



Cosgrave a Catalyst for Renewed Camaraderie

Finch Alums knew about the 18th annual Cosgrave Awards well in advance by invitation, the *Finch News* or they heard about it only days ahead. However they learned about it, they came. Some overheard it mentioned in restaurants, others in phone booths, meetings on the street, in taxis or on buses and subways. Many of those who came delighted in renewing long-lost friendships.

For 2012 Cosgrave honoree **Julie Vasques Horns** of Port Clinton, Ohio, the awards dinner May 22 meant the chance to be with all four of her Finch roommates for the first time in 38 years!

Those who came from across the country to celebrate with Julie, her husband, John, and their three daughters were: **Nobuko Takigawa Hoy**, Beaverton, OR; **Kathi Hercz Lapidus**, Raquette Lake, NY; **Peggy Flaxman Millheiser**, Dallas, TX, and **Melanie Jamgochian Mitchell**, Durham, NC.

The other five recent Cosgrave honorees: **Missy Allen**, Cambridge, MA.

Cheryl Young Deknatel, Essex, CT.

Magda Stark Katz, New York City.

Barbara O'Hare, Woodstock, NY.

Priscilla Cole Perkins, Davidson, NC.

Barbara reconnected with former roommates **Margaret Stein Nakamura** and **Maria Sessa**, both of New York City.

Missy, Cheryl and Priscilla shared long-ago experiences from participating together in the 1968–1969 Finch Intercontinental Study Plan, when Priscilla was the FISP student adviser. She also was a valued Finch staff member who served in admissions, as



Sara Arthur, Honoree Priscilla Cole Perkins, Thomas Perkins, Dorothea Coblentz

registrar, director of financial aid and as assistant to the late Rodney O. Felder, last president of Finch, during the sad closing of the college in 1975.

Among the 100 guests attending the awards dinner at the Cosmopolitan Club were three alumnae who had known Finch founder **Jessica Garretson Finch Cosgrave**. They were **Marilyn Gelber** of New York, and former Cosgrave honorees **Phyllis Gregory Heard** of Nashville, TN, and **Thelma Wigoder Frye**, who came from London and stayed with her good friend, **Ceil Gavin Ainsworth**, 2002 honoree.

Winning the \$1,000 Money Tree prize was former honoree **Susie Stern Salomon**, who graciously gave the money right back to the Finch College Alumnae Association

Foundation. Annually, foundation funds from the Cosgrave Awards send four or five deserving women back to college to complete their B.A. degrees. The grant recipients, overseen by Foundation Chairman **Lois Moran Ziegler**, write glowing letters of gratitude for the funds that have helped send them from the Ivy League to the California coast.

An interesting twist to the annual raffle prizes: **Eileen Bluestone Sherman**, grant recipients' mentoring chairman and former alumnae president, won artwork donated by **Shea Gordon Festoff**. Both women, former Cosgrave honorees, are from Kansas City.

Through her professional connections, Magda organized exciting events highlighting the Cosgrave weekend. One of

The 19th Annual Jessica Cosgrave Awards Celebration will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the Cosmopolitan Club, 122 East 66th Street, in New York City. It is not too early to nominate potential recipients for this prestigious award.

The instructions and nomination application can be downloaded online at www.FinchCollege.org by clicking on the Cosgrave Award on the left side of the home page. If you have any questions, please contact Virginia Wattiker Sheerin at 212-288-6745 or virginiasheerin@aol.com. For the most recent information on all Finch events, you can access the Finch College Alumnae Association website at www.FinchCollege.org.



John Horns and Honoree Julie Vasques Horns



JoAnn Cricchio Kubat

the more memorable was a visit to Lincoln Center for a lecture/tour of the Noel Coward Exhibition, hosted by Geoffrey Johnson, a trustee of the Noel Coward Foundation and American representative for the actor/playwright.

During the tour Thelma Frye, veteran actress, spotted a photograph of her and her mother, the late Paula Ruby, a “beautiful lyric soprano”. It was a thrilling moment.

Other festivities featured a visit to artist/collector Joyce Galley’s home at



Jay Abramson, Erika Katz Abramson, Honoree Magda Stark Katz, Brent Katz, Bob Katz

Gramercy Park South; luncheon/lecture at the Friar’s Club; reception at the “green” roof garden of Regis High School, planned by faculty member/Finch Alumnae President **JoAnn Cricchio Kubat**; private Schiaparelli/Prada tour at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; visit to the home of Irving Berlin at Beekman Place, and another elegant cocktail party given by former Cosgrave honoree **Diana O’Rourke Jacoby** and her husband, Mark, at their exquisite home and antiques gallery, Philip Colleck Ltd. on East 58th St.

