BFA '74) and Michael Andriaccio (MFA '76, BFA '74) say they love their work. But for these musicians, the sentiment is true on more than one level.

For more than 40 years the pair has played classical guitar as the Castellani Andriaccio Duo. They have performed at venues many people would be excited just to visit—Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the White House. They've recorded 10 albums, two of which earned "best of the year" reviews in *Fanfare* magazine and *American Record Guide*, respectively. The *New York Times* described their rapport as "just about perfect," a good thing given that Castellani and Andriaccio have been

"We're not two people playing; we're one instrument."

MICHAEL ANDRIACCIO

married for almost as long as they've been performing. Both Buffalo natives, the two met as music students in the 1970s. Andriaccio, who comes from a musical family, says he knew notes before he knew the alphabet, and played piano and percussion in addition to guitar. Castellani came to the instrument as a teen by way of folk music. They both intended to pursue concert careers.

"A requirement of the degree program was that we had to do ensembles, and so we put a duo together," recalls Castellani. The new partnership just happened to coincide with classical guitar's first big international convention, taking place in nearby Toronto.

"It was there that we were encouraged to keep the duo going," Castellani says.

"After that, the duo was forever," Andriaccio chimes in.

Even in conversation, the pair display their ensemble style, often answering together, echoing each other's thoughts. It's at the heart of what makes them an exceptional duo.

"We're not a duet—we're a duo. We're not two people playing; we're one instrument," Andriaccio stresses. "That's our trademark. There's a unanimity to what we do, so that when the two of us are together, it takes on a kind of life of its own."

And there has been an astounding amount of life in that life. After graduation, Castellani started the guitar department at Fredonia State, teaching there for eight years and later joining the UB faculty.

In 1996, the pair founded their own record label, *Fleur de Son Classics*, widely recognized as one of the top independent labels for classical music internationally. The diverse roster of artists includes not just classical guitarists but soloists and chamber ensembles of all kinds, as well as large orchestras, like the London Symphony and the Royal Philharmonic. "We recently released our 120th title," notes Andriaccio.

Simultaneously, the pair has been instrumental (pun intended) in the JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition, serving as artistic co-directors of the biennial event, started in 2004, that brings guitarists from around the world to Buffalo to perform in competition for cash prizes, a recording contract, national and international



Michael Andriaccio and Joanne Castellani at the Clement Mansion in Buffalo.

DOUGLAS LEVINE

broadcast exposure, and a return engagement with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

"We've worked on almost everything, from the rules to the repertoire, and we do the recruiting worldwide for the talent and the judges," says Andriaccio. "It has become one of the premier music competitions in the world, and I would say the premier guitar competition."

Despite the fact that they are still very much engaged in all of these activities, Castellani and Andriaccio describe themselves as now being in "legacy mode," working to pass down their passion for classical guitar to future generations. About seven years ago, around the time of Castellani's retirement from UB, they started the Castellani Andriaccio Guitar Studio, a private teaching studio for children and adults that has become the largest of its kind in the state outside of New York City. And while they still occasionally perform and teach at festivals, they no longer engage in what they call the rigors of concertizing.

Reflecting on what may be the proudest accomplishment from their list of many, Castellani and Andriaccio are again in perfect agreement.

"When I look back on all we've done, I think the real beauty is that we've done it together. For me, that's the important thing," Castellani says.

"Yep," says Andriaccio. "I concur." **👍**

WHAT WE'RE STREAMING

Left to Our Own Devices

Ryan McPherson, Chief Sustainability Officer

"I'm watching a documentary series called 'Years of Living Dangerously.' It's an excellent grounding on the effects of climate change, with a little Hollywood star power."





BEHIND

BOLDLY BUFFALO

THE CAMPAIGN FOR UB

A BOLD LEADER FOR A BOLD UNDERTAKING

As the university officially kicks off what it projects will be the largest fundraising initiative in university and SUNY history, UB's new vice president of university advancement talks candidly about the thrills and challenges of steering a multiyear, comprehensive campaign to success, and what it means to be bold.

In a campus-wide celebration on April 30, President Satish K. Tripathi announced to an assembled crowd of students, faculty, staff and alumni from around the world tuning in via Facebook Live that the time had come to be bold. With the launch of the Boldly Buffalo campaign, a university-wide effort to raise \$650 million to support students, faculty and the life-changing work they do for the region and the globe, President Tripathi noted the transformative potential to the university. At the time of launch, alumni, friends and community partners had committed more than two-thirds of the ambitious \$650 million goal; now the university is looking to cross the finish line, in part by engaging the 255,000-plus UB alumni around the world.

For Rodney M. Grabowski, who started at UB late last year as vice president for university advancement, it's all about personal engagement. "When alumni feel connected and a sense of ownership in UB's success, they will seek opportunities to make personal investments," he explains. "That's what we're looking to inspire. We want alumni, and others, to believe in the UB mission and to continually seek new ways to help UB advance. When this happens they have become owners of the university and they are investing for its continued greatness."

A New York State native (he grew up just north of Syracuse), Grabowski is a highly accomplished fundraising professional who comes to UB with more than 25 years of higher education fundraising and campaign experience. Grabowski is acutely aware that inspiring greater philanthropic giving and alumni engagement means the difference between being a very good public research university and being in the highest tier of public research universities. His demonstrated record of exemplary leadership will help UB realize its ambitious and transformative goals. Plus, he believes passionately in the mission of higher education, crediting scholarships and financial aid—and hard work—with his own path to a college degree.

While part of his work will involve working with alumni and friends with the means to invest at transformative levels, Grabowski hopes the campaign will inspire all alumni to partner with the university at whatever level works for them, noting that it will only be through the collective generosity of the broader alumni community that UB will be able to realize

its bold future.

At Buffalo sat down with Grabowski in April to talk about the campaign, its goals and alumni engagement.

AT BUFFALO: Could you start by giving an overview of why the Boldly Buffalo campaign is so important to UB and outline some of the broad goals?

ROD GRABOWSKI: For us, the campaign, first and foremost, is about raising awareness and creating a sense of urgency that our normal day-to-day activity does not engender. The campaign also forces us as an institution to thoughtfully think about the future, where we want to be in five, 10, even 15 years, and how we can best respond to our publics, our mission and our overarching goals. Philanthropic support is a critical way of ensuring that UB will have the resources it needs to do so; gifts from our alumni and friends are a game-changer for us.

That's how the three overarching priority areas for our campaign—Our Students, Our Faculty and Our World—came together.

At UB, our students are at the very heart of everything we do. And we take great pride in their extraordinary achievements. By investing in them from the moment they apply to UB through graduation and beyond, we ensure that we are creating leaders who can navigate an increasingly complex world. The campaign will continue to elevate and support them as they lead the way toward a bolder, brighter future.

Support for our students comes in countless different forms. It could be anything from increased scholarship funds to experiential learning opportunities, modernizing our buildings, even the construction of the athletic field house, which is a lab for our student-athletes; it's where they experiment and practice.



Rod Grabowski

DOUGLAS LEMERE

CONTINUED



ONION STUDIOS

Dan and Gail Alexander

WHAT COMES AROUND GOES AROUND

UB'S VOLUNTEER CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS HAVE SOME VERY PERSONAL REASONS FOR SUPPORTING UB, AND CHAMPIONING OTHERS TO DO THE SAME.

DAN ALEXANDER (MD '99, BA '95) left UB in his junior year, at age 20, to become a Buffalo firefighter, the youngest in the city's history. After seven years on the job, he helped treat a homeless man with an injured wrist. Before an ambulance took him to a hospital, the man grabbed Alexander by the collar and said, "You, sir, should be a doctor!"

The man's words lit a fire in Alexander, who returned to UB, took night classes to finish his BA, then applied to the medical school. By this point, Dan was married to Gail (BS '87), whom he had met at Alumni Arena, and they were starting a family. Getting accepted to medical school changed his life, says Alexander, noting that he grew up in Buffalo in a 600-square-foot house with seven siblings. "We were poor," he recalls. "My mother didn't give us material possessions,

but I grew up with a lot of love, and she taught us the value of education."

Dan became an orthopedic surgeon, and Gail, who holds a finance degree from UB, became practice manager of her husband's business. The couple, co-chairs of the Boldly Buffalo campaign, are giving \$1 million to endow a scholarship for medical students in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, particularly graduates of Buffalo public schools. "Our hope is that our scholarship will support inner-city kids in Buffalo—such as those from my alma mater, Hutch Tech—who want to become caring, compassionate physicians," Alexander says. "I never forgot the chance this university gave me to succeed."

— Mary Cochrane

For our faculty, investments in research and scholarly activity will yield solutions to complex problems—unleashing new discoveries and creativity—and make our world a better place. Through endowed professorships and chairs in a specific discipline, or research funding, or money for the arts and humanities, our faculty are great teachers and even better thinkers. Watch the news on any given night and you'll see a UB expert talking about something—just last night there was a faculty member who had developed a smartphone app that can help in early diagnosis of autism. That's life-changing, and that's what we're investing in when we support our faculty.

The Our World bucket is focused on our outreach and impact across Western New York and beyond. Investments in UB help strengthen our partnership with the revitalized city of Buffalo and ensure that what we are learning and practicing here will lead to innovations that generate real, workable solutions to complex problems worldwide. Think of the impact our architecture and planning students have on revitalizing Buffalo; think of having the funds to send more students on service trips around the world for alternative spring break. The possibilities are endless.

Do you feel a momentum with this campaign, similar to and maybe connected to the momentum some say is accumulating around Western New York?

I do feel it. Being relatively new to Buffalo, it's very noticeable to me that there's a great energy around this university and the community. That's partly what drew me to UB and this opportunity. The region, the university and the people here offer such great promise for the future. And I think that with the public launch of the campaign, we get to really catapult the energy that has been building to new, unprecedented levels.

Buffalo is more than a city. It's a state of mind. And the University at Buffalo is more than a college campus. It's a commitment to the region, the people in this city and to our future. The two are inextricably linked and drive the success of the other. For a public institution that connectedness is essential, and special. You don't get that everywhere.

How is UB unique from other institutions?

I think every university is unique. UB is unique in being the flagship university in the public system here in New York and in being a member of the Association of American Universities [AAU]. I don't know if the community or even the university completely understands how impressive that is, the rigor to get into that association in regard to your research, your faculty, the financial stability of the university ... there are so many different factors. There are only two public universities in New York that are in the AAU, and that's UB and Stony Brook. The privates: Cornell, NYU, Columbia and the University of Rochester. That's it. I think often when you live in the neighborhood you take it for granted. Because you see it all the time, you don't necessarily appreciate how impressive it is. UB is special. Our alumni have great pride in UB and often credit the university for the opportunities it gave them in life.

UB is as much a way as it is a place. It's a way of seeing the world, engaging ideas, inspiring action and taking the lead. When we work together, and lift each other up, we will accomplish amazing things.

What makes the Boldly Buffalo campaign special?

We know that the future of UB is bright, but we still have big dreams, bold visions and much to accomplish in the years ahead. Our students are terrific—many of them are still the first in their families to pursue a college degree. UB's professors are nationally and internationally renowned for their scholarship. They are dedicated teachers, mentors and researchers who share a commitment to problem-solving, making new discoveries and enhancing all of the communities we serve, all over the world. Throughout the city of Buffalo, you can see the impact UB is making, from the construction of new buildings and the creation of new jobs to programs and initiatives that ensure a brighter future for families throughout the region. The campaign showcases these opportunities and provides a road map for all of us to sustain the positive impact our university is having on the world. And it shows how UB is taking the lead and making a meaningful difference. The Boldly Buffalo campaign is our opportunity to work together to ensure that our advancements continue.

Beyond philanthropy, how does the university stay engaged with alumni and even cultivate current students to become engaged alumni once they graduate?

