Celebrating the Shaw Center
What's HAPPENING

Here is just a sampling of the exciting campus events coming up at the University of Hartford. Plan now to treat yourself to one.

Visit www.hartford.edu/calendar regularly for details and updates to our full calendar of events.

VISUAL ARTS

Tues., Oct. 30-Sun., Dec. 16
Hartford Art School Faculty Exhibition
Joseloff Gallery

Sat., Dec. 1-Thurs., Dec. 6
Hartford Art School Clay Club Exhibition and Sale
Silpe Gallery

Sun., Jan. 13-Sat., Feb. 2
Connecticut Scholastic Art Awards and Exhibition
Silpe Gallery

Sun., Jan. 27
Opening reception and awards presentation:
Joseloff Gallery
Exhibition

Tues., Jan. 15-Sun., Feb. 24
Koopman Exhibition: Illustration
Joseloff Gallery

Tues., March 12-Sun., April 14
Alexander A. Goldfarb Student Exhibition
Joseloff Gallery

MUSIC, DANCE, THEATRE

Thurs.–Fri., Nov. 29–30
Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz Ensemble Concert
Lincoln Theater
7:30 p.m.
Admission: No charge

Thurs.–Sun., Nov. 29-Dec. 2
Light Up the Sky
Kent McCray Theater
Mor and Irma Handel Performing Arts Center
39 Westbourne Parkway, Hartford

Fri., Dec. 14
Out of Africa
Hartt Percussion Ensemble
Lincoln Theater
7:30 p.m.
An evening of traditional West African percussion music and dance.
Admission: No charge

Sat., Dec. 8
Hartt Philharmonia and Sinfonia
Lincoln Theater
7:30 p.m.
Under the direction of Edward Cumming, Hartt's chamber and symphony orchestras perform Stravinsky's Dumbarton Oaks, Ibert's Divertissement, Revueltas's Caminos, and Janacek's Sinfonietta.
Admission: $20, with discounts for seniors, students, and groups

Sun., Dec. 9
Sing for the City: Lessons and Carols
Cathedral of Saint Joseph
140 Farmington Avenue, Hartford
860.249.8431
4 p.m.
Featuring Hartt choruses, cathedral choir, and American Brass Quintet.

Fri., Dec. 14
The Impossible Dream: 50 Years of Goodspeed Musicals
Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts
166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford
860.987.6000
7:30 p.m.
Hartt music theatre students join the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and Goodspeed Musicals to celebrate the golden anniversary of the home of the American musical.
Admission: No charge

Sat., Feb. 23
The Hartt Community Division
Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker
Millard Auditorium
Fri., 7:30 p.m.
Sat., 2 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.
Sun., 2 p.m.
Admission: $30, general; $20, seniors and students with ID; $15, children 12 and under

ATHLETICS

Sat., Dec. 22
Basketball Doubleheader
Chase Arena, Reich Family Pavilion
University of Hartford Women vs.
University of Connecticut: 1 p.m.
University of Hartford Men vs.
Sacred Heart: 3:30 p.m.
Admission: Single ticket provides admission to both games.

For complete and updated event information, see www.hartford.edu/calendar. Lincoln Theater, Millard Auditorium, Joseloff Gallery, Silpe Gallery, and Reich Family Pavilion are on the University of Hartford main campus at 200 Bloomfield Avenue in West Hartford, Conn.
Dear Readers,

Welcome to the fall 2012 issue of the Observer. I am happy to report that the campus “weathered” Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 29. Classes were cancelled for three days so that students, faculty, and staff could be with loved ones to wait out the storm. At press time, we were back to our usual schedule.

Those who came to Hawktober Weekend in mid-October may see pictures of themselves or others they know on pages 10–11. Attendees enjoyed a campus resplendent in fall color with a nip in the air countered by sunshine. Alumni and parents watched soccer, lacrosse, and volleyball, ate all kinds of tasty food, listened to alumni musicians, shopped the wares of alumni artists/crafters, attended the 2012 Anchor Awards ceremony, gathered with former classmates at reunions, and had a great time. For photos from other alumni events, see page 31.

The official opening of the Shaw Center addition to Hillyer Hall prompted us to look at Hillyer Hall through the years. There is also coverage of the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the research interests of five Hillyer College faculty members.

You may be surprised to learn that the current Miss Connecticut, Emily Audibert ’13, is a University of Hartford student with a triple major and many activities. Be sure to read about this amazing young woman whose head is fit for more than just a crown (see pp. 8–9).

I also want to draw your attention to this issue’s Hawk’s Tale profile. Stephen Dalyai ’61 is a Hungarian refugee who escaped to this country as a young man. He made his way to the then Ward School of Electronics for a certificate in engineering and is now back on campus completing his bachelor’s in electrical engineering. He will graduate in May 2013.

Last but not least, it’s time for Hawk basketball to begin. Hope to see you at a game!

Go, Hawks!

Trish Charles
Editor-in-Chief
pcharles@hartford.edu

Read the Observer online at www.hartford.edu/observer.

On our cover: Guests in the new Regents Commons of the Shaw Center at Hillyer College enjoy the September ceremonial opening of the University’s latest addition to campus. Photo by Shana Sureck.
On Monday, Sept. 24, the University took an important step toward maintaining the quality of the education we offer both now and well into the future. We released a report to faculty, staff, and students that recommends where University resources should be focused in future years without increasing our overall budget.

We believe that to strengthen the University during uncertain economic times we must reduce the scope of what we do. In order to improve our competitive position, and to meet our students’ financial needs, we intend to reallocate our budget by reducing the number of programs we offer and by providing better support to our priority programs.

The goal of Foundation of the Future is to build on the current strengths of the University in order to make it even better.

The report is called Foundation of the Future. It contains recommendations that were formed by two University task forces—an Academic Programs Task Force composed of all faculty and an Administrative Programs Task Force composed of faculty and staff—that spent more than six months reviewing and prioritizing 253 academic and administrative programs. Their recommendations state whether a University program needs more investment, should be maintained as is, needs to be restructured, or should be divested.

This is not a budget reduction plan; it is budget neutral, with the goal of determining where to reallocate and focus the University’s resources within the existing budget. Additionally, the report contains recommendations, not decisions. We devoted the month of October to listening to the wider University community’s response to the recommendations, while University officers looked at any new, relevant data, considered projected budget implications, and assessed the recommendations within an institutional context. During this consideration phase, we knew that circumstances might become apparent that would make a recommendation not feasible to implement. In November and early December, we will develop an implementation plan for the recommendations that are adopted and announce that plan by the close of this fall semester.

Our goal is that implementation and reallocation will take place over the next five years. No matter what the final plan looks like, it will affect no current students. All students in an impacted program will be permitted to complete their current courses of study.

Additional information on Foundation of the Future, including links to Frequently Asked Questions and the recommendation lists, can be found at www.hartford.edu/FOTF.

Many universities around the country are considering focusing their offerings; we are certainly not unique in this effort. What is unusual in our approach is that it has been planned through a community-wide effort, and the recommendations have been developed solely by faculty and staff, not the senior administration. That doesn’t mean the recommendations have been universally well received. As I write, there is a good deal of serious discussion on campus, and the officers and deans are listening carefully to reactions and views.

The goal of Foundation of the Future is to build on the current strengths of the University in order to make it even better. We are pursuing this goal in a way that we believe reflects the University’s traditional values, by basing it on peer review and discussing it with our community.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to make this great University even better.

Walter Harrison
President
WHO IS THE CLASS OF 2016?

The University’s newest class of students, the Class of 2016, is settled in and becoming involved in campus life. Here’s a brief look at who these students are and what they are like.

This year’s 1,520 first-year students and transfer students were selected from the University’s largest-ever applicant pool—15,782. Exactly 50 percent are male and 50 percent are female.

The Class of 2016 traveled here from 35 states, including as far away as Alaska. The majority are from Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York. About 110 class members are from another country, including a dozen students from China. Others are from Brazil, Denmark, Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam. The class includes one set of triplets.

12 things you should know about the Class of 2016

With thanks to The Mindset List, released annually by Beloit College and authors Tom McBride, Keefer Professor of the Humanities at Beloit, and Ron Nief, emeritus director of public relations at the college.

- They have always lived in cyberspace, addicted to a new generation of “electronic narcotics.”
- Michael Jackson’s family, not the Kennedys, constitutes “American Royalty.”
- If they miss The Daily Show, they can always get their news on YouTube.
- They can’t picture people actually carrying luggage through airports rather than rolling it.
- Bill Clinton is a senior statesman of whose presidency they have little knowledge.
- They have never seen an airplane “ticket.”
- For most of their lives, maintaining relations between the U.S. and the rest of the world has been a woman’s job in the State Department.
- Exposed bra straps have always been a fashion statement, not a wardrobe malfunction to be corrected quietly by well-meaning friends.
- Women have always piloted war planes and space shuttles.
- Before they purchase an assigned textbook, they will investigate whether it is available for rent or purchase as an e-book.
- They watch television everywhere but on a television.
- Point-and-shoot cameras are soooooo last millennium.

Above: First-year students and their parents cross the bridge over the Hog River on campus. Left: A new student uses his ID card to open his dorm room.

6th class to draw rooms in Hawk Hall and to use the baseball and softball fields

7th class to play on the refurbished Al-Marzook soccer and lacrosse field and to take biology and chemistry classes in the refurbished Dana Hall

14th class welcomed to campus by President Harrison

56th entering class at the University of Hartford

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Some say that every University of Hartford student has a class in Hillyer Hall, formerly known as the General Classroom Building. While that tradition may or may not be true, it is in fact true that Hillyer Hall is the University’s oldest classroom building on the Bloomfield Avenue campus. For many years, Hillyer Hall was the hub of campus life, which makes it the first visual that comes to mind when many alumni from the 1960s and 1970s think about the University.

Today, there are other classroom buildings on campus, but Hillyer Hall is still heavily used. This past summer, the building underwent its biggest HVAC and energy system upgrade since it was constructed in 1959. Three general-purpose classrooms were also renovated on the second floor; a section of the roof in the lobby outside Auerbach Auditorium was replaced; and a section of the building façade was replaced. But the largest change was the new two-story, 10,000-square-foot addition to the building, named the Shaw Center. It is the first major renovation to Hillyer Hall since it opened in 1960. See the following pages for more on Hillyer College.