In their acceptance speeches each 2012 Cosgrave recipient related her fondest memories of Finch and the most valuable lessons learned.

Missy Allen, mother, author, world explorer and the youngest person ever to serve as director of admissions at Harvard University, said Finch gave her a “love of art,

a social conscience and fabulous friends”.

Priscilla Perkins stated several facts previously unknown to Finch Alumnae:

“You might be interested to know that the Finch College Library was purchased by Liberty University (formerly College), founded by Jerry Falwell (in Lynchburg, VA), and that Mensa International (persons with high IQs) consulted the administration before Finch closed about the possibility of opening its own college with Finch. Obviously it didn’t work out.”

A moving story was told by Magda Katz, whose family were forced to leave Hungary and escaped to New York in 1956. She has made a name for herself as a celebrity video interviewer for an online publication, *Times Square Chronicles*.

“I was the only child born to parents who survived a world that had gone mad. In the late 1950s being an immigrant child was not



Marilyn Gelber, Phyllis Gregory Heard, Thelma Wigoder Frye



Honoree Priscilla Cole Perkins, Honoree Missy Allen, Sandy Rowley Colt



Honoree Missy Allen, Honoree Cheryl Young Deknatel and her daughter, Tiffany Knoop



Melanie Jamgochian Mitchell, Peggy Flaxman Millheiser, Honoree Julie Vasques Horns, Nobuko Takigawa Hoy

cool. Both teachers and kids were very cruel. I was determined to become as American as I could be. I worked hard not to have an accent and changed my name to Maggie. I was very lonely and the only outlet I had was movie magazines where the stars looked like they had a glamorous life.

"I was very happy at Finch and met one of my oldest friends, **Wendy Glickstein**. I started seeing blue skies opening up in my life. On a Finch trip to Kansas City, I met **Pat Addiss**. As a major New York producer she has opened doors for me. The friendships I developed through Finch made a lonely child's dream come true. But I owe everything to my parents, who made sure I would live in freedom without persecution."

A sought-after fundraiser for non-profit causes, Julie Horns said her Finch education established the groundwork for her successful career.

"I never knew I even liked English Literature until I took a course with **Dr. Carol Hawkes**. I took dance all four years because I was so inspired by **Professor Betty Low**, who was encouraging about everything in life. I used the skills I learned at Finch to guide my career path, which isn't glamorous or global, but it's been gratifying to me.

"I can't teach pottery to individuals with autism but I can find money to build an art studio with teachers who *can*."

"High standards of academia and a cosmopolitan experience" at Finch have been essential to her 25 productive years as a licensed real estate broker, said Barbara O'Hare. The former model, television and radio personality also is known for her watercolor paintings of lush vistas visible from her home in the Hudson River Valley.

After more than 20 years living abroad in

Holland, Cheryl Deknatel said:

"I'd lost contact with so many but through the Finch Alumnae Association I suddenly had a family of friends of all ages. The wonderful, dynamic Finch College Alumnae were there as a strong group to embrace me. One of our newest endeavors is to connect with alumnae and their children as a way to propagate our future."

Cheryl, who has served as alumnae president and treasurer, is now the Finch website/social media coordinator. She hopes alumnae will contact her at www.finchcollege.org.

"Let me know your children's names and email addresses and I will reach out to them as well."

Article: Laura Hockaday

Photographs: Margaret Stein Nakamura



2007 Cosgrave Honoree Margaret Stein Nakamura, Honoree Barbara O'Hare, John O'Hare, Maria Sessa



Mark Jacoby and Diana O'Rourke Jacoby

Thelma Ruby Frye: Active and Ageless

In their autobiography, *Double or Nothing*, Peter Frye describes the woman he met in Israel in 1959 and whom he married 11 years later, Thelma Wigoder Ruby.

“...charming, very vivacious, a wonderful sense of humour, sexy figure, young and energetic and enthusiastic, with a velvet voice.”

Thelma was 34-years-old at the time. Those same words fit her perfectly today at 87. She amazes her fellow Finch Alumnae with her stamina and upbeat nature. Honored at the Cosgrave Awards in 2001, she was present again for the awards this year, but she often travels from England to New York, where she has legions of friends. She knows Broadway as well as she does London’s West End, where she reigned for decades as a leading lady.