On the alumni side, we offer programming that draws people back into the university. It's not about giving; it's about being engaged in the life of the university. That could be drawing people back to Buffalo for homecoming or a UB Bulls game. It could be engaging our alumni in mentoring programs. It could be volunteer service on a UB board. It also could be participation in a regional alumni gathering or activity. We need to invite current students to be a part of the alumni engagement and philanthropic process as well, and that's one of my priorities as we go forward over the next couple of years. I will go on record and say that we probably, for the first 20 years of SUNY's existence, didn't do a good job of this. I've recently hired two new associate vice presidents in the division, including a new AVP of alumni engagement and annual giving who has a long history of creating those engagement opportunities. Our priority moving forward is to

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Peggy and Jeremy Jacobs

IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

UB'S HONORARY CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS ARE FAMILIAR AND LONGSTANDING SUPPORTERS—AND PROMOTERS—OF THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS HOMETOWN.

CHAIR OF THE UB COUNCIL since 1998, Jeremy M. Jacobs has served UB for three decades. Jacobs, his wife, Peggy, and their family are among the university's most generous benefactors. In 2015, they gave \$30 million to support the medical school. In recognition of the families' long-standing support, the university honored the family by naming the school the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. It was the first school naming in the university's history.

"UB is the regional hub of artistic and cultural expression, the engine of Buffalo's thriving medical industry and source of the city's high-skilled workforce," says Jacobs, who also chairs Delaware North, the global food service and hospitality company, and the board of governors of the National Hockey League (he owns the Boston Bruins). "With this campaign, we have the opportunity to magnify the university's impact on Buffalo."

— MC

UB GIVING DAY: OVER THE TOP

There is a certain expectation that comes from titling the most ambitious fundraising campaign in history Boldly Buffalo. And at UB, we start as we mean to go on. As President Tripathi kicked off the Boldly Buffalo campaign on April 30, he also announced the start of UB Giving Day 2018, a 24-hour blitz that asked members of the UB community near and far to celebrate the university's bold future by making a gift to the university. Steaming toward a goal of 1,846 donors (in honor of UB's founding year), challenges, matching gifts, chances for UB swag, and countless hashtags and likes later, UB Giving Day proved a smashing success and a pretty audacious start for the Boldly Buffalo campaign. Take a look at the impact:

\$321,526

TOTAL AMOUNT
RAISED

1,964

TOTAL NUMBER
OF DONORS

228%

INCREASE
OVER GIVING
DAY 2017
(DOLLARS)

\$164

MEDIAN GIFT
AMOUNT

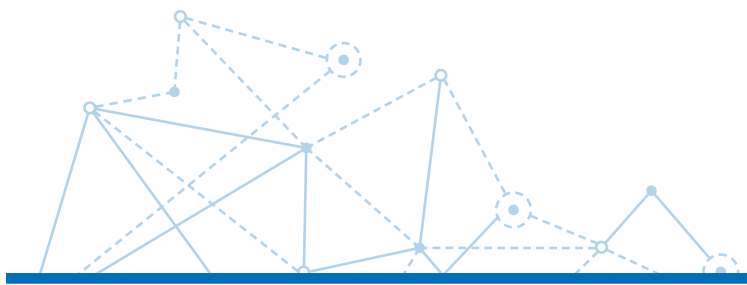
**BEIJING,
CHINA**

FARTHEST
POINT FROM
WHICH A
GIFT WAS
SENT

21,785

NUMBER OF
UB GIVING
DAY VIDEO
VIEWS





GIVING IN EVERY WAY

AS GIFTS TO THE CAMPAIGN COME IN FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE COUNTRY, AND IN MANY DIFFERENT SIZES AND FOR COUNTLESS DIFFERENT PURPOSES, ONE RECENT ALUMNUS REFLECTS ON WHAT INSPIRES HIM TO CONTRIBUTE TO UB'S FUTURE.

West Richter (MusB '13, BS/MBA '13) chose UB because it gave him exactly what he wanted: a place in the Honors College, and the ability to study music performance and business administration at the same time. "UB allowed me to pursue both my passions," Richter says, "and ensured I had an enriching academic and extracurricular experience."

And then it gave him even more. Transitioning to the BS/MBA program, says Richter, provided "a jump-start to graduate school and ultimately to the working world. All of that in an incredibly affordable package made it a win-win."

Now a UB graduate, Richter is giving back in as many ways as he can.

He's a leadership donor, an adjunct professor teaching technology management, a volunteer for the School of Management LeaderCORE program, even a singer at the school's commencement ceremonies, where, he says, "I get to witness graduating students' incredible talent while proudly singing the national anthem and alma mater."

He does all this while working full time for M&T Bank and serving on the boards of the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus and the Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts.

His hope is that his gifts will similarly inspire the next generation of graduates to make the world a better place. "I grew up on the age-old saying that we should leave things better than when we arrived," Richter says. "That truly motivates me to continue my efforts to support UB, which has had a profound impact on my life. If it hadn't been for the support of those who came before me and my peers, I am certain our UB experiences would not have been as rich as they were. We need to keep that legacy going."

And for Richter and many other alumni like him, the Boldly Buffalo campaign provides an opportunity to do just that: come together and make a lasting and truly transformative impact on UB.

— MC



West Richter

DOUGLAS LEVINE

provide meaningful and plentiful opportunities to get involved no matter where alumni are geographically or in life-stage. We want to know them, hear from them and be a part of their lives, and we want them to be a part of ours.

We read about large, seven-figure gifts in the media. What can you say to alumni who might think \$10 won't make a difference?

Think back to when you were in school. Sometimes \$10 is the difference between a student going to class or having to go to work because they need money for food. That's what I would say. Every donor matters. Every donor counts. Every dollar matters to the student. All you have to do is go down to 1Capen and start talking to students about their finances, and you'll realize that it does matter.

What would you say to a potential donor who wants to give but isn't sure how much or how to direct their giving?

First of all, I would want to understand what's important to them. I don't even want to talk about dollar amounts until I find out what's important to the individual. It's critical to ask questions and listen. What was their experience? Why are they interested in giving? Once we figure that out, then a prospective donor will almost always decide what's meaningful. Because that's what we want. We want them to give to something that's meaningful to them. And then they'll be able to determine a meaningful dollar amount based upon what they want to achieve.

There are so many different directions you can go here at UB. That's what's so powerful. You can help our faculty become better teachers. Or you can invest in public health initiatives, or in artificial intelligence research, or driverless car technology. I've sat across the table from people who became multimillion-dollar donors in the end, but in the beginning had no idea what they wanted to give to. They didn't even know how to give money away. And to go on a journey with them in regard to that discovery is exciting. Philanthropic giving can be life-changing for our donors and understanding their personal motivations is key. Many want to pay it forward and help humanity. And UB offers so many opportunities for them to do this.

Do you think public universities across the country will have to rely more and more on philanthropy as state budgets get squeezed by things like the rising cost of health care?

I think that's a given. It's not just across the United States. It's across the world that philanthropy is playing an increasingly important part in how universities, and nonprofits in general, deliver their mission. Universities cannot be stuck at the status quo. We always have to be assessing: How do we improve? What's next? How do we make the experience better for our students? We're on a journey that doesn't have an end.

Why do you think UB will be successful in this effort?

I think UB will be successful because when we announced the campaign, we also announced that we have already raised nearly 70 percent of our total goal. More than \$451 million dollars has been committed to this campaign, and upward of 10,000 people have raised their hand and said count me in, I am making my first gift to UB. And more than 100 individuals have committed gifts of over \$1 million. That illustrates what I said earlier: It is people who are capable and willing to make gifts at all levels who are

going to drive our success. We've already created more than 100 new scholarships and fellowships and added over a dozen new endowed chairs; these are faculty members we never could have brought to UB without support from our donors.

And the more I get to know UB alumni, and in fact our entire extended community, the more I know how much UB pride is out there. There is also a lot of faith in the leadership and vision at this university. We have the president and deans and a provost who are educational innovators, but are also incredibly committed to our students' success and to ensuring that we are the kind of community partner that Buffalo and Western New York need right now.

And I have to note that we have more than 60 alumni volunteers who have stepped up and said to us: Let us help you connect with alumni and friends of the university who will help make this campaign a success. Led by alumni Dan and Gail Alexander, our campaign steering committee members are the ambassadors we need to go out and talk, in many cases from a very personal perspective or experience, about why UB is special. And why it's worthy of investment.

Here, philanthropy is what I consider budget-enhancing; we're not budget-balancing. It's the perfect marriage of public and private investment, each leveraging the other.

What challenges are you and your team facing as you work to successfully finish this campaign?

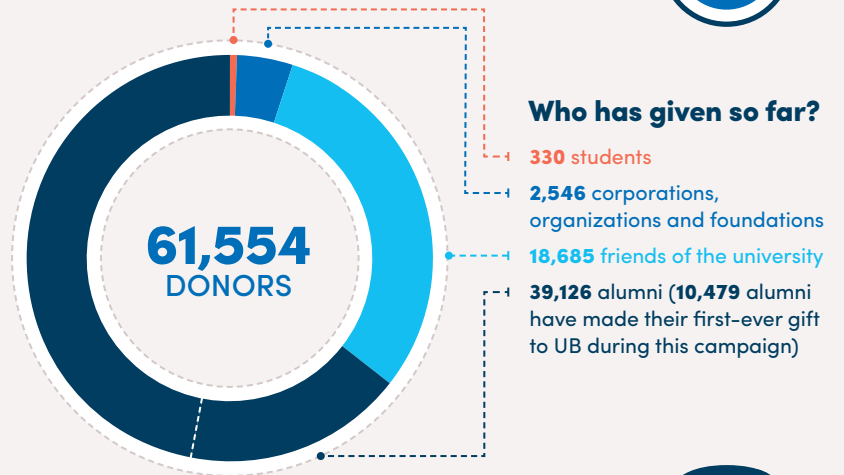
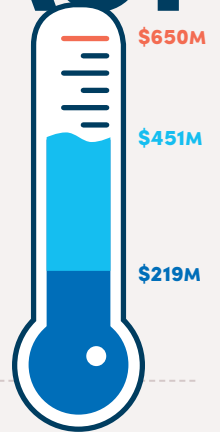
As I said earlier, I think UB has not always done the best job of telling our story and keeping our alumni and community engaged with our work. Plus, it's been nearly two decades since we have launched a campaign, so a lot of our alumni and friends don't know what to expect in an undertaking like this. When we are looking to engender support and build meaningful relationships, all those things take time. I know from my conversations with our team, and the alumni I have been fortunate enough to meet, that there is a lot of UB pride among the alumni we know. Where we need to start building those new relationships is with those alumni who may not be attending our events or networking with other UB graduates, so we'll be reaching out to them to learn their stories and talk about how we can build mutually beneficial relationships. None of these are challenges that are insurmountable, but it will take focus, hard work and the involvement of many to make this campaign successful.

What else would you like alumni readers to know about the campaign?

If you are already involved with UB, thank you. If you are not, take a chance, get involved. There are so many opportunities for alumni to be involved with UB and take an active role in ensuring that UB's future is as bright as it can be. With your support, UB will be even greater, stronger and bolder than it is today. With your help, we will give more students life-changing scholarships. We will empower our faculty to think bigger and go further. With your help, we will continue to make life better for our neighbors in Buffalo and far beyond. I ask that you step forward and show the world what UB means to you. Think of all that the University at Buffalo is and all that it can be, and help shape the UB of the future. And then join me—join all of us—as champions of this great institution. Our campaign tag line says it all: This is our place, this is our way, and this is our future. Together, we are Boldly Buffalo! 🎓

THE BOLD IMPACT OF YOUR GIFTS

Modern university fundraising campaigns are multi-year all-out efforts to raise funds and build pride. At the public launch of the Boldly Buffalo campaign in April, we were able to announce we had already raised upward of **\$451 MILLION**, more than **\$219 MILLION** of which was contributed by alumni. In other words, we were more than two-thirds of the way to our goal of **\$650 MILLION**.

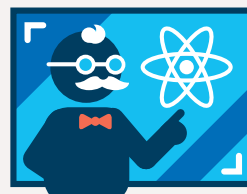


MORE THAN 100 donors have pledged gifts of **\$1 million or more**



Even more important than total dollars raised is how those contributions are making a difference for our students, our faculty and our world.

What has the campaign achieved so far?



