

Spring 1996

re: Columbia

Columbia College Chicago

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ALUMNI REUNION '96 SETS SAIL JUNE 7 AND 8

In Columbia College's nontraditional tradition, the Third Annual Alumni Reunion, Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8, sets a new course. Specifically, the Saturday evening Alumni Awards Dinner -- always the culminating highlight of the two-day event -- will take place aboard the Lake Michigan cruise ship *Odyssey*.

As in years past, the Friday evening Alumni Exhibition Opening Reception in the Hokin Gallery will kick-off Reunion

activities. This event has always provided an excellent atmosphere for reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones.

Saturday morning's Alumni College will focus on careers in arts and communications professions. Workshops will address practical issues such as networking, career development, and emerging technology within specific fields.

The Alumni Luncheon and Presidential Address will present alumni with another opportunity to network and socialize. A special alumni dance performance will be featured after the luncheon.

Dockside cocktails will precede the evening dinner cruise aboard the *Odyssey*. Winners of the Alumni Awards will be honored during dinner.

Third Annual Alumni Reunion activities will be detailed and Alumni Award winners will be announced in invitations to be mailed soon. For information, call Eric Mixon, 312/663-1600, ext. 5420.

ODYSSEY

re: columbia
no. 15/spring 1996

tri-annual publication sent free
of charge to alumni and friends
of columbia college chicago

AL PARKER GOES GOLD



Columbia College is planning a special evening to celebrate radio/sound department chair Al Parker's fiftieth year at the college and to recognize his outstanding contributions to the field of broadcast communications.

Al's former student and "Wheel of Fortune" host Pat Sajak will emcee the tribute on Thursday, March 14, 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Museum of Broadcast Communications in the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 East Randolph. Fox TV's Bob Sirott, another alumnus, is honorary chair of the event. Proceeds will support the new Al Parker Scholarship Fund for students in the radio/sound department. For tickets and information call 312.663.1124.

"It's important to recognize that Al has been responsible for teaching a generation of broadcasters," says Hope Daniels, scholarship committee chair and faculty member.

When Al began his teaching career at Columbia College in 1946, he was already a veteran of the Chicago airwaves. Beginning in 1944 he had appeared on many major Chicago radio stations, primarily as a narrator of educational programs such as "The Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk." (Contrary to widespread belief, he did not broadcast live from that event.)

Born and raised on Chicago's West Side, Al began his broadcasting career in high school. After serving in the Army Air Force in World War II, he resumed broadcasting on a professional level and then joined Columbia as a part-time instructor of other returning veterans who wanted to break into radio.

The move to Columbia was important to him both personally and professionally. He began dating Jeanne Yager, a 19-year-old assistant librarian at the college; they were married two years later.



Al Parker in 1952

Although Columbia didn't have department chairs at that time, Al was *de facto* chair of the radio department. In fact, he *was* the radio department. As its sole faculty member, he taught a "Radio and Broadcasting" class which encompassed every aspect of the profession.

He also continued his outside career, working the midnight to 8 a.m. shift at WIND. This position required him to both write and report a five minute newscast twice an hour -- a whopping 16 newscasts a night -- and read dozens of commercials, promos and public service announcements.

During the summer of 1948, he moved to WJJD where he gained the visibility he needed to launch his freelance radio and TV work.

Al and Jeanne started a family, still finding time to write and produce "The Helping Hand" on WGN-AM in 1949-50, a program

which provided advice and support for people in need.

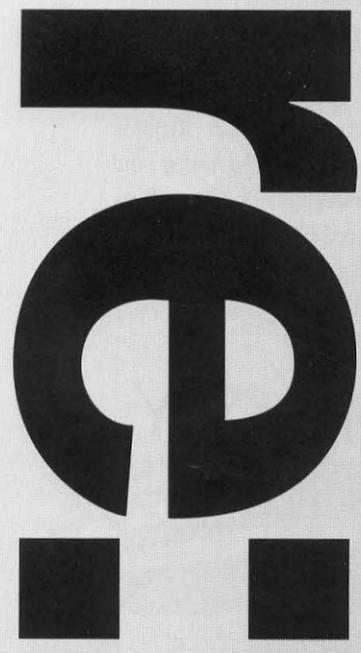
Leaving WJJD in 1955 to focus on his growing freelance assignments, Al became the voice of many of Chicago's best-known broadcast advertisers such as Encyclopedia Britannica, The Art Institute of Chicago, Drury Lane Theaters, Nelson Brothers Furniture, Community Stores, Tower Oldsmobile, Lincoln Builders, Mages Sports Stores, and Danley Builders, which remains a client today. In 1963 he began working full-time as an announcer at WLS-TV, where he served as the voice of a variety of programs including "AM Chicago" and later "The Oprah Winfrey Show." He retired in 1989.

Paralleling Al's career, the radio department at Columbia has grown and prospered over the years. The sound program and the radio station were added in the late 1970s and faculty and staff expanded gradually to a total of 22 today.

An abbreviated list of his former students reads like a who's who of broadcasting: Museum of Broadcast Communications president Bruce DuMont; Fox News president Joe Peyronnin; Blast Television Productions president Hector Perez; Chet Coppock; and WLS-TV's Roz Varon.