Her lifelong career in the theater has been enhanced by world travel and romance, including a relationship with actor Tyrone Power, with whom she was on stage in London and met again at Bob Hope’s home there. And before she married Peter Frye, teacher/actor/director/writer, she lived nine years with British director/producer Jay Lewis until his death in 1969. She adored Jay but the love of her life has always been Peter. Before Peter died in 1991, following a stroke four years earlier, he and Thelma recorded their personal lives and shared adventures up to the time of their wedding in 1970. The recording sessions took three years. Their 21 years of marriage memories would have been endless. After Peter’s death, Thelma edited their recordings and had them published in London in 1997.

Thelma was born in the city of Leeds, Yorkshire, England, in 1925. Peter was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1914. Both of Jewish heritage, they met in Israel in 1959, while visiting family members there. They maintained a platonic relationship for 11 years, but in 1970 Peter was back in Israel and asked Thelma to join him. Within a short time, they were married there, surrounded by close relatives. Thelma was 45; Peter 56. They lived in Israel for 11 years before touring the world for eight years in a play, *Momma Golda*, which they adapted from another script



Thelma Ruby Frye

and performed in memory of their friend, Golda Meir, Israeli prime minister.

Adventure and the theater were vital to both their lives. Peter fought in the Spanish Civil War from 1936-37 against Franco. He was wounded but recovered. His life turned to teaching, theater and television in Canada, England, Israel and the United States.

In 1941, at 16-years-old, Thelma and her mother, Paula Ruby, a well-known lyric soprano, left England and the horrors of WWII to live in New York for four years. Thelma earned a

\$500-scholarship to Finch Junior College. Tuition was \$700, so her father sent another \$200. She remembers Finch founder Jessica Finch Cosgrave, from whom she took philosophy, as a “wonderful teacher, quiet, gentle but with power which she did not abuse.”

“I cannot remember any period of my life in which I felt such unalloyed happiness and achievement as my two years at Finch,” Thelma states in her book. “It was the turning point in my life. In Finch I found my career, my self-confidence, encouragement, praise and love. My fate was sealed with a major in Theatre Arts. The head of the department was a petite, blonde bundle of energy, Frances Pole. I adored her.”

After graduating from Finch, Thelma spent a summer at the Yale Drama School before returning to London in 1944. She went on to star on stage with Orson Welles, Chaim Topol, Judi Dench and Tyrone Power, to name just a few. She has presented her one-woman show, “That’s Entertainment,” from the living room of her home next to the Wimbledon Tennis Courts to the New York cabaret stage.

And she continues to travel the world: Greece this past June, Sicily in September, Israel in October and India in January, 2013.

To read more about Thelma, go to www.thelmaruby.com.

Article and Photograph: Laura Hockaday

2012 Grant Recipients

The 2012 Finch Grant of \$2,000 has been awarded to four outstanding women, over the age of 22, who are transferring from a community college to a four-year college.

Zibeb Bouizy graduated from LaGuardia Community College and is entering City College of New York Grove School of Engineering. Zibeb says she has always been fascinated with math and science and how, through them, we have developed the technology and facilities we have. She is on her way to becoming a civil engineer.

Mariana Rivera of Hostos Community College will enter Smith College and take courses in social activism, human rights and law. She has served as a community advisor for ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reforms Now). She believes that in order to change what we don't like, we must get involved.

Therese Harmonie Kobanghe Langazo of LaGuardia Community College will enter Georgetown University. She has been a volunteer at Riker's Island and interviewed over 50 inmates to convince them to register for General Education Degree studies to strive for a brighter future. She believes education is the best tool of all for both men and women.

Susan Van Ness graduated from Middlesex Community College and enters Wesleyan University as a thirty-nine-year-old single parent. Having experienced living in a shelter, she wants a better life for her daughter. Her goal is a bachelor's degree in American Studies and Media Culture, then a master's in Library Science. She hopes one day to work with libraries, museums and community centers to develop programs that use digital media to bridge culture with education.

One year ago, two generous alumnae donated full Grants of \$2,000 which enabled the Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation to award more Grants. We thank **Rebecca Tabajovich Even-Zohar** and **Marjorie "Cookie" and Susan Michel** who donated in honor of their late mother **Kathryn Schlesinger Michel**, all of whom attended Finch.

