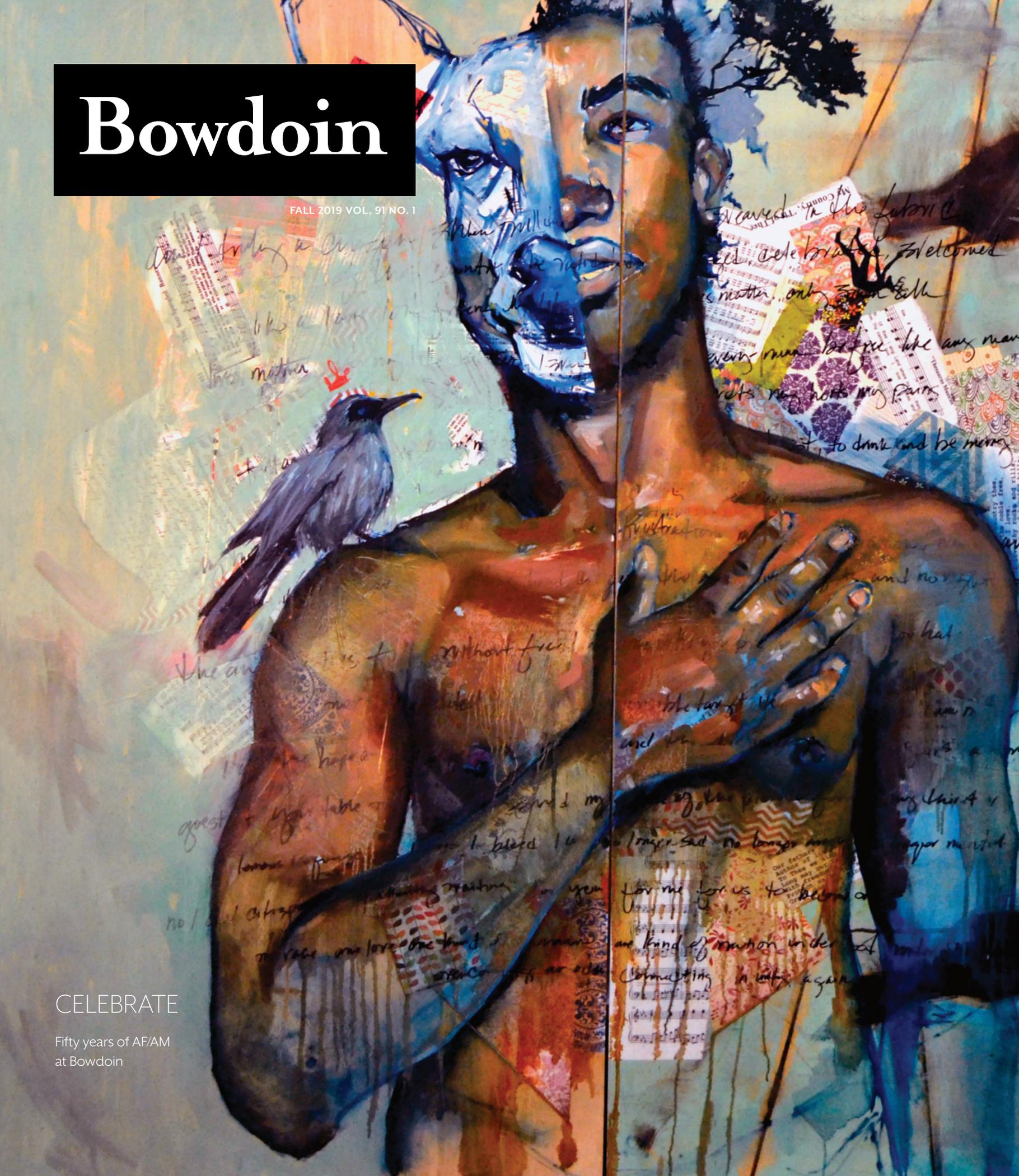


Bowdoin

FALL 2019 VOL. 91 NO. 1



CELEBRATE

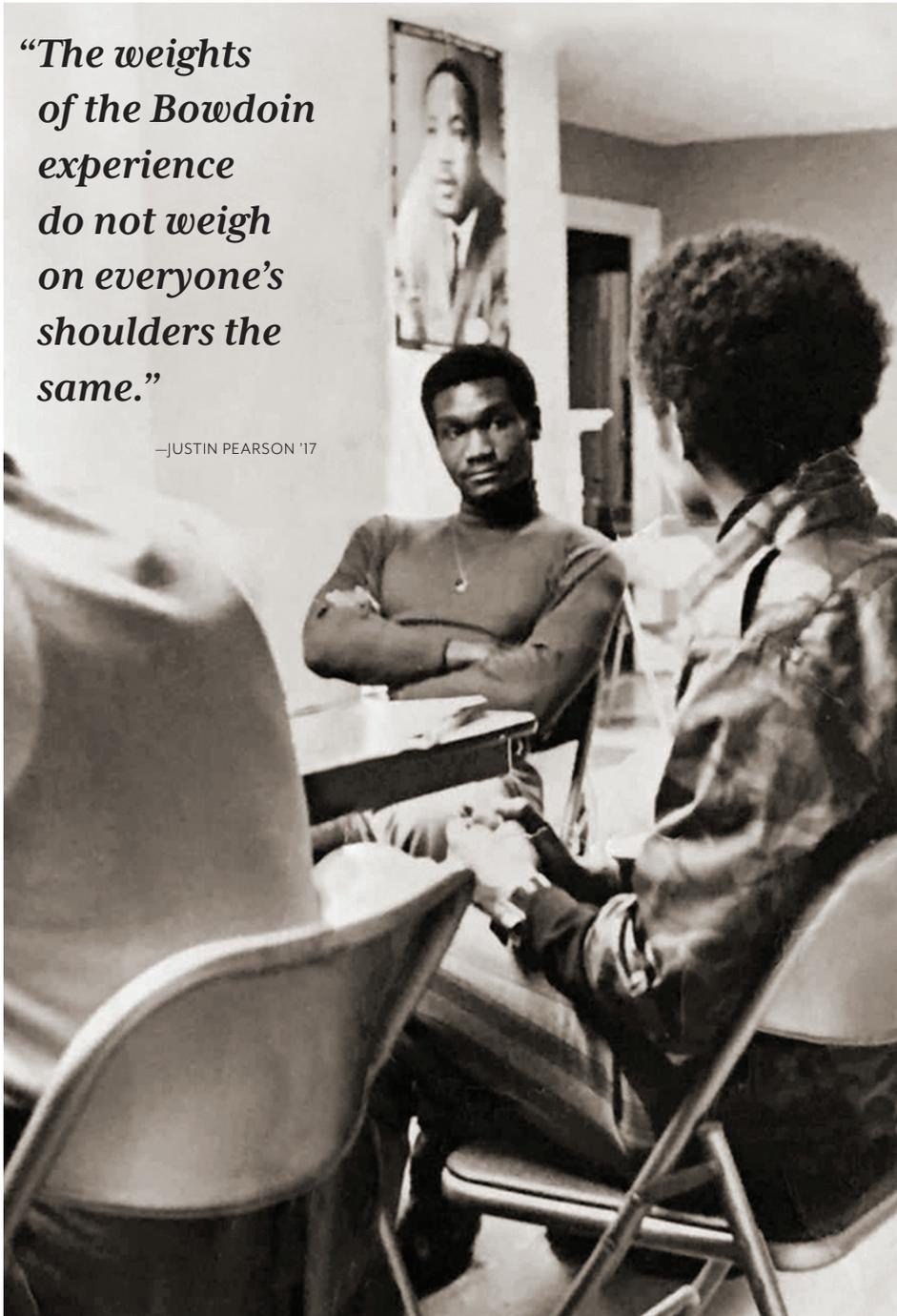
Fifty years of AF/AM
at Bowdoin

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FALL 2019 VOL. 91 NO. 1

*“The weights
of the Bowdoin
experience
do not weigh
on everyone’s
shoulders the
same.”*

—JUSTIN PEARSON '17



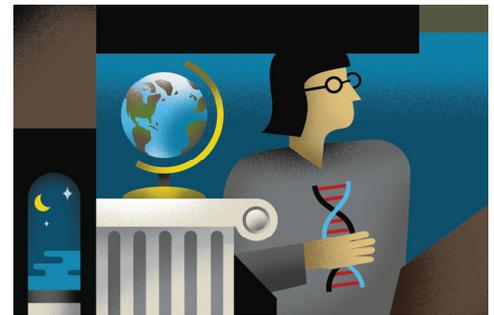
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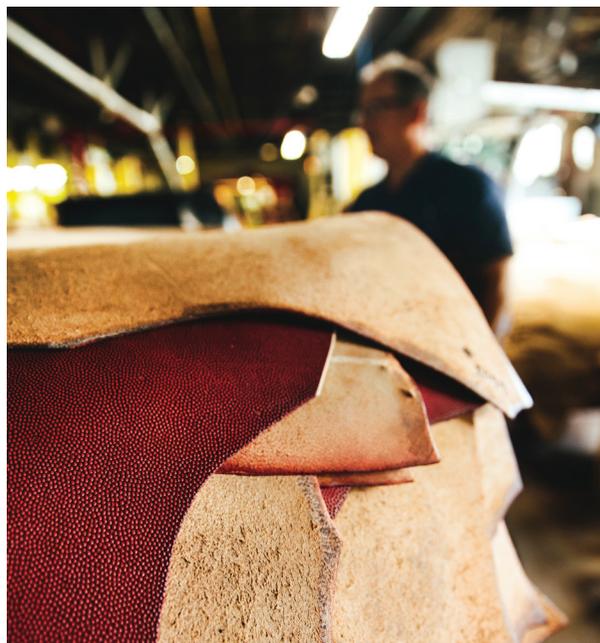
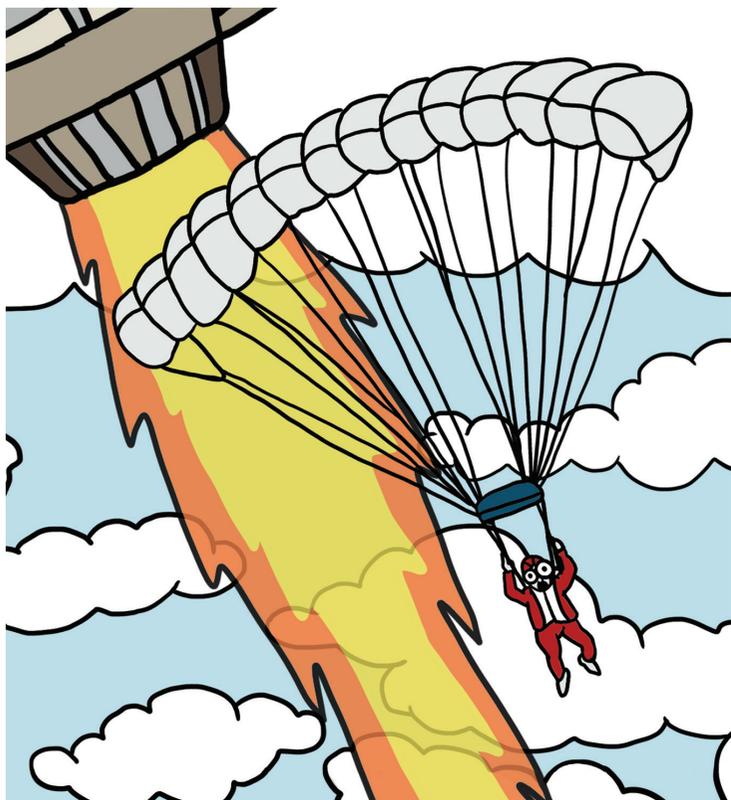


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The scientist-turned-IT-director talks about the personal nature of technology.

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Bowdoin's education department engages with Maine through programs like the Island Schools Project, which was established in 2008 as a community-engaged component of the department's advanced seminars. Through these courses, students explore the core opportunities and challenges of teaching in small island communities. In September, students traveled to Islesboro to meet with the school faculty, observe classes, and learn first-hand about the community's educational resources. Later, high school students from the island come to Bowdoin, where they are hosted for an overnight visit that exposes them to college life. Photo by Jason Paige Smith.



Respond

Thanks to Link

THANKS FOR YOUR PIECE on Mike Linkovich, one of the nicest guys I met while at Bowdoin. I would like to share a story about just how nice he was. In my senior year, 1965–1966, the beautiful new gymnasium opened, complete with squash courts. Even though I had never played squash, I soon learned to love it. Since I was just a beginner, I bought a cheap old wooden racket from a classmate. After several times bashing it against the walls and my opponent, the shaft broke. I now faced the dilemma of having to throw it out and buy a new one. Well, Mike saw my distress and said, “Doug, don’t throw that out. I can fix it.” Sure enough, the next day he returned the racket with fiberglass wrapped around the break. This happened a couple more times until I broke the rim, which he could not fix. Then he

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

I love getting the magazine in the mail! Thank you so much for your care in presenting stories about Bowdoin life. I just wanted to share my thoughts on the story about John Galusha '20. It sounds like he’s doing great work, but I don’t think that the magazine should publicize and emphasize the work of a white student who is working in an art

form that had origins in black culture. Of course this student should practice his art, as long as he is aware and acknowledges that he is trying out a black art form. But to publicize it in the magazine and celebrate it feels really insensitive. It would have been better to give attention to populations at Bowdoin that have been historically not as well represented in Bowdoin media (and

in media in general)—black students, Latinx students, students of Asian heritage, LGBTQ+ students, and so many others who no doubt have been involved in interesting, engaging projects worthy of highlighting. Overall, I hope that the magazine will work on being more sensitive around the types of stories that appear in it. If articles about white students appropriating art forms

from other cultures are in the magazine, I hope the writers address the origins of the art forms and the complications and issues that go along with white students trying them out for themselves.

Kerry Elson '05

STAY IN TOUCH!

Reach out and update us on what you’ve been up to since graduation. Send us an email at classnews@bowdoin.edu.



proceeded to find me a replacement. I doubt there are many trainers who would make that time commitment to students they hardly knew. He is a very special person.

Doug Hotchkiss '66

MAGAZINE STAFF

Editor

Matthew J. O'Donnell

Consulting Editor

Scott C. Schaiberger '95

Executive Editor

Alison M. Bennie

Designer and Art Director

Melissa Wells

Design Consultant

2COMMUNIQUE

Contributors

Edgar Allen Beem

James Caton

Leanne Dech

Rebecca Goldfine

Symone Marie Holloway '22

Scott W. Hood

Tom Porter

On the cover: *Dual Citizen* (mixed media on wood panel, 24" x 24", 2016), by Atlanta, Georgia, artist Shanequa Gay hangs prominently in the renovated John Brown Russwurm African American Center. Exterior view of Little-Mitchell House, now the John Brown Russwurm African American Center, 1874. George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives.

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Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors.

Please send address changes, ideas, or letters to the editor to the address above or by email to bowdoineditor@bowdoin.edu. Send class news to classnews@bowdoin.edu or to the address above.



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Forward

FROM BOWDOIN AND BEYOND

BEHIND THE BOUQUET

My journey from college to floral design was eclectic and really nonlinear—I wanted to learn about whatever came along. I had a knack for sales, so I got into selling clothing, then boats; I had a knack for people, so I bartended and also worked in customer relations at a car dealership; I had a knack for design, so I started creating garden beds, first for myself and then for a neighbor who asked; finally, because I love flowers and always grew them, when I was asked to help with a wedding, I began the floral part of the business.

My background in art education is the foundation of everything I do with flowers. I learned about color, form, scale, texture—all of which are needed to design anything from a single arrangement to a full garden. And you have to stay strong! Most people don't know there are so many labor-intensive details: ordering and picking up flowers from local growers all over, as well as at the New England Flower Market in Massachusetts; preparing and maintaining them with clean water and refrigeration; setting up the events; and, of course, the very physical work of maintaining the gardens throughout the year.

But I chose this path because I love nature. I grew up in central California, where my parents encouraged my brothers and me to be outside as much as possible. My paternal grandmother was an independent pioneer woman who worked very hard—and grew amazing flowers.

Amy Maloney has been creating floral designs for Bowdoin for nearly two decades. If you've been to a Bowdoin event where there are flowers gracing the stage or the venue, you've seen her talents on display.



On View



West Dedham (now Westwood), Massachusetts. *Francis Howe House Mural* (first-floor hall), signed and dated 1838, distemper paint on plaster, by Rufus Porter, American, 1792–1884, and Stephen Twombly Porter, American, 1816–1850. Private Collection.

Rufus Porter's *Curious World*

ARTIST, INVENTOR, SCIENTIST, tinkerer, and thinker Rufus Porter (1792–1884) is finally getting the attention his admirers insist he is due. A new exhibition of paintings and objects from Porter's active life—much of it spent in Maine—opens at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art on December 12, 2019.

The show, *Rufus Porter's Curious World: Art and Invention in America, 1815–1860*, was curated by Laura Sprague, a senior consulting curator at the Museum, and Justin Wolff '92, professor of art history at the University of Maine, Orono. The two scholars unearthed many of Porter's works—including part of one of his interior wall paintings—to help “return Porter to his rightful place: the national stage,” said Sprague.

Nowadays, Porter might be best known for founding *Scientific American* in 1845, the oldest continuously published magazine in the US. In addition to being an accomplished painter,

Porter published the first practical manual for painting. Also fascinated with technology, he designed an airship well before the Wright brothers' airplane.

An egalitarian at heart, Porter strived to share useful knowledge with the wider world, said Museum co-director Frank Goodyear. “He was someone who wanted to bridge the divide between experts and the rest of us.”

In examining Porter's interests, the show will shine a light on early intersections of art, culture, and technology. “Rufus Porter had a farseeing vision for a networked nation, a country literally connected by transportation systems and metaphorically connected by shared knowledge and vigorous optimism,” Wolff said.

The show is one of four Maine-themed exhibitions at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art for the state's bicentennial in 2020 and will remain open through May 31.

Academics

Critical Program Added

At a recent meeting this fall, faculty approved Bowdoin's groundbreaking digital and computational studies (DCS) curriculum as an official academic program.

“We're at an important and dangerous moment in our world right now, where a lot of technologies are emerging that have increasingly large capacities to affect our lives,” said Eric Chown, a DCS professor. “It is important that, as a society, we can critically evaluate these tools so we can decide whether it's good or bad that they're being used. Part of DCS is giving students the facility to do those evaluations—some of that will be ethical, some technical.”

The DCS program will offer a coordinate major and a minor. An anonymous donor has given the College \$3 million to support the initiative and to create a named chair, a position that will be held by Chown.

“DCS offers a whole new set of pathways for students from multiple disciplines to be exposed to algorithmic problem-solving, coding, and the implications of new digital artifacts and technologies,” said Dean for Academic Affairs Elizabeth McCormack.

Students in the program analyze and critique the way technological “artifacts” (like software and hardware, artificial intelligence, social media, etc.) impact our personal and social environments and our capacity to act in the world.

“The idea of technology and computational and digital artifacts as things to be studied—in the way we study texts—has crystallized a lot of our thinking,” Chown said. “We've been doing that in the liberal arts forever.”



DID YOU KNOW?
The wild carrot, *Daucus carota*, native to Europe and Southwestern Asia, was originally cultivated for its leaves and seeds. Now, domestic carrots are bred for a larger, less woody, and overall more palatable taproot.

Dine

Carrot-Zucchini Cake

Recipe by Alison M. Bennie

1 ½ cups unsalted butter, softened
2 cups sugar
4 large eggs
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
Zest of one lemon
2 cups coarsely grated carrot (about three to four medium)
1 cup coarsely grated zucchini (about one small)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a Bundt or springform pan. Cream butter and sugar in a large bowl; beat eggs into the mixture until fluffy and well mixed. Mix next six ingredients in a small bowl and add them to the butter and sugar mixture. Stir to combine. Add the grated carrot and zucchini and mix well. Spread the mixture into the pan. Bake for 45–55 minutes, checking with a toothpick or fine skewer for doneness. Top the cooled cake with your favorite cream cheese frosting. (Here's an easy one: 8 ounces of softened cream cheese mixed with two cups of confectioner's sugar and 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract.)

