



QUEENS COLLEGE WEBZINE UPDATE

SPRING 2005 VOL. 2, NO. 2

4

Is it really a Vermeer?

6

*Graduate is driving
force behind first
Entrepreneurs Conference*

8

Alumni Notes

JUNE 2 COMMENCEMENT

Commencement to Honor Those Who Brought Andrew Goodman's Killer to Justice



(Above) Reporter
Jerry Mitchell

(Left) Carolyn
Goodman with
photo of son
Andrew

JERRY MITCHELL WAS FIVE YEARS OLD on that June day in 1964 when Queens College student Andrew Goodman and two other civil rights workers were murdered by members of the Ku Klux Klan in Mississippi.

The event might have remained little more than a grim chapter of local history

to Mitchell had he not seen Hollywood's vivid portrayal of the murders, *Mississippi Burning*, in 1989. By this time a reporter at the *Clarion-Ledger* in Jackson, MS, Mitchell was so stirred by the film he threw himself into a series of investigative stories about these and other unpunished crimes from Mississippi's notorious racist past. Last January, thanks in part to Mitchell's work, Edgar Ray Killen was

indicted for the murders of Goodman, James Chaney, and Michael Schwerner.

On Thursday, June 2, Mitchell will come to Andrew Goodman's school to be the featured speaker for the 2005 Commencement ceremonies. He will be honored with the Queens College President's Medal, as will the Philadelphia (MS) Coalition. A multiracial organization, the coalition has long agitated for justice for the murders that took place in their community.

They also work to see that the murders are properly commemorated.

Andrew's mother Carolyn Goodman, a social activist who has remained involved in civil rights work since her son's death, will also speak at Commencement.

A survivor of another troubled period of the 20th century will be honored at Commencement when the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters is conferred upon William Ungar in recognition of his



Philanthropist William Ungar will receive honorary doctorate at Commencement

"wholehearted commitment to Holocaust memory, higher education, and the fostering of tolerance and understanding among people of all backgrounds." Ungar, one of the country's greatest entrepreneurs, chronicled his remarkable story in his book *Destined to Live*.

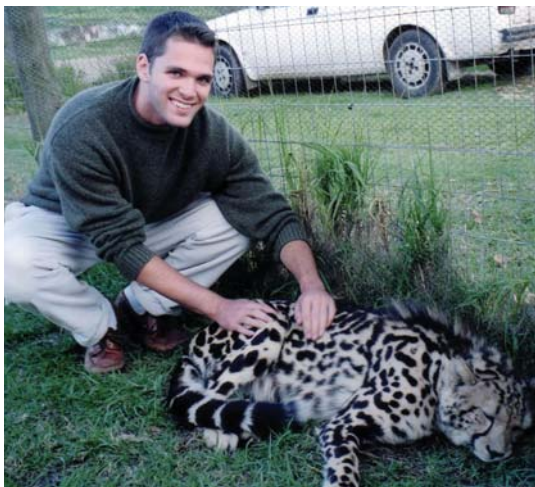
Today, he is an executive member of the advisory board of the Center for Jewish Studies and widely known for his philanthropic largesse. He is a principal founder of the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., as well as a founder of the New York Museum of Jewish Heritage and Yad Layaan Children's Museum in Israel.

Commencement will begin with the traditional processional at 9 am on the Quad. Graduates from September 2004 and February 2005 will join the June class in the ceremony, which will see the awarding of 2760 bachelor's degrees and 1500 master's degrees. A Webcast of the event begins a half-hour earlier on the QC Web site. Additional information about Commencement and other end of year ceremonies is available at

www.qc.cuny.edu/graduation .

student PROFILE

Jay Horowitz: Portrait of a Super-Achiever as a Young Man



That frees up probably six hours in an average 19-year-old's day."

Horowitz is anything but average. His commitment to public service, he explains, is rooted in a deeply felt sense of family, faith, and community: "I felt that I needed to give something back to my community. I like to get involved in things, especially when I see they're not being run as efficiently as they could, and, in the worst case, not being done at all."

He cites his creation of the Riverdale Parks Initiative, which began with his organizing an effort

Last March, while most of us struggled to get home through a vicious winter storm, Jay Horowitz was driving to upstate Ellenville to begin training in wilderness firefighting.

The QC freshman and member of the CUNY Honors College can now add certification as a "wildland firefighter" to his impressive list of accomplishments. At 19, the Riverdale native is the youngest member of Community Board 8 in the Bronx. He also volunteers as an auxiliary policeman and sits on the 50th Precinct's Community Council. A member of the Bronx County Historical Society, he also has served as a speaker for the New York Public Interest Research Group and is Deputy Campaign Manager for Ari Hoffnug's campaign to unseat City Councilman Oliver Koppell.

How does he find the time to do all these things while carrying a full course load? "I use iCal religiously," he laughs, describing a popular time-management software program. "And I don't watch TV.

to clean up the Phyllis Post-Goodman Park in Riverdale. "The cleanup went very well," he says, "and someone came downstairs from the apartment building next to the park and said, 'I've been waiting for someone to do this for ten years.'

"I asked him if he'd be interested in helping out. He said, 'No thanks. My TV show is on.'"

While Horowitz has yet to declare a major, he is interested in clinical psychology, emergency services, and politics. Through his work on Community Board 8, he has already made some impressive strides in politics.