A recent email from Lorie Ames, recipient in 2008, from Monroe to SUNY Geneseo: "I DID graduate! I earned my bachelor's degree in Biology and Adolescent Education. I absolutely LOVE teaching and I am quite anxious to have my own classroom. I am truly grateful for having been selected for the award and feel forever indebted to you. Words can't express what my heart feels. I truly would have had to quit college without that little boost from the organization. *Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!!*"

Article: Lois Moran Ziegler

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Class Notes

40s

During World War II **Mary “Mimi” Key Henley** began doing volunteer work and has been doing it ever since! Today she lives in Dallas, manages her investments and enjoys her friends, three daughters and grandchildren.

50s

Many remember the wonderful Washington, DC reunion where **Sandra Haas Berler** hosted a delicious Thai dinner party in her photography gallery. Sandy has just retired after almost 30 years. Since 2008 she has served on the board of directors of the Washington Ballet. Sandy has been a member of The Women’s Committee of the Corcoran Gallery of Art since 1977.

Carolyn Stroud Connell finds constant delight in her home in Lexington, KY in the middle of Bluegrass Country.

Mary Penny Potter Garten taught pre-school for many years and is now doing volunteer work with rescue dogs. A mother and grandmother, she lives in Scarsdale, NY.

As her husband Howard, now a professional photographer, just retired from the US Army, **Linda Lane Martinez**, after living in many countries of the world, has settled in Norfolk, VA. She has been fund-raising for the Virginia Symphony for 15 years as well as the Chrysler Museum of Art. Linda says the Finch years greatly enhanced her life. She remembers that her bridesmaid was **Ceil Gavin Ainsworth**. Linda lived with **Tempe Gerard Reith** and her husband in Easton, CT while Howard was in Vietnam. She was delighted to recently catch up with **Christa Mayer Sala** and **Laura Hockaday**.

60s

Sally Kraftmeyer Hallows, Senior Vice President of real estate sales at Brown Harris Stevens in New York, stayed last summer with **Suzanne Simmons Bartolucci** and saw Karen Wagner Sanchez in Santa Fe, NM.

Susan Safran Hermanos is a researcher in the Drawings and Prints Department at the Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York City.

Volunteer work with the Junior League and the Garden Club of Houston keeps **Graeme Meyers Marston** busy. Every year she travels abroad. This year’s trip will be to Africa.

After Finch, **Nancy Wallstein Newkirk** received a JD degree at New York University School of Law, worked as a lawyer in industry and government, and was a partner in a trade association. Since 2004 Nancy has been doing legal recruiting and placement. A mother of two, she lives in Bethesda, MD.

Karen Wagner Sanchez, an Art History major, lives in Houston six months and the other six in Santa Fe where she sees some Finch alums. Karen is an avid gardener, painter and grandma.

Friends since Finch FISP days, **Syida Haas Long** keeps in touch with **Theo Bassett Corroon** of Wilmington, **Ingrid Russell** of Sarasota, **Marilyn Oshman Lubetkin** of Houston and **Adrienne Aidan Stock** of Memphis. She recently reconnected with **Barbara Richards Pitney**. Syida enjoys gardening in the Cow Hollow district of San Francisco and says “the interest that most captures my heart, and will be most surprising to those who remember me, is my beginning pursuit of becoming a third order Dominican.”

70s

Spanish Literature major **Maria Laura Accorn** reports she was married for three years while in Caracas, Venezuela. After her divorce she moved to Miami and is now living in Bologna, Italy. She usually goes to Miami in the winter, has a daughter in Tampa and has adopted some kids in Madagascar on a long-distance basis. She loved Finch and would like to hear from anyone in Italy.

After receiving a Ph.D. at New York

University, **Arline Davidow Shaffer** was a psychologist in private practice for many years in Summit, NJ, concentrating on children and adults, especially those with eating disorders. She is married with three children and one grandchild.

As a dyslexia specialist, **Sandy Mary Frances Rowley Colt** is a Certified Academic Language Therapist. She serves as a board member of Planned Parenthood in Houston and volunteers as a crew member of the tall ship, 1977 Elissa.

As a medical communications expert, **Jill Waldheim Chamberlain** was self-employed for 20 years, and has worked for WebMD for the past five years.

Megan McCarthy and husband Ed attended many interesting events during the Cosgrave Weekend. Megan is a writer and editor of textbooks, magazines and short stories and mom to Caroline and Matthew. She also was a social worker in the Westchester County DA’s Office and now sells real estate through Sotheby’s.

CLASS?