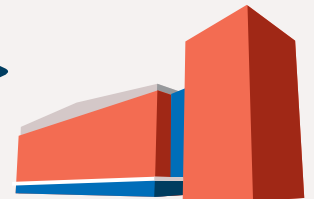
13

NEW CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS
Endowed positions attract world-class faculty to UB



109

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS
Support makes a transformative educational experience accessible to all students



5

NEW OR RENOVATED BUILDINGS
Including the cutting-edge downtown home for the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

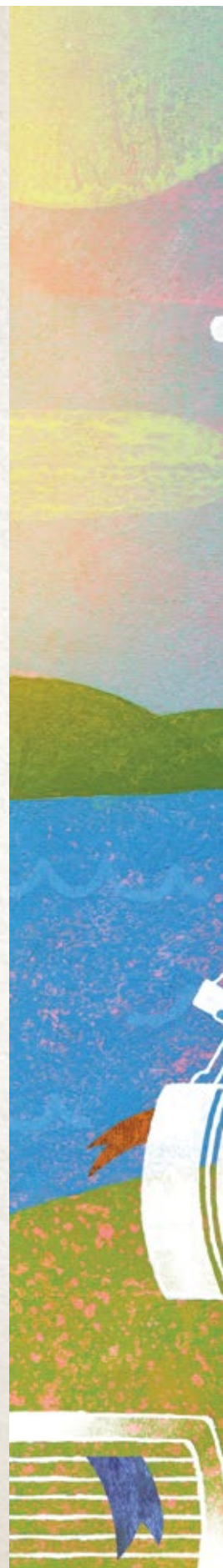
At Buffalo's

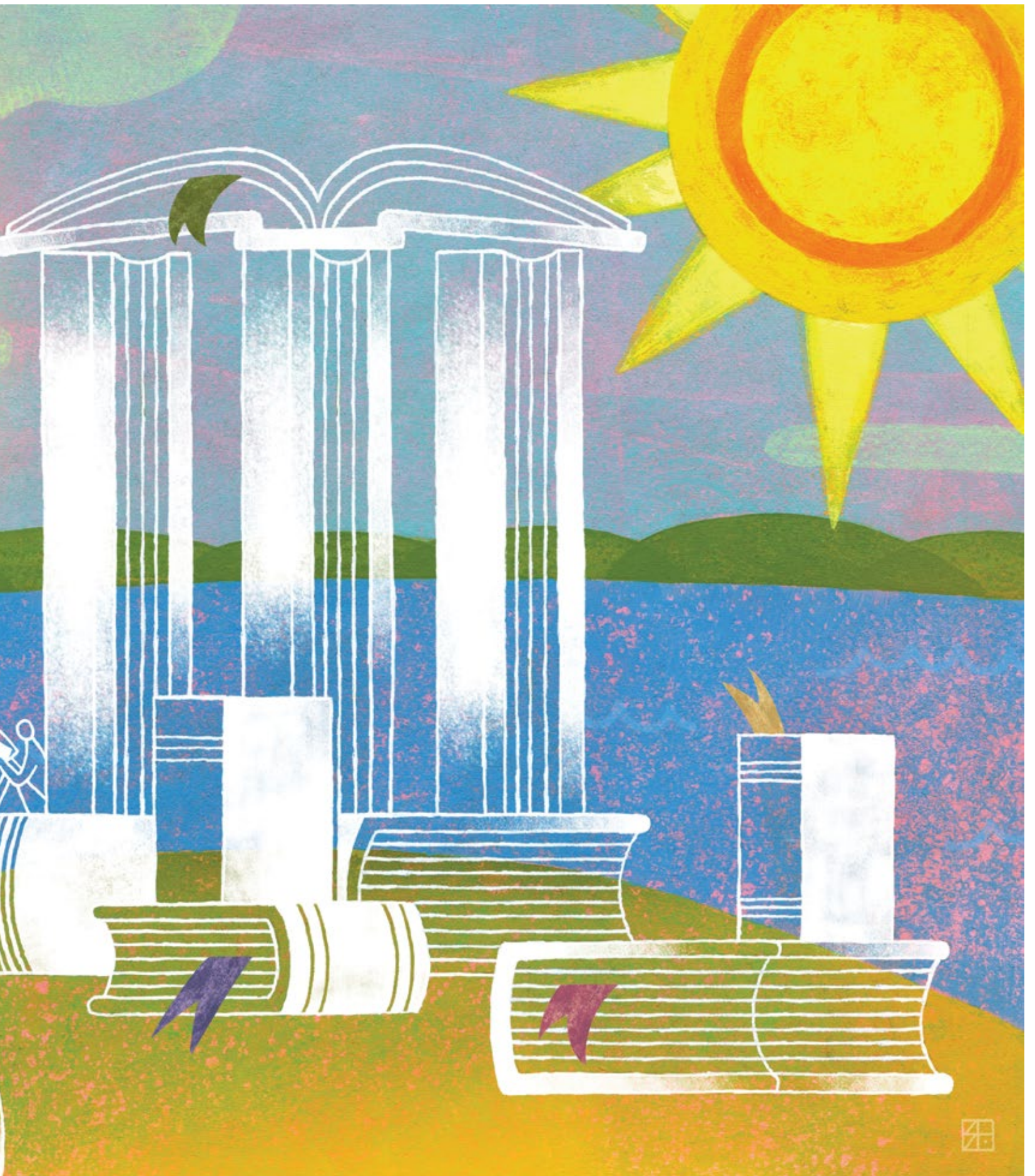
SUMMER READING LIST

REVIEWS BY
HOLLY ATKINS
ANDREW CODDINGTON
MICHAEL FLATT
SALLY JARZAB
JEFF KLEIN
LAUREN NEWKIRK MAYNARD

ILLUSTRATION BY BARRY FITZGERALD, MFA '90

Beach reads? Maybe not all of them. But our featured selection of eight new books by UB alumni has something to interest everyone, from the fearless traveler to the would-be detective to the history buff—and their kids, too. Find a shady spot and dig in!





1

A Cold Day in Hell

LISSA MARIE REDMOND (BA '98)

A cop's life can be complicated, especially if you're Detective Lauren Riley of the Buffalo Police Department's Cold Case Homicide office. The fictional gumshoe is investigating a vicious sexual assault and murder, conducting a guilt-ridden affair with her ex-husband, raising two daughters as a single mom, risking her job by butting heads with the district attorney and trying to solve a pair of decades-old killings—all while being stalked by an abusive ex-boyfriend, who also happens to be a cop.

"A Cold Day in Hell" is a taut police procedural from a woman who knows the job well: Redmond was a detective in Buffalo's cold case unit who retired in 2015 after a 22-year career with the force. (She took the police exam as a UB student and finished her degree while on patrol duty.) Her debut novel takes the reader on a grand tour of the legal system from squad room to jail cell to courtroom, with atmospheric stops in South Buffalo, the West Side and various leafy suburbs.

Redmond's memorable characters include an assortment of Buffalo's Finest, from the brightly idealistic to the exhaustedly jaded, as well as crafty defense attorneys, scheming sex offenders and, of course, Riley herself, who is tough yet vulnerable and always self-sufficient. "She's a cold case homicide detective, but she's nothing like me," Redmond said in an interview with WIVB-TV. "She's a lot tougher and smarter and stronger than I am in some ways, and a lot more flawed in others. If she were a real person, we wouldn't even be friends."

Add to all that a twist of an ending—and glowing reviews from the likes of Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews and Booklist—and the setup is complete. With "A Cold Day" slated as the first of a series, we should be hearing more from Redmond's Lauren Riley for some time to come.

(*Midnight Ink*, 2018)

– JK

2

Alexander Hamilton and the Development of American Law

KATE ELIZABETH BROWN (MA '10)

The explosive popularity of the hit musical "Hamilton" has sparked renewed interest in the nation's first treasury secretary. While many think of Alexander Hamilton as some combination of soldier and statesman, politician and patriot, this new analytical biography by Brown, a professor of early American history at Huntington University, argues that his greatest achievement sprang from his often overlooked role as one of America's most influential lawyers.

During the founding period, as now, lawmakers struggled to articulate the nuances of the Constitution, so it was informally left to bureaucrats to fill in those gray areas as they applied the law in day-to-day practice. None, according to Brown, had as large an impact as Alexander Hamilton.

While revolutionary figures like Washington, Adams and Jefferson lent the new laws of the nation their foundational ideals, Hamilton's accomplishment was in actually applying and shaping them to real-world cases encountered in the work of governing. His legal arguments not only accomplished his political goals of bolstering executive and judicial authority in the federal government; they also served to underpin the philosophies of many of the bureaucrats, lawyers and even Supreme Court justices who followed him. Hamilton's legacy is in the legal precedents that he established, the influence of which reverberates throughout American history.

Over the course of the book, Brown dispels centuries-old misrepresentations of Hamilton by analyzing legal briefs, essays and policy reports written by him and others. As such, the book may appeal as much to legal scholars and lawyers as it will to those interested in the early history of the United States. Even casual readers can benefit from Brown's revised portrayal of the man who came to forge American law.

(*University Press of Kansas*, 2017)

– AC

3

World War II Buffalo

GRETCHEN E. KNAPP (PHD '95, BA '80)

Bond drives, food and gas rationing, dancing with GIs at the USO—that's pretty much how we picture life in the U.S. during the Second World War, in Western New York as elsewhere. But in "World War II Buffalo," historian Knapp goes much deeper, combing through archives and interviewing veterans, factory workers and others on the home front to paint a portrait of the wartime city that consistently surprises.

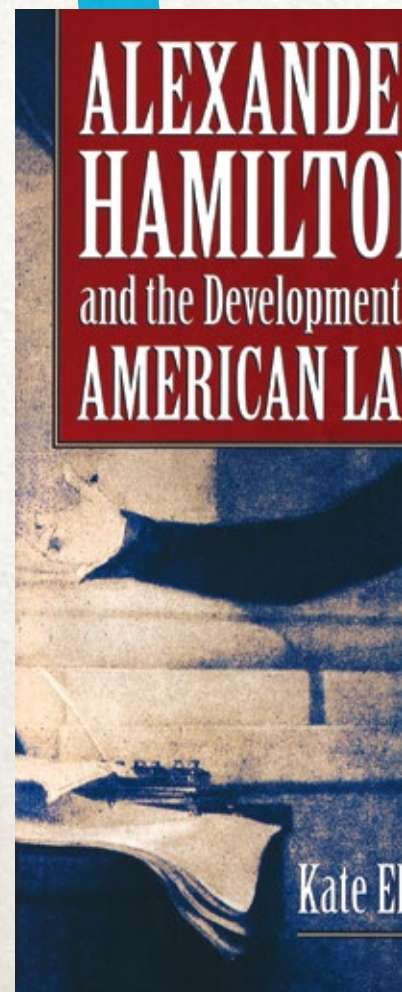
Knapp opens the book with FDR's 1940 visit to Buffalo's gigantic Curtiss-Wright and Bell aircraft plants and the Bethlehem Steel mill. The area was already producing massive amounts of arms for export under the Lend-Lease program, and that effort redoubled after Pearl Harbor. As factories started operating 24/7, an influx of new workers filled hastily built government housing—racially integrated in Niagara Falls and Lackawanna, sharply segregated in Buffalo. Suspicion of enemy saboteurs also brought odd results: In Rochester, the FBI shut down Italian-language newspapers, but Buffalo's Italian, German and Hungarian papers continued to publish.

All men had to register for the draft, but some did not. Many Senecas and Tuscaroras argued that as part of sovereign nations they were not subject to the U.S. draft. (The courts eventually ruled against them.) With so many men in the military, women took up Buffalo's assembly line jobs: from

1



2





**WORLD WAR II
BUFFALO**

.....

GRETCHEN E. KNAPP



**THIS LAND IS
OUR LAND**

HOW WE LOST
**THE RIGHT
TO ROAM**
AND HOW TO
TAKE IT BACK

FROM THE AUTHOR OF
TRESPASSING ACROSS AMERICA
KEN ILGUNAS

3

4

4,000 in 1940 to 43,000 in 1943. Yet black women in the city were consistently left unhired. "It isn't fair," one wrote to Gov. Herbert H. Lehman.