Clockwise from top left:
Dozens of members of the University community gathered outside Hillyer Hall for the opening of the Shaw Center on Sept. 13.
Students walk past Hillyer Hall in the early 1960s, when it was known as the General Classroom Building.
A professor addresses his class in Hillyer Hall in the early 1960s.
Hillyer Hall was the hub of student life when it opened in 1960. It housed the University’s first cafeteria.
Students gathered to study and socialize in the courtyard of the General Classroom Building (Hillyer Hall) in 1962.
A professor teaches a class in a Shaw Center classroom in Hillyer Hall in Sept. 2012.
Today, students can gather in the new Regents Commons in the Shaw Center to study, socialize, use computers, and watch videos.
Bright sunlight glistened off the red ribbon draped in front of the door of the University’s newest addition as dozens gathered to celebrate the ceremonial opening of the Shaw Center in September. The two-story, 10,000-square-foot addition to Hillyer Hall, the University’s oldest classroom building, adds faculty offices, state-of-the-art classrooms, a large gathering space for students, and—most importantly—a home for Hillyer College.

Standing outside the building that bears his name, lead donor John “Jay” Shaw A’74 spoke of his pride in Hillyer College and the renovation that “fully recognizes and integrates” it as an essential part of the University. Shaw and his wife, Debi, gave $1.5 million to the project. Their daughter, Carrie, is a 2008 graduate of Hillyer.

Although the Shaw Center is a dedicated home for Hillyer College, it will benefit the entire University because nearly all students take classes in Hillyer Hall during their college careers. “We see it as a place for all students of the University,” David Goldenberg A’73, ’76, M’76, dean of Hillyer College, said during the dedication. “This is a building everybody can take pride in and consider theirs to enjoy.”

Following brief remarks, the Shaws; President Walter Harrison; Goldenberg; Tom Groark, chair of the University’s board of regents; and Dean Andrews of Bank of America cut the red ribbon so attendees could go inside. The large, first-floor common area, known as Regents Commons, is the centerpiece of the Shaw Center. It provides an informal gathering place for students and faculty—complete with comfortable chairs, video monitors, and computer stations.

Once inside Regents Commons, the crowd was treated to a multimedia student performance called “Living Space.” The performance by the Qualia student ensemble, featuring students from The Hartt School and the Hartford Art School, incorporated dance and images inspired by the building itself. The dancers moved to sounds created when percussionists struck the floors and walls of the Shaw Center.

Guests were then able to tour the building, and some received signed copies of recently published books by five Hillyer College faculty members. Read more about what Hillyer faculty and alumni have accomplished “behind the ribbon” on the following pages.

Top: An innovative student performance, called “Living Space,” used sounds, dance, and images created from recordings of materials found throughout the Shaw Center, including glass, metal, and wood. Dancers moved to the sounds created.

Middle: At the ribbon-cutting ceremony are (l-r) Tom Groark, chair of the University’s board of regents; President Walter Harrison; lead donors Debi and Jay Shaw A’74; Dean Andrews of Bank of America, which made a major donation to the Shaw Center; and Hillyer College Dean David Goldenberg A’73, ’76, M’76.

Bottom: Sounds were triggered through motion-tracking technology, developed specifically for the performance, when Hartt School percussionists struck the floor or the columns of Regents Commons, and when dancers moved through the space.
Robert Dryden’s first encounter with the works of popular English author Jane Austen was relatively late. The Hillyer College associate professor was at Louisiana State University working on his PhD in English when he discovered her.

“I didn’t read Jane Austen in grade school or high school like most people,” Dryden explains. “I was looking at 18th- and early 19th-century British literature for my dissertation on pirates, fortune hunters, and colonial opportunists, when my advisor suggested that I look into *Persuasion* and *Mansfield Park*. Both offered a window into the seafaring world. That’s how I started reading Jane Austen.”

Since then, Dryden’s passion for the author has turned into scholarship, with his first complete book published in June and a second book, for which the University awarded him a Vincent B. Coffin Grant, due to his publisher in December.

The first book, *Jane Austen for Beginners*, is the latest in the For Beginners series of graphic nonfiction books that examines visionaries and subjects ranging from philosophy to politics to history in an easy-to-understand manner. Dryden’s next book, *Jane Austen in a New Age: Pleasure, Passion, and Possessiveness in the Global Jane Austen Community*, will survey Austen’s appeal around the world through essays from writers in Brazil, China, India, and other locations.

### A River Historian


“The book is a replication of the course work we did,” says Griswold. “The organization of the course—from the materials we used to the classroom discussions we held—made this book the right thing to do. It came together beautifully as a result.”

While the book highlights the Connecticut River’s prominent role in the state’s development, it also celebrates prominent people who connected with it. “Many have found a deep inspiration along the river,” says Griswold, “including David Bushnell, creator of the first American submarine, and Albert Einstein, who contemplated the cosmos while relaxing on the riverbanks.”

Much attention has been given to the Shaw Center as a physical home for Hillyer College. Now meet some of the Hillyer College professors who call it “home, sweet home.”

Associate Professor Renwick Griswold is authentically costumed as a seafarer from the era of the War of 1812.

Robert Dryden, associate professor of English, says, regarding Jane Austen, “No other author has the type of personal connection with the public . . . not even Shakespeare.”
A Student of Race Relations
Professor Ashley “Woody” Doane, chair of the social sciences department at Hillyer College and associate dean of the college, was awarded the prestigious 2012 Founder’s Award for Scholarship and Service by the American Sociological Association (ASA)—Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities.

When presenting the award to Doane in August, the ASA noted that “he manifests a delicate balance of extraordinary scholarship that has shaped the contours of our field, just as he has managed to mentor and advise students, lead his own department and institution, and direct the vision of the section.”

Committed to scholarship and service throughout his career, Doane has written groundbreaking publications that include Dominant Group Ethnic Identity in the United States, White Out, and What Is Racism? He has also freely invested his personal time and energy in working with young, aspiring race scholars.

“The award recognizes that University of Hartford and Hillyer College are places where “a person can be a good teacher and a good scholar,” says Doane. “My teaching is really complementary to my scholarship,” he observes, when noting that his research can be influenced by the questions raised by students in his classes. Conversely, he brings hard-to-come-by research into classroom discussions, such as detailed data that he obtained from a contact in the U.S. Census Bureau.

A Poet, Performer, Professor
As a poet, performer, scholar, and teacher, Joyce Ashuntantang, a Hillyer College assistant professor of English, infuses her classes with creative energy; a rich, multicultural background; and a passion for the written and spoken word.

Originally from the western African nation of Cameroon, Ashuntantang brings to Hillyer her growing reputation on the world stage. In June 2012 she was one of 70 poets from 45 countries to participate in one of the world’s largest poetry festivals, the 22nd International Poetry Festival, in Medellin, Colombia.

“I write very strong, woman-centered poetry,” says Ashuntantang. When reading her poems, she doesn’t simply read, she performs—often accompanied by drums. Ashuntantang is currently working on her second book of poetry, Wings of Words; her first book, A Basket of Flaming Ashes, was published in 2010.

A recognized scholar of African literature, Ashuntantang often arranges for African authors to discuss their works with her students on Skype. In July 2012 she was a guest on National Public Radio in Chicago, Ill., to discuss the portrayal of African human rights conflicts in Hollywood films.

At Commencement 2012, Ashuntantang was honored with the University of Hartford’s Belle K. Ribicoff Junior Faculty Prize, which recognizes an outstanding junior faculty member in a tenure-track position who has not yet been tenured.

Joyce Ashuntantang, assistant professor of English, has a growing reputation on the world stage as a poet.

A Scholar of Exploration
Michael Robinson, Hillyer College associate professor of history, is currently completing research for his latest book, The Lost White Tribe: Explorers, Scientists, and the Theory That Changed Africa. The book will chronicle the rise and fall of the Hamidic hypothesis, which proposes that the human species originated in Asia and all people migrated from there.

In the 1800s explorers came across groups of people who appeared to be Caucasian in areas where white people were not normally found, such as the Arctic, Panama, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The hypothesis was formed to try to explain the racial diversity of Africa. Robinson will follow in these explorers’ footsteps with a trip to Uganda this winter.

Although scientists eventually discredited the Hamidic hypothesis, it has had a large impact on the world. Europeans who colonized Rwanda used the theory as their basis for defining two groups of people as being racially different. This division eventually led to the Rwandan genocide that killed more than 800,000 people in 1994.

By any measure, Emily Audibert ’13 is a remarkable young woman. She is pursuing a triple major in the Barney School of Business, serves as executive vice president of the Student Government Association, is an exceptionally talented dancer, and is involved in an extraordinary range of activities.

But this past summer, Audibert took her dazzling résumé and dizzying schedule to a whole new level, when she was crowned Miss Connecticut 2012. The Observer spent a few days with Audibert this fall to capture the many competing demands in her life and how she manages to juggle them so skillfully.
1 Audibert was crowned Miss Connecticut on June 30, 2012, and will go on to compete in the Miss America pageant in January. She had never competed in a pageant before 2011, when her dance teacher encouraged her to sign up for the pageant in her hometown of Wolcott, Conn. Photo: Steve Smith/Miss Connecticut Scholarship Corporation

2 Audibert’s already busy schedule has become jam-packed since winning the Miss Connecticut title, as she balances her classes and school activities with numerous public appearances, her Miss Connecticut platform of fighting childhood obesity, and rigorous preparation for the Miss America pageant. “It’s been very challenging,” Audibert said. “I’m fortunate that my family and friends have been very supportive.”

3 Audibert makes an appearance as Miss Connecticut at a fundraising walk for the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation in Simsbury, Conn. Joining her are sisters Emma Acampora, 4, and McKenna Acampora, 8.

4 Audibert speaks with Michael Malarsie, U.S. Air Force senior airman, who was grand marshal at the Fidelco fundraising walk. Malarsie was blinded by an improvised explosive device while serving in Afghanistan. His guide dog, Xxon, was given to him by Fidelco.

5 Audibert, who has been dancing for most of her life, practices with the University Dance Team. She spent many years teaching dance to children and says she “loved every second of it.” She will perform a dance routine during the talent portion of the Miss America pageant in January.

6 Working at her desk in the Student Government Association (SGA) office, Audibert goes over some items with June Krippner, SGA administrative assistant. Audibert was elected executive vice president of SGA for 2012–13. She previously served as a student member of the University’s Board of Regents, and she is a student coordinator of the annual Hawks Helping Hartford Day of Service.

7 Audibert prepares a healthy lunch while working in the SGA office. With the Miss America pageant around the corner, Audibert is diligent about her diet and her daily exercise routine.