Horowitz can also recount a success related to his interest in clinical psychology. While staffing a peer counseling center at the Frisch School, an Orthodox Jewish high school in Paramus, NJ, he talked two students out of pursuing plans to commit suicide. "Psychology is about helping people, and helping people help themselves." He still stays in touch with those two students.

Balancing so many responsibilities would be stressful for someone twice his age, but Horowitz has a number of outlets for leisure, including passions for crossword puzzles and music.

"I play guitar; I'm really into jazz," he says, listing QC's Antonio Hart among

musicians he admires. Horowitz marked his own birthday in December by performing a set at a downtown jazz club.

He also enjoys traveling with his family and has visited Russia and, last summer, southern Africa.

Knights End a Record-Setting Season



John Sikiric

QC Knights celebrate after capturing the NYCAC championship

Despite a team-leading 20 points from senior John Sikiric in his valedictory appearance, the Queens College men's basketball team could not overcome a 7-for-33 shooting drought from the field and ended their season falling 85-68 to top-seeded Bentley College on March 12 in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Northeast Regionals in Waltham, MA.

It was the Knights' third appearance in

the Division II NCAA tournament in five years. This year's NYCAC champs, they finished the season with 22 wins, the highest single-season total in the 67-year history of the program.

Sikiric, who was selected the 2005 NYCAC Tournament's Most Valuable Player, finishes his career as a Knight with 1670 points, placing him

fourth on the all-time scoring list. His 611 points this year set a new single-season team record. He was also named to the all-Northeast Region first team, making him one of only 80 student-athletes in eight regions to be selected. Other end-of-year honors for Sikiric included the Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association's Division II Player of the Year, and the Queens College Silver Knight Award.

Head coach Kyrk Peponakis said of Sikiric, "He's the most professional player we've ever had. He's led us from day one and carried us to where we are."

The Journalism Program: Vibrant and Growing

Since becoming director in fall 2003, Wayne Svoboda has presided over some major advances in both the scope and size of the journalism program at the college. He can proudly point to a notable 50 percent increase in enrollment (180 students as compared to 120 last year); the addition of two adjunct positions; and, for the first time, journalism classes at night.

But with the sudden death in March of his colleague Judy Serrin, he must also confront a serious loss.

“Judy Serrin loved the news and she loved to teach,” says Svoboda. “She played a key role in strengthening the quality of the journalism program during her three years on our faculty. Judy loved her students and her students loved her. She served as their mentor and their advocate. She encouraged them to think about the news, how to report and write it, and how to understand it. Her loss breaks our heart.”

Like Serrin, who had worked for many years at the *Detroit Free Press* and the *New York Times*, Svoboda has a distinguished pedigree in professional journalism, including stints at the *Washington Post*, the *Economist*, *Time* magazine, and the *Des Moines Register*. He brings the kind of real-world experience and access that provides students with knowledge of the profession that is both well-informed and current.

In November a group of students was uniquely privileged to be invited to the annual fund-raising dinner for the Committee to Protect Journalists, an important black-tie event attended by many of the most prominent figures in journalism.

Whenever possible, Svoboda arranges

to have students meet with people who regularly ply the craft. Recently, his class on ethics visited the national desk at the *New York Daily News*, and last spring a group met with Daniel Okrent, the public editor at the *New York Times* who fields reader questions about issues related to journalistic ethics. Meetings were also arranged with the city hall reporter for the *New York Post*, *USA Today*'s New York correspondent, and representatives from local weeklies.



Wayne Svoboda

Guest speakers for last spring's course in specialized reporting included Richard Sandomir of the *New York Times* sports desk and Marine Captain Alison Salerno, who served in Iraq in 2003 and discussed the process of embedding. (This fall, the journalism program and the history department will co-list a course on the history of war reporting from Vietnam to Iraq.)

The real nitty-gritty of putting out a daily paper in New York was the topic when *Newsday*'s new editor, John Mancini, addressed students at a special evening event last fall. “We try to give them an accurate sense of what goes on

in this business: for good and not so good,” says Svoboda. “We also encourage them to believe that if they're talented, there will be a place for them.”

The program remains current, says Svoboda, through its use of a journalist-in-residence—currently Gerald Solomon, who arrived this year from CNN.

“Broadcasting in particular changes its technology quickly. So if we bring in someone from the broadcast world every two years, we don't have the problem of people whose last time in the newsroom was when they shot on film.”

Svoboda also serves as an ambassador for the program. Last spring he conducted a tutorial for staff members of the Queens Tribune. This summer he'll venture to Moscow under the auspices of a Fulbright Senior Fellowship to teach a seminar for journalists from the former Soviet republics.

In addition to his duties at Queens, Svoboda is also involved in developing the curriculum for CUNY's new graduate journalism school, which will begin offering classes in fall 2006.

About his first year at Queens, Svoboda says: “The single most important thing we've done is our concerted effort to become a more prominent part of the college, and the best way is by bringing more students in. It's like those studies of newspaper readership: one person buys the paper, but there's a pass-along factor. So one student takes a class in journalism, but talks to five or six other students, and says ‘Hey, I took this really interesting class in journalism.’”

If his first year says anything about Svoboda, it's that he'll keep the journalism program interesting.



An Exaltation of Laureates

To celebrate National Poetry Month, all past and present poet laureates of the borough of Queens converged on campus on Thursday, April 14 to read from their works. These included (l-r) current laureate Ishle Yi Park, Hal Sirowitz, and the first poet laureate, Stephen Stepanchev (Emeritus English). They were joined by Nicole Cooley (English) and a number of student poets.