Knapp chronicles many other social upheavals in wartime Buffalo: the spread of brothels and juvenile delinquency; a simulated amphibious invasion, complete with flamethrowers, at the foot of Michigan Avenue; the grateful throng of 110,000 in Delaware Park that celebrated the Japanese surrender. She looks back and wonders: If we had to, could we bear sacrifice on the same vast scale as the Greatest Generation?

(History Press, 2017)

- JK

4

This Land Is Our Land: How We Lost the Right to Roam and How to Take It Back

KEN ILGUNAS (BA '06)

After famously living in a van to afford graduate school (documented in his first book, "Walden on Wheels"), Ilgunas hit the open road, hiking 1,500 miles north to the Alberta tar sands and then 1,700 miles south along the proposed Keystone Pipeline extension from Alberta to Texas, a journey he recounted in his second book, "Trespassing Across America." Now, in his third work, he dreams of restoring a rapidly diminishing landscape once freely traversed by fellow literary rambblers Henry David Thoreau, Mark Twain and John Muir.

"This Land Is Our Land" finds Ilgunas meditating on the iconic Woody Guthrie tune as he explores how, and why, Americans lost their "right to roam." A concept legally and culturally protected in Europe, the right to outdoor recreation is largely ignored here in the U.S., where a history of wilderness exploration has given way to increasingly aggressive private land ownership. "There are more than a billion acres of grassland pasture, cropland and forest, and miles and miles of coastlines that are mostly closed off to the public," he writes.

Even while a politically divided country grapples with rollbacks of progressive land-use policies, such as those protecting parklands, more Americans than ever visit those parks, he notes. Property values and even public health benefit from connections to "the commons," whether that be an urban green space, rural swimming hole or interstate hiking trail.

Ilgunas contrasts "the closing of America" with the more enlightened approach in countries like Sweden and Scotland, eventually using his research and personal experiences as a "trespasser" to draw a bold line in the sand. It's time, he says, to demand action to open private American land, as nature intended. If we don't create legal and social contracts that protect our public spaces, and not just landowners, we risk more than a walk in the woods, Ilgunas warns: We lose a prime source for collective well-being.

(Plume, 2018)

- LNM

CONTINUED

5

Big and Small: A Cultural History of Extraordinary Bodies

LYNNE VALLONE (PHD '90, MA '88)

Whether we wish to admit it or not, one of the first things we notice about a person is their size: tall, petite, skinny, stout. Body size, says Vallone, is one way humans create cultural categories for normalcy. But when individual frames fall “too” far outside of those norms—say, from such conditions as miniaturism, gigantism or obesity—they can be treated as objects of fascination, disgust or a combination of the two. And the impact is huge, so to speak, both on the people who embody these deviations and on the societies in which they live.

Vallone measures the dimensions of that impact in this fascinating and sometimes disturbing work that continues the cultural history approach of many of her previous titles. A professor of childhood studies at Rutgers University, Vallone was led to her current topic by children’s literature, wherein tales of tiny fairies and towering giants exist in abundance. She articulates how folkloric characters, as well as the real lives of famous figures like P.T. Barnum’s General Tom Thumb, were shaped by the assumptions of their time and place—regarding not just physical size but also intertwined conceptions of beauty, gender, race, even humanity. In the particularly horrifying case of Ota Benga, a Congolese man and Mbuti pygmy, both his small stature and racial identity led Americans to take him from his homeland in 1904 and feature him in a primate exhibit at the Bronx Zoo. (Benga would eventually leave the zoo but never recovered from the experience; he took his own life in 1916.)

Vallone’s work documents the varying responses our cultural predecessors have had to body size and illustrates how those responses carry into the present, revealing all the ways “in which big and small have been made to explain the mysteries of life, to create categories of beautiful and monstrous, us and them.”

(Yale University Press, 2018)

– HA

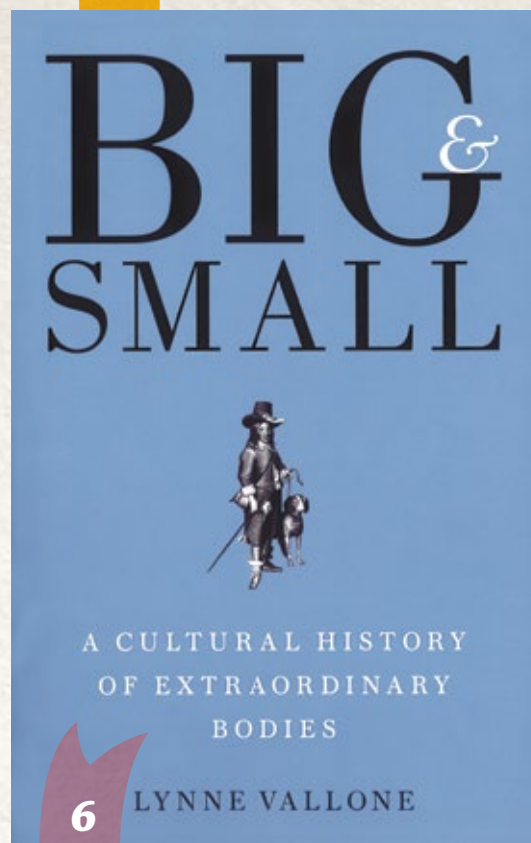
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The Golden Coin

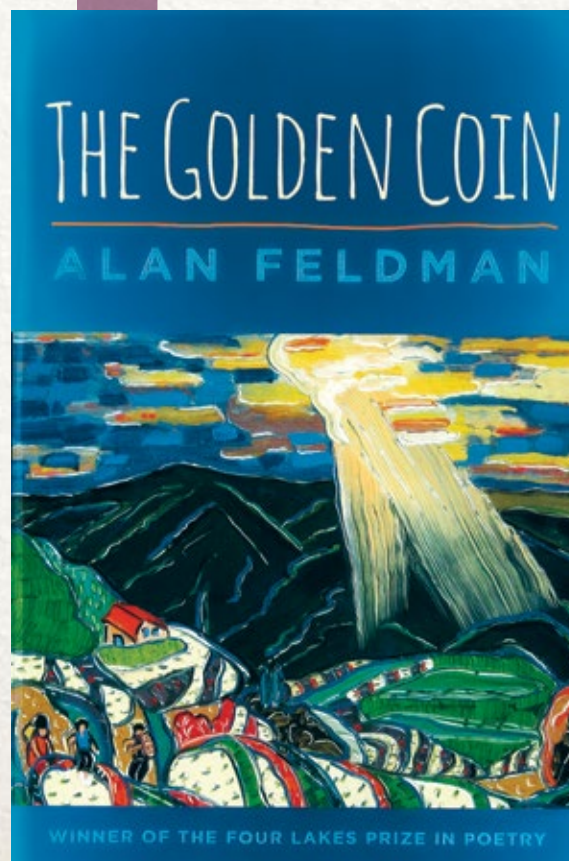
ALAN FELDMAN (PHD '73)

This new collection of narrative poems has that combination of you-are-there imagery and reassuring though melancholy insights that will attract readers of poets like Billy Collins and Louise Glück. Feldman, a professor emeritus of English and the award-winning author of numerous collections dating back to the 1970s (he has also published a book on the work of the poet Frank O’Hara), is an avid sailor, and the life aquatic plays prominently

5



6



8



7



in his reflections on the dynamisms of place, time and fortune.

"The Golden Coin" is divided into four sections that move from the youthful optimism of the book's title ("The sun rises out of the broad river— / 'We've each been given a golden coin!'); to negotiations of unrest, political and otherwise; to questions of memory and mortality. In his best moments, Feldman acknowledges that his speaker resides at a comfortable distance from turmoil, thereby lending irony to the book's sunny title. It is of course easier to see each day as a gift from a position of privilege.

That wry sense of humanity is coupled with technical grace to create poems that are intricate and informed, but not impenetrable. In a sonnet that doesn't formally announce itself as such, "Waterfront Property," Feldman mentions a Chekhov story in which a man longs for the opportunity to grow gooseberries as a show of dominion, or as the author phrases it, "Just another way to live for things, but not / for the soul." But as in any good sonnet, there's a shift. The speaker takes that most coveted of modern earthly accumulations, waterfront property, as "the margin / that divides one's possessions from the inexpressible." Our own metaphorical gooseberries, the speaker tells us—be they property, some sought-after job or other acquisitions—are always standing in for the inexpressible, and may be the closest we will ever come to finding it.

(University of Wisconsin Press, 2018)

– MF

7

The Boy With the Rainbow Heart

WILLIAM S. MASON (MSW '13)

The town of Gray is a somber place, its inhabitants grim and fearful, but the boy with a rainbow heart (visible to all, like a glowing badge on his chest) doesn't let it bring him down. He literally beams with joy and good will, and soon the town and the townspeople become filled with more light, more color and more happiness. The moral of the story is clear: Kindness wins.

In this sweet and simple children's picture book about a young boy who changes his world just by being himself, the backstory is part of the real story. Mason, who holds a master's degree in social work, says he created the book to foster more acceptance for children who may feel "different" in whatever way. Dedicated to the author's sister, who was bullied in school for years because she was openly gay, the crowd-funded book delivers its message of accepting difference in oneself and others in an inclusive way that doesn't speak explicitly but does unabashedly advocate for the power of love.

Fitting to its young audience, the book has companion K-3 lesson plans, created with input from teaching professionals, that are in line with

Common Core learning standards. Mason has distributed hundreds of copies to public city school districts across the country, including those in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Cleveland, and recently donated hardcover copies to GLSEN, a national education organization that works to ensure safe and affirming schools for LGBTQ students, for use in professional development workshops. Thus, a line from the story sums up the book's plotline as well as its grander objective: "The boy's love for all people changed their hearts for good."

(Mascot Books, 2017)

– SJ

8

Bunny's Staycation

LORI RICHMOND (BA '98)

"Show, don't tell," that time-honored rule for good writing, is in full effect in this children's book about a young bunny whose mother leaves for a week-long business trip. Even with fewer than 200 words in the slim volume, a rich and engaging story unfolds on each page.

Bunny, as the young protagonist is called, is unhappy about the prospect of Mama's absence. When Bunny's musings about how to prevent Mama's departure (flushing her suitcase down the toilet, for instance, or hurling it away on a giant slingshot) don't pan out, Papa plans an itinerary of imaginative expeditions to distract the tot. Using a giant box of arts and crafts supplies as their vehicle, they visit the tropics, the Arctic and the savannas of Africa. Their dreamed-up destinations are almost enough to get Bunny through the interval without a meltdown. And when Mama finally returns, all is right again with the world (though maybe not with the living room, strewn with the construction-paper trappings of their adventures).

Richmond lets the tale be told most vividly through her bold but breezy drawings, with clever details that keep young and old readers alike searching images for fun incidentals (like the carrot emblem on the mother rabbit's smartphone). With an academic background in graphic design and a professional background in parenting media, Richmond has adeptly managed to make a charming picture book for children that will also tickle the grown-ups reciting it. The storyline, she says on her blog, is meant to fill a void in the genre, in which depictions of working mothers are scarce. "Bunny's Staycation" (on the book's cover, this title playfully crosses out alternate text that reads "Mama's Business Trip") captures the joyfulness of family life without denying the messiness of day-to-day living—or of living rooms. 🐰

(Scholastic Press, 2018)

– SJ



Run the World, Girls

Judy Vredenburg knows what it means to break barriers and defy expectations—and she's helping girls from low-income communities do the same

STORY BY JENNIFER KITSES | PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN EMERSON

Though the Girls Inc. office is high above Wall Street, it is modest, even plain, and its few elements of decoration speak of its mission and motto: “Inspiring all girls to be smart, strong, and bold.” Alongside similarly inspirational quotes, black-and-white portraits of girls who have participated in the organization’s programs are displayed on the walls—each girl looking straight at the camera, her expression confident and proud.

It is here that Judy Vredenburg (MBA '75), president and CEO of Girls Inc., is helping girls from low-income, underserved communities move past gender, socioeconomic and racial barriers to achieve their dreams. Last year, more than 156,000 girls in 337 cities in the U.S. and Canada participated in its programs, primarily through after-school, school break and summer programs offered at schools and community centers. In its 154-year history—it was founded in Waterbury, Conn., as the Girls Club and was later known as the Girls Clubs of America—millions of girls have been served.

