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Fairfield Foodies

Alumni thrive as entrepreneurs in the artisanal food revolution.

A Keeper

Matt Turner '16 has been signed by the New England Revolution in the MLS.

Finding Joy in the City of Widows

The Center for Faith and Public Life undertakes its first trip to India.

Fairfield UNIVERSITY magazine

SUMMER 2016

The Spirit of Adventure

John Lentini '97 follows his passion for scuba diving and conservation



Meatball Mania student
competition hosted by
Iron Chef Judge
Donatella Arpaia '93
Photo by Joe Adams

(l-r) Alex Bonn '18 and
Hunter '18 of Team Rugby
competed in Fairfield's timed Iron
Chef-style cooking competition.

On the cover:

John Lentini '97 touching the tectonic
plates between the North American and
Eurasian continents at Iceland's Silfra
Fissure in July 2015.

Photo by Joanna Lentini, deepfocusimages.com

Fairfield University Magazine

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– JOHN LENTINI '97, *Deep Sea Explorer*



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BY SUSAN CIPOLLARO

The Center for Faith and Public Life undertakes its first immersion trip to India.

Fairfield’s students and alumnae journeyed to northern India over winter break to explore and analyze humanitarian and developmental issues the country faces today. They learned about the government, the environment and gender equality. The highlight of the trip wasn’t the Taj Mahal, rather a life-changing visit to an ancient town.

Pictured above: Riley Barrett '17

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Deep Sea Explorer

BY TESS BROWN '07, MFA'11

Fairfield alumnus John '97 and Joanna Lentini follow their passion for scuba diving and conservation.

This love of diving is for more than just the thrill or wanderlust – the Lentinis are committed environmentalists and animal lovers, trying to raise awareness of the perils of climate change and the delicate ecosystem of the world’s oceans. Learn more about how it all started and their work with the Elysium Arctic Expedition.

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Fairfield Foodies

BY TESS BROWN '07, MFA'11

Cooks, brewers, chocolatiers – alumni thrive as entrepreneurs in the artisanal food revolution.

There's a food revolution going on. From increasing awareness about best practices in organic agriculture, to a love and demand for niche flavors, alumni food businesses are popping up left and right. The Cheese Truck, The Connecticut Coconut Company, Cisco Brewers and Sol Cacao – Harlem Craft Chocolate are featured for their focus on ethical practices and community involvement.

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Letter from the President

“Our graduates are encouraged to embrace the spirit of adventure – a quality essential to a truly creative person, and a quality valued in a Jesuit University to a degree somewhat unique in higher education.”



Send your letters to the editor of *Fairfield University Magazine* to Alistair Highet at ahighet@fairfield.edu.

Your news could be featured in an upcoming issue of *Fairfield University Magazine*. Submit your updates through Class Notes within the Online Community and don't forget to include a photo! Go to fairfield.edu/alumnicommunity.

Dear Friends,

As is true every year, I am struck by the joy of our Commencement celebrations on Bellarmine's Great Lawn and the pride that our families feel for their sons, and daughters, brothers and sisters, who have completed their studies and now are ready to begin making their way in the world.

To begin what? That is the question. We are fortunate that such a high percentage of our graduates – roughly 97 percent – move quickly into employment, post-graduate study, or volunteer positions of their choice within a few months of graduation. We work hard to ensure that this is so, preparing our students by emphasizing the importance of internships and career preparedness programs, and providing the framework to prepare them for further study or service.

But I also think our graduates are encouraged to embrace the spirit of adventure – a quality essential to creative persons and one valued in a Jesuit University to a degree somewhat unique in higher education.

The early Jesuits were nothing if not adventurous. Ignatius himself traveled all over Europe, furthering his education in Barcelona and Paris. The society that formed around him shared his desire for action, estab-

lishing schools all over Europe, and venturing to the ends of the earth, with St. Francis of Xavier traveling to Goa in Portuguese India in 1541; Matteo Ricci arrived in Macau in 1582 and then went on to mainland China; António de Andrade was the first of several Jesuits to found a mission in Tibet in 1624; the cities of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro were founded by Jesuits in the 16th century; while Jean de Brébeuf was among those Jesuits who founded missions in New France, now Quebec, in the 17th century.

While the historical and cultural contexts in which these missions were undertaken are now distant, what is constant is a disposition that is Ignatian in character – an optimism about the

world and the goodness of God's creation; a belief that perseverance and adaptability are the keys to success; and a curiosity about other cultures and desire to understand the world in all its complexity.

While our students are with us, we ensure that they study a wide variety of subjects – languages, philosophy, religious studies to name a few – over and above their selected area of specialty. We encourage them to study abroad. We ask that they engage in community service. We also work to ensure that our students understand community while they are with us, engaging in dialogue – sometimes difficult dialogue – forming relationships with others. All of these strategies are intentional – we are asking our students to step outside their comfort zones and expand their sphere of curiosity.

I think we can see the fruit of this process in our graduates and alumni, and in some of the members of our community featured in our magazine this month. John Lentini '97 has taken his lifelong passion for the oceans, interest in cinematography, and empathy for our fellow creatures and is now exploring the oceans as a diver and chronicler of climate change; a group of our students and alumni with an interest in the struggles of women in the developing world traveled to India through an initiative of our Center for Faith and Public Life; the courage to be entrepreneurs has fueled the ambitions of foodies Thomas Sobocinski '14, Maria Luis Felix '91, Jay Harman '96 and Daniel Maloney '13, as well as our students who pitched their business plans in our 5th Annual Fairfield Startup Showcase; while Matt Turner '16 is living his dream, taking a shot at professional soccer with the New England Revolution.

These are all people with courage and a certain fearlessness. In this respect they are representative of so many of our graduates and set a fine example for those young men and women who began their journey at Commencement – each driven in their own unique way by the spirit of adventure.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY P. VON ARX, S.J.
President

University NEWS



Making a Strong Start

Each year, Fairfield University's Career Planning Center compiles a report of the most recent graduating class to see where they are six months post-graduation. After following up with 83.3 percent of Fairfield's Class of 2015, the Career Planning Center discovered that 97.4 percent secured full-time employment or placement in a graduate or professional school or are participating in a volunteer service program. The percentage of graduates obtaining employment through senior year campus recruiting and employment resources is 38 percent. Communication and marketing were the highest areas of placement, consisting of 26.2 percent.

