

20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



OF THE FINCH COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION TRUST

JESSICA COSGRAVE AWARDS

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014



PROGRAM

TWENTIETH ANNUAL JESSICA COSGRAVE AWARDS
THE FINCH COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION TRUST
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014

HONORING

DR. KATHERINE J. HAMPARES

THE HONORABLE MARIA SCHORSCH BACINICH

WESLEY CULLEN DAVIDSON

DALE DANSON WINSTON

GUEST SPEAKER
AWARD PRESENTATION
RECEPTION & COCKTAILS
GRAND BALLROOM
6:00 PM

DINNER
DINING ROOM
FOURTH FLOOR
8:00 PM

THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
122 EAST 66TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10065

FINCH FACADE



This image was created by Margaret Stein Nakamura (class of '72 and recipient of a Jessica Cosgrave Award in 2007) as an homage to the Finch building at 52-54 East Seventy-Eighth Street. She created the image using a combination of photographs, drawings and computer graphics.



TONIGHT IS A TRIBUTE TO THE FINE EDUCATION PROVIDED BY FINCH!

We honor a Finch College Professor, three outstanding Finch graduates, and, for the first time, a Finch graduate will be our evening's guest speaker.

TONIGHT IS A CELEBRATION OF OUR RAISING \$20,000 TO FUND THE OUTSTANDING FINCH WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP.

We celebrate our mission of awarding scholarships to leading graduates of community colleges who wish to complete their baccalaureate degrees.

These adult women are remarkable and thankfully appreciate our support.

We are thankful for our Finch Board and all the faithful members of the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust who have initiated clever and appealing small events throughout the year. A stronger Board along with a team of writers, editors, photographers, mentors, event planners and fundraisers has made this year a super success.

The outstanding turnout of Florida alumnae to events from Miami to Vero Beach attests to new interest and growth of the Alumni Association.

We have introduced the Friends of Finch Program, developed a new, online application process for scholars, and have upgraded the social media programs on our website.

It "takes a village" to make a successful organization. This year we have had an outstanding infusion of new enthusiasm, dedication, and teamwork. We thank all of you for your contributions and support. It has made such a difference and we are so glad to share this evening with you!

Best Wishes,


Ceil Ainsworth


Sara Arthur

Co-Chairs

Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust

FINCH COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION TRUST

954 Lexington Avenue, #183 New York, New York 10021

FinchCollege.org

DR. KATHERINE J. HAMPARES



Before she could speak English, Katherine (Kay) Hampares was speaking Greek. Her father, Demetrios (James) Hampares, and his wife left their native Greece and settled in Grand Rapids, MI., where Kay and her (late) brother, Jim, were born.

"My mother never learned English," she said. "She didn't spend time outside of her home and church. My father owned and operated two Greek restaurants in Grand Rapids and my brother became an anti-trust lawyer for IBM.

"My father changed my life. When I was 7 years old I was diagnosed with osteomyelitis (a bone infection). I had surgery at the Mayo Clinic when I was 11 and again when I was 13. My father carried me on his shoulders to an elementary school for the disabled but when he got there, he realized that many students had mental problems. He knew I had a good mind, so he turned around, took me home and I was tutored at home. I did not go out and play with other children. I was inside reading and studying and became fluent in Spanish, as well as Greek."

She slept with weights and had lots of grueling physical therapy as a child. At Central High School in Grand Rapids she was named the Top Senior Woman in scholarship, leadership and sportsmanship. She earned B.A. and M.A. degrees at the University of Michigan, graduating cum laude in both, and later received a fellowship to Columbia University where she earned her Ph.D. in Spanish in 1968.

In 1969 she joined Finch College as professor of Spanish and chairman of the Department of Modern Languages and Literature. She taught at Finch until 1972. She didn't want to leave. She loved teaching there, in spite of tough times during the 1970 Kent State massacre of four students when sympathetic Finch students "covered themselves in catchup to look like blood, got down on the floor and you had to step over them". But she had a mortgage due on a brownstone at 245 E. 52nd St. that her family had owned since 1964. Money was tight at Finch and she was offered a full professorship at Baruch College (CUNY), where she stayed until retiring as professor emeritus in 1989.

Whatever physical challenges Kay has had seem minute compared to her accomplishments. She taught for 32 years, fearlessly covered New York by bicycle and has traveled the globe, from Europe to South America by plane and ship. While teaching at Jersey City State College (New Jersey City University) she earned a Fulbright to study in Spain and explored throughout the country. She studied at the University of San Marcos in Lima, Peru, toured the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu, the Holy Land, the pyramids of Egypt and rented a chalet on the Greek Island of Skiathos for a month, driving a Jeep up and down the mountainous terrain.

Immediately after selling her brownstone in 2004, she bought passage on the maiden voyage of the Queen Mary 2. "Talk about being pampered!" she said. She returned to a home she had purchased at Lighthouse Point, FL., near Fort Lauderdale. Instead of being surrounded by skyscrapers, she lives on a 17,348-square-foot corner lot on a canal where pleasure boats sail by on their way to the Atlantic. Nearly 40 Royal Palms and oaks, statues and giant flower-filled urns adorn the property.