The nonprofit, like many others, struggled in the wake of the recent recession. But in Vredenburg’s eight years leading Girls Inc., she has moved it to a position of financial strength. Now she’s focusing on growth. Her goal is to double the number of girls who participate in its programs, which address everything from health and financial literacy to coping with bullies, all in an effort to give girls the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to succeed in school and in life.

Girls Inc. is focused not only on service, but also on advocacy. In this way, it hopes to reach girls on the individual level, while at the same time raising national awareness of the struggles girls face. “We help girls value their whole selves, discover their inner strengths and push past obstacles,” Vredenburg says. “The larger game is changing the conditions that create the obstacles.” On both of these fronts, Vredenburg is prepared to lead.

Exceeding Expectations

Growing up in Northeast Philadelphia in the 1950s, Vredenburg faced obstacles too—in her case, in the form of parental expectations. Although she was good at math (her father, a family doctor, often gave her word problems to solve at the dinner table), she was not encouraged to follow in her father’s footsteps, or to have any career ambitions at all. That encouragement was instead directed toward her younger brother, who would go on to join her father’s practice.

“I was reared for achievement, but also given the message that the ideal is to get married and have kids,” she says. Her mother graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, but identified as a traditional wife and mother. By the time Vredenburg was in middle school, she knew she wanted something different. “I wanted to be independent,” she says. “I needed *economic* independence; that was very important to me. The model of being devoted to your husband and believing that your ability to support and nurture children was your whole identity—that was not for me.”

She enrolled at Penn, in what was then called the College for Women. (It merged with the College of Arts & Sciences in 1974.) Her love for numbers and analysis steered her toward a degree in economics. At the same time, she became interested in social change. “My feminism was forged at Penn during the anti-Vietnam, anti-authority movement of the '60s,” she says. “But I was also very career-oriented, very ambitious. I believed that women could manage and lead a little differently, that we could break through the glass ceiling, that we could get paid properly and have leadership roles.”

She also fell in love, at the age of 19, with a Vietnam vet who had enrolled in the MBA program at Wharton, Penn’s business school. After graduation, they married, but still focused on starting a career, Vredenburg joined a company that had recruited on campus: Abraham & Straus, a division

CONTINUED

of Federated Department Stores. “I didn’t know anything about business,” she says. “But as an assistant buyer, I had real responsibility. There was measurement and goals.”

A year later, the couple was living in Buffalo, where Vredenburgh’s husband was pursuing a PhD and Vredenburgh was earning her MBA at UB. By day, she worked as a buyer for the Hens & Kelly department-store chain; at night, she took classes in finance, management and strategy, the only woman in a program largely populated by middle managers from General Electric. However, these challenges only added to her experience. “I got a world-class education,” she says. “And I loved taking courses while I was working, because I could apply lessons from the real world to the academic world, and back again.”

Those years also produced a real-world lesson of the barriers women face in the workplace. During her time at Hens & Kelly, the company was sued by the Department of Labor under the Fair Labor Standards Act for pay and promotion discrimination. Hens & Kelly’s records were subpoenaed, and Vredenburgh, like other employees, submitted forms to the government’s lawyers that included salary information. She was invited to join the class-action suit and later agreed to a settlement. The amount of back pay she received suggested she had been paid one-third less than the male employees in similar roles.

Two jobs and several years later, and with a daughter now, Vredenburgh was back in New York and working again at Abraham & Straus, where she moved quickly up the ranks. “I was making money for the company,” she says. “I kept getting promoted to even more responsibility.” Yet once again, she found herself facing the hurdles of being a woman in a man’s world. In a management shuffle, a male co-worker was promoted above her. “My numbers were much better,” she says. “And I had experience in the heart of the moneymaking part of the business.” Unwilling to report to her former colleague, she managed to carve out a position for herself in which she reported directly to the CEO. However, this new role didn’t give her the responsibility she was looking for—and it wasn’t the promotion she felt she’d earned. “I said to myself, ‘Fine, I’ll do this job, and I’ll blow the numbers away, and then in a year I’ll go into the job market.’ Which is exactly what I did.”

Vredenburgh was eventually able, at a different company, to secure the senior vice president title she sought. She was later recruited to become the CEO of a business in need of a turnaround,

but split with the company amid disagreements over corporate direction. By then, she had spent more than two decades in the retail industry. “I’d been working 60- to 80-hour workweeks, traveling the world, sourcing the world, while trying to be a decent wife and a decent mother,” she says. She decided to take a break and explore whether she could pursue a dream she’d had since her 20s: working for a nonprofit.

To the Top, Take Two

“I grew up with the idea of service,” Vredenburgh says. “Giving back and helping others—that’s just what you do.” Her father had charged patients on a sliding scale, and sometimes didn’t charge at all; her grandparents, all immigrants who’d managed to work their way to the middle class, were lifelong contributors to charity.

Her first step was volunteering for Big Sisters of New York City. Soon, they asked her to join the board. From there, she went on to serve for six years as a senior vice president at the March of Dimes and was then recruited to run Big Brothers Big Sisters from its national headquarters in Philadelphia, where she stayed for a decade; during that time, she also served as a Big Sister.

In 2009, she moved back to New York to be closer to her husband (who had stayed in the city for his job) and daughter, who was recently married. A year after that, Vredenburgh learned of the opportunity to lead Girls Inc. “I knew this was the ultimate position for me,” she says. “It’s a much smaller organization than I had run. I could wrap my arms around it, figure out how to shape it. I love, love, love what I do.”



One attraction for her was the organization's dedication to advocacy, with which it has a long history. Girls Inc. opened a Washington, D.C., office in 1971, and several years later, its national board adopted a long-range plan with a goal of taking "a leadership role as an advocate for the rights and needs of girls of all backgrounds and abilities." From the beginning, the organization was involved with the campaign for Title IX, passed in 1972, which mandated equal opportunities for women and men in education, including the ability to participate in college and university sports. In the early 2000s, former Girls Inc. president and CEO Joyce Royce testified at the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, which provided funds for investigating and prosecuting crimes against women.

Yet for all its advocacy work on the national level, Girls Inc. is a grassroots organization, with each affiliate operating like a franchise. All local offices rely primarily on paid professionals, with help from volunteers who serve as role models. Many of the professionals are women who grew up in similar environments, facing similar socioeconomic barriers and discrimination, as the girls they serve; volunteer speakers, such as rocket scientists from Lockheed Martin, introduce the girls to jobs that might seem out of reach. At some Girls Inc. sites, girls can enroll in multiyear internship programs that include activities on college campuses; many of these programs focus on STEM subjects. "Girls are given messages at a very young age that math and science, engineering, tech are not for them, just like I was not encouraged to pursue becoming a doctor," Vredenburg says. "We create an environment that counters the messages and helps girls deal with these stereotypes."



"I believed that women could manage and lead a little differently, that we could break through the glass ceiling, that we could get paid properly and have leadership roles."

—Judy Vredenburg


Vredenburg is a firm believer that developing life and social skills is just as important as learning about careers and getting academic assistance, and Girls Inc. programs also focus on reproductive health, stress management and confidence building. "When I see Girls Inc. girls, I notice a sense of self-assuredness, a confidence in one's own capabilities," says Andrea Delgado, who participated from kindergarten through high school and graduated cum laude from Harvard University last year. She credits Girls Inc.'s after-school theater program with helping her get over her shyness. "We got to write our own plays and design the costumes—basically everything was our creation—and then we got to perform. Without that experience, I wouldn't have felt comfortable speaking up in the classroom." Vredenburg confirms that every girl is encouraged to set her own goals; there are no predetermined measures of success. "We don't impose in any way on the girls. We help them discover who they are and figure out what they want."

Letting the Girls Lead

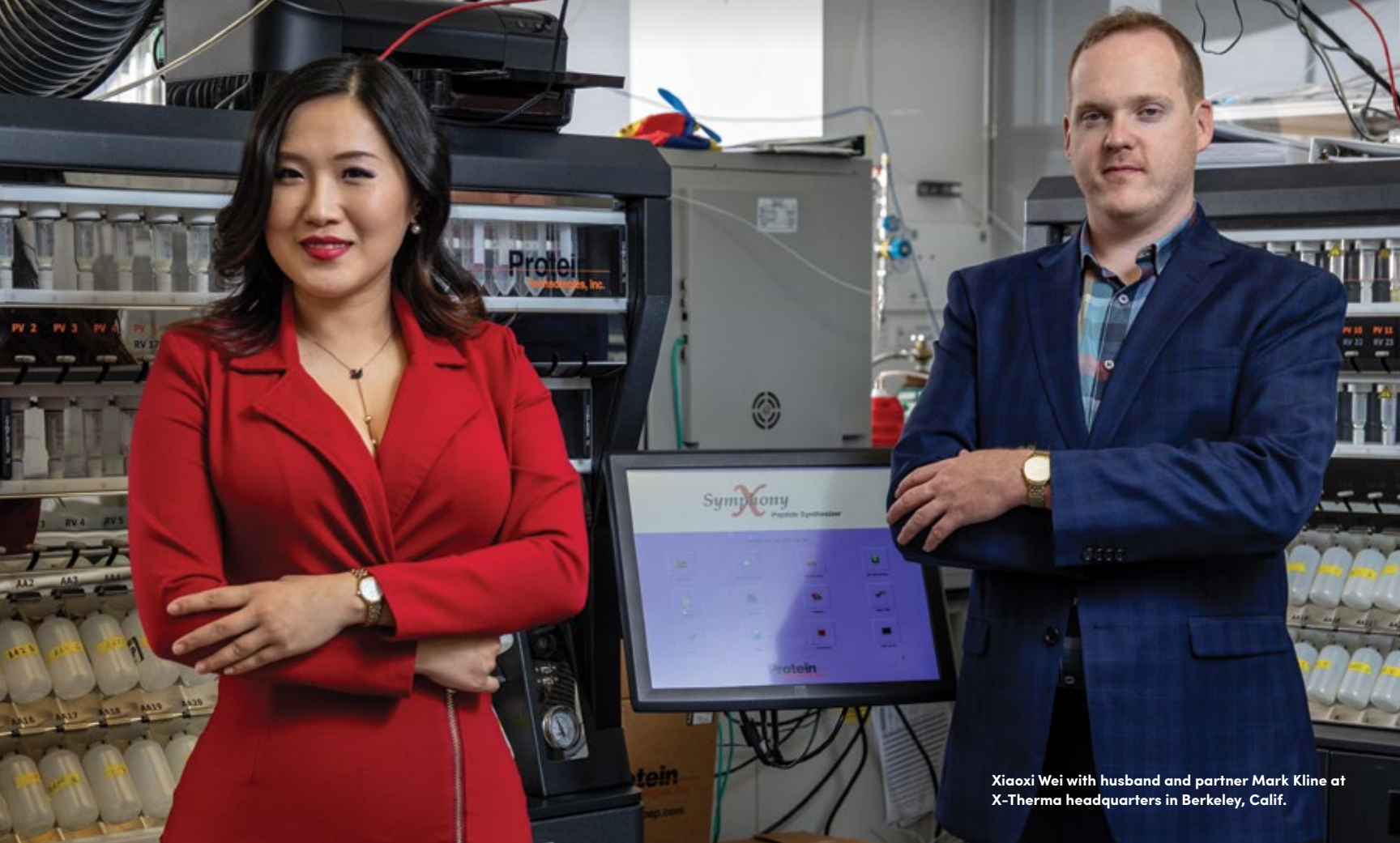
Vredenburg has made significant progress on her goals for the organization's growth: Since 2011, a year after she took over, the number of girls who participate yearly in its programs has increased by more than 25 percent. The organization has also added close to 200 sites in 50 cities. "She challenged us to substantially grow the number of girls served because we have a moral imperative to do so," says COO Pat Driscoll, who was previously a Girls Inc. executive director in Lynn, Mass., for 18 years. "That motivational leadership has paid off in many more girls being served, increased visibility and respect for Girls Inc., new partners, new advocates, and a renewed commitment to improve the conditions for all girls."

