Mixing the Disciplines
An anthropology student uses her background in art and science to show what an ancient man might have looked like

Also in this issue ... Inside the Archives
Making a Face

Newest Alumni of Distinction Honorees Inducted

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It is clear to me that SUNY Oneonta transforms lives. What is more notable is that our alumni take the experience they received and pay it forward.

Since I arrived on campus a few months ago, I have had a series of firsts, all of which have been special and memorable. Passing through the Pillars with the new students was, in a word, awesome. I stood next to students who were chatting about how excited and nervous they were. I said, “I am, too.” We all had goose bumps as we entered a new chapter in our lives.

A few weeks later, I met with some of those same students during one of my Pizza with the President events in Littell, Sherman, and Blodgett halls. They were so enthusiastic. Their expectations for what their college experience would be had already been exceeded. They liked their classes and professors; the food was good; and events were fun. They all felt welcomed. And, they were meeting new friends. One student captured the sentiment of the room by stating, “It feels like home.” I have felt the same.

My initial impressions have also been confirmed; SUNY Oneonta is a friendly and welcoming place. There truly is a dedication and community of care.

Another one of my firsts was to be a guest chef in MyKitchen, an innovative space on campus where students can make meals from scratch, participate in cooking lessons, and enjoy cooking artistry from visiting chefs. A tradition in MyKitchen is cookie day, when Donna Bond, one of our chefs, makes homemade cookies for the students. She told me how important it is for her to bring a bit of home to young adults who may be away from home for the first time.

Donna isn’t an exception. Routinely, I hear and see examples of our staff extending kindness and care to our students. It may be helping to organize a food pantry on campus to aid students with food insecurity, raising funds for a Student Emergency Fund, or simply wearing red on Fridays to show school spirit. This dedication makes SUNY Oneonta so special and endearing for our students.

I’ve enjoyed meeting alumni during my series of firsts as well. The Athletics Hall of Fame induction and the Alumni of Distinction Presentation of Honors gave me an opportunity to talk with alumni. Similar themes resonated in every conversation. Not only did they speak about how their excellent education prepared them for their future; they talked about the connections they’d made. Some met their spouses, and all met lifelong friends. One woman who graduated in the ’50s told me that every year she and her sorority sisters meet for a weekend. As a newcomer, it has been tremendous to share in that pride and joy for SUNY Oneonta.

Red Day and Family Weekend were two more standout firsts. Celebrating the College’s 129th birthday on Sept. 7 was fun. Students lined up for cupcakes, caricatures, and photos with Red, our dragon mascot. Later in September, we hosted Family Weekend. There was a sea of red in Oneonta that weekend with a record number of attendees. Students and families were decked out in matching SUNY Oneonta attire showing their strong sense of pride. One notable event during Family Weekend was the legacy family breakfast hosted by the Alumni Association. Generations of families gathered and were happy to have this connected experience.

It is clear to me that SUNY Oneonta transforms lives. What is more notable is that our alumni take the experience they received and pay it forward. There is a strong ethic of stewardship that binds us Red Dragons. The accomplishments, affiliations, and careers of our alumni honor the College’s legacy of excellence. I am grateful to have come to an institution that is so vibrant. There is a genuine value and commitment to the well-being of the College and our students. I am proud to call myself a Red Dragon.

Barbara Jean Morris, Ph.D.
President
SUNY Oneonta
For the first six months of my term as the Alumni Association president, I’ve been honored to represent more than 65,000 SUNY Oneonta alumni across the country and around the world. Not only that, it has been exciting to forge a relationship between our organization and the College’s new president.

I couldn’t do this without the good work of new and established board members — and we can’t continue our growth without the participation of all alumni who want to stay connected to our campus community. But how?

**Top 10 Ways to Keep Your Red Dragon Pride Alive**

1. Keep your contact information up to date with the Office of Alumni Engagement so you can be informed of upcoming events and exciting news. The easiest way to do this is to log in and update your information at oneontaalumni.com. You can also email alumni@oneonta.edu.

2. Donate to the Fund for Oneonta. This fund supports everything from student scholarships and events for recent alumni to campus traditions like Pass through the Pillars and campus-to-career programs like Backpacks to Briefcases. Without the Fund for Oneonta, *Reflections* magazine wouldn’t show up in your mailbox three times per year.

3. Return to campus to share your experience and advice with current students; participate in a networking event; sign up to host students in your workplace so they can experience “a day in the life.”

4. Become a Loyal Red Dragon member. It takes three simple steps:
   a.) Register in the online community.
   b.) Attend an event.
   c.) Volunteer or give to the Fund for Oneonta.

   For more details, check out oneontaalumni.com/LRDOneonta.

5. Volunteer at an event like Reunion Weekend or request a Red’s Party Pack for your next alumni gathering.

6. Become a board member: oneontaalumni.com/AABOD.

7. Join SUNY Oneonta’s social media networks on:
   - Facebook (Official SUNY College at Oneonta Alumni)
   - Twitter (@OneontaAlumni)
   - Instagram (sunyoneontaalumni)
   - LinkedIn (linkedin.com/groups/103772/)

8. Attend events that are local to where you live. In spring 2019, we’ll have gatherings in Boca Raton, Florida; New York City; Washington, D.C.; Albany, New York; Long Island, New York; and, of course, Oneonta, New York.

9. Make plans for the biggest party of the year: Reunion Weekend! Come back to Oneonta June 7-9.

   For more information, check out oneontaalumni.com as well as the booklet in the middle of this issue of *Reflections*.

10. Wear SUNY Oneonta swag. I frequently wear SUNY Oneonta baseball caps, and no matter where I am, I run into and strike up conversations with alumni, students, and their parents — at the golf course, in stores, even at the gas pumps while on vacation in the Outer Banks, North Carolina.

   These 10 tips merely scratch the surface of how all alumni can connect with the College. I look forward to learning how you are showing off your Red Dragon spirit!

   — Daren Rylewicz ’93

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Kicking Off the Academic Year

The new school year kicked off with the traditional Pass through the Pillars and Red Day, the College’s birthday celebration. On move-in day some first-year students had a surprise waiting in their home away from home: a letter from a past resident.

We put out the call for letters from alumni to new students at the start of August. More than 70 letters hit our mailbox. The oldest was from an alumna who lived in Littell in 1965. Many letters contained advice on what to do during the four years on campus, like, “Visit College Camp” and, “Go to class.” The local news ran a story on this new program.

Alumni Return to Campus to Share Insight with Students

Alumni of Distinction honoree James Ajello ’75 visited campus to meet with and provide mentoring for 17 interns who received awards from the James ’75 and Mary Susan Ajello Internship Fund. This fund provides internship support for political science or economics and business majors. He also met with students from the School of Economics and Business Student Advisory Board; presented a lecture to management students about internal and external factors affecting corporations and SWOT analysis; and talked to a political science class about lobbying. Ajello also reconnected over dinner with good friend John Nesbitt ’74 and foundation board member Harry Bradshaw Matthews ’74.

Toni Ann Marinucci ’12 and Melanie Boehmer ’12 returned to campus as part of our Recent Alumni Dialogue (RAD) series. The duo presented to a dietetics grad session organized by faculty member Oscar Oberkirker and Jennifer Bueche ’83 about the importance of networking. Marinucci and Boehmer had praise for the SUNY Oneonta dietetics program and how their passion for the field kept them going through earning master’s degrees and becoming registered dieticians. Both women started their own businesses advising clients about nutrition. Marinucci can be reached through tipswithtoni.com; Boehmer is the CEO at Nutrition by Mel.

“Jian Cui: The Floating World” opened in the Martin-Mullen Art Gallery on Sept. 4. The show featured both 2D and 3D works.
Alumni of Distinction honoree Tom Kane ’83, the executive vice president and chief human resource officer of Constellation Brands, returned to campus to meet with Chris Kwashie ’19, the Kay ’80 and Tom ’83 Kane Family Scholarship recipient, and to speak with business and economics students about his perspectives on pursuing a career. Kane’s advice included encouraging the audience to take risks, build a network, and to be career-oriented rather than career-anxious. “The single best investment you can make is an investment in yourself,” he said.

