



Cosgrave Honorees: Mellow Memories of Their Alma Mater

"In my days at Finch, I had a wonderful psychology teacher, Gladys Romanoff," said recent Cosgrave honoree Georganne Aldrich Heller. "She tried her best to get me to go further with my studies and become a therapist, but with Finch's proximity to Bendel's, Bonwit's, and Bergdorf's, I had another calling and studying was not always my first thought."

Georganne delighted the Cosgrave audience gathered May 21, 2013, at the Cosmopolitan Club for the 19th annual Jessica Cosgrave Lifetime Achievement Awards. Founder of her Irish Theater & Film Production Company, Georganne is a mentor and advocate for aspiring Irish actors and playwrights. She moves between her native New York, Los Angeles, and Ireland.

Nearly 100 guests applauded Georganne and her five fellow Cosgrave honorees: **Dr. Jacqueline Stuchin-Paprin**, **Martha Coyle**, and **Marilyn Gelber**, all of New York City; **Sandy Rowley Colt**, Houston, TX, and **Jane Crawford**, Weston, CT.

Dr. Jackie Stuchin, as she was known at Finch, headed the Education Department from 1972 to 1974; Martha Coyle, who speaks five foreign languages, worked 38 years for two former world-class airlines, Pan American and Cia Mexicana de Aviacion; Marilyn Gelber, playwright, artist, former actress, and early childhood education teacher, knew Jessica Finch Cosgrave at Finch; Sandy Colt is a licensed dyslexia therapist and veteran volunteer crew member of the



(c) Honoree Dr. Jacqueline Stuchin-Paprin, (l) her daughter-in-law, Dr. Pamela Stuchin, (r) her son, Dr. Steven Stuchin

ELISSA, official tall ship of Texas, and Jane Crawford is known among emerging, contemporary artists throughout the world for her continuing support that began with the Avant-Garde movement more than 40 years ago in New York's SoHo district.

Georganne said that her own talent was in representing the talents of others by presenting works in New York at the Irish Arts Center and the Irish Repertory Theater. But she is multi-talented herself having served five years as cultural director for the Borough of Manhattan under Mayor Ed Koch, helped launch the first Newport (RI) Jazz Festival years ago, worked as a radio jazz disc jockey, opened a jazz club in New York, taught ballroom dancing at the Fred Astaire Studios, had her own public relations firm in L.A.,

helped found Women in Film, which now has 50,000 members world-wide, is known for her collage art and "never made a dollar while producing 25 plays and marrying five husbands," she added with a smile. She is happily married to composer/lyricist Norman Sachs, who is collaborating on a project with her ex-husband, Paul Heller, Academy Award-winning film producer. Her daughter, Jami Morse Heidegger, headed the venerable Kiehl's skincare company before selling it to L'Oreal. Georganne's father, the late Larry Aldrich, was a well-known fashion designer and advocate of the arts.

Before joining Finch, **Jacqueline Stuchin-Paprin** had earned graduate degrees at Columbia University Teachers

Save the Date for 2014 Cosgrave Awards

The 20th Annual Jessica Cosgrave Awards Celebration will take place on Tuesday, May 20, 2014. To nominate potential recipients for this prestigious award, you can download the instructions and applications online at www.FinchCollege.org by clicking on the Cosgrave Award on the left side of the home page. For the most recent Finch events, you can access the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust website at www.FinchCollege.org.



Honoree Georganne Aldrich Heller and her husband Norman Sachs

College and a Ph.D. from NYU. She also was among the first Head Start teachers, working at four schools in Harlem. With her move to Finch she “entered a world of higher education at the other extreme of the socio-economic scale,” she said.

“Young minority groups were entering the early stage of focus on their developmental skills, in the expectation that they could exceed the academic achievements of their forebears. While at Finch, females were stepping over the threshold to women’s liberation issues, when more career choices began to emerge, choices our mothers and grandmothers could never consider. Beyond our borders, studies conducted in underdeveloped countries have shown that where women have been given educational advantages, the national economy has improved.”

Jacqueline is Professor Emerita at Bronx Community College where, for 18 years, she taught adults to read, write and speak correctly. Their average age was 26.

Martha Coyle saw a lot of the world while serving 18 years with Pan American World Airways and 20 years with Cia Mexicana de Aviacion. While with Pan Am she often had to call on her knowledge of several languages at once. She can speak French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and Hebrew. To learn the latter, she lived three years in Israel and studied at Tel Aviv University. “Israel was like an oasis in the desert.”

“My great love at Finch was art history with so many museums practically on campus, like the Met and the Frick Collection,” she said. She also studied merchandising with the late Christine Bloch but instead of moving in that



Honoree Jane Crawford and her husband, filmmaker Robert Fiore

direction, a career with the airlines materialized and she stayed with it nearly 40 rewarding years.

“My parents had the idea their daughters should get married and settle into comfortable lifestyles but I wanted to be in New York,” said **Marilyn Gelber**, 86, whose two sisters are 93 and 97. “I grew up in Newton, NJ, the county seat of Sussex County, NJ. The county had more cows than people. At Finch I majored in English and studied poetry with Dr. Johan Egilsrud. He was a great influence I write a lot of poetry today. When I got to Finch, the dorm rooms were full, so I lived at what was then called the Studio Club, at 210 E. 77 St. Today it is the Birch Wathen Lenox School (co-founded by Jessica Finch Cosgrave) where we have Finch meetings, so I have come full circle.”