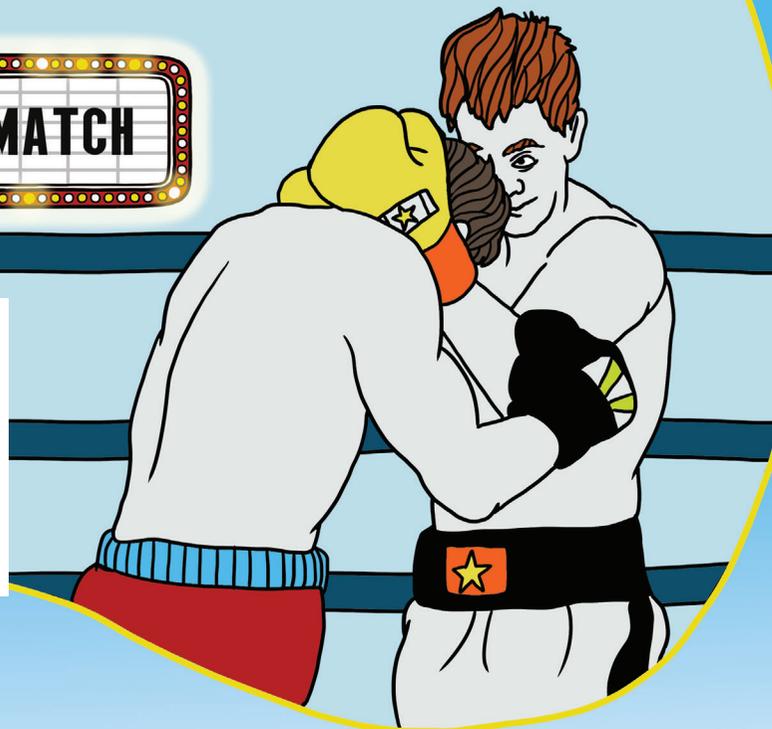
Alison Bennie, longtime editor of Bowdoin Magazine, has been baking since she was a child growing up in Maine. “The original recipe for this cake is from a community cookbook produced by the Harmony school parent-teacher association in 1982. I adapted it to include zucchini and varied the flavors a bit to match, but the traditional cake is also delicious. To try it, use 3 cups of carrot instead of adding zucchini, replace the pumpkin pie spice and lemon zest with a teaspoon of cinnamon, and add raisins and walnuts if you like them.”

Forward

BOXING MATCH

The Fighter: Taurus Award/Best Fight nomination, 2011

Mark Wahlberg and Molinari reenact the boxing match between Micky Ward (Wahlberg) and Shea Neary (Molinari). Molinari and Wahlberg actually hit each other, but in a controlled way, to achieve a realistic fight.



Welcome to

MOLIWOOD

Drive Angry: Taurus Award/Best Fire Stunt nomination, 2012

"I'd never been hit by a car before or set on fire at this point in my career. They said, 'The car is on fire. We're going to douse you in gas, hit you with the car—which will light you on fire when you hit the hood—then hit the windshield, roll over the roof, off the trunk, and onto your back.' I'm like, 'That sounds fun. Let's do it!'"

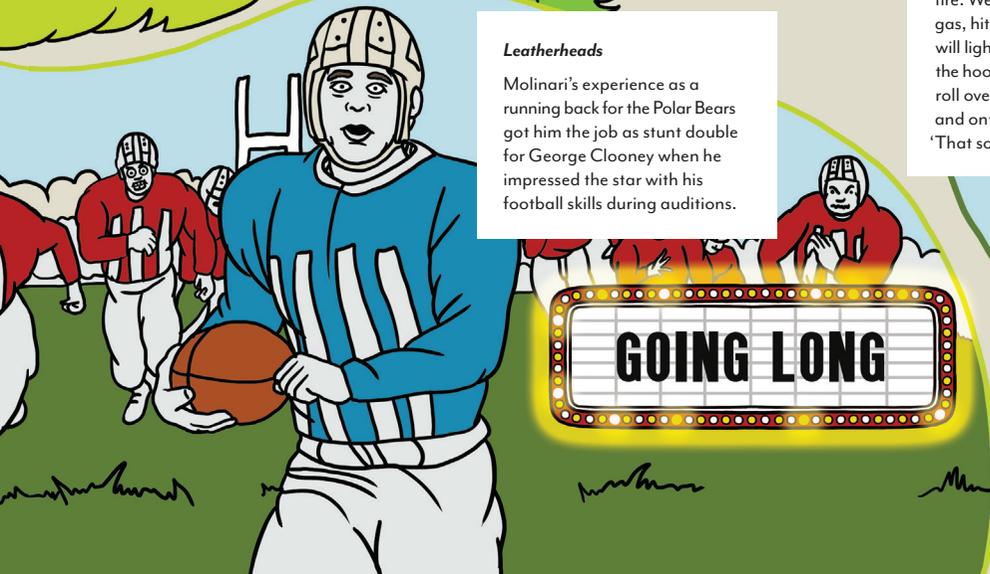
HIT BY CAR & LIT ON FIRE



Leatherheads

Molinari's experience as a running back for the Polar Bears got him the job as stunt double for George Clooney when he impressed the star with his football skills during auditions.

GOING LONG





MAKE LIKE HOUDINI

Now You See Me 2

Molinari has been the primary stunt double for Mark Ruffalo for fifteen years. In one scene, Ruffalo is locked inside a safe that's dropped in a river. "When you're in a metal box on the bottom of a tank, fifteen or twenty feet down, it can get to your head—"I hope this thing doesn't really lock. If it does, I hope they have a plan."



FLAMING TAQUITO

The House

"This was my biggest fire burn. It was a seven-part burn that started on my arm, went to my shoulder, then my back, then my full body. A fire blanket thrown over my head was the fifth part, followed by a full-body blanket on fire, and then a guy knocked me down and rolled me up inside a carpet. It was like a flaming taquito—the fire was flying out both ends of the carpet. It was insane."



GUT PUNCH

(Too many instances to list!)

"Taking a punch to the belly is probably the thing in the stunt business that looks easy, but is really challenging to do right."



PARACHUTE CRASH

Star Trek: Taurus Award/Hardest Hit nomination, 2010; Best Wire Work nomination, 2010

"I'd say the worst [injury] I've had was on this movie. I was on four different wires and in a space suit. They ended up dropping me eighteen feet to the metal deck below. Thought they broke my back. Turns out, I broke my foot."

Did You Know?

Action!

When the camera rolls, so does this alum.

Illustration by Jess Rotter

CHANCES ARE YOU'VE SEEN Anthony Molinari '96, an all-around athlete who captained Bowdoin's football team his senior year, on TV and in movies—you just don't know it. That's pretty much the point! Molinari—whom some Bowdoin friends called "Moli"—is one of the best stunt actors and coordinators in Hollywood, doubling for actors like George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeremy Renner, Mark Ruffalo, and Dominic West. Fun fact: In 2018, Molinari was the stunt double for fellow Bowdoin grad Paul Adelstein '91 in the TV series *I Feel Bad*. We illustrate here some of his favorite (or scariest!) stunts over the years.

Forward

Campus Life



A NEW LOOK FOR RUSSWURM

The earliest surviving photograph was taken around 1826, the year that John Brown Russwurm became the first African American graduate of Bowdoin, but photography wasn't widely available until well after Russwurm's death in 1851. There are no known photographs of him, and only a handful of artistic likenesses. As part of Bowdoin's AF/AM/50 celebration, Benjamin Harris, who is director of the student center for multicultural life, diversity, and inclusion at the College, commissioned a new portrait of Russwurm from artist Eurnice Harris. "My mission was to paint a lifelike and historically accurate portrait with the limited resources that were available to me," Harris explained. "The portrait needed to reflect the essence of a trailblazer, a triumphant man, and a scholar," she said. "It mattered to achieve a college degree during a time when, in many parts of the country, blacks were still enslaved and it was still illegal for them to receive a basic education. The glory of that accomplishment needed to shine through this portrait."

Read more about Eurnice Harris's artistic process for her Russwurm portrait at bowdoin.edu/magazine.

IN SEASON

The Bowdoin Pep Band had been silent for more than a decade when Kathryn McGinnis '21 and Coleman Brockmeier '21 rechartered the club last year. Now, more than thirty student musicians help energize crowds at sporting events, like at the Homecoming football game on October 5, when, among other tunes, a rousing version of fan-favorite "Sweet Caroline" raised the roof of Hubbard Grandstand.



Alumni Life

CELEBRATING HARRIET

Harriet Richards '92, a longtime academic coordinator for Africana studies beloved for her kindness and grace, has been posthumously honored by alumni, former colleagues, and friends. With fundraising led by Professor Emeritus Randy Stakeman and Staci Williams Seeley '90, the College established The Harriet Richards '92 Emergency Grant Fund to support comprehensive aid, specifically to meet needs of current members of the Black Student Union, the student group to which Harriet provided so much during her life.

Game On



Dig Pink

THE BOWDOIN VOLLEYBALL TEAM not only picked up a big win on the court during their October 4 match with Williams College at Morrell Gymnasium, they helped innumerable others in their annual "Dig Pink" fundraiser to benefit the Side-Out Foundation.

At the end of the match, the Polar Bears totaled 100 digs in a dramatic 3–2 comeback win over the Ephs and raised more than \$5,000. All proceeds from the pledge-per-dig fundraiser and the sale of T-shirts and baked goods

were donated to the Side-Out Foundation and the fight against stage IV breast cancer.

"We were amazed by the outpouring of support our team received," said junior Megan Birnbaum, who helped coordinate the event. "The money we raised to support breast cancer research surpassed this—and last—year's goals by thousands of dollars, a testament to the exceptionally generous support of friends, family, and the larger Bowdoin community. The fact that we were able to involve more people with breast cancer awareness and research initiatives is equally as important as our fundraiser."



Proud Mary, by Dan Dowd

Staff

The Art of Assemblage

Moving to Maine from Massachusetts almost twenty years ago was galvanizing in many ways for Dan Dowd—artist, conservationist, and security guard in the Bowdoin College Museum of Art. Inspired by the state's scenery and serenity, he was also delighted to discover a new muse: the town dump. "The Phippsburg Transfer Station is every scavenger's dream," he said.

These days, Dowd is not only plumbing people's refuse for objects he can resurrect into startling and lovely new visions, he's also diving into his own closets. "A lot of my most recent work sprung from spring cleaning," he said. He's combined a fragment of an old sweater with a piece of truck tire inner tube and fashioned a raincoat with galvanized metal strapping and wood. It's his way of letting items he once loved "live on."

Dowd was recently commissioned to make a piece for the new Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham, which will open next fall. He's making an eagle—the school mascot—out of objects that include window sashes, pitchforks, and shingles—all items that were made in now-shuttered mills in each of the towns that send children to the regional public school. When he can, he is using an original item.

Dowd's sensitivity to place has also spurred him to become active in local land conservation efforts. He joined Phippsburg Land Trust's board fifteen years ago and is now the board chair. Over this period, the trust has protected 350 acres from development.

Forward

37

internships and research projects in biology, making it the most popular field.

1

Internships are the number-one factor employers use to distinguish otherwise equal candidates, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

330

students received grants to secure internships, pursue research projects, and participate in community partnerships.

269

students lived on campus over the summer, working and conducting research.

100

grants were given out by Career Exploration and Development (seventy the year before and twenty ten years ago).

5

students interned at Bellevue Hospital, the most popular health internship.

65

is the average number of fellowships awarded by The Center for Cocurricular Opportunities each summer for independent faculty-mentored research projects.

450

dollars per week were earned by student interns.

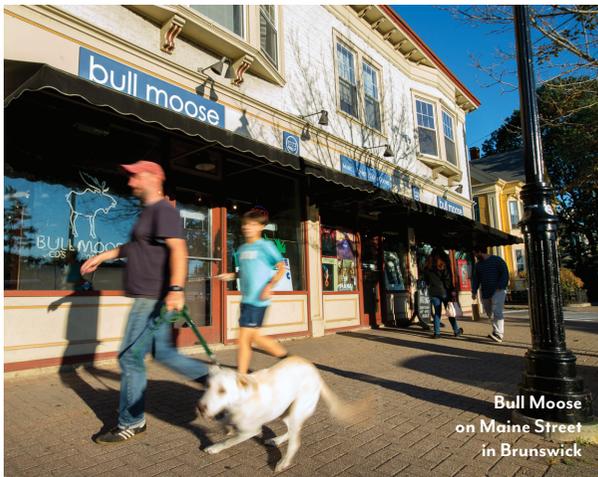
By the Numbers

Opening Doors

A good internship can be an expansive learning experience for a student, providing valuable know-how and networking that can lead to postgraduate opportunities. Historically, summer internships haven't been possible for many students who, for financial reasons, couldn't accept unpaid positions. Bowdoin has made a commitment to easing the financial challenges of unpaid internships, the results of which are reflected in numbers from this past summer.



Alumni Life



Bull Moose Turns Thirty

Chris Brown '91 and Brett Wickard '90 defy industry trends.

THEY WERE BOTH UNDERGRADUATES when Brown and Wickard set up the first Bull Moose music store in 1989. "Bowdoin has always been a great place to start a business," recalled Wickard. Brown and Wickard grew the business, which now has branches in eleven locations throughout Maine and New Hampshire. While other music stores floundered, Bull Moose expanded, diversifying its offerings to include books, computer games, and, more recently, online content. "Flexibility is key," said Brown. "We find our next big thing before we need it."

Another key factor, he added, is that Bull Moose stores don't feel "corporate," although they're a regional chain. "We want the best of both worlds—a place where people can feel at home but with super powerful tech in the background," Brown explained. "The computers handle the complicated math around restock orders and used pricing. That gives us humans more time for talking with people about books and music."

PHOTO: BOB HANDELMAN

Courses

CREATING FUTURE WORLDS: COMPUTING, ETHICS, AND SOCIETY

Stacy Doore
Visiting Assistant Professor of Computer Science



Explores ethical and moral narratives associated with advances in computing and emerging technologies. Students investigate current issues through an interdisciplinary approach, using a variety of narratives (current events, fictional, personal, and organizational) that demonstrate how the creators of technologies have a profound impact on our present and future society.

FROM CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI TO LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA: ISSUES AT THE INTERSECTION OF MUSIC AND THEATER

Ileri Chávez-Barcenas
Assistant Professor of Music



Students explore a wide variety of stage music genres, from the invention of opera in seventeenth-century northern Italy to the most recent Broadway productions, becoming familiar with historical conventions, terminology, genres, styles, and processes of expression, including adaptations, staging, and production design. Students also discuss issues of gender, representation, violence, identity, politics, economics, aesthetics, and marketing.

POLES APART: EXPLORATION OF EARTH'S HIGH LATITUDES

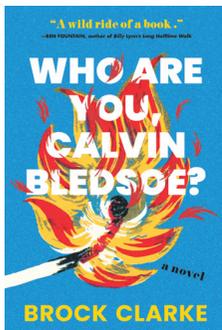
Collin Roesler
Professor of Earth and Oceanographic Science



Compares and contrasts the tectonic evolution, geography, climate, glaciers and sea ice, ocean circulation, and ocean biology of the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Emphasis on the Polar Regions' role in global climate regulation and the sensitivity of these regions to climate change. In addition to scientific readings, students read exploration journals and polar biographies focused on polar exploration from the turn of the twentieth century.

Forward

On the Shelf

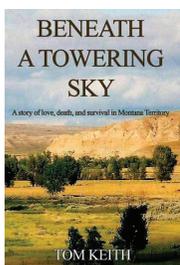


Who Are You, Calvin Bledsoe?

BROCK CLARKE, A. Leroy Greason
Professor of English
(Algonquin Books, 2019)

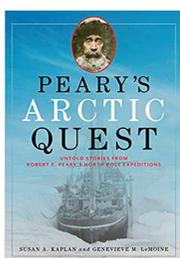
Full of masterful dialogue, Clarke's fifth novel tells the story of a middle-aged blogger for the wood pellet stove industry whose life takes an unexpected turn when he meets an eccentric aunt he didn't know he

had and is whisked away on a European adventure. At times sad and wildly humorous, the book's central message is optimistic: "You can change your life. It's never too late to grow up."



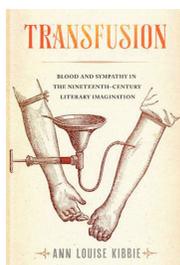
Beneath a Towering Sky

TOM KEITH '71
(Black Opal Books, 2019)



Peary's Arctic Quest: Untold Stories from Robert E. Peary's North Pole Expeditions

GENEVIEVE LEMOINE, curator of the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center, and **SUSAN KAPLAN**, professor of anthropology and director of the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum and Arctic Studies Center (Downeast Books, 2019)



Transfusion: Blood and Sympathy in the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination

ANN KIBBIE, associate professor of English (University of Virginia Press, 2019)



Tales from the Trails: Runners' Stories That Inspire and Transform

Michael Clinton with **KELLY ALLEN MCCLAY '02** (Glitterati, 2019)

On Stage



Singing the Praises of the Common Good

Opera star **Ryan Speedo Green** recounts a personal and artistic journey

TODAY, HE IS A RISING STAR on the world stage, a bass-baritone singing major roles in the most prestigious opera houses in America and Europe. Two decades ago, Green was a troubled adolescent, locked up in a juvenile facility of last resort.

Green visited Bowdoin in early October to receive the Henni and Harry Friedlander Award for the Common Good. In his speech, he described his impoverished childhood in southeastern Virginia, at one point living in a trailer pockmarked with bullet holes. He was angry, violent, and explosive. At age twelve, Green found himself incarcerated—in solitary confinement.

From that point, he was determined to turn his life around. The fact that he was able to do so, Green said, is a testament to the power of the common good and the faith shown in him by the people who helped him. Green said he fell in love with opera at fifteen on a school trip to the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, where he saw the great soprano Denyce Graves perform in *Carmen* and decided he, too, wanted to sing on that stage.

For an audio interview with Green and to learn more about the Henni and Harry Friedlander Award for the Common Good, visit bowdoin.edu/news.

Athletics

BOWDOIN HALL OF HONOR

The College is seeking nominations for the 2020 Bowdoin College Athletic Hall of Honor. Established in 2002, the Hall of Honor was founded to perpetuate the memory of those who have brought distinction, honor, and excellence to Bowdoin through their accomplishments in athletics. To make a nomination, fill out the online form at surveyMonkey.com/r/hoh2020 by Friday, January 10, 2020.

Campus Life



Aneka Williams '21 and Fred Field

FAR AFIELD, BUT CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

When photographer Fred Field, a frequent contributor to *Bowdoin Magazine*, was assigned to cover one of the summer Orientation trips to Mount Katahdin in August, he had no idea he was about to become the missing link in a connection that began years earlier halfway across the country. Trip leader Aneka Williams '21 asked Field if he knew a woman named Leslie Field. Intrigued, he replied that his sister and only sibling was named Leslie. Williams then shared a story about taking part as a high school senior in a Climate Hike in Glacier National Park that was organized by Ice911, a nonprofit dedicated to climate restoration founded by Leslie Field, whom Williams met at the event. Williams mentioned that she was from the East Coast and looking at colleges, and Field commented that her brother lived in Maine and photographed for colleges in New England. “The improbability of the whole thing really struck me,” said Fred, who has since reconnected Williams—a biology major and earth and oceanographic science minor—with his sister for possible future collaborations.

Campus Life



Access Grows

The Bowdoin College endowment, nearly half of which is permanently restricted by donors to the support of student financial aid, generated an investment return of 10.9 percent for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019, compared with a median return of 4.9 percent for all college and university endowments during this period.*

“Our endowment is the crucial factor in our ability to ensure that family finances don’t block access to a Bowdoin education for those students who have earned a spot at the College,” said President Clayton Rose. “Bowdoin is one of only nineteen colleges and universities in America that provide need-based financial aid without required loans, and that meet a student’s full financial need for all four years. This powerful combination changes lives, but it simply wouldn’t be possible at Bowdoin without the exceptional work of Chief Investment Officer and Senior Vice President for Investments Paula Volent, her talented team, and the expertise and commitment of our Investment Committee.”

On June 30, 2019, Bowdoin’s endowment was valued at \$1.74 billion. Half of Bowdoin’s first-year class receives need-based financial aid, a percentage that is expected to grow. The average grant for all aided students is approximately \$47,000 a year. But since the actual cost of educating a student at Bowdoin is 36 percent higher than the comprehensive fee, the endowment subsidizes every student, not just those receiving aid.

*As reported by Cambridge Associates, a firm that tracks the performance of foundations and endowments nationwide.

Exercising Kindness

Houston Kraft '11 is a professional speaker, kindness advocate, and cofounder of CharacterStrong who works with schools, conferences, and events internationally. He is one of the thirty-one “Everyday Smilers” featured on bags of Lay’s potato chips for the brand’s nationwide Smiles campaign benefiting Operation Smile.

SOME OF MY FAVORITE MEMORIES of Bowdoin took place in Moulton Union, where, weekly, a small group of friends would gather to talk about kindness. We had formed an organization called OurKindness, and we would share stories of compassion, talk about why the world needed more empathy, and discuss practical ways to put these abstract ideals into real-life action. We sang songs of gratitude to the card-swipers, planned scavenger hunts that dotted the campus with generous surprises, and baked cookies to hand-deliver to the diligent studiers in the library during finals week.

The look of surprise elicited by these simple moments of care is what has always drawn me toward the practice of kindness; the heartwarming return on investment for altruism is, selfishly, way too good. But the idea that someone should feel surprised or even shocked by a small moment of human generosity has always nagged at me.

Why is it that doing things for the common good can feel so *uncommon*?