On Sept. 10 in the Hunt Union Ballroom, Isis King, a contestant on America’s Next Top Model, spoke about how her life changed after becoming the first woman of transgender experience to compete on the show.

Alumni of Distinction honoree Howard Schwartz ’78, a retired mechanical engineer with the Overhead Door Corp., spoke with students in Hugh Gallagher’s engineering classes about careers in engineering.

Alumni of Distinction honoree Lori Currier-Woods ’79 had a great conversation with a small group of prospective lawyers about her work as a family court judge in New York’s 9th Judicial District. She also is an acting State Supreme Court justice.

Ran’D Shine: The New Face of Magic performed in the Hunt Union Waterfront Room on Sept. 17. This Philadelphia native has performed for audiences across the globe and for former President Barack Obama.
Alumni of Distinction honoree **Susan Weiner ’81**, a nutritionist and certified diabetes educator, spoke with students in Alexandra Nicolette’s nutrition education and counseling class about owning her own nutrition business.

Alumni of Distinction honoree **Craig Lesser ’72** met with **Sergelyn Gouboth ’18**, the recipient of the 2018-19 Eugene Lesser Scholarship for Communication Arts majors, and spoke with students from Jacqueline Bruscella’s organizational communication courses during his recent visit to campus. Lesser is the former commissioner of the Georgia Department of Economic Development and now works in the private sector providing advice and strategy in economic development and government affairs.

Several recent alumni returned to campus to recruit business and economics students for their firms. **Vanessa Hernandez ’16** and **Anna Lammers ’17** spoke to students about Anchin, Block and Anchin in Manhattan, New York; **Kaitlyn Hensler ’13**, **Anthony Cerchia ’16**, and **Brianna Muenkel ’17** returned to recruit for Dannible and McKee in Syracuse, New York; and **Beth Benedict ’17** and **Parker Ruetz ’16** spoke on behalf of the Bonadio Group in Albany, New York.

**Bryan Stevenson** spoke about his book *Just Mercy* on Sept. 24 in the Alumni Field House. This title was the campus’ Common Read, and Stevenson’s lecture was part of the Mills Distinguished Lecture series.

**Alash-Tuvan Music Ensemble**, masters of Tuvan throat singing, performed in Fine Arts M201 on Sept. 12. The musicians infused their traditional songs with Western elements.
Paul Lanspery ’69 met with Gina Keel in the political science department and with the student interns in local government that he and his wife, Karen, have supported through their fund to inspire future municipal managers: Shane Digan ’19, Dan Murphy ’19, and Jaclyn Courter ’17. Courter is applying to a public administration graduate program and works as a regional development analyst at Southern Tier 8.

Alumni of Distinction honoree Lisa Ferrero ’85, senior vice president and chief administration officer at Corning Inc., toured the campus and the A.J. Read Science Discovery Center. During her visit, she had informal time with students talking about the importance of international experience and gave a presentation to economics and business students about her journey into the Fortune 500.

Alumni of Distinction honoree Larry Klebanoff ’89, the founder and senior advisor for League Collegiate Wear, toured the new Red Dragon Outfitters, where apparel from League Collegiate Wear is on display, and networked with O-FAN students and with Linda Drake ’91 ’94G from the Center for Social Responsibility.

Terri Berzin ’79 met with a small group of dietetics students to discuss her work at ArchCare at Carmel Richmond, a health care and rehabilitation center in Staten Island, New York. She will be hosting interns.

Eric Lense ’07 spoke about the music industry to students in Nancy Tarr and Jeremy Wall’s classes. He is the senior director of business affairs at SESAC, a music licensing firm.

Aubrey Ellis ’12 and Kyle Beckley ’08 participated in the “Sharing the Stage – Spotlights on Theatre Alumni” series. The pair discussed how they transformed their SUNY Oneonta degrees into theatre careers.

Eric Lense ’07

Sarah Hennies, composer/percussionist, covered transgender issues, “queer percussion,” and percussion instruments as complex beings in her presentation “The Singing Woodblock” on Sept. 19 in Fine Arts M201.

Comedian Mia Jackson took the stage in the Hunt Union Waterfront Room on Oct. 1.
The Mask and Hammer Theatre Club produced Lorraine Hansberry’s A Raisin in the Sun in the Hamblin Theatre on Oct. 11-14.

In addition, 10 students received the annual Earth and Atmospheric Sciences book awards: Dylan Morlang ’19, Carla Medina ’22, Allison Hannigan ’19, Dan Murphy ’18, Aryn Vanalstyne ’22, Adam Hausle ’22, Eric Dammeyer ’22, Collin Izerd ’22, Brian Wittemann ’22, and Melissa Amigon ’19.

The department also recognized students who received scholarships. Thomas Marrone ’17 is the recipient of the QTZ Scholarship, and Madeline Every ’18 received the Peter W. Knightes ’67 Scholarship. Eleanor Rettew ’17 and Julieanne Sullivan ’19 are the recipients of the Excellence in Water Resources, Geology, and Earth Science Scholarships. DelaneyAnn Martin ’18 is the recipient of the Chance Imperato Scholarship. Francisco Rivas ’18 is the recipient of the Robert W. Caputo ’84 Scholarship, and the P. Jay Fleisher Scholarship was given to Dan Murphy ’18.

Students Meet Alumni in NYC and Talk Business

Ninety-three SUNY Oneonta students traveled to the Big Apple on Oct. 25 for the College’s annual Backpacks to Briefcases alumni networking trip.

Students visited 21 alumni at their Manhattan offices and heard about their experiences going from students to executives. The event is designed to inspire students to jump-start their careers by beginning to build their professional networks.

“Backpacks to Briefcases was a great opportunity for me to meet alumni who had genuine advice and tips for internships and job interviews,” says Odalis Galeano Umana ’19. “I got a feel for how different companies operate in New York City, yet all succeed in unique ways. I appreciate all the alumni I met for inviting us to their offices and wanting to see students succeed.”

This is the second year Virginia Pagan ’18 took advantage of the program.

“When I went last year, I met with Alumni of Distinction honoree Seth Crystall ’80,” she says. “We still keep in touch, and he helps me with my resume. He works in finance, and I am interested in marketing, but he has given me multiple marketing firms who were looking for interns. Overall, it was a great experience, and I am glad SUNY Oneonta does this program.”

Earth and Atmosphere Science Majors Honored

The Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences’ 42nd annual Majors Night, which was funded in part by the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association through charitable gifts to the Fund for Oneonta, was held at the student commons in the Perna Science Building on Oct. 4. Approximately 60 undergraduate students, alumni, faculty, faculty emeriti, dignitaries, and staff attended. Students were able to speak informally with alumni to learn about life after SUNY Oneonta, as well as focus on advising and career development.

It was standing room only when Alice Maggiore ’10 spoke to two upper-level communications classes about her experiences after graduation. She discussed having an open mind during a job search. Originally, she planned to work in news reporting and producing but now works for the Downtown Committee of Syracuse.

Rock Power Guitar owner Michael Deiure ’02 returned to campus to speak with students in Rohan Bhatia-Newman’s audio arts production class, Nancy Tarr’s music industry communications class, and Jeremy Wall’s class on contemporary issues in music.

The Outdoor Adventure Club hiked to the Biscuit Brook lean-to for a fall inspection on Oct. 20. They cleared out the fire pit, picked up litter, and did other small jobs to get the site ready for winter.
Ashlyn Davan ’19 agrees that the program is a necessary one.

“I thought that Backpacks to Briefcases was beneficial to me even though I am dual majoring in fashion and textiles as well as media studies,” she says. “I was able to still successfully network with alumni and relate to them despite the major study difference. I look forward to communicating with these specific alumni in the future and keeping them updated with my progress to help advance my career after graduation.”

Backpacks to Briefcases is funded by the Oneonta Student Association and the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association through charitable gifts to the Fund for Oneonta. We thank the following alumni for volunteering their time.