Columbia College salutes Al Parker for his fifty years of professional service to the school and to the broadcasting industry.

BRADY



★ AROUND COLUMBIA ★ AROUND COLUMBIA ★

AROUND

COLUMBIA



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AROUND COLUMBIA

A) The National Black Programmer Coalition, Inc. (NBPC) awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to Columbia student Gail Gainer. From left: Ed Morris, television department chair; Gainer; Albert C. Gall, provost and executive vice president; and Grethia Hightower, career planning and placement advisor and NBPC scholarship coordinator.

B) Hal Bruno, ABC Network News political editor, was the guest speaker at the 21st Annual Chicago Communications Luncheon in November. The event benefits the Albert P. Weisman Scholarship Fund at Columbia. Pictured from left: Bruno, Harriet Ellis, Marj Abrams, John Iltis, and emcee Kathy O'Malley.

C) "World Wear: A Multicultural Fashion Show and Exhibition" was just one of the many extraordinary components of the college's 1995 Cultures, Communities and the Arts conference supported by the Lilly Endowment.

D) The 14th Annual Fischetti Editorial Cartoon Awards Luncheon was held in November at the Pump Room. Pictured: From left: Karen Fischetti, first place winner Stuart Carlson and his wife Mary, and president John B. Duff. The Carlsons contributed a generous portion of Stuart's \$3,000 prize back to the Fischetti Scholarship.

E) Clockwise from bottom right: Young Sam Padilla, whose art is featured on the DanceAfrica/Chicago 1995 poster, is pictured with Cassie Davis, director of public relations at Marshall Field's, and Chuck Davis, official Griot of DanceAfrica/Chicago 1995. (inset)E) Ghana Dance Ensemble, DanceAfrica/Chicago 1995.



AROUND COLUMBIA ★ AROUND COLUMBIA

SUMMER IN THE CITY ☀ KIDS ONLY!

Columbia has two solutions for parents looking for safe and stimulating summer activities for their children age nine through high school

High School Summer Institute

Sophomores, juniors and seniors are invited to attend the High School Summer Institute from July 8 through August 9, where they may choose from 47 diverse course offerings including Animation Workshop, American Sign Language, Improv Techniques, and Radio Broadcasting. The Institute presents serious students with the opportunity to get a head start in college and to learn more about the reality of their career choices. Courses are taught by working professionals on the college's faculty. Most classes meet at the downtown campus augmented by "Expore the City" trips. Tuition is \$100 per credit hour; students earn

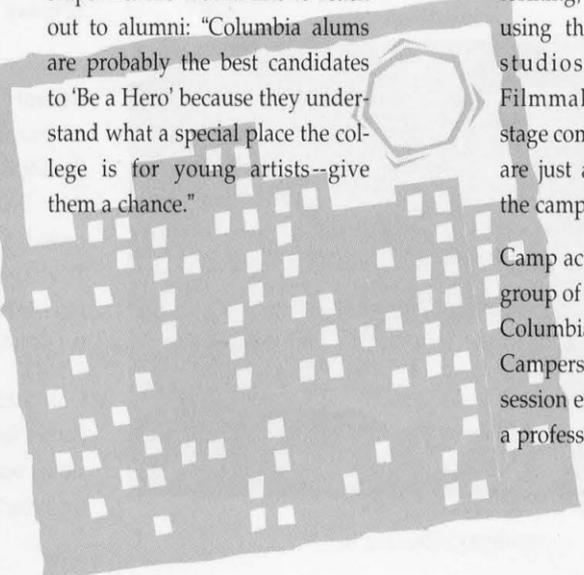
two college credit hours for most courses. Credits earned during the summer may be applied toward graduation requirements at Columbia or transcripts can be forwarded to other colleges. High School Summer Institute has grown phenomenally since its inception in 1982, when there were 11 classes offered and an enrollment of 50 students. Last year, Summer Institute registered 488 students in 40 classes; this year's program is looking forward to another year of enrollment growth. A few scholarships are available for Summer Institute, but many talented, needy students are turned away every year due to

limited funds. Last year, director Bonnie Lennon worked with community and educational leaders to begin the "Be a Hero" drive to increase the number of scholarships. Bonnie would like to reach out to alumni: "Columbia alums are probably the best candidates to 'Be a Hero' because they understand what a special place the college is for young artists--give them a chance."

Summer Arts Day Camp

For the fourth year, younger kids, 9-14 years old, can spend the long, hot summer days experiencing the arts at the Summer Arts Day Camp. Activities include the performing, visual and media arts, using the college's theaters, TV studios and art facilities. Filmmaking, mural painting, stage combat and theater make-up are just a few of the projects for the campers. Camp activities are led by a select group of talented and experienced Columbia students and alumni. Campers participate in an end-of-session exhibition of their work in a professional setting.

The Summer Arts Day Camp will run two four-week sessions: June 10 through July 5 and July 8 through August 2. Students may enroll to begin in the middle of a session. The daily program runs 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with morning drop-off as early as 7:45 and after camp care until 5:30 p.m. For more information about **High School Summer Institute** or to contribute to the "Be a Hero" fund, call Bonnie Lennon, 312/663-1600, ext. 5134. For cost and other information on **Summer Arts Day Camp** call Margaret Sullivan at ext. 5574.



INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS PROGRAM TURNS 20



While Columbia's Interdisciplinary Arts Master's Program (Inter-Arts) celebrates its 20th anniversary with a calendar

of stellar performances, symposiums and exhibitions, it is the program's successful graduates who demonstrate its transformative nature.

Kai El' Zabar, a 1993 graduate, entered the Inter-Arts program as director of public relations for Kennedy-King College. She is now the editor of *N'Digo*, an upscale bi-weekly magazine for Chicagoland's African-American community, where she also acts as an art director.

Kathy Kozan, a 1978 alumna, was a public school art teacher; she now owns Kozan Studios, one of the city's largest commercial mural firms, specializing in trompe l'oeil murals in major restaurants and clubs.

And Susan Bass Marcus, a 1983 graduate, was a puppeteer when she entered the Inter-Arts program. Now she is the director of The Arti-Fact Center, a children's museum within Spertus Museum of Judaica, and a recipient of the 1995 Award of Excellence in Practice from the American Association of Museums.

Founded in 1976, the Inter-Arts program helps visual artists, musicians, writers, dancers, performers and educators find new ways to expand and deepen their work. This innovative two-year program is the first of its kind in the nation and a model for others across the country, including Duke University and Arizona State.

"Many creative people are multi-talented beings," says Inter-Arts founder and program chair Suzanne Cohan-Lange. "A visual artist may have writing ability. A dancer may have an interest in composing, as well as performing to music. However, our edu-

cational system forces us early on to specialize. At the graduate level, this specialization becomes even more acute. In most graduate art programs, you learn more and more about less and less."

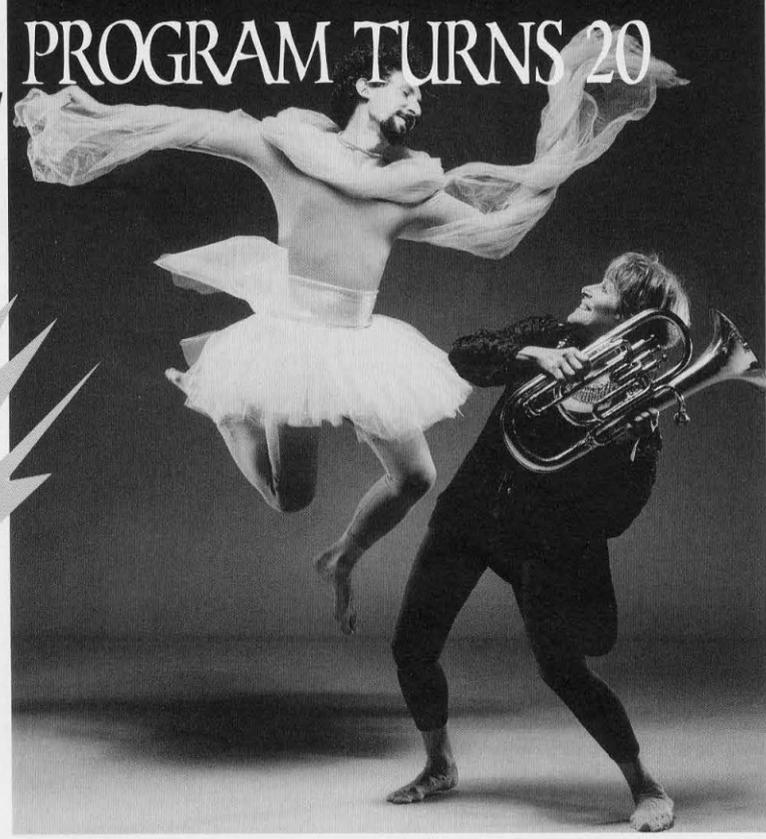
The Inter-Arts graduate program was designed specifically to counter that process, Cohan-Lange says. It's a place where painters learn to dance, musicians create sculpture, and actors write for their own performances. The program uses all art forms in cross-disciplinary ways to enrich the minds and hearts of creative people.

N'Digo editor El' Zabar says that the program helped her to hone her skills, experience and talent. "I came into the program at the perfect time in my life," she says. "It has been the most important process that has affected all of my long-term life choices."

Originally sponsored by the Chicago Consortium of Colleges and Universities, the program found a home at Columbia in 1980.



Suzanne Cohan-Lange



Jeff Abell and Nana Shineflug in "Dances for Non-Dancers and Non-Dances for Dancers," February 16 & 17.

Designer Cohan-Lange, along with composer Rebecca Ruben-Smith and art educator Jean Unsworth, co-founded the program with the intention of training arts teachers. However, by year five the program began to attract working artists who saw in it the opportunity to redefine a vision of their artwork.

Five core studio classes in visual art, writing, drama, movement, and sound encourage participants to explore all the art forms and integrate them into their work. Artists learn to see the connections between the arts, and to create work that crosses boundaries. Collaborative work is emphasized. The program culminates in a thesis show that integrates two or more art forms.