"It is evident that the education our students receive while attending Fairfield is valued by the employing community, graduate and professional schools that admit our students and the service organizations that select our students to support their mission in service," said Susanne Quinlivan, associate director of the Career Planning Center. "This speaks highly of the marketability of our students as they leave Fairfield." ❏

CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES AND CFPL 10TH ANNIVERSARY

The Center for Catholic Studies and the Center for Faith and Public Life (CFPL) celebrated their 10-year anniversaries at Fairfield University. To kick off their celebration, the Centers hosted an open house in January.

In February, the Center for Catholic Studies kicked off a series of Living Theology workshops and lectures from noted theologians and award-winning writers. All events were free and open to the public.

The Center for Catholic Studies was established in 2006 under the direction of Paul Lakeland, PhD. Since its inception, the Center for Catholic Studies has established an undergraduate minor

program in Catholic Studies, encouraged the inclusion of mission and identity issues in academia, promoted Catholic intellectual and religious tradition on campus and established an outreach program with the local community.

In 2005, the Center for Faith and Public Life was established with the goal of preparing students to become global citizens, while creating a public forum to discuss today's critical issues and generate research-based solutions. As the Center prepares to move forward into the next decade, it will continue to build on its primary goals, including the spring 2016 launch of the Humanitarian Action minor. ❏




Embodying the Jesuit value of serving others, Mark K. Shriver, president of Save the Children Action Network, discussed his career in public service at the Quick Center Open VISIONS Forum this past March, in celebration of the Center for Faith and Public Life's 10-year anniversary.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING LAUNCHES NEW BS/MS IN MANAGEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

Fairfield University's School of Engineering is offering a new 5th-year option for a BS/MS dual degree in management of technology (MOT), targeted towards engineering students who want to work at the interface of technology and business.

Fairfield's dual degree MOT track is a multidisciplinary field that integrates all engineering disciplines, along with technology management, systems and business. Students that enter the program combine Fairfield's existing bachelor of science in engineering degree with its master's in management of technology.

The program emphasizes the integration of business and management knowledge with an engineering curriculum that prepares students for leadership roles in technology-based organizations.

School of Engineering Dean Bruce Berdanier, PhD, said, "We have observed sustained high demand for graduates of the MOT program. The two degrees together are a dynamic combination for companies that want to invest in and manage the development of technological innovation." 

Fairfield and Kleban Forge Plan for GE Campus

Fairfield University announced in March that it has entered into an exclusive agreement with Kleban Properties, a leading national real estate investment and development company located in Fairfield. The agreement would allow the University to work with Kleban on the transformation and development of a high-tech hub with a variety of educational components, including an executive education center.

"Kleban Properties is pleased to be working with a leading institution like Fairfield," said Ken Kleban, president of Kleban Properties. "We have a strong history of working with Fairfield, including the development of the downtown business accelerator, FUEL (Fairfield University Entrepreneurial Lab), and have been involved in the Dolan Business School's entrepreneurial programs for many years. They are a top-notch institution that will support the creation of jobs and the pursuit of technology and education."

Fairfield University recently relaunched its off-campus business accelerator and entrepreneurial lab, now called FUEL, which has seen success with start-ups such as student-created SoccerGr!Probs and local small businesses. The creation of FUEL was a three-way partnership, launched in 2012, between the Town of Fairfield, Kleban Properties and the University.




"The strength of Fairfield's nationally ranked academic programs and ability to provide expertise in both STEM and entrepreneurial-related fields will complement Kleban Properties' proposed plans."

JEFFREY P. VON ARX, S.J., *University President*

Kleban Properties is currently exploring with GE the potential purchase and development of its 68-acre campus.

"We are delighted to partner with Kleban Properties in exploring the potential of this great property. The strength of Fairfield's nationally ranked academic programs and ability to provide expertise in

both STEM and entrepreneurial-related fields will complement Kleban Properties' proposed plans," said University President Jeffrey P. von Arx, S.J. "We couldn't be more excited about the potential development of this property for Fairfield University, the town of Fairfield and the surrounding communities." 

School of Nursing Ranked Among “10 Best” in Nation

Fairfield University’s Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies has been named among the nation’s 10 best schools at which to earn a degree in nursing. Joining the Egan School on the list is the University of Pennsylvania, in addition to other first-rate nursing schools affiliated with top teaching hospitals in the United States, including New York University and Johns Hopkins University.

The rankings were provided by *College Factual*, a site dedicated to providing current and prospective college students the information they need to make an informed

decision about their higher education future.

The article notes the high percentage of graduates who find numerous employment opportunities and earn above-average national salaries. Additionally, the low faculty-student ratio and high percentage of full-time faculty members were noted.

This latest ranking for the Egan School comes on the heels of Fairfield’s inclusion in *U.S. News & World Report’s* 2016 edition of “Best Graduate Schools” and the Egan School’s top 10 ranking for best hybrid RN to BSN programs in the country. 📍



DON GUMMER’S ART AT THE WALSH ART GALLERY

Fairfield University’s Walsh Art Gallery held an opening reception in March for “Don Gummer, The Armature of Emotion: Drawings and Sculpture,” which displayed Gummer’s own concept of how his work progresses. “Sculpture is about gravity,” Gummer said at the event, “so my sculptures are literally built from the ground up.” The exhibition was organized by Linda Wolk-Simon, director and chief curator of the museums of Fairfield University.



SCHOOL OF NURSING GROUNDBREAKING

Students, administrators, faculty, staff and local community leaders gathered on April 21 for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Center for Nursing and Health Studies, home of the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies. The new four-story facility will feature clinical learning and simulation centers, modern labs and specialty workspaces. Pictured (L-R): David Vilanova ’17; Jackie Egan P’99; Nursing Dean Meredith Kazer, PhD, APRN, FAAN; University Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; University President Jeffrey P. von Arx, S.J.; Bill Egan ’67, P’99; Shauna Dresel ’17; University Trustee Steve Lessing ’76.

DOLAN SCHOOL RANKED AMONG NATION’S BEST, FIRST IN STATE

Graduate programs in Fairfield University’s Dolan School of Business have been named among the best in the nation according to the annual “Best Graduate Schools” ranking from *U.S. News and World Report*. Included are Fairfield’s full-time graduate programs in finance, accounting and marketing at 14th, 15th and 19th, respectively.