Shortly after my time at Bowdoin, I was on a plane next to a woman who was fidgety and enthused. I was tired and wanted to take a nap. In spite of signs that I was ready to go to sleep, she tapped me on the shoulder to introduce herself.

“Hi, my name is Helga!”

Nap time officially delayed.

As we talked, I described what we did in OurKindness at Bowdoin, and Helga got very serious and told me a story.



“At a street festival in Venice, California, I happened to tell someone about my kindness work in schools who, months later, followed up with me and asked if she could nominate me for the Lay’s Smiles campaign. Lay’s then chose thirty-one people who are making an impact in local communities and made us the stars of their potato chip bags—all with the goal of inspiring even more smiles.”

The last time she had flown was three years ago. She had scrambled to an airport because she had woken to a phone call from her dad’s doctor. He said, “Dad’s not doing very well” and told her to get to Arizona as quickly as possible.

Just as her plane was about to depart, the doctor called to tell her that her dad had passed away. For the three-hour plane ride, she sat in stunned silence, surrounded by strangers. When she got off the plane in Phoenix, she walked to the nearest wall, sat down, and wept.

And here is the part about Helga’s story that I’ll never forget: For two hours, she sat and cried, leaning against that airport wall, while nearly 3,000 people walked by.

Not a single person stopped.

I spend a lot of time in my work thinking about the importance of kindness in a world seemingly too busy for it. Kindness is one of those things that I think we collectively say is a good thing, but that we collectively just aren’t very good at.

Why? Why is it that we can universally agree on the value of a thing and so wholly be not very skilled at it?

To me, we need self-reflection (and the tools to do it well) to get to the answer. One of the most critical questions of our time, I believe, sounds like this: “What gets in the way of a more kind me?”

After my work at more than 600 schools around the world (and in my own uncomfortable self-assessment), I think it comes down to this: incompetence, insecurity, and inconvenience.

INCOMPETENCE

When we don’t know how to do a thing, we tend to avoid that thing. For me, the gym is a good example: There are so many machines I have zero understanding of in that place that I tend to relegate myself to a familiar three.

The same thing is true of kindness. Kindness is like an exercise that uses a thousand different muscle groups, but, as a culture, I think we really only practice two or three kindness “workouts” regularly. We’ve unintentionally reduced this area of huge possibility to a series of positive Post-it notes, free hugs, and the canonized sit-next-to-the-new-kid-at-lunch.

One of the most critical questions of our time, I believe, sounds like this: “What gets in the way of a more kind me?”

In function, the fullest expressions of kindness (like the type Helga needed) actually require quite a few competencies in order to be executed well. Beneath the shiny idea of “being kind” lives a whole mess of hard-earned skills like empathy, emotional regulation, resilience, growth mindset, forgiveness, and active listening. That day in the airport, Helga surely didn’t need a Post-it note or a high five—she needed someone to sit with her in her suffering and share the weight of it with generosity and empathy and care.

In 2016, I cofounded CharacterStrong in order to help teach those missing hard-earned skills. We have worked with more than 1,600 schools to provide teachers and students the tools needed to effectively teach the social-emotional skills—the competencies of kindness—that actually allow for true culture change. We believe that the only pathway to a kinder world is to teach it.

INSECURITY

Legendary UCLA coach John Wooden said that character is what we do when no one is watching. But in a world that is more connected and interdependent than ever before, perhaps character is also what we do when everyone is watching!

We can’t show kindness in a vacuum. Every compassionate action we take exposes us to a variety of risks—like being judged or embarrassed or dismissed or laughed at or feeling like a failure. The most frustrating inverse relationship is this: The more you care, the more likely you are to get hurt. Our personal insecurities often interfere with our capacity for public good. When I am afraid of rejection or discomfort or humiliation, it can sometimes prevent me from acting on what I know is helpful, good, or kind.

INCONVENIENCE

As a world, I think we have “fluff-ified” kindness. Nearly every school I’ve been in has posters that say, “Throw kindness around like confetti!” But if being kind was as easy or convenient as tossing confetti, surely someone would have stopped to help Helga. Convenience, I believe, is the enemy of compassion.

A student once approached me after I spoke at a school assembly and told me that he thought he was a *nice* person, but not a *kind*

person. I asked him the difference between the two, and the distinction has stuck with me: “Nice is reactive,” he said. “Kindness is proactive.”

Nice is easy. If someone is nice to me, I will probably be nice to them. If I agree with you, I’ll be nice to you. If you drop something, I might pick it up (especially if I know I might get something in return, like a thank you).

Nice is easy because it is “I”-oriented. Do I have time? Do I like you? Do I feel like it? Do I have anything to lose?

Kindness is different. Nice steps back while kindness steps up. Nice happens when there is time; kindness happens because we make time. Nice expects something in return, while kindness is free from expectation.

When we align ourselves with the deep purpose of kindness, it motivates action even when we don’t “feel like it.” We begin to do things that are hard and challenge us, which develops our capacity for compassion.

I think Helga deserves our persistent pursuit of this kind of self-improvement. For two hours, 3,000 strangers walked by her in her moment of deepest hurt. Sitting next to me on the plane, she explained it painfully well: “You know what I realized as they walked by? Kindness isn’t normal.”

Kindness isn’t normal.

That has been the foundation upon which I’ve built much of what I do. I want my life to be marked by the individual lives I’ve affected for good; my success should always aid in the successes of others. I want my work to cultivate conversations about compassion and to dismantle cultural narratives that, in any way, reduce connection, empathy, and generosity. I want to live in a world where kindness is the baseline.

It is a fight worth engaging in—to make kindness more normal in the world. To do the challenging work of self-reflection and ask, “What gets in the way of a more kind me?” To equip ourselves with the competencies necessary to do the complicated work of compassion. To release ourselves from the insecurities that so often unconsciously drive our actions (or inactions). To commit to being kind even when we’d rather settle for nice.

Because the only way we create a more common good is to do the uncomfortable—and uncommon—work necessary to live it.

PASS

In her eleventh season at Bowdoin, head coach Adrienne Shibles has led the women's basketball team to incredible success on the court, but it's her influence beyond the bench that might be her biggest win.

Opposite page:

With more than twenty victories in ten of the last eleven seasons, women's basketball head coach Adrienne Shibles is the winningest coach in program history (254). She has led the Polar Bears to a 60–5 record over the last two seasons, including back-to-back NCAA Championship Game appearances and a school-record thirty-one wins in 2018–2019.

WHEN BOWDOIN'S women's basketball head coach Adrienne Shibles was honored as the NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year in April of this year, at the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) national convention in Tampa Bay, Florida, she used the opportunity to recognize others—two of her former players, Megan Phelps and Sara Binkhorst, both Class of 2015 and cocaptains of the Polar Bears in 2014–2015. Phelps and Binkhorst had just been named as two of the WBCA 30-Under-30, and they were both in the audience that day. (“There were more than 500 people there, but Bink and I were the loudest,” Phelps says.)

Shibles may be the winningest coach in Bowdoin women's basketball history, but “it's not about her. It's never about her,” says Phelps,

IT

who is now her assistant coach. “Adrienne teaches you that it isn't all about you either. It's about the team.”

Phelps and Binkhorst—and seven of Shibles's other former players or assistant coaches—are now women's basketball coaches themselves, building their own networks of collegiate players and leaders at Middlebury, Bates, Trinity, Smith, Wheaton, Southern Maine Community College, and Tufts, and as far as Loyola Chicago.

These connections began with a model of shared leadership that Shibles builds with her teams. Rather than leading the team from the head coach down, the team's leadership comes from the inside. Players create a job description for their captains, and prospective captains have to submit a written application for the position. They then go through a formal interview process

BY SUSAN OLCOTT '99

PHOTOGRAPHS BY HEATHER PERRY



ON

Jill (Henrikson) Pace '12



in which every player can ask them questions. Jeff Ward, former Bowdoin athletic director and part of the hiring team that brought Shibles to Bowdoin, remembers thinking that “the captain selection process seemed a little risky at first, because you’re asking the kids to really put themselves out there. But that process elevated the bar for their ownership and their responsibility.” Lydia Caputi '18 recalls that it wasn't easy. “It felt overwhelming at first, but then I realized my voice mattered right away as a first-year. When I got to my first job interview, I thought, ‘I’ve done this before.’ I already knew how to articulate my strengths and weaknesses.” She’s now an assistant coach at Trinity College. Katie Bergeron '11 said the feedback she got from her teammates as a part of that captain selection was “the most helpful feedback I’ve ever gotten. I really had to articulate my leadership style. You have to have confidence to step forward and offer your opinion. You learn to critique and take suggestions, knowing that it comes from a place of goodness.” Bergeron is now the head coach at Southern Maine Community College (SMCC). Her assistant this year is one of her former campers at Polar Bear Basketball Camp, a weeklong summer program for girls age ten to sixteen, where many Bowdoin women’s basketball team members work as coaches in the summer.

LEADERSHIP AND GROWTH THROUGH ATHLETICS

Shibles grew up in Knox, Maine, on a small dairy farm that had been in her family for generations. She played basketball with her brother in their grandmother’s driveway next door, but she didn’t get into sports until middle school. “I was in eighth grade, and I’d signed up for cheerleading, if you can believe that. Then the varsity coach approached me and said, ‘I think you should really come out for basketball.’ It was probably because I was tall,” she laughs. “I was intimidated at first, because we had a lot of good players, but I had a very warm coach who created a family atmosphere. I was surrounded by girls who were all high achievers, and it gave me a lot of confidence as a young, awkward girl.” Shibles, who went on to be a two-time captain and 1,000-point scorer for the Bates Bobcats, was growing into an athlete at an important point in the history of women’s

“My passion for coaching goes beyond that I love the game. It’s more about developing leadership through this tool that is basketball.”

—ADRIENNE SHIBLES

sports—the period after the passage of Title IX, which required equitable opportunities for sports, regardless of gender. More teams across a variety of sports offered girls and women a new vehicle to develop confidence. “My experience at that time really impacted who I am today and the career I chose,” she recalls. “My passion for coaching goes beyond that I love the game. It’s more about developing leadership through this tool that is basketball.”

Shibles learned from those early experiences that it takes every player doing their best to make a great team. “I was a great defender and rebounder, but I didn’t take a shot unless I was wide open under the basket. I didn’t get my name in the paper, but I knew I was helping the team. It was clear that that was my role, and I appreciated that.” As a coach, Shibles makes sure that every player is an integral part of the team, and that they work together to play their very best. “You can see her coaching style in the numbers,” says Assistant Athletic Director for Communications Jim Caton. “Two years ago, Kate Kerrigan ’18 was named the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association player of the year, but she only averaged twenty minutes a game. That’s because of the depth and style of the program—the game is spread across its players.” Bergeron saw Bowdoin demonstrate this depth during her time coaching at Emmanuel College, when her team played against the Polar Bears. “Bowdoin’s point guard got injured, and my



Lydia Caputi '18



Megan Phelps '15

team saw an opening, but I told them, ‘Someone always steps up on this team.’ And someone did. Now I bring my team from SMCC to watch Bowdoin games so they can see this.”

Caputi, who grew up in Brunswick, learned to step up as a camper at Shibles’s Polar Bear Basketball Camp when she was only eight years old. “I had the chance to be a leader right away—even then,” she says. Her camp mentor was older camper Jill Pace ’12 (then Jill Henrikson), who grew up in Bath and went on to play for Bowdoin. As a middle and high schooler, Caputi watched Pace and her fellow Polar Bears play and thought playing for Bowdoin herself someday was only a dream. But Caputi became a Polar Bear too, and in one of her first practices for Shibles, she learned, “You can’t disappear on this team. Halfway through practice, Coach called a water break and pulled me aside. She said, ‘You realize I put you on this [scrimmage] team for a reason. I made this team so that you would be its leader. I put all the captains on the other team. If you don’t know it already, I need

you to realize that you are a leader.’” Now, in her own coaching, Caputi makes it a point to make sure to reach out to even the youngest players and give them opportunities to lead.

EVOLVING A COACHING STYLE

Striving to instill a high level of confidence in young women while also shaping them into the best basketball players has required Shibles to strike just the right balance. When Shibles arrived at Bowdoin in 2008, she joined a program that had seen history-making success over the previous ten years under Head Coach Stefanie Pemper, whose teams were especially dominant at home, where they won seventy-six consecutive games between 2001 and 2007. “My first year at Bowdoin, we won our conference championship, and from the outside it was a seamless transition,” she says. “But it was hard to take over a great program and build the trust I needed with the players. It forced me to make some decisions that ended up being great for the program and for my own style.”

According to her players and assistant coaches, “Coach overcommunicates—except that there’s no such thing,” says KJ Krasco, Shibles’s assistant from 2011–2014 who is now head coach at Middlebury College. The same word popped up again in conversations with several of her other former players. Bergeron laughed as she said, “I think we all probably say the same things, because she was so clear about our team culture.” *Vulnerability*, *accountability*, and *empowerment* were words that each of the young coaches coming out of Shibles’s teams used to describe the themes she instilled. “She taught us to be intentional communicators and that language is very important,” said Binkhorst. “From the moment we arrived on campus, she called us ‘women.’ I thought it was weird at first, but it is one of the things I’ve taken with me and one of the most exciting things I now do with my team.” As Bergeron says, “The words you choose to talk with your players is one of the quickest ways to empower and connect with young women.”

“The captain selection process asks us to be vulnerable to each other, and that’s what builds trust and connects us to each other,” says Krasco. “Coach showed us that she is vulnerable too and helps us feel comfortable talking about our strengths and weaknesses,” says Caputi. This means connecting personally with each of her players. Phelps remembered an email that Shibles sent her when she was in high school to gauge her interest in playing for Bowdoin. Among these young coaches there are several Maine girls, and Phelps is one of them, having grown up in a family of lobster fishermen on Mount Desert Island. Shibles discovered that her father and Phelps’s grandfather once taught at the same school in Southwest Harbor. “In her individual check-ins with players, you got to talk with her one-on-one and share concerns in a confidential setting,” says Kerrigan. “Everybody probably thinks she’s their favorite because of how she treats you and how it makes you feel.” In nurturing these relationships, Shibles builds strong connections with her players and between them, centered on honesty and trust. “When we travel, they’re like sisters,” Shibles says. “They’re singing on the bus and chatting about what happened in their classes.” Every one of the young women smiled when they talked about their teammates. Maria Nucas ’09, who recently married, says, “I think I had a whole team’s worth of women’s basketball players at my wedding...We have this coaching tree where we still lean on each other—that’s really unique and cool.” Nucas is now the head coach at Loyola Chicago. “I’m really the Bowdoin ambassador out here,” she says. “Not many people know about Bowdoin in the Midwest, but when they look up the basketball program, they say, ‘Whoa, that’s really impressive!’”

COMPETITION AND CONNECTION

They may all be great friends, but now many of these young coaches play against each other—and against their former coach. This might seem tricky, but they’re used to challenging and competing against good friends. “Every drill in practice is competitive,” says Shibles. “I assign women to black and white teams, and they play against each other, and I want them to play hard.” Krasco says, “You hate playing against one of your good



Sara Binkhorst '15

Leadership Connections

There's an extraordinary amount of overlap in these branches of Shibles's coaching tree.

Alison (Smith) Montgomery '05

Shibles's assistant 2008–2011
Head Coach, Bates College

Maria Noucas '09

Played for Shibles 2008–2009
Assistant Coach, Loyola Chicago

Katie Bergeron '11

Played for Shibles 2008–2011
Head Coach, Southern Maine
Community College

KJ Krasco

Shibles's assistant 2011–2014
Head Coach, Middlebury College

Jill (Henrikson) Pace '12

Played for Shibles 2008–2012
Head Coach, Tufts University

Sara Binkhorst '15

Played for Shibles 2011–2015
Head Coach, Wheaton College

Megan Phelps '15

Played for Shibles 2011–2015
Assistant Coach, Bowdoin College

Lydia Caputi '18

Played for Shibles 2014–2018
Assistant Coach, Trinity College

Kate Kerrigan '18

Played for Shibles 2014–2018
Assistant Coach, Smith College



Alison (Smith)
Montgomery '05



Katie Bergeron '11

friends. We enjoy playing, but we also can't wait for the game to be over, when we are able to just be friends." This happens on the road as well, when they are all out recruiting for the coming season. While they may be competing to attract the same players, it's also a chance for them to catch up, although they might even be a little bit competitive about their friendships. As Pace says, "There are five of us in our class who are best friends—we joke that we are the best class."

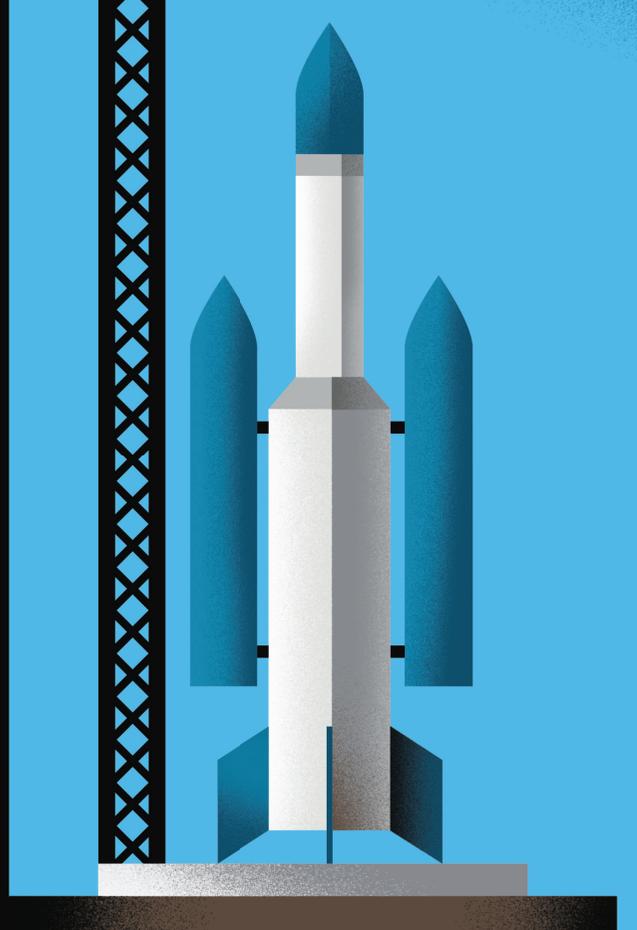
Shibles is invested in building a network of strong leaders at Bowdoin, and she is also dedicated to seeing it spread beyond Bowdoin. It can seem preordained now, with so many players working as coaches, but many of them didn't think that would be their path; it was Shibles and being part of the Bowdoin program that inspired them to do just that. Alison (Smith) Montgomery '05 completed her degree in social work but then decided, "I had this remarkable opportunity to influence these young women at an early stage in their lives, and I could use basketball as a vehicle to really prepare them

for what's ahead." She experienced this even before Bowdoin, when Shibles was one of her counselors at the University of Maine at Orono's summer basketball camp. She went on to be Shibles's assistant at Bowdoin and is now the head coach at Bates College. "I feel like we're soul sisters—women from small towns in Maine spreading leadership through basketball." Montgomery grew up in Stockton Springs, Maine. "It's kind of funny that she went to Bates and I went to Bowdoin, and now we've switched," she added. Phelps discovered her love of coaching in an unexpected way as well. She remembers sitting on the bench for several weeks after she broke her leg late in her senior season, chatting with the coaches during games. "Adrienne put me next to those coaches for a reason," she said. "She had a plan for me. It was then that I realized I wanted to go into coaching." Shibles has repeatedly spoken up for her young coaches to help them get their first jobs. "When I applied for the position I now have at Bates, Adrienne said, 'That's your job to take,'" says Montgomery.

"The way these women carry themselves, they represent the College incredibly well within the community and also set a great example for other programs beyond Bowdoin," says Director of Athletics Tim Ryan. "How we build our team and what we do, there's a piece of that here at Middlebury now," says Krasco. Many of the coaches work with younger players as well. Bergeron coached Maddie Hasson, currently a senior at Bowdoin, when she was a high school player in South Portland. Bergeron babysat for Shibles's daughters, Madeline and Elsa, when she was a Bowdoin student and coached Elsa in the Maine Firecrackers, an Amateur Athletic Union basketball team. Montgomery recruited Binkhorst to play at Bowdoin, and now Binkhorst's younger sister is a senior on Montgomery's team at Bates. "We're all connected in so many ways," Binkhorst says. "The 'web' is the word that I think of when I think of what she has helped us grow."

Susan Olcott '99 *lives in Brunswick with her husband, Charles '99, and their two daughters.*





BY BETH KOWITT '07
ILLUSTRATIONS BY DAVE MURRAY

X IS FOR EXPLORATION



Students no longer “pick” a career when they pick their major, and the world changes so fast that, even if they did, they might need to adapt as soon as they graduate. What does this change, and many others, mean to a career planning office? The answer starts with a new name.





X provides some kind of imagination about the future, and the basic human curiosity motive to find out more.