Marilyn eventually traveled way beyond New York, living in Paris for 18 months at the Hotel de Crillon for \$6 a night in the late 1940s, and exploring Europe and northern Africa. But her parents were not relegated to Newton either. They had a pied-a-terre at the Plaza Hotel, available to their daughters at any time. Once an artist spotted Marilyn at the Sherry-Netherland Hotel, he wanted to paint her. Her parents agreed as long her mother could chaperone the sittings. “So she traveled 120 miles round-trip from New Jersey to be there with me,” Marilyn said.

Before studying acting with director Lee Strasberg, Marilyn taught early childhood education and served as teacher, director, and co-founder of nursery and kindergarten schools on Manhattan’s Upper West Side. She always had a secret wish to be an actress and did perform in several Off Broadway shows.

Always a loyal supporter of Finch,



Honorees Sandy Rowley Colt and Martha Coyle

Marilyn brought a tableful of guests to the Cosgrave Awards, which raises funds for Finch Grants that assist women with a 2-year college degree who want to go on to earn their B.A. degree.

“I thank Finch for its mission to help women with the brains but not the means to continue their education,” said Marilyn.

A Planned Parenthood activist since 1971, **Sandy Rowley Colt** readily volunteered to defend the Houston clinic during the 1992 Republican National Convention.

“Volunteers were trained to join arms and cross legs to form a human chain surrounding the clinic,” she told the Cosgrave audience. “My fellow clinic defenders were so surprised that I had taken an activist stance before, as a senior at Finch, when I marched in protest of the invasion of Cambodia in May 1970, in Washington, D.C., at the White House with my Finch College classmates. I went on to be active in Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast as co-chair of a gala and as a board member for seven years.”

While Planned Parenthood is still a major concern, Sandy now has a full-time practice as a licensed dyslexia therapist and is recognized in Houston and elsewhere for her ability to help people of any age conquer a reading disability. When her youngest child was having problems in kindergarten, Sandy enrolled him in academic language therapy and took classes herself to become a therapy specialist. That young man recently graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in petroleum engineering.

On weekends Sandy and her husband, Sloan, are in Galveston, TX, volunteering to scrub, sand, paint, varnish, and check the



Lois Moran Ziegler



Joel Stern and Honoree Marilyn Gelber



Cosgrave underwriters Rebecca and Yehuda Even-Zohar

sails of the ELISSA, the historic tall ship of Texas, built in 1877 in Aberdeen, Scotland.

“In October we finally get to sail offshore, from Galveston to Corpus Christi. To spend a day on the water working with friends toward a common goal is a good day.”

Jane Crawford, a 1970 Finch classmate of Sandy Colt’s and a fellow activist, also remembers “several endless bus rides to D.C. to march for civil rights and against the Vietnam War”. Jane’s fight for the rights of others is a long-time passion that followed her after graduation from Finch to SoHo, where she became an ardent advocate for emerging Avant-Garde artists. She married Gordon Matta-Clark, a leader of the movement who died in 1978. She continues his work for the homeless, building housing structures out of discarded refuse around the globe. With her husband of 33 years, filmmaker Robert Fiore, Jane has assisted on prize-

winning documentaries, including the Civil Rights Movement in the South and the 1970 Kent State massacre in Ohio.

“Above all others,” she said, “for me it was **Elayne Varian** (director of the Finch College Museum of Art). She quietly created one of the most Avant-Garde museums in the city. And I believe she was the first to show film as art in a museum. For me this was opening a window into a new world, one that has continued to occupy my time and interest. Many of the artists I met at Finch became part of my extended downtown family.”

“One day Robert Rauschenberg showed up on campus in a cobalt blue pin-striped suit. Dr. De Marco sent him away saying it was not appropriate, but after learning who he was, chased him down to apologize.”

Following the awards, the winner of the \$1,000-money tree was announced: **Dr. Tricia Lin**, director of women’s studies at Southern Connecticut State University in

New Haven. One of three judges for the Finch Grant recipients, she serves with **Dr. Cecilia Macheski**, now Professor Emerita at LaGuardia Community College, and **Dr. Mary Raddock** of Norwalk Community College in Connecticut.

Lois Moran Ziegler was honored at the ceremony for her 16 years of leadership as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust.

The efforts of many alumnae went into the success of the 19th annual Cosgrave Awards. **Virginia Wattiker Sheerin** was honorees chair. Past Cosgrave Honoree **Frances Fish Tompkins** generously underwrote the cost of the elegant crystal Tiffany bowls individually engraved for each of the honorees. **Rebecca and Yehuda Even-Zohar** donated the beautiful floral arrangements for the dinner.

*Article: Laura Hockaday
Photographs: Laura Hockaday
Margaret Stein Nakamura*



Cosgrave Committee Chair Virginia Wattiker Sheerin with Laura Gallagher



(l-r) Dr. Tricia Lin, Mentor Eileen Bluestone Sherman, 2012 Grantee Zibeb Bouzy

2013 Cosgrave Weekend Events Delight with Culture, History, and Gastronomy



Finch Group including Honorees Sandy Rowley Colt and Martha Coyle at the New York Historical Society

This year's annual Cosgrave Weekend provided Finch alumnae, friends, and family with an especially unique and fun mix of cultural, historical, social, and gastronomic activities.

