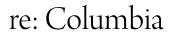
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Alumni Newsletters

Alumni

Fall 1997



Columbia College Chicago

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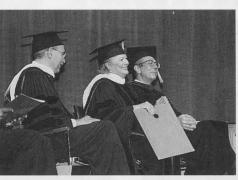
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#### re: columbia no. 20/fall 1997

Tri-annual publication sent free of charge to alumni and friends of Columbia College Chicago







Columbia's president Dr. John B. Duff (right) presents an Honorary Doctorate to James Compton

(L-R) Honorees Fred Eychaner and Chicago's First Lady Maggie Daley with Board of Trustees chair Al Harris

**Commencement** '

Below

(L-R) Dr. Brenda Solomon, Mayor Richard M. Daley, and Paula and Sam Pfeffer, a Columbia trustee, attended a pre-commencement celebration olumbia College awarded nearly 1,500 diplomas at its 1997 graduation ceremony, the largest number in its history. James W. Compton, president and chief executive officer of the Chicago Urban League, delivered the commencement address and Vickki Nicole Willis



was honored as valedictorian of the Class of 1997.

Mr. Compton and two other exemplary Chicagoans were awarded Honorary Doctorates: **Margaret "Maggie" Corbett Daley**, civic activist and Chicago's first lady, and **Fred Eychaner**, whose many achievements include founding Newsweb Corporation and WPWR-TV Channel 50. He is the long time director of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

Joan "Beau" Beaudoin, television department faculty member, received Columbia's full-time Teacher-of-the-Year award; Peter Cook, interpreter training department faculty member, received the part-time Teacher-of-the-Year award.

# Members' Meeting



(L-R) President's Club co-chairs Marcia Lazar and Sydney Smith Gordon



olumbia College Chicago President's Club members enjoyed a spectacular evening of dining and entertainment at the second annual membership meeting in July. The event began with dinner at Cité restaurant, atop Lake Point Towers overlooking the lakefront and Navy Pier.

Following a presentation by Columbia College President Dr. John B. Duff and steering committee co-chair Marcia Lazar, guests strolled to Skyline Stage on Navy Pier for a performance under the stars by the Rising Stars Youth Steel Orchestra from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands and Ensemble Kalinda, a performing arm of the college's Center for Black Music Research.

"An evening like this is a great way to expose our donors to the diversity of Columbia," Lazar said. "Being in this setting exemplifies the interconnectedness between Columbia College and the City of Chicago. This is a great group of people - an extended family with a common vision and goal. You can feel the warmth, camaraderie and genuine excitement." The President's Club Membership Program was created to provide Columbia friends and alumni a forum with which to participate more fully in the wealth of artistic and culturally diverse activities at the college. This unique fundraising initiative also provides the college with the financial support integral to reaching its educational goals. Membership gift categories range from \$500 to \$10,000; individual and corporate members receive benefits such as free tickets to Columbia-sponsored events,

performances, lectures and workshops, correlating with their gift level.

An important aspect of President's Club donations is that funds are not used for administrative and operational costs, but only where they will impact students directly. The Club raised \$80,000 this year which will support the Presidential Scholarship, awarded to incoming freshmen based on academic achievement in high school and demonstration of financial need. President's Club members know that their contributions play a vital role in the ability of talented and dedicated students to complete their educations.

President's Club members are invited to special events hosted by the college throughout the year. Just a few of last year's highlights included DanceAfrica, the Museum of Contemporary Photography's season opening reception, Fashion Columbia, the Center for Book & Paper Arts'

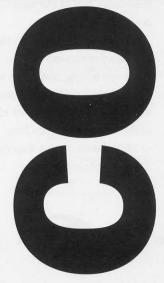


(L-R) Alton Adams, organizer of the Rising Stars Youth Steel Orchestra concert in Chicago, and Dr. Samuel A. Floyd Jr., founder and director of the Center for Black Music Research Paper Plates auction, Achy Obejas Mambo Marathon reading at The Newberry Library, and the Columbian Exposition Art Auction, the President's Club's first fundraiser.

"This is a wonderful way for people to be involved and support an extremely important cause with a minimal time commitment, and maximum enjoyment level," Lazar said. "They are able to participate in stellar arts and performance presentations, intellectually stimulating symposia, and exciting social events while also functioning as ambassadors for the school."







# AroundColumbia

Commencement weekend also featured "Celebrate Columbia: Come to the Cabaret," the Board of Trustees' fourth annual benefit gala at the Fairmont Hotel. The evening included dinner and entertainment in the Moulin Rouge by blues virtuoso Corky Siegel, song stylist Bobbi Wilsyn, and other Columbia faculty members. It raised \$100,000 for the David R. Rubin Trustees' Student Scholarship Fund. Trustees Averill Leviton, Gordon McClendon, Ozzie Rodriguez and Helena Chapellin Wilson co-chaired the event.