8 Audibert walks across campus with Andrew Gregor ’14.

9 With her project partner, Andrew Newberger ’13, Audibert gives a presentation in her Seminar in Entrepreneurship class. “I love learning,” says Audibert, who is pursuing a triple major in accounting, entrepreneurial studies, and economics/finance, and will graduate with 150 credits, nearly 30 credits beyond the average bachelor’s requirement.
It was three days jammed full of music, sports, food, fun, and joyful reunions—even shopping—in the crisp New England air. Alumni and parents chose from a variety of activities between Oct. 12 and Oct. 14. There was the Hawkadelic ‘60s party for some and Midnight Mania in the Chase Arena for basketball fans—both on Friday night. Saturday began with the 2012 Anchor Awards (see p. 30), followed by alumni musicians and artists on the green, an alumni lacrosse game, and lunch at the barbecue. Later in the day was a women’s volleyball game and both an alumni men’s soccer game and a Hawks men’s soccer game against Stony Brook. The Department of Athletics held the A. Peter LoMaglio reception honoring the former director of athletics and founder of sports at the University of Hartford. It was attended by a number of alumni players from the 1960s, when LoMaglio was also the men’s soccer coach. A jazz brunch on Sunday, a softball game against Manhattan, and a concert in celebration of Hartt Professor Stephen Gryc’s retirement rounded out the weekend.
A. PETER LoMAGLIO CELEBRATION

FAMILY/ALUMNI FUN

CLASSES WITHOUT QUIZZES

HAWKADELIC ‘60s NIGHT

SAYS YOU!
Hartt Students Around the World

One widely accepted measure of higher education effectiveness is the ability to transfer the skills and knowledge acquired in classes to proficiency and know-how in real-world settings. On this and the following pages, we profile some of the many University students who put what they’ve learned to work this past summer.

The maps below indicate where more than 60 Hartt School students showed off their skills and acquired new training across the United States and around the world. Space doesn’t allow us to profile each of them, but here are a few highlights.

Saxophone student Max Schwimmer ’13 toured Italy for two weeks with the International Opera Theater, a Philadelphia-based company that premieres a new opera in Italy each summer. Schwimmer played tenor saxophone in a 10-member pit orchestra. He also received a scholarship in August to attend the KlezKanada Jewish Culture Festival in Montréal, Canada, where he studied and performed klezmer music, traditional Jewish instrumental folk music.

Lucianna Arraes ’13, who is pursuing her Graduate Professional Diploma in violin performance, was chosen to represent Brazil in the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, an organization that puts together an orchestra with musicians from throughout the Americas, from Canada to lower Chile. Arraes spent the month of July touring with the orchestra through Chile, from La Serena in the north to Frutillar in Patagonia.

Vocal performance major Erica Maas ’13 also spent time overseas as a soprano section leader for Hartford’s Christ Church Cathedral Choir. The group spent a week performing in Coventry and Lincoln, England.

Closer to home, the Monomoy Theater in Chatham, Mass., was the summer destination for 15 students from the music theatre, actor training, and instrumental performance programs. They were involved in several productions—1776, The Last of the Red Hot Lovers, and Cabaret. Alan Rust, director of the Hartt Theatre Division, has been the director of the Monomoy for 30 years during the summer.

The Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Mass., showcased five dancers who participated in the Limón Teachers’ Conference, a gathering dedicated to the Limón technique of modern dance. The Hartt dancers served as demonstrators for the conference’s master teachers. Their work was documented on camera and will go into the archives of music libraries and schools, including The Hartt School, throughout the Northeast.

Mary Matthews, a Doctor of Musical Arts candidate, was a debut flutist with the 2012 Newport Music Festival in Rhode Island. She presented three concerts with her ensemble, the SoundScape Trio, which includes cellist Pablo Issa Skaric, a Master of Music candidate.

In October, Daniel Morel ’13, who is pursuing an Artist Diploma in composition, debuted the new orchestra work he completed over the summer. Morel was one of two composers among the 15 resident artists at the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild in upstate New York for the month of June.

NORTHEAST U.S.

- Hartford, CT: 1 performing arts management student
- West Hartford, CT: 3 dance students
- Becket, MA: 5 dancers
- Falmouth, MA: 1 music education/clarinet performance student
- Framingham, MA: 1 jazz performance major
- Chatham, MA: 6 music theatre students, 5 instrumental students, 4 actor training students
- Montpelier, VT: 1 actor training student
- Forestburgh, NY: 2 music theatre students
- Tivoli, NY: 1 dance student
- New York, NY: 4 dance students
- Woodstock, NY: 1 AD music composition student
- Newport, RI: 1 DMA flute candidate
- Carlisle, PA: 1 dance student

ELSEWHERE IN THE U.S.

- Durham, NC: 1 dance student
- Springfield, IL: 1 dance student
- Minneapolis, MN: 1 MM saxophone performance student
- Steamboat Springs, CO: 1 dance pedagogy student
- Salt Lake City, UT: 1 dance student
- Atherton, CA: 1 music production student
- Las Vegas, NV: 7 flute students
- Seattle, WA: 1 dance student

OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.

- Paris, France: 1 DMA trombone performance candidate
- Città della Pieve and Rome, Italy: 1 saxophone student
- Montréal, Canada: 1 saxophone student (same as above)
- La Serena and Frutillar, Chile: 1 GPD violin student
- Coventry and Lincoln, England: 1 vocal performance student
- London, England: 1 music production student
- Amsterdam, The Netherlands: 4 dance students
“Incredible” is how Joe Dziok ’14 describes working with NBC Olympics’ engineering crew at the 2012 games in London, England, this past summer.

“I was there for a little more than two months,” says The Hartt School music production and technology major. “I arrived about five weeks before the Olympics. There was a lot of prep work. People don’t realize all that goes on behind the scenes.”

Dziok was an intern among more than 1,500 crew members and freelancers ensuring that NBC’s 200 million viewers received the network’s thousands of hours of coverage of 302 sporting events.

“Mainly I was helping engineers keep track of sound and video equipment,” Dziok explains. “In addition to putting equipment together, I would scan bar codes to make sure all the equipment was accounted for at the field shop. I also put together the mobile camera kits, and I helped when pieces of gear needed to be repaired.

“The most exciting thing about working the Olympics was how much I learned about the broadcasting aspect of video and audio—and taking a lot of what I learned in the classroom and applying it to a real-world situation,” Dziok says.

“Part of the program at Hartt trains us to be musicians first,” says Dziok, who plays jazz piano. “We learn about entertaining. That’s what courses like ear training are about. Another part is how to be flexible. The Olympics took that aspect of entertainment to another level. It takes so many people to put on a show like the Olympics that you learn just how flexible you have to be as a professional.”

The native of Chicopee, Mass., says he cannot overstate the extent of Hartt’s role in his Olympics experience. “I don’t think I would have had the opportunity if it weren’t for The Hartt School’s program,” he says. “I got the job through Chip Adams. He’s vice president of Olympics Venue Engineering at NBC Universal. He must have heard good things about the Hartt program because he has hired Hartt students before.”

“It is already clear to me what a positive impact Joe’s work at the Olympics has had on him,” says Justin Kurtz, chair of Hartt’s Department of Music Production and Technology. “Not only has his experience in London helped confirm his commitment to studying music production at Hartt, it has also inspired his fellow classmates.”

Dziok’s summer wasn’t all work. In addition to taking in some of the history of London and visiting friends and University of Hartford alumni, he was able to watch from the press box as his cousin, Abby Johnston of Duke University, won a silver medal in the women’s three-meter, synchronized diving competition.

After the games, Dziok worked an additional week, making sure all the equipment was sent back to the States or off to the next Olympics venue, Sochi, Russia.

“NBC starts gearing up for the Olympics about a year and a half before,” says Dziok, who has hopes for another Olympics experience. “I think London went well. Chip said they would like me to come back to work in 2014.”
Just a few weeks after graduating in May, Alyssa Nett ’12 found a paid internship that allowed her to use the art skills she had developed in the Hartford Art School. She spent the summer creating art projects with 17-year-old Steven Carrasquillo, who has muscular dystrophy, a neuromuscular disease.

Nett was one of five current or recent University of Hartford students who interned as therapists with Masonicare Partners Home Health and Hospice. Some of them spent time with elderly patients, while others worked with children, like Steven, who are in Masonicare’s Pediatric Palliative Care Program for kids under the age of 18 with life-threatening illnesses.

Nett and Steven spent eight hours a week together over the course of the summer, concentrating on decorating Steven’s bedroom in his East Hartford home. A movie buff, Steven likes to color pictures of superheroes as well as fish and birds. Nett helped him create a collage out of his artwork and a few quotes from which they could draw inspiration, such as “Never give up” and “Wash your sadness away with a smile.”

Nett quickly developed a friendship with Steven. “I love kids,” she said. “I think everyone has a kid inside that they’re too shy to let out. This is my excuse. It’s not really work, it’s a lot of fun.”

Steven’s mother, Julie Echevarria, says the experience has been fun for her son as well, and she wishes the program could continue past the summer.

“He has taken art in school,” Echevarria says. “But now he works on projects on his own, even before Alyssa gets here.”

The internship allowed Nett to delve further into her other interest, psychology. As a painting major in college, she declared a minor in psychology at the beginning of her senior year.

“I took a couple of psychology classes and became really interested in it,” Nett says. “I love art and painting—but there’s something really solitary about that—and I love people.”

The internship was Nett’s second time working as an art therapist. She had previously taken an Arts in Healthcare course with Assistant Professor Cat Balco, who was also her internship advisor. Nett and her classmates worked with patients at the Wintonbury Care Center, a rehabilitation and skilled-nursing facility in Bloomfield, Conn. These two experiences have inspired Nett to look for a permanent job in the art therapy field.

The internship was part of The Ellipses Project, an artistic collaboration designed by Balco as a response to our culture’s avoidance of death. The project will conclude with an exhibition at Real Art Ways in Hartford, featuring paintings, sculptures, and drawings that the interns and their patients created over the summer. It will also include “legacy” projects such as videos, handprints, and poems that patients created so their families can have a reminder of them after they are gone. The exhibition is scheduled to open in April 2013.

Top: Alyssa Nett ’12 spent the summer creating art projects with 17-year-old Steven Carrasquillo of East Hartford, Conn. Bottom: Carrasquillo, who has muscular dystrophy, works with Nett on his drawing of the superhero Hulk.
University of Hartford basketball player Ruthanne Doherty is hardly the stereotypical engineer. That is precisely why she was approached about helping at the University’s Mad About Science program this past summer.

Doherty, a senior forward for the Hawks, is a biomedical engineering major in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture. For two weeks she worked with 16 middle-school girls, helping them to realize that future careers in the male-dominated fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) are well within reach.

“You have to get them interested during middle school in order to get into the advanced math and science programs,” says Mary Arico, coordinator of Mad About Science and assistant professor in the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture. Arico herself attended a similar science camp in her youth at a community college.

“We called it ‘nerd camp,’” she laughs. This is precisely why she wanted to form a similar program here at the University and illustrate that even the “cool kids” love STEM.

What better way to prove that point than to have a standout student-athlete and engineer-in-training, like Doherty, front and center each day.

“I think Ruthanne is such an excellent role model for girls,” Arico explains. “I knew they would look up to her and think, ‘If she can do it, why can’t I?’”