As alumnae entered the National Arts Club for dinner after touring the wonderful home of Joyce Galley during the Cosgrave Weekend, **Patricia Flicker Addiss** mentioned the Finch College reservation and a woman standing nearby said, “I went to Finch College”. And so **Georganne Aldrich Heller** discovered the active alumnae association and quickly asked to join! Georganne is the president of Irish Theatre & Film Production and lives in New York, Los Angeles and London. She was co-founder of Women In Film, and is a member of the International Women’s Forum. She also served as Cultural Director for the Borough of Manhattan for five years, and is a Trustee of the Aldridge Museum of Contemporary Art in Ridgefield, CT.

Article: Lois Moran Ziegler

In Memoriam

Paula Latta Coyne
Grace Baxter Lamour
Gladys "Patsy" Pulitzer Preston

Althea "Thea" Kunhardt Walker, the mother of 2010 Cosgrave Honoree Antoinette Walker Hamner, passed away on May 4, 2012 at 84. She graduated from Finch with a degree in clothing design and marketing and worked with custom designer Madame Eve Garnet in New York City before marrying Harry Webster Walker, II in 1950. She was a world traveler, who with her husband, lived in 29 places around the globe, her favorite being São Paulo, Brazil.

Dr. Iris Mueller, Dean of Finch College from 1969 to 1975, died November 12, 2011 at NYU Medical Center after a brief illness. Dr. Mueller had previously served as Chair of the English Department and as a well-respected Professor of English from 1952 to 1968. Following her tenure at Finch, she was Dean of Douglas College, Rutgers University from 1976 to 1980. In 1981 Dr. Mueller was appointed Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers, a position she held until her retirement.

Dr. Mueller was born in St. Louis, Missouri and earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees at Washington University and a Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Illinois, specializing in the works of Jane Austen. Her husband, Dr. Wheeler Mueller, predeceased her in 2009 and she is survived by her daughter, Julie Mueller Kay, of China, Maine. Contact information for Julie Kay is 207-923-3012.

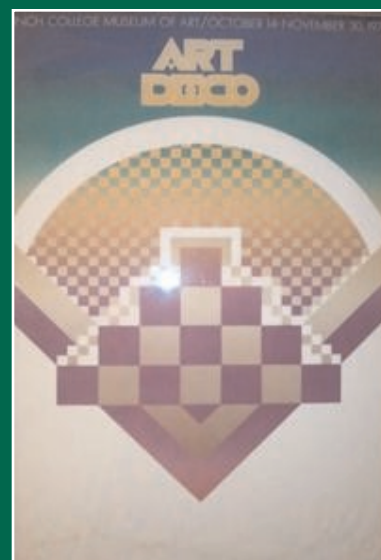
New Finch College Entrepreneurs

Paula Kirshenbaum Isacoff and **Josephine Scicchitano Taglianetti** have opened an exciting new online business called Flowers 2 Ur Door that will deliver fresh flowers from Colombia and Ecuador to your apartment, house or event. They will generously donate 10% of the net profit of your order to the Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation. You may contact them at www.flowers2urdoor.com to provide exquisite floral arrangements at affordable prices for a weekly delivery, a special party or wedding. The new entrepreneurs donated the huge and glamorous arrangement for the Jessica Cosgrave Award event in May at the Cosmopolitan Club.

An innovative consultant beauty business by **Kelly Lieberbaum Langberg** provides unique expertise for those who want a more attractive look, whether the best haircut, an improved skin, as well as plastic surgeons and dentists to improve upon nature. Totally up to date on all the newest noninvasive techniques, Kelly will recommend experts in New York City. Just call Kelly at 917-825-7320 or email her at kellylangberg@gmail.com. Kelly donated a \$1,500 gift certificate for the Finch raffle at the May Cosgrave Awards.

Finch College Museum Poster

Julie Vasques Horns reports that "In the summer of 1971, my mother and I went to an art festival in Buffalo, New York. She spotted a poster and with much excitement said, 'that is where you're going to college!!!' She bought the poster, had it framed, and I have it hanging in my office next to my signed Andy Warhol Interview magazine." The Finch College Museum poster was designed by famed graphic designer Milton Glaser, creator of I ♥ NY.



Finch Scholarship Recipients Meet Mentors



Lois Moran Ziegler

At an enthusiastic reception held at the home of **Lois Moran Ziegler**, recipients of The Finch Grant and The Finch Scholar had the opportunity to meet their individual mentors and the three professors who had reviewed the many applications and made the final selections: **Dr. Cecilia Macheski of LaGuardia Community College**, **Dr. Mary Raddock of Norwalk Community College** and **Dr. Tricia Lin of Southern Connecticut State College**.