- Angelica Aldana ’14
- Thomas D. Boran ’85 ’93G
- Peter M. Butchen ’84
- Michael A. Coleman ’15
- Sean T. Daly ’11
- John J. Doherty ’87
- Remi G. Farnan ’15
- William R. Fried ’84
- David Z. Gaber ’09
- Thomas Glennon ’09
- Robert S. Gilman ’89
- Robert T. Kahn ’93
- Lawrence R. Kirshner ’89
- Annette L. Krassner ’84
- John D. Lambrech ’93
- Scott Leyton ’78
- Steven I. Miller ’91
- Larry C. Pestana ’11
- Nancy E. Pierce ’77
- Richard S. Saperstein ’81
- Dan C. Scott ’14

SUNY Oneonta’s Commitment to Sustainability Wins an Award

SUNY Oneonta has received the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Excellence and Innovation Award for sustainability and sustainable development.

The AASCU noted the College’s comprehensive approach to sustainability; that is, sustainability is a large part of SUNY Oneonta’s strategic agenda, integrating sustainability within and across the curriculum. The award also recognized...
the encouragement of faculty and student participation in sustainability research through the annual Life of the Mind and Student Research and Creative Activity Day, noting that the program fosters environmental sustainability that is useful to graduates regardless of their career path.

Fed Cup Team Rises to the Challenge

SUNY Oneonta’s 2018 College Fed Challenge team, a group of the College’s most accomplished economics and business students, earned an honorable mention after advancing to the semifinals in the Liberty Street Division of the College Fed Challenge competition on Nov. 14.

Eight teams out of 39 advanced to the semifinals; SUNY Oneonta is tied with Pace University for advancing to the semifinals the most times (six out of 14 years of the competition).

Ribbon Cutting Celebrates Milne Renovations

On Tuesday, Sept. 18, President Barbara Jean Morris cut the ribbon to recognize the completion of the Milne Library renovation.

Milne’s redesign brought together tutoring and writing services and accessibility resources in the new student learning center in a popular centrally located library space on the first floor. Modern collaborative space has been added, including group study rooms, study booths, and informal seating arrangements. The primary library classroom has been enlarged and upgraded to meet the demand for a larger instructional space. More efficient lighting and electrical outlets are now found throughout the building.

“After months of planning, shifting, drilling, nailing, plumbing, wiring, painting, moving and rearranging, the James M. Milne Library is ready for its grand re-opening,” said Scott Barton, facilities program coordinator. “With the completion of the second and third floors, the $8 million project has officially concluded. Students, faculty, staff, and community members can now fully enjoy the increased amenities and services. It is rewarding to take the elevator all the way to the top floor again!”

College Named a Best Value in Time/Money Listing

SUNY Oneonta was recognized again on the 2018 Time/Money listing of Best Colleges for Your Money.

“SUNY Oneonta consistently receives praise for providing a quality education at an affordable price,” the report said. The rankings focused on the three factors—quality of education, affordability, and outcomes—that surveys show are the most important to parents and students.

Biology Students Travel to Maine

Sixteen SUNY Oneonta students across a diversity of majors traveled to the coast of Maine in October to get hands-on experience studying invertebrate animals and marine biology. They visited the Darling Marine Center, a field station of the University of Maine, where they spent three intensive days in a variety of marine habitats.

During the trip, which happened over the College’s fall break, the students were immersed in the marine environment with the goal of observing as many marine animals as possible. Activities included a ride on a research vessel, upon which students collected open-water samples; a visit to a tidal mud flat; and a visit to an intertidal zone. Students learned about the importance of fisheries in Maine and were also introduced to the delights of cooking and eating seafood.

Faculty and Staff Receive Promotions

Advancing to the rank of associate professor:

- Keith Jones, Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics
- Vicky Lentz, Biology
- Bethany Marx, Theatre
- Maurice Odago, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Dorothy Rombo, Human Ecology
- Philip Sirianni, Economics, Finance, and Business
- James Zians, Psychology

Advancing to rank of associate librarian:

- Lyndsie Robinson

Advancing to the rank of professor:

- Jacqueline Bennett, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Charlene Christie, Psychology and Women’s and Gender Studies
- Amie Doughty, English
- Michael Faux, Physics
- Sallie Han, Anthropology
- Penina Kamina, Elementary Education and Reading
- John McCaslin-Doyle, Theatre
- Florian Reyda, Biology

Advancing to rank of associate librarian:

- Lyndsie Robinson
On Oct. 19, the SUNY Oneonta community celebrated the renaming of the Science 1 Building to the Janet R. Perna Science Building, recognizing the philanthropy of Alumni of Distinction honoree Janet Perna '70. The building is home to the biology and earth and atmospheric science departments as well as classrooms, labs, and the planetarium.

During the past decade, Perna had donated more than $500,000 to the College, most of which went to supporting women in STEM disciplines. In the spring of 2018, after having already donated more than $50,000 in the past decade to support women in STEM, Perna made a pledge of $5 million, half of which will be allocated to the unrestricted endowment, which funds many campus programs including student-faculty research and creative activities, internship support, faculty development, and board-designated scholarships. The other half will be added to the Janet Perna '70 Women in Technology Scholarship.

Perna graduated from SUNY Oneonta with a bachelor’s degree in math, a subject she taught in Middletown, New York, until 1974. She left teaching to work for IBM in San Jose, California, and was responsible for the company’s billion-dollar informational management division. In 2001, she was inducted into the Women in Technology Hall of Fame. Currently, she serves on the Solace Systems board of directors and is a technology advisor to BridgeGrowth Partners, Georgian Partners, and Centana Management.

“Perna’s gift is a powerful testament to her belief in SUNY Oneonta Foundation’s sound fiscal policies and her trust that we will be thoughtful and prudent while advancing the mission of our great college,” SUNY Oneonta President Barbara Jean Morris said.

Tracy Allen, interim dean of the School of Sciences, agrees that this gift will have a lasting impact on SUNY Oneonta students.

“Janet R. Perna is leaving an indelible mark on this building, but, more importantly, on the bright futures of students who will discover and explore the wonders of science within these walls,” Allen said.

“My belief in the importance of education was instilled in me by my parents, who did not have the benefit of a college education,” Perna said. “They expected that I would go to college and saved and sacrificed for me to attend. That was the greatest gift they could have given me, for it transformed my life and has made it possible for me to help others transform theirs.”

One of Perna’s first scholarship recipients, Michele Daly ’10, spoke about how receiving that support transformed her life. She has earned her doctorate and now works at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention doing HIV research.

Alumni like Daly are one of the main reasons for Perna’s philanthropy. Ultimately, it isn’t about the building that now
bears her name. Instead, she views her gift as an investment in the students who will study inside it. During the dedication, Perna spoke about why she chose to invest in SUNY Oneonta’s future and expressed her hopes that others will do the same.

“Today is not about the building, but what is made possible through this gift,” she said.

“It is our commitment to our shared goals — that we are helping to create the future for our College and the thousands of men and women who will pass through the pillars in years to come.”

Perna’s dedication to giving back to SUNY Oneonta reflects the culture of the institution as a whole, according to Paul Adamo ’81, Vice President for College Advancement.

“Philanthropy at SUNY Oneonta is manifested daily, ranging from endowed lectureships to campus beautification to alumni volunteerism, and Janet’s gift sends a powerful message to everyone,” Adamo said. “She invests in our College, believes in our vision of what we can become, and personifies what makes SUNY Oneonta special by weaving charitable giving into our institutional culture. … She is changing the lives of many of our students whose goal is a high-quality college education without large amounts of college loans.”

SUNY ONEONTA 30 UNDER 30

To celebrate the 130th birthday of SUNY Oneonta, the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association will recognize 30 notable alumni under the age of 30.

Nominees must be 29 or younger as of March 15, 2019, and show exceptional achievement and significant contributions to their profession, their community, or the College.

Visit oneontaalumni.com/30under30 to view the eligibility requirements and find out how to nominate yourself or someone else for this honor.
Five students — Edward Bossong ’19, Jolie Gagnon ’19, Miguel Isbirian ’21, Ajaré Malcolm, ’21, and Danielle Swierczyna ’20 — had the chance to travel across the Atlantic and back in time during the fall 2018 semester with Tim Newton, associate professor in the music department. This small group sang in Durham Castle’s Great Hall under the direction of Paul Spicer, a well-known choral director and a leading expert in English choral music.