For two weeks Dana Hall on campus was the place to be for plenty of curiosity, scientific inquiry, and fun. Girls from towns across Greater Hartford enjoyed a variety of activities and experiments.

On one July afternoon the girls were split into teams to create miniature vehicles powered by mousetraps. An impressive collection of building materials littered the tables—everything from LEGO bricks to old CDs, wood and plastic scraps, tape, scissors, and glue. The girls modified and repaired their creations as needed. Final products revealed each group’s own concept of “car”: one is shaped like a Formula-1 racer; another has oversized wheels like a monster truck.

“It was interesting, they have a lot of energy,” Doherty says. “I thought it was a great experience, not only for them but for me. You can learn a lot interacting with younger girls. It just made me think about the past and how I did a similar program at a university in Virginia that exposed me to engineering. That is how my interest grew.”

When asked about their future career aspirations, participants had answers ranging from “not sure” to “an engineer at Pratt & Whitney” to “a forensic scientist.”

One thing is for sure. This winter, when these girls see Doherty in uniform soaring for an offensive rebound and scoring another basket for the Hartford Hawks, the reaction will be instantaneous: “I know her. She’s a woman engineer. And she’s cool.”
When Staci Bechard ’13 reminisces about Haiti, the image that she says she will always remember isn’t what you might expect. It isn’t the 680-mile flight from Florida on a 15-passenger cargo plane or the seven-hour trip on a “tap tap” bus over the winding mountain roads from Port-au-Prince to Jacmel. It isn’t even the devastation lingering two years after the earthquake of 2010.

What she says she will never forget is how friendly the Haitian people were. “It’s rude not to say bon jour [good day] to everyone you walk by in Haiti. Once we asked a woman for directions, and she took 15 minutes out of her day to show us the way.”

Bechard, who is majoring in integrated elementary and special education in the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, has volunteered the past two summers with the Haiti Family Initiative (www.haitifamilyinitiative.org). The Delaware-based organization sends teachers, social workers, and medical personnel to help Haitians whose lives were shattered by the earthquake.

A native of Newark, Del., Bechard says she has always been drawn to community service. “I guess it started with Girl Scouts. I’m pretty blessed and privileged to have what I have, and I feel that I should help others.”

Bechard’s enthusiasm for education is also evident at the University, where she is a tutor; a member of the education honor society, Kappa Delta Pi; and a founder of the University chapter of Students for Education Reform. She is a regular on the dean’s list.

Two summers in Haiti have clearly colored Bechard’s sense of responsibility. “Imagine if the U.S. hired 200 engineers to put water in every town in Haiti,” she says. “But Haiti was in complete devastation; no organization. Some homes stood as they were just after the earthquake.”

At a wellness and recreation camp in a Salvation Army building, Bechard “taught English to children who lived in tent cities. It’s really hard in a population like that because we were only there for 10 weeks. After that, the kids just roam around. They don’t have resources—no books, no Internet. Education drives everything. You can’t improve anything without it.”

Bechard is using her experience to create a manual to help teachers from industrialized countries adapt to teaching in Third World countries. The manual will be published through a grant from the Women’s Education and Leadership Fund at the University of Hartford.

Learning to Teach Teachers

Top: Staci Bechard ‘13 (squatting right) has spent two summers volunteering in Haiti with teachers, social workers, and medical personnel who are helping those impacted by the 2010 earthquake.

Below: Bechard is highly enthusiastic about the Haitian children’s participation in the 10 weeks of classes that the Haiti Family Initiative provides, and wishes there could be more.
A Farmer/Philosopher Retires

Bernard “Buck” den Ouden, professor of philosophy in the College of Arts and Sciences, doesn’t indulge in social media. “I prefer face-to-face conversation,” he says.

But when asked what image would best represent him on a social media website, he points to a line drawing of himself teaching a classroom of rapt students. Drawn by a former student, the picture captures the essence of a farmer/philosopher who has turned his passions into a rewarding 43-year career at the University.

Den Ouden’s warmth and ability to connect with his students inspire them to succeed. Daniel Hultgren ’09 says, “It’s very difficult to do justice to the amount of influence that Professor den Ouden has had upon me. If it weren’t for him, I never would have begun studying philosophy, which later became one of the primary reasons that I was granted UHart’s Martin Scholarship to study at [University of] Oxford and immigrate to the UK [United Kingdom].”

Den Ouden also has given guest lectures abroad; consulted on development projects in Egypt, India, Bangladesh, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic; and taken students to Minnesota to study the Sioux culture and to assist farmers in Kenya. He is a recipient of one of the University’s highest honors, the Roy E. Larson Award for Excellence in Teaching.

If den Ouden were having a conversation with you, here’s some of what he would say:

1940s

A PHILOSOPHER IS BORN

As I child, I worked on large farming machines—combines and tractors. I was 8 years old when I started. It was hard work. But, to paraphrase James Taylor, I could also work on a daydream. I started college in engineering, but in my second year, fell in love with philosophy. I love it because it’s extremely difficult and, most of all, because it deals with the fundamental questions we face: What does it mean to be human? Can we create rational communities and just societies? What is our relationship to the cosmos at large?

1969

A PROFESSOR TAKES FORM

I love philosophy so much that my passion for the subject matter made teaching a natural progression. In my third year of graduate school, I had an opportunity to teach philosophy at Eastern Connecticut State University. I enjoyed it. After the course was completed, I was offered a full-time position at the University (of Hartford).

1969-2012

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

I am convinced that the pursuit of excellence is the way human beings enjoy themselves most deeply and most profoundly. I also just find my fellow human beings interesting. Teaching is one of the most hopeful professions. I insist that students take their education seriously. And most of them rise to the occasion.

FIELD STUDY AS RESEARCH

One of the things I have prized about the University is that it has encouraged different kinds of research. It has allowed field study in all kinds of areas. Field study has been the basis of the 80 to 90 papers that I have written.

WHY I STAYED

I stayed at the University for so long because it was young when I started, and I wanted to help (with my colleagues) to make it work, make it better, put it on the map.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

My most memorable times here have been and are when I hear from former students as to what they are doing and how their study with me made a difference. Sometimes it takes your breath away when you hear what they have done with what you put before them.

NEXT

A public intellectual has a special responsibility. There are so many issues to deal with, some of which I have addressed in the four books I have written [Language and Creativity; Essays on Reason, Will, Creativity, and Time; The Fusion of Naturalism and Humanism; Are Freedom and Dignity Possible?]. I love to write. Retirement will enable me to prioritize that. Writing is part of who I am.

Editor’s note: Those who wish to honor Professor den Ouden may make a gift to the Bernard den Ouden Honors Scholarship fund, which provides support for all students in the honors program, by contacting Toni Robinson, director of donor relations, at robinson@hartford.edu or 860.768.2345.
Hartford Claims First Academic Cup in 15 Years

When the Hartford Hawks are playing for a conference championship, you need only look in one place to find University of Hartford President Walter Harrison: sitting smack-dab in the middle of the student cheering section, smiling with pride.

There was a similar look of pride on Harrison’s face when word came down in July that Hartford student-athletes as a whole had scored an important victory in the classroom. University of Hartford student-athletes registered the highest grade point average among nine America East schools during the 2011–12 year, thus winning the conference’s Academic Cup for the first time since 1996–97.

The winning margin was a razor-thin, one one-hundredth of a decimal point over the University of Vermont, which had won the honor for seven consecutive years.

“Pat Meiser [director of athletics] and I had talked about winning this cup since I arrived [in 1998],” Harrison said. “Last fall, at the all-student-athlete meeting, Pat challenged our athletes to win it in the classroom. And they responded brilliantly. This is a wonderful testament to our students, first and foremost, but also to our faculty and staff who inspire them to succeed.”

The Hawks finished the 2011–12 academic year with a 3.16 GPA, as 16 of Hartford’s 18 America East athletic programs earned a 3.00 GPA or higher and a league-high five teams recorded the highest GPA of their America East peers. The Hawks’ baseball (3.28), men’s lacrosse (3.07), women’s softball (3.38), men’s outdoor track and field (3.12) and women’s volleyball (3.37) programs all led the conference in their respective sports for team grade point average. Men’s golf and women’s golf, which are in different conferences, also had GPAs above 3.0.

“The America East Conference and its institutions continue to consistently perform at a high level in the classroom, which is a real strength across this league,” according to Commissioner Amy Huchthausen. “I would like to commend the University of Hartford, its student-athletes, faculty, and staff on this year’s Academic Cup, as it is a true testament to the commitment of all of those groups to ensure their student-athletes are students first.”

Other America East conference schools are Boston University, the University of New Hampshire, the University of Maine, Binghamton University, Stony Brook University, the University at Albany, and the University of Maryland–Baltimore County.

It didn’t take long for the University of Hartford women’s basketball program to come together in support of a recent graduate and former player. Within days of learning that Amanda Weaver ’11 had been diagnosed with Stage III colon cancer, the team was in head coach Jennifer Rizzotti’s office laying out plans for a benefit walk to support Weaver and her family. By the time the Sept. 8 Walk for Weaver concluded, the lofty goals set by the women’s basketball program were shattered.

“We put together a chart to show us what our goal was, but we’re just going to rip it up,” Rizzotti told the crowd following the walk, “because we raised over $45,000.”

More than 1,000 walkers circled campus roadways to show support, including all segments of the University of Hartford community, many former Hawk student-athletes, and women’s basketball players from other colleges. Yet the most inspirational person there was Weaver herself.

“Words cannot even begin to express how appreciative my family and I are for the effort that my teammates and everyone involved put in to make today happen and for the generous donations you have all made toward my medical expenses;” an emotional Weaver told the walkers. “Beyond the monetary support, your outpouring of love and encouragement continues to keep me motivated and strong, even on the toughest days.”

Weaver was a key player down the stretch as the 2010–11 Hawks recovered from a 1-9 start to win 11 of their last 12 games. Her three-point field goal midway through the second half of the America East Conference championship game broke a
Jennifer Rizzotti is accumulating an impressive women’s basketball coaching résumé. Three America East Coach of the Year awards. Six trips to the NCAA tournament. Three gold medals with USA Basketball.

Rizzotti may well be in the midst of a Hall of Fame coaching career, but it is her accomplishments as a player that have earned the 14-year Hawks’ head coach induction into the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tenn. The hall’s Class of 2013 was announced this past July. Rizzotti and five others will be inducted in Knoxville on June 8, 2013.

To be inducted as a player, an athlete must be retired at least five years from the highest level of play. Rizzotti, who was an All-American at the University of Connecticut (UConn), concluded her professional career with the Cleveland Rockers in 2003 after playing five seasons in the WNBA. She was first drafted in the WNBA in 1999 by the Houston Comets, with whom she was on a pair of WNBA Championship teams. She also spent three seasons with the New England Blizzard of the American Basketball League, where she was a two-time All-Star.