And cabaret they did ...

Just one week later, another annual Columbia event took place –The Fourth Alumni Reunion Awards Dinner on the Odyssey II departed from Navy Pier for a Lake Michigan cruise:





Co-chair Ozzie Rodriguez and his wife Celsa with students



Alumni Board members Marty Lennartz '82, WXRT deejay who emceed the alumni awards program, and Margi Cole '90, artistic director of the Dance

Zelda Robinson '93, Alumni Association Board member Michael Jackson '83, and Grethia

Colective

Left



Theater students dressed as characters from "Cabaret" hammed it up with guests through the night:  $(L-R)^-$  Jackie Deppner, co-chair Helena Chapellin Wilson, Ryan Greer, co-chair Averill Leviton, and Joanna Gorrie

Left Dr. Maurice S. Rabb and t

Dr. Maurice S. Rabb and trustee Madeline Murphy Rabb with co-chair Gordon McClendon



The 1997 Alumni Award winners: Jim Williams '87, Howard Mendelsohn '49, Charles Carner '78, Honorary Alumna Sydney Smith Gordon, Enid Long '79, Brigid Murphy '87, and Norman Pellegrini '50

### Columbian Exposition Art Auction

ore than 275 knowledgeable art buyers turned out on a weekday evening in June to bid on works by some of Chicago's leading artists - including Richard Hunt, Dennis Kowalski, Richard C. Lange '85, Ed Paschke, Corey Postiglione, Hollis Sigler, Victor Skrebneski, Bob Thall, Helena Chapellin Wilson, and the Zhou Brothers - at the Columbian Exposition, an art auction, exhibition and reception that raised \$25,000 for Columbia College Chicago visual arts student scholarship

Barton Brands Ltd., whose chairman Ellis M. Goodman made an additional \$5,000 contribution to a new Barton Brands scholarship fund for visual art students, was a corporate sponsor of the benefit, as were Blue Plate Catering and United Parcel Service.

The auction was exceptionally artist-friendly. Thirty percent of the proceeds went to the donating artists, most of whom are associated with Columbia College as faculty members, alumni, trustees, exhibitors in the college's Museum



Kathy Abelson, Estelle M. Shanley and Columbia College President John B. Duff



Susan Foertsch, Barton Brands Ltd. chairman Ellis M. Goodman, and Laurie Irwin

funds.

The event was sponsored by the college's President's Club and the Alumni Association. President's Club steering committee co-chair Marcia Lazar and Alumni Association president Gloria Lehr were co-chairs of the auction.

Auctioneer Leslie Hindman donated her services for the evening's live auction; there was also a silent auction. The event took place in the 44th floor offices of the international law firm of McDermott, Will & Emery, 227 West Monroe.



of Contemporary Photography and Art Gallery, or recipients of honorary degrees.

Objects donated by artists and collectors included paintings, drawings, photographs, paperworks, sculpture, fashion, jewelry, books, furniture, and political cartoons. Among the more unusual donations were a cast paper and found object sculpture by Suzanne Cohan-Lange, a neo-Gothic trousseau chest by Kei J. Constantinov, a political cartoon by the late John Fischetti, a photographic diptych by John Mulvany, a cinnabar necklace by Madeline Murphy Rabb, a handmade book by Marilyn Sward and Audrey Niffenegger, and an Egyptian-theme coat by Jean Morman Unsworth.



Columbian Exposition co-chair Marcia Lazar (left), auctioneer Leslie Hindman, and co-chair Gloria Lehr '84



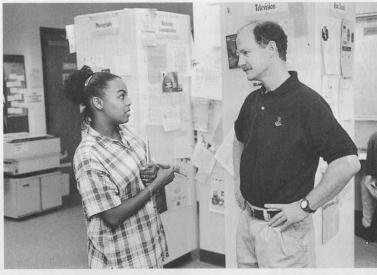
Marianne Deson, committee member

# Planning

## Placement



Tracy Jenkins '97, a management department graduate, uses the Career Resource Center for job leads



Career advisor Tim Long consults with Tracy on her job search strategies

Career Planning & Placement wants to hear from you! Can you pass along an internship or job lead? Are you seeking advice on a career change? Would you like to tell your career tale to eager students?