Making Plans for a Jewish Studies Resource Room

(L-r) Jewish Studies Director Benny Kraut, Queens Councilman James Gennaro, and Harold Bloom, an executive member of the college's Center for Jewish Studies, look over the architectural drawings for the new Jewish Studies academic resource and reading room. The room, which will be on the third floor of Jefferson Hall, was made possible by the generosity of Councilman Gennaro's office.



facultyPROFILE

Benjamin Binstock: Offering a New Theory on Vermeer



One of last year's surprise cinema successes was a small film that offered a fictionalized scenario relating to the Dutch painter Vermeer's celebrated *Girl with the Pearl Earring*.

The film, based on Tracy Chevalier's

novel of the same name, portrayed the model for the painting as a young servant who joins the Vermeer household. But a new member of the Art Department has a theory that will likely provoke some surprise among art cognoscenti. "There's a true story behind that fiction," says Ben Binstock, "and the true story is even more interesting.

"Earlier scholars identified the girl in the painting as Vermeer's daughter," he continues, "but my most controversial claim is that this same daughter painted six of the paintings now attributed to her father.

"One of these, *Portrait of a Woman*, closely follows the composition of *Girl with the Pearl Earring*, but lacks its outstanding three-dimensional volume, color harmonies, and subtle details, yet arguably demonstrates greater sympathy for the homely model," he observes. Connections between this and other compositions and their dependence on Vermeer's paintings, rooms, and objects in his house, and use of the same models, among other evidence, leads Binstock to assign them to an unknown apprentice. Since this apprentice is not recorded in



Portrait of a Woman, one of the paintings attributed by Ben Binstock to Vermeer's daughter, Maria.

documents, it must have been one of Vermeer's children, specifically his eldest daughter, Maria.

"Chevalier's book is a work of fiction, but the idea of the book—that Vermeer's biography is important to his work—is true, and it's something art historians shy away from. It's central to my book, *Vermeer's Family Secrets: Biography, Art History and the Unknown Apprentice*."

While Binstock is still revising his manuscript, his most recent passion is another painter of the Delft School, Rembrandt's student Carel Fabritius. "Fabritius was the father of Delft painting in the second half of the 17th century, and the third greatest Dutch painter after Rembrandt and Vermeer," explains Binstock. "I think I've discovered several crucial works of his," he says, referring to works in storage in museum collections

that are currently unattributed.

A scholar of Baroque art, Netherlandish painting, and the history of art history, Binstock joined the Art Department as an assistant professor in the spring, arriving from a fellowship at the American Academy of Berlin. He spent seven years at NYU, where he was head of the critical studies area in the Department of Art and Art Professions. He received a BA and MA from the University of California, Berkeley and, after years of study in Germany and the Netherlands, completed his PhD in the history of art history at Columbia.

Binstock is an enthusiastic advocate of digital technology in research and the classroom. "Instead of just two, we can show

many images at once, which is crucial for comparisons, the essence of art history," he says. "I also generate digital oeuvre catalogues in relative scale, so we can follow an artist's painting-by-painting development and evolving vision, and recognize works erroneously attributed to a master that do not fit into this development.

"This method," he continues, "allows for the rigorous chronology of Vermeer's oeuvre, the discovery of Maria Vermeer, the recognition of unknown paintings by Carel Fabritius, as well as re-attributions to Rembrandt's students of many paintings now assigned to him, and attribution to Rembrandt of paintings assigned to others. It is crucial to be able to share this new method with students."

Some Olive Oil, a Little Vinegar and Presto

More than 250 students from five local high schools—John Adams, Francis Lewis, Hillcrest, John Bowne, and Townsend Harris—were on hand for the seventh edition of the Thomas J. Hayden III Holiday Chemistry Show in Remsen Hall. They were treated to a series of entertaining demonstrations performed by faculty and Tom Sangiorgi, a Townsend Harris chemistry teacher and Queens College alumnus.

As director of laboratories and chief college laboratory technician, Hayden served the college for 40 years. Since his passing, the Chemistry & Biochemistry Department has continued to present the annual show, which Hayden initiated and enthusiastically performed in even after his retirement.



President Muyskens performs a little chemical magic at the Holiday Chemistry Show.

QCpeople



Alcalay

AMMIEL ALCALAY (Classical Languages), whose essay “The Quill’s Embroidery” appears in *The Schocken Book of Modern Sephardic Literature*, recently took part in an electronic discussion of the anthology hosted by *The Forward*. Another book to which Alcalay made a major contribution, *Diasporas* by Frederic Benner, received a 2004 National Jewish Book Award . . . **STEPHANE BOISSINOT** (Biology) received a three-year award totaling \$231,000 to study the “Molecular Evolution of Flavivirus-Resistance in Mice.” Usually spread by mosquitoes and ticks, these disease-causing viruses include West Nile virus . . . **NICHOLAS COCH** (Earth & Environ Sciences) recently discussed the many origins of tsunamis in the Indian and Pacific Oceans and their effect on coastal regions in Asia at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD . . .



Einhorn

SUSAN EINHORN (Drama) was praised by the *New York Times* for her “assured direction” of the play *Finding Claire*, which was performed at Manhattan’s Theater for the New City in February . . . **JESSICA HARRIS** (SEEK) was named the winner of the 2005 Philadelphia Toque Award, given in recognition of a lifetime of achievement in culinary arts and letters. Previous winners include Julia Child, Jacques Pepin, and Craig Claiborne . . . “Imaginative, personal, and beautifully made,” said the *New York Times* in a review of an exhibition of **CHARLES MARTIN’S** (Comp Lit) black-and-white urban photographs at June Kelly Gallery in SoHo. Martin’s photographs are part of numerous museum and public collections, including the Museum of Modern Art, and can be seen at www.junekellygallery.com . . . **CHARLES MOLESWORTH** (English) has been awarded a fellowship by the American Academy in Berlin for spring 2006. His research project will be the completion of a critical biography of Alain Locke, African



Martin

American philosopher and cultural critic best known as one of the leaders of the Harlem Renaissance. It is being written under advance contract with the University of Chicago Press . . . **GREGORY RABASSA** (Hispanic Languages) was a guest on the March 5 edition of “Studio 360” on Public Radio International. He paid tribute to the writings of Clarice Lispector in a March 11 appearance on WNYC’s “Leonard Lopate Show,” as he did in a story appearing the same day in the *New York Times* . . . “Class Requirement: Crossing Lines on the Middle East” was the headline of a March 8 *New York Times* article on **MARK ROSENBLUM’S** (History) unique class on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The article, on p. 1 of the Metro section, also ran in the national edition. CUNY-TV aired a related feature March 13 . . . **CATHY SAVAGE-DUNN** (Biology) has received a three-year award totaling \$215,000 to study “Body Size Control Genes and TGF-beta Signaling in *C elegans*.” This research, which uses the nematode (*C elegans*) as a model organism to look for a way to clone these genes and discover how they function, has applications

both to human development and diseases like cancer and certain vascular diseases. This is an Academic Research Enhancement Award that incorporates undergraduates in the research . . . “The News at Ten” on WPIX-TV featured **JEFFREY HALPERIN** (Psychology) in a Feb. 2 story about how college students are abusing Adderall, a drug used to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, as a stimulant . . . A story in the Jan. 19 *Queens Courier* speculating on whether CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein would make another “stellar” selection in picking a president for York College, cited **PRESIDENT JAMES MUYSKENS** as one of CUNY’s “stars” . . . **ROLF SWENSEN** (Library) received the 2004 Arrington-Prucha Prize from the Western History Association for the best essay of the year on the religious history of the West. His winning essay is entitled “Pilgrims at the Golden Gate: Christian Scientists on the Pacific Coast, 1880–1915.”



Halperin

Armstrong House to Acquire Hilbert Collection

One of the surprising things Michael Cogswell noticed when presiding over the restoration of the Louis Armstrong House was “for whatever reason, there were very few Louis Armstrong recordings discovered in the house. There were about a thousand discs of other musicians, but Louis’s own recordings could be counted in the dozens.”

Cogswell speculates that since Armstrong preferred to listen to music at home on reel-to-reel tapes, he perhaps

made tapes of his own recordings and then gave the discs away. That’s why he’s delighted that the Armstrong House is about to acquire the Robert G. Hilbert Collection of Louis Armstrong Recordings.

“Bob Hilbert was a former president of the International Association of Jazz Record Collectors,” Cogswell explains. “He collected everything, but he was especially strong in Louis Armstrong. He passed away suddenly in the late 1990s

and his widow, Betsy, wanted us to have his collection. She passed away and his daughter inherited the collection. That’s when the acquisition finally came to fruition.”

The collection consists of 334 78-RPM discs; 395 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ -RPM discs; 69 45-RPM discs; three reel-to-reel tapes; and 15 books. “They’ll be available in the archives for research purposes and we will probably have some on display in Louis’s den,” says Cogswell.

But there is an even bigger acquisition pending, Cogswell says. “We have an agreement to acquire the Jack Bradley collection of Armstrong materials. It’s been appraised at over \$1 million and private collectors in Japan have offered Jack much more than that. He is giving it to us for \$550,000, payable over eight years. But we need to raise the money. Anything that we can do to get the word out, we want to do.”

Alum Creates QC's First Conference on Entrepreneurship

From the pitfalls of promoting British punk rock bands (it's hard to get visas as they all have criminal records) to the challenges of advertising on television in the age of TiVo (you write the ads into the plots of the shows), decades of hard-won wisdom were presented April 15 at the college's first Entrepreneurship Conference.

Sponsored by the college's Business and Liberal Arts (BALA) program, the conference brought together a panel of a dozen highly successful entrepreneurs representing a wide variety of business endeavors, including baby products, modular housing, soft drinks, rock concerts, and Internet search engines. Recounting their own experiences, they offered the audience gathered in the Persia Campbell Dome their version of what it takes to

start up a business in today's constantly changing economy.

The tone for the conference was set by keynote speaker John Lusk, senior marketing manager at Microsoft, in his extemporaneous and often amusing address, "Adventures of a Student Entrepreneur," which recounted the ups and downs of his attempts to market a computer mouse shaped as the head of a golf club. (His book about this venture, *Mouse Driver Chronicles*, is now required reading at many business schools.) Lunch was followed by breakout sessions in which audience members, including many BALA students, had an opportunity to meet the entrepreneurs, and in some instances, discuss the possibilities of internships.