The \$2,000 **Finch Grant** is awarded to students transferring from a community college to an accredited four year college. **The Finch Scholar**, held in conjunction with The New York Women's Foundation, pays the salary of a part-time position in their office for a current college student. A major aspect of this reward is the opportunity to learn from successful women executives, to

meet women mentors, and to experience the discipline of an office.

The mentoring program, under the auspices of **Eileen Bluestone Sherman**, pairs a student with Finch alumnae with similar interests or business experience. They keep in touch by telephone and email. If you would enjoy this rewarding experience, please contact Eileen at kcne@juno.com.

Finch graduate **Vilma Polakova Wiesenmaier** mentors **Annamaria Havrillova** who attended Raritan Valley Community College and is now studying renewable energy at William Paterson University and wants to pursue a career in that industry. By sheer coincidence, both Annamaria and Vilma are from Bratislava. Annamaria is interested in graduate school and enjoyed the opportunity to meet the professor judges who quickly provided excellent guidance to her.

Danielle Jablonski graduated from Norwalk Community College and is studying environmental studies at Yale University. Her mentor, **Shea Gordon Festoff** of Kansas City, had the opportunity to meet Danielle in person for the first time.

The reception was held during the Cosgrave Award weekend and provided the opportunity to introduce many out-of-towners to the students, judges and to salute the successful scholarship programs.

Article: Lois Moran Ziegler

Photographs: Margaret Stein Nakamura



Vilma Polakova Wiesenmaier, Annamaria Havrillova



Dr. Cecilia Macheski, Eileen Bluestone Sherman



Dr. Tricia Lin, Danielle Jablonski, Annamaria Havrillova, Dr. Cecilia Macheski



Shea Gordon Festoff, Barry Festoff

Mosette Glaser Broderick Talk at Nohra Haime Gallery

A spirited event was held by the Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation highlighting two outstanding graduates: **Dr. Mosette Glaser Broderick**, Clinical Professor of Art History at New York University and **Nohra Haime**, owner of the Nohra Haime Gallery in the Crown Building, New York City. Mosette delivered a preview of her new book *Triumvirate: McKim, Mead & White – Art, Architecture, Scandal and Class in America's Gilded Age*. The colorful sculpture of Niki De Saint Phalle provided an exciting background. Graduates were delighted to see several faculty attending: **Dr. Marshall Mount**, Professor of Art History and his wife Caroline. Also present were the daughter and granddaughter of the late Professor of Italian **Dr. Luciana Pietrosi, Luisa** and **Luciana Taddei**. **Dr. Sara Arthur**, former Admissions Director of Finch College organized the event and welcomed the group.

As part of New York City's public arts summer program, the fanciful, colorful Niki de Saint Phalle sculptures of curvy, joyful women were placed along the Park Avenue Mall from 52 Street to 60 Street. This exciting exhibition, which marks the tenth anniversary of the artist's death, will run until November 15, 2012.

Article: Lois Moran Ziegler
Photographs: Margaret Stein Nakamura



Dr. Mosette Glaser Broderick, Nohra Haime



Luciana-Barrows Taddei, Luisa Taddei

Reception Honoring Nohra Haime

Come and meet Nohra Haime on Thursday, November 1 at a private Finch fund-raising event. The alumnae association is proud to recognize Nohra Haime for her current sculpture exhibit, *Niki de Saint Phalle on Park Avenue*, and for her continuing generosity and support of Finch College alumnae activities. The reception, from 6pm to 8pm, will be held at the 829 Park Avenue home of Lois and Ron Ziegler on 76 Street. The donation is \$50 for dues-paying members (\$40 is tax deductible), and \$60 for non-dues-paying alumnae. Space is limited, so please RSVP no later than Wednesday, October 24 by sending your check payable to the Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation with the name of your guests to: Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation, 954 Lexington Avenue, #183, New York, NY 10021. For further information, please contact Sara Arthur at sa1@nyu.edu or 212-426-3805.

Modest Link to World of Fame

Wendy Glickstein grew up, not only knowing famous people, she lived among them! At the Althorp, a venerable 100-year-old residential landmark on New York's Upper West Side. The legendary building that stretches from Broadway to West End Avenue is known for its roster of writers, actors, civic icons, executives and its spacious living quarters. Wendy lived there from birth until graduating from Finch in 1970.