If so, call the career advisor specializing in your field:

#### Bob Blinn

312/344-7620 Film/Video, Television, Sound

#### **Paula Brien**

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#### **Grethia Hightower**

312/344-7344 Radio, Management, Dance, Theater, Music

#### **Tim Long**

312/344-7282 Photography, Art & Design, Interactive Multi-Media olumbia's Career Planning & Placement Office presents opportunities in which every participant ends up a winner. Naturally, the Office serves students and alumni seeking work in their chosen fields, but it also welcomes the generous assistance of many alumni and friends of the college.

This system of relationships ensures that the Office has up-to-date career information, as well as job and internship opportunities for hundreds of students and alumni each year. Specialized information is provided through more than 20 annual workshops and events that present alumni speakers, employers and industry experts. In addition, students and alumni receive access to its comprehensive Career Resource Center, which each year posts more than 4,000 notices of job opportunities in arts and communications, and stores trade magazines, directories, and

#### 1. Obtaining job leads

2. Identifying gaps in their skills and exploring concrete options available to fill them, such as taking a class, self-training, on-the-job training, and other strategies to become more marketable

3. Learning about industryspecific and cutting-edge job search techniques

4. Finding additional ways to gain experience or build a portfolio of professional-level work by volunteering, doing a post-graduate internship, freelancing or temping

5. Gaining up-to-date information about the needs and movements of specific industries, such as current job titles, names of employers, salary ranges, career paths, and job descriptions

#### **GIVING BACK**

One of the most satisfying situations occurs when a Columbia graduate who used Career

#### columbia college chicago

This list honors individuals and groups who have contributed a minimum of \$100 to Columbia College during the period from May 1, 1997 to August 31, 1997.

Kazu Okutomi

#### individual donors

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#### Keith Lusson Job Developer 312/344-7283 Advises those seeking teaching and education employment.

#### Jan Grekoff Director of Career Planning & Placement

Phone 312/344-7281 Fax 312/663-5630

#### **Office** location

Suite 300, 623 South Wabash

#### Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. networking newsletters.

#### HELP AT ALL LEVELS

Students and alumni who use these services and resources range from fully-prepared, focused job seekers to graduates who say, "I don't know what I want to do when I grow up." No matter where on this spectrum a student or alumnus/alumna is, he or she can benefit when working with the Career Planning & Placement Office.

#### STARTING POINTS

Students and alumni who use the Office tend to focus on at least one of five common job search tasks. With the coaching of a career advisor, the job seeker can work at the following: Planning & Placement services stays in touch as their career develops. It's not unusual for an alum to call the Office when he or she wishes to hire an intern, freelancer or student worker. Alumni also have donated expensive hand-me-down directories and guides to the Career Resource Center. And, when they share career advice as a speaker or panelist, alumni always get the highest marks on the Office's event evaluations. All these efforts contribute to the preparation and opportunities Career Planning & Placement believes will deliver a satisfying career.

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**Dianne Hataman** 

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english department faculty member carlos cumpián read his poetry at the 12th annual Evanston Ethnic Arts Festival and at Beacon Street Gallery & Theatre's evening of poetry honoring Carlos Cortez. His book of poetry "Armadillo Charm" went into its second printing in August. More faculty news: sarah a. odishoo had poems accepted in *The Georgetown Review* and in *The Laurel Review*.



Eric May '75

#### fiction writing department faculty member sally colford bennett spoke on the Fort Dearborn Massacre to the Council on America's Military Past in Buffalo, New York. More faculty news: phyllis eisenstein's nonfiction book, "Overcoming the Pain of Inflammatory Arthritis," was published by Avery; the trade paperback came out in September. drew ferguson's short story "A Dream" appeared in the Summer 1997 issue of The Great Lawn. Her story "Float" has been nominated for the Best Gay Fiction of 1998. sandra jackson-opoku's first novel "The River Where Blood is Born" has been published by Ballantine/One World. The book was selected as a Book-of-the-Month and a Quality Paperback Book Club feature. patricia mcnair lewis's short story "The Joke" and her poem "The Girl" have been selected to appear in Fish Stories: Collective III. molly moynahan was honored as a Noted Finalist for the Katherine Anne Porter Prize for Fiction. Molly's story "The Bottom of the Ocean" was chosen as one of the top four out of this year's 456



Dan Dinello

film/video department faculty member dan dinello's film "Shock Asylum" was shown on WTTW-TV/Channel 11's "Image Union" in May. The film also played at the Atlanta Film & Video Festival in June.

#### **journalism department** chairperson **ed planer** was a panelist on "Media and Labor" at the Illinois Labor Conference in May.