LAST FALL, Kristin Brennan—the executive director of what was then known as the Career Planning Center—sent a group of Bowdoin interns out on a special mission. New to the role, Brennan wanted to better understand the ways students perceived her office and why some shied away from it altogether.

And so she tasked the interns with interviewing their peers to find out what stopped them from reaching out to her staff for help. The common thread that ran through feedback from the nonusers? The Career Planning Center made them anxious. “People often said, ‘Thinking about my future stresses me out. I don’t know what I want to do,’” says Elly Veloria, a current senior who worked on the project. But on a base level, what the Career Planning Center discovered was that its very name was intimidating. “There’s something about the word ‘planning’ that suggests that you’re ready to plan,” explains Brennan, “that you’ve got your grid and your pen and your notebook.”

Brennan and her team set about testing different names that would send a signal to students that they were welcome in the office at any stage of the process, even if they were in the pre-pre-planning stages. They almost landed on “professional development,” but feedback from students indicated that that terminology was too corporate, which also reflected an outdated image of her industry that Brennan is trying to break. “There’s sometimes a coldness with the way people historically view a career planning office,” she says.

In May, Brennan sent out an email to the student body, announcing that Career Planning had changed its name to Career Exploration and Development, or CXD. “As one scientist recently wrote about the letter ‘x,’ so popular among those who love technology, ‘X provides some kind of imagination about the future, and the basic human curiosity motive to find out more,’” she wrote in her email. “We like the spirit of adventure and exploration that accompanies that explanation.”

The rebranding is more than symbolic; it represents a major shift that’s happening at Bowdoin as Brennan and her team push to stay ahead of employers’ changing expectations as well as the ways that the very nature of work is

evolving. “There was a time when the career center was the place you went to in a panic for a very transactional relationship,” Brennan says. Now CXD is attempting to transcend the traditional checklist that comes with the job hunt—the résumé and cover letter writing, the interview prep—although Brennan notes that those things will remain core to what they do. But instead, she says, CXD is doubling down on the exploratory work that starts the minute students step onto campus, helping them discover how what they enjoy and what they’re good at could become a career for them.

The changes at CXD come amid broader societal discussions about the value of a liberal arts degree, and at a time when college continues to be a massive investment for students and their families. Brennan’s staff says the pressure around finances and the obligation students feel to have a job lined up when they graduate are stronger than ever. The new strategy is meant to reconcile these two anxieties, broadcasting that readiness for life post-Bowdoin can actually enhance your four years at the College. “You free people up to go deep on these interesting disciplines and learn them for their own sake if, in parallel, they know they’re gaining the skills to both gain a job and be job ready,” says Brennan. Explains Bethany Walsh, associate director for skill development and programming, “We don’t see what we’re talking about as ‘what’s going to happen after college.’” She adds, “It’s how do students make intentional decisions right now with how they navigate their time at Bowdoin.”

CHANGING PERCEPTIONS

After Brennan took the position at Bowdoin, moving up to Maine from Massachusetts, where she’d been working at Harvard, she kept getting the same warning around campus. “Everyone would lean over and say, ‘Psst, everyone thinks that this office is about finance and consulting.’” Brennan thought that busting this myth, which is one that pervades practically every college campus, would be easy. All she’d have to do is explain that those industries were just the most visible since those recruiters wear suits, an unusual sight at Bowdoin, and they also show up early in the year. “That actually



totally did not work,” she says. “They’ve heard that before. What we have to do is demonstrate something different.”

One of the ways her office has started to put that into practice is with “Explore” events that in some cases highlight and elevate industries and companies that have not historically recruited or gotten much visibility on campus. CXD has also been using the “Explore” banner to break out of the traditional mold of a recruiter simply standing up in front of a group of students and pitching their company. More and more, organizations are coming to campus not just to sell themselves, but rather to participate in skill-based or professional-development activities that help students think more broadly about the types of jobs and work environments that might be possible. So far, these “Explore”

events are pulling in a broader range of students who would rather pick up some tips than just hear about why one particular company is such a great place to work.

For example, in September, CXD put together a tech week that included sessions such as a résumé workshop for non-tech roles from Google, and one from cloud software company Okta on how to crack the technical interview. Fidelity, which has historically always recruited at Bowdoin, switched things up by putting together a session on the importance of having an agile mindset.

CXD’s new director of employer relations, Sarah Cotsen, says that employers are happy to be part of something bigger. “They want to be exposed to as many students as possible,” she says. She often hears from companies that they

love Bowdoin students. “They’re great, but I need to see more of them. They’re doing the calculus of is it worth their while to make the trip,” she explains.

One of those executives doing that calculation is Andy Palmer ’88. Palmer has a seed fund in Cambridge and runs a machine learning and artificial intelligence startup called Tamr, which facilitated a session during tech week on selling your liberal arts degree to tech companies. Until recently, Palmer had never hired a lot of Bowdoin students. During the height of the tech boom, his startups were adding employees at such a fast pace, he couldn’t afford to recruit at a place where he would end up with just one or two candidates. But now, enough students are coming out of Bowdoin that the time investment pays off. He recently paused to do the math and found that a good chunk of his employees are Bowdoin people—a level of Polar Bear hiring he says happened completely organically. “They’re amazing team members,” he explains. “They’re interesting and have dimensions to them because of the other things they’ve studied.”

Palmer says placing greater value on candidates with a broader skill set and intellectual perspective is a phenomenon he’s seeing in the tech sector more widely. “It’s a differentiator,” he explains. “There’s a real opportunity for the liberal arts. Take these people who are well-rounded, give them more technical expertise, and all of a sudden they’re infinitely employable.”

AN EDGE FOR EVERYONE

For years, the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) has surveyed companies and other organizations to determine the deciding factor—major, GPA, etc.—when considering two otherwise seemingly identical candidates. It wasn’t until recently that NACE decided to include internships on that list. As soon as it did, internships skyrocketed up to the number-one factor for employers. “The expectation that you’ll do something that looks like work experience before you graduate has escalated,” Brennan explains. Employers preferably would like students to have interned at their company, and, if not, a company that closely resembles it.





The program asks big questions like “What does meaningful work look like for me?” and “What would you do if money were not an issue?”

But taking an internship—many of which are unpaid or low paying—is financially out of reach for a lot of students. The internship issue is one that goes well beyond Bowdoin, but for a few years now, the College has been working to fund these types of summer experiences. CXD alone now offers more than one hundred grants every year for internships, and there are clear signs the College wants to expand this number even further. The Bowdoin Alumni Council, for example, funds two \$5,000 internships annually. This past summer, one of those grants sent a student to Israel to work on an archaeological dig, and the other supported a psychology major who worked at the Maine Medical Research Institute with a research team and a clinical team studying and treating early psychosis.

The push toward access for all students is now pervasive in everything CXD does. “It’s really important to me that we’re addressing populations at Bowdoin that have felt excluded from CXD,” explains Voloria, who is now in a newly created role of peer advisor. Sophomore Bootcamp is a prime example. Rather than encouraging students to take—and foot the bill for—courses on the practical skills employers are looking for, the intensive winter program brings that training to campus. The program targets sophomores so they’ll be more competitive for those internships that employers now expect them to have on their résumés. “We want all students to have the same base knowledge,” says Walsh, who is directing the bootcamp. “If you graduate from Bowdoin, you should be able to navigate basic career development.”

Sophomore Bootcamp launched last year in a pilot phase over three days for twenty students and is set to expand this year to two hundred students over five days. The program covers the nuts and bolts like writing résumés and cover letters, but it kicks off with core career development work—asking big questions like “What does meaningful work look like for me?” or “What would you do if money were not an issue?” This part of bootcamp is adapted from the framework known as “Designing Your Life,” based on a book by Bill Burnett and Dave Evans from Stanford University. Last spring, Bowdoin sent an interdisciplinary team out to California

to take a training course on the program, so they could bring it back to Bowdoin. Bootcamp attendees spend the last two days of the program in electives like public speaking, negotiation, and business skills. This year, the Portland iteration of the annual Bowdoin Connections event—in which current students and alumni gather in six cities around the country—is being moved to Brunswick to give students a chance to work on their networking skills.

To identify some of the skills gaps that the bootcamp program could focus on closing, CXD did a broad survey of the Bowdoin community. Some faculty saw the list, which included attributes like flexibility and adaptability, and recognized that students were already building some of these competencies in their classes. Students just needed to be equipped with the language to translate it to an employer. Take creativity and risk, two skills that are developed all the time in the theater and arts disciplines. Herein lies what Brennan views as one of the real long-term potential benefits of Sophomore Bootcamp: It’s a chance to help develop a shared vocabulary on campus, which will let students articulate the things they’re already doing in the classroom and in their extracurriculars to potential employers.

Brennan views education as a social justice effort—it’s embedded in her background, with stints at Teach for America and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. So, when she says she wants CXD to be a place for all students, she truly means all. It’s easy to reach most students well just doing what you’ve been doing, she explains, but you have to change if you want to reach the next set, who aren’t engaging or finding you relevant. Sometimes that can mean more money and funding, but she says it’s also the subtle things like making sure students interested in being, say, visual artists feel like there’s a place for them for support on campus. “We reach so many people already,” she says, “but it’s important to have a place and culture where everyone feels like there’s something there for them.”

Beth Kowitz '07 is a senior editor at Fortune Magazine and is a member of the Bowdoin Alumni Council.



BY RAY BLACK

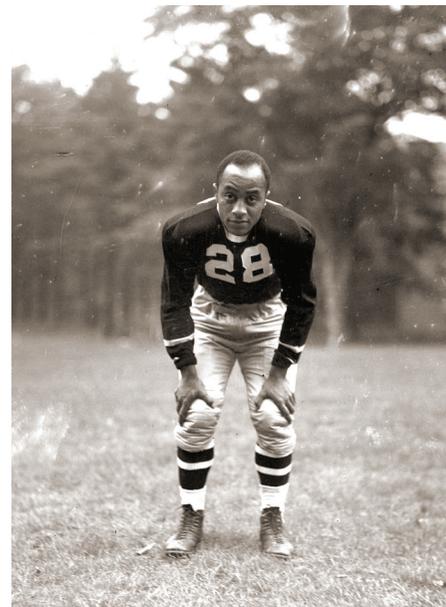
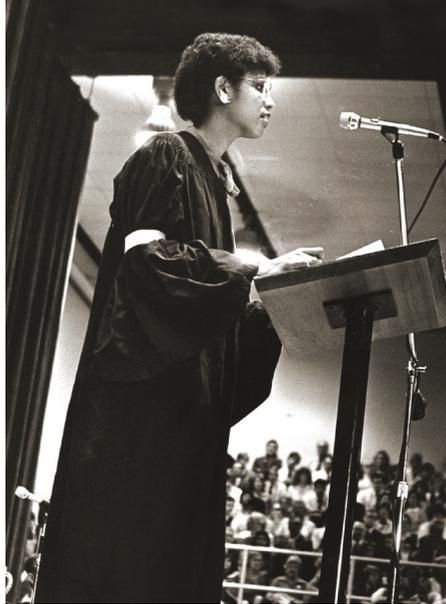
The window opened on the story of a black community at Bowdoin much earlier than 1969—John Brown Russwurm matriculated in 1822—but it is these fifty years that have shown the most determined change and growth. Progress has not always been smooth, as the commemorative exhibition curated by Lucia Ryan '19, *Tension/Tenacity*, shows us clearly

A Window Opens

and poignantly. Today—with a vibrant Black Students Union, a sense of community and history made beautifully visible on the walls of the Russwurm house, the strength of our Africana Studies Program, and a story that continues to unfold—we celebrate five decades of occasional strife, ongoing persistence, and impressive success.

“Black students, or at least many black students, come to a white college and find much of the same thing: a history which traces back from the United States through Europe with perhaps a flitting mention of Egypt. He well might ask: Where am I in that story?”

—SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CURRICULUM AND EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE ON THE BLACK CURRICULUM,
COMMITTEE FOR AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES PROPOSAL, MAY 1969



“DO YOU HEAR THAT SOUND?” Jhadha King ’20 asked as she walked across the big room upstairs in the John Brown Russwurm African American Center, also known as Russwurm House. King, an Africana studies minor, vice president of the newly renamed Black Student Union (BSU), and house resident, said excitedly, “That’s a window opening!”

Russwurm was renovated over the summer, and along with windows that now open, it is filled with art and photographs of people who have created the black experience at Bowdoin; being there immerses visitors and residents in that history and community. The refurbishing is one of the many ways the College is recognizing and celebrating AF/AM/50 this year. Fifty years ago, very important windows opened—the establishment of a black student organization, an Africana studies department, and the Russwurm Center itself—but in the years since then, they have also sometimes stuck.

What was then called the Afro-American Studies Program began in 1969 with a dedicated director and courses taught by faculty members

from a variety of departments around campus. Africana studies today is a freestanding department with four dedicated tenure track faculty. As the College celebrates fifty years of Africana Studies, the African American Society, and the John Brown Russwurm African American Center, the development of these initiatives, from hopes to committees to programs to national prominence, is a story of struggle and progress, much like the story of African Americans in the United States.

THE DREAM AND THE HOPE

The original seeds for an Afro-American studies program at Bowdoin were planted with the matriculation of John Brown Russwurm in 1822. Another seed was planted when Bowdoin hosted a first-of-its-kind exhibition of black images in Maine, *The Portrayal of the Negro in American Painting*. The Museum had originally planned to display the exhibit in May and June of 1964 but extended it because *Portrayal* proved to be extremely popular. One of the more than 20,000 visitors was the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during his visit to Bowdoin that year.

However, a larger impression than King’s visit and speech may have been made by noted civil rights organizer and King adviser Bayard Rustin. After Rustin spoke on campus, he went to Moulton Union with about one hundred students, talking with them until nearly three in the morning. Late-night discussions about African American life did not end with Rustin.

The first director of the Afro-American Studies Program, John Walter, would continue discussion that began in his class in Moulton Union, occupying the back booths in what he called, undoubtedly with full irony, “the back of the bus.” Half a century later, in Brian Purnell’s Africana Studies 101 class, Justin Pearson ’17 said the “lived experiences and history made sense to me.” The classroom’s challenging conversations often extended into the early morning, when Pearson and other African American students engaged with the understanding that “the weights of the Bowdoin experience do not weigh on everyone’s shoulders the same.”

As an African American professor, Purnell believes his vocation—he sometimes uses the



term “ministry”—flows from the mentorship and advice he received from the black studies program and black faculty of his own education. This translates from classroom lessons and individual advising of students on courses and majors into existential questions such as “How do I apply this to who I am and who I want to be?” Black studies provides mentorship and scholarship for all students, but for black students in particular.

The success of the 1964 *Portrayal* exhibit, along with its notoriety, played an influential role in Bowdoin’s commitment to increase its black student population. In spring 1969, the Afro-American Society presented Black Arts Week, which featured a production of Robert Johnson ’71’s play, *Coffee and Sour Cream*. That first Black Arts Week also featured Leroi Jones (Amiri Baraka) and the film *Nothing But a Man*, starring Ivan Dixon and Abbey Lincoln. In May, a proposal passed the faculty to create the Committee for Afro-American Studies (CAAS), whose mission was to develop more courses “that dealt with the black experience”

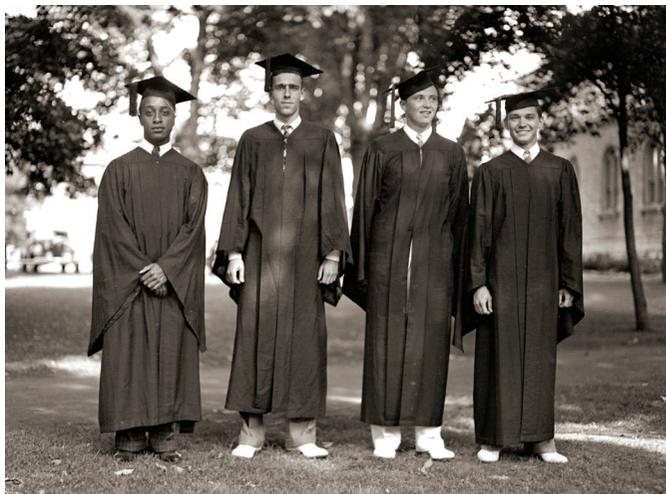
in the upcoming academic year. CAAS provided one way for Bowdoin to meet “the educational needs of the disadvantaged black population,” by creating a program and a major in “Afro-American studies,” staffed by black faculty who were permanent, or temporary, even if it meant bringing them to campus through a faculty exchange.

There was also a proposal calling for an Afro-American cultural center to serve as a location for “the cultural, intellectual, and social activities of black students,” with a library of books, newspapers, journals, records, and films, and a conference room and social center, as well as resident rooms. Virgil Logan Jr. ’69 led one of four student forums in fall 1968 that discussed “The New Role of Black Students.” Logan explained that, in addition to a “source of education to whites,” black students would be “a questioning source to help the College change its values and image...allowing the institution to reexamine itself and let its own racism surface.” The result, he argued, would be a more responsive and relevant institution.

“We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us.”

—FREEDOM’S JOURNAL,
JOHN BROWN RUSSWURM,
CLASS OF 1826

The walls of the newly refurbished John Brown Russwurm African American Center feature artworks by black artists and photos depicting black life at Bowdoin going back to around 1910.



Johnson recalls that, when he arrived at Bowdoin in 1967, Logan and the Bowdoin Undergraduate Civil Rights Organization (BUCRO) paved the way for the founding of Africana studies, but not without protests. Johnson recalled a meeting in 1968 where the administration explained why Bowdoin could not afford to have eighty-five black students by 1970. The students expressed their displeasure and left the meeting. Later, Johnson said, the black students marched from Moulton Union to the president's office. Each student had a brick in his hand, and they stacked them in a pyramid with a note left on the top that read, "No more water, but fire next time." The students then had a more productive meeting with the administration, he said.

During that tumultuous time, Johnson said, black students like him "were coming from the inner cities of America, and we were all angry at what was happening." But, he recalls, "the administration was open. They supported us; they listened to us."

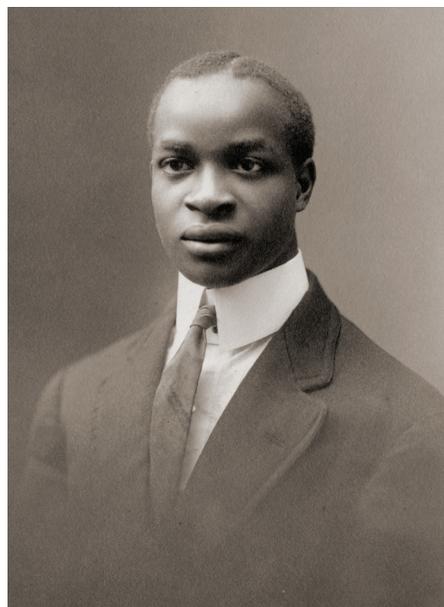
In June 1969, under the headline "More Blacks Coming," the *Orient* reported twenty-three

incoming black freshmen, which would bring the black student body up to forty-three. The hope was that CAAS could work quickly enough that those entering the College in the fall of 1969 could graduate with an Afro-American studies major degree if they chose to. A year earlier, in 1968, Bowdoin students had only two options for courses about black people. The rapid growth from an idea in the early 1960s to a program with seventeen courses in 1972–1973 demonstrated Bowdoin's commitment.

Randy Stakeman arrived at Bowdoin in 1978 as part of the history department faculty. He observed that, in the push for diversity, those students are not always prepared for the "overwhelming white community" of Bowdoin or Maine. The African American Society and academic program "made up...[and] compensated" for this adjustment before there were dedicated student affairs staff. After Walter's departure, Stakeman said that it was difficult to find a new director and that the search for a director had to be changed from seeking a senior professor to finding two junior scholars.

In this manner, he said, the College could "grow our own." This strategy would prove successful, ultimately if not initially. In 1980, anthropologist Lynn Bolles was hired as director and helped the program provide regular course offerings. After eight years as director, she left to head the women's studies program at the University of Maryland.

After Bolles's departure, Stakeman was appointed temporary and then permanent director. As the program embarked on a required self-study, Stakeman and the committee found reason to change focus. The transformation from Afro-American or black studies to Africana studies was a move from the original intent, to help a disadvantaged community, to an emphasis on "the continuity of African cultures throughout the diaspora." This meant the program could embrace "various black experiences," because the descendants of the African diaspora "share a common origin, experience, and struggle." When he decided to retire in 2006 after seventeen years, a review of the Africana Studies Program recommended



“The condition of the Center is not reflective of the time, money, and effort spent by the Afro-American Society and the Afro-American Studies Program to revitalize a national historical landmark which represents a crucial part of Afro-American History.”

—AMONG A LIST OF FORMAL GRIEVANCES SHARED BY THE AFRO-AMERICAN SOCIETY AND STUDENTS FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DR. WALTER, SEPTEMBER 24, 1979

replacing Stakeman with five people. The five were a history professor (Stakeman’s original department), a director, and three dedicated Africana studies tenure-track faculty. Stakeman said the financial commitment to hire dedicated faculty was “a turning point almost forty years after the program started.”