Twenty of us gathered for dinner on Friday, May 17 at La Rivista in Manhattan's theatre district before heading across the street to see the Tony award-winning Christopher Durang hit, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, starring Sigourney Weaver. This wonderful evening was arranged by Finch alum and Broadway producer extraordinaire (*The 39 Steps*, *A Christmas Story*) **Patricia Flicker Addiss**.

Saturday morning of May 18, our group assembled at the New York Historical Society on Central Park West for a docent-led tour of this remarkable – and newly renovated – institution. One of the highlights of the visit was a giant split screen film about The Big Apple. After lunch at the Society's beautiful and modern Caffè Storico, we had ample time to browse the gift shop and explore various exhibits before heading less than a mile uptown to the spacious and grand apartment of **Ginger Runes Najar**. There we were entertained by cabaret and piano talent, Steve Weber, courtesy of **Magda Stark Katz**, and sipped wine while enjoying gourmet appetizers from world-famous Zabar's.

Since Sunday, May 19 turned out to be a gray and rainy day, it provided the perfect opportunity to tour the brand new Shop Life exhibit at the Tenement Museum on the Lower East Side, where we learned about commerce and the immigrant experience in New York in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Finch grad **Marcy Syms** of the Sy Syms Foundation has contributed greatly to making this addition to the museum possible. Sunday evening was misty and raining; still, we were able to glimpse the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island from the comfort of our cozy, covered Hudson River yacht cruise.

Everyone who attended is still raving about the fantastic guided tour of Grand Central Station on Monday, May 20, arranged by President **JoAnn Cricchio Kubat** of the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust, as well as the fabulous time they had at dinner that evening at New York's famous "21" Club.

With this wonderful whirlwind weekend leading up to Cosgrave, as well as Cosgrave itself, good times were had by all!

Article: Wendy Glickstein

Photographs: Margaret Stein Nakamura



(l-r) JoAnn Cricchio Kubat, Wendy Glickstein, Alba Farber Francesca and her husband, noted actor James Karen



(l-r) Hostess Ginger Runes Najar and Ceil Gavin Ainsworth



(l-r) Frances Fish Tompkins and Honoree Martha Coyle



(l-r) Patricia Flicker Addiss, Magda Stark Katz, and pianist Steve Weber



(l-r) Denise Mularoni Decker, Jenny Anderson Merriman, Virginia Wattiker Sheerin, Evelyn Lorentzen at The 21 Club

Finch Alumnae of South East Florida Donate 2013 Grant

Twenty-one Finch alumnae gathered on March 30 to enjoy a spectacular luncheon on the patio of the *Graze* at the Four Seasons Hotel in Palm Beach. Our Florida group ranged in age from the last graduating class in 1975 to classmates from 1954, and they came from all over Florida from Jupiter in the north to Miami Beach in the south. Some of the alumnae are year-round residents, but we were also joined by Finch friends Priscilla Cole Perkins, a former Finch faculty member who was visiting with Sara Arthur, another former faculty member. Other attendees included Barbara Lazrus Cohen, Louise Griffin Collins, Wesley Cullen Davidson, Cheryl Young Deknatel, Audrey Schlang Diamond, Dorothy Rutter Engberg, Natalie Benjamin Glasgall, Ruth Abrams Gonzalez, Nancy Jackman Holland, Paula Kirshenbaum Isacoff, Roni Okun Jacobson, Zaida Schlesinger Levin, Hyla Miller Levine, Annette Gross Mandel, Patricia Sandler Menkes, Henrietta Rothblatt Santo, Jayne Thylan, Sharon Queeney Weintz, and Heather McNulty Wyser-Pratte.

Sharon Queeney Weintz suggested we donate a scholarship, as a group; this idea was enthusiastically received. Betty King, who had attended our Miami Beach luncheon, also contributed to the scholarship. (See 2013 Finch Grant Recipients article on page 10.)

Hopefully, this kickoff luncheon for the Finch group of South East Florida will mean new and renewed friendships in our area. Our next Finch Florida event will be held in Boca Raton in early November. If you happen to be visiting in our area, please join us. If I have your Florida contact information, I will be sending details to all alumnae in the state. If you haven't heard from me in the past, it means I do not have your contact information, so please be sure to reach out to me at cheryl.deknatel@snet.net.

Article: Cheryl Young Deknatel

In the Spotlight - Henrietta Santo: Dressing for Success in Social Activism and Philanthropy

Upon graduation from Finch College in 1968 at age 19, Henrietta (“Henny”) Santo (née Rothblatt) wrote two nationally syndicated columns, ran a detective agency for criminal defense attorneys, and became a noted polygraph examiner. Later, along with her husband, Berge, she directed the iconic Sign of the Dove restaurant, which twice earned three stars from *The New York Times*.

After seeing her once-vibrant mother lose mobility, Henny became an avid supporter of the importance of understanding both Medicare and long-term health care insurance. Upon moving to Florida, she joined Bankers Life and Casualty Company, becoming a certified Long-Term Care (CLTC) specialist. She is also a contributing long-term health care expert on Public Radio WLRN’s *Topical Currents*.