Any student who wanted to be in contention for a spot had to have sung for Newton before, survived an audition process that included sight singing, and learned the choral pieces over the summer. The Red Dragons joined 25 locals in the northeastern English city to perform songs from the 1500s up to the 2010s.

“It was a really great mix of music,” Newton says. “They were singing some tough stuff.”

Newton and Spicer have been in communication for about 15 years, Newton says. He went to one of Spicer’s courses in Winchester and decided students needed to experience singing in a historic space, where a “new” door is one from the 1300s. During that experience, the rehearsal room had floor-to-ceiling 17th-century tapestries.

“I’ll always remember the moment when we first arrived in Durham,” Ajaré Malcom says. “The cathedral was illuminated, and the first sight was absolutely breathtaking, as though it had been touched by the heavens.”

Newton says he loved traveling with students. “I love their energy and desire to see things. We saw as much as we could, like Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Big Ben. We walked to Oxford Street for souvenirs,” Newton says.

“This trip has been unforgettable,” says Danielle Swierczyna. “One of my fondest memories that will continue to stick with me is when we entered the Durham Cathedral and immediately heard angelic voices singing in front of us. It was as if we were entering an ethereal world, and it was so pure and quite delicate, yet resounding and radiant with beauty and joy. I heard it, and I was so moved, as well as motivated to strive to sing like that and hopefully be a part of a group that can sound that magnificent.”

One of the driving principles behind the trip was to raise funds so that the students didn’t suffer financially because they accepted the opportunity for international travel. Newton received grants from the Faculty Center, the Dean for Humanities, and the Fund for Oneonta. The Caroline ’67 and David D’Antonio Student Travel for Excellence Fund was instrumental in buying plane tickets.

“I think travel is the most important thing students can do,” Newton says. “They were thrust into a group of English people who sang their own music. It’s so intimate to be sitting next to somebody and be shaping your vowels the way they were. They weren’t tourists.”

Newton says he hopes to make the trip with a new group of students every two years.
“This is our history,” reference and special collections librarian Heather Beach says.

We’re sitting in the Alden Room in the Milne Library. While the rest of the building has undergone significant renovations, the Alden Room looks more or less as it always has. Heavy wooden furniture, including a table from the original library in Old Main. Dark green carpet. Shelves of books. Gentle pools of light.

The Alden Room feels like it hasn’t been changed since Milne Library was built in the early 1970s. It’s fitting, then, that this is where the College’s archives live. The room itself was named after Jessica Alden, Class of 1906, SUNY Oneonta’s first librarian. She maintained the Oneonta Normal School’s book collection from 1912 to 1944.

All sorts of treasures are in the collection. Some materials, like the early textbook collection and the O’Mara Native American collection, are related to the College because the people who assembled them from all over the globe lived and worked in Oneonta. The rest of the treasures are more SUNY Oneonta-specific. There are photographs, issues of The State Times and other student newspapers, scrapbooks, yearbooks, and a range of 3D items like freshman beanies and sorority pins.

The collections started during the 1960s when the library was still in Alumni Hall. It was described to Beach as “some dark little corner office with very little space.” Librarian Martha Chambers grew the collection and moved with it to the Milne Library, where it was housed in four different rooms. Chambers, Beach says, was revered and made a lot of good connections with alumni and campus offices.

Some momentum for the collection was lost after Chambers retired. The archives became one part of one person’s job, and a special collections committee was formed.

In addition to what is indexed in the online catalog, the collections contain 400 boxes that are “un-accessioned,” which means their contents haven’t yet been entered into the searchable database. The collection is continuously receiving material — and welcomes it — but it receives it in such volume that not everything can be cataloged quickly.

“We do have some idea what’s in there,” Beach says. “Two interns recently went through the boxes and made an Excel spreadsheet of what each box has in it.”

The collection is important to students, alumni, and community
members. Not only is it interesting to see what a yearbook from 1900 looks like, these items show us volumes about how people lived and learned here.

“A lot of people rely on the materials to do research, from Mark Simonson writing articles for The Daily Star to students who are doing class projects on parts of the campus, like the Hunt Union Pond or Old Main,” Beach says. “We do have a collection of student notebooks from the early 1900s from music, math, art. Those are pretty cool.

In the College’s earlier days, men could sign a woman’s dance card, which would be a keepsake of the event.

“The Introduction to the History of Mathematics class has been coming to the Alden Room every semester for the past couple of years to do research on topics like how many times math is mentioned in the student newspaper or how the math curriculum changed over the years.

“For most of the classes, part of my introduction is about what’s here in the room and a little bit about the history. I talk about the pillars, how they were from the second Old Main, and how thousands of students walked through them when they were on that now demolished building. I show them the library table that was in that building. And they’re like, ‘Wow,’” Beach says.

In many ways, the documents and objects housed in the Alden Room create continuity for Red Dragons near and far.

“When people actually see the history, there’s a connection,” she says. “They realize, ‘I’m actually part of this history, too. I’m handling this book somebody used 100 years ago. I’m sitting at a table a student in the 1950s used.’ Having these materials makes the connection to the campus and to the College more meaningful.”

Beach is actively on the lookout for materials to add to this treasure trove of SUNY Oneonta artifacts. While the collection has plenty of official documents like yearbooks and newspapers, what’s missing are more personal stories, like student notebooks or scrapbooks. “Donated diaries,” adds Beach, “would be awesome.”

To contact Heather Beach, write to her at heather.beach@oneonta.edu.

Heather Beach’s favorite item in the collection is a scrapbook from Doris Clark Jeannin, Class of 1928. “She had such a sense of humor and all sorts of neat things from her life here, including a heart from Valentine’s Day, but there’s somebody’s shoe print on it. She wrote: ‘She wrote, ‘Who tread on my heart.’”
There was a bowling alley in the basement of Old Main. Tom Rathbone, retired associate vice president for facilities, "collected a lot of stuff through the years," Beach says. He donated this bowling pin, which he saved from Old Main.

Red the Dragon has evolved during the last century and a quarter. This embroidered Red with adhesive on the back could be applied to various garments and reused until the adhesive no longer held.

What looks like colored marker is actually embroidery. These were the members of the Philalethean and Agonian organizations in 1897.

Ruth Hendee remembers this wooden pig paperweight on the desk of Percy L. Bugbee, president from 1898 to 1933, when she interviewed for a job at the College in 1925.

A class ring that once belonged to B. Edward Tennyson '35.

This board lists the Roll of Honor from 1938.
### Mark Your Calendar

#### February

- **5** Southwest Florida Meet and Mingle, Estero, Florida
- **7** Southeast Florida Meet and Mingle, Boca Raton, Florida

#### March

- **7** March Campus to Capital, Washington, D.C.
- **14** Capital Region Meet and Mingle, Albany, New York
- **21** 2019 Day of Giving, Oneonta, New York
- **22** Club Hockey Reunion, Oneonta, New York
- **27** Alumni Social, Philadelphia

#### April

- **5-7** WONY Reunion, Oneonta, New York
- **11** NYC Meet and Mingle, New York City
- **12** Mixing Board to Management, New York City
- **12** April Campus to Capital, Washington, D.C.
- **18** Student Research and Creative Activity Day, Oneonta, New York

#### May

- **2** Boston Area Meet and Mingle, Boston
- **10** Senior Pass Through the Pillars, Oneonta, New York
- **17** Long Island Meet and Mingle, Melville, New York

#### June

- **7-9** Reunion Weekend, Oneonta, New York

Events are always being added to the calendar. Please check online for updates: oneontaalumni.com

### Create Your Online Profile at oneontaalumni.com

In an effort to streamline our registration process, we will soon require alumni to have a profile in our online community to register for events. You must join by Jan. 31, 2019. After this date, you will be required to call the Office of Alumni Engagement to register for events if you don’t have a profile.