#### liberal education department faculty member roseanna mueller's paper

"Woman as Curse: Malinche and Mexican Identity" was published in Communities and the Arts. Another paper, "The Virgin of Guadalupe: The Image and Its History" was published in Accents, vol. 10 no. 2, 1997. In October, she will present lectures on images and poetry of praise to the Virgin of Guadalupe to the Illinois Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and The Hispanic Connection at Hoftra University. More faculty news: dominic pacyga gave a lecture/tour of Chicago's immigrant neighborhoods with special reference to the Mexican-American Community to the Bi-National Study/Migration Between Mexico and the United States, sponsored by the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform at its Chicago meeting. He also lectured on neighborhoods to the Policy Research Action Group and gave seminars on the role of racial identification in America for the Illinois Ethnic Coalition. Dominic traveled to Polonia Institute/ Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland to lecture to the Institute staff in July. louis silverstein has been appointed to co-direct the Columbia College Chicago Oral History Project, a telling of Columbia's story and its contribution to American higher education through personal narratives. Under the auspices of the Life Art Society, which he co-directs, Louis led workshops on transcendental consciousness, and he presented a paper on "Technology and Literacy" at the International Congress

on Challenges to Education in July.

management department chairperson j. dennis rich lectured at the Internationales Zentrum fur Kultur und Management, Salzburg, Austria in July and August and at the St. Petersburg Theatre Academy, Russia in May. He was a contributor to "Creative America: A Report to the President," by the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, and wrote the preface to "Cultures, Communities & the Arts," edited by english department faculty member fred gardaphe and published by Columbia College Chicago, 1997. Faculty news: micki johns, instructor of Fashion Product Evaluation, presented a juried paper at the Midwest Junto, an organization of science and technology historians. Micki received her Ph.D in textiles and clothing from Iowa State University this summer. Her dissertation, "Women's Functional Swimwear, 1860-1920," focused on some of the social factors that led to the adoption of functional swimwear in the 1870s. She also was selected to participate in the annual ATMI Textile Update Tour in Atlanta, Georgia.

radio/sound department faculty member mary berger led "Different, Not Deficient: A Symposium on Ebonics" at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois in April.



Mike Niederman

#### television department

faculty member **joan beaudoin**, who received Columbia's 1997 full-time Teacher-of-the-Year Award, presented a workshop at the 11th Annual Conference for the Development of Intercultural Coursework at Colleges and (NCORE) in Orlando. More faculty news: beth berolzheimer edited several projects for the Goodman Theatre Visiting Artist Program. laura litten worked in conjunction with Northwestern University and The Field Museum organizing a program that places video and anthropology students in grass roots social organizations throughout Chicago. sara livingston discussed the past TV season on the Milt Rosenberg Show. amy ludwig directed the critically acclaimed "Light Shining in Buckinghamshire." In July, she was in the U.K. attending the 4th International Women Playwrights Conference in Galway City, Ireland and doing research on 18th Century London at the British Museum for a new play. Amy is the dramaturg for Strawdog Theatre's upcoming production of "Dark Rapture." brian read appeared with his band, The Mashed Potatoes, on the WGN-TV morning show. He is in post-production on his documentary on Luther Allison. michael niederman scripted "The Cutter Files" for Full Frame Productions, which won a Telly Award. barbara sykes' experimental ethnographic video "Song of the River," which was shot while traveling up Sarawak's Rajang River in Borneo, premiered to a packed house at Chicago Filmmakers in June. The video received a Golden Plaque Award from INTERCOM, the International Communications Film and Video Competition in Chicago in August. jeanine mellinger, beth berolzheimer, ed rankus, and barbara sykes had work screened in the Art in Chicago exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Art.





entries. The story is being published in the Fall 1997 awards issue of *Nimrod Magazine*. **shawn shiflett** was a finalist in the Heekin Novel Fellowship Contest. **patricia mcnair lewis**, **eric may '75** and **shawn shiflett** served as associate faculty members and gave readings at the Stonecoast Writers' Conference at the University of Southern Maine in July.



Universities held at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. In May, she presented a paper entitled "As Seen on TV: Television as a Common-Ground Approach to Analyzing Stereotypes" at the Annual Conference on Race & Ethnicity in Higher Education

David Woolley

theater/music department faculty member brian shaw co-directed "Out My Window," a performed oral history project involving residents of Chicago's Uptown/Edgewater neighborhoods. Several faculty members were featured in the production staff and cast of the Goodman Theatre's hit production of "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," including chuck smith, director; kimo williams, music director; david woolley, fight director; and paul amandes, cast as the policeman.