Classes are taught by working artists who are personally committed to the interdisciplinary approach such as Nana Shineflug, director of the Chicago Moving Company and recipient of two NEA choreographic fellowships; Jeff Abell, composer, performance artist, critic and writer; and Achy Obejas, author, journalist, and recipient of an NEA fellowship in creative writing. Other faculty include visual and performance artists as well as arts educators.

The program recently added a second focus - a Master of Arts In Teaching (M.A.T.) degree, offered in collabora-

tion with the Educational Studies Department. Students graduate as trained and certified K-12 art teachers. The program empowers teachers to incorporate all aspects of the arts into their classrooms.

"An interdisciplinary approach to teaching art is natural for children," Cohan-Lange says. "It encourages them to think of themselves as creative, imaginative persons, and to see the connections between the arts and the world."

Students may also choose to pursue the Inter-Arts M.A. degree with a special emphasis on book and paper arts. Columbia's Center for the Book and Paper Arts is a particularly rich resource, the only one of its kind in a five-state region.

Performances and events celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Inter-Arts program range from a creativity workshop led by Julia Cameron, author of "The Artist's Way," to a benefit performance of "Volcano Songs" by the internationally renowned composer and performance artist Meredith Monk. Inter-Arts alumni are participating in various symposiums, exhibitions and performances.

The program's founders will soon be inaugurating an Inter-Arts Graduate Fellowship. For information call ext. 5670.

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS, CALL 312/663.1600, EXT. 5670

Creativity Workshop with Julia Cameron, author of "The Artist's Way"
Columbia College Center for Book & Paper Arts
218 S. Wabash, 7th Floor
Saturday & Sunday
January 27 & 28

Happy Anniversary Paper Plates Exhibition Dinner, Auction & Party
Columbia College Center for Book & Paper Arts
218 S. Wabash, 7th Floor
Friday, February 2

Jeff Abell & Nana Shineflug creating: "Dances for Non-Dancers and Non-Dances for Dancers"
Links Hall
3435 N. Sheffield
Friday & Saturday
February 16 & 17

Meredith Monk performs "Volcano Songs"
Columbia College Dance Center
4730 N. Sheridan Road
Saturday, February 24
7:00 & 9:00 p.m.

Symposium on Music and Gender with keynote address by Susan McClary, author "Feminine Endings"
Columbia College
623 S. Wabash
Saturday, March 2

Breaking Arts Boundaries in the Classroom
A two day symposium on the Interdisciplinary Arts approach to education.
Columbia College
623 S. Wabash
Saturday & Sunday,
March 16 & 17

Mixed Messages
20 years of Interdisciplinary Arts Alumni Exhibition
Artemesia Gallery
700 N. Carpenter
April 2-27

Opening Night Reception
Friday, April 5

Performaton
A feast of poetry, music and performance art
Randolph Street Gallery
756 N. Milwaukee
Saturday, April 6

Glass Layers
Performances by alumnae
Links Hall
3435 N. Sheffield
• Eileen Cherry
• Elise Kermani
• Christy Munch
• Joan Dickinson
Friday-Sunday
April 26-28

columbia college chicago individual donors

This list honors individuals who have contributed a minimum of \$100 to columbia college during the period of September 1, 1995 to December 31, 1995.

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Sam Alex Bezanis
Thomas Blackman
Michael & Revy Bledsoe
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R. Peter Carey & Lois J. Lipton
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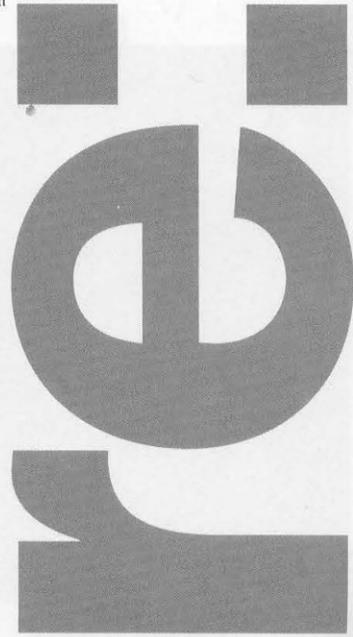
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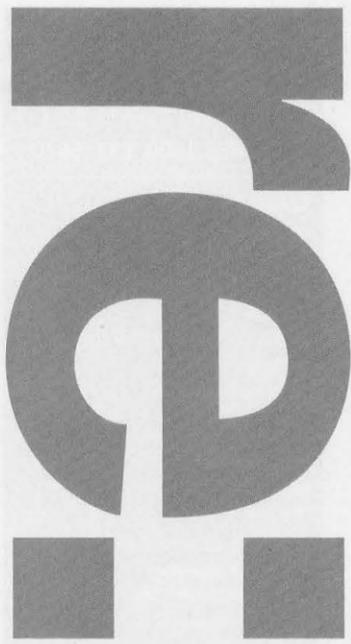
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Bernard Silverstein
Rachelle Silverstein
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Elizabeth H. Winston
Louise & Jim Yao
Dr. S. T. Yao
Jere Scott Zenko
Constance Zipprodt-Zonka





oping Aloy Children's Dance Theater. **richard woodbury** went to New York City to set his sound design for Steve Martin's play "Picasso at the Lapin Agile." Richard also created computer sound and music designs for Northlight Theatre's production of "A Perfect Ganesh," Loyola University's "The Night of the Iguana," and Adler Planetarium's sky show "Through the Eyes of Hubble."