Having a profile at oneontaalumni.com not only allows you to register for events more efficiently, but it provides additional benefits. To learn more, go to oneontaalumni.com/profile. Sign up now! Go to oneontaalumni.com/login to get started!
The National Fastpitch Coaches Association honors four Red Dragons

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) honors individuals and teams across all NCAA divisions along with high schools, two-year colleges and NAIA member institutions. Individually, 6,280 softball players earned Easton/NFCA Scholar-Athlete honors.

Four players from SUNY Oneonta were recognized for their performance in the classroom. They included Dana Del Genio ’20, Brooke Corbett ’21, Kristen Collins ’22, and Caroline Koch ’22. Del Genio is earning honors for a third time, while Corbett, Collins, and Koch are first-time honorees.

A criminal justice major, Del Genio was a First Team All-SUNYAC selection in 2018. Corbett, a double major in psychology and pre-occupational therapy, was the starting second baseman in 2018. Koch was the SUNYAC Rookie of the Year while also earning second-team All-Conference honors. Collins was the starting left fielder for the Red Dragons in 2018.

The Red Dragons completed a 21-15 season in 2018 while qualifying for the SUNYAC tournament.

ATHLETICS INFO

For the latest news and information regarding Oneonta State Athletics, visit www.oneontaathletics.com

Watch games live livestream.com/accounts/14594035

Subscribe to the Athletics YouTube channel www.youtube.com/oneontareddragons

Like Athletics on Facebook Facebook/OneontaRedDragonSports

Follow Athletics on Twitter @RedDragonSports

Follow Athletics on Instagram RedDragonSports

To access the master calendar of home and away athletic contests, click on the composite calendar link on the Athletics homepage. After subscribing, the calendar can appear on mobile devices and Outlook calendars.

ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Do you know someone who may be worthy of induction into the Athletics Hall of Fame? Please nominate this individual at: http://www.oneontaathletics.com/sb_output.aspx?form=4

The Hall of Fame inducts individuals and teams in the following categories:

1. Student-athletes
2. Department staff
3. Honorary
4. Teams of distinction
5. Veterans

Nominations are accepted throughout the year. Once nominated, an individual or team does not need to be re-nominated.

The next induction is Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019.
A CLASS OF SEVEN
SUNY Oneonta Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Athletics Hall of Fame

On Sept. 16, the Athletics Department welcomed seven new members into its Hall of Fame. The induction capped a two-day celebration of the 20th anniversary of the hall itself. The events of the two days included a luncheon on Saturday where nearly three dozen Hall of Famers gathered to see friends and reminisce.

This year’s class included Steve Wolcott ’76 (basketball), Sanada Mujanovic Bailey ’05 (soccer), Becky Ryan Kern ’87 (field hockey, lacrosse), Ralph Perez ’73 (soccer), Ed Ryder ’87 (lacrosse), Dustin Winn ’07 (wrestling), and Steven Perry. Perry and Perez were this year’s honorary inductees.

Steve Wolcott ’76
Steve Wolcott spent more than 30 years as a hydrologist for the U.S. Geological Survey and published more than 20 scientific articles relating to meteorology and hydrology.

Sanada Mujanovic Bailey ’05
Sandra Mujanovic Bailey has been an elementary school teacher with the Brunswick Central School District since 2006. In 2016, Bailey became a mentor teacher and head girls varsity soccer coach last fall.

Becky Ryan Kern ’87
Becky Ryan Kern earned a master’s in mass communications from Boston University in 1989. She has spent her entire professional career as a corporate communications consultant and media trainer specializing in health care communications.

Steven Perry
Steven Perry began his association with SUNY Oneonta in 1984 when he joined the College as the director of career development, admissions and academic advisement. Thirty-one years later, he retired as the vice president for student development.

Ed Ryder ’87
Ed Ryder earned a master’s in sport management (1991) and a master’s in special education (2000) before receiving a graduate certificate in educational administration in 2007. He is a high school social studies teacher and coach.

Dustin Winn ’07
Dustin Winn received a master’s in engineering and was a project engineer for AECOM from 2007 to 2011 before spending two years with Abscope Environmental as a project manager. He is now project manager with Winn Construction Services Inc.

Ralph Perez ’73
Ralph Perez was a staff coach for the U.S. Soccer Team, helping it qualify for the World Cup for the first time in 40 years in 1990. From 1996 to 2003, he was an assistant coach for the Los Angeles Galaxy and the New York-New Jersey Metrostars of Major League Soccer, prior to serving as the director of coaching and youth development from 2003 to 2005.
Juliet Morin '18 and the silicone cast of her Kennewick Man reconstruction.
When she was in the fourth grade in Sherburne, New York, Juliet Morin ’18 wanted to be an Egyptologist. Years later, Morin took Cynthia Klink’s archaeology class at SUNY Oneonta, and that childhood fascination with the ancient world was rekindled.

“Dr. Klink showed us a facial reconstruction of the Kennewick Man and told us it probably wasn’t very accurate anymore,” Morin says. “I started thinking someone should make a different one, one that is more realistic than the original. I thought, ‘Someone should do this better.’ Then I realized, ‘Maybe I could do better.’”

While Kennewick Man is well-known in archaeology circles, he is less familiar to everyone else. The name has been applied to a skeleton found in 1996 by two festival attendees on the banks of the Columbia River in the state of Washington. They thought they’d found the remains of a man who had recently died; instead, researchers discovered these bones belonged to a man who’d lived about 9,000 years ago. It’s one of the oldest skeletons ever found in the Americas.

That part of Kennewick Man’s origin story is uncontroversial. From there, his tale takes a turn. Local tribes wanted to lay him to rest. Scientists wanted to study him. One of the points of contention was an early reconstruction of what he might have looked like thousands of years ago.

The facial bone structure of ancient Native Americans more closely resembles that of modern Europeans than it does modern Native Americans, which means that the first reconstruction of Kennewick Man’s face makes him look like the actor Patrick Stewart. Part of the reason behind that similarity is that the final product is bald — but there is an undeniable resemblance, which some groups latched onto as proof that Europeans came to this side of globe much sooner than most scientists think they did.

His origin matters for a couple of reasons — and they influence why Morin wanted to do her own reconstruction of this skull. First, “whether or not he’s Native American impacts repatriation,” Morin explains.
Kennewick Man’s eyes are sculpted separately.

Repatriation is a complicated issue, and this reconstruction can help inform those decisions. Importantly, genetic tests have improved since 1996. In 2015, a test determined that Kennewick Man is most closely related to modern Native Americans. As a result, his remains have been returned to a coalition of Columbia Basin tribes. Still, the controversy remains — and could be lessened by a modern reconstruction that takes his DNA into consideration.

“The fact that his initial reconstruction looks kind of like Patrick Stewart makes it kind of hard to get rid of misinformation,” Morin says. “Depicting him so that he looks similar to modern Native Americans can help affect people’s perception. Just being able to see it makes a big difference in terms of whether people accept it or not.”

Morin set to work. She watched online videos about making film and theater props and applying realistic makeup and dug into books and scientific articles about how to build a face on a skull. She also applied for and received an award from the Student Grant Program for Research and Creative Activity, which was funded in part by charitable gifts to the Fund for Oneonta and the College Foundation.

The steps for a facial reconstruction are straightforward:

1. Acquire the skull. Even though Kennewick Man’s remains have been repatriated, casts of his skull exist and can be purchased.

2. Place markers for tissue depth. Data for the measurement from bone to skin across age and race is available. Erasers or glue sticks cut to the right depth are placed on specific bone sites.

3. Build muscles and other soft tissue with clay. Morin, who also has art training, used her knowledge of anatomy to sculpt his features.
4. Create a plaster mold of the finished reconstruction. Removing this mold destroys the clay sculpture.

5. Cast a silicone likeness from the plaster mold. Silicone was Morin’s major expense at $800.

6. Paint the silicone to create a realistic-looking model. Hand place hair. And, in Morin’s case, create a poster presentation for the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference.

Morin can now add a seventh step: Start reconstruction on another set of remains.

“A local museum [which prefers to remain anonymous] found a skeleton in their archives,” Morin says. “There wasn’t a lot of information about it attached to it. The director of the museum contacted us to see if we wanted to do any non-destructive analysis. It’s believed to be from the Oneida Nation from the last several hundred years. Associate Professor Tracy Betsinger and I asked the Oneida if they would like me to reconstruct his face. They did.”