### George Tillman '91 Profile

#### Early sources of inspiration and instruction often last a lifetime...

R ilmmaker George Tillman '91 is currently riding high on the success of his 20th Century Fox film "Soul Food." But the twenty-something writer/director still remembers exactly when and how his interest in film began.

"I saw 'Cooley High,' directed by Michael Schultz, when I was five or six," says the Milwaukee native. "He's a Chicagoan who was involved in theater and he shot the film in Chicago. The movie always stuck with me. I knew then I wanted to make films and that I wanted to be behind the camera."

As a pre-teen George spent many hours in front of the TV. He was typical for us while cooking in the kitchen and eating at the dinner table. I wanted to create that nostalgic atmosphere and relate how all of this affected the whole spirit of the family."

When he and Bob started shopping the script around, their agents suggested they approach the Edmonds for the soundtrack. The couple read the script and asked George and Bob to let their new production company, Edmonds Entertainment, produce it as its first project with Fox.

"Kenny and Tracey took us out to dinner and convinced us that they had the same vision we did for the film," says Bob. "We knew he was the right one to do it.

"I was a little apprehensive," he says, "especially with Vanessa Williams, because I had actually written it with her in mind for the role. We shot the film in 36 days, so things were moving so fast that we didn't even rehearse – we just came in each day to shoot. But she knew what I wanted – that this was my family – and she was right on with her portrayal. So was everyone else."

Another creative issue was filming location.

"I absolutely had to film in Chicago to get that middle-America feeling across," George says. "I wanted to be on location because these women had to be everyday women, and the setting helps create that. It was cold, the weather was terrible, and we worked long hours; but all of that helped get across the real flavor I wanted."

George's insistence on location brought good fortune and experience to a Columbia contingent as well. He and Bob went to Bob Blinn in the college's career planning and placement office for help.

"We were able to use Columbia interns and people we went to school with on the local production crew," Bob says. "It was good to be able to offer this opportunity to others, after Columbia gave us the opportunity to succeed. The school has a lot to offer, and it really comes down to what you make of it."



Vivica A. Fox, Vanessa L. Williams and Nia Long portray three very different sisters who often don't see eye-to-eye.

study at Columbia in part because he would immediately get hands-on experience making films, rather than just studying film theory.

While he was a student, he worked for Spike Lee when the director was filming in Chicago, and he hooked up with commercial companies to get experience and to meet people in the industry.

He says he sees Columbia as a great source of talent not only from the film industry, but also theater, management, music, and other creative fields. As a student, he met as many people as he could and still remembers to call upon them when he has appropriate projects in mind.

He also went after every piece of financial assistance available to him.

"I was able to receive grants from the film department that helped me make 'Paula'," he says. "I was also involved in a student organization, a film club, which helped me; and I received Weisman Scholarships for both 'Paula' and for 'Monty and His Friend.'"

"Paula" won George and Bob a Midwestern Student Academy Award, other prizes at seven student film festivals, and the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame Award. From that film they leapt from one successful project to another, including the \$1 million sale of "Scenes from the Soul" to Savoy Pictures in 1994. The film is due to be aired on HBO this Fall.

So what's next for George and Bob?

"I can't really talk about it, except that we have a script in negotiation with Fox," George says. "It's a very dramatic, much bigger film and we hope to be shooting in April."

Stay tuned...

George Tillman '91



Bob Teitel '90, George Tillman '91 and Mekhi Phifer on the set of "Soul Food"

wrote soap opera scripts and sent them to ABC Television. The studio eventually sent a "thanks, but no thanks!" packet back to him which included sample scripts from the shows. He saw this as an opportunity to get a step ahead...

"I took the samples and learned how to format scripts properly."

Properly enough to have a major Hollywood studio and other heavy hitters involved in his most recent film project and another upcoming film.

"Soul Food" stars Vanessa Williams, Vivica Fox, Nia Long, Michael Beach, Mekhi Phifer, Jeffrey D. Sams, Irma P. Hall, Gina Ravera and Brandon Hammond. were hesitant because of our past experience with big studios, but they really understood what we were looking for."

George had to stand up to the studio on several important issues. Fox was a bit hesitant about him directing such a large cast. He had a few anxieties of his own, but

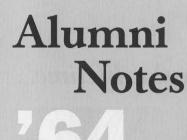
what you make of it."
George has an innate sense for
observing and seizing special
opportunities. He says he chose to



Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds is the executive producer. Tracey E. Edmonds and Columbia alumnus Bob Teitel '90, George's partner since their college days, are the producers.

The film premiered in September, with special screenings in Hollywood and Chicago, and has been receiving critical acclaim across the country.