During her collegiate career, Rizzotti set UConn season and career records in both assists and steals. The point guard was the Associated Press National Player of the Year and Wade Trophy winner as college basketball’s outstanding senior player in 1995–96. That accolade came a season after leading the UConn Huskies to their first national championship and perfect 35-0 record in 1995.

Rizzotti was a two-time Kodak All-America First Team selection, a GTE/CoSIDA Women’s Basketball Academic All-American, the Big East Player of the Year, and the Big East Women’s Basketball Scholar-Athlete of the Year. During the Huskies’ memorable run to the 1995 national championship, she was featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated. “Although I am proud of my accomplishments as a player,” Rizzotti says, “I feel like I was really meant to be a basketball coach. I do hope, when all is said and done, that I will be recognized for my contributions to the sport from a coaching perspective as much as I impacted the sport as a player.”

Jen Rizzotti, head coach of University of Hartford’s women’s basketball

40-40 tie and gave UHart a lead it would not relinquish en route to upsetting host Boston University and claiming the conference crown.

As the Observer went to press, Weaver was recovering from successful surgery to treat her colon cancer and was declared cancer free.

Below: More than 1,000 fans, friends, and family came out to Walk for Weaver in September. They raised more than $45,000 to help University of Hartford graduate and former women’s basketball player Amanda Weaver ‘11 in her battle against colon cancer.

Fall Sports Shorts

**Men’s Golf Wins**

From Sept. 24 to Oct. 15, over the span of four tournaments, the University of Hartford (UHart) men’s golf team took home the title in three of four tournaments for the first time since 1996–97. It all began at Bull’s Bridge Golf Club in South Kent, Conn., when the Hawks ran away from the 16-team field in their own Hartford Hawks Invitational.

Leading by nine strokes entering the final day of play, UHart shot a closing-day 291, sending their final margin of victory to 20 strokes. In the Macdonald Cup in New Haven, Conn., hosted by Yale University, the Hawks finished tied for second among 15 teams. Only Yale bettered Hartford’s score, winning by three strokes. The team’s hot streak continued at the Connecticut Cup in Ellington, Conn., where three Hawks shot par on the final day as UHart won the 15-team tournament, beating second-place Rhode Island by four strokes. In the fourth tournament, the team erased a 12-stroke deficit to win the Philadelphia Big Five Invitational at the Philmont Country Club by one stroke.

**Women’s Soccer on a Roll**

At press time, the women’s soccer team had already locked up one of six spots in the upcoming America East Tournament. Their record of 9-3-3 included an eight-game unbeaten streak that was broken by a 1-0 loss to Boston University on Senior Day. Prior to the loss, the Hawks had consecutive shutout victories over New Hampshire, Maine, and Albany. The team earned its first regional top-10 ranking on Oct. 8, debuting ninth in the Northeast region, and was listed among Top Drawer Soccer’s Top 64 teams nationally projected to make the NCAA Tournament.

**Basketball Teams Tip Off**

The season tipped off for the men’s and women’s basketball teams earlier this month.

The men’s schedule consists of 29 games, including 14 home contests. The Hawks will play a pair of opponents, Rice and Arizona State, for the first time in the program’s 28-year Division I era.

Women’s basketball will also play a 29-game slate. The Hawks’ schedule includes 15 home contests, including a matchup with national powerhouse UConn on Dec. 22. The away schedule features a first-ever matchup with Vanderbilt and a trip to College Park, Md., to compete in the University of Maryland’s holiday tournament in late December.

Complete schedules and game coverage are available at www.hartfordhawks.com, where fans may also listen to live audio of all men’s and women’s games or pay to subscribe to live video coverage of home games. In the Hartford area, radio station WRDC (1360 AM) airs men’s games, and WWUH (91.3 FM) broadcast women’s matchups.
University Is Teaching Needed Manufacturing Skills

New lab and certificate in metrology introduced

The University’s College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture (CETA) is now addressing a critical shortage of people trained in metrology with the opening of its new Manufacturing Metrology Lab in Dana Hall. Metrology is the science and technology of automated precision measurements for complex manufactured parts.

“The University of Hartford launched its Manufacturing Metrology Lab to address critical skill shortages in this technology,” says CETA Dean Lou Manzione. “We have collaborated closely with regional partners such as Pratt & Whitney to build a state-of-the-art laboratory and prepare our students to assume leadership positions in the development of a world-class manufacturing base.”

The new Manufacturing Metrology Lab features equipment donated by a number of local companies including Nikon Microscope, Zygo Surface Finish, Faro Arm, and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology. The lab now enables the University to offer a four-course Certificate in Manufacturing Metrology. The metrology certificate courses are offered one night a week, and the certificate program can be completed in one year. Those who complete the certificate program will have the ability to perform a variety of manufacturing dimensional measurement services.

Corporate executives and political leaders who attended the lab opening in August noted that having such high-quality training available for employees is critical. Some Connecticut companies have been turning down lucrative contracts because they do not have enough workers with the needed training.

To learn more about the metrology certificate program and metrology lab, visit www.hartford.edu/ceta/manufacturing-metrology.

The Legacy of HAS Professor Stephen Brown

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by the late artist and Hartford Art School (HAS) faculty member Stephen Brown, presented in the University of Hartford’s Joseloff Gallery this fall, displayed Brown’s talent and secured funds for young artists to follow in his footsteps. Opening night for Stephen Brown: Legacy on Sept. 6 included a reception, at which a portrait of University of Hartford President Walter Harrison was unveiled, and a gala, where seven original paintings and drawings by Brown were auctioned off, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the newly established Stephen Brown Memorial Scholarship at the Hartford Art School.

The exhibition showcased more than 100 works from 25 public and private collections, with a focus on 1989 through 2009 when Brown was on the painting faculty at the Hartford Art School. The luminous still lifes of everyday objects for which Brown was known, as well as his candid and stunning portraits, hung alongside pastoral images of Pennsylvania dairy farms and sprawling landscapes from Colorado to New England and the French countryside. The portrait of Harrison, begun in 2006, was incomplete in 2009 at the time of Brown’s death.

Stephen Brown: Legacy was organized and curated by Lisa Gaumond, managing director of the Joseloff Gallery, along with a committee of Brown’s HAS colleagues and close friends—Tom Bradley, Gilles Giuntini, and Walter Hall. The group worked closely with Brown’s widow, Gretchen Treitz-Brown.

Six pieces were sold during the auction and raised $11,500 for the Brown Memorial Scholarship. Sara Adams ’13, a painting major, is the first recipient of the Brown scholarship.

Left: Self-portrait by the late Stephen Brown
Editor’s note: To learn more about the Stephen Brown Memorial Scholarship, contact Arlyne Alexander at aalexande@hartford.edu or visit www.hartfordartschool.org/giving.
In September, ENHP and community partners—Hartford Public Schools, Saint Francis Care, East Hartford Public Schools, and the Connecticut Science Center—brought experienced science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teachers and administrators together at the Connecticut Science Center for the Connecticut STEM Conference. “Future careers in the global workforce will rely heavily upon students who are well prepared in STEM,” says John Tapper, ENHP assistant professor and member of the STEM Conference Planning Committee. “The conference showed educators how to facilitate student learning in these areas,” he says.

Keynote speaker Stephen Hegedus, director of the Kapur Center for Research and Innovation in STEM Education at the University of Massachusetts–Dartmouth, shared his work on “Creativity in School: Math, Identity, and Motivation.” Training topics included teaching with Legos; using movement and dance to teach the Periodic Table; teaching math with iPads; and prosthetics and orthotics, led by faculty from ENHP’s Department of Rehabilitation Sciences. “The event was very successful in improving professional practice and increasing connections between all education-related STEM constituencies in our area,” concluded Tapper.

In May, ENHP students, faculty, and partners showcased their collaborative scholarly achievements at the inaugural ENHP Day. The day opened with an announcement of the latest affiliation agreement between ENHP and LIMBS International for collaboration around research and development to benefit amputees in the world’s underserved regions and to provide clinical opportunities for ENHP students and faculty.

Keynote speaker Kevin Carroll, vice president of Hanger, Inc., shared his knowledge of innovations in prosthetics and orthotics and his often poignant stories about the strides made by those who rely on them. One of those stories was about a dolphin trapped and injured in netting. The dolphin’s tail had to be amputated. After much experimentation, it was successfully fitted with a prosthetic tail by Carroll and colleagues. Carroll later acted in an advisory capacity during the filming of the associated movie, Dolphin Tale.

ENHP Day also included many poster presentations, informal and formal research discussions, and panel discussions. Follow the ENHP website, www.hartford.edu/enhp, for more information on the next ENHP Day, scheduled for May 3, 2013.

ENHP Engages the Community

The University’s College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions (ENHP) is committed to integrating health and education sciences with community engagement, and two well-attended ENHP-sponsored community events are evidence of a strong demand for such efforts.

In September, ENHP and community partners—Hartford Public Schools, Saint Francis Care, East Hartford Public Schools, and the Connecticut Science Center—brought experienced science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teachers and administrators together at the Connecticut Science Center for the Connecticut STEM Conference. “Future careers in the global workforce will rely heavily upon students who are well prepared in STEM,” says John Tapper, ENHP assistant professor and member of the STEM Conference Planning Committee. “The conference showed educators how to facilitate student learning in these areas,” he says.

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Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is my honor to represent you as president of the University of Hartford Alumni Association and to have the wonderful experience of working with your peers who serve on the Alumni Board. These graduates give generously of their time and talent to provide opportunities for all alumni to connect with the University.

The Alumni Board sponsors many programs throughout the year that enable alumni to enjoy fun, networking, and supporting students. For example, this fall, President Harrison joined Chicago alumni for a rousing Red Sox–Cubs game at Wrigley Field, and he met with European alumni at a reception in London. We also held two very successful networking events—a Leadership Series event in the Hartford area, hosted by TDBank, and another in Boston, where alumnae met with Provost Vasquez to discuss women in business. Have an idea for an event in your area? Let us know at alumni@hartford.edu.

I hope you were able to come back to campus to join fellow alumni, current students and parents, and faculty for Hawktober Weekend. If you were here, I know you enjoyed seeing old friends and connecting with new ones, as did many of us on the Alumni Board. We all are impressed by the many remarkable graduates the University has nurtured and produced, including you. If you weren't able to attend, please visit www.hartford.edu/hawktober to view photos from the weekend and start making plans now to come next year.