In addition to the full-time programs, Fairfield’s part-time MBA program jumped ahead 67 spots to be ranked among the top 50 percent out of almost 300 institutions in the nation.

“As the University begins to implement a broad array of strategic planning Initiatives, our academic programs continue to raise the bar,” said Kevin Lawlor, executive vice president. “When you combine our strong academics with the physical transformation of our campus, it signals an exciting future for Fairfield.”

The Dolan School is also among the best undergraduate business schools in the United States and the best in Connecticut, according to *Bloomberg Businessweek*. Moreover, the Jesuit school jumped an impressive 15 places on the much-anticipated list *Bloomberg Businessweek* compiles annually. Fairfield ranks the highest of all Connecticut schools included on the list.

In order to compile the ranking, the publication considered feedback from “recruiters who hire recent business graduates on how well schools prepared students for jobs at their companies,” students’ ratings of the campus, faculty and administrators, the base compensation of students who had post-graduation positions lined up, and “the percentage of a school’s graduates who had at least one internship at any time during college.” 📍

Making Connections: Job Shadow 2016

Each year during winter break, Fairfield University's Job Shadow program pairs students with alumni professionals across the country for a day of career exploration. In January, Fairfield hosted its fifth annual Alumni Job Shadow week during which 259 students shadowed 172 alumni in businesses and organizations across many industries. This year students were able to spend the day at Madison Square Garden, Gartner, Colgate Palmolive, PepsiCo, National Basketball Association, Facebook and *The Wall Street Journal*.

The program helps students learn the importance of having a career network of alumni, gain first-hand information about

different careers and learn what a day is like in a specific job function or industry.

Rob Penwell '06, a product marketing manager at Facebook, graduated with a degree in marketing. Penwell hosted two Fairfield students, who spent the day touring the New York City facility and speaking to employees about their positions at Facebook and the different marketing career paths they could take after graduation. "I remember being in their shoes and not really knowing what options were available in the job world. It's a daunting experience!" Penwell said. 📍



Rob Penwell '06 hosted students at Facebook during Job Shadow 2016. Pictured (l-r): Ally Tuozzoli '16, Rob Penwell '06 and Cristina Esmiol '16.



(l-r) Vanessa Salvaggio '16, Andrea Finn '16, Jaclyn Gallagher '18, Rebecca Moses '18 and Caroline Fagan '18 volunteered at the United Congregational Church's food pantry in Bridgeport, Conn.

DOLAN SCHOOL'S FIRST WEEK OF SERVICE

The Dolan School of Business hosted its first Week of Service from March 29 – April 2, open to all Dolan School students, faculty and staff. Dawn DeBiase, assistant dean of the Dolan School, said "Dean Don Gibson conceptualized the Week of Service last summer and Meredith McAloon, assistant director of Undergraduate Programs, Chris Puttock, operations assistant, Sarah Bollinger, director of Internships and Professional Development, and I collaborated with campus and community partners, resulting

in a menu of service opportunities for our students to serve as men and women for others," explained DeBiase.

Participants had the opportunity to engage in a myriad of service opportunities such as helping out at the United Congregational Church, a Bridgeport food pantry, attending the Bridgeport Youth Summit and volunteering at Caroline House, a local organization dedicated to enabling women and children to reach their full potential through education in English language and life skills. 📍

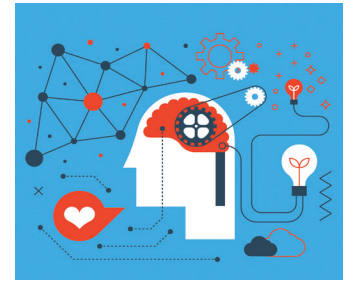
Engineering Students Mentor High School Robotics Team

The robotics team from Harding High School, in Bridgeport Conn., celebrated as their robot took on rivals at the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) held in March. It was a great accomplishment for the team that came close to withdrawing from the competition because they lacked mentors – a role that Fairfield University School of Engineering students filled this past spring semester.

School of Engineering Dean Bruce Berdanier, PhD, encouraged his students to become mentors when he learned that

Harding would have to withdraw unless volunteers could offer more technical support. With backing from Dean Berdanier and the Office of Campus Ministry, eight students worked with the Harding High School team three days a week to help them build their robot.


The partnership will continue in 2017 with a robotics service learning class offered by Ryan Munden, PhD, associate dean of the School of Engineering. Fairfield students will learn basic robotics concepts while mentoring the Harding Robotics Team. 📍



HIGH MARKS FOR STEM EDUCATION

Fairfield University's science and engineering programs have been named sixth among the "25 Great Colleges for Good Science Students" by TIME's *Money Magazine*.

The ranking includes information from PayScale.com's College Salary Report, which featured Fairfield as one of the top schools in the country where early-career alumni working in science and technology earn \$50,000 a year or more. PayScale.com also put Fairfield in the top three in Connecticut for salary potential, behind only Yale and Wesleyan. The salary mention reinforces a 2015 ranking from SmartAsset, which named Fairfield the top college or university in Connecticut for the average starting salary of graduates.

"When I came to Fairfield three years ago, I saw so much potential to be part of a higher education engineering community driven to solve problems in service to society," said Bruce Berdanier, PhD, dean of the School of Engineering. "The work that we have done in collaboration with the math and science departments in the College of Arts and Sciences is at the beginning of a wonderful growth cycle. We expect many great accomplishments with our students as we continue to grow and mature." 

2016 Student Achievement Award Winners

Six Fairfield University undergraduates were recognized for their leadership and outstanding achievements at the Student Achievement Awards ceremony held in April.

Jacqueline Acquino '16 received the prestigious *St. Ignatius Loyola Medal* for "exemplifying the true spirit of a Jesuit education." Among her many accomplishments, Acquino double majored in mathematics and music and was a Magis Scholar.


The *William J. Kramer '60 Humanitarian Award* was awarded to **Claretta Mills '16** for her "commitment to volunteerism and service to an external community activity that best exemplifies the Ignatian tradition of being men and women for and with others." As a student at Fairfield, Mills participated in and led volunteer trips in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Jamaica.