George wrote the script from his own family experiences. "It pretty much started with me, my six aunties, my mom, my grandma, and food. I used dialogue that



barry jay miller is the president and founder of 4M Development Corporation. Since launching the company in 1987, Barry has built more than 900 homes. His most recent development is an 80-acre subdivision in Naperville. The corporation's new offices are located in Plainfield, Illinois...

'67

gary yellen, a freelance writer and producer for Yellen Communications, was awarded the AAF Silver Medal lifetime achievement award by the Art Club of the Triangle for contributions and service to the advertising industry and the community. He is the writer of record for North Carolina's nationally-recognized seatbelt safety campaign, "Click it or ticket." Gary won several Addy Awards for his radio commercials for Quick Oil Change Centers, the safety seatbelt campaign, and a television commercial for Golden Coral restaurants. His oldest will be attending college this year at Western Carolina University ...





C.P. Bergman

carmen poulos "c.p." bergman, a creative writer, recently published the magazine "Swinging Slow," which features some of her work. The premier issue was released in July...



raymond munro is the associate professor of theater at Clark



Sherry Miller

sherry miller was one of ten semi-finalists in the national Bonderman Youth Playwriting Competition, which is conducted bi-annually in conjunction with Indiana University and Purdue University. Sherry is a part-time flight attendant, author of more than 100 articles for magazines and newspapers, and recipient of local and state awards for playwriting. She received special recognition at an awards banquet and symposium in May. Sherry's original work, "Finn Huck," adds a twist to the banning of Mark Twain's classic "Huckleberry Finn" ...

lee goldberg is a VP/senior producer for Young & Rubicam in Chicago. Lee has been responsible for creating spots for Icehouse Beer ("Thanks...and enjoy" campaign), Molson Ice ("From the land where ice was born"), Montgomery Ward's ("Top line brands at bottom line prices"), H&R Block ("Someone to watch over me"), and currently Rayovac Batteries ... duane muhammad spent sixteen years as a photojournalist and editor for NBC News. He is now technical director for the network's news program in Chicago ... patricia a. young, commissioner for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, recently presented a slide show for the Men's Club of St. Richard's Church, where she explained the workings of the District. Patricia is working on a master's degree in public administration at the Illinois Institute of Technology ...



**laura d'argo** started a new interior decorating business called Love Your Stuff. Her creative business in Brussels in July and August ... bill leff can be heard during the morning drive as one-half of "The Wendy and Bill Show" show on Q101 in Chicago ... marlon west is an animation artist for Disney Studios. Marlon played a key role as part of the crew that created the 35th animated Disney feature "Hercules"... marylene whitehead's most recent musical "This Far by Faith" received 12 nominations from the Black Theater Alliance. The awards ceremony was recently held at the DuSable Museum in Chicago ...

**jim richardson** has been animating the yellow M&M in several of the M&M candies commercials during the past year at Will Viton Studios in Portland, Oregon. He recently finished animation for an upcoming Glade Plug in Refills spot. Jim notes that the yellow M&M is most popular among women aged 18-45...

mark pavia directed the new Stephen King horror film "The Night Flyer." The film, which opened to rave reviews in Italy, is due to be released in the U. S. this fall...



andy richter was cast as the Worm and Delivery Man in the David and Amy Sedaris play "Incident at Cobbler's Knob." The production at the La Guardia Theater was part of the Lincoln Center Festival '97...

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brant curtiss has been named operations manager of Dame Media's newest acquisition, WHRL 103.1 FM in Albany, New York, where he was the production director and morning show host. Dame Media's holdings consist of 21 stations. Brant hopes to play a major role in defining the format on a national level...

yvonne d. agnello recently joined Cliff Freeman and Partners as the on-site account executive for Ameritech Cellular & Paging. The agency is best known for its work for the Little Caesar's pizza chain. elise g. dubois had her poems "Stuff" and "Johann Sebastian Bach" published in volume 9 of The Family Digest... lorene hlava-ferguson is putting her marketing and advertising skills to use as part of the Midwest regional sales promotion office of Nordstrom... anita padilla has returned to Chicago where she is a reporter for WMAQ-Channel 5 News. Anita was formerly a reporter for WNYW-TV in New York ...