A passionate advocate for those who cannot help or do for themselves, Henny has been involved in many philanthropic and volunteer organizations in both New York and Florida. She was an early participant in City Harvest, providing food for New York’s homeless; a Board Member of City-Meals-on-Wheels, which delivers nutritious meals to New York’s homebound elderly; and was Project Director for the National Alliance for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse & Maltreatment.

Henny is happily busy these days, overseeing all clothing contributions to the Palm Beach County branch of Dress For Success (DFS), the nationwide nonprofit career development agency with more than 125 affiliates in the U.S. and a dozen other countries. Its clients – females of all ethnic backgrounds, ages, and sizes – run the gamut from those aging out of foster care, to women in their 70s, from those with little or no education to those with PhDs. These women, all of whom are unable to afford appropriate interview clothes, share the same goal: finding a new job.



Henrietta Santo

In order to qualify for the program, clients who, in Palm Beach County, are referred by one of more than 50 outside agencies including The Lord’s Place, Goodwill Industries, and AVDA (“Aid for Victims of Domestic Abuse”), must be job-ready. They are provided with clothes as well as makeup application lessons (makeup is often donated by Bobbi Brown). Once they secure a job, they are given a week’s worth of clothing, which really adds up to more than that, since each wardrobe consists of coordinated pieces, allowing them to create many different outfits. “Dressers” are assigned to them for help and guidance.

DFS offers two programs: The “Going Places Network,” is for women who are actively job hunting. One day a week for three hours, they receive a personality assessment, help with resumes, and practice interviews with actual employers, all of which empower them with the confidence to go out into the working world. So, as they leave the program, they have regained their self-esteem. The second program guides women who are re-entering the workplace, teaching them skills such as

how to deal effectively with difficult co-workers and bosses.

Henny loves her work; she started at DFS as a dresser, and for the past two and a half years has been volunteering her services and expertise to the organization, three to four days a week. After a clothing donation is received, it is sent to “the floor” in the agency’s high end “boutique”. If Henny deems the clothing either unusable or inappropriate, it is donated to other organizations that will make good use of it. And, for the consummate bargain hunter, DFS “sells” high-end clothing (St. John, Escada, Armani, Gucci) for only a minimal donation. This money helps the charity pay its overhead: rent and electric, but no salaries. Last year, the Palm Beach chapter helped approximately 350 women and will serve about 450 of them in 2013. The organization has a new two-minute *YouTube* video about the Dress for Success boutique, which can be accessed through the following link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0IZfKuskpc.

Dress for Success of the Palm Beaches’ 2014 fund-raising luncheon will be held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Palm Beach on Friday, March 21. Tickets are \$85. For more information about this event, bargain shopping, or contributing to Dress for Success, you can reach Henny at: 561-445-2177. **Dress for Success Palm Beaches Inc.** is at 118 East Ocean Avenue, Lantana, FL 33462. Tel: 561-249-3898.

Henny Santo is a fifth generation New Yorker who has lived in Boca Raton, FL for the past 13 years. She and Berge have three children: sons, Matthew, a New York-based cinematographer, and Christopher who lives near Philadelphia, and daughter, Elizabeth, who lives in south Florida.

Article: Wendy Glickstein

Class Notes

40s

Grayce Troiano Kindle, (Finch 1948–1950), currently a resident of Seminole, FL, learned to fish and hunt from her late husband. Grace plans to bequeath their numerous hunting trophies and mounted fish to collections in Australia and Nebraska.

Anita Valdejuli McGowan, (Finch 1942–1944), lives in Ft. Lauderdale, FL where she spends quality time with her four grown children.

50s

Georganne Aldrich Heller, 2013 Cosgrave awardee, completed a successful run with her show *Who's Your Daddy?* by Johnny O'Callaghan. The play received its Off Broadway premiere in the spring before being extended at The Irish Rep Theatre in New York. Georganne spent this past summer preparing new artwork for an exhibition of her collages, for a new gallery in Palm Springs, CA. To view her artwork, go to:
www.facebook.com/ArtworkbyGeorganneAldrichHeller. In September, she will be fund-raising for the Irish Arts Center, and attending its gala with honorees Liam Neeson and Gabriel Byrne at the New York Athletic Club. In October, she will continue producing for her company, Irish Theatre & Film Production, even as she heads to Ireland for this year's Dublin Theatre Festival (www.dublintheatrefestival.com) to scout for new shows to bring to the U.S. You can follow all of Georganne's news on: <http://www.facebook.com/Irishtheatreandfilmproduction>

Ann Jacobs, (Finch 1958–1960), recently co-authored with Pat Lampl and Tish Rabe, *Love for Grown-ups: The Garter Brides' Guide to Marrying For Life When You've Already Got A Life* for brides above 35. Ann spent her professional career as a television producer and is a partner in On the Aisle Productions, a media consulting firm.

Nancy (Suzy) Kerry Stockslager, (Finch Class of 1952), lives in Pulaski, TN where she is a retired horse breeder and shows Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Queen Elizabeth's favorite breed of dog.

60s

Mosette Glazer Broderick, (Finch Class of 1967), recently presented the Friends of the Upper East Side Historic District's *Hats Off Award* to architect Walter B. Melvin. Director of Urban Design and Architectural Studies at New York University, Mosette is also an author and professor of Art History.