Vredenburg is also working on an upcoming advocacy campaign centered on sexual harassment and violence. The theme was chosen by the girls themselves; a network-wide survey the organization conducted two years ago determined that this was their top concern. "People aren't aware that it starts very young," Vredenburg says, citing research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that suggests approximately one in four girls is sexually assaulted before the age of 18. Girls Inc. is working with an outside firm on ways it can promote the "norm shifts and awareness shifts" necessary for reducing sexual harassment and assault. As with all of the organization's efforts, Vredenburg is determined to make sure the girls' voices will be heard. "They will be leading the campaign," she says.

The organization has won smaller, local victories that way. Girls Inc. of Omaha brought participating girls to testify at a hearing to persuade the city's public schools to teach comprehensive sex education, and succeeded. The girls of Girls Inc. of Memphis convinced their city council to vote against a proposal to put a landfill next to the Girls Inc. farm and an elementary school.

Changing norms and awareness within society is a much larger goal, and one not easily measured by metrics. But Vredenburg isn't daunted. "We have a lot of systems issues—cultural and policy issues—to address," she says. "The barriers are huge. But we want to help girls understand that power is a neutral. It can be used for good." 

Jennifer Kitses, a freelance writer based in New York City, recently published her first novel, "Small Hours."



Xiaoxi Wei with husband and partner Mark Kline at X-Therma headquarters in Berkeley, Calif.

The Big Chill

A UB alumna's startup aims to revolutionize organ transplants through cryopreservation

By Jeff Klein » When Xiaoxi Wei (PhD '14) was a little girl in Dongying, China, something bad happened. But it inspired a big idea.

"My favorite person was my grandfather," she says. "His life was taken away by cirrhosis because he couldn't get a liver transplant. At that time I was 8 years old. I wanted to do something to change the world of transplantation. I felt I could save a lot of lives just like my grandfather's."

A quarter century later, Wei is still focused on that goal. X-Therma, the startup she founded with her husband and fellow UB alumnus, Mark Kline (PhD '14), conducts research in cryogenics—not the weird fantasy pseudoscience of

freezing people and reanimating them at a future date, but the real science of low-temperature biophysics. Specifically, they are seeking a way to preserve human organs for transplant for far longer than their current shelf life of four to 16 hours.

"The goal is to try to engineer preservation of tissues and human organs so that you can access them on demand," Wei says of their fledgling company and the cold-storage organ bank they hope to make a reality. "That means you will have off-the-shelf organs available immediately instead of having to be on a wait list and then having a very limited transplantation window when an organ becomes available."

Wei and Kline founded X-Therma in Berkeley, Calif., in 2014, soon after earning their doctorates in medicinal chemistry at UB; Wei is the CEO, Kline the COO and chief technology officer. The company has worked primarily at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Molecular Foundry, an epicenter of scientific research and venture capital. It has received several million dollars in funding, mostly from Small Business Innovation Research

contracts from the Department of Defense, and now has a team of 11 on the science and business sides.

X-Therma's research centers on creating a more effective ice-prevention material than what is currently used in organ preservation by designing molecules that can imitate antifreeze proteins found in nature. The idea is to mimic the process that allows certain frogs to go into a kind of suspended animation for long periods of time at below-freezing temperatures, then revive undamaged when warmer temperatures return.

Current organ preservation techniques cannot prevent the formation of ice crystals that damage biological tissue once temperatures drop beneath 4 degrees Celsius. The crystals cause cells to shrivel or collapse and blood vessels to dissolve; hence, the inability to preserve organs for any longer than a few hours. Or, as Wei puts it, "ice is our enemy."

By contrast, she says, "some animals have evolved amazing ice crystal control and can survive hazardous winters without being frozen." What their bodies do naturally, she adds, "is about 100 to 10,000 times more effective than any antifreeze we're using currently in our industry."

"The goal is to try to engineer preservation of tissues and human organs so that you can access them on demand."

Xiaoxi Wei

announced separate advances in potential methods for thawing and freezing organs for transplant.

Wei is singularly well prepared for the space she occupies at the intersection of temperature science and entrepreneurship. Raised by a physician mother and a petrochemical engineer father who also had a business involving heat-transfer technology for the petroleum industry, she received plenty of encouragement to pursue a career in science. After graduating with highest honors from Ningbo University in China, she came to UB to pursue her PhD under chemistry professor Bing Gong, one of the world's leading supramolecular chemists specializing in folded nanostructure. "I wanted to change the nature of chemistry in this field," Wei says. "Bing Gong is very, very famous. I came to Buffalo to learn from him."

Wei also found something else at UB: Kline, who had begun his PhD studies the semester before. The couple are now married and have a baby who has, in a sense, become a part of their mission. The newborn's umbilical cord blood and tissue are the first to be collected and cryopreserved with X-Therma equipment for potential future revival. Stem cells and tissues recovered after cold storage, says Wei, could be useful for cell therapy and similar advances in the fight against cancer and other diseases. "This is just the beginning," she says.

With 120,000 Americans on the organ transplant waiting list, 25,000 transplants a year and one patient dying each hour while awaiting a transplant, Wei is determined to help find a solution to a seemingly intractable problem. If she succeeds, it'll be a fitting tribute to her grandfather—and a new lease on life for countless people on the transplant list. ①

Wei and Kline aren't the only ones motivated to solve this problem; indeed, there's something of a gold rush underway in entrepreneurial cryobiology circles. In 2015, the U.S. Department of Defense started an initiative called Organs on Demand that funnels millions of dollars to labs working on tissue and organ cryopreservation research. Venture capitalists, charities and philanthropists are also getting involved. Last year, scientists at Harvard and at the University of Warwick in England announced separate advances in potential methods for thawing and freezing organs for transplant.



Campus Commitments

Love was definitely in the air—and in the library, and on the softball field—at UB this year. In gratitude to the School of Law for bringing them together, **Alyssa Jordan (JD '14)** and **Michael Pantzer (JD '16, MBA '16)** had their engagement photos taken in the school's library last fall. In spring, then-senior infielder **Nicolette Jacobs (BA '18)** said yes to her boyfriend's surprise proposal at Nan Harvey Field following the Bulls' doubleheader victory over the University of Akron—an engagement story that went viral on social media.

Alumni Life



WISH
YOU WERE
HERE

Cliffhangers College buddies David Vogt (BA '10), Joshua Kalette (DPT '12, BS '10) and Nick Romano (JD '13, BS '10) proudly wave the UB banner in Utah's Zion National Park while hiking there last fall.

Send us your photo. Bring a UB flag, shirt, even a copy of At Buffalo along on your next adventure, snap a pic and send it to us at atbuffalomagazine@buffalo.edu for possible inclusion in a future issue.

Careertip

Judy Vredenburg (MBA '75) President & CEO, Girls Inc.
("Run the World, Girls," p. 34)

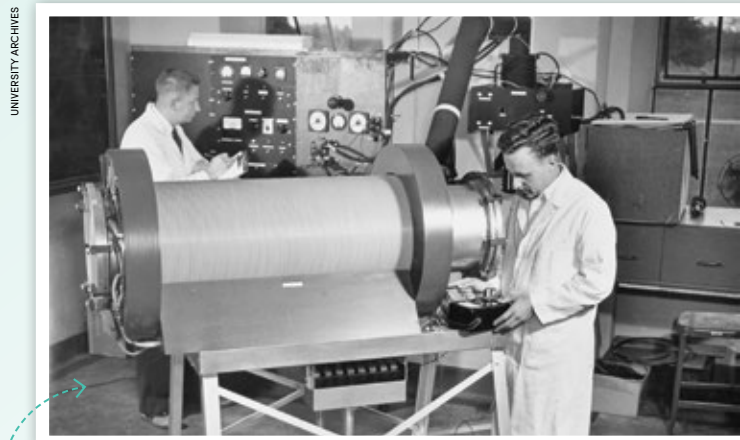
"The one nonnegotiable is consistently strong performance. In whatever role in which you come into a company, you have to beat expectations of achievement. You have to merit being acknowledged and recognized."



The University of Buffalo was a private institution with a single campus on Main Street at this mid-century milepost. But it was dynamic and thriving, just like its student body.

At a glance

- » **Total enrollment:** 9,700 (4,000-plus undergrad)
- » **Graduating class:** 1,075, the second largest in UB history
- » **Tuition:** \$450 to \$500 a year for most schools (comparable to \$4,400 to \$4,800 in today's dollars)



Signs of the time

- » Expansion of labs to accommodate research in nuclear physics is announced.
- » A UB course in servomechanism fundamentals (the technology used in controlling guided missiles) is offered at the Bell Aircraft Corporation, one of several new partnerships planned to aid the nation's defense effort.
- » In December, world leaders gather at Kleinhans Music Hall for a two-day "Mid-Century Convocation" to address the outlook for humankind during the second half of the 20th century. Billed as one of the most significant events ever sponsored by the university, the symposium ends on a mostly optimistic note.



Fun for all

- » Norton Union is the hub for student activities.
- » Among the numerous events that year are competitive tournaments in Ping-Pong, pinochle and tiddlywinks.
- » A full calendar of festivities includes Sadie Hawkins Day in fall, the Silver Ball Christmas dance in winter and the Home Concert, sponsored by the Glee Club, in spring. This year's bash features Louis Prima; tickets cost \$3.60 (\$35) a couple.



Cultural case history

- » The terms "rock 'n' roll" and "fast food" are coined.
- » Color television is introduced.
- » Tupperware parties debut.
- » Science fiction surges.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



Tennis, anyone?

The men's tennis team continues a years-long unbeaten streak by winning its 26th straight match in October 1951.



Gone but not forgotten

- » Chalkboards in classrooms.
- » Phone booths on campus.
- » Nursing students in white dresses and caps.

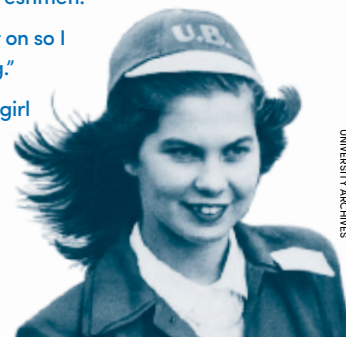
Swell joke from The Spectrum:

Student: Hey, rabbit, what are you doing in my icebox?
Rabbit: Isn't this a Westinghouse?
Student: Yes.
Rabbit: Well, I'm westing.

That's tops! (or not)

In *The Spectrum*, new students weigh in on the requisite beanie cap, or dink, worn by freshmen.

- » "I love my dink. I sleep with it on so I won't forget it in the morning."
- » "I got two dinks because my girl wants one to hang up."
- » "I don't like the idea of wearing beanies. They don't go with my color schemes."



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



Before podcasts ...

There is "UB Round Table," a weekly discussion program simulcast on WBEN, WBEN-FM and WBEN-TV. In 1951, it celebrates its 10th year with such heady topics as "The Individual in Our Society," "Labor and National Emergency" and "Is Europe Recovering?"



MEREDITH FORREST KULWICKI

Oh, Boise!

Alumni showed up in full “Go Bulls!” fashion as the men’s basketball team played in the second round of the NCAA Tournament in Boise, Idaho, in March. Above: Jillian Michael (BA ’17) (in gray), fiancée of Bulls forward Ikenna Smart (BA ’18), puts her heart into her cheers.

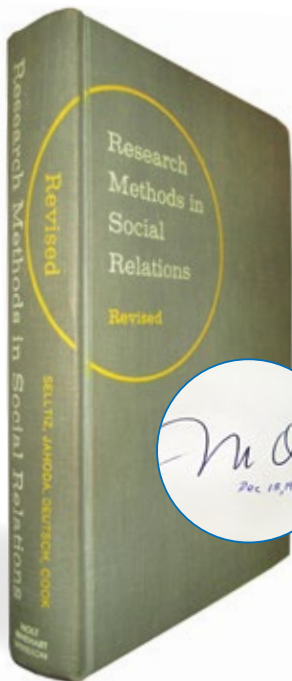


Keepsakes WHAT DID YOU SAVE?