dance/movement therapy graduate program chair jane ganet sigel received the Dance Therapy Educators Award for her "profound contribution to the edu-

Midwest Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

fiction writing department faculty member **andy allegretti** was elected president of the board of directors of *Private Arts*. **deborah cummins** published her short story "Letter in Care of Mt. Olive Cemetery" in *Panhandler*. **phyllis eisenstein** recently published two stories: "New Eves" (Longmeadow Press) and "Sisters in Fantasy" (New American Library). **david rush** received two Emmy awards from the NATAS-Chicago Chapter. He was also awarded the National Association of Broadcasters' Service to

International Film Festival; Filipino American Film Festival, San Francisco; Reel Affirmations, Washington, D.C.'s 5th Annual Celebration of Gay & Lesbian Films; and others. **documentary film center** director **michael rabiger** is spending the academic year as a visiting professor at NYU's film department, Tisch School of the Arts, teaching fiction and documentary techniques. Doc Center, acting director **judy hoffman** was Chicago coordinator and camera assistant on the film "Daley: The Last Boss" which aired nationally on PBS in January.

liberal education department faculty member **wilfredo cruz's** paper "Police Brutality in African American and Latino Communities" was published in the *Latino Studies Journal*. More faculty news: **dominic pacyga** gave a talk on "Immigrant Chicago: Yesterday and Today," at the National Conference of Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrant Issues. He also

recently completed the acoustical evaluation of the new auditorium at Argonne National Laboratories. More news from the Audio Technology Center: faculty member **dominique j. cheenne** was awarded the contract for the acoustical design services of the new Union auditorium on the University of Nebraska, Lincoln campus. **jim cogan** is producing the soundtrack for the National Geographic TV series "The Unlovables." **howard sandroff**, guest composer, had two works featured and performed with Double Dialogue +2 at the "Music Under the Dome" chamber series in Oak Park and the Grand Rapids Michigan Chamber Music Society.

science & mathematics department faculty member **pangratios papacosta** spent two months on sabbatical on the island of Cyprus where he did an in-depth study of physics education. He was an invited speaker at York University in Canada, Ontario College of Art, and Seminole Community College in Orlando, Florida.

theater/music department chair **sheldon patinkin** directed J.R. Sullivan in his adaptation of Ben Hecht's "A Child of the Century" at the Victory Gardens Studio. Other departmental news: **paul amandes'** play "Haunted By God" completed its second tour of Europe. Paul also wrote the *Jeff-nominated music for* "Desdemona" at the Turnaround Theatre for Heliotrope Productions and he was seen as Sparky in "Forever Plaid" at the Red Barn Playhouse in Saugatuck, Michigan. **dale calandra's** play "Lysistrata, 2411 AD" was published by Fireside Theatre Bookclub at Doubleday. Last summer, Dale directed "The Tempest" for the Oak Park Theatre Festival and was named Acting Artistic Director for the 1996 season where he will be doing "Hamlet." **henry godinez** directed "Cloud Tectonics" at the Goodman Studio Theatre and played Caliban in "The Tempest" in Oak Park. **chris phillips** was involved behind the scenes in "The Tempest" as scenic and lighting designer. His other recent scenic and lighting projects include "Singin' in the Rain" at Theatre Northwest, "Peter Pan" at Drury Lane Oakbrook, "The Dave Wannstedt Show" on WBBM-TV, "Dracula" for the Dayton Ballet, and Loyola University's "The Night of the Iguana." **barbara robertson** toured the country in "Angels in America" and played in Neil Simon's "London Suite" at the Briar Street Theatre. **brian shaw** directed "Dracula" by Mac Wellman, the department's first fall Mainstage studio show. He also appeared in a collaboratively generated performance called "Door Slam," presented at the Chopin Theatre.

NOTEWORTHY

christine somervill, associate academic dean of development, was invited to address the American Association of University Administrators International Conference in Mexico City last November.

the dance center was recently awarded major program grants by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to support the Community Culture Council program and the U.S./Mexico Fund for Culture to support the U.S./Mexico cultural exchange which is part of The Center's *Cruzano Fronteras* festival this spring. Other **dance center** news: **mordine & company** performed with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange in "Room For Many More!" at the Chicago Historical Society. Executive director **julie simpson** participated in the National Performance Network Conference in San Antonio, Texas. **margi cole** performed in a dance concert at Northwestern University featuring choreography by Dance Center alumni Colleen Halloran and Scott Putman. **jan erkert & dancers, ginger farley** and **scott putman** were featured in *Dance Chicago '95* at the Athenaeum Theatre. **kimosha murphy** and **malik barnard** visited the Sene-Gambian region of West Africa to develop a collaborative performance project with an indigenous dance company. For eight years, they have been devel-

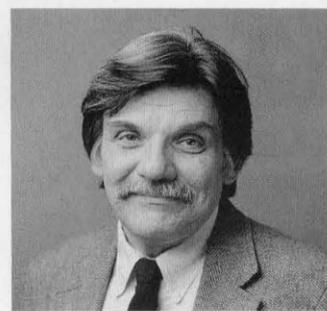
opment of dance/therapy professionals" from the American Dance Therapy Association at their 30th Annual Conference.