Because the clay can damage a real skull, the art department’s instructional support technician, David Kenny, created a replica using a 3D printer. The remains themselves were returned to the Oneida Nation in August 2018. Morin started this reconstruction during the first weeks of the fall 2018 semester, and her best guess about this man’s appearance is taking shape. When it is finished, Morin will donate the silicone likeness to the Oneida Nation.

Morin’s work has earned praise from one of her campus mentors.

“Facial reconstructions are incredibly difficult to do because they require knowledge of anatomy, sculpture, and anthropology,” Betsinger says. “[Morin’s] facial reconstruction is impressive and unique among students with whom I’ve worked.”
Clockwise from top left: Hooked On Tonics; Dr. Barbara Jean Morris; Greg Floyd ’80; Susan Weiner ’81; and (from left) Seth Crystall ’80 and his wife, Leigh; Erikka Misrahi ’08 and her mom, JoLee Olszewski; Jay Winuk ’80 and his wife, Carolyn; Greg Floyd ’80; and Victoria ’80 and Roy Freiman ’81.
Newest Alumni of Distinction Honorees Inducted

The SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association hosted the 2018 Alumni of Distinction Presentation of Honors on Sept. 28 in the Hunt College Union Ballroom.

Over 100 individuals, including former and current faculty and staff, fellow alumni, friends, and family joined the celebration. The event featured music from Blues Maneuver, a popular local area band; Tim Newton, associate professor of music and choral director, and the English Choral Experience singers who had just returned from a trip abroad, and Hooked on Tonics, one of the College’s a cappella groups. The spirit of the event was festive, glamorous, and filled with laughter and excitement. Alumni of Distinction honoree Greg Floyd ’80 was the evening’s host while several members of the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association Board of Directors returned to campus to participate in the presentation. Honorees in the Class of 2018 are:

Seth Crystall ’80
Senior Credit Analyst
Acuris

Lori Currier-Woods ’79
Family Court Judge and Acting Supreme Court Judge
Orange County Family Court

William Derrenbacher ’66
Retired Director of Professional Services
Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri)

Roy Freiman ’81
Assemblyman
New Jersey General Assembly
16th District

James Gold ’68
Retired Director
Bureau of Historic Sites
New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Marion Groetch ’84
Director of Nutrition, Jaffe Food Allergy Institute
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Brian Katz ’72
Environmental Consultant
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Larry Klebanoff ’89
Founder/Senior Partner
League Collegiate Wear

John Lambrech ’93
Chief Financial Officer and Chief Compliance Officer
W Capital Partners

William Lapenta ’83
Director
NOAA Center for Weather and Climate Prediction

Barbara O’Neill ’74
Specialist in Financial Resource Management
Distinguished Professor
Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Sarah Pharaon ’15
Senior Director
International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Evan Rakowski ’05
Founder and Principal
Radical Spark

Alan Rubin ’93
Owner and President
A & D Transport Services Inc.

Gregory Schem ’78
Chief Executive Officer
Harbor Real Estate

Andreas Schonherr ’92
Freelancer/Head of Foreign Language Training
Makotech

Denise Sheehan ’86
Executive Vice President
Capitol Hill Management Services

Gretchen Sorin ’75
Director/Distinguished Service Professor of Museum Studies
Cooperstown Graduate Program, SUNY Oneonta

Robert Waite ’72
Research Historian
Memorial Site for German Resistance

Susan Weiner ’81
Certified Diabetes Educator, Speaker, and Author
Susan Weiner Nutrition

Paula Wilson ’72
President and Chief Executive Officer
Joint Commission Resources and Joint Commission International

Barry Ziman ’84
Director of State Affairs
College of American Pathologists
A gift of more than $590,000 from the estate of late faculty emerita Barbara Weigand endowed three new student support funds:

- Barbara M. Weigand Scholarship for Apparel and Textiles Majors
- Barbara M. Weigand Scholarship for General Human Ecology Majors
- Barbara M. Weigand Endowed Fund for the Historic Costume Collection

During Weigand’s time as a faculty member, her specialty was apparel and textiles, and she was particularly proud to have initiated the joint program with Fashion Institute of Technology. Weigand taught at SUNY Oneonta for 29 years, from 1954 to 1983.

More than 10 years ago, Weigand worked with College Advancement staff to develop her estate plan. Her goal was to benefit SUNY Oneonta students in the Human Ecology Department, especially those majoring in fashion. She died Dec. 1, 2017. To honor her generosity, the student lounge and main gallery space in the Human Ecology Building were dedicated in her memory on Oct. 3, 2018.

This gift will have a lasting impact on SUNY Oneonta and for students in Human Ecology. We are extremely grateful to Barbara Weigand for her generosity and planning.
THANK YOU, DONORS!
Notes of appreciation from a few of our scholarship recipients

Alexander Idzinski ’19
Michael ’87 and Deborah ’87 Curcio Scholarship
“I would like to say thank you to all of those who make scholarships possible. It helps people like me who can barely afford to go to school have the opportunity to get a great education.”

Megan Short ’21
Erling M. Hunt Memorial Scholarship
“My scholarship does not just impact me; it impacts my family as well. It makes me want to help the next generation of students when I become successful.”

Mia Fraser ’20
Muriel and Kenneth Kellerhouse ’57 ’60G Scholarship
“This scholarship is changing my academic career by helping me to believe in myself and my abilities. Thank you again, and I will continue to work hard and push myself to do better.”

The 18th Annual Red Dragon Open Endows Sustainability Scholarship

Rachel Kornhauser, sustainability coordinator, spoke as part of the closing ceremony.

“Thanks to your generosity and support, we will be able to continue to award meaningful scholarships to students who have shown a commitment to sustainability, on campus and off,” Kornhauser said. “The current recipients of the scholarship have played crucial roles in amplifying our campus’ commitment to sustainability, and we look forward to continuing to recognize students who make a difference.”

To date, the Red Dragon Open has raised a total of $600,000 over 18 years in support of various scholarships at SUNY Oneonta. The 2019 tournament is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 20.
In 2018, the women’s basketball program celebrated its 50th anniversary with an on-campus alumni day on October 20. The below photos are from 1968, when women played basketball in skirts.
Betty Spadaro celebrated her 100th birthday with nearly 100 friends on a Lake George Gala steamboat cruise.

Gertrude Sturdevant lost her husband, Dick, in July 2018. The couple had recently celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary. Gertrude can’t believe that this was the 29th year that she hasn’t greeted kindergartners on the first day of school. Retirement has been great, she says.

Joan Lojpersberger has enjoyed her retirement years and will always remember her time at SUNY Oneonta. It’s a great school with great people, she says.

Joan Sledjeski Pondolfino shared this reunion photo (above) from 1971 with us. Front row, from left: Sue Merrill, Joan Condon Sheehan, Carol Fitzpatrick Havelka, Donna Sabatini Palczak, Joan Sledjeski Pondolfino, Joan Anderson Lindsay, Marcia Mains Trask; back row, from left: Carol DeCross McGrath, Susan Haungs Battaglini, Maria Palladino D’Aloia, Edward Reuss, Jill Hargrave Reuss, Jim Sheehan, Sophie Dixon.
1962

Joseph Tamburro married his wife, Donna, after graduation. They had three children: Jeff, Joseph, and Mary. After Donna’s passing, he married Eleanor. He takes great pride and joy in his six grandchildren — Alexandra, Katherine, Olivia, Nick, Drew, and Danny. Joseph will be 90 in March.

1963

Carol Kindler retired from teaching in New York City schools and moved to Philadelphia. She repairs dolls.

Patrick Moylan’s wife has Parkinson’s disease. They have been active participants in the annual fall Parkinson’s walk for the past 16 years.

1965

Arthur and Jane ’69 Groves welcomed their fifth grandchild, Leo Kenneth Beard, on April 20, 2018.

1966

Barbara Hall and her husband, Harry, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July 2018. Their three children threw a party for them at the Millerage Inn. They enjoy their two grandchildren and spending time with family and friends.