Yoga, which keeps her in shape for her 82nd birthday May 24, is a passion as are lighthouses. Kay has visited many, stayed in one overnight and has a condo on the Atlantic facing one. She is a charter member of the National Women's History Museum and hopes one day to see it on the National Mall. "I want to see the Finch archives preserved in the museum," she said.

Kay is to be accompanied at the Cosgrave Awards by her long-time friend, Dr. Nelly Santos. Among her many academic publications is one she and Nelly co-authored: "Spanish, A Modular Approach" (Books 1, 11 and 111). Kay is listed in Who's Who of American Women, one of her many honors.



Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse

THE HONORABLE MARIA SCHORSCH BACINICH



From the time she was a child Maria's life has been filled with art, glamour and adventure. It still is but for years she has given back to help and enhance the lives of others. A native of New York City, she has lived more than 30 years in Palm Beach, FL., where residents know her for her spacious Venetian villa on Ocean Boulevard, her elegant entertaining-she welcomed 18 Finch Alumnae for lunch in January-her own artwork of sailboats and flowers, and her philanthropy.

They know her for the \$4.6 million-grant she secured from Johnson & Johnson to build facilities for AIDS patients and to establish the Comprehensive AIDS Program for Palm Beach County, and the 20 years she served as vice-chairman of Palm Beach County Hospice. And they know her as The Honorable Maria Bacinich because of her serving from 2001-2007 as the honorary consul from Slovenia to the United States. A friend proposed her and she was accepted immediately.

Melania Trump, present wife of Donald, who lives down the road at Mar-a-Lago, is from Slovenia, Maria mentioned.

"I had not been to Slovenia before arriving in the capital, Ljubljana. It is beautiful, very green and environmentally conscious. There are many lakes but motorboats are not allowed, only rowboats. There is a lot of Austrian influence in the architecture. It reminds me of Salzburg."

Although her home in New York was on East End Avenue, Maria's father, a chemical company executive, wanted her to feel independent so she boarded at Finch from 1966-1968 while earning her A.A. degree in art, before going on to Hunter College for her B.A.

Her parents divorced when she was young, but she spent summers visiting her mother on the French Riviera and traveling with both parents on Mediterranean and Atlantic cruises. She is fluent in German and French. It was on a cruise where she met her husband, Edward Bacinich, renowned physicist/engineer born in Brooklyn, N.Y. They were married three months later in 1971. He was 41, she, 22. In 1980, Ed Bacinich gave up his Chicago-based engineering consulting firm to move to Florida to create the non-profit Alpha Omega Research Foundation. Maria has served as president and continues to since her husband's death in 2012. Its purpose is to find new approaches to understanding the universe.

"Ed believed in the symmetry of the universe rather than chaos," she said. "I went with him to meetings in Stockholm and other cities and in 1994 we entertained 100 physicists and Nobel Prize winners at our home in Palm Beach. That was memorable. Our home had been built in 1936. Ed did most of the redesign that took two years."

It features collections of his self-made models of ships, trains, steam engines and WWII German, American and British warships. They fill antique cabinets while Maria's paintings adorn the walls of her charming studio. She learned valuable lessons from (the late) Louise Stinnett at Finch.

"She taught me how to mix cool, warm grays by mixing primary colors, as opposed to black and white. Her advice was awesome. When I teach art classes, I like to do it outside because it offers such a feeling of freedom. And I want students to paint first with the hand they don't normally use because it wakes up the other side of the brain. They should paint for themselves, not to please anyone else."

Maria collects beads from all over the world, makes them into necklaces, teaches others how and gives most away. And she hunts for sea glass, washed up on the beach and tumbled into fanciful shapes by the waves over time and distance. She regrets that sea glass is harder to find now "because everything is plastic".

A favorite subject for the Palm Beach Daily News, Maria enjoys hosting parties for Les Girls of Palm Beach, whose members are foreign wives of American men. Often the News has pictures of Maria with three handsome young men: Her sons, Todd of New York, Mark of Palm Beach, and her stepson, Scott of Chicago.



WESLEY CULLEN DAVIDSON



L to R: Graham, Wesley, Sandy, and Leigh Davidson, in their Vero Beach, Florida home

with Morgan Stanley. They moved in 1981 to Chappaqua, N.Y., where they reared their son, Graham, and daughter, Leigh, and remained for 25 years before retiring to Vero Beach, FL., in 2007.

While living in Chappaqua, Wesley took writing courses at NYU, commuting between the city and Westchester County. Bill and Hillary Clinton, fellow Chappaqua residents, were affable neighbors.

"We'd often see them around town and at events, like Super Bowl parties," said Wesley. "Bill Clinton was very visible. He likes to talk to people and people enjoy seeing him."