"I always wanted to call it the Althorp," she said, "because that is the family home of Princess Diana. When I was growing up at the Althorp, we had a 10-room apartment. Our next-door neighbor was Richard Condon, who wrote *The Manchurian Candidate*. And Tony Walton was there, the British set and costume designer who first married Julie Andrews. He still lives there with his present wife, author Gen LeRoy. Thelma Frye (Finch Alumna) knows them well and had dinner with them when she was in New York in May for the Cosgrave Awards. Cyndi Lauper also is a current resident."

Other well-known Althorp celebrities Wendy remembers from childhood, include choreographer George Balanchine, *Catch-22* author Joseph Heller and members of the Kreindler family, founders of the 21 Club. The fascinating people Wendy knew as a child and continued to meet as an adult make her a lively personality herself and fun to visit with. As editor of the *Finch News*, she writes about others but deserves her own profile.

Her mother, Helen (Press) Glickstein, was the first cousin of Jonas Salk, polio vaccine developer and founder of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, CA. Wendy attended Salk's 80th birthday celebration in La Jolla with her



Wendy Glickstein

mother and sister. Salk died less than a year later, in 1995. Wendy's mother died in 2003. She worked in the fashion industry as a personal shopper and was in demand by clients on both coasts.

Wendy has known Salk's widow, artist/author Francoise Gilot, for many years. Before her marriage to Salk, Francoise lived with (the late) Pablo Picasso and is the mother of jewelry designer Paloma Picasso.

"Francoise is 90-years-old now and lives in a fabulous loft apartment on the Upper West Side," said Wendy.

Wendy's father, the late William Glickstein, owned the popular McGinnis of Sheepshead Bay restaurant for 37 years.

"It was a famous theater district hangout," she said, "located at 48th and Broadway. It featured fresh seafood, lobster, roast beef, pastries baked on the premises and was known for its cheesecake. Jerry Lewis always ordered food for his telethons from there. My father created a small private dining room called ACT 48. Peggy Lee helped

launch the opening. Rip Torn once rescued me from a stalled revolving door and I remember the thrill of seeing Mary Travers of Peter, Paul and Mary sitting at the bar one day. She was one of my idols."

Wendy's knowledge of famous people is far-reaching but she doesn't talk about her repertoire of luminaries unless asked. Her pre-Finch education began at the Birch Wathen School, now the Birch Wathen Lenox School, site of Finch Alumnae meetings. She attended from kindergarten through 12th grade and remembers Louise Birch, co-founder with Edith Wathen, preceding the school's merger with the Lenox School, established by Finch College founder Jessica Finch Cosgrave.

Wendy excelled in languages, scoring 760 out of 800 on her Latin college boards. When Dr. Rosa Clough had to miss Italian class at Finch, she put Wendy in charge.

Since graduating from Finch, Wendy's eclectic career has taken her around the world working for movie and TV producers, and to major New York venues, including public television, a Fifth Avenue law firm, and a global manufacturing company. Four years ago she learned about the National Association of Professional Organizers and established her own business, "REALLY NEAT! for an organized environment". She has her own website.

Her Finch colleagues are treasured friends. She met Magda Stark Katz her first year at Finch and attended her wedding. And Wendy and Barbara Filenbaum Piermont are avid theatergoers, constantly prowling the Broadway Beat.

Article and Photograph:
Laura Hockaday

Finch Alumna a Champion in Her Own Right

Phyllis Mills Wyeth, owner of Union Rags, the thoroughbred race horse that won the Belmont Stakes in June, 2012, is a Finch College Alumna who long ago overcame tragedy and went on with her life with indomitable courage. An outstanding equestrienne who raced in steeplechase competition as a young woman, Phyllis survived a head-on collision 50 years ago, from an on-coming car, which left her paralyzed from the waist down. She walked with braces and crutches for years and only in recent times has she used a motorized scooter.

Jamie Wyeth, Phyllis's husband of 44 years, has talked about his wife's courage, invincible spirit and stamina in many newspaper articles. He is the third generation of the famous Wyeth dynasty of American artists, which began with N.C. Wyeth and continued with Andrew Wyeth, Jamie's late father. Taken by the strength and strong character radiated by his wife, Jamie has featured her in many of his paintings. She is a favorite model of his. He was with her when Union Rags won the Belmont Stakes on Long Island and shared in her elation.