Wadsworth News in Warren, Illinois... caroline laut has relocated to the West Coast after performing in a critically-acclaimed production of Stage Left's "Leander Stilwell" in Los Angeles. She also received a Jeff nomination for her '96 performance in Baliwick Repertory's "The Hiroshima Project"...

leslie cummings was recently named managing editor of the Forest Park Review... ed doherty is the manager of the Classic Cinema's Park Forest Theater... zelda robinson can now be heard on Sundays in Chicago from 6-7 p.m. on WYPA 820 AM Personal Achievement Radio. Her talk show "Passion Principles" focuses on the seven steps to living the life you love...

tammie bob reviewed three Indian-American novels in the "Books" section of the Chicago Tribune in May... chris breitling is employed by the University of North Dakota Center for Aerospace Sciences. During the disastrous flooding in Grand Forks, much of the video broadcast took place there. Chris assisted in the emergency broadcast of information as he worked 18 hour days and slept in his cubicle for over two weeks ... bill cellini is currently serving as associate producer for the film "Stricken." The film crew also includes fellow alumni paul chilsen '96, director; maida sussman '93, director of photography; and tok braun '96 on locations. The film has been accepted by the Independent Feature Film Market as a work-inprogress... pam klier became a



Pam Klier

member of Second City's National Touring Company... **fred krol** was recently named the associate director of the Working In The Schools (WITS) program. WITS is a nonprofit tutoring and mentoring program for Chicago public elementary schools...



bigness, formerly of the Wall Street Journal, is now a reporter in the business section of the Chicago Tribune... adrian fulle recently finished post-production on his film "Three Days" and is working on his fourth feature, "Language of Love." Adrian has written four other feature-length screenplays, as well as a TV pilot ... kevin morrow played the character Waldo in "Hoodlum" with Laurence Fishburne, Vanessa Williams, Tim Roth and Andy Garcia, which opened to rave reviews in August. Kevin hopes the opportunity to work with these stellar actors and director Bill Duke will open more doors for him in the industry...





**jay bliznick** is the founder and director of the Chicago Underground Film Festival. The festival showcases low budget films from around the world...

**bob kapustka** has joined Arends Inc. as art director. The Oak Brook, Illinois-based firm is a full service business-to-business integrated communications firm...

**sean krankel** is a general production assistant for Walt Disney Studios...

**brian letraunik** choreographed fight scenes for the Institute for Performing Art at Elgin Community College's production of "Romeo and Juliet"...

seannita parmer is a Chicagobased wardrobe stylist specializing in African American styles. Her recent assignments have taken her to Miami, New York and Los Angeles to work on music videos...

dorothy perry was featured in the "Faces & Places" photography exhibit at Jazz & Java in Chicago, Illinois. The exhibit dealt with light and sculpting of faces and moments in black life...

University in Pennsylvania...

**jay boersma** is the art director for the new media department at Playboy Enterprises, Inc. Jay's work can be seen on the Internet at www. playboy. com...

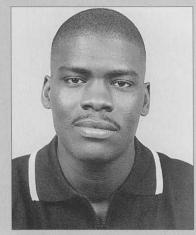
steve kmetko is co-host of "E! News Daily," the cable channel's hour-long live entertainment news show. Steve joined E! in 1994 after covering entertainment for KCBS in Los Angeles, California...



approach is to take items her clients already own and work them into a new decor. Laura is also a free-lance illustrator...

dave tolsky is a first assistant cameraman currently shooting television sitcoms. Dave will soon begin work on a new show called "Alright, Already"... mark protosevich recently finished the sci-fi film "I Am Legend" starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. Mark is also busy writing the next "Batman" film and a Jan de Bont film about aliens in the Old West...

richard lange had his work exhibited at the Abel Joseph Gallery **belinda brewer** recently released her first book of poetry entitled "Voice of a Woman." The poems focus on Belinda's trials and tribulations in life and marriage. She is an educator in Monroe, Louisiana... **elizabeth eaken** is the new "Our Town" columnist for the sandra duncan has joined Michael Jordan's Restaurant as its new catering sales manager. She will focus on special events for the restaurant. Previously she served as the catering sales manager for the Ambassador West Hotel... jon



Kevin Morrow

antonio ruiz, a racehorse jockey, recently rode his first race in the United States at Arlington International Racecourse, finishing fourth. The former Arlington Heights, Illinois, banker decided to go to jockey school in Panama...

**dan tomko** is the founder and artistic director of The Bog Theatre in Des Plaines, Illinois...

connie sowa wachala's story on arts in the schools appeared on the cover of the *Chicago Tribune*'s Education Today section. Her article on the Emerson School for the Performing and Visual Arts was the cover story of Arts Indiana Magazine...

#### In Memoriam

Nancy Knopp



### Letter from the Alumn Presic

#### **Greetings Fellow Alumni!**

Around the world people make new year's resolutions in January. At Columbia, the Fall semester begins the new school year, which is a suitable time for confirming our resolutions with regard to the Alumni Association.