Wesley pursued free-lance writing while her children were growing up. Now that they are both adults, she has time to concentrate on some issues close to her heart. Besides her blog she has been working on a book for straight parents of gay children. She has spent three years interviewing parents, teen-agers and young adults. Her co-author is Dr. Jonathan Tobkes, a psychiatrist in private practice and associated with the New York/Cornell-Weill Medical Center.

"We have an agent but no publisher yet," said Wesley. "But we have a working title: 'It's Not a Phase!' That's a common reply that kids make to parents when they come out and parents answer them, 'It's just a phase'."

Wesley has done scores of long-distance phone interviews with straight parents. She intends to divide her material into chapters on "denial, fear, loss and shame". At the end of each chapter, Dr. Tobkes will address parents on those issues and offer advice on dealing with them. They hope the book will be a source of support for parents who do not have a lot of role models to turn to.

On her blog, Wesley also discusses same-sex marriage and children of same-sex couples.

"I think marriages of gays are frankly more equal than heterosexual marriages," she said. "They are not based on the old standard where the man is the breadwinner. They are based more on equality and what each is bringing to the relationship, but these relationships are constantly being tested. The media has gotten better at portraying gays. They now represent a great cross-section of people from football players to U.S. ambassadors."

She said the book focuses on individuals, 35 and younger.

"Kids are coming out younger and younger but still living with their parents instead of waiting until they are older, leaving home and then telling their parents. Parents have to adjust their expectations. They don't have to wring their hands. Gay children will get married and they will have children, so there will be grandchildren."

As a loyal Finch alum, Wesley is a board member of the Finch Alumni

Association Foundation Trust and compiles the Class Notes for the FinchNews, succeeding Lois Moran Ziegler in that task. She has volunteered as a mentor for Jessica Ryan, a 2013 Finch Grant recipient who is a chef, the mother of five children and a Smith College student.

And in February, Wesley gave a luncheon for Finch Alumnae at her home. Those who wanted to know more about the Vero Beach Museum of Art had no further to look than their hostess, who is a dedicated docent.

Although Wesley was an art history major at Finch (1965-1969), her current focus is in a very different direction. For the last several years she has written a blog to support, encourage and praise straight parents of gay children. She has championed the rights of both parents and children and has been recognized for her outspoken, direct and honest advice. Her knowledge, understanding and empathy stem from happy relationships within her own family.

She had been writing professionally for years-since graduating from Finch-before establishing her weekly blog:
<http://straightparentgaykid.blogspot.com>

In the past several years, she has written hundreds of columns and featured prominent writers and professionals on her blog.

An early career in advertising and public relations continued after her marriage nearly 40 years ago to her husband, Sandy, a former trader

DALE DANSON WINSTON



L to R: Charlie, Roger, Lawson, Dale, and Max Winston

Born and reared in New York, Dale said she has lived within a 40-block radius all her life but has spent her career relocating people from job to job, city to city.

For more than 40 years she has worked with executive search firms and since 1997 has been chairwoman and CEO of Battalia Winston, a New York firm with global ties founded in 1963 by Bill Battalia. She joined the company in the early 1980s. Within 18 months she had purchased enough shares to become an equal partner with the founder and was named president in 1986. Bill retired more than 10 years ago but they remain good friends. When she joined him, there were just the two of them in the office. Today there are 45 employees in seven offices, including one in London.

As the leading "headhuntriss" of one of the few executive search firms in the country directed by a woman, Dale has placed men and women in top positions with many major companies, including PepsiCo, Gerber and Remy Cointreau.

"The most important thing in my business is an intuitive capability," she said. "You can determine pretty quickly who can fit the job. I don't have different standards for men and women. It's whoever is best qualified. I don't know of any genetic studies that say women are not as smart as men.

"We look at all ages and genders and follow a diversity practice where we try to place a diverse candidate-African American, Latino, female, etc.-at every opportunity."

Dale, Class of 1969 at Finch, was married in 1968 at 19 years old, to Roger Winston, an investment banker. They celebrated their honeymoon in London, where they visited with Dale's Finch psychology professor, Dr. Rosalyn Hayes, and her husband, who were on holiday.

"Dr. Hayes was very influential in my life," said Dale. "Finch was a special place because it inspired close relationships between faculty and students."

Dale graduated with a degree in psychology and in 1971 gave birth to her first child, Peter, and nine years later, a second son, Michael. Both boys are married and have produced three grandsons for their parents. As full-time working parents while raising a family, Dale and her husband always scheduled individual business trips that allowed one of them to stay in town with their children. She readily admits that a working mother with an executive position needs help at home, such as a nanny, and she also needs an understanding, supportive husband. Dale gives her husband praise and credit for his invaluable support that has contributed to successful careers for both of them and to a long and happy marriage. In an article she wrote for Forbes magazine, Dale states:

"The female who wants both a family and a path to the top faces a far greater challenge than any man. When the school calls, they ask for the mom. When a child is sick, she wants her mommy. The corporate mom who wants it all has no choice but to seek it along a road of compromise.