1967

Jo-Ann Schultz and her husband, Reed, spend most of their time in Cornelius, North Carolina, watching their grandchildren.

1968

Jane Coyle had a wonderful time at the 50th reunion for the class of 1968 during Reunion Weekend.

1971

Kathleen Barnwell is enjoying retirement and is impatiently waiting for daughter Claire to finish graduate school in Wyoming.

Red the Dragon continued his journey around the world. He stopped in Montalbano, Italy, to visit with Christine Warnquist (below) at the Masseria Corte degli Asini.

1972

James Garlock retired in 2012 from the Starr Farm Nursing Center.

Anthony Marchese and his wife are great-grandparents to Knox Anthony Castro, who was born on March 1, 2018. “We are truly blessed,” he says.

1974

Robert Martin reads textbooks as a hobby. “Learning always gave me a good feeling inside when I was in college, and it still does,” he says. “I have never graduated from learning.”

Chester Zygmunt retired in April 2017 and enjoys playing golf, going to movies, working out, and getting weekly massages.

1975

Kathi Dooley Glass and Jeff Glass have been married for 41 years and have four children and four grandchildren with a fifth on the way. Kathi is a fifth-grade teacher in Rockville Centre, New York, and Jeff is a partner in a CPA firm and an adjunct assistant professor (marketing and retailing) at Nassau Community College. They send their love to all of the classmates from the class of 1975.

Constance Hoyer has four grandchildren. Three live in Florida, and one is close to her.

Bill Pullman (below) met up with Scott Koenigsburg ’01 and Sean McNamara ’12 on the set of Sinner in the summer.

Valerie Price Ponder (below) introduced her husband, Alvin Ponder, to outgoing SUNY Oneonta president Nancy Kleniewski during Reunion Weekend 2018. Both congratulated Dr. K on her tenure as the president of Valerie’s “beloved alma mater.”
Gifts by will, trust or beneficiary designation, also known as bequests, are the most common way people plan their legacies.

Why consider a bequest to the College at Oneonta Foundation?

· **Give back** to SUNY Oneonta for what the college has meant to you.
· **Plan** for your future gift while keeping control of your assets during your lifetime.
· **Bequests are revocable** if your circumstances change.
· **Bequests are flexible** and can include a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, a portion of what remains, or other options.
· **Tax benefits** may result from your bequest.

Mary Piscatella Dacquino ’80 has established a charitable gift to the College at Oneonta Foundation in her will, and she feels great satisfaction at having this plan in place. “I am forever grateful to SUNY Oneonta that I was able to receive a high-quality education at a very affordable cost. Since then, college costs have risen dramatically nationwide. It is so important to share your successes with the institutions that gave you that head start. My husband and I are both firm believers in giving back. Including the College at Oneonta Foundation in our will is an excellent way to do so.”
Joan Chvatal Thalasinos’s late mother quilted a queen-sized bedspread for her daughter and dedicated a square to SUNY Oneonta. The names of Joan’s friends are stitched in the square, as well as their graduation date.

1976
Carmelita DeCicco is enjoying her retirement and traveling in the United States and abroad.

1980
Pamela Gay will retire in June 2019 from her teaching career. She will enjoy free time and her two grandchildren, Naphele and Ingrid.

1980s
Alumni who first met in Wilbur Hall in the early 1980s had a reunion in spring 2018 in Central Park, New York City (photo above). From left: Mary Ellen Smith ’84, Ellen Schneiner, Jodi Remer, Janet Cozzetto Algeri ’82, Lu-Anne Biondi-Farina ’83, Kathy Hall, Luann Concra-Alimena ’83, Ellen Domnitiz Wikow ’83, Roberta Perrone ’84, and Cindy Melmed Stevenson ’84.

1983
Denis Meadows ’83 is a director of government records services with the New York State Archives, which is part of the New York State Education Department. Alumni of Distinction honoree Robert Arnold III ’70 held this position for many years.

1984
Andy Cohen is a vice president/general manager of strategic accounts for Lam Research in Fremont, California.

David Nachenberg works with second-graders at the Darkei Yehuda School in Modi’in, Israel. He has three albums under the name “Rap Daddy D,” has a 20-year-old daughter in college, and completed his third race as a race-walker.

1986
Laura Faldetta Begg, Susan Specht Folan, Ann Lewis, and Tracy Mitchell Schaefer (photo below) enjoyed their time together in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.
**1987 Alumni Spotlight**

Arthur Lembo, professor of geography and geosciences at Salisbury University in Maryland, was honored with a 2018 University System of Maryland Regents Faculty Award. This award was given because Lembo’s textbook, *An Introduction to Statistical Problem Solving in Geography*, has made him an influential figure in the geographic information science community. He has presented workshops and provided training for hundreds of practitioners. In addition to being a teacher and mentor, Lembo is active on several committees and an ardent supporter of international students.

**1989**

Sean Shannon (above), a lecturer of law in the School of Economics and Business at SUNY Oneonta, was a finalist at the 2018 Charles M. Hewitt Master Teacher Competition at the Academy of Legal Studies in Business (ALSB) 2018 Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon, in August. The competition highlights classroom teaching, particularly the incorporation of new or evolving course subject matter, cultural contexts, pedagogy, and technology.

**1990**

Jo Duhaime is spending her retirement traveling all over the country. She lives in Texas part of the year with her husband, Robert Williams.

**1991**

Christine Reynolds ’91G gave her final commencement speech as the Dolgeville Central School superintendent in 2018.

Patrick Reynolds ’98G is a Rome Historical Society Museum educator.

**1996**

Danielle DiCicco, Robin Plante Meola, and Genine Caccamise Gullickson played field hockey together. They all live in different states — Arizona, New Jersey, and New York — but “try to see each other once a year to reconnect and reminisce about our college years and pizza with cold cheese,” Danielle says (photo above).

**2004**

Joel Blum, a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial in Connecticut, was named to the 2018 *Forbes* list of America’s Top Next Generation Wealth Advisors.

**2005**

Edward Barnhart retired in 2012 from his career as a production assistant at live events and has been backpacking and camping for the past six years.

**2006**

Scott Amatucco (above) is a vice president and Small Business Administration loans manager at Axiom Bank.

**1987**

Gary Dodds is the director of child nutrition services for the Midland (Texas) Independent School District.

**1988**

Karie Herskowitz loves staying in touch with her SUNY Oneonta friends Elyse Schwartz Amos, Sue Slavin Susman, and Nancy Ross Baldwin.
2008

Sara Baldwin (above left) had a magical encounter with a snow princess (also known as Bethany Marx, SUNY Oneonta associate professor of theatrical design) at an Albany All Stars roller derby event. Sara skates under the nom de guerre “Tinkerhell.”

Susanna Fout is an exhibitions and collection manager for Mabee Farm in Rotterdam Junction, New York.

James McAteer is a manager within the client relationship team with Capital Group in New York City.

2011

Samantha Rivet is an officer in the Troy (New York) Police Department. Both her father and grandfather served in the same department.

2013

Emily DeFeciani joined the news team for WRBG-TV, the CBS affiliate in Albany, New York, in May 2016.

Nicole Goben (above) received the Media Excellence Award from the Western New York Dietetics Association for her work with Meals on Wheels.

2014

Faith Carney Hardin won the Director’s Award at the East Foundation’s Three Minute Thesis Competition with the presentation “Southern Texas Ecosystem Engineers: How the Golden-fronted Woodpecker Can Improve Avian Species Richness.” Faith is a graduate student at Texas A&M University.

2016

Tara Boyle is in the physician assistant program at Marist College.

2017

Cassandra Alexandre is attending St. John’s University School of Law.

Andrew Lang ’17G is a curator with the Johnstown Area Heritage Association.

Troy O’Brien is a midday show host on Q Country 102.9 in Ogdensburg, New York.

Bailey Vandewater joined the transportation group in the Albany office of Barton and Loguidice.

2018

Kayla Belush is working on her master’s degree in Spain. She is documenting the experience in a blog: www.mymastersabroad.com.