The **educational studies department** was awarded a two-year grant of \$350,000 from the National Security Educational Program in 1995 for a program focusing on international studies.

english department acting chair **garnett kilberg cohen** recently had a poem published in *Verve*. She also won an honorable mention in the Isak Dinesen Creative Nonfiction Contest. More departmental news: **connie deanovich** had poetry published in *American Letters & Commentary*, *Chain 2*, *No Roses Review*, *The Illinois Architectural & Historical Review*, *Cover* and *The Washington Review*. **jeffrey gore** presented a paper "Wrapping (up) Identity: Playing with(out) History in the Post-National Germany" at a conference on German Unification--Five Years Later at Georgetown University. **paul hoover's** film "Viridian" was screened at the Hamburg Film Festival in late September. **laura nilges-matias'** play "In the Morning of the Year 2000" was performed by the Women's Theater Alliance's New Plays Festival, hosted by the Chicago Dramatists Workshop. **maureen seaton's** third collection of poetry, "Furious Cooking," won the 1995 Iowa Prize and is forthcoming from the University of Iowa Press. Her piece "Body Parts" appeared in *The New Republic*. **martha modena vertreace's** book "Light Caught Bending" (Diehard Publishers, Edinburgh, Scotland) won a Scottish Arts Council Grant, the first awarded to a non-British writer. She also presented "Sestinas and Ghazals from the Hood" at the Two Year College English Association

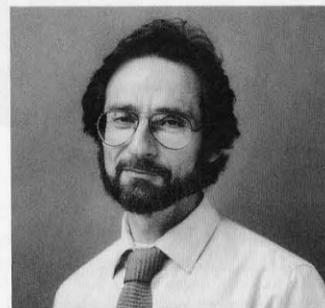
Children's Television Award. **betty shiflett** published her story "The Country Barber" in *American Fiction*, a journal devoted to the best unpublished stories in the U.S. Betty's story was one of 20 finalists chosen from over 1,000 submissions. **shawn shiflett** read for the Artist for Writer for Artist series at Eclectic Junction art gallery in October. He also joined colleagues **polly mills** and **eric may** as the featured readers at Writers Harvest: The National Reading, a nation-wide reading series created to help fight hunger. Organized by faculty members **patty lewis** and **andrew allegretti**, the event was a joint venture with the **fiction writing department**, Share Our Strength and American Express.

film/video department faculty member **joan beaudoin** presented a video "A Culture Without Race" at William Rainey Harper College and at the 5th Annual American Association of College & Universities' Diversity Initiatives Conference in Philadelphia. More faculty news: **ron boyd** and **michael niederman's** documentary "Return to Northern Ireland" was premiered at Facets Multimedia. **barbara sykes-dietze's** video "Shiva Darsan" continues to receive awards and screenings including at the Festival of Illinois Film & Video Artists; 2nd Annual Metroland International Short Film Festival, Albany, New York; 11th International Women's Film Festival, Madrid, Spain; and others. **don dinello's** film "Beyond the Door" won a certificate of merit from the Chicago International Film Festival and was screened in the Film Shorts I program. **kendall harnett** screened his 35mm thesis film "Blueberry Hill" at the Fine Arts Theater in December. **carter martin's** film "Preservation of the Song" has recently been screened and invited to San Francisco's 9th International Film Festival; Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian



dominic pacyga

spoke at the 5th Annual Czechoslovak Genealogical/Cultural Conference and the 17th Annual North American Labor History Conference. Dominic had articles published in the new edition of "Ethnic Chicago" and in "Essays in Russian and East European History." **louis silverstein** presented a paper, "Computers and a Philosophy of Education," at the annual meeting of the Midwest Philosophy of Education Society. In November, Lou served as host on a National

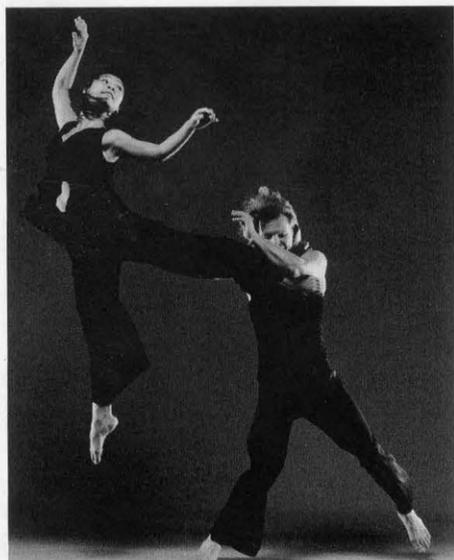


louis silverstein

Education Association online conference "The Inernet -- Accessing the Student's Inner Resources," AOL (America Online).

management department fashion/retail coordinator **dianne erpenbach** presented a paper "The New Generation of Fibers...Comfort Control" at the Costume Society of America conference held in Toronto, Canada in November.

radio/sound department sound program director **doug jones**



jan erkert & dancers

MICHAEL FITZGERALD '90

M

ichael Fitzgerald's college friends think he buckled under to maternal pressure when he stayed with the family restaurant after receiving his bachelor's degree in journalism.