I invite you to become familiar with the names of your Alumni Board listed below. We all believe deeply in the value of our University of Hartford education. That is why we show our loyalty and appreciation by financially supporting the University's Anchor Fund. In 2012, 100 percent of the Alumni Board made a gift to the Anchor Fund. Increasing annual support from alumni is among the University's top fundraising priorities, and my colleagues and I encourage you to join us in support of this essential program. Unrestricted gifts to the Anchor Fund help provide essentials like student financial aid and faculty compensation, and help keep our campus beautiful. Please consider making a gift by using the enclosed envelope, going online, or answering the phone when a University of Hartford student calls you from the Telefund. Gifts of any size matter.

This year, we are seeking new ideas and increased involvement from our alumni, and we hope you will want to participate. We need your intelligence, energy, and spirit to ensure the success of our University. Please take a few minutes and complete the short survey on the inside back cover of this issue of the Observer and return it to us. We will take your ideas and keep you informed of gatherings, lectures, and service and volunteer opportunities in your area.

Thank you in advance for completing the survey and supporting the University of Hartford. Your participation matters and makes our alma mater stronger!

Best,

Da’Rel J. Eastling ’99, M’11
President, Alumni Association

University of Hartford Alumni Board 2012–13

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DEGREE KEY
Alumni Connections entries are distinguished by types of degrees and certification:
A associate’s degree
AD artist diploma
C sixth-year certificate
D doctorate
GPD graduate professional diploma
M master’s degree
No letter designation before a degree year indicates a bachelor’s degree.

1950
FREDERICK WARD (BARNEY, ’52, M’63 BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., and his wife, JANET WARD A’50 (BARNEY), celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary in August.

1953
G. WAYNE McCARY (BARNEY) of Longmeadow, Mass., retired as head of the Eastern States Exposition and was presented with the Spotlight Award at the 2012 Howdy Awards for Hospitality Excellence, held in Holyoke, Mass.

1960
THOMAS M. HASLER (A, A&S) of Baltimore, Md., is negotiating with Matej Minac to make an international, feature-length film about his father, Karel Hasler, a leading Czech songwriter, actor, and director, who defied the Nazis by satirizing them. He died at the Mauthausen concentration camp. A documentary on Karel Hasler and the son who never met him, titled The Immortal Balladeer of Prague, was shown at the University’s Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies in Washington, D.C. She was recently in Brussels, Belgium, at the European Union to address a gathering of European government representatives on the utility and impact of arts-based programming in peace building.

1968
SUSIE B. HINTON (M, ENHP) of Hartford, Conn., is relinquishing her seat on the Rocky Hill City Council, as she is moving to an area outside of her current jurisdiction. However, Hinton intends to stay involved with the community.

1970
KEVIN FAHEY (BARNEY, M’73 ENHP) of Coventry, Conn., has retired from a 43-year career in higher education student activities. Beginning his career as coordinator of student activities at the University of Hartford in 1969, Fahey served as director of Gengras Student Union for three years in the 1970s. He spent 34 years at the University of Connecticut before retiring.

1971
CHARLES J. MARGOLIS (HAS, M’76 HAS) of South Windsor, Conn., is the author of “Did I Really Say That?” The Complete Pageant Interview Guide. The book offers stories, instructions, and hints to pageant contestants. A well-known interview coach, Margolis is executive director of Interview Image Associates, which helps political candidates, job seekers, college applicants, and pageant contestants with presentation skills and image development.

1972
SUSAN KOSCIS (HARTT) of Alexandria, Va., is director of communications at Search for Common Ground in Washington, D.C. She was recently in Brussels, Belgium, at the European Union to address a gathering of European government representatives on the utility and impact of arts-based programming in peace building.

1973
ALAN B. GERTNER (A&S) of Union, N.J., has been promoted to full professor in the School of Communication Disorders and Deafness at Kean University in Union.

1974
KENDRA J. DOWD (HCW) of Arlington, Mass., has launched Blue-Eyed Crow Studio as a venue for showcasing her textile work. Shown here is Dowd’s award-winning quilt titled Murder Among the Birches. See more of her work at www.facebook.com/blueeyedcrowstudio.

1975
ALAN S. GOLDBERG (A&S) of New York, N.Y., has been appointed to the Acoustic Neuroma Association’s (ANA) board of directors. ANA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inform, educate, and provide national and local support networks for those affected by acoustic neuroma, a benign brain tumor, and to be an essential resource for healthcare professionals who treat patients with this condition. Goldberg’s wife was diagnosed with acoustic neuroma two years ago.

Marlow Shami ’75 (HAS), Last Stand, 2012 (digital photographic composite, 24” x 24”). Her grandfather’s olive grove in Kfar Kama, Israel, is the subject matter of the artist’s dissecting and reassembling the visual field into an intriguing balance of organic-world imagery. The University of Connecticut, Torrington branch, will host Homelands, a full, solo exhibition of Shami’s digital photographic composites, from Jan. 28 to April 4, 2013. The show will be mounted in the school’s Brick Wall Gallery, located at 855 University Drive, Torrington, and open to the public Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Shami will give an artist’s talk about her work on Monday, Feb. 4, at 7 p.m. in the Whitson Gallery on the UConn-Torrington campus. A preview of her work may be seen at http://marlowshami.com.
1975 continued

GEORGE TIRADO (ENHP) of Waterbury, Conn., is a new inductee into the Silas Bronson Library’s Waterbury Hall of Fame for his lifelong work in education, youth athletics, and other community organizations.

1976

SCOTT KALICKI (BARNEY, M’77 BARNEY) of Nashua, N.H., has been appointed president of Lakes Region Community College in Laconia, N.H.

1977

NANCI CARNABUCI FITZGERALD (HAS). See ROBERTA SCHWARTZ FRIEDMAN ’78.

1978

ROBERT CELMER (ENGINEERING). See ARI LESSER ’11.

1979

DEBRA F. DELMER (BARNEY) of Washington, D.C., has been appointed executive vice president of finance and chief financial officer at Arbitron, a media and marketing research firm based in Columbia, Md.

1980

JAMES C. ROVELLA (A&S, M’83 BARNEY) of Wethersfield, Conn., was recently named chief of police for the city of Hartford. He has been serving as acting chief of police since February.

HENRIETTA “Hennie” STARGARDTER (M, HAS, M’81 HAS) of Bloomfield, Conn., exhibited her work at the UConn Health Center in Farmington, Conn., through mid-October.

WAYNE P. STRATTMAN (ENGINEERING) of Boston, Mass., is exhibiting in his first solo museum show, titled Self: Illuminated, at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation in Waltham, Mass. The show opened in July and runs through Jan. 15, 2013. Known to millions for the high-voltage plasma he designed to light up the Borg ship in the Star Trek movies, Strattman has built a dozen kinetic installations that use light in wildly imaginative ways to question how technology shapes how people interact with others and themselves.

1981

JEFFREY M. BECKER (WARD) of Easton, Conn., had his artwork featured as part of the CapaCity Project at the Islip Art Museum in East Islip, N.Y. The exhibition ran from June 13 to Sept. 1.

1984

CHARLES E. PAGANO (ENGINEERING, M’07 A&S) of Waterbury, Conn., was honored with the cable industry’s highest honor, the Vanguard Award, for his accomplishments in science and technology. Pagano accepted the award in Boston, Mass., at the National Cable and Telecommunications Association’s annual Cable Show. He was inducted into the Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame in October.

1985

JEFFREY KRIEGER (M, HARTT) of East Hartford, Conn. See WILLIAM SOLOMON ’07.

1986

DAVID M. HAYES (HARTT) of Philadelphia, Pa., has been appointed music director of the New York Choral Society for the 2012–13 concert season.

Playing Her Cards Right

Hartt alumna Anoush Khachoyan NeVart M’87 won the 2012 Best Actress Award at the Tokyo International Short Shorts Film Festival for her role as Dahab (shown) in the short film High Card Trumps. NeVart plays a Middle Eastern mother in a script that confronts prejudice and illusions. The actress, who makes her home in Toluca Lake, Calif., is a former student of Professor Luiz de Moura Castro.
1987
ROBERT A. LOSINNO (HARTT) of Sunrise, Fla., performed the Danzi Concertino Op. 47 for clarinet and bassoon with Ian Burr and the CVE/Deerfield Beach Symphony Orchestra in February in Deerfield Beach, Fla.

1988
LUCETA C. McROY (A&S) of Duncan, S.C., has received her PhD in health administration from the University of Alabama–Birmingham. She is one of fewer than 300 African Americans qualified to be a management professor in the United States.

1989
LORNE EPSTEIN (BARNEY) of Arlington, Va., a corporate recruitment specialist and motivational speaker, has opened his own recruiting agency called Electric Cow. Epstein is the author of You’re Hired! Interview Skills to Get the Job (E3 Publishing, 2006).

1990
LAUREN BERNOFSKY (HARTT) of Bloomington, Ind., was commissioned by that city’s Roundabout Opera for Kids to write a children’s opera based on a libretto by Scott Russell Sanders. The resulting Mooch the Magnificent is programmed for 15 performances this season.

1991
SELETTE M. JEMISON (BARNEY) of Bloomfield, Conn., financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments, opened a new branch office in Bloomfield.

MARK L. BOBRUFF (A’91, HILLYER; A&S) of Cheshire, Conn., has joined Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife, as a financial advisor.

1992
MERY HARRY FLEISCHMAN (A&S) of Hamden, Conn., won the 2012 Leo Connellan Poetry Prize from the Connecticut State University System. Fleischman is currently a student in Southern Connecticut State University’s MFA program and working on her second poetry chapbook.

LISA LYONS ’92 (A&S) of Los Angeles, Calif., and MARC REINGOLD ’92 (A&S) of Plymouth, Mass., are pleased to announce their engagement. A January 2013 wedding is planned in Santa Monica, Calif.

1993
MARK L. BOBRUFF (A’91, HILLYER; A&S) of Cheshire, Conn., has joined Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife, as a financial advisor.

1994
MICHAEL J. WOOD (HAS) of Newington, Conn., owner of Wood & Wood Seamless Gutters, has been awarded the prestigious Angie’s List Super Service Award.
1995

PHILLIP BOYKIN (HARTT) of Montclair, N.J., was nominated for a Tony Award for his work in The Gershwins’ Porgy and Bess, which won the Tony for Best Revival of a Musical.

CHRISTINE KICINSKI PORTER (HARTT) of New Cumberland, Pa., appeared in a spring episode of Morbid Curiosity on the Paranormal TV Network. The episode was filmed at the library where Porter works.

1996

DONNA LYNN FESTA (M, HAS) of West Grove, Pa., had her oil paintings featured in Thirty Portraits, an exhibition at The Painting Center in New York City during the month of September.

STEPHEN PORTER (HARTT). See PETER GREENFOGEL ’97.

CHERYL-ANN RESHA (M, ENHP; D’06 ENHP) of Coventry, Conn., was inducted into the Academy of Fellows for the National Association of School Nurses.