Four students received the *Student Achievement Award* for their dedication and enhancement of a University program. **Blanca Aca-Tecuanhuehue '16** won for her commitment to women in science and for helping to educate girls about STEM through volunteer work at local middle and high schools; **Erin Connors '16** received the Student Achievement Award for her commitment to Fairfield University athletics. Connors was the captain of the field hockey team as well as a tour ambassador; **Daniel Horstmann '16** received recognition for his commitment to music



Pictured (l-r): Blanca Aca-Tecuanhuehue, Jacqueline Acquino, Daniel Horstmann, Allison Scheetz, Claretta Mills and Erin Connors.

ministry and the Praise Project; **Allison Scheetz '16** was presented a Student Achievement Award for her commitment to welcoming and on-boarding new students.


As an International Student Ambassador, Scheetz engaged and supported the international student population on campus. 

Fulbright Program Grants to Student and Faculty Member

This year, two of Fairfield University's own were among the elite group to be awarded Fulbright grants to embark on educational experiences abroad.

Kathryn Anne Dennen MA'16 will begin her Fulbright experience this August as a Greek-English teaching assistant in Greece, teaching English as a second language. Scott Lacy, PhD, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, will journey to Cameroon, Africa, in October to teach undergraduate

and graduate students at the Catholic University of Cameroon (CATUC) in Bamenda, while also working with students on collaborative research projects.

Mary Frances Malone, PhD, associate vice president for academic affairs, said that Lacy and Dennen's grants from the competitive Fulbright program reflect Fairfield's mission to promote the importance of being men and women for others. 

Fairfield On The Move Events a Success


The University has been on a tour with 13 campaign events around the U.S. as part of Fairfield On The Move. The gatherings hosted by alumni in their homes or at their clubs and corporations were well attended and inspired a strong sense of alumni community across the country.

“Fairfield and the experience there have been an important part of my life,” said Lisa Cowell Shams ’87, an executive vice president of Government Affairs for Westfield Corporation, who hosted an event with her husband, Ray Shams, at their Bel Air, Calif., home in February.

Jorge Figueredo ’82, executive vice president of Human Resources at McKesson

Corporation, hosted a gathering in San Francisco at the McKesson Vision Center. Los Gatos at Campo di Bocce was the setting of a third California reception hosted by John De Santis ’78, CEO and chairman of HyTrust, Inc.

In late February and early March, there were three more events in Florida: in Naples at the home of Alan and Betsey Harris, GP’18; in Ft. Lauderdale on the private yacht of University Trustee Ceasar N. Anquillare ’78; and in Palm Beach at the private club of University Trustee Christopher C. Quick ’79.

For more information and photo galleries of past Fairfield On The Move events, visit Fairfield.edu/fairfieldrising. 




SAVE THE DATE: STAGS NIGHT AT CITI FIELD SET FOR SEPT. 20

The New York Mets will once again host Fairfield University Night at Citi Field as the Mets play the division rival Atlanta Braves on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. The first 1,000 fans to purchase tickets through the Fairfield group will receive a customized Mets hat featuring the Fairfield Stags logo. Specially priced Fairfield University seating is available in the Big Apple Reserved Section for \$20. Additional information and special Fairfield events to be held prior to first pitch will be announced in the coming weeks on FairfieldStags.com.

CLAUDIA RANKINE, RENOWNED POET, 2016 MLK CONVOCATION KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Fairfield University’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. observance, “Standing Up to Racism: The Urgency for Change,” took place in January with a series of events to celebrate the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Award-winning poet Claudia Rankine was this year’s MLK Convocation keynote speaker. Rankine is the author of five collections of poetry, two plays and numerous anthologies. Her book of poetry, *Citizen: An American Lyric*, won the 2014 National Book Critics Circle Award. 



Claudia Rankine

Stepping Stones to Operate Early Learning Center

Fairfield University and Stepping Stones Museum for Children have announced their partnership to bring a revamped early childhood learning center to the University’s campus. Opening in Summer 2016, the Early Language and Literacy Initiative (ELLI) at Fairfield University will serve infants, toddlers and pre-kindergarten students aged three months to five years. The full-day, year-round program will be open to Fairfield University employees’ children as well as the general public.

The partnership is a result of a long-standing relationship between Fairfield University, Stepping Stones and Literacy How, Inc., an organization dedicated to best practice applications of early literacy research. Launched in 2011 to help improve school readiness and reduce the achievement gap among young children, ELLI offers children engaging, play-based experiences in a language, literacy and content-rich environment. 

New Minor in Humanitarian Action is a Hit

The new minor in humanitarian action, introduced by the College of Arts and Sciences and in collaboration with Fairfield's five schools, has already had a big impact among students.

Janie Leatherman, PhD, professor of politics and director of the minor in humanitarian action, said, "Students from many majors – in nursing, engineering, business and arts and sciences – expressed a strong desire to be able to enhance their career and vocational development with a minor in humanitarian action. They saw this as a natural fit for their passions and commitments, and a way to integrate being men and women for others."


The new program is closely connected to Fairfield's chapter of the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN), which helps students make the connection between their coursework and real, humanitarian needs on the



Riley Barrett '17 interacted with children in Najafgrah, a village on the outskirts of Delhi, during Fairfield's immersion trip to India over winter break.

ground, whether it be responding to natural disasters, refugee support, education, or advocacy for clean water.

Dr. Leatherman said, "A strong cohort of Fairfield students see themselves as

humanitarians, and want to bring their skills and professional development to respond to disasters, alleviate suffering and help communities locally and globally to recover and thrive." 




Brianna Tancredi '17 and Zoë Ferranti '17 celebrate their victory.

FERRANTI AND TANCREDI WIN FUSA ELECTION

While history is sure to be made during this year's national presidential election, the Fairfield University Student Association's (FUSA) presidential and vice presidential race had a historic conclusion of its own. A record-breaking 1,415 votes were cast in February's election and Zoë Ferranti '17 and Brianna Tancredi '17 won 646, electing them FUSA student body president and vice president respectively.

This will not be the duo's first time working in the FUSA office. Ferranti, a communication major, served as the chair of the FUSA Senate prior to the election and started in FUSA as a freshman class senator. She was a class senator as a sophomore while also serving as the chair of the FUSA Student Life Committee.