Participants at the event were able to get a real taste of entrepreneurship—

literally—by way of several different flavored healthy soft drinks provided by Wild Fruit, the latest business venture of panelist Trev Warshauer. Wall Street banker Violy McCausland-Seve, a native of Colombia, closed out the daylong event with her afternoon keynote address on "The Hispanicization of America and Implications for Entrepreneurs."

The conference was the brainchild of Len Schutzman '67, a successful entrepreneur and former senior VP and treasurer for PepsiCo. His declared dream is to see a permanent center for entrepreneurship created at Queens College. Schutzman served as moderator for the panel, which included friends and business associates



Len Schutzman talks with students at April 15 Entrepreneurship Conference

he brought together to demonstrate the kind of talent that would be available to serve as mentors for such a center. He also believes there are members of the faculty with ideas who could benefit from entrepreneurial guidance. As he told the audience in his opening remarks, "This is just an appetizer."

[continued on page 7](#)

College to Host Jazz on a Summer's Day

With the world's most famous skyline as backdrop, the Quad will vibrate to the rhythms of Latin jazz on July 31 as the college presents its first annual Summer Fest.

"It's fun to think of doing something outdoors on the Quad in summer with the backdrop of the city, making it a festive day for people to come back to the campus," says Golden Center Director Vivian Charlop, citing one of the event's main goals: bringing alums back to campus.

The all-day festival will feature the Latin Jazz Coalition, Ray Vega & the Latin Jazz Sextet, and the Chico O'Farrill Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra. "Having jazz as the bedrock of the program is obvious," explains Charlop. "Jazz is a big part of the cultural history of Queens and we thought it might be of interest to both alums and the community.

"We're keeping the admission to \$10,

which will help cover our costs," says Charlop, "and children 12 and under are free." If Summer Fest is a success, it might be expanded in the future to two days with multiple stages in different parts of the campus. And as Summer Fest is occurring on a summer day in New York, Charlop's quick to add, "We do have a rain date: Sunday, August 14."

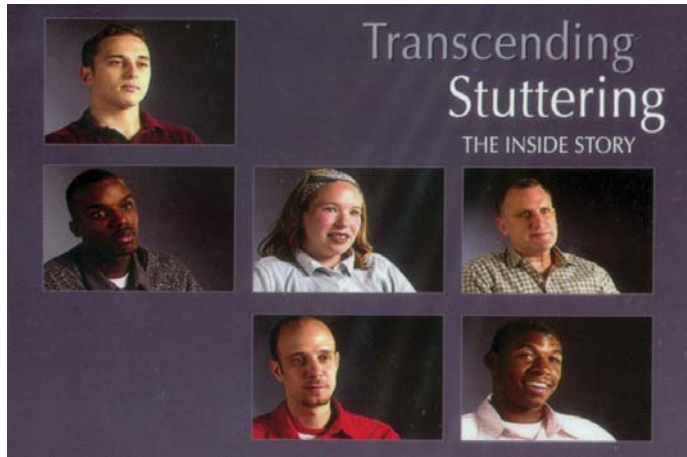
Summer Fest will provide a feast for the eyes as well as the ears. Festival goers will be treated to a number of art exhibits in the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, the QC Art Center, and the Louis Armstrong Archives. And for those who want to see how Louis lived, the Satchmobile will be shuttling the curious free of charge from the Quad to the Armstrong House Museum in Corona all day long. Summer Fest goers will receive a special reduced admission at the House Museum.



The Latin Jazz Coalition (above) and Ray Vega (r.) and his Latin Jazz Sextet are among the performers who will be appearing at the college's first annual Summer Fest on Sunday, July 31.



An Uplifting Message for Stutterers



Phillip Schneider's new documentary *Transcending Stuttering* offers stories of hope to those who suffer from the condition.

Alan Rabinowitz has an enviable resume. As director for science and exploration for the Wildlife Conservation Society, he is a recognized expert and international lecturer on behalf of wildlife. Called the "Indiana Jones" of wildlife science by the *New York Times*, he has written several books and hundreds of scientific articles and is widely recognized for his efforts to preserve jaguars and tigers from extinction. Yet perhaps his greatest accomplishment has been his success in coming to terms with and conquering his stuttering.

Rabinowitz is one of seven "friends" who relate their profoundly personal stories in *Transcending Stuttering: The Inside Story*, a film created by speech pathologist Phillip Schneider (Linguistics & Communication Disorders) chronicling how these individuals bravely fought to take control of a condition that had taken control of their lives. The 28-minute film, which includes another 90 minutes of in-depth personal histories, was released in March

by the National Stuttering Association www.westutter.org, which receives all proceeds from its sale.

Using videos of the individuals he has treated for many years—in some cases from child to adult—combined with their personal recollections, Schneider presents the case

histories as inspirational stories. They are interspersed with his own on-screen commentary.

"We're not human beings; we're human becomings," Schneider is fond of saying. He hopes that as more people who stutter see his film, they will realize they can become masters of their own destinies in spite of their "disfluency." He also has a message for those who don't stutter: "What appears broken on the outside can be whole on the inside."

It was not his intention, he explains, to make a typical health film that shows "what causes the problem and what you do to fix it." He wanted, instead, to invoke a universal theme that all can relate to: "A life is a dynamic between self-acceptance and self-development."

A past winner of the President's Excellence in Teaching Award, Schneider, who received his master's in speech pathology from Queens, would like to create an interactive DVD to help future students in the field.