I expected to make compromises from the start. I was often pulled two ways, needing to work until 10 p.m. but yearning to be home for dinner with the children. I often chose dinner; thankfully I was in a business I could conduct on the phone after hours.

"Life is about balance and compromise. No one can ever 'have it all.'"

Along the way, Dale found time to serve as vice-chairman of AMROP, a worldwide executive search network with 84 offices in 56 countries. She resigned after a 3-day board meeting in India that required 40-hour flights to and from New Delhi. She is only the second woman to be honored by the Association of Executive Search Consultants with the Gardner W. Heidrick Award for outstanding contributions to her profession. And she volunteers to serve on the Urology Research Program Advisory Board of NYU's School of Medicine.

Is she thinking of retiring from a full-time career pursued since graduating from college?

"Absolutely not! No way! What would I do?"



L to R: Michael, Peter, Dale, Kerri, Roger, and Brent Winston

FRANCINE LEFRAK



Francine LeFrak is an award winning producer and social entrepreneur. As a producer, her productions have helped turn the tide on a range of crucial issues such as the scourge of AIDS, the price of intolerance, the ravages of war, and the injustices of our prison system.

Francine's work as a producer served as a catalyst for her work as a social entrepreneur. In 2008, Francine founded the 'trade not aid' jewelry initiative SAME SKY that provides training and employment to women living with HIV/AIDS in Rwanda. Francine offers a hand-up, not a handout to women artisans by providing them with the dignity of work and the tools they need to lift themselves out of poverty.

Today Francine is fully dedicated to eradicating poverty through promoting and creating a marketplace for the ethical shopping movement. She stands for products that are handmade, possess

authenticity and support artisan communities around the globe.

In recognition of Francine's commitment to empowering women, she has been honored with a number of awards including the Woman Who Cares Award, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the Women Together Award presented at the UN for microfinance, and the "Chevalier" of the Legion of Honor as presented by the French government. Francine spoke at the Forbes Philanthropy Summit at the UN and is a regular contributor to *The Huffington Post*. She is the Chair of the Women's Leadership Board at the Harvard Kennedy School, a body of influential leaders that advance issues related to women throughout the world.

In addition, Francine serves as CEO of the *Samuel J. and Ethel LeFrak Foundation*, which supports institutions of higher learning, hospitals, and cultural institutions. She is a founder of *The Francine A. LeFrak Foundation* that aims to promote the empowerment of women.

Same Sky
EMPOWERING WOMEN. CHANGING LIVES.



SAME SKY provides training and employment to women living in Rwanda

1995

Mark Piel
Nancy Azara
Dr. Ronny Cohen
Joannie Plevritis Danielides
Marjorie Schlesinger Deane*
Henrietta Rothblatt Santo
Rita Thompson

1996

Dr. Margaret Maxwell*
Suzanne Ludey Bayley*
Martha Goodyear Mason
Frances Gable Villere

1997

Mary Beth Baker Busby
Susan Grace Galassi
Eileen Bluestone Sherman
Frances Fish Tompkins

1998

Dr. Marshall Mount
Felice Forer Axelrod
Catherine Robertson Claiborne
Kathleen McFadden Guzman
Gene Kincheloe Ritchie
Christa C. Mayer Thurman Sala
Lois Moran Ziegler

1999

Franchelle Stewart Dorn
Francine LeFrak Friedberg
Catharine Cline Hamilton
Marcy Syms Merns
Mary Kim Sull
Mary McDowell Webb

2000

Betty Low
Dr. Carol Garnett Abraham*
Alba Farber Francesca
Doris Buttry Haire
Laura Rollins Hockaday
Dr. Barbara Sbilis Katsos
Diana Gale Zwirn DeMarco

2001

Dr. Sara Arthur
Elba Vargas-Colbert
Elaine Friedman
Thelma Wigoder Frye
Nohra Haime
Suzanne Pleshette*
Marianna Pelligrini Sottosanti*



2002

Dr. Ardelle Odone Striker*
Ceil Gavin Ainsworth
Mosette Glaser Broderick
Margaret Stewart Hedberg
Jennifer M. Lee-DeLaurentis
Van Negris
Natalie Skeet

2003

The Hon. Gertrud Sinzheimer Mainzer*
Audrey Schlang Diamond
Helene Weisberg Rudnick Horwitz*
Diana O'Rourke Jacoby
Tennie Bernstein Leonard
Vilma Polakova Wiesenmaier

2004

Robert Diffenderfer*
Darcie Denkert
Marianne Carey Edwards
Hijoo Limb
Anastasia Tsamisis Moss
Margaret Ann Craig Robinson

2005

Dr. Carol A. Hawkes
Freear Pollard Barnwell
Ruth Eriksen Barto*
Sandra Haas Berler
Susan L. Davis
Suzanne Stern Salomon

2006

Dr. Jane Miller Ross
Julia Berwick
Paula DiBenedetto Caravelli
Melanie Rose Cohen
Barbara Ziet Glickman*
Sally Kraftmeyer Hallows