Serving on a different branch of FUSA, Tancredi, a double major in accounting and management, worked as the chair of the programming board this year. She also began her FUSA journey as a first year student, starting on the board as the director of Late Night at Barone programming. 


GENE DORIS SELECTED TO ECAC HALL OF FAME



Gene Doris

Fairfield University Director of Athletics Gene Doris was selected for induction into the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Hall of Fame. The leader of the Stags' athletic department since 1994, Doris was enshrined on April 15, 2016 at the Matrix Conference and Banquet Center in Danbury, Conn.

Under Doris' leadership, the University currently sponsors 20 varsity sports. Fairfield has won the overall Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Commissioner's Cup four times; the men have earned the Cup on three occasions while the women have won an impressive eight times – most recently in the 2014-15 academic year.

In 22 years with Doris at the helm, Fairfield's athletic programs have won 48 conference championships – spanning 16 different varsity sports – and made 32 NCAA postseason appearances. 

A Tradition of Opportunity

This year's Fairfield Awards Dinner raised \$1.1 million for scholarships and trended on New York's public Snapchat story.

BY ERIC MAYRHOFER '10



THE 2016 FAIRFIELD AWARDS Dinner at the Grand Hyatt in New York City on March 31 upheld its tradition of providing opportunity and made a splash on social media.

More than 740 alumni, parents, friends of the University and students came together that evening to celebrate the outstanding members of the school's community, and to raise funds for several scholarships,

Scholarship award recipients (l-r), Novyliana Thaib '16, Huythanh Tran '16, Anif McDonald '16, Diana Bosch '16, Christopher Amoako-Kwaw '17, Michelle Hernandez '19 and Shalia Garnett '17.

but mainly for the Fairfield University Multicultural Scholarship Fund, which provides deserving students of all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds access to higher education.

Over the years, the fund has awarded 500 scholarships. This year's dinner raised \$1.1 million in new scholarship funds, bringing the historic and cumulative Awards Dinner total to more than \$17 million since 1988.

This year's Fairfield Awards Dinner had a heightened presence on social media. The event made a virtual appearance on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with hashtag #FADinner16, while TapSnap, an interactive social media photo booth, made a welcome return.

New to the event, however, was the dinner's

presence on Snapchat, which is quickly becoming one of Fairfield University's most important platforms for sharing life in Stag Country with young alumni and current and prospective students.

That night, for the first time, those who were unable to attend could follow the celebration on the University's "public story," while guests at the Grand Hyatt could share their own posts and decorate them with a custom geofilter available exclusively at the event. With over 120 geofilter uses and posts published both to users' individual stories and New York's communal, public Snapchat story, more than 30,000 people experienced moments from the evening.

“Providing educational opportunities to people who might not otherwise have those opportunities – that is our mission as a Jesuit University.”

REV. JEFFREY VON ARX, S.J., *University President*

THIS YEAR’S HONOREES WERE CHOSEN FOR their singular contributions to the Fairfield community. Those honorees included **Carole Ann Maxwell, P’02**, Fairfield University’s director of choral music, who received the Outstanding Faculty/Administrator Award; **George Diffley, P’97, ’96**, former vice president of Fairfield University’s advancement division, who received the Honorary Alumnus Award; **Joseph Solimine Jr. ’89, Andrew Davis ’89** and **Matthew McLaughlin ’89**, founders of the University’s Michael R. Andrews Scholarship, who received the Alumni Service Award; and **Patricia Glassford ’85**, member of the Fairfield University Board of Trustees and vice president and CFO at GE Energy Connections, who received the Alumni Professional Achievement Award.

Parents **Bill Atwell, P’08**, former chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees, and his wife **Peggy Atwell, P’08**, were also honored and became the inaugural Parent Leadership Award recipients. The award heralds the critical role that parents have played in the University’s evolution, providing institutional leadership and support for Fairfield’s mission. The award marks a new point in the dinner’s history because, starting with this year’s event, parents’ contributions will be recognized annually at every future Fairfield Awards Dinner.

During his remarks, University President Jeffrey von Arx, S.J., said that “providing educational opportunities to people who might not otherwise have those opportunities – that is our mission as a Jesuit University. This mission is more critical than ever, as more and more young people need Fairfield University to step forward and support them so that they can meet their full potential.”

There was no better reminder of that potential than the abundance of young alumni, and current students, who attended to show



their appreciation for the opportunities they received through the benefit of a Fairfield education. Robert LoPinto ’14 said of the event, “This evening is my first time at the Awards Dinner and it’s a great experience. I attended with three fellow alumni from the baseball team and we’re excited to be here both supporting each other and our alma mater.”

Meanwhile, members of the University Glee Club attended to both perform and congratulate Dr. Maxwell on her award. Sherice Reid ’16 may have captured the sentiment of the evening best, when she said, “While this sometimes feels like my last year for everything, occasions like this, and seeing alumni welcomed back to celebrate with their college, prove that once you’re a Stag, you’re a Stag for life.”

Top: More than 740 alumni, parents and friends mingle at the Grand Hyatt, NYC.

Middle: Left, Sameer Khan, Aamina Awan Khan ’07, Kristen Fitzgerald ’03, Maureen Errity Bujno ’90. Right, Ed Walsh ’02, Amanda (Betz) Marano ’02 and Patrick Marano ’01.

Bottom: The Fairfield University Glee Club, directed by honoree Dr. Carole Ann Maxwell, performed two pieces at the dinner.

To see the videos, journal, full gallery and more from this year’s Awards Dinner, please visit fairfield.edu/awardsdinner.

A Keeper

MATT TURNER '16 has been signed by Major League Soccer's the New England Revolution

BY JOHN TORSIELLO



HARD WORK PAYS OFF. Just ask Matt Turner '16. The senior is now a member of the New England Revolution of Major League Soccer (MLS) after performing well as a "trialist" at the team's pre-season camp and impressing the Revolution coaches and staff.

"Matt had a good college career at Fairfield, and as a result, we brought him into pre-season for a tryout," said Revolution goalkeepers' coach Remi Roy. "While on trial he did very well, so we offered him a contract. He responded well to the intensity and the level of training. Matt has good abilities for a young goalkeeper and has shown that he is very coachable. He works extremely hard every day to get better."