Statistics textbook

It might not look like much on the outside, but **Ralph E. Anderson’s (BA ’69)** sociology textbook packs a punch. In 1967, the protest movement against the Vietnam War was picking up steam on college campuses, and UB was no exception. On Dec. 18, former heavyweight boxing champion and anti-war activist Muhammad Ali spoke to an overflow crowd in the Norton Union, now Squire Hall on the South Campus. “He was signing autographs, and the only thing I had available was my statistics textbook, *Research Methods in Social Relations (Revised)*,” Anderson recalls. “I saved very few of my college textbooks. However, I felt this autographed textbook was a reflection of a very tumultuous time in American history.”

Share your memories. Still holding on to a memento from your UB years? Tell us why, and attach a photo, in an email to keepsakes@buffalo.edu.



Mike’s* Summer

Picks

A selection of upcoming events, open to all UB alumni

June

UB Alumni Night at the Bisons

06.23.18
Coca-Cola Field
Buffalo, N.Y.

World Refugee Day in Western New York

06.23.18
LaSalle Park
Buffalo, N.Y.

UB Alumni Reception in Tokyo

06.24.18
Shiba Park Hotel
Tokyo, Japan

August

Punch Brothers Concert

08.08.18
Center for the Arts
North Campus

Welcome our incoming Bulls on Move-In Day

08.23.18
North and South campuses

Mike says: “Help us roll out the welcome mat to our newest students. No heavy lifting required!”

July

Fourth of July Fireworks Display

07.04.18
Baird Point
North Campus

School of Management Golf Outing

07.16.18
Lancaster Country Club
Lancaster, N.Y.

Serious Play Conference

07.16.18–07.19.18
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Downtown Campus

UB on the Green

07.18.18 and 07.25.18
South Campus

At Buffalo goes to press before many event dates are set, so please make sure to check buffalo.edu/alumni/events for updates.

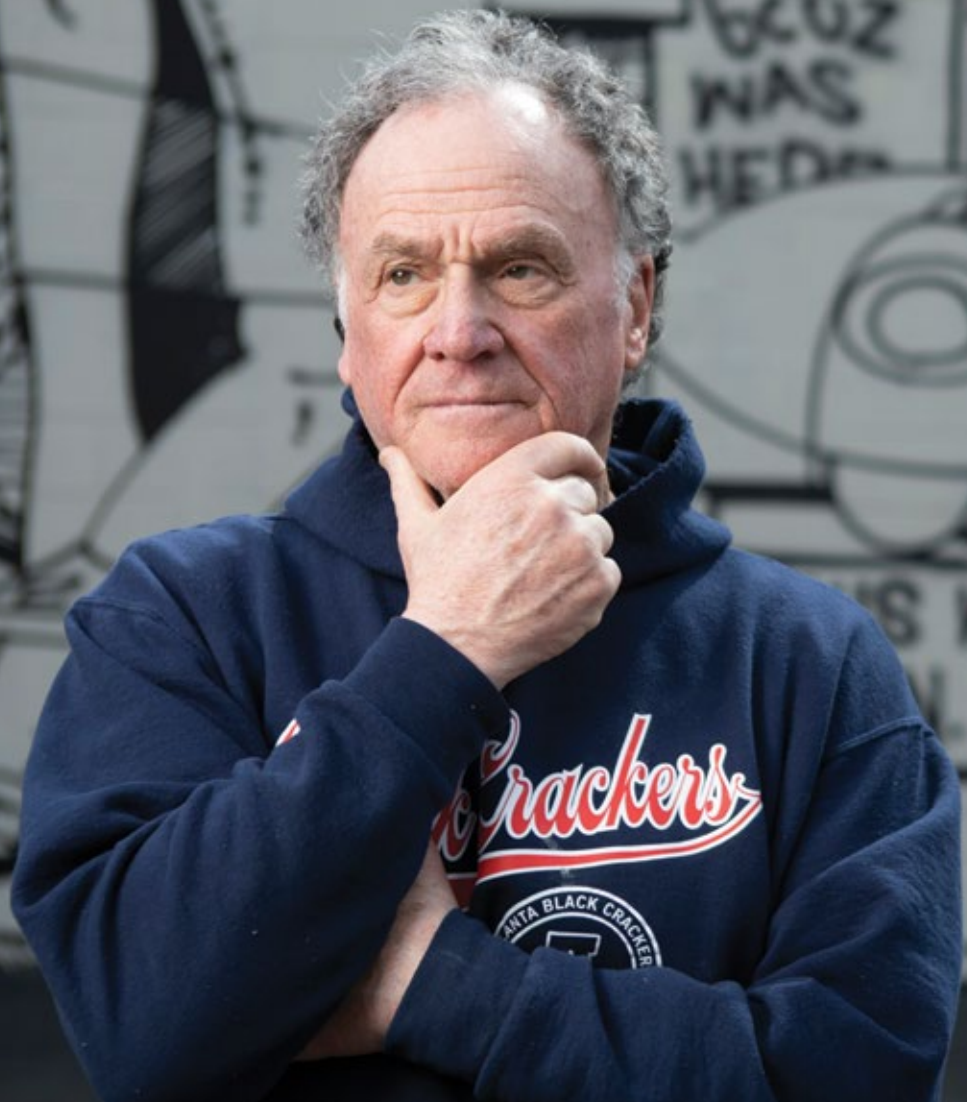
*Mike Anderson (EMBA ’17, BA ’97) is our UB Alumni Association Board president.



#Good2BeBlue

ClassNotes

How to get cozy with the classics [p45](#) →
Kitchen cures for skin and hair [p46](#) →
'03: Magpili makes a robot [p44](#)



Mark Goldman in front of a mural created by the Allen Street Street Art Collective, one of Goldman's many urban projects.

Man About Town

Mark Goldman helps urban neighborhoods remember their past and embrace their future

By Elizabeth Gehrman » Mark Goldman is a people person. Meet him for coffee and you can expect to leave the coffee shop knowing the life stories and probably the cellphone numbers of the owner, the barista, the cashier and every customer in the vicinity of Goldman's table, all of whom were strangers to him before he walked in the door.

It is this trait, perhaps more than any other, that has made Goldman (PhD '73) something of a local celebrity in his adopted hometown of Buffalo; it's the driving force behind all the projects he has undertaken in his eclectic career as urban historian, author, developer, restaurateur and activist—and those projects have been legion.

Among the highlights: In the 1990s Goldman spurred the transformation of downtown's West Chippewa Street from seedy red-light district into thriving social scene by opening the Calumet Cafe, a restaurant and

performance space that was the original home of the Irish Classical Theatre Company. More recently, he led the move to block the opening of a Bass Pro Shop near the waterfront (a prospect many felt would overcommercialize the long-neglected district) and helped shape Canalside, a hugely successful recreation hub along the Erie Canal Harbor that has been a game changer for Buffalo's image and morale.

That's why it's surprising to hear he could have done all of this someplace else. The Manhattan native came to Buffalo in 1967 to study urban history at UB and, he says, just happened to stick around. "It's where I've made connections," he explains. He mentions the Hebrew phrase "tikkun olam," which translates to "heal the world," as a kind of creed. "I never really wanted to do anything but, one, create a meaningful life for myself in the place where I happened to be

CONTINUED

living and, two, try to make that place a little better,” he says. “That’s all I care about.”

When Goldman was doing his graduate work, the statistical approach was all the rage, but he was more drawn to narrative. During a summer in Italy he discovered hill towns “where the whole focus was around the church and the marketplace and the town square,” he says. Writing his dissertation in Europe wasn’t a practical option, but a connective theme emerged when he realized that Buffalo is “a series of Italian hill towns—locally focused.”

He adapted some of the research he’d done on neighborhood development to start the first bus tours in the city and eventually wrote a trio of books—“High Hopes,” “City on the Lake” and “City on the Edge”—that have become classics for students of Rust Belt revivalism. His latest publication, “The Life and Times of John J. Albright,” became a happening, in typical Goldman fashion, when he had a companion play commissioned and put on a three-day event at the art gallery that bears the name of the philanthropic businessman.

A passion for the arts has been at the heart of all of Goldman’s endeavors, including the recent founding of Friends of the Buffalo Story, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving the city’s site-specific heritage. One project in the planning stages is the creation of community-based histories in Buffalo neighborhoods, such as the Lower West Side, Black Rock and South Buffalo—perhaps involving photo exhibits, performance pieces, video documentaries, a book tying it all together. The idea grew out of his association with Per Niente, a social and philanthropic club that produces a magazine chronicling Italian-American culture. “They’re very colorful people,” he says, “and they celebrate their history. I like to sit on a bench and schmooze with old Sicilians.”

Until something else catches his attention, that is—like the grand enterprise he says will be his “last act” (though that seems unlikely given his apparently limitless energy). It’s still in the talking stages, but he’s envisioning a citywide celebration for the 200th anniversary of the completion of the Erie Canal, which Goldman calls an “epochal event in Western New York history and the history of the United States.” He hopes to make the bicentennial a cross-disciplinary “big deal,” involving everyone from playwrights, musicians and archaeologists to geologists and urban planners.

“It’s worth pushing something like that,” he says. “The more we feel connected to the place we live in, the more likely we are to stay and make a difference there.”

CLASS NOTES BY DECADE

Person to Person

60

Randall Eng, BA 1969, joined Meyer Suozzi as counsel in the litigation department, including the appellate practice and criminal defense groups. He will also act as referee, receiver and arbitrator within the firm’s alternative dispute resolution practice. Justice Eng previously served as presiding justice of the New York Appellate Division, Second Department, the largest judicial department in the State of New York. He lives in Manhasset, N.Y.



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» buffalo.edu/alumni

70

Jay Harolds, MD 1971, was named a lifetime achiever by Marquis Who’s Who. Harolds is a radiologist and nuclear medicine physician who works as a residency director, medical student clerkship director and professor of radiology at Michigan State University and Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Mich. He lives in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Allen Wright, BA 1971, retired as a regional corrections manager for adult parole from the Maine Department of Corrections after more than 38 years of service. He resides in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, and works as a part-time cashier for a local supermarket.

Peter vom Scheidt, BS 1972, associate principal at the architecture and engineering firm Wendel, was elected president of the board of directors of the Cantalician Center for Learning. He resides in East Amherst, N.Y.

Louis Mendelsohn, MSW 1973, was awarded the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who’s Who. Mendelsohn has worked as president and chief executive officer with Market Technologies since 1979, and as chief executive officer with his research team, Predictive Technologies Group, since 2004. With nearly 50 years of industry experience, Mendelsohn has acquired numerous achievements, credentials and other honors. He lives in Wesley Chapel, Fla.

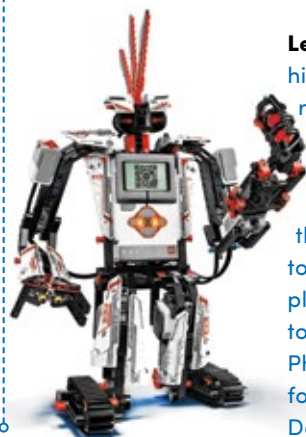
80

Barbara Howe, JD 1980, former New York State Surrogate Judge for Erie County, recently joined Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP as senior counsel. Howe was a faculty member of UB’s Department of Sociology from 1974 to 1987. She resides in Buffalo, N.Y.

James Olchawski, BA 1980, was promoted to vice president, thermal management—sales and marketing for Unifrax. Olchawski will be responsible for leading the company’s thermal management sales and marketing efforts, including strategy development and execution, and customer service. He lives in Corfu, N.Y.

Margaret McGlynn, MBA 1983, BS 1982, was recognized as an influential leader in the global fight against disease by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Recently, McGlynn founded the Hempling Foundation for Homocystinuria Research to fund researchers developing treatments for the rare disorder that claimed her two sisters’ lives as young children. She’s also a member of the Orphan Technologies board of directors, president of the HCU Network America, and a board director at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Amicus Therapeutics and Air Products. McGlynn lives in Flourtown, Pa.

Dan Southwick, BS 1986, was promoted to president of the design-build practice for Dewberry, a



Lee Magpili, BS 2003, is making a name for himself in the world of Lego designs and robotics at the toy giant’s headquarters in Billund, Denmark. Magpili’s robot, EV-AN, captivated guests of all ages at the Lego World 2018 exhibition in Copenhagen, and the duo has been touring internationally to demonstrate the Lego Mindstorms EV3 platform for building programmable robot toys. Magpili, a native of Baguio City, Philippines, has designed models and robots for Lego since 2010. He lives in Billund, Denmark.