2007

Dr. Charles Bahn
Pamela Dammann Adams
Shea Gordon Festoff
Margaret Stein Nakamura
Susan Embree Parker
Virginia Wattiker Sheerin

2008

Dr. Cynthia Wolk Nachmani
Patricia Flicker Addiss
Hon. Maria DiGiovanna
Audrey Greene
Joyce Nounou Reuben
Yvonne Hammond Roome

2009

Helen Mead Platt
Phyllis Gregory Heard
Susan Wright Hight
Susan Stover Hill
Emilie- Mary Puzio
Dr. Joanne Brecher Rosenberg

2010

Dr. Jeanne Chenault Porter
Stephanie Brody-Lederman
Lady Hilary Winant Glidewell
Antoinette Walker Hamner
Ann M. Holmes
Barbara Richards Pitney

2011

Barbara Robinson Buckland
Denise Mularoni Decker
Nina DiGiovanna LaBruna
Laura Stober Larsen
Marjorie R. Schulman

2012

Priscilla Cole Perkins
Missy Allen
Cheryl Young Deknatel
Julie Vasques Horns
Magda Stark Katz
Barbara O'Hare

2013

Dr. Jacqueline Stuchin-Paprin
Sandy Rowley Colt
Martha Coyle
Jane Crawford
Marilyn Gelber
Georganne Aldrich Heller

*Deceased

REMEMBERING
Margaret Wright Maxwell



SEPTEMBER 13, 1913 – APRIL 17, 2007

Time at Finch: 1953-1975

Beloved professor; mentor; friend, adviser
of the Finch College Alumnae Association(reborn), 1993
and the inspiration behind the Jessica Cosgrave Lifetime Achievement
Awards, initiated 1995 and the Finch College Alumnae Association
Foundation Trust, established 2001



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COSGRAVE HONOREES FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE INEAMUS MELIORA SOCIETY

FREEAR POLLARD BARNWELL

PAULA C. CARAVELLI

DONNA MILLER CASEY

DARCIE DENKERT

CHERYL YOUNG DEKNATEL

REBECCA TABAJOVICH EVEN-ZOHAR

JAMEE JACOBS FIELD

MARGARET REEVES FOREMAN

JULIET MESSIMER GEDE

MARILYN GELBER

NOHRA HAIME

DR. KATHERINE J. HAMPARES

JOAN A. HARIS

DR. CAROL A. HAWKES

PHYLLIS GREGORY HEARD

EVELYN HILTON

JULIE VASQUES HORNS

LAURA STOBER LARSEN

GRAEME MARSTON

MARJORIE "COOKIE" MICHEL

SUSAN HUGHES MICHEL

GENE RITCHIE

SUSIE STERN SALOMON

MARJORIE R. SCHULMAN

VIRGINIA WATTIKER SHEERIN

EILEEN BLUESTONE SHERMAN

MARCY SYMS

FRANCES FISH TOMPKINS

CELIA GOLDBERG ZHRINGER

The Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust announced the creation of a new Ineamus Meliora Society in December, 2007 - same name as the original one but with a new definition.

All alumnae who have paid their dues, either annually or lifetime, are eligible to become members.

The minimum gift contribution, over and above their dues, is \$500.00. Members will enjoy special recognition and benefits. Additional funds raised will provide educational grants to women, allowing them to continue their education through scholarships and business exposure.

FINCH GRANTS

Throughout its long and distinguished history, Finch College provided alumnae with a fine liberal arts education which continues to benefit them in successful careers, as well as their participation in volunteerism, philanthropy, and community affairs. This evening, we are honored to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the creation of the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, by recognizing all Jessica Cosgrave Lifetime Achievement Award recipients of the past two decades with

THE OUTSTANDING FINCH WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP.

We are grateful to all of our friends and supporters as we celebrate attaining our goal of raising more than
TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS IN TWENTY YEARS.

Since its creation in 1994, the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust has sponsored these annual scholarship programs:

The **\$2,000 Finch Grant**, a one-time award based upon merit, goals, academic achievement and recommendations from two professors. The recipient of this Grant can use the funds towards the purchase of a computer or supplies and/or moving expenses.

The **Finch-Birch Wathen Lenox School Scholarship** provides partial tuition to this four-year school. The selection of the recipient is at the discretion of the School's faculty and is fully funded solely by The Birch Wathen Lenox School.

We are grateful for the following Grant donations received thus far in 2014:

The Nohra Haime Grant, in honor of Nohra Haime's sister, Marlene Haime Finvard. Finch Alumni of South East Florida Grant. This group, which funds its own grant, was organized by Finch alumna Cheryl Young Deknatel of Miami.

Dr. Katherine J. Hampares

Louis Stern, husband of the late Finch alumnae Freya Moskowitz Stern

The **2013 Finch Grant** is being awarded to five exceptional women over age 22 who will be transferring from a community college to an accredited four-year college. We are indebted to our fine college professor judges: Dr. Tricia Lin, Dr. Cecelia Macheski, and Dr. Mary Raddock. The chairperson of the scholarship committee is Lois Moran Ziegler.