A HOUSE BECAME A HOME

For the Africana Studies Program and its students, the Russwurm house was a home, a place where they worked, lived, and found the safety and security of black culture. It held classes and events, and housed residents and,

initially, department offices. When it was home to the program itself, along with classes, student organizations, and students, Stakeman said the Russwurm house was like “night and day.” Classes and “all the academic processes” would happen until five, unless there was a speaker or event—and after five o’clock, the students would take over. During this time (and some say still), the Russwurm house had the reputation for the best parties on campus.

That the Russwurm house was such a home is largely credited to Harriet Richards. While she worked at Bowdoin as an administrator for the program, Richards earned her own bachelor’s

degree in 1992. Stakeman said Richards made “a good connection” between the students and faculty. She helped students with coursework, as she was familiar with the faculty, both as a member of their staff and as a student. She often prepared students for tests and tutored them on assignments. In addition, Richards often hired students to work in the Africana Studies Program. She was well known to offer encouragement, sometimes in the form of chicken soup. For many, Richards was venerated not just as a mother figure, but as “the secret seasoning” for a long Bowdoin winter.

Richards’s passing was memorialized by alumni and colleagues, who called her “a person who possessed courage, warmth, and spitfire in equal measure.” As “one of the biggest cheerleaders for students of color,” she was known as the “fiercely courageous intellectual force” by those who referred to her with the honorific “Mama Harriet.” They recalled how she was “advisor, confidante, and surrogate mother to many,” one who was a “rock” and helped students get through “non-smiling moments.” Her own smile,

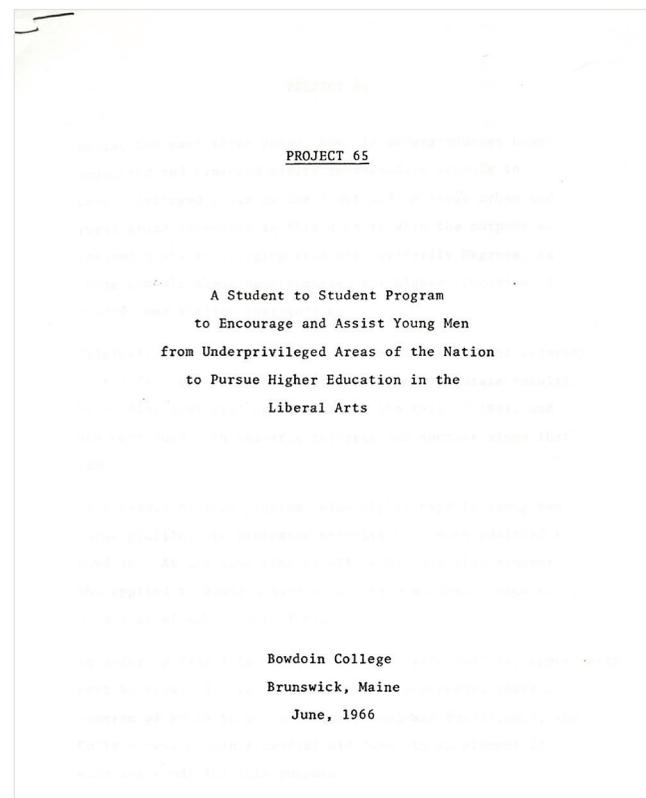
B.U.C.R.O.

GENERAL
MEETING

Monday Oct 7 8:00 PM

At the Union (TERRACE Under)
All interested students are
invited to attend

1968



Culled from College archives, *Tension/Tenacity: Africana Studies at 50* considers fifty years of strength and struggle in the form of archival documents and photos. The exhibit is on display in the Library through December 21, 2019, and can be viewed online at sca.bowdoin.edu/afam50.

Opposite page:

The Bowdoin Undergraduate Civil Rights Organization was founded in the mid-1960s by Virgil Logan '69 and Bob Ives '69. In the organization's first year of recruitment work, sixteen black students entered Bowdoin in the fall of 1967, and another thirteen in 1968.

Top left:

In a series of telegrams, members of the Society report to Maine Senator Edmund Muskie that the struggles of the Afro-American Studies Program (AAS) to recruit black faculty and students could not be addressed "unless and until the states [sic] most respected leader intervenes to insure justice." They propose that he host a statewide conference to design equal opportunity programs to minority and economically disadvantaged students.

Bottom left:

The Russwurm and Boothby endowed lecture series are among the most notable and enduring aspects of the Africana Studies Program. Both established by program director John Walter, these endowments were noted as an exceptional strength of the program during an external evaluation in the 1990s. Endowment funds have and continue to be used to bring prominent black scholars and artists to the College. Beginning in 1970, the African American Society put on an annual Black Arts festival until the 1980s. Local artist Steven Petroff drew several event posters for AAS and the Society, including this example.

Top right:

Project 65 was founded by Ed Bell '66 and Tony Moulton '67. Beginning in the fall of 1963, Bowdoin students involved with the project began traveling during academic breaks to predominantly black high schools around the country, with the goal of recruiting sixty-five black students to attend the College.





“We’ll put it to you straight. Bowdoin is just not like home or possibly anywhere else you may have been.”

—“WE GET OVER: AFRO-AM AT BOWDOIN COLLEGE,” ADMISSION BROCHURE
WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF THE AFRO-AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1974

along with her dedication and influence, were honored with a plaque in the Russwurm house during the fiftieth anniversary celebration.

Another key part of the house, the Russwurm library, had the hallmarks of being well used and had become “totally disorganized” by the time professor Tess Chakkalal arrived in 2008. She hired Robert Flores ’12, an English major and Africana studies minor, to work with her to organize and catalogue the library, making the collection accessible again. The library, like the rest of the house, was also an active social space, housing books “with a specific application to Africana studies.”

Justin Pearson ’17, a government and education studies major, recalled seeing Russwurm’s quote from *Freedom’s Journal* displayed in the house: “We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us.” As a “proud black American,” Pearson saw himself and other black students contributing to Bowdoin’s academic rigor, as well as being “seen and heard, laughing, dancing, or even praying to Allah, Jesus, or our ancestors.”

Pamela Zabala ’17, now a doctoral student in sociology at Duke University, recalled that the Russwurm house and the Africana Studies Program provided needed spaces for incoming black students, and “fifty years later, these continue to be important spaces for students of all backgrounds to come together, exchange ideas, and share in new experiences,” she said. Lauryn Dove ’21 described Russwurm house as a type of lighthouse for black students, much as the beacons that dot Maine’s shores provide guidance to mariners.

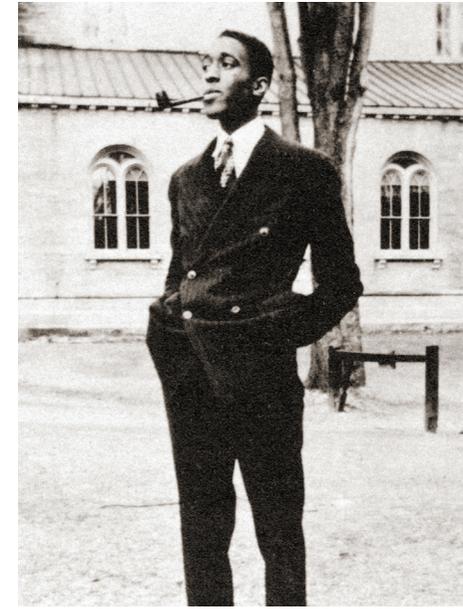
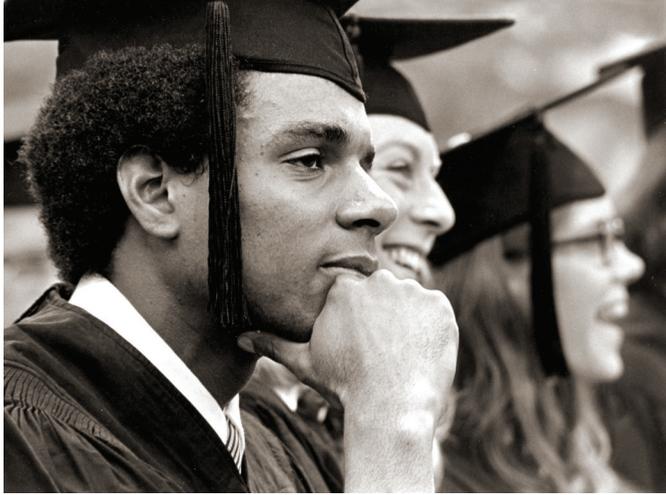
Benjamin Harris, director of Bowdoin’s student center for multicultural life, describes how the BSU and Africana Studies Program work together to produce the Black History Month program in the Russwurm house with significant contributions from other student organizations. Students created a “black scholars night,” a space to “work and socialize” with snacks. Jhadha King ’20 cofounded the Students of Color in Computer Science group.

Renovations to Russwurm house over the past summer include adding a new bathroom

on the first level, new floors, fresh paint, and new art and archival photography to the décor. In addition to works by Jacob Lawrence and MacArthur fellow Kerry James Marshall, the walls are adorned with contemporary works by David Driskell H’89, Maurice Evans, and Shanequa Gay, as well as artist and author Justin Bua. The update provided the opportunity to create a living history wall, with pictures of black Bowdoin life going back to around 1910. As part of the renovations, Harris commissioned a new portrait of John Brown Russwurm from artist Eurnice Harris. The building’s facelift, the new Russwurm portrait, and the seminal place the house has in the history of the Africana Studies Program, along with its current role as home for students, centers the house ever more squarely at the heart of black life at Bowdoin.

THE VIEW FROM THE AFRICANA STUDIES PROGRAM AND RUSSWURM HOUSE

Chakkalal arrived at Bowdoin in 2008 as part of a rethinking about and recommitment to Africana studies. She said that support of the



administration combined with the freedom to develop a program that balances the needs of students and the rigors of the College have helped Africana studies grow into a premier program. While the department moved out of the Russwurm house, Chakkalalal notes how the faculty work to continue the legacy of the house's namesake by leading social and intellectual events, reading groups, and speaking series. This rethinking for Chakkalalal concerns Africana studies as "an intellectual project." The department has a "function and purpose within the academy and beyond."

In the summer of 2009, Judith Casselberry came to Bowdoin because, she says, "the administrative commitment to the program was really attractive to me. They were looking to build the program and the faculty into the bones of the institution." One of the changes since her arrival is the Introduction to Africana Studies course, required for all majors and minors and taught by the core faculty. This introduction connects the various student groups to each other as well as to the faculty. In this manner,

students and faculty have a connection grounded in the field. Casselberry says having dedicated core faculty meant "a solid intro course," an intermediate seminar, and a consistent "capstone course." These elements become "linchpins to coherent curriculum," where students "can go through a four-year program and [core faculty can] make sure they get everything" they need to graduate. Thus, Africana studies majors and minors "have an educational experience that is really meaningful."

Brian Purnell knew of Bowdoin from Geoffrey Canada '74's 1995 memoir *Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun*. Canada's writing inspired Purnell to be a teacher. Purnell says the connection between first learning about Bowdoin from Canada's book, and now being the Geoffrey Canada Associate Professor of Africana Studies and History, is an inspiration. The position provides him a "compass to try to direct, to ask what is the purpose of [his] scholarship... of [his] teaching...to take the good, take the love and the hope and the optimism and the investment that people...had in their children,

in their education, and in their community." Purnell says he views "Bowdoin as a place where there's a vibrant black intellectual and cultural life. In his nine years at Bowdoin, most recently as chair of the Africana Studies Program, Purnell is impressed with how "black life and culture develop, expand, and become more diasporic." Students flow to the program through groups like the Black Student Union, the Caribbean Student Association, and the African Student Union.

In the diverse history of black studies programs, Purnell respects how "black students demanded institutions change, become flexible and dynamic in the way that they deliver their curriculums," how they hired faculty, and how they positioned "Africa and the diaspora in the overall delivery of education and production of knowledge."

In Chakkalalal's view, the Africana studies faculty hired in the past decade have "grown together and learned from each other." "Being a part of Africana studies at Bowdoin has been one of the best intellectual experiences of my life," she says. Casselberry appreciates that "the



core faculty just so happen to get along really, really well organically.”

For Casselberry, Africana studies is “a holistic enterprise,” with an intellectual side and other understandings “that there are ways of knowing things that are not just in our minds,” which are “legitimate forms of knowledge production.”

A NEW WINDOW ON AFRICANA STUDIES

The newest faculty addition to Africana studies at Bowdoin, Ayodeji Ogunnaike, said he “heard a lot about Russwurm and his legacy” when joining the program. Russwurm and his contemporaries “leveraged their Western educations to bring attention to and fight against the systems of oppression that were designed to subjugate them.” Ogunnaike recalled that, while active in the US abolitionist struggle, Russwurm “was very influential and active in Liberia toward the end of his life.” The Africana Studies Program links the history and study of the African diaspora “much in the same way Russwurm and the contemporary black elite organized their intellectual and political thought and

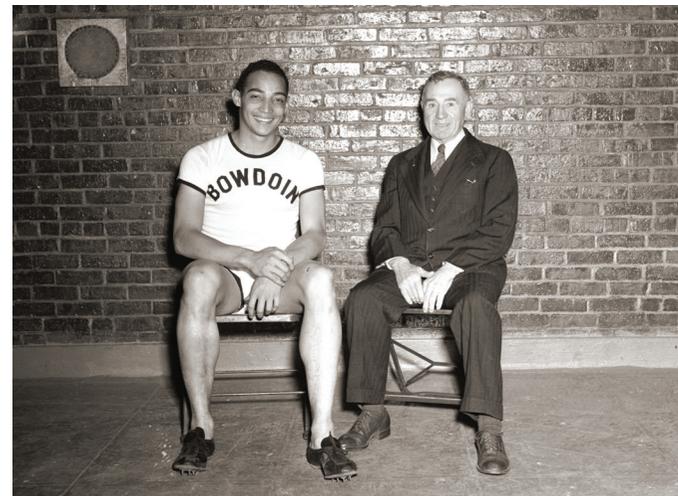
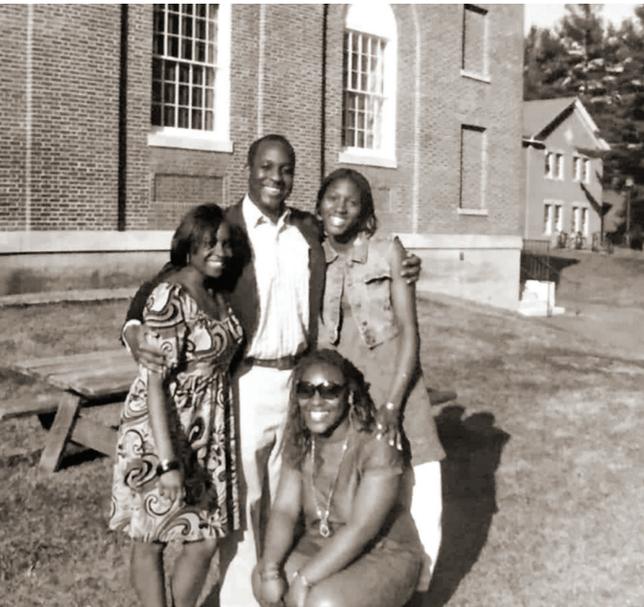
action in the nineteenth century.” Anne and Frank Goodyear created the digital collection “50 Years Later: The Portrayal of the Negro, an American Painting” in 2014. The notes to this collection describe the 1964 exhibit as part of “a multiyear effort to sponsor events related to the Civil Rights Movement.” They are also working with the Russwurm Center on projects like the upcoming *African/American: Two Centuries of Portrait*, focusing on “works by African American artists of African American subjects,” curated by Lauryn Dove ’21, an Africana studies major with a gender, sexuality, and women’s studies minor.

“It is not that we haven’t made any progress, or that we have not tried. However, the racism and sexism that were present at the inception of the American college system and which have continued ever since are like a force of gravity...”

—SELF-STUDY OF THE AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM, PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES, SEPTEMBER 14, 1990

Dove called the exhibit “a love letter to black people of the past, present, and future.” *Two Centuries* explores some of the pain that lingers from slavery because the institution “continues to make the earth quake under our feet.” Exploring this legacy, the exhibit is more “about love, song, and sorrow.” Dove says her goal “in curating this exhibit was to make untold stories loud and those that continue to go untold even louder.”

Marieke Van Der Steenhoven, special collections education and outreach librarian, was invited by Purnell to participate in Bowdoin’s fiftieth anniversary celebration. The result is *Tension/Tenacity: Africana Studies at 50*. Looking



into the archives for Van Der Steenhoven means revealing the “sometimes troubling, sometimes funny—the whole spectrum”—of Bowdoin’s history, including occasionally “encountering racist histories that are just kind of engrained into the culture of a college that you can maybe still feel and see the reverberations of today.” The archives tell a history of Africana studies that is “complicated,” “much longer” than fifty years, and “is incredibly rich.” Working with Lucia Ryan ’19, an Africana studies and history major, Van Der Steenhoven located “an incredible trove of admissions brochures that were geared toward black students,” from around 1972 through to the 1990s. Ryan said she discovered “one of the overarching themes is the constant work put into making the program better.”

BOWDOIN’S AFRICANA STUDIES TODAY

Amani Hite ’20 is the current BSU president. She said students changed the name from the African American Society because BSU better reflects the current “beautiful blend of multifaceted, dynamic, creative, and diverse beings” of

the black diaspora, those in the United States and those who more recently immigrated from the Caribbean and African continent. (The BSU is one of several student organizations—including the Africa Alliance, the Muslim Student Alliance, and the Student Organization for Caribbean Awareness—that supports African diaspora students.) Jhadha King, who is vice president of the BSU, credits the recent name change to the organization’s receiving greater recognition on campus and with other student groups across the country, all as part of a larger effort to create a “more immersive community.” While there have been incidents on and off campus, King feels that Bowdoin “really tries to work at [making it better] because, at the end of the day, students are accepted here.” Hite noted that the Class of 2020 is “the most diverse at Bowdoin” ever, and that next year’s class will be even more so. The current experiences of black students, Hite says, are “a testament to progressiveness and hope for the future,” a future that began when Russwurm sat in their seats almost two centuries ago.

TOMORROW, ANOTHER WINDOW WILL OPEN

The Bowdoin College Board of Trustees, with engagement from black students and their allies across campus, acted to create the black studies program a half-century ago. They attempted to “make an honest and sincere effort to increase the enrollment of qualified black students.”

The Africana experience at Bowdoin is celebrated in numbers: fifty years of existence, four tenure-track faculty, increasing enrollment of majors, minors, and students taking courses in the department, the number of events at the Russwurm house, the books in its library, the vinyl records filling its spaces, and the photographs that illustrate its history. But the success of the Russwurm house and the Africana studies department is most reflected in the experience of the students.

In Russwurm, current students enjoy jollof rice, cornbread, and turkey at the BSU potluck, and they “walk with pride in the African Fashion Show,” Hite said. Black students know when Sydney the barber comes to town for a few days, and on the weekends when the beautician visits,

“What I’m most proud of is that we bent the program so much, it was never going to grow straight again. We bent it in the direction of internationalism, we bent it toward student mentorship, and we bent it in the critical thinking direction. Those have become permanent features of the program.”

—PROFESSOR EMERITUS RANDY STAKEMAN, INTERVIEW WITH SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES, 2019

appointments fill immediately. As Casselberry tells it, when Harris brought a hairstylist in from Chicago to the Russwurm house for a weekend, Casselberry “booked my appointment!” She said when students found out they asked, “Oh, Professor Casselberry, you’re getting your hair done?” To which she said, “Yes, you know that’s right!”

Even with the success of Africana studies, challenges remain. Chakkalakal notes that some students feel the Russwurm house is only for black students. She emphasizes Africana studies and the Russwurm house are welcoming to the entire Bowdoin community. In fifty years, Chakkalakal hopes students view Africana studies programs and classes just like “government, English, or computer science,” not as “minority discourse.” A half-century from now, she says, Africana studies should be seen as an “equal part of a mainstream intellectual project of a liberal arts education.”

Students who take Africana studies at Bowdoin obtain “the ability to think across different ideas and in depth,” says Casselberry. As an inherently interdisciplinary program, with scholars of various specialties, she says they “have different perspectives and take different approaches...[but] we’re very much on the same page about the importance of Africana studies, not only as a separate program, but the importance of the program in the institution as a whole.” Africana studies gives students a “different way of thinking and processing information that serves them really well no matter what they do in the world.”

During this fiftieth celebration, Justin Pearson ’17 says he hopes that people will “think about the next fifty years,” and with changes past and changes to come, think about “how we are built and how to build others to powerfully plead our own cause.” The Africana experience at Bowdoin, from its intellectual home in Africana studies to its physical home in the Russwurm house to the spiritual home in its student organizations, is an opportunity to be “immersed in the Africana studies community and Africana community,” says King. The future is a wide-open window.