It seems dedication to improving his sporting craft has been Turner's modus operandi since he was a teenager. "I joined my first club team when I was 16," explained the Park Ridge, N.J. native. "That's when I really started playing and training hard."

Yet soccer didn't come naturally to Turner. His freshman year of high school he went out for the team and "tried playing in the field and was pretty bad compared to all the kids who had played a lot of years."

An accomplished athlete in other sports, he didn't even want to return to practice the following day, but his father said to him, "Just go and take your sister's old goalie gloves and try that."

The second day, playing between the goalposts *did* come naturally. He said he "was flying around making crazy saves." That's when Turner really started playing and began training year-round.

FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY HEAD MEN'S SOCCER Coach Carl Rees was ecstatic for his former star when he signed to play professionally.

As a junior, Turner led the nation in save percentage by stopping 89 percent of the shots he faced in 2014 (78 saves, 10 goals allowed) and helped the Stags lead the nation in shutout percentage.

"I am very happy for Matt as he continues his playing career in the MLS. His work ethic and skill level that he exhibited as a member of our program carried over to the professional ranks and will ensure his success as a member of the New England Revolution."

Turner spent the last two seasons as the Stags' starting goalkeeper. He played in all 18 games in 2015 and recorded a .793 save percentage with a 0.98 goals against average. Turner collected seven shutouts in just over 1,750 minutes of action, playing every minute. He earned a berth on the All-Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) second team.

In 2014 as a junior, Turner led the nation in save percentage by stopping 89 percent of the shots he faced in 2014 (78 saves, 10 goals allowed) and helped the Stags lead the nation in shutout percentage by not allowing a goal in 72 percent of the games in which he played. He ended his season with a miniscule 0.50 goals against average. He earned two MAAC Defensive Player of the Week awards and was named to the MAAC All-Tournament team after helping the Stags reach the championship game.

The goaltender is a team's last line of defense, and with that comes an enormous amount of responsibility and pressure. Turner doesn't flinch.

"I like seeing the whole field and having a different perspective than everyone else does. The thing I like the most about it is when you make that great save and everyone on the other team puts their hands up, like, 'Oh my God, I can't believe it.'" He agreed that there is pressure "to be perfect," adding, "there's not a lot of room for error. You train to be perfect. I think that's probably the hardest thing because nobody is perfect."



Turner said playing at the professional level was challenging at first, catching up to the speed of the game.

"The quality is a lot higher in the MLS. When you went to high school, your team was all the best players from the town. Then, you go to college and it's the best players from all of the high schools. Then, you get to this level, and it's not only the best college players, but the best players from other countries."

TURNER TALKED ABOUT HIS FAVORITE MOMENT playing at Fairfield. "My junior year was an amazing season. I think we let in 10 goals all year. My favorite memory from that year was in the conference semifinals. We were playing at Quinnipiac in front of pretty much their entire school. There were about 3,000 people there. They won the championship the year before and hadn't lost a MAAC game since. We were tied 0-0 and beat them in penalty kicks and I saved two."

Turner calls the effect attending Fairfield had on his development as a person, scholar and athlete "massive."

"I knew from the start that Fairfield was a good fit for me," he said. Because Turner started playing soccer late, he was also late in arriving on the recruiting scene. Fairfield was one of two Division I schools to recruit him. Coaches saw him play once and then he attended a camp on campus.

"I had already applied to the school, so it was a perfect fit for me academically. Concerning the fact that soccer worked out – God just helped me out there. I could never repay Fairfield for everything they did for me."

As for individuals at Fairfield who guided Turner on his path, he mentions several. "I owe so much to my goalkeeper coach Javier Decima. He pushed me to be good, not only on the field but off the field. He held me to a high standard to stay focused on my schoolwork and really got me into a professional mindset."

In addition, Turner says Dawn DeBiase, assistant dean and director of undergraduate programs at the Dolan School of Business, was an inspiration and great help. "When I got this opportunity I was already enrolled for my second semester of senior year. I went to her and told her the Revolution invited me to Casa Grande, Ariz., for 10 days for pre-season training camp. She said, 'Go, I will write to all of your professors. You have to do this.' She made me feel comfortable to go pursue my dreams."

"The family at Fairfield is so tight-knit."

That extended family will be keeping close tabs on one of their own as he begins his career as a professional keeper. **F**

Fueling Entrepreneurs

DEAN DON GIBSON and DR. CHRIS HUNTLEY of the Dolan School have inspired generations of new business explorers.

BY CAROLYN ARNOLD



Row 1: Dolan School Dean Don Gibson at podium; and 5th Annual StartUp Showcase at Gonzaga Auditorium.

Row 2: Investor panel member, Mary Campbell MA '72; Haasim Vahora '16 and Michelle Puthota '17 of team RediMed; and Investor panel member and University Trustee Andrew J. McMahon '89, P'13.

Row 3: Investor panel and team FairWire; and George Pertesis '16 of team Thrivio.



“We want to encourage innovation with the goal of having new companies stay local and contribute to the ecosystem of the town of Fairfield.”

DR. CHRIS HUNTLEY

IT WAS THE MOMENT OF TRUTH: Five student teams made it to the finale of the 5th Annual Fairfield StartUp on April 5. They were poised to present five-minute pitches to a panel of alumni – all successful entrepreneurs – in the hopes of securing enough funding to make their dreams of launching their own start-up a reality.

Students would be asking anywhere from \$15,000 to \$300,000. The stakes were high.

Donald Gibson, PhD, dean of the Dolan School, said, “This was an exciting, compelling event to watch. It was compelling because it was *real* – the students were presenting to real investors for real money for their real companies. This competition exemplifies everything we’re trying to do in the Dolan School of Business.”



FAIRFIELD STARTUP BEGAN JUST FIVE years ago and is now one of the signature events of the Dolan School, with engagement from the entire University as well as the surrounding business community. Each year, the showcase gets bigger and better, along with the University’s reputation as a mecca for savvy people that want to build a business.

This has been a great realization for Chris Huntley, PhD, associate professor of information systems and co-director of Fairfield StartUp. He came to Fairfield University in 1997, specifically to grow the University’s focus on entrepreneurship. He still clearly remembers his first foray into entrepreneurship “Fairfield style” when he started working here.