As I mentioned in my last letter, the Alumni Board is working to strengthen the association by initiating an Honorary Board with alumni who have made a substantial name for themselves in their careers. We will work on this both here in Chicago and with the West Coast Chapter of the Alumni Association.

In Chicago, board members will meet with college staff members to discuss new additions to the regular and honorary boards. I plan to visit the members of the West Coast Chapter to discuss ways in which we can build on their attachments to the college also.

I'm pleased to announce that alumni library cards are now available. Please contact Eric Mixon, assistant director of alumni relations at 312/344-7420 for details. We welcome suggestions for the newsletter and other ways to improve the benefits available to you.

For those of you who are not able to participate on the Association Boards, we are still interested in hearing from you, especially to publish your achievements in the most popular column in this newsletter, "Alumni Notes."

In short, we can only improve and strengthen the association if you open a dialogue with us. A lot of you already send us updates on the "What's News With You?" form which appears below; we encourage all of you to do so. It is only one of many ways to keep connected to your alma mater.

Sincerely,

Gloria Lehr ('84, Television) President of Columbia College Alumni Association



#### re: columbia no. 20/fall 1997

#### alumni association board

Gloria Lehr '84, President Bill Cellini '94, Vice President Samira E. Robinson '89, Treasurer Eric Mixon '91, Secretary Allen B. Bates '75 Vandell Cobb '75 Margi Cole '90 Michael Cullen '73 Paul Gray '83 Michael Jackson '83 Bob Kaden '64 Dave Kohl '75 Marty Lennartz '82 Michael P. Mach '83 Amy Mendelson '86 Mary A. Mitchell '91 Batura Otara '93 Tim Pfeiffer '87 Don Schuble '71 Man-Sung Son '68

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contributing editors Paula Brien, Michael E. Jackson '83, Mary Claire Mathews, Eric Mixon '91

contributing photographers Russ Berkman, Bob Kusel '78, and Sheldon McCullough

graphic design Mary Johnson

and Kathrene Wales

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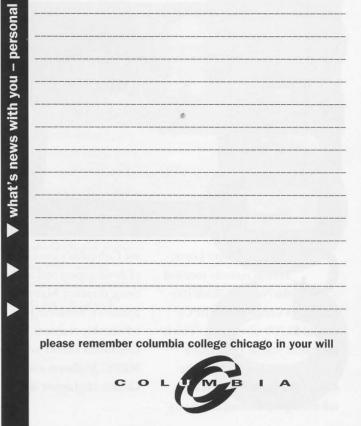
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# COLUMBI

#### **Columbia's Updated Identity**

In keeping with Columbia's increasingly strong reputation as a leading center for education in the arts and communications, the college is adopting a new graphic identity program during the 1997-98 year. Beginning with the college's letterhead and eventually encompassing all college publications, as well as posters and banners, mugs and sweatshirts, the new graphics are designed to project a cohesive and lively image for Columbia.

"President Duff felt the college needed a more unified image, and that the school's name needed to appear more prominently on publications, in ads, and at programs which Columbia sponsors," said Connie Goddard, who served as a project consultant in the college relations and development office. "His directive coincided with an ongoing effort of the Collegewide Advancement Committee to update and unify the college's graphics."

The new identity program includes an updated version of Columbia's nested "C"s logo (which has been adopted into this newsletter's design), a distinctive typeface for the college's name, and new color scheme – a strong blue, soft gray and black. The new program was designed by Mary Johnson of the printing services office. By spring 1998 commencement, when diploma covers will be blue rather than maroon, the new graphics program is expected to be fully implemented.



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**Upcoming Columbia College Benefits** 





Bob Costas

Studs Terkel

olumbia student Loren Wilson recently received the National Black Programmers Coalition's (NBPC) annual \$3,000 scholarship. This is the fourth year in a row that a Columbia student has won the scholarship prize. Pictured at an informal presentation ceremony are Columbia's associate director of development and alumni relations director Mary Claire Mathews; President John B. Duff; scholarship recipient Wilson; and Columbia career advisor and NBPC Midwest coordinator Grethia Hightower '82. Thursday, November 13, 11:30 a.m. 23rd Chicago Communications Luncheon Guest Speaker: Bob Costas, NBC-TV Chicago Marriott Downtown 540 North Michigan Proceeds benefit the Al Weisman Fund for Advancement of Communications Education

Thursday, November 20, 11:30 a.m. 16th Annual Fischetti Editorial Cartoon Awards Luncheon Guest Speaker: Studs Terkel, WFMT-FM Pump Room 1301 North State Parkway Proceeds benefit the John Fischetti Scholarship Fund

For more information call 312/663-1124