Ray Black is an assistant professor of African American studies in the Department of Ethnic Studies at Colorado State University.



Michael Cato, senior vice president
and chief information officer, talks about
IT trends and innovation at Bowdoin.

All About People

How does a person who earned a bachelor's degree in zoology end up in information technology?

I was a computer science minor my first year in college—this was before IT was a discipline—but I was also pre-med, and I realized that I couldn't sustain them both. I kept focused on pre-med. It was some years after college when a friend in the burgeoning IT field let me know of an opening, and I took a chance. The scientific method that I was trained in served me well when it came to problem-solving in IT. I was interested in medicine because I deeply cared about helping people. I was surprised at how fulfilling I found IT in that way, helping people use technology to solve problems. Yes, my role is a technology role, but my focus is on what are we trying to *do* with the technology, not simply the technology itself.

How does your team stay abreast of technological innovations when change happens so fast?

Keeping up is one of the great challenges. We spend a lot of time talking to other people across the industry, fostering relationships, so that if something happens at another institution, I can reach out and ask, "Is there anything you can tell me about what happened, so I can make sure that we're paying attention on our side?" Relationships matter, but also the range of those relationships. It helps to know people

who work in much larger institutions, in public institutions, institutions on the West Coast. It's important to have diverse contacts so that you're talking across a breadth of experiences, and it's not narrowly focused on institutions that are like us. At the end of the day, it's all about people. And, of course, accepting that you're never going to keep up with all of it.

What does it look like to succeed in fostering a culture of innovation at Bowdoin?

One of my favorite authors, Seth Godin, commented in an interview that people ask him all the time, "I'm not a creative type. I have a really hard time coming up with great ideas. How do you do it?" His answer is, "How are you at coming up with bad ideas?" Many people are uncomfortable expressing an idea that other people might critique. Put an idea forward, figure out how to test it, then iterate on that, and that's how you'll get the good ideas—and build cultures that are encouraging and supportive of innovation.

How do you help Bowdoin students think about careers in IT?

Many students who want a career in tech think the only way is to get a computer science degree, even as they also acknowledge that there are all these other disciplines that they're really interested in. It's sometimes helpful to be able to say to them, "I know for sure you don't have

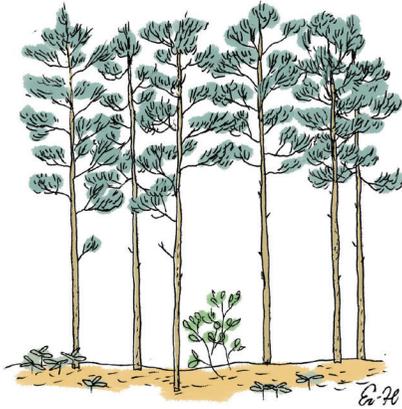
to have that degree, because I don't have one." The computer science degree can serve you really well, depending on what you want. But if you don't know what you want, it can be helpful to start with the pieces that you are really excited about. Career Exploration and Development is doing a great job helping our students start to think more broadly about "What does tech look like?" It's such a wide discipline that there are many different ways that you can get into it and build a fulfilling career. I've really been excited to build a team of professionals who have different types of backgrounds. Yes, a number of them come from computer science, and some of them from history, some of them from music. Those varied backgrounds position us to solve problems differently.

Michael Cato joined Bowdoin in March 2018 as senior vice president and chief information officer. In his role, he facilitates all aspects of IT strategy at the College, including maintaining Bowdoin's leadership role in educational technology and the high reliability of its current systems while providing a vision for the digital future in teaching, scholarship, constituent engagement, and operations. Most recently, before coming to Bowdoin, Cato was vice president for computing and information services and CIO at Vassar College.

For an extended version of this Q&A, visit bowdoin.edu/magazine.



Whispering Pines



Golden Dreams

High expectations didn't always pan out for Bowdoin alumni who headed west.

GOLD WAS DISCOVERED at Sutter's Mill on January 24, 1848, nine days before the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed, ending the Mexican War and transferring Alta California to the United States. At the time, the territory was occupied by 150,000 native peoples, 6,500 Californios (people of Spanish or Mexican descent), and 700 foreigners (mostly Americans). In his 1848 State of the Union address, President James Polk confirmed that "the accounts of abundance of gold are of such an extraordinary character as would scarcely command belief were they not corroborated by the authentic reports of officers in the public service." Within two years, 250,000 Americans (more than 1 percent of the US population) were in California, along with miners from Mexico, South America, Europe, and China.

At least thirty alumni and nine Medical School of Maine alumni participated in the Gold Rush. Most sailed around Cape Horn or crossed the Isthmus of Panama. Peter Brinsmade (Class of 1826) was the earliest arrival, having sailed from Hawai'i in 1848, where he had been a clergyman, merchant, sugar planter, publisher, and American consul. He was a San Francisco merchant for several years.

Some, like John Patch (Class of 1831), faced "pecuniary embarrassment" after a failed business venture and sought financial redemption in the gold fields. Most returned east after a few years of prospecting, rich in experiences, but not in net worth. Thaddeus Hildreth (Medical, 1850) put his medical studies on hold, and in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, he and his partners found gold-rich deposits.

Within days, 6,000 miners swarmed over "Hildreth's Diggins" (now Columbia). Hildreth returned to Maine, completed his medical degree, and was a Civil War surgeon. He died in 1880 after mistakenly drinking a toxin instead of an herbal remedy.

Others sought gold as payment for goods and services. Merchants, bankers, doctors, lawyers, and farmers often fared better than prospectors. Leonard Jarvis (Class of 1840) cultivated grapes for forty years in the vicinity of "Hildreth's Diggins." Thomas Megquier (Medical, 1827) and his wife, Mary Jane, left for San Francisco in 1848, leaving their children with relatives in Maine. Due to a shortage of people skilled in "women's work," Mary Jane earned money by running a boarding house, sewing clothes, taking in laundry, and baking. Her collected letters (*An Apron Full of Gold*) track her extraordinary life. The Megquiers made several trips back to Maine during their seven-year sojourn.

Two alumni wrote about their experiences. Under the pen name Ralph Raven, George Payson (Class of 1843) captured the contrast between *Golden Dreams and Leaden Realities*. Robert Lord (Class of 1849), a machinist who made scales for weighing gold, wrote about being a merchant and gunsmith in Oregon and prospecting for gold. Both writers describe short-term partnerships and quick turnovers in buying and selling claims. Round-the-clock vigilance was required to guard against thefts or murder by miners or native peoples. California's native population was reduced by disease and massacres from 150,000 to 30,000 within a decade. The killing of a miner or the perceived theft of a horse often led to the slaughter of an entire native village through escalating—and asymmetrical—retaliation.

The first California students to enroll at Bowdoin were from Petaluma. The father of Maine-born George Williams (Class of 1865) went west in 1849. Mrs. Williams left to join him in 1855 and, upon arriving, discovered that he had sailed to Maine to accompany her. Eventually the family was reunited. George probably accompanied his mother at age sixteen rather than traveling with his father at age ten. He attended Bowdoin for three years and became a lawyer and western mine owner. Otis Hinkley (Class of 1866) appears in the 1852 California census as a fifteen-year-old miner. He transferred to Union College after his first year and became a woolen manufacturer in Indiana, where he spent the rest of his life.

Within the Gold Rush biographies of alumni, one may find examples of unreasonable optimism, naiveté, poor judgment, and human frailties, but on balance, these are outweighed by qualities of resourcefulness, resilience, and courage that inspire us today.

John R. Cross '76 is secretary of development and college relations.

PIGSKIN PURVEYOR

If you've seen an NFL game in the past seventy-eight seasons, you've seen a Bowdoin connection in the handiwork of Horween Leather Company, headed by fourth-generation president Skip Horween '78. Horween has been the sole supplier of leather to Wilson Sporting Goods for official NFL game footballs since 1941. The company also supplies leather to Spalding for official NBA basketballs and Arena League footballs, and to Rawlings for baseball gloves. Not a sports fan? You may wear shoes of Horween leather by makers such as Timberland, Cole Haan, or Brooks Brothers.

"We're a family company. We think in terms of the importance of each person we work with—it's deliberate to say we work *with* people, they don't work *for* us," Skip explains. "That mindset, along with staying small and true to our traditions, has been the key to our success."

Skip has worked in every area of the company from the time he was a teenager, but he wasn't destined to join the family business. "I studied archaeology at Bowdoin because I enjoyed it. Digs expanded my learning about how much a team can accomplish and how rewarding it is to face challenges and solve puzzles." Skip went on to earn an MBA at Northwestern and returned to Horween Leather in the early '90s.

"Professionally, I'm proud to still be in a difficult business making awesome products the old-fashioned way," he says. "Personally, I'm most proud of my family. It sounds sappy, but my kids are the two best things I've ever done. By far."

For more on Skip and Horween Leather, visit bowdoin.edu/magazine.

"We're specialists," says Skip Horween '78, explaining how Horween Leather became the last tannery operating in Chicago. Fun fact: Footballs are made from cow hide, but, when the sport began, the balls were made from pig bladders, and the nickname "pigskin" has stuck.



Connect

1951 Barclay Shepard: “After graduating from Deerfield Academy in 1944, when the war was on, I entered the Maine Maritime Academy in Castine and graduated in 1946. I then went to sea for almost a year as third mate on a cargo ship. I entered Bowdoin in the fall of 1947. Bowdoin gave me one semester’s credit for my two years at Castine, so I did a summer semester and was able to graduate a year ahead of my class. I majored in French and minored in history. I was a member of ATO fraternity. I then went back to Turkey, where I had grown up (1927 to 1938) and where my father was the founding director of the American Hospital of Istanbul, also known as the Admiral Bristol Hospital. For three years (1950 to 1953) I taught English at Robert College (founded in 1863 by Bowdoin alumnus Cyrus Hamlin, Class of 1834, of Waterford, Maine, cousin of Hannibal Hamlin, Abraham Lincoln’s vice president). I then rather suddenly decided to study medicine, and after a year and a half of pre-med (French and history didn’t fully prepare me for medical school), I was lucky enough to be accepted to Tufts Medical School, graduating in 1958. I entered the US Navy, where I trained in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery and served twenty-two years as a Navy surgeon (a year in Vietnam) and twelve years with the VA central office in DC, the first seven of which I was the director of the Agent Orange Projects Office. The last five years, I was the medical advisor to the VA department, which took the lead in developing the computerized medical record. A few years after retiring from the VA, I returned to Turkey and, for six years (1995 to 2001), was the third-generation Shepard to be the medical director of the American

Hospital in Gaziantep, near the Syrian border, where my grandparents and then my parents had served starting in 1882. Then back to Boothbay Harbor, where I’m very active in a number of community activities. I’m fine and enjoying life in my native town. Just had my ninety-third birthday on June 16. I’m blessed with good health, three sons, nine grandchildren, and twenty-one great-grandchildren—all doing well. Life has been good.”

1956 Ron Golz has been honored by the Alumni Council with a Polar Bear Award in recognition of his significant personal contributions and outstanding dedication to Bowdoin.

Hank Haskell: “Summering again Down East in South Bristol, where I’m working on my ninth book. This one is about the great lawyer Bats Wheeler, who graduated from Harvard Law with our class agent, **Norm Cohen**, and the great, late **Paul Brontas ’54**. He married my twin sister and led a most interesting life, ending up at Nutter McClennen & Fish. The editor for my books is my Bowdoin roommate, **Cal Kendall**, who still insists I should have taken more English classes at Bowdoin. Cal taught at the University of Minnesota for thirty-eight years, and he and his wife, Ellie, [visited] us in Maine again this summer.”

1957 Ed Langbein has been honored by the Alumni Council with a Polar Bear Award in recognition of his significant personal contributions and outstanding dedication to Bowdoin.

Ed Langbein: “Carol and **Arthur Strout** are recently back from two weeks in Italy and the Algerian coast, an excursion that included a side trip to Monaco. He is delighted to share the news that granddaughter **Eliza**



“I was the third-generation Shepard to be the medical director of the American Hospital in Gaziantep, near the Syrian border, where my grandparents and then my parents had served starting in 1882.”

—BARCLAY SHEPARD '51, WHO TURNED NINETY-THREE IN JUNE, RECOUNTING HIS FULL LIFE OF SERVICE AND TRAVEL

Strout [is a] part of the Class of '23 this fall, continuing a family tradition that began with the Class of 1857.

Jack Eaton wrote that he is keeping busy in retirement and encourages everyone to share news.

“Back for the Scholarship Luncheon in May were **Harry Carpenter**, Wende Chapman, Nancy and I, **Ted Parsons**, Joanie Shepherd, and **John Snow**. We enjoyed chatting with our scholarship recipients: **Tobi Omola '19** (Chapman) and **Zakir Bulmer '19** (Class of 1957). *Bowdoin Magazine* beat me to the announcement that **John Simonds** was presented with the Albert N. Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. Well done, John!

“Gathering for our number sixty-two were Harry Carpenter, **Bill**

Cooke, Kathryn and **Walter Gans**, Barbara and **David Ham**, Laurie and **Kent Hobby**, **David Kessler** and Barbara Bickley, Nancy and I, MaryLou and **Jim Millar**, Ted Parsons and Susan Morey, Joanie Shepherd, and Marsha and **Nate Winer**. Weekend highlights included the usual awesome offerings of Bowdoin Dining Service, an overview of the past year by President Rose, opportunities to socialize with alumni (most of whom were younger) and undergraduates (particularly the eighty-five personable ‘ambassadors’ who—thankfully—chauffeured us around in golf carts), and the dedication of *Scenting the Wind* (a polar bear sculpture by **Robert Hooke '64**) at Whittier Field.

Remember

The following is a list of deaths reported to us since the previous issue. Full obituaries appear online at: obituaries.bowdoin.edu

Felix S. Verity '36
May 19, 2019

Lloyd R. Knight '45
June 9, 2019

Robert D. Conkwright '46
September 17, 2019

Corwin A. Olds '46
June 25, 2018

Robert L. Morrell '47
October 13, 2019

Louis G. Bove '48
August 22, 2019

J. Edson Dickson Jr. '49
June 8, 2019

Clarence W. Fiedler Jr. '49
February 2019

Richard L. Badger '50
July 13, 2019

Peter S. Eastman '50
September 13, 2019

N. Douglas Payne '50
August 27, 2019

George D. Winius '50
June 10, 2018

William H. Clifford Jr. '51
July 4, 2019

James L. Fife '51
June 16, 2019

James M. Kelley II '51
June 2, 2019

Donald G. Lints '53
May 13, 2019

Henry R. Sleeper '53
August 17, 2019

Robert H. Cushman '54
September 7, 2019

Samuel F. Manning '54
July 9, 2019

Charles S. Christie II '55
July 14, 2019

LeRoy E. Dyer '56
July 19, 2019

Douglas S. Stuart '57
April 30, 2019

Raymond Babineau '59
August 3, 2019

Kevin J. Malley '59
March 10, 2018

Thomas E. Medvecky '59
June 18, 2019

William H. Riley Jr. '60
May 7, 2019

Walter A. Stuart '60
September 30, 2018

Gerard E. Francoeur Jr. '62
July 28, 2019

James P. Malmfeldt '62
July 10, 2019

S. Braley Gray III '63
March 28, 2019

Richard N. Bail Jr. '64
May 29, 2019

William J. Kaschub '64
May 19, 2019

H. Allen Ryan '64
September 21, 2019

William E. Westerbeke '64
August 28, 2019

Dean M. Milliken '67
July 10, 2019

James R. Goldfarb '68
July 7, 2019

C. Bernard Ruffin III '69
May 4, 2019

John P. Wallo '70
March 5, 2019

George E. Griggs III '71
April 21, 2019

Rasuli W. Lewis '73
August 6, 2019

William T. Bayer III '74
August 16, 2019

David Earley '76
August 31, 2019

Gary J. Allegretta '77
June 6, 2019

Derek W. Van Slyck '79
September 20, 2018

Laurie Pelletier Dow '80
December 16, 2019

Robert W. Miller Jr. '85
May 18, 2019

Laura Snyder '85
September 6, 2019

Jairus Miller '02
May 15, 2019

Amanda E. Lamb '04
September 14, 2019

FACULTY/STAFF

Martha J. Adams
August 22, 2019

James Frederick Burrill
August 25, 2019

John Grimaldi
September 16, 2019

Dianne M. Gutscher
August 20, 2019

Anne Laura McCourt
June 10, 2019

Helen Perrey
July 19, 2019

Roger St. Pierre
January 30, 2019

A. Raymond Rutan IV '51
June 15, 2019

Susan M. Snell
October 5, 2019

Lawrence M. Washington
April 23, 2019

Dudley H. Woodall
July 22, 2019

HONORARY

Jean Arasanayagam H'13
July 30, 2019

Bowdoin obituaries appear on a dedicated online site, rather than printed in these pages. Updated regularly, the improved obituary format allows additional features that we can't offer in print, specifically the ability for classmates, families, and friends to post photos and remembrances.

Connect



Peter Webster '62, Bowdoin Associate Director of Athletics Lynn Ruddy, Jack Adams '62, and Dexter Bucklin '62 played in the Bowdoin football scramble, which they have done for more than a decade, proving the strength of the Bowdoin bonds, even after sixty-one years.



John LaCasse '63, Charlie Micoleau '63, and Jack Abbott '63 during a trip through Cuba, where they traveled with their wives in February.

Fred Orkin '64 took this photo of classmate Bob Hooke '64 at the unveiling of Bob's polar bear sculpture, *Scenting the Wind*, on May 31 at Whittier Field. Read more about it at bowdoin.edu/news.



Retired headmasters Russ Weigel '65 (The Loomis Chaffee School) and Michael Cary '71 (The Lawrenceville School) shared a birthday celebration in late July in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

"Elsewhere, Flora Cowen celebrated her sixtieth reunion from Douglass College in perfect weather as twenty-three classmates assembled from California, Florida, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey. MaryJane Smith enjoyed attending her granddaughter Hannah's graduation from Bates (Hannah will continue her studies at George Washington University) and noted her other granddaughter is already (time does fly) a sophomore at the University of San Diego. Shirley and **Jack Woodward** enjoyed a month in South Florida and returned prematurely (it was still winter) to New Hampshire. **Paul Kingsbury** and Bertie Hoffman are thankfully energetic and ambulatory, having enjoyed March in Costa Rica."

1962 Peter Webster: "Lynn Ruddy, associate director of athletics, **Dexter Bucklin, Jack Adams**, and I played at the football scramble golf outing, which we have done for more than a decade. It suggests the strength of the Bowdoin bonds, even after sixty-one years!"

1963 Jack Abbott has been honored by the Alumni Council with an Alumni Footprints Award, which recognizes a volunteer who, in organizing at least one event or program during the preceding academic year, has given back to the College through demonstrated enthusiasm, initiative, and outstanding execution and achievement.

Jack Abbott: "Want to come to Cuba with us?" That was the question I asked **John LaCasse** and **Charlie Micoleau** at our 55th Bowdoin Reunion. Reunions are what you make of them. They

can be lots of fun, and there was even more fun to follow for these three classmates and their wives, Kip Abbott, Susan LaCasse, and Judy Micoleau. Kip, president and owner of Manchester Travel Company in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts, organized the trip. Little did we know at the time, but the window for People to People travel permits to Cuba would close just four months after our trip... Cuba is a beautiful country, and the people are welcoming, with a distinct Caribbean culture. Cuba is also a time capsule where most Cuban citizens have a life of routine labor without real opportunity. Exported doctors must give most of their earnings to the Cuban government. Under Fidel Castro, no Cuban could own more than the home or apartment they lived in. Today, there is a whiff of entrepreneurship (and VRBO, vacation rentals by owner, as our guide Raul told us of his recently acquired rental property). Farmers till their fields with a common hoe and perhaps an ox, and some may have a barely functional Russian tractor. It was common for women and children to beg for a peso outside a tourist bus or ask a tourist for a half peso for a few sheets of toilet paper outside a *baño*, or restroom. I am certain there was poverty we never saw. On the other hand, we drove by a book fair that would have made any country proud. We three classmates and our wives were fortunate to have experienced the country and the people so close, yet so distant."

1964 Bruce Lutsk and Roger Tuveson have been honored with the Foot Soldier of Bowdoin Award from the offices of admissions, development, and alumni relations for their work

with alumni programs last year. A scholarship financed by annual income from the Foot Soldier of Bowdoin Award and Scholarship Fund will be given in each of their names to deserving Bowdoin students.