Phyllis had sold Union Rags for \$145,600, felt horrible about it, and bought him back for \$390,000. He placed seventh in the last Kentucky Derby before winning the \$1 million Belmont Stakes in a nail-biting finish. Phyllis's parents would have been thrilled. She is the daughter of the late James and Alice duPont Mills, prominent New Englanders known for breeding champion thoroughbred race horses. James Mills was a polo star in the 1930s. Humble and fun-loving, Phyllis never alluded to her distinguished background while a student at Finch College more than 50 years ago.

She and her husband live most of the time at Point Lookout Farm,

spanning the Pennsylvania/Delaware border, near Chadds Ford, PA. It overlooks the Brandywine River Valley, depicted in famous paintings by all three generations of Wyeths. The farm has been in Phyllis's family since the early 1900s. So she and Jamie each have ancestral ties to the region, full of history and beauty.

Following Finch College, Phyllis worked for John F. Kennedy both as senator and president. She was on her way to work at the White House when the accident occurred. She spent nine months in a hospital and later underwent many surgeries.

Well-known for her philanthropic causes, Phyllis founded a school in Maine, where she and her husband

own property. Students are descendants of fishermen whose once lucrative livelihood is now at risk. They are studying agriculture as an alternative. Phyllis also started a foundation to bring inner city children to the country to teach them how food is grown and produced. She is a trustee of the Chichester duPont Foundation, based in Wilmington, Del., the H.J. Heinz Foundation, National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Department of VSA (Very Special Arts) and Accessibility at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Article: Laura Hockaday

TWO SPECIAL THEATRE EVENTS

Broadway beckons for the fall. Reserve your seats now for the following fabulous theatrical presentations:

- **THE LITTLE FLOWER** starring acclaimed actor Tony LoBianco as colorful, former New York City Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia. The date is **Monday, October 29 at 8:00pm**; the theatre is Dicapo Opera Theater, 184 East 76 Street. Tickets are \$45 for dues-paying members (\$5 is tax deductible) and \$50 for non-dues-paying alumnae. For reservations, contact **Magda Stark Katz at magdakatz@gmail.com or 646-286-9808.**
- **A CHRISTMAS STORY:** The Musical produced by Finch alum Patricia Flicker Addiss. Do you remember how we all loved the 1983 movie about Ralphie's quest to get his Red Ryder Rifle? Now this classic has come to life in a spectacular musical arriving on Broadway after a successful 2011 run in Chicago. This is the perfect event to share with your family and to start the holiday season. The date is **Sunday, November 18 at 2:00pm**; the theatre is the Broadway Lunt-Fontanne, 205 West 46 Street. The special price tickets are \$90 for orchestra and front row mezzanine, and \$70 for rear orchestra and mezzanine; \$11 is tax deductible. For reservations and to learn about an optional Dutch-treat luncheon, contact **Patricia Addiss at paddiss@gmail.com or 917-670-0316.** Please make out your checks to Pat Addiss and mail them to her at 145 East 16 Street, #7C, New York, NY 10003. All checks must be received by November 14.

October 23 Event to Benefit Finch Scholarship Program

Finch alumnae are invited to a private tour of the
24th Annual International Fine Art & Antique Dealers Show
courtesy of Houghton International Fairs (www.houghton.com) on Tuesday, **October 23** from 5pm to
7pm at New York's Park Avenue Armory. Founded in 1989, the show attracts leading international
dealers of everything from antiquities to contemporary art.

The tax-deductible donation is \$35 with all proceeds to benefit the Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation's
Scholarship Program. For reservations, contact Wendy Glickstein at wglickstein@nyc.rr.com or 212-249-5228.

Have you paid your 2012 dues yet?

The Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation needs your support to carry on its mission of granting scholarships to worthy candidates. Annual dues are \$50; lifetime membership is \$300. All alumnae who have paid their dues, either annual or lifetime, are eligible to become members of the Ineamus Meliora Society. The minimum gift contribution, over and above your dues, is \$500. Your dues are tax deductible, since we are a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Dues-paying members receive a free copy of the much-acclaimed Finch Directory. You can download a membership form online at www.FinchCollege.org and mail it along with your dues to:

Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation
954 Lexington Avenue, #183
New York, NY 10021

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Major Donors

Joan Thomas Haris, \$1,000
Eileen Bluestone Sherman, \$500

A Directory update will be issued on a regular basis, so please notify the Finch College Alumnae Association of any changes or corrections in your address, email address, name or any other information online at www.FinchCollege.org under information.



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