Susan Lynn Cole, (Finch Class of 1968), lives in West Palm Beach, FL. An avid gardener, she served as president of the Manchester Garden Club in Vermont. Formerly a real estate broker, she has trained horses and was cofounder and president of the Saratoga Driving Association.

Robin Ferst, (Finch Class of 1969), founded the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy. Her career was spent in investment management in commercial banking. *Traditional Home* magazine featured her as a classic woman. She lives in Atlanta, GA.

Stephanie Brody Lederman, (Finch Class of 1961), is an artist in New York. She will also have two poems published next spring in *The St. Petersburg Press*, a literary magazine. The renowned Guild Hall in East Hampton has awarded Stephanie the winner of the 75th Annual Guild Hall Artists Members exhibition. She is preparing for a solo exhibition of her work next summer.

Syida Haas Long, (Finch Class of 1961), who converted to Catholicism in 2007, has been the chaplain at California Pacific Medical Center for more than two years. Syida currently lives in San Francisco, CA.

Nancy Wallstein Newkirk, (Finch 1962–1966), lives in Bethesda, MD. From 1969 to 2003, she was a lawyer in industry and government. For the last nine years, she has been with a legal recruiting and placement firm.

Karen Wagner Sanchez, (Finch 1961–1964), divides her time between Houston, TX and Santa Fe, NM where she owns homes. Karen writes that she is an avid gardener, painter, and grandmother.

Finch College Alumni

Association Foundation Trust

954 Lexington Avenue, #183
New York, NY 10021
info@finchcollege.org
www.FinchCollege.org

Board of Trustees 2013

Ceil Gavin Ainsworth – *Co-Chair*
Sara Arthur – *Co-Chair*
Joy Corregge
Wesley Cullen Davidson
Susan Davis
Denise Mularoni Decker
Cheryl Young Deknatel
Ann Holmes DiLuglio
Wendy Glickstein
Audrey Greene
Margaret Stewart Hedberg
Laura Hockaday
Barbara H. Katsos, Esq.
Magda Stark Katz
JoAnn Cricchio Kubat
Susan Embree Parker
Marjorie Schulman
Virginia Wattiker Sheerin
Frances Fish Tompkins
Lois Moran Ziegler

Officers 2013

Joy Corregge – *Vice President*
Susan Davis – *Vice President*
Wendy Glickstein – *Vice President*
Magda Stark Katz – *Vice President*
Susan Embree Parker – *Vice President*
Marjorie Schulman – *Treasurer*

Finch News

Joy Corregge – *Publisher*
Wendy Glickstein – *Editor*
Laura Hockaday – *Feature Editor*
Wesley Cullen Davidson – *Class Notes*
Magda Stark Katz – *Contributing Editor*
Margaret Stein Nakamura –
Contributing Editor
Emilie Puzio – *Contributing Editor*

Class Notes *continued*

Andrea Sierck Vest, (Finch Class of 1966), went hiking with her two grandsons in Utah this past June.

70s

Maria Laura Accorsi (Finch 1973–1975) who lives in Bologna, Italy, would like to get acquainted with other Finch women who live near her.

Virginia (Ginger) Gerstley, (Finch 1968–1970), is currently senior vice president, UBS Financial Services, New York City.



Dr. Carol A. Hawkes

Carol A. Hawkes, Ph.D., of Danbury, CT, was department chair and English professor at Finch from 1957 to 1975. She was vice president of Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY, before becoming president of Endicott College in Massachusetts. In 1987, she was hired as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences of Western Connecticut State University (WestConn). She later was appointed as the founding dean of WestConn's School of Visual and Performing Arts. Dr. Hawkes retired on June 30, 2011, at age 89, but continues as a consultant for WestConn's re-accreditation committee.

Diana O'Rourke Jacoby, (Finch 1968–1972), and her husband Mark were featured in the May 2013 issue of *Avenue Magazine*. Their antique business, Philip Colleck, Ltd., located in a pre-Civil War freestanding brick house on East 58th Street in Manhattan, recently celebrated its 75th anniversary. The Jacobys have run their 18th and 19th Century English furniture and decorative arts company since 1987.

Laura Stober Larsen and Melanie Jamgochian Mitchell (both Finch Class of 1974) met in Baton Rouge, LA this summer to reconnect and catch up on old times and new.

Cathy Cohn Marshall, (Finch Class of 1970), writes that her daughter, Corinne Marshall, was married on May 25, 2013. Finch graduates **Trish Dale Cayton, Joan Cohn, Jane Deutsch Goldban, and Leslie Bernstein Gross** attended the wedding in Redondo Beach, CA. Corinne and her husband, Brad J. ("B.J.") Porter are both television writers. B.J. was just nominated for an Emmy for a show he wrote for Comedy Central. Corinne has a new position as a staff writer on a new comedy show, "Surviving Jack", starring Chris Meloni formerly of "Law and Order SVU".

Megan McCarthy, (Finch Class of 1975), works at Sotheby's International Realty in Larchmont, NY.