William Thwing: “I wish to submit a memory and some poetry for the fiftieth anniversary celebration of Neil Armstrong’s moon landing. The first, a memory from July 20, 1969, is from my Haibun memoir, *Restless Days*, that I recently published: ‘Continuing up the Spanish Costa Del Sol along the Mediterranean, I soon stopped at Torremolinos to enjoy the tapas bars and sun. It was there in a Spanish bar that I watched the first moon landing on TV. It felt just as strange and incredible to be watching that historic event while sitting in a Spanish bar as it had also felt strange and incredible the year before, while in Vietnam, to be watching on Vietnamese TV, the Druid Hill area of Baltimore, where I had recently lived, burn during the riots that followed the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I felt that the world was being turned upside down, and I no longer understood the rules!’ Poetry: ‘On Costa Del Sol / Mediterranean Sea / Sun shines all the time! / TV. Moon landing / Observed from a tapas bar / Just...Incredible!’”

1965 Reunion

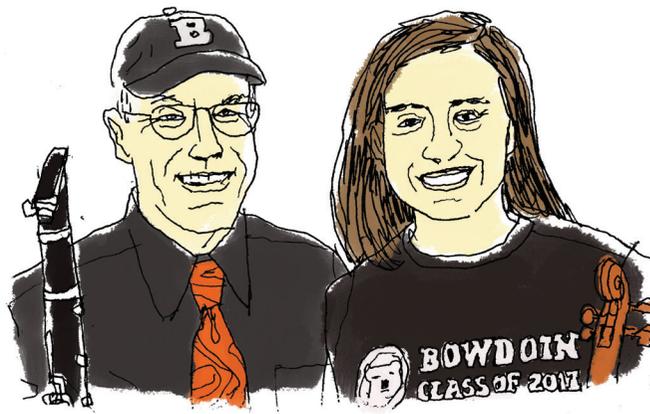
Carl Uehlein: “Enjoying full retirement from active lawyering after a few years of part-time counseling to wind down. Involvement with a few local and international charities, playing some golf, extensive travel, and family keep us busy. Happily, had our first great-grandchild join the family in mid-July, and we visited him in Flagstaff in mid-August. Took

our annual trip to northern Scotland for three weeks in May—Royal Dornoch is one great course—and saw substantial numbers of migrating birds on the lochs and seashore. Off to southwestern Australia for a couple of months at the end of September—over the past two decades we’ve found that a regular trip to Margaret River (think wine, food, surf, birds) is a welcome relief from the increasing turmoil of the Washington area. In the small-world category, I paired up by chance at my local golf club with the husband of a Bowdoin trustee (who had recently returned from playing Polar Bear at one of the NCAA basketball championship playoff games). Good memories of Maine and the College—maybe next year I’ll make it back for Reunion!”

1966 Classmates **John Lord, Bill Allen, Ben Soule, Dick Forte, Jeff White, Charlie Roscoe, Sam Hirth, and Fred Friedman** celebrated their seventy-fifth birthdays and almost sixty years of friendship together in Rockland, Maine, during the first week of May. They were joined by their spouses and the spouses of classmates, including Pauline Hirth, Cathy Mann, Claire Ayer, Betsy McElvein Soule, Wendy Lord, Jane White, Liz Ralston, and Mariele Forte.

1967 **Robert Crabtree:**

“As two members of the Me2/Orchestra of Boston, a unique ensemble comprising serious musicians who struggle with mental illness and those who support them (me2orchestra.org), violinist **Roya Moussapour '17** and I discovered our Bowdoin connection during a rehearsal break a while ago and now celebrate our connection in Me2/. Our conductor,



“We discovered our Bowdoin connection during a rehearsal break a while ago and now celebrate our connection in Me2/.”

—CLARINETIST ROBERT CRABTREE '67, SPEAKING ABOUT THE ME2/ORCHESTRA OF BOSTON, OF WHICH HE AND VIOLINIST ROYA MOUSSAPOUR '17 ARE MEMBERS

Ron Braunstein, a greatly talented graduate of Juilliard, was knocked off his career by bipolar disorder, then years later organized Me2/, first in Burlington, Vermont, then, in a second iteration, in Boston.”

1970 Reunion

“**George Isaacson** was one of seven attorneys from the Lewiston, Maine-based law firm Brann & Isaacson to be named to the annual list of top US lawyers by *Best Lawyers in America* 2020. Isaacson represents multichannel marketers and electronic merchants throughout the United States in connection with state sales, use, and income tax matters, as well as regulatory issues. He has represented the Data & Marketing Association and Wayfair, Overstock, and Newegg in the

United States Supreme Court, and has appeared in federal and state courts throughout the country on behalf of catalog companies and electronic merchants.” *From a Lewiston, Maine, Brann & Isaacson press release, September 3, 2019.*

1971 Tom Keith: “I published my first novel earlier this year. Titled *Beneath A Towering Sky*, the book is set in Montana Territory during the final days of the frontier. The story is loosely based on events in the life of my great-grandfather, who settled on the Teton River near Fort Benton in 1881. The book has been described as ‘a story of love, death, and survival.’”

1974 Mark Anderson: “This summer, I met my nephew **Steve Trichka '84** at the ancestral cottage in Castine,

Connect



Philanthropic Pioneer

"I arrived at Bowdoin during the pioneer days of coeducation. The teaching and mentorship I received was outstanding. Establishing an endowed internship fund during my lifetime, and directing a bequest from my estate to my fund, ensures that students who might not otherwise be able to participate in a summer internship will have the opportunity to gain insights about future careers."

—Cheryl M. Coffin '75

You, too, can have a lasting legacy at Bowdoin.

To learn how you can make a difference, contact Nancy Milam or Liz Armstrong in the Office of Gift Planning at giftplanning@bowdoin.edu or 207-725-3172.

bowdoin.edu/gift-planning



Maine, and passed on to him a Bowdoin family tradition. My dad, **William Anderson '50**, bought a serigraph by Maine artist Francis Hamabe in 1965 at the artist's shop in Blue Hill. Having originally entitled the work *The Fraternity House as seen by the Police & Fire Depts*, Hamabe, after hearing about Sigma Nu at Bowdoin in the late 1940s, added 'at Bowdoin' to the title."

Alvin Hall: "Last Saturday [September 8] I went to a memorial service for Gerald Wesley Lewis, more widely known as **Rasuli Lewis '73**, at the Harlem Children's Zone. During the ceremony, **Geoff Canada** gave an amazing and impressive set of statistics about the number of private organizations, states, and countries that had visited the area that Rasuli directed at the HCZ. During a break between the public and the family memorials, all of the Bowdoin alums who knew Rasuli got together for a picture. It was a lovely moment. Several of us had not seen each other since graduation in the 1970s!"

1976 John Bowman: "I am currently a program area leader for agricultural research in the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Bureau for Food Security. In July, I received the Outstanding International Horticulturalist Award from the American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) at their annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. The award recognized my lifetime of international achievement in horticultural research and development. At Bowdoin, I double-majored in biology and Romance languages—I believe there was only one course offering in botany at the time, and I was never even able to take it. I could not have foreseen a career with so

much involvement globally with fruits and vegetables. I have worked all over the world on the potato crop, linking small farmer production to utilization by large multinational companies. I have also worked extensively on bean production in Costa Rica, fruit and vegetable production in the Brazilian Amazon, tomato production in the Philippines, palmito and citrus production in Bolivia, high-value export fruit production in Vietnam, and indigenous vegetable production in Tanzania and Kenya. I have lived for extended periods of time in Mexico, Costa Rica, Brazil, Turkey, Philippines, and China. I am also a champion of 'horticulture and youth engagement' in USAID programming and am dedicated to the pursuit of linking young scientists from US universities to career opportunities in developing countries."

"Larsson & Scheuritzel PC, one of Philadelphia's leading commercial real estate law firms, has announced that **David J. Larsson** was selected for inclusion in the *Best Lawyers in America 2020* for real estate law. *Best Lawyers* has become regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence, with lists compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. Larsson has practiced commercial real estate law since 1984, advising clients (particularly owners, tenants, and other end users) on real estate acquisitions, dispositions, development projects, leasing, financing, and asset management projects all across the United States." *From a Larsson & Scheuritzel PC press release, August 22, 2019.*

Ed Pullen: "Since the death of my wife, Kay, in March 2018, and in semi-retirement, I've pursued my passion for birding and travel. I enjoyed seeing **Dick Leavitt** enshrined in the Bowdoin Sports Hall of Honor on a trip last fall to

see the Homecoming game. Birding trips to Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Morocco, along with active county birding here in Washington, have occupied much of my time. I also have started *The Bird Banter Podcast*—where birders talk birding—available in Apple Podcasts or wherever you find your podcast feeds.”

1977 Barbara Gross: “For many years, I would see a man handing out water on the side of the road during the Pan Mass Challenge—always in his Bowdoin T-shirt. This year I said, ‘If he’s out there, I’m going to stop and say hello.’ He was! He’s **John Michelmore ’67**, also a cancer survivor successfully treated at Dana-Farber.”

1978 Reed Bunzel: “I was thrilled to be back on campus for the annual Scholarship Luncheon in May, representing the Deborah Wight Memorial Scholarship Fund and all the young Bowdoin women it has helped over the years. So much fun to see all the changes that have occurred at the College, even since last year’s 40th Reunion. While in Maine, I enjoyed getting together with **John Leeming, Chip Griffin ’77**, and **Denise Griffin ’77**. Also, I want to announce four novels coming out this year: the reprints of *Palmetto Blood* and *Carolina Heat*; the publication of *Hurricane Blues* (all through Epicenter Press); and *Seven-Thirty Thursday*, to be released by Suspense Publishing in the fall. Plus, another mystery, *Skeleton Key*, is scheduled for next year. They say crime doesn’t pay, but I beg to differ!”

Jennifer Day: “I am pleased to announce my thirteenth solo exhibition of painting at Bromfield Gallery in Boston, Massachusetts.”

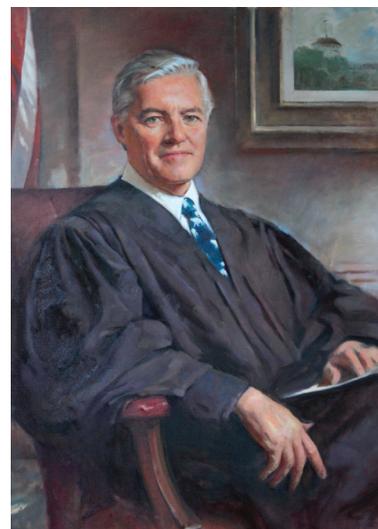
1979 Danielle Mailer “For years, artist has worked on public art murals, directing teams of interns in executing her bold and colorful designs on fabricated steel forms. Her large cats, lions, horses, and crows—distinctly patterned with the Peruvian-inspired designs of her mother’s heritage—can be found in Salisbury and Torrington, Connecticut; Boston; New York City; St. Petersburg, Florida; and other places. More recently, the artist has moved from public art to private art, returning to images of intimacy in smaller acrylic works on canvas. Those new pieces were recently featured in the exhibition *Magical Reality* at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Connecticut. Mailer divides her time between making art in her Goshen studio/gallery and teaching art at The Salisbury Boys School in Salisbury.” *From a Torrington, Connecticut, Register Citizen online feature article, June 11, 2019.*

1980 Reunion “Boston law firm Sherin and Lodgen has announced that **Douglas Henry** was selected for inclusion in the *Best Lawyers in America 2020* for real estate law. *Best Lawyers* has become regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence, with lists compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation.” *From a Sherin and Lodgen LLP press release, August 28, 2019.*

1981 Dan Spears: “As has become tradition, **David Barnes, John Hickling, Peter Larcom**, and I went off-the-grid on an adventure trip this past year to Ethiopia. In addition to visiting some of the extraordinary historical and geological sites, we trekked up into the Ethiopian



Classmates from the '70s pose at Phil Steer '71's annual Chi Psi cookout: **Bob Foley '72, Lee Moulton '71, Bill Spencer '71, Tom Marjerison '70, Rich Kimball '72, Coley King '72, Dave Gleason '70, Phil, Ed Macioci '72, Joe Walker '71, Dave LaFauci '71, and Steve Oakes '71.**



The official judicial portrait of **John Woodcock '72** was unveiled during a ceremony in Bangor on August 2, 2019, and is now displayed for public viewing. Justice Woodcock specifically requested that the artist include his Bowdoin necktie.



Steve Trichka '84 and **Mark Anderson '74** display the serigraph *The Fraternity House* as seen by the *Police & Fire Depts* at the family cottage in Castine, Maine. Mark's father, **William Anderson '50**, got the piece in 1965 and has passed it down over the years as a Bowdoin family tradition.

Connect



Alvin Hall '74, Rick Adams '73, George Khaldun '73, Geoffrey Canada '74, Ron Hale '73, Regina Bryant-Fields '77, Vic Fields '75, Michael Owens '73, Charles Webster '73, and William Holmes '77 came together at the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) in September for a memorial service celebrating the life of Rasuli Lewis '73. Lewis had been a director of the HCZ Practitioners Institute and created the noted Peacemakers program.



John Bowman '76, program area leader for agricultural research in the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Bureau for Food Security, pictured working with a basil farmer in Cambodia.

Brett Buckley '76 recently found out that he was named the Washington State Bar Association 2019 Judge of the Year, "but my granddaughters seem way more impressed by my cool cycling jersey."



Artist Jennifer Day '78 poses with her husband, Marc Cenron '78, and "loyal fan" David Gottler '77 at the opening of her thirteenth solo gallery exhibition on July 5, 2019.

Highlands to visit a remote school and bring the students clothing, notebooks, pens, paper, and sports equipment. Last year we created a charity, Tools for Schools Partnership (tfspartnership.com), that is focused on raising money to help support the schools we visit on our annual trips."

1983 Jeannie Brontas: "Sara Pollard Congdon and I caught up on Bowdoin memories in Nantucket, Massachusetts. We were fraternity sisters in Chi Psi in the early eighties."

Linda Nelson, deputy director of the performing arts organization Portland Ovations, moderated the discussion "Queer Maine: Memory and Resilience Across Time and Place" to accompany a September show by queer performance artist Taylor Mac. Panelists included former State Senator Dale McCormick, Equality Maine Communications Director **Shane Diamond '10**, and Bowdoin Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Jay Sosa.

1984 "Mark W. Anthoine Sr.

has been named to the board of directors of Covenant Health in Massachusetts. Anthoine is the president/managing partner of BGA Financial in Lewiston and Portland, Maine. He has spent his entire career in financial services and employee benefits and serves as board chair of the St. Mary's Health System, which includes St. Mary's Health Regional Medical Center and St. Mary's d'Youville Pavilion. He also serves on the board of directors for the Auburn-Lewiston YMCA and the Portland diocesan school board." *From a Tewksbury, Massachusetts, Covenant Health press release, July 8, 2019.*

1989 Kappa Sig sisters gathered in St. John, Virgin Islands, in August for, as **Kathleen McKelvey Burke** said, "all kinds of awesome!" In on the fun were Kathleen, Carmie Heisler (**Rick Heisler's** spouse), Elsa Heisler, **Karen Andrew '90**, Hannah Bicknell (daughter of **Paul Bicknell '90** and Karen Andrew), **Annie Sappenfield Pacious**, and **Sarah Kelsik Bay**.

1990 Reunion

halley k harrisburg has been honored by the Alumni Council with a Polar Bear Award in recognition of her significant personal contributions and outstanding dedication to Bowdoin.

"The Chapin School board of trustees has announced the appointment of **Suzanne Fogarty** as their seventh head of school—she was selected by unanimous decision and will assume her new position in July 2020. She currently works in the same role at the Lincoln School, an all-girls kindergarten-through-grade-twelve school in Providence, Rhode Island." *From a Chapin School online announcement, August 26, 2019.*

1991 "Boston law firm Sherin and Lodgen has announced that **Sara Jane Shanahan** was selected for inclusion in the *Best Lawyers in America 2020* for insurance litigation. *Best Lawyers* has become regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence, with lists compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. Shanahan was also recognized as a 'Lawyer of the Year' in her respective practice. The designation recognizes individual lawyers who have received the highest overall peer feedback for a specific practice

area and geographic region. Only one lawyer is recognized for each specialty and location.” *From a Sherin and Lodgen LLP press release, August 28, 2019.*

1993 “**Adele Lewis** was appointed state chief medical examiner (ME) for Tennessee in August 2019. She previously served as deputy state chief medical examiner and had been acting chief ME since 2016. In her role as state chief medical examiner, Lewis leads a team responsible for the education and training of county medical examiners, keeping records of deaths investigated by county medical examiners, and assuming investigative authority in cases of interest to the state, including mass fatality incidents and threats to public health. The office works to create and support consistently high-quality death investigation and forensic autopsy services statewide to protect public health and safety, participate in the criminal justice system, and provide and interpret mortality data. Prior to TDH, Lewis served as deputy chief medical examiner for Nashville/Davidson County from 2011 to 2016.” *From a Tennessee Department of Health online press release, August 12, 2019.* “Out of about 500 board-certified medical examiners in the United States, at least three are Bowdoin alumni: me, **Dennis Klein ’87** (Iowa), and **Fred Jordan ’62** (Oklahoma), though Fred and Dennis are Maine natives, whereas I hail from Alabama.”

1997 “Professional dancer **Esther Baker-Tarpaga** was invited to perform as a collaborator and choreographer with performing

arts troupe La Pocha Nostra at the first-ever No New Idols Performance Festival held the last week of May in Riga, Latvia. Despite having danced all across the world, she said this trip was special to her as an opportunity to visit the homeland of her great-grandmother and connect with her Jewish heritage. She was able to attend the festival in Latvia with help from a grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, in addition to a GoFundMe [effort] that raised nearly \$1,300.” *From a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Jewish Exponent article, June 6, 2019.*

“**Genna Garver** has joined the corporate practice of Troutman Sanders LLP in New York, where she advises investment management clients in connection with federal and state securities laws, private fund formation, and securities offerings. She has extensive experience helping investment advisers, including wealth advisers, family offices, hedge funds, and private equity funds, to implement proven investment strategies, in addition to representing financial institutions in transactional and regulatory matters. Garver is a frequent presenter and author who is often called upon to speak at key industry events. She is highly involved in women’s and diversity initiatives, serving in leadership roles at several notable organizations, including the Investment Advisers Association, 100 Women in Finance, and the National Society of Compliance Professionals, among others.” *From a Troutman Sanders press release, May 21, 2019.*

1999 **Katie Benner** is part of a team of more than 1,550 journalists reporting from 160 countries for *The Weekly*, a new documentary

Amy Zee Haight '96



Catching Up

BUILDING HER BRAND

After a first career in corporate advertising and raising two children, Amy Zee Haight '96 “took a leap to pursue a long passion” and launched an interior design business in Houston.

LIKE THE FASHION INDUSTRY, THE INTERIOR DESIGN BUSINESS IS CONSTANTLY INTRODUCING THE LATEST TRENDS TO CONSUMERS.

Because of this, my industry is not always the best stalwart of the environment. With my Bowdoin background in environmental studies, I feel a sense of obligation and responsibility to minimize unnecessary waste and our carbon footprint. I try to repurpose as much of my clients’ existing furniture whenever I can and shop for antiques so I don’t contribute more waste to our landfills. By creating timeless and classic spaces, clients are less apt to change out their belongings every five to ten years, which is typical in my part of the country.

MY FAMILY AND I LOVE TO TRAVEL. I find all of my senses become heightened whenever I leave home. Inspiration for me can come from pretty much anything. I love taking pictures to capture details—whether it is a pattern I notice on a seashell, the texture and color of a tree trunk, the combination of colors from a painting at a museum, or the stitching on a man’s jacket—my senses do not discriminate.

For more from our interview with Amy, visit bowdoin.edu/magazine.

Connect



Amy Hodges '05

Catching Up

RUN, DON'T WALK

As programs and operations manager for Maui Nui Marine Resource Council in Kahului, Hawai'i, Amy Hodges '05 oversees the implementation of projects aimed at restoring the health of coral reefs, fish populations, and ocean water.

AN INTERESTING BALANCE IS NEEDED TO EFFECTIVELY RESTORE AND CONSERVE OUR NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS, especially in a place like Hawai'i, where the people are so intrinsically connected to the land. Pre-contact Hawaiian culture was really successful at managing its marine and terrestrial resources, thinking of it as an entire interconnected ecosystem, which, of course, it is. Many of its rules and methods are still applicable to today's conditions and can and should be embraced and intertwined with modern-day science. We're in a "run, don't walk" situation with conservation efforts today. The world's unique environments, like Hawai'i, won't be the same as we know them for future generations. But that doesn't mean that the future has to necessarily be bad, just different. There are lots of reasons to hope and many good solutions out there. It all depends on what we do today. Spreading awareness and an understanding of the true causes of environmental decline to the public and decision makers is key. It's important to provide realistic solutions and a reason to be inspired for the future.