Celebrating Black History Month: Three Campus Scenes

The college's observance of Black History Month included films, concerts, lectures, online discussions, exhibits, and a town hall meeting on the legacy of the 1954 Brown decision. Clockwise from top left: teachers and students participate in a discussion of Alice Walker's novel *Meridian*; President James Muyskens greets Tamara Jackson, the producer of the PBS series *Slavery*; QC students take part in a celebration of African dance on February 23 in the Goldstein Theatre.

Entrepreneurs from page 6

Like many ideas, the notion to have a conference began over dinner. Having previously taught a related course at the University of Rochester's Simon Graduate School of Business, Schutzman says, he was invited some years ago to teach a BALA course on entrepreneurship at QC.

When BALA director Barbara Sandler recently invited him to reunite over dinner with the eight students from that class, he notes, "I found out that six of them were in entrepreneurial businesses; two had written the business plans for their companies while they were at

Queens College. That got me very motivated. We have a great group of students. They're passionate about things and Queens is a hotbed for entrepreneurial activity because of all the immigration and new Americans here. It struck me that maybe I could put together a center with the purpose of creating the next generation of entrepreneurs."

Born in Flushing and raised in Bayside, Schutzman feels an affinity for Queens College, where several of his relatives received their education. "Queens is a special place and the college is a great place."



1952: Judith Lorber, a professor emerita at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate School, recently published *Breaking the Bowls: Degendering and Feminist Change* (Norton) and the third edition of *Gender Inequality: Feminist Theory and Politics* (Roxbury). Last fall she was a Fulbright Senior Specialist Visiting Scholar at Carl von Ossietzky University in Oldenburg, Germany . . .

1959: Marc Estrin's novel *The Education of Arnold Hitler* (Unbridled Books) has been chosen as a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Selection for the summer. A latecomer to writing (he started at 57), Marc made a critical splash with his first novel, *Insect Dreams:*



The Half Life of Gregor Samsa (BlueHen 2002). He's also a committed activist who has long been involved with the Bread and Puppet Theater, about which he

co-wrote a book last year with Ronald T. Simon called *Rehearsing With Gods: Photographs and Essays on the Bread and Puppet Theater*. Marc is also a cellist who performs regularly in Burlington, VT, where he lives . . . **1965: Barry Tivin** is president of the Queens County Bar Association, where he also has been editor-in-chief of its journal for 18 years.

After finishing his BA with a major in accounting and minor in economics, Barry obtained his JD from New York University's Law School and was briefly in private practice. He joined the City Corporation Counsel's Office, then became a State Supreme Court Justice Law Secretary in Kew Gardens. In addition, he has been president and chairman of the board of the Brandeis Association, an organization of Jewish lawyers and judges in Queens. Barry and his wife, Rochelle, have three children . . . **1967: Fran (Daniel) Fredrick** is the claimant of a Holocaust era painting that was



recently returned to her family in a ceremony attended by Governor George Pataki (in photo). The recovery ends the Fein family's long search for a family heirloom: German artist Anselm Feuerbach's 1853 painting *Mädchenkopf* (*Head of a Girl*). *Mädchenkopf* was owned by Sigmund and Erna Fein (Fran's grandparents), who lived in Leipzig, Germany, prior to World War II. During the Holocaust, *Mädchenkopf* was confiscated by the Nazis and sold to a Leipzig art dealer and changed hands several times. The Fein family has donated the painting to the Leo Baeck Institute, a research and lecture center dedicated to the study of German Jewish history. Fran has two grown sons and works as a reference librarian at the law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges in NY. She is married to

[continued on page 9](#)

alumniPROFILE

Jacqueline O'Garrow



Jacqueline O'Garrow helps New Yorkers find affordable housing or, if they are old, stay in the homes they have. Her work involves not just the urban marketplace, but some of the city's most ubiquitous dramas: from the con artists who comb the public records for isolated elderly homeowners (whom they wear down into accepting ruinous "easy loans" on home repairs), to working people who dream of homeownership but lack the high down payments needed in today's market.

As senior deputy director of Fannie Mae's New York Partnership Office, O'Garrow helps lender and housing partners develop new financing for underserved people. Often these are first-time home buyers and moderate- or fixed-income people, especially new immigrants, minorities, seniors, single heads of households, and people with disabilities. To complicate matters, she works in some of the most expensive housing markets in the country: New York City, Long Island, and Westchester and Rockland Counties. Of course,

Fannie Mae does not make direct loans to home buyers. Rather, O'Garrow organizes novel partnerships of businesspeople, professionals, and advocates who can put together the needed financing, educational services, and legal help: lenders, lawyers, developers, nonprofit and religious groups, and others.

"It's a very deep feeling I have about what I do," she says. "Children who have a safe, decent home feel better about themselves. They do better in school. Home ownership is the biggest asset most people can ever have. That home can help you send your children to college. It can meet a lot of basic needs."

Before joining Fannie Mae, O'Garrow had put in many years in the banking business, where she started in the 1970s as administrative assistant to the CEO of Lincoln Savings Bank. Since she was attending Queens while working, she told him, "I'll only do it for a year," but she ended up staying 20 years, becoming loan production manager of a midtown office. By the time Fannie Mae recruited her, she was working as vice president and manager of affordable housing for the Dime Savings Bank, where she created community lending programs. Her extensive work with nonprofits has won her recognition and awards, including the YWCA Academy of Women Achievers and Black Achiever in Industry awards.