FINCH 2013 GRANT RECIPIENTS



Jessica Ryan – Middlesex Community College (CT) to Smith College.

A forty four year old mother of five, all of whom she home schooled, Jessica is currently enrolled in the prestigious Ada Comstock Scholars Program of Smith College. Jessica says of the award: "It is extremely helpful financially, but even more so for the psychological boost it gives me to keep moving forward." In addition to studying at the Peter Krump Cooking School, she owned a specialty cake company and a Connecticut restaurant with her husband, until a divorce in 2011. She quickly rebounded after realizing that a college degree was the true necessary "ingredient" for putting her on the road to gainful employment. A member of the glee club and the varsity squash team, Jessica is majoring at Smith College in Philosophy, with a minor in English. Her plan is to obtain a Doctorate Degree to become a college professor. *Jessica's Finch mentor is Wesley Cullen Davidson.*

Moreen Tonny – LaGuardia Community College (NY) to Mt Holyoke College (MA).
Recipient of the Finch Alumni of South East Florida Grant.



After her father's premature death, Moreen's single mother made countless sacrifices to ensure her children had access to the best education in Haiti. At age 16, Moreen started a summer program teaching young children French grammar and helping them develop linguistic and social skills. The 2010 earthquake that shook Haiti totally changed her life, as she was thrown into homelessness, hunger, and being cut off from school. When aid finally arrived, she volunteered as a translator for foreign aid workers. Later, she moved to New York to live with a family member, where she successfully passed the GED exam. Moreen worked in customer service for several airline companies before entering LaGuardia Community College. She made Dean's List first semester

and earned membership into Phi Theta Kappa. She is now studying international relations, human rights, and public policy at Mt. Holyoke College, with a minor in developmental studies, and has just received a grant to attend a seminar in Washington, DC: "Women and Policy in the Global Community." This summer she will be working as an education intern in Liberia at the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa.

Shaina Capellupo – Monroe Community College (NY) to Nazareth College.
Recipient of the Nohra Haime Grant, in honor of Nohra Haime's sister, Marlene Haime Finvarb.



In 2007, at age nineteen Shaina entered Monroe Community College and began working as a legal administrative assistant. Working two part-time jobs in 2013, Shaina entered Nazareth College. Sociology courses have profoundly changed her perspective on life, for she believes she would never have been a mother, student, employee, and productive member of society without the help of dedicated individuals she met in the field of social work who helped her transition into a position of recovery. Shaina is indebted to these people, and is now working toward a Bachelor of Social Work, with an eye toward a Masters degree. This year she assisted at Metro Justice in Rochester; she was also a student leader for an Alternative Spring Break to the Kanatsiohareke Mohawk Community

providing her with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for service and cultural immersion.

Yvonne Wellner Harnischfeger – Raritan Community College (NJ) to Rutgers University.



In 2009 when, working as a legal assistant at a law firm and administrative assistant in the insurance business, Yvonne lost her job and decided that age 39 was a good time to pursue a college degree. Since technology had always fascinated Yvonne, she chose a degree in Computer Science at Raritan Community College, with a minor in mathematics. She was named to the 2013 NJ All-State Academic Team for outstanding accomplishment, and helped organize Global Games Jam at Raritan, working with other students to train them in new technology fields. As a member of the Society of Women Engineers, she looks forward to a career using these skills to educate middle and high school girls in the decoding of computer science, and to receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from Rutgers.

Godelieve Vandenboom Bonacci – Norwalk Community College (CT) to Southern Connecticut State University.
Recipient of the Dr. Margaret Maxwell Grant.



When Godelieve graduated from high school in the Netherlands, she vowed to never again set foot in a school. Now, at age fifty, this happily married mother of three is pursuing a college degree. When her son and daughter left for college, Godelieve enrolled at Norwalk Community College. She has certainly come a long way since leaving the Netherlands and now believes she will achieve her goal of being a teacher by attending Southern Connecticut State University.

FINCH GRANT RECIPIENTS PRIOR TO 2013



Former scholarship recipient **Sybille Ngo Nyeck** writes: "I left LaGuardia [Community College] in June 2005. The Finch Scholarship was the first I received in the United States after receiving admission to Swarthmore. I graduated from Swarthmore (High Honors) 2007 and went to UCLA for grad school. I received my Ph.D last summer (2013) in political science. I am now an assistant Professor in political science at Clarkson University in New York State. My first book, *SEXUAL DIVERSITY IN AFRICA: POLITICS, THEORY AND CITIZENSHIP* was published last October at McGill-Queen's University Press. My current and future research projects are about government outsourcing in a comparative perspective. I am currently completing a book manuscript on government outsourcing in Africa, a comparative study of South Africa, Nigeria, Botswana, and Uganda."