For more from our interview with Amy, visit bowdoin.edu/magazine.

television show from *The New York Times* and FX— the first major foray into TV news for both. *The Times* produces 2,500 stories a week—investigative reports, political scoops, cultural dispatches—and each week, *The Weekly* chooses to tell one of those stories in a visual and unforgettable way. Benner was a reporter on the premiere episode, "The Education of T.M. Landry," which aired on Sunday, June 2, and can now be viewed streaming on Hulu. *From a nytimes.com online announcement, May 2019.*

Benner visited campus in September to talk to students at MacMillan House about her nontraditional path from Bowdoin to *The New York Times*, explaining that the person she is and the career she's had reflects an inquisitiveness encouraged by her Bowdoin professors. *Read more at bowdoin.edu/news.*

2003 Julianne Gauron: "In the summer of 2018, I directed a documentary film with Windy Films out of Boston with the aim of reaching Senator Susan Collins's vote during the Brett Kavanaugh nomination. Regrettably, we did not reach her vote despite the extraordinary generosity of the women we met, who shared their stories, and the hard work of the team under an intense deadline. We did go on to win a 2019 Adweek ARC Award for our body of work in the 'Dear Senator' campaign, and Windy continues to work with Planned Parenthood, including a short I directed this spring with Dr. Leana Wen and other medical leaders of our country as a part of the campaign 'Protect Title X.'"

Emilie Sahara: "Sixteen years post-graduation, **Clara Lee, Leah Ottow, Meg Greenleaf,**

Julie Williams, Di O'Donnell, Anne Barmettler, and I gathered in late July in Southwest Harbor, Maine, to reminisce about Bowdoin and beyond. Weekend highlights included Acadia Mountain, Little Cranberry Island, copious lobster rolls and cocktails, and good old-fashioned belly laughs."

2004 Gil Barndollar has been honored by the Alumni Council with an Alumni Footprints Award, which recognizes a volunteer who, in organizing at least one event or program during the preceding academic year, has given back to the College through demonstrated enthusiasm, initiative, and outstanding execution and achievement.

"**Rebekah Metzler** is a senior White House editor for CNN Politics, where she leads CNN's White House team's digital coverage of the Trump presidency, working across CNN teams to cover one of the most challenging and compelling stories in politics. Prior to joining CNN, she rose through the ranks at *U.S. News & World Report*, serving as a political writer, news editor, and later, senior editor, where she edited politics, economics, health care, education, national security, foreign policy, and arts and culture stories for the outlet." *From cnn.com.*

2005 Reunion

"Burr Forman McNair LLP announces the addition of **Lindsay Hartman** as an associate to the firm's Hilton Head, South Carolina, office in its real estate practice group. Hartman's legal background includes advising procurement teams on document review, including acquisition strategy documents, request for proposals,

contract awards, and modifications. Prior to joining Burr Forman McNair, Lindsay worked in Washington, DC, as an associate general counsel for a large intelligence and government contracting organization. She also worked for many years as associate general counsel in the Office of Administration in the Executive Office of the President.” *From a Burr Forman McNair LLP press release, June 4, 2019.*

“**Matthew Rodgers** was one of nine attorneys recently promoted to member [partner] at Eckert Seamans in Boston. Rodgers focuses his practice on all phases of commercial litigation in state and federal trial and appellate courts. He also has experience advising energy and telecommunication industry clients on regulatory compliance issues and assisting project developers on zoning and permitting matters. Rodgers previously served a clerkship with Judge D. Michael Fisher on the US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, where he was involved in numerous civil appeals, including cases raising issues under securities and environmental laws.” *From an Eckert Seamans press release, May 29, 2019.*

2006 “In a recent trip back to Bowdoin, **Ahron Cohen** described himself as ‘the one guy [from] Minnesota that didn’t skate, didn’t play hockey.’ The irony, of course, is that Cohen is now the CEO and president of the Arizona Coyotes hockey team—the youngest franchise manager in NHL history and the youngest president of a professional sports team in the US at the moment. Cohen visited campus on September 27, 2019, to appear in the Bowdoin Coffee Break Speaker Series, a once-a-semester event sponsored by the office of stewardship. In a question-and-answer session

with Bowdoin’s Sports Information Director Jim Caton, Cohen talked about the challenges of running an NHL team in a nontraditional market, the importance of analytics in sports, and the value of a liberal arts education. Cohen may not have graced the ice, but he had an impressive record as a student-athlete. He played running back for the Polar Bears football team and was one of fifty college football players to be named as an All-American by the National Strength and Conditioning Association. When he graduated from Bowdoin as a government and legal studies major, Cohen said he ‘didn’t have the faintest idea what to do.’ He decided to opt for law school after he was advised it was ‘a good way to open up doors.’” *From a Bowdoin News story, October 2, 2019. Listen to the full interview with Ahron at bowdoin.edu/news.*

“**Kelly Frey** was recently promoted to member [partner] at Mintz Levin in Boston, focusing his practice on real estate litigation and government regulatory matters. He regularly represents clients involved in commercial lease disputes and evictions, land-use challenges and appeals, tax abatements and valuation matters, government investigations and enforcement actions, and administrative proceedings before federal and state agencies.” *From a Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, and Popeo, PC press release, May 10, 2019.*

2008 **Andrea Buttine** is a classically trained pipe organist and music teacher at the Vail Mountain School in Vail, Colorado. She also recently competed in her second Colorado Classic, a premier four-stage women’s pro bicycle



While riding in this year’s Pan Mass Challenge, Barbara Gross ’77 met John Michelmore ’67, who was handing out water to riders in his Bowdoin hat and T-shirt.



Dan Spears ’81, John Hickling ’81, Peter Larcom ’81, and David Barnes ’81 with some of the children of the Dewalka School in rural Ethiopia. The men were there distributing school and other supplies through their charity, Tools for Schools Partnership.

Fraternity sisters Sara Pollard Congdon ’83 and Jeannie Brountas ’83 caught up on Bowdoin news in Nantucket on July 5, 2019.



Linda Nelson ’83; former State Senator Dale McCormick; Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Jay Sosa; and Shane Diamond ’10 at their panel discussion “Queer Maine: Memory and Resilience Across Time and Place,” in September.

Andre Walcott '12



Catching Up

STUDYING BEHAVIOR

Andre Walcott '12 is a scientific program management scholar at the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) Knight Cancer Institute's Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center and the first African American graduate of the behavioral neuroscience PhD program at OHSU.

THE EXPERIENCES IN SETH RAMUS'S LAB AT BOWDOIN REALLY INFORMED MY DECISION TO PURSUE GRADUATE SCHOOL. I was fortunate enough to gain research experience all four years at Bowdoin, which wouldn't have been possible without the Bowdoin Science Experience. I was also able to pursue research opportunities at Bowdoin and elsewhere during the summers. When I left Bowdoin, I had a plethora of experiences that prepared me for graduate school. Coming out enabled me to be a better scientist. This goes back to the impostor syndrome I felt in my PhD program, which was fed by two things: being an underrepresented minority in a field where not many people looked like me, and being queer and not out to my family, some friends, and professors. Coming out made me emotionally and mentally accept myself. It led me to feel more confident about being a scientist and stopped me from intellectually holding myself back. I honestly think if I hadn't come out, I probably would have left graduate school.

For more from our interview with Andre, visit bowdoin.edu/magazine.

road race. After Bowdoin, Buttine studied music and European history at the University of London and earned her master's degree in organ performance at the University of Oklahoma. When she moved to Colorado, she took up cycling, first as a fitness activity and then for competition. When she moved to Vail to work as a teacher at the Vail Mountain School, she wanted a local cycling coach, which led her to ALP Cycles Racing and the Colorado Classic. For her latest race, she cycled stage three on a Saturday and the finale on Sunday, and headed to the first day of classes at Vail Mountain School that Monday to teach general music to the lower school (kindergartners to third grade) and lead the middle-school choir. *From a Vail, Colorado, Vail Daily News online article, August 23, 2019.*

2009 Emily Mullins: "Kevin Mullins '07 and I welcomed our first baby girl, Olivia Rae Mullins, to the Polar Bear family on June 19, 2019."

2010 Reunion
Jeongmin Jenny Lee: "David Alvarado (UC-Berkeley '01) and I were married in August in Chicago, where we live. We were so happy to celebrate with our family and friends from around the globe, including Bowdoin friends and host parents."

2011 Chester Eng: "I recently had coffee with **Stephen Carpenter '96** in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo. We have been working in Europe's youngest country for more than two years, but somehow did not cross paths until this summer. I have

been serving with the Peace Corps in Kosovo for three years, while Stephen is the chief of party for the USAID Kosovo-funded Transparent, Effective, and Accountable Municipalities (TEAM) project."

2012 Jillian Berkman: "James Greer and I were married in Nashville, Tennessee, on April 13, 2019, by fellow Bowdoin classmate **Anna Tachau**. We now live in Boston, where I am a resident and James is a social worker."

2013 Molly Clements: "Patrick Fisher (Wake Forest University '13) and I were married on December 29, 2018, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. We met at Bowdoin Homecoming in 2012."

Vanessa Rendon-Vasquez: "I would like to dedicate the completion of my second marathon in San Francisco on July 28, 2019, to my mentors, loved ones, and all the kind souls who have supported and believed in me."

2015 Reunion
Jordan Lantz has been honored by the Alumni Council with the Young Alumni Service Award in recognition of distinguished and outstanding service to Bowdoin.

2016 Cordelia Zars has written a three-act musical, *Man Up*, about gender and masculinity that explores the emotional challenges faced by boys as they approach manhood. The play focuses on the experiences of one boy in particular as he struggles to define himself while growing up with his sister on a ranch out west. 'As Duncan

progresses through middle school and toward early adulthood, he becomes more conflicted about reconciling the traditional expectations of masculinity with his own identity, and this affects relationships with his sister and his female best friend,' says Zars, who majored in music at Bowdoin and works as a theater director, a teacher, and a producer with the popular *Dirtbag Diaries* podcast from her home in Denver, Colorado. She says she wrote *Man Up* in response to the #MeToo movement and hopes to generate a wider discussion on the gender issue. 'I feel there has been a lot of really important debate about how women have been affected by gender dynamics and misogyny that still exist in this country, but men are struggling right now too.' She plans for *Man Up* to debut in November at Theater O, a professional theater in Boulder, and is currently raising funds for the project. 'We had our first read-through in the summer, and it was really exciting to see what the actors bring to the characters I've created. I directed shows and acted at Bowdoin, but it's a totally different experience being the creator and starting out with a blank sheet of paper.'" See a trailer for the play on YouTube. *From a Bowdoin News story, September 19, 2019.*

2019 "Unlike most seniors, **Carolyn Brady** had the opportunity to walk across two stages this summer: the first, in May, to collect her Bowdoin diploma, and the second, on June 22, to collect her sash and crown as Miss Maine 2019 at the Freeport Arts Center. Brady, a native of Philadelphia, became the first African American to be crowned Miss Maine in the pageant's

eighty-four-year history. She will compete in the Miss America competition in December. The significance of her title was not lost on Brady. 'I hold the title in a state that's about 5 percent African American, if that,' said Brady. 'I think it really shows that we're moving toward a more diverse and inclusive standard of beauty, which is amazing, and I just feel so fortunate to be able to represent that.' A newcomer to the pageant scene, Brady began competing in Miss America pageants during her sophomore year at Bowdoin after a former contestant noticed her violin skills during a Bowdoin Symphony Orchestra performance. This endeavor, though never part of Brady's plan, has proven beneficial in numerous ways. Brady has spent the summer since her coronation touring the state and working with local philanthropic organizations, including Catholic Charities Maine and Gateway Community Services. Her primary service project, which she is calling 'Immigration Builds Our Nation,' highlights the contributions that immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers have made to Maine communities. When she's not fulfilling her Miss Maine duties, Brady is working as an AmeriCorps volunteer at Howard C. Reiche Elementary School in Portland. Brady will compete for the Miss America crown on December 19 in Uncasville, Connecticut. The program will be broadcast live on NBC." *From The Bowdoin Orient, September 6, 2019.*



Clara Lee '03, Leah Ottow '03, Meg Greenleaf '03, Julie Williams '03, Emilie Sahara '03, Di O'Donnell '03, and Anne Barmettler '03 got together in Southwest Harbor, Maine, in late July to reminisce about Bowdoin and beyond.



Chris Cashman '07 and Jackie Brosnan-Cashman '08 welcomed their son, Daniel, in February 2019. Jackie says, "Danny chose an auspicious day to enter the world—International Polar Bear Day!"

Chester Eng '11 and Stephen Carpenter '96 met for coffee in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, on August 1, 2019. They had each been working there for more than two years, but had yet to cross paths until this summer.



Connor Phillips '17, Heather Witzel Laken '17, Eric Guiang '18, and Jasper Houston '18 met up during Labor Day weekend for whitewater paddling on the Seboomook section of the west branch of the Penobscot River.

Connect





Celebrate

1. Morgan Estey '10 and David Westhaver '12 were married on May 4, 2019, at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Pictured: Tyler Anderson '10, Steve Thomas '10, Matt Knise '10, Josh King '10, Will Dunn '10, Kim Edwards '10, Paul Steinberg '12, Pat Noone '12, Sally Ward '10, Lindsay McNamara '09, Jackie Davis '10, John McGinnis '15, Becca Thomas '10, Annie Evans '12, Dan Evans '12, Georgia Nowers '12, Morgan and David, Peter Troubh '12, Ian Vieira '12, Lon Nunley '12, Sarah King '10, Maura Cusick '10, Sam Martin '12, Daisy Mariscal '11, Claire Coltery '11, Allie Piscina '14, Greg Pierce '12, Lidey Heuck '13, David Gruber '11, and Barry Clarke '12.

2. Lucy Van Hook '06 and Eben Sypitkowski (Bates '05) were married on August 3, 2019, at their home in Millinocket, Maine. Pictured: Luke Potter '10, Katie Swan Potter '06 with daughter Meg Potter, Michael Wood '06, Eben and Lucy with daughter Maisle, Nicole Melas '07, Emily Peterman (Bowdoin faculty), Ian Kyle '06 (Bowdoin staff), and Patricia Jones (Bowdoin faculty) with son Reid Jones Kyle. The gathering also celebrated Maisle's second birthday.

3. Jeongmin Jenny Lee '10 and David Alvarado (California-Berkeley '01) were married on August 10, 2019, in Chicago, Illinois. Pictured: Nattawan Junboonta '10, Ikumi Crocoll '09, Nell Yong Mei '10, David and Jeongmin, Claire Leblanc '10, Tara Rajiyah '10, and Cristina Guerrero '12.

4. Jillian Berkman '10 and James Greer were married on April 13, 2019, in Nashville, Tennessee. Pictured: Luisa Lasalle '14, Kelly Goldstein '11, Melissa Haskell '13, Nicole Coombes '12, Ellie Brennan '14, Tory Edelman '13, Katie Stewart '12, Peter Braunholer '11, Kristin Hanczor '12, Kat McNeil '12, Taylor Escajeda '12, Jillian and James, Caroline Dewar '12, Elisa Cecere '12, and Anna Tachau '12, who also performed the ceremony.

5. Matt Frongillo '13 and Jordan Habayeb (Ball State University '13) were married on June 1, 2019, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Pictured: Danny Schmolz '13, Matt Bernstein '13, Erica Bellamy Christie '03, Allison Beeman '13, Becca Centanni '13, Andrea Koenigsberg '13, Matt and Jordan, Amanda Blick '13, Zoe Eiber '13, Emily Ausubel '13, and Kristen Stogsdill '13.

6. Liana Wolk '08 and Owen Marshall were married on May 18, 2019, in Peru, Maine. Pictured: Lizzie Hedrick '08, Emily Burton Kasprak '08, Nick Kasprak '08, Alison Driver '08, Maggie O'Rourke Brehm '08, Casey Benkwitt '08, Owen and Liana, Heather Upham Kelly '08, Liz Leiwant '08, Becca Van Horn '09, Hannah Cyrus '12, and Sara Schlotterbeck '08. In attendance, but not pictured: Julianna Burke '18.

7. Molly Clements '13 and Patrick Fisher (Wake Forest University '13) were married on December 29, 2018, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Pictured: Helen Conaghan '13, Lulu Oakes '13,

Coco Sprague '11, Laura Heyl Bellinger '10, Tory Edelman '13, Jeremy Ross '09, Billy Rohman '11, Louisa Cannell '13, Matt Marr '13, Jimmy Rohman '13, Lidey Heuck '13, Sam Patterson '14, Emily McNeil '14, Ali Fradin '13, Bridget O'Carroll '13, Emma Stanislawski '13, Peyton Kelley '13, Madison Whitley '13, Gus Vergara '13, David Shaeffer '11, Elizabeth Schetman '13, Julia Graham '13, Judy Yang '13, DJ Nurse '13, Cathleen Smith '13, Molly Lammert '13, Casey Grindon '13, Liza LePage '13, and Simon Bordwin '13.

8. Kate Featherston '15 and Brian Jacobel '14 were married on June 29, 2019, in Fraser, Colorado. Pictured: Natalie Clark Weyrauch '14, Sam Weyrauch '14, Bill Griffiths '14, Chris Granata '14, Brian and Kate, Delger Erdenesanaa '15, Kelsey Maguire '15, Kelsey Berger '15, and Hanni Haynes '15.

9. Libby Barton '09 and Tyler Winton (Vanderbilt University '05) were married on June 22, 2019, in the bride's hometown of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. Pictured: Rob Stalling, Meaghan Maguire '08, Samantha Jessup Stalling '09, Tyler and Libby, Rachel Ackerman Morrow '09, and Nate Morrow '09.

Here

THE NAME

Fort Andross (1688–1694) was built to protect colonial settlers. It was named for Sir Edmund Andros (one “s”), an English administrator for the American colonies who served, among other posts, as the deeply unpopular and eventually deposed governor of the Dominion of New England, from 1686 to 1689. In Wheeler and Wheeler’s 1878 *History of Brunswick, Topsham, and Harpswell, Maine*, the authors refer to both “Fort Andros” and “Fort Andross.” Described in some accounts as a log fort and in others as stone, the fort was replaced by Fort George (1715–1737), a more ambitious stone fortification with a garrison house inside its walls. The mill complex is also sometimes called “the Cabot Mill” because of its long history as a textile mill run by the Cabot Company (and because of the “Cabot” carved into stone on its exterior).

THE WORK OF THE MILL

Up until 1900, the Cabot Mill manufactured one grade of cotton in four widths—36, 40, 44, and 48 inches. As ready-to-wear clothing became popular in the twentieth century, the mill diversified to weave thirty different kinds of fine cotton. In the 1930s, the mill began producing rayon instead. In 1941, the Cabot Mill was purchased by the Verney Corporation, and the company ceased textile operations in 1955. Between 1955 and 1986, when the mill complex was purchased by New York businessman Coleman Burke, the brick building housed several shoe shops, a paintbrush factory, and storage facilities.

Fort Andross Mill Complex, the 125,000-square-foot red brick mill that caps Brunswick’s Maine Street at the Androscoggin River, is both a local landmark and something of a historic enigma—starting with the fact that no one seems to know where that second “s” came from.

SHAPING A TOWN

The mill’s pedigree begins with Brunswick Cotton Manufacturing Company, built on the riverside site in 1834. The Cabot Company bought the cotton mill in 1843. By 1857, the Cabot Mill employed 175 workers; by 1878, 550; by 1900, 1,100, or about one-eighth of the population of Brunswick, a growing number of whom were of French-Canadian ancestry. After the Civil War, the Cabot Company began actually importing French-Canadian workers, shaping the population of Brunswick in the years to come. In 1860, just 2.5 percent of Brunswick residents were French-Canadian. By 1880, 22 percent of the local population was of French-Canadian ancestry, and by 1900, fully 38 percent was from French-speaking Canada. The majority of the Franco-American millworkers, many of whom were children, lived in Little Canada, a four-block tenement district of close to 100 buildings owned by the Cabot Manufacturing Company. During the summer of 1886, the squalid conditions there produced a diphtheria outbreak that killed nineteen millworkers.

THE MILL TODAY

Close to four hundred people work in today’s repurposed Fort Andross, and hundreds more are drawn each day to the restaurants, offices, antique shops, flea markets, farmers’ market, self-storage units, and studios that have replaced the textile machinery in the vast industrial complex with its sixteen-foot-high ceilings. Dozens of artists, many of whom either studied or taught at Bowdoin, maintain studios in the complex, now a prime incubator space for Maine’s creative economy. “To me,” says artist Cassie Jones ’01, “having a studio in the mill means connection—to other artists, to friends, to things being made, and to the Brunswick community in general.” “One of the most exciting things that has happened in the mill over the past two decades,” says the mill complex’s managing partner Anthony Gatti, “is the arrival of creative individuals. Fort Andross is at the forefront of economic development in Brunswick.”



ROCKY REFLECTIONS

The Frank J. Wood Bridge and the Fort Andross Mill Complex as viewed from the Topsham side of the Androskoggin River. Mills all along the 164-mile Androskoggin once polluted the river so badly that fish and other wildlife all but disappeared. The 1972 Clean Water Act helped change that, and now the Androskoggin draws anglers for excellent landlocked salmon, trout, and small-mouth bass fishing.

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