O'Garrow identifies with the aspirations and hard work of the people she helps. She herself is the daughter of immigrants, born in England to a British mother and Trinidadian father. They came to this country when she was nine, living first in Harlem and then

[continued on page 9](#)

O'Garrow from page 8

in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. Married at 23, she bought her first home in Rosedale, Queens. She got her AA at New York City Community College before transferring to Queens College as a sociology major, and soon thereafter starting a family. "My husband and I were wonderful partners," she recalls, "and somehow we managed to juggle the time and priorities." When he died unexpectedly in 1988, it was up to her to parent their two children and pay off their mortgage in Port Washington, Long Island, where she still lives.

"My attendance at Queens College was a wonderful experience," O'Garrow remembers. "I am very fortunate to be doing something I actually went to school over 30 years ago to do—help people and communities."

Often that involves convincing lenders to think outside the box. For instance, she likes to remind them that today's underserved buyers are tomorrow's emerging markets. "The growth in the housing market is going to be in the minority community," says O'Garrow, who also sits on many nonprofit boards and public commissions. She points to trends among Hispanic families on Long Island as an example. Though many do not meet traditional qualifications for home loans, a closer look at life-styles—such as the way that families often pool funds—reveals that there is "tremendous opportunity to increase their home ownership rates."

O'Garrow enjoys her own home and many leisure activities, such as tennis and skiing, but confesses she's been described as someone who is never not working. "I'm doing exactly what I want to do," she says with satisfaction.

Daniel Markewich, a partner at the law firm of Mound, Cotton, Wollan & Greengrass, NY . . . **1969: Sandra Phillips** (MS '72) is the author of *Smart Shopping Montreal*, now in its 10th edition, and the recently published *Drive I-95: Exit by Exit Info Maps History and Trivia*, an original type of map/guide written with her husband, Stan Posner. This best-selling book was a finalist in 2004 for both the Foreword Magazine and the Benjamin Franklin Bill Fisher Awards. *Drive I-95* offers easy-to-follow mile-by-mile overviews of the road ahead that helps travellers quickly locate upcoming services on each side of the road. You can find Sandra and the book at www.drivei95.com. Sandra has three sons . . . **1971: Jerry Tuttle**, a senior pricing actuary at Platinum Underwriters Reinsurance in New York City, published a short story titled "Rating Variables" that is available online at <http://users.aol.com/fcas/rating.html>

This is his third attempt at short story writing, which he considers a stretch for a math major. Jerry lives in South Orange, NJ and notes that his three sons have suddenly spread out into three states. He remembers with fondness Nick Metas of the Math Department "who always seemed to remember his students' names" . . . **1974: Kenneth Oppenheim** retired from teaching elementary school after 30 years with the Norfolk Public School System in Norfolk, VA. During those 30 years he earned a master's degree from Old Dominion Univ., was a reading specialist; had articles published in educational journals; and received four School Bell Awards for outstanding dedication and contributions to education . . . **1976:**



After receiving a master's degree in international relations from Golden Gate University in 2001, **David Kenneth Waldman** created a nonprofit organization, To Love Children, which is dedicated to creating sustainable educational opportunities for girls in the developing world. David notes that "I was born in the Bronx and when I attended Queens College in the 1970s that was seen as rather odd. From the first day on campus I appreciated and recognized Queens College as an institution of higher learning I could be proud of." To find out more about David's organization, visit www.tolovechildren.org . . . **1977: Nicholas Kalis** keeps busy with commercial real estate in McLean, VA, as

president of Kalis Development Corporation. After leaving Queens, he earned a master's at Columbia University's School of Public and International Affairs and a JD at George Mason School of Law. He is a member of Phi Alpha Theta (the political science honor society) and is a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club. He has served on the Council of two Greek Orthodox churches and was the founding president of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the American Hellenic Institute . . . **1978: Terence O'Connor**, principal of Wantagh High School since 1996, has been named secondary principal of the year by the School Administrators Association of New York State. He

[continued on page 10](#)

alumniPROFILE

Suzanne Elkins Benton



Face & Figure, an exhibition that marks Suzanne Elkins Benton's 50 years in art, will be on view at the Queens College Art Center through July 14. Since 1971 Benton has performed with her metal masks from her repertoire of 56 tales at hundreds of venues, including Lincoln Center, the Wadsworth Athenaeum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Bombay Center for the Performing Arts. She has also led mask workshops worldwide. *Face & Figure* presents 55 works from 1955 to 2005 in which Benton explores the human form and varied aspects of the human experience in multiple media. Benton's works have been exhibited at hundreds of

museums, universities, and galleries throughout the United States and abroad. Says Benton, "In making art and teaching throughout the world, I have sought to learn and reconfigure unquestioned myths, expanding my art and understanding in the process. Whatever awareness I have attained now abides in my work." She has lectured at over 80 institutions, including the Boston Museum School of Fine Arts, Brooklyn College, the Tokyo School of Fine Arts, Nairobi University, the Institute of Fine Arts in Tunis, and the JJ School of Art in Bombay. Benton is the author of *The Art of Welded Sculpture* (Van Nostrand Reinhold) and numerous articles. At Queens she studied with such outstanding faculty as painter John Ferren, watercolorist Barse Miller, printmaker Louis Hechenbleikner, sculptor Peter Lipman-Wulf, and art historian Robert Goldwater.