Arline Davidow Shaffer, (Finch 1969–1971), lives in Short Hills, NJ. She is a psychologist, specializing in treating

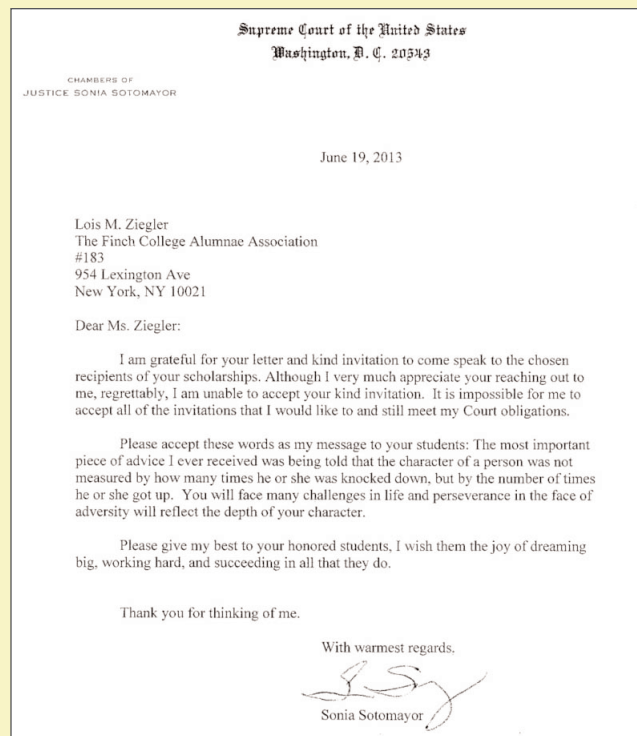
eating disorders.

Susan Mau Soong, (Finch Class of 1971), has won two First Prizes, one each, for Poetry and Fiction in the Lorin Tarr Gill Writing Competition, sponsored by the National League of American Pen Women, Honolulu. Susan based those writings on her mother-in-law's tales about growing up in Shanghai in the 1920s and 1930s.

Article: Wesley Cullen Davidson



Melanie Jamgochian Mitchell and Laura Stober Larsen (both of Class of 1974)



Hello everyone:

When 60 Minutes recently interviewed Justice Sonia Sotomayor she several times mentioned how important mentors were during her school years and how it opened her horizons and also how scholarships to Princeton and Yale Law totally changed and enhanced her life. I thought, wouldn't it be amazing if she would speak to some Finch College Alumnae Association Foundation scholarship winners and donors. Well, unfortunately she cannot do it. I thought you might all like to read her beautiful letter. Such a nice note to our students.

Lois

In Memoriam-Lilly Pulitzer: **Socialite Turned Fashion Pioneer**

The “Queen of Prep”, Lillian Pulitzer Rousseau, (born Lillian Lee McKim) better known as **Lilly Pulitzer**, passed away at her home in Palm Beach, Florida, on April 7, 2013. Born on November 10, 1931, to socialites Robert V. McKim and his wife, Lillian (née Bostwick), Lillian Lee “Lilly” McKim, the middle daughter of three, attended the Chapin School in New York City, Miss Porter’s School in Farmington, Connecticut, and Finch College, her *alma mater*, (though for only one semester). She left Finch to work, first, as a midwife in West Virginia, and then as a volunteer at the veterans hospital in the Bronx.

While on vacation in Palm Beach, she met Peter (Herbert Jr.) Pulitzer, (the dashing handsome grandson of publisher Joseph Pulitzer), and the young couple eloped in 1952 (shocking her family), and settled in Palm Beach, where Peter owned several citrus groves. With fresh produce from the groves, Lilly opened a juice stand in Palm Beach (on Via Mizner, just off Worth Avenue), but found that squeezing juice ruined her clothes. In order to camouflage the juice stains, Lilly designed a simple sleeveless shift dress made of cotton, in a bright, lively tropical print pattern; thus, fashion history was made: Customers loved it; she produced more in order to sell them at her stand. Eventually, as the dresses sold better than the citrus juice, she focused on designing and selling her “Lillys”.

Lilly Pulitzer became president of her own company, Lilly Pulitzer, Inc. in 1959. With the help of partner Laura Robbins, a former fashion editor, she produced the sleeveless, fully lined shifts, and later, collections of other garments “... around whatever suited [her] fancy ... fruits, vegetables, politics, or peacocks!”¹ It was a “local” company way ahead of its time:



Lilly Pulitzer

the main factory was located in Miami, Florida and the fabrics were produced by the Key West Hand Print Fabrics Company in Key West. From the 1960s to the early 1980s, elites including members of the Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, and Whitney families, and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, wore, adored, and popularized Lilly’s colorful fashions. When Jackie, a former classmate of Lilly’s, was featured in *Life* magazine wearing a “Lilly” shift, this dress became one of the most successful Lilly Pulitzer styles. Many a Finchite collected or coveted Lillys – and still do.

Lilly and Peter were divorced in 1969. They had three children: Peter, Minnie, and Liza. Although Lilly later married Cuban rancher and lawyer, Enrique Rousseau,² legally changing her name to Lillian McKim Rousseau, her clothing company continued to operate under the label “Lilly Pulitzer”. In 1984, Lilly closed down the entire company; but in 1993, Pennsylvania-based Sugartown Worldwide, Inc. contacted her, to bring

the brand back due to popular demand and nostalgia. Lilly Pulitzer remained active in the role of creative consultant, involved in new designs, fabrics, collections, and new products (though not the daily activities). In December 2010, Sugartown Worldwide, Inc. was purchased by Atlanta-based Oxford Industries, Inc. for [more than] \$75 million dollars. (Net sales in 2012 were \$122.6 million, according to the company).³ Today, the company maintains 75 Lilly Pulitzer Signature Stores (also known as Via Stores), owns several retail stores, and also sells in upscale department stores.