“That first project had nothing to do with making money,” Dr. Huntley said. “Dr. Winston Tellis, who was working in the Dean’s Office, asked me if I could travel to Harlem, N.Y. with students to work on a project.”

The seemingly humble project – installing wireless internet for a school – would have a lasting impact on Dr. Huntley. The man who made it possible was Russell Goings, a Buffalo Bills player who retired in 1960 due to injury and moved on to business and entrepreneurship. He became a trader and was the second black man to have a seat on the New York Stock Exchange.

Dr. Chris Huntley, associate professor of information systems and co-director of the StartUp Showcase, works with students in the Dolan School’s Business Education Simulation and Trading (BEST) Classroom.

“This was one of the most amazingly talented and brilliant people I had ever met, and here he was spending his time working with us and putting in network cables in a dusty old school in Harlem,” Dr. Huntley recalled. “I saw that entrepreneurs could do really great things in both profit and nonprofits.”

While entrepreneurship had support at Fairfield back then, it didn’t become a major focus until 2011, when Dr. Gibson became dean of the School. As chair of the Management Department, he worked closely with faculty colleagues to create the entrepreneurship program, starting in 2008.

The School hired its first entrepreneurship professor and developed an entrepreneurship concentration within the management major, as well as a minor. And in 2011, they kicked off the first Business Plan Competition, followed by inaugurating their first Entrepreneur-in-Residence in 2012. Finally, in 2013, they launched the business accelerator in downtown Fairfield, Fairfield University

Entrepreneurship Laboratory (FUEL), which helps people – most of them students or former students – grow their businesses.

TODAY, THERE’S MORE EXCITEMENT THAN EVER and at this year’s Fairfield StartUp Showcase, more than 250 students, faculty, alumni and business community members attended the finale.

Dr. Huntley said, “This year’s big change was moving from a business plan model to an investor model. We wanted to simulate talking to an investor and in that way it’s like *Shark Tank* – without the mean, cut-you-down attitude. We wanted something more positive.”

The showcase teams included: DraftSales, a salesforce app (Thomas Casale ’17); FavrWire, an app that connects consumers with individuals to help with odd jobs (John Bauer ’16, Christopher Nicastrò ’16 and Jason Wierzel ’16); Thrivio, a social media platform for the disability community (George Pertesis ’16); RediMed, a product that sorts, dispenses and tracks medications (Austin Hliboki ’16, Romario Lemy ’16, Michelle Puthota ’17, Cameron Sayles ’16, Hassaim Vahora ’16, Cameron Whitelaw ’16 and Kevin Zwick ’16); and Zapp, which enables users to exchange their social channels (Anthony Crasto ’18, Kumeil Husain ’18 and Joseph Pisano ’18).

In total, the investors pledged \$40,000 in funds to the students. Some teams will continue to develop their ideas through FUEL as part of the Summer Fellows program. The Showcase, after all, is just the beginning for the finalists and their projects will continue far beyond graduation.

“I really want to see students empowered to think big and start small,” Dr. Huntley said. “There’s just so much talent on this campus, we can’t contain it.”

Watch the Showcase online at fairfield.edu/showcase

Thank you to project consultants and the investor panel including alumni: Michael Anderson ’92, MBA ’03, Mary Campbell MA ’72, Lynn Ann Casey ’90, Daniel B. Fitzgerald ’99 (legal advisor) Michael Garvey ’89, Showky Kaldawy ’94, and University Trustee Andrew J. McMahon ’89.

Finding JOY in the City of Widows

BY SUSAN CIPOLLARO

Along the banks of the sacred Yamuna River sits the holy town of Vrindavan in Uttar Pradesh, India, which is dubbed the “City of Widows.” Said to be the childhood home of Lord Krishna, a Hindu deity, Vrindavan is also home to some 16,000 widows from across India who seek safe haven there.

In India, it is not uncommon for widowed women to find themselves without a home or a family to take care of them. The centuries old Hindu taboo related to widows is fading in some urban areas of India but is still practiced in rural communities. Upon the death of a husband, many widows journey to Vrindavan’s shelters for refuge, rejected and abandoned by their families and friends.

Fairfield University’s first-ever immersion trip to India over winter break, took students to Delhi and Vrindavan and made stops in Agra and Jaipur.

Julie Mughal, Fairfield University’s director of the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN) and assistant director of the Center for Faith and Public Life (CFPL), and Alvin Jerome Arulmani MS’17, graduate assistant and international student ambassador, led the immersion trip accompanying seven JUHAN students from Fairfield University and three alumnae.

CFPL sponsored the trip spearheaded by Bridgeport-based service learning partner, Montage Initiative, in partnership with the Indian non-profit, Guild



The Center for Faith and Public Life undertakes its first immersion trip to India

of Service, a long standing agent for social change for women in India.

This introductory “course” for students was meant to expose them to the realities of the developing world through visits to NGOs, villages and schools, and lectures about history and women’s issues. In particular, to encourage them to analyze gender and other sectors of inequality as reflected through social institutions, legal practices and customary rights in India.

“After the first week of the trip we left Delhi, shrouded in smog and headed 100 miles south to the pilgrimage city of Vrindavan. For mile upon mile, as we wound our way out of the city’s perimeter, there were slums, endless garbage piles and impoverished families. What would happen to these children without an education? And what about girls who had less chance of escaping the slums and were more likely to be married off young, illiterate and poor?” wondered Mughal in her journal, as the group made their way toward the Ma Dham Shelter for widows.

The Ma Dham (which means “my home”) Shelter was founded in 2008 by Mohini Giri, PhD, a veteran human rights activist and scholar who has advocated for widows’ rights in India for the past 40 years.

“Upon our arrival, we were greeted as fragrant flower necklaces were draped around our necks and our foreheads were each lightly touched leaving a dot of red, the traditional bindhi,” Mughal recalled. “We were warmly greeted by the widows, who touched our hearts to their very cores during our stay.”

Brianna Klenkel '18 dances with the locals at a women's development center outside of Delhi.

“Their lives are hard but they have great hearts and still manage to find joy in the mundane and in their suffering. They offer a sign of hope that change is possible.”

— LYNANNE BOPP '16

There are an estimated 46 million widows in India, almost one-fifth of the world's 258 million widows.