1997

PETER GREENFOGEL (HARTT) of Cherry Hill, N.J., has released his new CD, Halfway Between Places, a mix of jazz standards and original compositions. Fellow band members and Hartt alums include bass player STEPHEN PORTER ’96 and JONATHAN BARBER ’11 on drums. Greenfogel plays tenor saxophone.

MIA LOVE (HARTT) of Saratoga Springs, Utah, was profiled in the July 10 issue of The Hill newspaper. Currently the mayor of Saratoga Springs, Love is in the running in the November election to become the first African American Republican woman in Congress.

1998

CHOTSANI DEAN (HAS) of Windsor, Conn., has been selected for a 2012–13 Fulbright Award. An instructor of art and ceramics at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Conn., she will teach and conduct research this fall at Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India.

AREE KUNAPONGKUL (M, HARTT) of Bangkok, Thailand, gave a piano performance in an August fundraising concert of Schubert’s classical music at Hard Rock Hotel Pattaya. She is a full-time faculty member at the Conservatory of Music at Rangsit University and head of piano studies at the New Frontier Music Academy, Bangkok.


SCOTT A. MEIER (HAS) of Carlisle, Pa., is a patrol officer with the Susquehanna Township Police Department. He is also an artist whose oil paintings are represented by the 2nd Floor Gallery in Mechanicsburg, Pa. Meier has two pieces in the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center’s permanent collection.

Marriage

Sarah Klein and Jeremy Clowe ’94 (A&S) took their wedding vows outdoors on a warm July 15, 2012, in Altamont, N.Y., then headed north for a Montréal and Québec City, Canada, honeymoon. The bride is an educator at the Children’s Museum of Science and Technology. An independent filmmaker and artist, the groom is also manager of media services at the Norman Rockwell Museum. The newlyweds have settled in Schenectady, N.Y.

‘Politics and Public Service’

With the November election in mind, Jade (Jasmaine) Seaberry A’08, ’10, M’11 (second row, far right), volunteered last March at a New York City event that was the brainchild of Desi (Desirée) K. Robinson ’07 (second row, third from right). The “Women in the Making” Politics and Public Service Summit for Girls” introduced girls ages 11–19 to a panel of diverse women in the political arena, including New York City councilwomen. Attendees participated in a mock debate and learned ways in which they can effect change in their own communities through public service and involvement in the political process. Women in the Making: Tomorrow’s History Today is Robinson’s health and lifestyle radio show highlighting the views, questions, goals, and accomplishments of today’s young women within environmental, emotional, and social contexts.
BRETT PELLEGRINO (A&S) of North Middletown, N.J., was awarded a Doctor of Psychology in school psychology by Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

1999

JOSEPH R. GORNEAULT JR. (HAS) of Cromwell, Conn., exhibited his work at ArtSpace Gallery in Hartford, Conn., in September.

MARIE G. KULESZA (M, BARNEY) of Plantsville, Conn., was selected as the 2011–12 recipient of the Reverend John J. Stack Teaching Excellence Award.

EARL C. SNYDER (A&S) of Raleigh, N.C., was honored at the 13th annual Plainville Sports Hall of Fame dinner. Snyder was a power-hitting infielder who helped to carry the Plainville High School Blue Devils to three consecutive Class L championship games (1992–94) and two titles.

JOAN SONSKI (M, ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., was awarded the 2012 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing, Connecticut’s largest, statewide nursing recognition.

2000

CHRISTOPHER T. BUTWILL (M, ENHP) of Burlington, Conn., has been named the new principal of Woodside Intermediate School in Cromwell, Conn.

LORI CERONE (M, ENHP) of South Windsor, Conn., was awarded the 2012 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing, Connecticut’s largest, statewide nursing recognition.

MARIN IRELAND (HARTT) of Camarillo, Calif., has a role in the film Hope Springs as the daughter of Meryl Streep’s and Tommy Lee Jones’s characters.

2001

KAREN FICHER (A&S) of Myrtle Beach, S.C., was promoted to preaward services manager in the Office of Research Services at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C.

ORIN WOLF (HARTT) of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, is a producer of the Broadway hit Once, which won eight Tony Awards this year, including Best Musical.

2002

BRADFORD LANDRY (ENHP, ’04 ENHP) of Rochester, Minn., was elected as the new intern and resident representative to the American Osteopathic Association’s board of trustees during its annual meeting. Landry is completing his last year of residency with the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

LIANE SMITH (ENHP) of West Hartford, Conn., was awarded the 2012 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing, Connecticut’s largest, statewide nursing recognition.

SURESH V. THEKKENMAR (M, BARNEY) of South Windsor, Conn., has been appointed senior vice president of customer services for Calypso Technology.

2003

ANDREW P. BARSOM (A&S) of Middletown, Conn., has joined Murtha Cullina LLP as counsel to the firm’s Bankruptcy & Creditors’ Rights Practice Group and the Litigation Department.

JOHN J. DESILVESTRI (A&S) of Matawan, N.J., made his Cortland Repertory Theatre debut playing Lord Edgar and Jane Twisden in Charles Ludlum’s The Mystery of Irma Vep in Preble, N.Y.

2004

JIN-SHAN DAI (HARTT) of Boca Raton, Fla., has joined the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

ROGER DULUDE (M, ENHP) of Enfield, Conn., was awarded the 2012 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing, Connecticut’s largest, statewide nursing recognition.

The A&S School of Communication alumnae worked so well together that they teamed up again in August for the “Live... Breathe... Survive Fashion Showcase,” held at the Zahzo Gallery in New York City. Robinson’s (left) and Seaberry’s (right) participation helped to raise funds for the American Cancer Society, specifically current patients and families who are caring for someone with cancer.

Nina Paranov Fagan is the daughter of The Hartt School’s legendary director, Moshe Paranov. Among the many roles she has played behind the scenes, Nina founded Hartt’s recording studio with her own equipment in 1954 and influenced the consolidation of the University’s audiovisual facilities. After her husband, Edward, passed away in 2001, Nina devoted herself to taking care of her best friend and stepmother, the late Elizabeth “Libby” Warner-Paranov.

Libby Warner-Paranov’s plan was to make generous provisions for both Nina and Hartt through her estate by establishing a scholarship fund in memory of her husband, Moshe, and his first wife, Dot. Nina Fagan’s plan was, in turn, to create and endow the Edward and Nina Paranov Fagan Scholarship Fund for music production majors at Hartt. Nina supplemented her generous gift by setting up a charitable gift annuity that will make regular payments to her for life, after which the remaining proceeds will be distributed to Hartt.

The Paranov family legacy at The Hartt School is profound and enduring on many levels. Nina’s planning is already helping the University fulfill its educational mission.

Visit www.hartford.edu/plannedgiving to learn more about how your planning today can strengthen the future for the University.

FONDER’S SOCIETY

To discuss a planned gift to the University of Hartford, contact

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Director of Planned Giving
University of Hartford
200 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117
congleton@hartford.edu
860.768.2415
Austin Dunham Barney II, former University regent (1980–86, 1994–2003), died on June 22, 2012. A passionate supporter of the Hartford Art School, Barney was a member of its board of trustees for many years and served two terms as board president. The University’s Barney School of Business is named for his uncle.

Laurence “Larry” D. Cohen, longtime adjunct faculty member at the University, died on Aug. 27, 2012. He was 64. In addition to teaching in the College of Arts and Sciences’ School of Communication, Cohen enjoyed a 40-year career as a reporter, editor, and widely read columnist for several publications, including the Hartford Courant.

Ernest “Ernie” Gardow, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering, died at the age of 77 on June 30, 2012. A professor at the University for more than three decades, he taught in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and served as department chair for many years. A professional engineer, Gardow was a longtime officer of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Jessica E. Rhoades ’42 8.5.12 Edna F. Johnson M’67 5.25.12
Carol N. Duncan A’46 6.8.12 Myrna S. Fishman ’68 8.6.12
Everett Kaplan ’47 4.24.12 Ernest L. Gladden ’68 4.8.12
Dorothy W. Zeppa ’48 6.4.12 Russell F. McCann M’69 4.22.12
Mary J. Fitzgerald A’49 5.22.12 Anne P. Wewer A’61, ’69 5.29.12
Anthony Bowi ’50 8.4.12 William M. Burt M’70 7.23.12
Louis A. Della Fera ’53 7.27.12 Joseph P. Molinari M’70 6.17.12
Thomas F. Donahue ’54 3.18.12 Philip T. Freemer M’71 4.6.12
John M. Daniels ’56 7.15.12 Jane L. Goedecke ’73 3.16.12
Marion Strindberg M’56 1.25.12 Robert F. Rose M’74 6.25.12
Joseph P. Bove Jr. ’57 6.16.12 Andrew L. Kohn ’75 5.28.12
John Sanzo M’57 7.29.12 Peter Steucek ’75 7.12.12
Rose Carley ’58 4.18.12 Harold C. Allen ’76 5.5.12
Paul Devin ’58 6.14.12 Mary Louise D’Onofrio ’76 4.18.12
Franklyn G. Hendrickson ’58 5.3.12 LeRoy Scott ’76 9.9.11
Frank Lattanzio A’52, ’58 6.11.12 Thomas F. Walsh ’76 5.12.12
Elizabeth Chapin M’62 4.12.12 Steven M. Reggio ’77 7.28.12
Henderson Duval ’62, M’67 7.23.12 Rhonda S. Dvorin A’81 4.20.12
Matthew D. Emrizen ’62 5.29.12 Jay C. Jeffes ’81 5.10.12
Donald E. Lepard ’62, M’68 7.18.12 Larry P. Sicard ’82 4.5.12
Philip A. Pottinger ’62 4.18.12 Constance Whingham ’83 4.15.12
Richard B. Tustin ’62, M’65 5.11.12 Nancy C. Bristol C’85 7.2.12
Silvio Conte ’63 5.13.12 Alysson S. Hamilton ’85 4.5.12
Stuart A. McFayden ’63 3.30.12 Lucia M. Gulino ’91 6.2.12
Evelyn Petterson M’63 6.13.12 Mark E. McCue ’92 6.4.12
Norman D. Schussler M’64 4.5.12 Jordan H. Deschenes ’08 8.9.12
Nelio L. Nanni A’60, ’64, ’67 5.7.12 Douglas B. Horak ’10 9.7.12
Frank E. Badstuebner M’65 3.27.12 Valerie Tice ’10 8.7.12
Send Your News

We would love to share your news with the University of Hartford alumni community through Observer magazine. Please send news about your accomplishments, travel, milestones, announcements, and photos to alumni@hartford.edu or Observer Magazine Class Notes Office of Alumni Relations University of Hartford 200 Bloomfield Avenue West Hartford, CT 06117

Pardon...