COURTESY OF THE LEGO GROUP

privately held professional services firm. He will also maintain his leadership responsibility as the telecommunications market segment leader. Southwick is based in the firm's Raleigh, N.C., office and lives in Apex, N.C.

Gary Goodman, BA 1989, was recognized as a 2017 Top Doctor, emergency medicine, by Orlando magazine. Goodman is an assistant professor of clinical medicine at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine and is an attending physician at the Central Florida Regional Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine. He lives in Lake Mary, Fla.

90

Valerie Tan, BA 1992, was appointed associate chair for the Department of Allied Health Sciences in the School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Tan began her career at UB's Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering in Administration. She resides in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Joseph Pizzurro, BS 1995, was named HNTB's transit and rail practice leader, a newly created position for the New York and New Jersey metropolitan area. Pizzurro, who is based in the architecture and engineering firm's Empire State Building office, is tasked with managing and growing HNTB's transit and rail operations in the region. He resides in Larchmont, N.Y.

Deborah A. Silverman, PhD 1996, associate professor of communication at SUNY Buffalo State, was elected to a three-year term as chair of the communication department.

She also serves as coordinator for the department's new online MS in public relations program and was chair of the Public Relations Society of America's Northeast District Conference held in Buffalo in June 2018. Silverman lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

Mark Noonan, BA 1998, was appointed as vicar general and moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Buffalo. Ordained in 2007, the Rev. Noonan has been pastor of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Holley, N.Y., and St. Mark Roman Catholic Church in Kendall, N.Y., since 2010 after serving as parochial vicar at St. Amelia Roman Catholic Church in Tonawanda, N.Y. He resides in Buffalo, N.Y.

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Jennifer Redding, MBA 2001, BA 1998, joined Liberty Home Care as vice president. In her spare time, Redding enjoys spending time with her children, volunteering as a triathlon coach, and participating in triathlon and cycling races. She lives in Amherst, N.Y.

Terrance McCarthy, PMCert 2004, BA 1995, completed his dissertation, "A Qualitative Study of the Implementation of an Evidence-Based Program in a K-12 Setting," and earned a doctorate in education in executive leadership from St. John Fisher College. McCarthy is the K-12 director of humanities for the Webster Central School District and lives in Webster, N.Y.

Eric Hepkins, PMBA 2004, is chief executive officer for the Cornerstone Community Federal Credit Union. Hepkins comes to

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LISA HANEX, BA '98

How-to with Richie English, MA '09, MusB '07

Radio Host, WNED-FM; In-house Composer, GCR Audio

Interview by Rebecca Rudell » "Everybody loves classical music," says Richie English. "Some just haven't met it yet." English, a pianist and composer, met classical music early. At 6 years old, after hearing his mother play Beethoven's "Für Elise," he sat next to her on the piano bench and played a bastardized version of it. "I could see the music," he says.

Since then, he has achieved other impressive musical feats, from teaching piano lessons at the age of 10 at Denton, Cottier & Daniels (a historic WNY piano dealer) to performing for the Dalai Lama while an undergraduate at UB, to orchestrating pieces for everyone from Michael Franti to Denny Laine of the Moody Blues.

Indeed, English works with numerous popular artists as an in-house composer for GCR Audio (a recording studio complex in Buffalo founded by the Goo Goo Dolls' Robby Takac) and is no stranger to the Billboard Top 10. But his real love is classical music, which he nurtures on his WNED-FM show "Classics by Request" and as a host of the station's "Evening Classics." When he's spinning tunes from bygone centuries, he says, "I share with listeners the works that have transformed—and continue to transform—my life. For four hours I'm lost in Wagner or Chopin, and it just strengthens what's already in my genetic coding."

We asked English how someone who's never met classical music can get to know it.

How to become a classical music listener:

Listen actively. Set aside time to really listen to the performances. No cellphone, no distractions.

Composers are people too. The men who wrote this music weren't just historical figures in wigs and stockings, but real human beings with real human flaws. For example, Johannes Brahms was in love with Clara Schumann, the wife of his hero, Robert Schumann. It's believed that he never consummated this love, but he did compose several works in her honor. You can really connect to the emotions embedded in those notes.

Hear the story. Every piece, whether two hours or 10 minutes long, is a dramatic unfolding of a life, event or era. Follow the narrative as it unfolds. Experience the adventures of the characters—meaning melodies or themes—as they undergo transformative events.

Start with Wagner. You can absolutely hear his "leitmotifs" (German for "leading motive")—short musical fragments that represent characters or settings and help convey the story. Think of Wagner's leitmotif as an early version of a film score: It lets us know how to feel and when.

Here are a few pieces English recommends to all listeners (with commentary):

- » Igor Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" ("It started a riot in Paris in 1913 and hasn't lost its capacity to shock.")
- » Antonín Dvořák's Nocturne in B major for strings, Op. 40 ("The sound of painful beauty.")
- » Franz Liszt's Sonata in B minor ("Get ready!")

Class Notes

the credit union from HSBC Bank, where he was senior vice president, U.S. head of retail transformation and streamlining. Before that, he served as head of retail banking for Evans Bank, as well as in various retail and administrative positions within HSBC. Hopkins resides in Buffalo, N.Y.

Michael Mancini, EdM 2006, was named chief of staff and secretary to the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State University in Trenton, N.J. He'll become the primary adviser to the president and work across divisions to help set and implement the institution's strategic direction. Mancini lives in Gansevoort, N.Y.

Michael Tyrpak, BA 2006, was awarded the Accredited Investment Fiduciary designation from the Center for Fiduciary Studies. The designation signifies specialized knowledge of fiduciary responsibility and ability to implement policies and procedures that meet a defined standard of care. Tyrpak resides in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

John Castanaro, DDS 2007, MS 2002, was named a 2018 Top Doctor in Yonkers, N.Y., for demonstrating clinical excellence and delivering the highest standards of patient care. Castanaro is a cosmetic and family

dentist with his own practice and is affiliated with the Mount Sinai Hospital Family Health Center. He lives in Yonkers, N.Y.

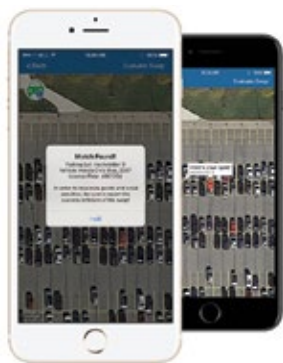
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Jess Ettell Irvine, EdM 2011, was appointed director of student conduct and community standards at Ohio Wesleyan University. She is responsible for creating and enforcing community standards as well as overseeing the student conduct process to assure fairness. Ettell Irvine is a former program coordinator for student activities at UB. She currently lives in Lewis Center, Ohio.

Joshua Erni, BS 2016, is an architectural designer at CPL, a full-service design firm. Before CPL, Erni completed an internship at Kideney Architects. Erni resides in Buffalo, N.Y.

Edward Schneider, BS 2016, joined the engineering group for Foit-Albert Associates as junior engineer. In this position, he assists with environmental research and performs stormwater pollution prevention plan inspections. Schneider resides in Eden, N.Y.

Andrew Mingola, BS 2017, created a free app, *Spot Swapper*, which connects UB students looking for a parking place on the North or South campus with students who are leaving the spot. The app launched in April. Mingola currently lives in Pleasant Valley, N.Y.



BETSY EVERTT

Top Five *with* Kasia Cummings, BS '97

Founder, Buffalo Gal Organics

Interview by Rebecca Rudell » "Chemistry was the hardest subject I've ever taken, but it was fascinating," says Kasia Cummings, founder and self-proclaimed "chief mix master" of Buffalo Gal Organics, a 100-percent plant-based, organic and ethically sourced skin care line.

Holistic entrepreneur wasn't in Cummings' original life plan. After graduating with a degree in medicinal chemistry, she worked as a chemist for a small R&D firm in Buffalo before leaving the field to work in retail, managing different divisions at Wegmans Food Markets.

Then, in 2009, her youngest daughter developed a recurring rash on her hands from her school's hand sanitizer. With her training in chemistry, Cummings realized she could do something about it, so she researched ingredients, ordered what she needed online and formulated a lotion that cured her child's skin ailment.

Family and friends started clamoring for the lotion, spurring Cummings to do further research on the chemicals used in mass-market products and to develop more wholesome alternatives. "It became a mission for me to create products that were healthier for everyone," she says.

In 2010 she founded Buffalo Gal Organics, which today produces more than 200 creams, cleansers, cosmetics and perfumes, using ingredients with colorful names like white willow bark and blue tansy. Cummings left Wegmans four years later to devote herself full time to her company, which sells its products online as well as through a recently established storefront in Williamsville, a suburb of Buffalo.

Since most of us don't have marula oil or blue-green algae in our cupboards, we asked Cummings for some common kitchen ingredients to pamper our skin and leave the toxic chemicals behind. Bonus: Most of these work on hair too.

Five kitchen items to improve your skin (and hair):

1 Honey
Throw it in a blender with yogurt and bananas for a soothing mask. For acne-prone skin, swap bananas with pineapple.

2 Apple cider vinegar
Dilute with water or witch hazel and add a few drops of essential oil—I suggest lavender for puffy skin—to make an amazing toner. Or use it

to clean your hair and get the gunky, built-up product out.

3 Coconut oil
Use as a hair conditioner or to soften skin. Just don't apply it to your face, as it's heavy and may clog pores.

4 Baking soda
Sprinkle into a warm bath. Baking soda helps detoxify and soothe your skin as you soak.

(NOTE: If you're pregnant, or have diabetes or high blood pressure, talk to your doctor before trying this tip.)

5 Olive oil
Another moisturizer for hair and skin that's rich in antioxidants and vitamins, and free of chemicals. If you grow lavender in your garden, add some crushed-up buds to create your own essential oil.



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1920 UB's First Capital Campaign

In 1920, the “Build for Buffalo” UB endowment fund campaign raised \$5.2 million in just 12 days—the equivalent of about \$65 million today.

Meant to fund construction on the mostly vacant land that would eventually become the South Campus, the campaign featured some 350 billboards and posters installed around the city, along with films and slides in movie theaters, signs on trolley cars and countless ads and promotions.

At the time, UB was a loose confederation of schools whose 1,000 students attended classes in buildings scattered across various downtown sites. It had purchased a 106-acre tract along Main Street and the city line in 1909, but with virtually no endowment the university was unable to do anything toward realizing the creation of a traditional campus.

Enter Walter P. Cooke, a prominent local attorney who had organized four wildly successful Liberty Loan campaigns during the recent world war (slogan:

“Buffalo Never Fails”). He took over as chairman of the University Council in 1920 and quickly organized UB's first capital campaign, appealing to the city's populace to give for the benefit “of all Buffalo boys and girls—regardless of race, creed or class.”

“The workingman can send his sons and his daughters to the U. of B. while they live at home,” read one of the endowment fund appeals, “and if they are diligent they can even win scholarships which will give them tuition free.”

Thus was born a more egalitarian vision of UB as a university for the entire community. By the end of the year, the 24,000 persons who contributed to the Build for Buffalo campaign had enabled the establishment of a true campus and the growth of the College of Arts and Sciences. The campaign was “an achievement,” the president of Brown University said in a visit to Buffalo that Thanksgiving, “without precedent or parallel in the history of education in this country.” ⁸



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MARK WALLHEISER

LAST LOOK **March Gladness** A jubilant UB women's basketball team celebrates its 86-65 triumph over Florida State in the 2018 NCAA Tournament—a win that sent the Bulls to the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history. Indeed, last March was UB basketball's finest hour. The men's team won the MAC championship and beat heavily favored Arizona in the first round of the NCAA Tournament en route to a 27-9 record. The women knocked off favored South Florida and Florida State in the NCAAs before finishing with a 29-6 mark and a No. 21 ranking in the USA Today Coaches Poll, the highest ever attained by UB hoops in Division I. How good were these teams? Their combined 26-1 home record was the best in the nation. The Bulls' future is bright, but 2018 will always stand out as something special.