Not so, says the barbecue man extraordinaire. "It is difficult to say no to my mom," he says, "but I truly find the work challenging and rewarding."

Michael's mom Sally opened "Fitzee's," a barbecue chicken and rib restaurant, in 1980 at 61st Street and Ashland Avenue in Chicago. Michael went to work for the family business shortly afterward. But he doesn't play the short order cook -- well, not exclusively.

Michael completed most of his journalism studies in 1984, but left temporarily without finishing his

degree. He returned to complete a few courses and graduated in 1990.

Although Columbia's focus on arts and communications might not seem to translate to the food service industry, Michael says that his education has helped him achieve a level of success for "Fitzee's" which distinguishes it from most "mom and pop" restaurants.

One of his major accomplishments has been getting strong visibility for a three-year-old product, Fitzee's Bar-B-Que Sauce.

"I've utilized my writing skills in letters I've sent to celebrities, politi-

cians and anyone else I could think of along with samples of Fitzee's," says the former staff member of *The Chronicle*, Columbia's student newspaper. "But I've also used other lessons I learned in college. The hands-on nature of many classes at Columbia helped me to see what works in the real world. And college's diversity taught me how to appreciate the differences in people, as well as the similarities."

Relating to people is an important aspect of a marketer's fight for shelf space for a virtually unknown product. Michael has succeeded in that realm as Fitzee's can now be found

alongside major brands on shelves in Jewel, Omni, Cub Foods, and Moo and Oink stores on Chicago's South Side, in the City's suburbs and in Northern Indiana. Bottles should also be showing up soon on Chicago's North and West Sides.

Probably the greatest coup of 1995 was winning a spot as a semi-finalist on cable television's QVC Home Shopping Tour. Fitzee's was named "The Best Kept Secret."

Fitzee's has food concessions at The Taste of Chicago, Gospel Fest and the Chicago Jazz Festival. Last year, Michael and family packed up and took their gig on the road to the Million Man March in Washington, D.C. where they did a booming business.

Recently, he was invited to join the Illinois Restaurant Association Advisory Council. Michael has received letters praising his promotional efforts and his sauce from notables ranging from fitness guru Richard Simmons to Governor James Edgar.

Last month, Columbia seniors benefitted when he brought his expertise to the college's 5th Annual Senior/Alumni Career Conference Panel and Brunch. Not surprisingly, the journalism major's entrepreneurial experience landed him on the management panel.

Next on the agenda for Fitzee's is a hot sauce, which Michael says will debut soon.

Watch out San Antonio, Chicago's own Fitzee's is hot on your trail!



columbia college chicago corporate and foundation donors

This list honors corporations and foundations who have contributed a minimum of \$100 to columbia college during the period of September 1, 1995 to December 31, 1995.

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- Chicago Area Broadcast
- The Chicago Community Trust
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- Chicago Tribune Company
- Chicago Tribune Foundation
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- City of Chicago, Dept of Cultural Affairs

- D.C. Wheel Productions, Inc.
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Michael E. Jackson, '83

Dear Fellow Alums:

Since my last letter announcing the election of new Alumni Association Board officers, circumstances have prevented the Board from doing so. Therefore, until that time, I will continue to assume the Presidential duties. Names of the new officers will be published as soon as they are available.

On another note, the Board has been quite busy with several new alumni programs. By far the most exciting of these has been the development of alumni networking groups. The first two groups have now merged and set up their own monthly program of meetings centered around the entrepreneurial challenges faced by freelancers and sole proprietors.

A third, larger group of about twenty alumni met on a Saturday morning

at the beginning of December, and is planning further meetings in 1996. This group also gave some spirited feedback on the subject of the alumni newsletter's contents. In brief, they would like to see the career information about other alumni expanded. To do this, we will need increased response from you, the readers of this newsletter.

Meanwhile, we are still pursuing the possibility of setting up an alumni bulletin board on the Internet, which would permit alumni to correspond with each other, and substantially improve communications among members of our constituency.

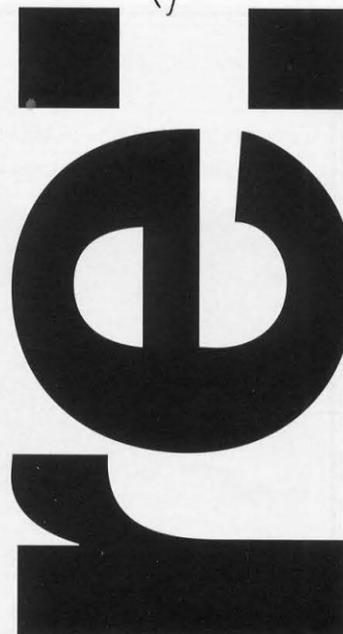
The Board is very interested in hearing your views on membership fees to the association. We have always argued in the past, and are likely to continue to do so, that membership should be free to all former students. However, it is becoming apparent that many of you would be prepared to pay a modest annual fee provided you were receiving some useful service in return. With this in mind, we are investigating potential services we might be able to offer in order to present you with an exciting proposal.