Tyler Kimball is an audio-visual service coordinator at Genesee Community College.

Christian Stegall ’18G received the Kress Interpretive Fellowship and is working full time at the Hudson River Museum.

BooksHELF

1977

Philly Special: The Inside Story of How the Philadelphia Eagles Won Their First Super Bowl Championship by Alumni of Distinction honoree Sal Paolantonio ’77 is a week-to-week behind-the-scenes account of how one of the NFL’s most storied franchises captured its first Lombardi Trophy.

2017

Alumni SPotlight

Tyler Walsh opened Island Premium Printing in Oneonta, New York, in April 2018. He launched an earlier version of the shop on his native Long Island after graduation. Island Premium Printing offers design and printing services primarily for wholesale apparel orders, and his biggest buyers are college students and other downtown businesses. He’s dreaming bigger than O-Town, too. “My goal is to start opening up more smaller locations but ultimately have Oneonta be our main hub while still staying in the upstate area,” Walsh said to The Daily Star in August 2018.
2010

Jonathan Olivo and Liana Minaya ’11 welcomed a baby girl, August Jaylon Olivo, on Jan. 12, 2018. On Sept. 2, 2018, Jonathan proposed to Liana next to the pond outside of the the Hunt College Union.

2011

Kathryn Zdanok and Jeremy Pettograsso married on July 28, 2018. More than 30 SUNY Oneonta alumni were at the wedding.

Frank and Laurie Ann Conklin welcomed their second son, Thomas Hunter, on May 29, 2018. They say, “He’s another Red Dragon in the making. Big brother Frankie is excited, too.”

2013

Emily Davis and Drew Messina wed on Sept. 28, 2018, in Mahopac, New York.

2014

Emily Sadusky and Robert Holmsen ’13 married on June 30, 2018, in Patchogue, New York. They met while attending the College as members of the St. Jude Giants Club (photo above).

2015

On Sept 2, 2018, Maria Guccione wed Nathaniel Neely. They celebrated with their Oneonta alumni friends (photo top): Rose Shapiro ’14, Ariel Rosero ’14, Gwendolyn Rosero-Williams, Emily Prendergast, Elizabeth Krein, and Katelyn Getty Pattwell.
1943

Irene Miller died on July 27, 2018. She taught elementary school on Long Island, and in Unadilla, Milford, and Oneonta, New York.

1960

Vincent Garfolo died on March 29, 2018. He retired from Mechanicsville Public Schools, where he taught sixth grade for 33 years. After retirement, he moved to Florida, where he lived for 28 years.

Betty Nittinger died on July 3, 2018. She taught for several years at Red Mill School in East Greenbush, New York.

1962

Charles H. Smith died on Sept. 11, 2018. He was in education for 35 years as a coach, teacher, and administrator.

1966

Patricia Darcy died on July 28, 2018. She lived in Largo, Florida.

1969

Sandra Bliss died on Aug. 27, 2018. She taught at Frankfort-Schuyler Central School for 40 years and was the first director of the Mohawk Regional Teacher Center. She also served on the Retired Teachers Council.

1970

Dolores Fogarty passed away on Sept. 29, 2018. She practiced law in Unadilla, New York, and for the Otsego County Public Defender’s Office. She also had her private pilot’s license.

1971

Dorothy Broderick died on Sept. 6, 2018. She was a founding member of Pi Delta Chi and was a director of nursing at the East Longmeadow Skilled Nursing center in Massachusetts.

1972

Florence Gado died on Oct. 10, 2017. She held a master’s degree in education and taught in the Laurens, New York, school system.

1973

Thomas Boyuka passed away on April 8, 2017. He was a math teacher at Chenango Forks High School and was also part of the adjunct math faculty at Broome Community College.

James Cullinan passed away on July 17, 2018. He taught at Anna S. Kuhl Elementary School for 38 years.

1974

Cherie Stevens passed away on June 18, 2018. She was a leader in the arts in the SUNY Cobleskill community and was the dean of women at the college.

Jane Inglis passed away in January 2018.

Cheryl Smith passed away on June 20, 2018. She was a middle and elementary school teacher in the Capital Region.

1980

Alyce Nesbitt Dyer died on June 17, 2018. She was a secretary with the Social Security Administration in Oneonta until retiring. She then worked for the state transportation department in Binghamton, New York.

Howard Sachs passed away on Nov. 14, 2017.

1990

Harlene Palmer passed away on May 25, 2018. She taught as a leave replacement teacher and substitute for several years before retiring.

2002

Ryan Nicole Buzzo passed away on June 28, 2018. For 14 years, she was an elementary school teacher with the Mohonasen Central School District.

2005

James J. Shea Jr. died on June 18, 2018. He was a manager at Shea Trucking on Long Island, New York.

2012

Lee Raines died on Aug. 12, 2018. He was a music industry and business communication major.

FRIENDS

Michael Seigel passed away on July 6, 2018. In 2002, he retired from his 28-year tenure as chair of the psychology department.

Ceylon Toombs passed away on Sept. 6, 2018.

Donna Jane Whitmore passed away on July 26, 2018. She worked in SUNY Oneonta administration for more than 30 years.

SUNY Oneonta and its alumni association are neither responsible nor liable for the accuracy of information submitted to Class Notes. Please note that all class notes are subject to review before publication.

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Alumni Profile

Steven Reisman ’87
Alumni of Distinction honoree

Professional position: Partner, Chair, New York Insolvency and Restructuring Practice at Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Residence: Long Island, New York

Why I chose SUNY Oneonta:
I could only afford a state school. I’d heard great things about Oneonta from other students that went there from my high school. I transferred in after my first semester at SUNY Oswego. The better question is “Why did I stay in Oneonta?”

I had very good grades (finally applying myself) and was going to transfer at the end of my second year at Oneonta. I had a dual major: business economics and political science. I was thinking of going to a larger, more prestigiously named school and potentially applying for a scholarship or financial aid. I realized that Oneonta gave me the best of all worlds. It was a reasonably inexpensive education where I could take as many credits as I wanted per semester. Also, I could be a big fish in a small pond and really get every drop of learning out of the school. I would get out of it what I put into it, and I gave it my all. Staying at Oneonta was the best educational decision I made — and no regrets.

How my SUNY Oneonta education benefited me most:
The teachers cared. The teachers taught the classes, not teacher assistants like at many large private schools. The students were smart, fun, kind, and well-rounded. The friendships that I made there have lasted to this day (though I have lost touch with some close friends). The education was exceptional. If you studied hard, you learned a lot. You got out of it what you put into it. You learned a lot from the out-of-class activities. It was probably one of the most pivotal times in my life because I learned how to work hard, study hard, and achieve.

What I’d tell students and recent alumni:
There’s no substitute for hard work. Never give in on achieving the objectives and your goals in life. Many times you’ll be turned down or rejected. All you need is that one opportunity to show what you’ve learned and what you are capable of doing. Do not be afraid to try to bite off more than you can chew in life, to take on new opportunities. And always remember, hard work pays off.

Why I give back to SUNY Oneonta and why other alumni should, too:
I think it’s the obligation of every student that gets an education at Oneonta to give back to the school and the world. If you can’t give back through a scholarship, give back through a donation, coming up and speaking to the students, or volunteering for the school. The value of the education and the experience I had at Oneonta is priceless. In terms of economics and value, I got a multiple of my tuition in terms of the value of my education.

The Steven J. Reisman ’87 Scholarship is awarded to full-time or part-time pre-law undergraduate students who demonstrate high academic achievement, with a preference for those with financial need.

If you would like to endow a scholarship, give to the Fund for Oneonta, or include a gift to the College at Oneonta Foundation in your estate plan, contact the Division of College Advancement at 607-436-2535 or visit Oneonta.edu/give.
To report a name or address change:
Please indicate changes on your current address label and return to:

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March 21, 2019
Your gift matters!

Join us on March 21 for SUNY Oneonta’s Day of Giving 2019! For 24 hours, your gift, no matter the size, will make a greater impact! That’s because a challenge donor will make a significant gift — but only if we reach our goal! So be sure to mark your calendars for March 21, and stay tuned for more information!