had previously served as assistant principal for 10 years. A graduate of Hofstra University, Terence earned a master's from Queens College and a doctorate in educational administration from Nova Southeastern University in Florida. He began his career as a teacher in the Bellmore-Merrick School District . . . **1981:**

Robert Lawrence Friedman, the author of *The Healing Power of the Drum* (White Cliffs Media), appeared as a stress management expert on the Discovery Health Channel's year-long documentary "Class of '75," as well as on "Today in New York" on NBC, Fox News, and the "Alive & Wellness Show" on CNBC. Robert is president of Stress Solutions, a New York-based corporation that provides stress-management programs to such corporations as American Express, Xerox, Forbes, and Comedy Central, among others. He also has a column in *Healthwise* magazine ("Stress-wise"). Robert will be returning to campus in June to make a presentation to students. His Web site is www.stress-solutions.com . . . **1982:** **Joseph**

Rutkowski has been director of instrumental music for the Great Neck North Secondary Schools on Long Island since 1991. For the past 13 years he has conducted the Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Band at such venues as Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall. In 2002 and 2004 Joseph was named a Presidential Scholar Teacher. He writes that "The teaching of Carl Schachter, Lawrence Eisman, Charles Burkhart, Leo Kraft, and Morey Ritt continue to stimulate and inspire my work as a teacher and performer. And now, my youngest son, Daniel, is enrolled in the Queens College



author of *The Healing Power of the Drum* (White Cliffs Media), appeared as a stress management expert on the Discovery Health Channel's year-long documentary "Class of '75," as well as on

Summer Jazz Institute. This is a great place!" . . . **1987:** **Vivian Conejero** (MA) has guest conducted a wide variety of orchestras in Europe and North America, including the St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra (Russia), the West Bohemian Symphony Orchestra (Czech Republic), and the Filharmonia Sudecka (Poland). In addition to guest-conducting the Spokane Symphony Orchestra, she has worked with the Knoxville Symphony and various other orchestras around the U. S. Vivian holds a Doctor of Arts in performance (conducting) from New York University and a BA with a major in music theory from Hunter College. Her repertory extends from the Baroque to the 20th century, with a particular affinity for the music of the Romantic era. Born in Cuba, Vivian has participated in numerous conductor-training programs around the world. Her teachers have included Gunther Schuller, Gustav Meier, Kirk Trevor, and Leonid Korchmar . . . **1988:** **Fred Petillo** is vice



president of Physicians Insurance Company of Wisconsin, Inc., one of the country's premier writers of medical professional liability insurance. Prior to this, Fred held various sales and market-

ing management positions with Medical Media Associates, Iwatsu Instruments, and B&K-Precision. Besides degrees in biology and philosophy from Queens College, Fred holds an MS degree in zoology and an MS degree in marketing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison . . . **1991:** **Eric M. Kay** is special counsel for the law firm of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP. Eric focuses on corporate restructurings, representing debtors, creditors' committees,

secured lenders, distressed debt investors, acquirers, and other creditors in bankruptcy proceedings and out-of-court restructurings. He regularly represents bondholder committees, official creditors' committees, and large individual creditors in complex Chapter 11 cases . . .

1993: **Dov Goldman** is a partner at WolfBlock's New York office. He is a member of the Real Estate Practice Group and concentrates his practice in

alumniNEWS

Next Alumni Stop: Normandy

Dave Guskin, chair of the Washington, DC chapter, notes that there are



still a few openings for the next alumni trip to Normandy, July 18-26. (Last year's trip to Tuscany sold out.) The trip includes three meals a day, accommodations at the Grand Hotel de l'Esperance in Lisieux, and day trips to Bayeux and the Bayeux Tapestry; Monet's home and studio in Giverny; Rouen; Mount-St.-Michel; and D-Day battle sites. Informative talks will include the history and food of the region, Impressionism, and the Normandy invasion. For more information, contact Alumni Affairs.

Homecoming: Save the Date!

Saturday, October 1, 2005

All alumni are invited to a memorable day with special recognition for the Jubilee Classes of 1945, 1955 and 1980. The fall issue of Q magazine will include registration form. Visit www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni-affairs to see how alums enjoyed Homecoming 2004.

the areas of commercial real estate and mortgage conduit lending. He has represented residential and commercial developers, shopping centers, hotels, and high-rise apartment buildings and condominiums. Dov received his JD from Fordham University in 1996. He is a member of the American, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and New York State bar associations. He is admitted to practice in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Does QC Run in Your Family?

Do you come from a family with many QC grads? Please call or e-mail or write Alumni Director Joe Brostek to share your story. Visit the Alumni Affairs Web site—you will probably see someone you know.

Send Us Your News

Tell us where you are, what you're doing, and send a photo to alumni@qc.edu or via regular mail Office of Alumni Affairs Queens College 65-30 Kissena Boulevard Flushing, NY 11367 Phone: 718-997-3930 Fax: 718-997-3663

And be sure to visit us on the Web for the latest news: www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni_affairs

We Remember

1941: Marcella Bernadette (née Hogan) O'Connor

1950: Marjorie I. Kipp

1951: Richard W. Morris

1955: Marian Goldberg Epstein

1959: Musia (née Dimentstein) Zuckerman

2001: Barbara L. Kay