In its spring 2012 issue, the Observer misstated the original site of the Henri Mancini Institute in “New American Music Lives on at The Hartt School” (p. 10). The Mancini Institute was founded by Jack Elliott '51 (Hon. '97) at the University of California–Los Angeles, where it remained until Elliott’s death. It was then relocated to the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.
The prestigious Anchor Award is presented by the University of Hartford Alumni Association to alumni who have distinguished themselves by achieving the highest level of professional accomplishments, and who possess absolute standards of integrity and character.

**Victoria J. Cerami ’81**

Victoria J. Cerami ’81 (Engineering) is chief executive officer (CEO) of Cerami & Associates, Inc., a global leader in acoustical, audiovisual, and technology consulting. Under her leadership over the past 25 years, the firm has grown strategically from a small acoustical engineering practice headquartered in New York City to a multidisciplinary consulting firm whose clients include Fortune 100 companies, world-class developers, universities, hospitals, and top architects and engineers.

The CEO has recently formed Cerami Technology LLC, which provides additional expertise in strategy consulting, program management, and critical facilities design.

A past member of the University of Hartford Board of Regents, Cerami is currently enrolled in the executive MBA program at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**Deborah Kline ’90**

In her 20-year career Deborah Kline ’90 (HAS) has created strategic branding and graphic design for some impressive global corporations—Johnson & Johnson, Caterpillar, Sherwin Williams, and Panasonic. She has received awards for her work from the Connecticut Art Directors Club (CADC), the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, and Graphic Design USA. She was president of CADC from 2007 to 2009.

Currently serving on the board of corporators for the Hartford Art School (HAS), Kline chairs the board’s communications committee. She has been an adjunct faculty member in HAS’s Department of Visual Communication Design since 1995.

**Annie Garcia Kaplan ’79, M’81, D’97**

As volunteer coordinator at Yale–New Haven Hospital, Annie Garcia Kaplan ’79, M’81, D’97 (A&S, Barney, ENHP), is responsible for screening, interviewing, orienting, and placing volunteers in 20 different volunteer programs throughout the hospital system. Previously, she was director of the Friends of Yale–New Haven Children’s Hospital and a member of its parent advisory board.

Kaplan has served as president of the Yale–New Haven Hospital Auxiliary, cochair of the Toy Closets program, and a member of Yale–New Haven Hospital’s board of trustees. She is a past member of the University’s Mortensen Library Board of Visitors. Other board tenures have included the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, Guilford Art Center, and Tommy Fund for Childhood Cancer.

Kaplan and her husband, Ben ’79, M’80, were honored by the United Way of Greater New Haven in 2003 with the Alexis de Tocqueville Award.

**Ayn S. LaPlant ’76, M’85**

Ayn S. LaPlant ’76, M’85 (A&S, Barney), is president and chief executive officer of Beekley Corporation, the world’s leading supplier of simple, innovative medical products that help imaging, surgical, and radiation therapy professionals. Headquartered locally in Bristol, Conn., Beekley has remained over the years a family-friendly organization that encourages its employees to work hard and make time for themselves as well as their family, friends, and hobbies.

In 2007, Connecticut Magazine named Beekley Corporation to its Top 25 Best Places to Work in the state. LaPlant was honored in 2010 as one of the region’s Remarkable Women in Business by the Hartford Business Journal.

**Douglas V. Riahi A’86, ’88**

Douglas V. Riahi A’86, ’88 (Hillyer, Barney), is a director at UniCredit Bank AG’s New York City office. The company is a leading financial institution and the largest bank in Central and Eastern Europe. Before joining UniCredit in 2010, Riahi was managing director and group head of the Diversified Industries team at Fortis Bank. Prior to that, he was a senior member of Fortis’s Private Equity Coverage Group in North America.

In 2006, Riahi was awarded Hillyer College’s Outstanding Young Alumnus Award and subsequently was appointed to its board of visitors. He has served as a member of the board since 2007 and, most recently, has been cochair of the nominations committee.

After leaving the University, Riahi earned an MBA from the University of Connecticut.
Events

Alumni

Provost Sharon L. Vasquez (fifth from left) joined Boston, Mass.-area alumnae in July for a Women’s Networking Luncheon, hosted by Amy Quigley ’93 (front row, center), vice president of marketing for iProspect. The group participated in a lively discussion on the current state of affairs of the University and enjoyed sharing University of Hartford memories with each other.

President Walter Harrison (right) enjoys a day at the ballpark in June with Tom Lupinacci ’69, and other Chicago-based alumni. Windy City alumni enjoyed a rooftop reception at Wrigley Field while they watched the Chicago Cubs play the Boston Red Sox.

More than 100 local alumni gathered at the TD Bank store in Manchester, Conn., in June to celebrate the launch of the TD Bank Business Leadership Series. Hosted by the University’s Center for Professional Development, the Leadership Series comprises six free, two-hour business workshops exclusively for University of Hartford alumni. Led by industry experts, the series offers participants an invaluable opportunity to improve leadership skills while reconnecting with friends and making new connections. Alumni who complete four or more workshops receive a business leadership certificate from TD Bank and the Center for Professional Development. For more information about the TD Bank Business Leadership Series, visit www.hartford.edu/tlbs. 

Clockwise from top: Kevin O’Reily ’06 and Cecilia Phillips-Ritchey ’06, John Jaramillo M’09 and Randi Fleisher, and Lori and Roger Granger M’84.

On Oct. 10, in London, England, alumni from across Europe joined President Walter Harrison, former President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, and former University Counsel Charles P. Condon at a reception in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the John G. Martin Scholarship, which enables an outstanding senior to study at England’s University of Oxford.

Below left (l-r): The most recent Martin Scholar, Kevin Sliwoski ’12; Charles Dagenais ’95; Daniel Hultgren ’09; and Hultgren’s guest, Clemence Boland.

Below middle: Doron Erez ’08 (left) shares a humorous story with President Walter Harrison.

Below right (l-r): Tina Cook ’94, Joanna Bocer ’10, and retired University Counsel Charles Condon.
After fleeing communist Hungary and spending months in an Austrian refugee camp, Stephen Dalyai ’61 made his way to the University of Hartford and what was then called the Ward School of Electronics (later the Ward College of Technology and now is part of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture) in 1958.

Raised in Nazi-occupied Hungary during World War II, Dalyai and his family lived through the Soviet siege of Budapest in the basement of an apartment complex, subsisting mostly on beans and horsemeat that his mother grabbed from the streets as the horses became battle casualties.

“There were many bad things under the Communist regime,” Dalyai recalls, “but you were encouraged to continue school. It was mandatory up to 8th grade. After that you could go to a trade or business school or to a college preparatory school.”

Dalyai attended a college preparatory school in southern Hungary. He had to abandon his plans to continue his education at the prestigious Technical University of Budapest when the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 erupted. Dalyai was among 200,000 refugees who fled Hungary after Soviet troops crushed the resistance.

He eventually arrived in the United States “a penniless, homeless, countryless teenager in a land where I didn’t speak a single word of the language and had no idea where I was on the map,” Dalyai says. His first job was as a dishwasher at a Long Island, N.Y., restaurant. He then followed his interest in electronics to a radio factory in southern New Jersey.

In 1958 a World University Service scholarship brought him to the new University of Hartford, where between jobs he managed to graduate second in his class.

With a certificate from Ward in hand, he was immediately hired by Bell Telephone Laboratories and began the journey that would end with his serving as the president and CEO of QEI Inc., a leading supplier of advanced control systems for the management and automation of power networks for utility companies and mass transit systems.

At Bell, Dalyai quickly advanced from technician to project designer. “It was a big break to get a job at Bell Labs in 1961. Bell turned out to be a phenomenal place to work. Transistors and integrated circuits were in their early days. At Ward, we learned about transistors. I was hired because I was taught well at a good school.”

“The Ward School of Electronics was not accredited to grant degrees and only gave a certificate upon completion of the prescribed studies in 1961,” he continues. “Nevertheless, I received an excellent engineering-level education. In Europe you could never walk into the greatest development lab in the world and work as an engineer without a degree. That’s what’s so great about America. What a lucky break that I was given the chance to come here.”

Dalyai was awarded several patents and left Bell to start his own company in 1971. The venture was not successful, and he joined QEI as an engineering manager. A series of promotions led to his being named president and CEO of the company. In 1994 he organized a management buyout of all the shares of the company, whose clients included Northeast Utilities in Connecticut, Metro-North Commuter Railroad, and the Chicago Transit Authority.

After more than a half-century of accomplishments, the sale of QEI to CG Automation in 2011, five children, six grandchildren, and the approach of retirement, Dalyai decided to complete his undergraduate degree.

“I am in the process of completing my last assignment,” he says. “I plan to graduate in 2013, which is 55 years after I initially enrolled in the University. He will receive a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering at Commencement in May.”
LET’S STAY IN TOUCH!

When you graduate from the University of Hartford, you remain an important part of the University community. No matter where you are or how long it’s been since you’ve been on campus, the Office of Alumni Relations wants you to stay in touch and is here to help make sure that happens. We offer many general and school-specific alumni programs that will bring you to campus and/or together in your current community with classmates, friends, and professors. Please complete and return this form to share your news and your interests. We’ll be in touch.

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Do you have news to share in Observer magazine? Tell us in the space provided below, or email your class notes and photos to Stefania Campbell at scampbell@hartford.edu.

Return this form to Observer Office of Institutional Advancement
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Let us introduce ourselves:

Christine Pina, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
860.768.2403 • cpina@hartford.edu

Cathy Voelker, Interim Director of Alumni Relations
860.768.2408 • cvoelker@hartford.edu

Stefania Campbell, Associate Director of Alumni Relations
860.768.2429 • scampbell@hartford.edu

Cheryl Brodowski, Director of Annual Giving
860.768.2420 • brodowski@hartford.edu

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Janet Freedman ’79 says she uses the self-confidence and other tools she acquired at the University in her work life every day.

Now director of design management for Hanesbrands, Inc., in New York City, Freedman explored several paths to find her calling. She was attracted to UHart by the campus and planned to major in elementary education. After realizing that wasn’t her calling, a professor encouraged her to take courses in sociology and business. Those subjects became her major and minor, respectively.

She also did an internship with the Hartford Police Department and served on a task force to raise awareness about domestic violence. But it was her work in a local women’s clothing store where she became the top salesperson that established that her future was in retail. After graduation, Freedman worked for Macy’s in New York City for 25 years, successfully climbing the corporate ladder. In 2005 she moved to Hanesbrands, where she is director of design management, working with Champion, C9 by Champion, Hanes, and Just My Size brands.

“I received so much from the University that giving back is only the right thing to do.”

Your gift to the Anchor Fund, no matter how large or small, helps the University sustain more students like Janet Freedman.

Janet Freedman ’79

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