Known for hosting fabulous parties barefoot at her Palm Beach home, in recent years Lilly Pulitzer published a pair of lifestyle books – *Essentially Lilly: A Guide to Colorful Entertaining* and *Essentially Lilly: A Guide to Colorful Holidays* with her friend, author Jay Mulvaney. Her fashions have been exhibited in museums. She also released two colorful desk calendar books. Ever-spirited, and a champion of “prep-chic”, she created special collections with sorority prints on them, holding contests on her Facebook page to vote on which ones would win their own prints.

“Style isn’t just about what you wear, it’s about how you live,” Pulitzer said in 2004. “We focus on the best, fun and happy things, and people want that. Being happy never goes out of style.”⁴

Article: Margaret Stein Nakamura

¹ Associated Press interview, 2009.

² Mr. Rousseau died in 1993.

³ *The New York Times* Obituary, 4/7/2013; *ibid.* correction, 4/9/2013.

⁴ *Los Angeles Times* Obituary, 4/7/2013.

2013 Finch Grant Recipients

The Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust recently announced the winners of this year's \$2,000 grant awarded to five outstanding community college women above the age of 22 who will enter an accredited four-year college. Each \$2,000 grant is a one-time monetary award based upon each student's merit, academic achievement, and letters of reference from two of their professors. Once again, we are indebted to our fine college professor judges, **Dr. Tricia Lin**, **Dr. Cecilia Macheski**, and **Dr. Mary Raddock** who contribute their valuable time and expertise in narrowing down the list of candidates.



Jessica Ryan and her son, Augie

Jessica Ryan, a 44-year-old mother of five, whom she home schooled, will be attending the prestigious Ada Comstock Scholars Program at Smith College. Jessica, who is transferring from Middlesex Community College, quickly stated "financially it will be extremely helpful, but more for the boost it gives me, psychologically, to keep moving forward." She views her current educational

pursuits as a culmination of a lifetime of intellectual passion. After graduating from the Peter Krump Cooking School, owning a specialty cake company in New York, then a Connecticut restaurant with her husband, Jessica found herself in dramatic crossroads in 2011: divorcing, penniless, and quickly realizing that a college degree is a necessity for obtaining gainful employment. At Smith College she plans to pursue a career in education, before going on to graduate school and a Ph.D. Jessica moves to Northampton, MA, with her son Augie, pictured here, and another son, Luke. Her three other children are already off to college.

When **Godelieve Vandenboorn Bonacci** graduated from high school in the Netherlands, she vowed never to set foot in a school again! Now, 32 years later at the age of 50, the happily married mother of three is pursuing a college degree. She briefly lived the American dream as a stay-at-home mom, enjoying many parental years until her husband lost his job. The faculty at her children's elementary school offered her a position as teacher's aide. She enjoyed eight years as a kindergarten classroom teacher's aide. As her son and daughter left for college, Godelieve entered Norwalk Community College, where she found the experience to be both nerve-racking and exciting!

She has come a long way since that day in the Netherlands and now believes when she achieves her goal at Southern Connecticut State University to be a teacher, she wants to teach children to love learning. By doing so, she will have a hand in making their dreams come true. Godelieve has been awarded the **Dr. Margaret Maxwell Grant**, named in honor of Finch College's beloved

history professor, which is given to a young woman who has successfully overcome challenges in her lifetime.



Godelieve Vandenboorn Bonacci



Shaina Capellupo

In 2007, at the age of 19 and with new-found sobriety, **Shaina Capellupo** entered Monroe Community College. When she found she was pregnant at the end of the first semester, her boyfriend encouraged her to follow her heart and continue studies, this time in vocational training. Although her six-year relationship with her son's father ended, Shaina now works two part-time jobs and entered Nazareth College in 2013. Sociology courses have changed her perspective on life in a most profound way: she realizes

the way culture and social institutions impact the quality of life. At the suggestion of a professor, Shaina became part of the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Project on campus. The organization's focus is to tell the stories of genocide and human rights violations, past and present, while creating advocates. Shaina feels she would never have been a mother, student, employee, and productive member of society without the dedicated individuals in the field of social work who helped channel her into a position where she could recover. She feels indebted to these people and is working toward a bachelor's degree in social work, and aspiring toward a master's degree in the future. Shaina has received the Finch Grant generously donated by graduate **Nohra Haime** in honor of her sister **Marlene Haime Finvarb**.

When applying for the Finch Grant, **Yvonne Wellner Harnischfeger** explored the Finch website and found Jessica Cosgrave's determination to give women a better start to life a most important message and goal. Yvonne, who was married to an abusive husband, cared for aging parents. In 2009 she lost

her job as a legal assistant in a law firm. She then decided it was a good time to pursue a college degree at age 39. Technology has always fascinated Yvonne who chose to pursue a degree in computer science at Raritan Community College with a minor in mathematics. Named to the 2013 New Jersey All-State Academic Team for outstanding accomplishments, and at one time afraid of math, she began challenging herself with elementary algebra. She helped organize Global Games Jam at Raritan, working with other students to work with new technologies and is now building a summer program for high school girls to entice them to enter the technology field. As a member of the Society of Women Engineers, she looks forward to a career using these skills after receiving her bachelor's degree in computer science at Rutgers University.