Twenty-four years old and newly married, **Zineb Bouizy** told us that she is currently studying civil engineering at the City College of New York Grove School of Engineering and is already investigating Ph.D. programs. Zineb shared with us her experiences at a special program hosted by Columbia University, as well as her personal interests in city infrastructure and city planning. A gifted mathematician, Zineb continues to serve as a math tutor at LaGuardia Community College where she is creating a guidance service for other women in pursuit of professional careers. *Zineb's Finch mentor is Helena Consuegra.*



With a degree from Wellesley College, social researcher and high-tech guru, **Maki Kato**, recently began a new job in Tokyo. She writes: "For the first half of the year, I will be trained as a researcher at a Japanese think tank in various fields of research (education, global business development, and IT solution.) At the end of the training period, the company will assign me a specific department. I am hoping to do research related to improving the current employment and educational system in Japan, as well as become involved in international projects and travel to the United States."

Lisa Fredsall, a dedicated social worker, completed her graduate degree at the University of Connecticut. She writes from Spruce Pine, North Carolina: "I am working as Team Leader for the Assertive Community Treatment Team of October Road, Inc. in the northern counties of Western North Carolina. I supervise seven multidisciplinary team members who provide services. I passed my clinical exam but just need to complete my hours since I was pushed backward when North Carolina would not accept my hours from Connecticut. I will be a full LCSW pending completion of my clinical hours in North Carolina. My husband and I are enjoying our new home of the past two years, thrilled we relocated to such an amazing part of the country. The Appalachian mountain culture is intriguing to me, and I enjoy working in the community in which I live. Although I am far away from New York City, I am with you in spirit. I wish the very best to the women of Finch, as I could not have done this without the assistance of the grant I received." *Lisa's Finch mentor is Julia Berwick.*



Annamaria Havrilova graduated from William Patterson University, with a degree in business. She told us all about her recent success in a national collegiate competition attended by 35 business schools from around the country. Her persuasive and articulate skills not only landed her school into the finals, but she also caught the attention of SIX companies who were scouting for new talent. *Annamaria's Finch mentor is Vilma Wiesenmaier.*

Recent Yale graduate **Danielle Jablonski's** academic focus is on a combination of environmental studies and political science. In 2008, Danielle and her life and business partner, Kate Raddock, co-founded CRUX Climbing, (www.climbcruX.org), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that uses the sport of rock climbing to foster physical and mental health within New York City's LGBTQ community.



Danielle explained that CRUX organizes rock climbing events for adults of all backgrounds and abilities throughout the year as well as hosting outdoor rock and ice climbing events in New York and around the U.S. The organization currently hosts three events per week and has a membership base of 1,400 climbers who range from total beginners to experienced competition climbers and full-time, rock-climbing guides. The membership is made up of roughly half women and half men, creating a gender balance that is difficult to find in most co-ed sports organizations. Executive Director Danielle is especially proud of the services and support the organization offers homeless and at-risk LGBTQ City Youth through free rock-climbing events and instruction. As if all this isn't keeping Danielle busy enough, she looks

forward to a study abroad program in Italy this summer, and confessed that one of her long-term goals is to earn her helicopter pilot's license. *Danielle's Finch mentor is Shaya Gordon Festoff.*



Chemist and lab criminologist, **Phurkima Sherpa**, is a recent Hunter graduate. She writes, "Presently, I am tutoring general chemistry at LaGuardia Community College and also serving as a volunteer for the Medical Library at the Elmhurst Hospital, while I continue to look for jobs in my field of chemistry. In the near future, I hope to take my GRE test. This past December, I began studying Chinese."

REFLECTING ON THE PAST AS WE SHAPE THE FUTURE

Without a doubt, our annual Jessica Cosgrave Awards Evening allows us all to luxuriate in nostalgia from "long ago and far away." Each year we reminisce with dear Finch friends, and for a few short hours, we recapture the thrill of that remarkable experience on 78th Street. Sounds corny, but we all cherish this escape to a magical place that for one night makes us feel eighteen, invincible, and absolutely determined to become the world's next wave of "movers and shakers" all over again. Inevitably, the hours pass, and we're back in reality. Yet, we uniformly depart, in awe of one, single truth. Though relatively few in number, throughout the last sixty-some years, so many of our ranks managed to leave an indelible "Finch stamp" on the fields of theatre, film, television, finance, publishing, music, dance, art, politics, education, fashion, business, community service, medicine, and law....just to name the obvious.

The question remains. "What was the "Finch secret?" Of course, we credit an outstanding faculty, an impressive administration, and our glamorous well-appointed facilities- not to mention the wealth of opportunities outside our doorstep. Still, lots of colleges boast talented teachers, savvy leadership, and state of the art equipment. Furthermore, Finch was not the only college ever to use a big city's cultural institutions to groom its students. What then set Finch apart?