Plans for the **Third Annual Alumni Reunion**, June 7-8, are already underway. We hope to present

you with a really fun event which you won't want to miss.

With these and other plans in mind, we are busy at the moment expanding our alumni board. If you are interested in joining, note it on the "What's News With You" form on the inside back page. There are many different ways that you can support us, and we know that you have the talent we need.

Michael E. Jackson



COLUMBIA HONORS PHOTOGRAPHER VICTOR SKREBNESKI

In a recent convocation ceremony, Columbia conferred an honorary Doctor of Arts degree upon internationally renowned local photographer Victor Skrebneski. The college also announced the establishment of the Victor Skrebneski Scholarship in Fashion Fund, which will provide

financial assistance to deserving fashion students.

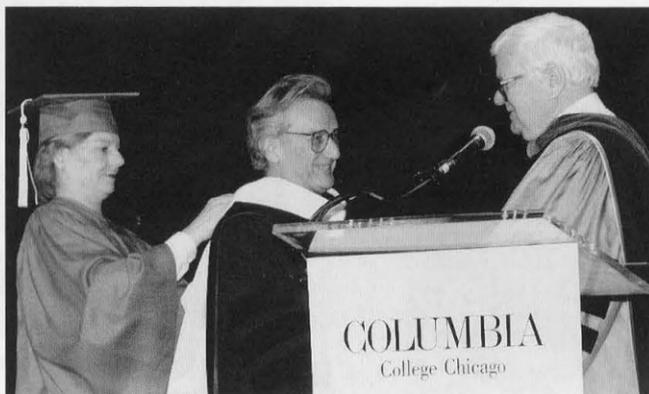
The gala event at the Cultural Center included a retrospective of Skrebneski's work, voice-over testimonials from long-time friends and associates accompanying a slide

show of their portraits, a reception, and a private dinner for Skrebneski and major donors to the scholarship fund.

Saks Fifth Avenue fashion director Nena Ivon chairs the scholarship fund committee and Shirley Kravitt is special advisor. On its inauguration night, the Victor Skrebneski Scholarship in Fashion committee raised almost \$50,000 toward its \$150,000 goal, which will make possible a full scholarship for students in fashion design, management, or photography. Nearly 50 donors to the newly-established endowment fund and special friends attended a private dinner in the Cultural Center's elegant G.A.R. Rotunda following the convocation ceremony.



Nena Ivon, fashion design program director Dennis Brozynski, Victor Skrebneski and fashion management program director Dianne Erpenbach.



Comptroller Ann Kennedy, Skrebneski and president John B. Duff.



Museum of Contemporary Photography director Denise Miller-Clark, Skrebneski and John Mulvany, chair of the art and design and photography departments.

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columbia 2

There still may be time to register for Columbia 2, the new continuing education division of Columbia College -- BUT HURRY, most classes begin in February. Call 312/663-1600, ext. 5259 for more information.

"re"
editor: Marijo Millette, '93
contributing editors: Carol Bryant, Lisa Cargill, Michael E. Jackson '83, Mary Claire Mathews, Eric Mixon '91 and Kathrene Wales
contributing photographers: Bob Kusel '78, William Frederking, Gina Gayle '95, Tom Nowak and Claudia Zuno '96.
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In December, U.S. Representative Dick Durbin (left), DePaul University financial aid director John Schoultz, Columbia financial aid director John Olin, college president John B. Duff and U.S. Senator Paul Simon met at Columbia to support and discuss President Clinton's plan to keep the Federal Direct Student Loan Program alive.

CELEBRATE COLUMBIA: FAST FORWARD!

CELEBRATE COLUMBIA: FAST FORWARD!, the third annual showcase celebrating the individual talent and collaborative creativeness of Columbia students, has an exciting new format for 1996.

This year's event benefitting the Columbia College Trustee Student Scholarship Fund will be held 7 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, May 4 at the Fairmont Hotel at Grant Park, 200 N. Columbus Drive.

Cocktails and an informal showing of student designs by professional models mingling with guests will give the evening a lively start.

A dinner screening of a fabulous video highlighting the college in action through the school year is the main event. Ed Morris, chair of the Television Department, is acting as executive producer.

As in previous years, there will also be impromptu interviews conducted by radio/television students. A special location will be decked out for the occasion for polaroid photographs to be taken of the guests.

Student volunteers will be on hand to help with the event and join in the festivities.

After the screening and dinner, a dance band made up of student and alumni talent and directed by William Russo will play. The music will run the gamut from the jitterbug to the electric slide.

Celebrate Columbia! has been extremely successful getting the word out about just how unique and dynamic Columbia College is -- help make this year even more successful by joining in the fun!



Columbia College Chicago
 600 South Michigan Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60605-1996

Address Correction Requested

what's inside

- Al Parker's 50th Anniversary
- Around Columbia Pix
- Interdisciplinary Arts turns 20
- Alumnus Michael "Fitze" Fitzgerald