Moreen Tonny

After her father's premature death, **Moreen Tonny's** mother made countless sacrifices to ensure the children had access to the best education in Haiti. Although Moreen faced the elitism of the Haitian education system, she was also constantly exposed to children who did not have access to education and who were not respected. At age 16 Moreen started a summer program teaching young children French grammar and helping them develop linguistic and

social skills. She was working toward her high school diploma when the 2010 earthquake shook Haiti and totally changed her lifestyle to one of homelessness, hunger, and being cut off from school. When aid finally arrived, she volunteered as a translator for foreign aid workers who collected data to better distribute aid and assist in the community. Later, after moving to New York to live with a relative and successfully passing the GED exam, Moreen worked in customer service for several airline companies at JFK Airport, before entering LaGuardia Community College where she made Dean's List first semester and earned membership into Phi Theta Kappa. She also participated in the prestigious Exploring Transfer summer program at Vassar College. Transferring to Mount Holyoke College, Moreen will study international relations, human rights, and public policy. Her objective is to help those without a voice and a limited knowledge of their rights to access the resources and services to which they are entitled. Moreen has been awarded the **Finch Alumnae of South East Florida Grant**. This group of alumnae who have recently held several reunions, generously decided to fund a Finch Grant.

Article: Lois Moran Ziegler

Finch Fall Events

Wednesday, October 16: Tour the Art Collection at Bloomberg Headquarters

This private art collection is one of the most treasured in the city and the tour is exclusively for Finch members. Meet on October 16 at 3:45pm in the lobby of Bloomberg Headquarters at 731 Lexington Avenue at 58 Street. The tour begins promptly at 4:00pm. Space is limited to 25 attendees. We would appreciate a \$30 tax-deductible donation to the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust. To make a reservation, please contact Lois Moran Ziegler at ZieglerAssociate@aol.com no later than October 9.

Monday, October 28: Tour the 25th Annual Antique Dealers Show

Finch alumnae are invited to a private tour of the 25th Annual International Fine Art & Antique Dealers Show, "Downton Abbey Meets Uptown Chic", courtesy of Haughton International Fairs (www.haughton.com) on Monday, October 28 from 5pm to 7pm at New York's Park Avenue Armory. The tour offers an in-depth view of historic pieces from Britain's greatest and grandest houses including Castle Howard, Chatsworth, Leeds Castle, and Wimpole Hall. Attendees of this Finch event will receive a special "key card" that will permit unlimited returns to the fair until it closes on October 31. The tax-deductible donation is \$35 with all proceeds to benefit the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust's Scholarship Program. To make a reservation, please contact Wendy Glickstein at wglickstein@nyc.rr.com by October 14.

Friday, November 15: Tour The Salon: Art + Design

The fair, conceived by Sanford Smith + Associates, returns for its second year at the Park Avenue Armory. It celebrates the eclecticism of 21st century collecting. The mix of material which last year was extolled as a "museum in the making in the Park Avenue Armory," showcases the best of modern, contemporary, and historic design alongside 20th century and contemporary art featuring 53 international dealers. It's a must for collectors and admirers of contemporary and historic design and fine art. The Friday, November 15, guided tour begins at 4:30pm and the tax-deductible donation is \$40. To make a reservation, please email Ceil Gavin Ainsworth at ceilains@aol.com or call 212-288-5653 by November 1.

Finch Fall Events continued

Sunday, November 17: Tour Dr. Mount's African Art Collection

Dr. Marshall Mount will conduct a tour of his private, awe-inspiring African Art Collection at his spectacular home in Jersey City, NJ on Sunday, November 17 from 4pm to 6pm. The house is his boyhood home and contains three floors of incredible artwork. Space is limited to 25 attendees and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Transportation will be provided from Manhattan at a cost to be determined. The cost without transportation is \$35 (tax deduction \$25). To reserve a space at this exclusive Finch event, please email Sara Arthur at sara.arthur@nyu.edu or call 212-426-3805 by November 10.

Save the Date: Cartagena, Colombia in February 2014

Cartagena, Colombia is hosting the 1st International Biennial of Contemporary Art from February 7 to April 7, 2014. The Biennial is an exhibition that will bring together artists from different countries whose works will be exhibited throughout the city of Cartagena and will include painting, sculpture, photography, electronic and audiovisual media. With the expertise and assistance of Nohra Haime, we are in the preliminary stages of scheduling a trip tentatively planned from Tuesday, February 25 to Friday, February 28 with an option to extend your visit through the weekend. Jet Blue's direct flight airfare from JFK to Cartagena is \$498 with hotels ranging in price for double occupancy from \$317 to \$489 per night. If you are interested in this trip, please contact Virginia Wattiker Sheerin at virginiasheerin@aol.com or 212-288-6745. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in this trip so we can secure the best arrangements.

Alumni or Alumnae?

We have changed our association's name to conform to the name of our legal entity: the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust. We will, however, continue to refer to Finch graduates and attendees as "alumnae".

Have you paid your 2013 dues?

The FCAAFT needs your support so please complete the enclosed membership form and join today.

New Lifetime Member: Kimberly Willson-St. Clair



Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust
954 Lexington Avenue, #183
New York, New York 10021