Simply put, we were small. How much easier for a Dr. Striker, a Dr. Ellis, or a Dr. Maxwell to identify the promise of a student in a classroom of twelve, nine, or even five. Granted, our tiny numbers did not allow us to escape constant scrutiny (no playing hooky, for sure), but we flourished. After all, who doesn't love personalized attention from revered giants in their field? These giants were insistent that we fulfill our potential and were the first to suggest opportunities outside the classroom, call a colleague on our behalf, or write a letter of recommendation with a very personal touch. (As Director of Admissions, Sally Arthur knew all the women (and their talents) well and was always on the "look-out" for the next great opportunity available for that motivated Finch student.)

Of course, "small" has its downside. Financial support from alumnae is critical to every college's financial health. Logically, a larger graduate pool means more avenues for future funding. Essentially when the "chips were down," we simply ran out of avenues to gather more chips.

However, never underestimate that potent combination of passion and talent. The doors closed, but in its place, a determined Finch community created a Foundation that through its financial assistance is helping women complete their education at Swarthmore, Yale, Hunter, Mount Holyoke, Wellesley, Bard, Smith, and the list goes on. (Yes, these are the same schools that often stuck their noses in the air when they heard the name, Finch. To which we still reply, "Sticks and stones.... but we know how to get a job done!") Simply read about our scholarship winners' achievements, and it is no exaggeration to say that we are assisting the next wave of world leadership.

So, now, on this glorious Jessica Cosgrave Evening when we recognize the breath-taking success stories of Finch alumnae, we humbly acknowledge that we are now the experts in our fields. Like our own Finch heroes from many years ago, we have the chance to befriend, advise, encourage, and help ambitious and hopeful women as they pursue their career dreams. A

Finch Mentor is a friend, confidante, cheerleader, and professional resource. Luckily, in today's world one needn't be in the same city, state, or even the same country. Emails, texts, Skype, and Google Hangouts bring everyone together in an instant. (Of course, an old fashion telephone call and hand-written note still work like a charm.) Yes, it's true. Each scholarship winner has her own school affiliation, but on her campus, she is just one of many. For us, she is a new star among our ranks and a member of the next generation to leave that "indelible Finch stamp." Once more, small but mighty makes all the difference.

**Eileen Sherman and Laura Larsen chair the committee for Finch Mentors. If you would like to share your "know how," and become a Finch Mentor to a Finch Scholarship Winner, please be in touch.

Eileen: kcne@juno.com Laura: slarsen2@msn.com

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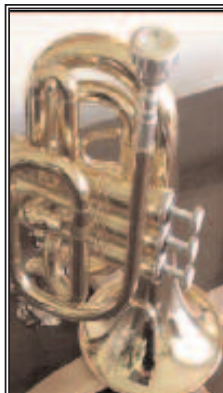
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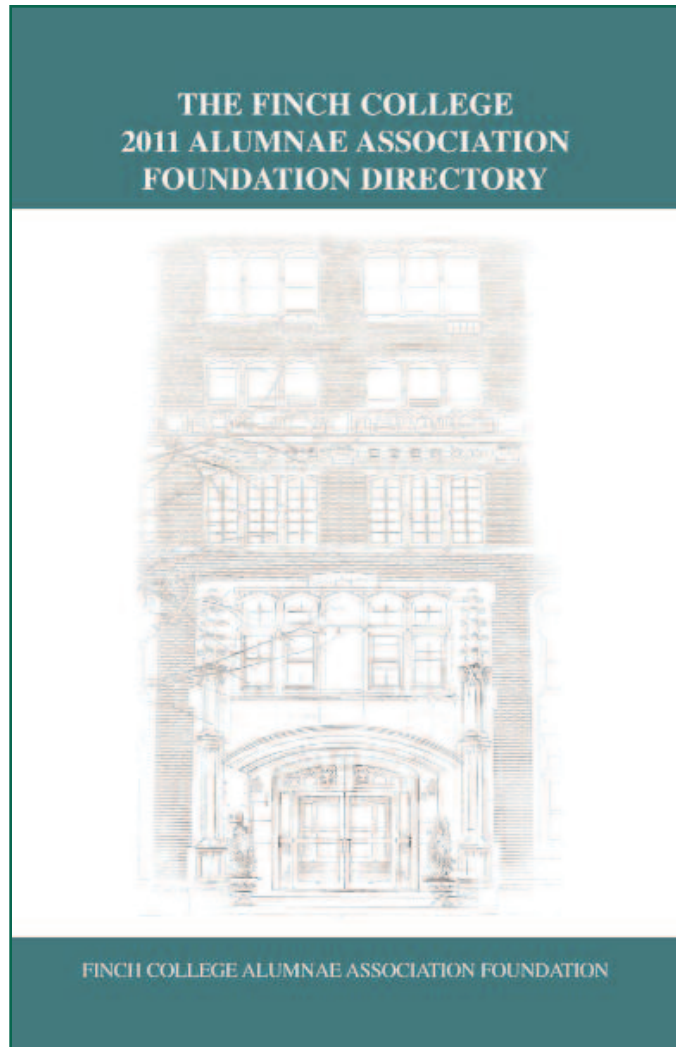
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