“Widowhood is a state of social death, even among the higher castes,” Giri explained. “The minute a widow loses her husband, her life changes forever. She must dress differently, eat just once a day and strive to look unattractive.” Widows are still accused of being responsible for their husbands' deaths and are considered a bad omen.

Customary practices often dictate that widows must wear white, but Mughal said, “At Ma Dham's Shelter, we were greeted by widows sporting unapologetic bright colors – bright purples and emerald greens, stunning yellows and sunburst oranges. One of our hosts told our group, ‘Only the woman's husband has died, the color of her life has not gone away.’” Mughal noted that the Guild, which helps support the shelter, “turns away donations of white saris, the traditional dress of widows signifying an absence of color in her life.”

“These are the invisible women of the world who are often absent from development agendas, government reports and important world milestones,” said Mughal. “Thankfully, these cultural taboos have all been shattered at Ma Dham's Shelter, which restores dignity to the widows, a dignity that was abruptly taken from these women the day they lost their husbands.”

Enerida Ademi '13, a student leader on the trip, described the moment their bus arrived at the shelter: “When we pulled up a lot of us felt tears.



Brianna Klenkel '18 and student leader Dorina Ademi meet with women of all ages at the Gender Resource Center, Najafgarh.

Most of us were so exhausted, but we felt so much love from people we hadn't met before. They blessed us so many times.”

Working with the widows “put into perspective the human connection I had with a woman who doesn't speak the same language and is much older than me,” explained Lynanne Bopp '16. “There was a woman who spoke Hindi and I don't speak Hindi. It seemed like she was welcoming me, and then she started to cry. She was upset and it didn't matter what she was trying to say, but that I was listening.”

The widow had been at the shelter for only three days and her husband had died within the week. “We want to care for others and be cared for, and yet I didn't even know her,” Bopp said.

“My experience with them will stay with me for a long while,” she continued. “Their lives are hard but they have great hearts and still manage to find joy in the mundane and in their suffering. They offer a sign of hope that change is possible.”

The world's second most populated country, India has been described as an emerging powerhouse, one of the fastest growing economies of the world and in the midst of not only economic change but

also significant political and social transition. India is grappling with preserving its customs and traditions despite its evolution.

Meera Khanna, honorary vice president of the Guild of Service and lifelong women's rights advocate, characterized the enigmatic nature of India: “While India is culturally vibrant it is also an absolute land of contradiction,” she said. “That's how India is. Chaotic. Huge. Overwhelming. I was brought up in India and I don't understand the whole of it.”

Khanna was instrumental in creating the curriculum and itinerary for the trip with Fairfield alumnae Klevisa Kovaci '14, Sharon Pedrosa '13 and Enerida Ademi '13, members of Montage Initiative's Student Advisory Board.

Haleigh Doherty '18, president of Leaders for Environmental Action at Fairfield (LEAF), who was also on the trip, said, “The top four polluted cities in the world are in India and Delhi ranks number one with air pollution 50 percent higher than Beijing, China.”

Though she knew pollution was a big issue, nothing prepared her for the garbage, smog and overpopulation, or the coughing and nasal congestion caused by the poor air quality.

“We all felt it physically and experienced cold-like symptoms,” she said. “The smell of garbage often permeated the air as people burned it for



heat, which also contributed to air pollution.”

The gender ratio imbalance was the first thing that struck Johana Rendon '16 upon arriving in India. Traditionally, sons have been preferred over daughters and sex selection practices have resulted in a crisis of gender imbalance in the population. As of 2011, India had 37 million more men than women. Approximately 17 million of those men are in the age group responsible for most crimes committed, according to census data – an increase of 10 million since 1991. “As a result,” Rendon said, “violent crime in India rose nearly 19 percent from 2007 to 2011 and in recent years kidnapping of women rose over 70 percent.”

Briana Klenkel '18 didn't expect how emotionally exhausting the trip would be: “Not because we were doing physical labor, but you're observing, absorbing, reflecting – that impacts you in your core,” she said. “The little moments left the biggest impressions,” she continued, such as “looking into the eyes of a girl being taught self-defense because of domestic violence in her community.” Or at the weathered faces of the widows of Vindavran. “The love they

ABOVE LEFT: Lynanne Bopp '16 and Kathryn Spoelstra '16 take in the sights at the Taj Mahal in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India.

ABOVE RIGHT: Lynanne Bopp '16 receives a traditional Indian greeting as Haleigh Doherty '18 looks on at Mahila Panchayat.

RIGHT: Julie Mughal enjoys the company of the widows at the Ma Dham shelter in Vrindavan.



shared for each other was profound.”

Joanne Watkins, founder and CEO of the Montage Initiative, summed up the transformative nature of the trip: “Nothing changes one's perspective more than experiencing something firsthand. It was inspiring to witness this as it occurred in our students. Their lives, as well as mine, have been forever changed. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will significantly impact everything they do in the future, as our leaders of tomorrow.”

Klenkel echoed Watkins' sentiments. “As a nursing major, being in India has inspired me to set my sights on community and public healthcare and has instilled in me a passion to work toward developing access to healthcare for everyone. You come here and it changes your life.”



WIDOWS' JOURNEYS

ALMOST 10 YEARS AGO, JULIE MUGHAL wrote a book, *Land Without Hats*, documenting her own widowhood, as well as the situation of the widows whom she had met while working with Save the Children. She interviewed “widows from Haiti to Afghanistan and beyond, discovering a world of women whose lives were lived on the margins, at best, and in abject poverty and shame, at the worst.” Mughal said she had gone to India prepared to once again find widows living in crippling deprivation having survived terrible circumstances.

What Mughal found instead at Ma Dham's Shelter was a story of healing, dignity and joy: “After three days of visiting the shelter, I decided to write about what I saw knowing that there were literally millions of widows in India living outside the walls of the ashram subjected to the cruelty of social death, poverty beyond our ability to comprehend and despair. But this time I wanted to tell a story of hope – and the small promise of a project that makes a big difference in the lives of the women it touches.”



DEEP SEA EXPLORER

Photography by Joanna Lentini, Deep Focus Images

**RIGHT: John Lentini '97 on a dive
beneath the ice in Greenland with
the Elysium Arctic Expedition.**



FAIRFIELD ALUMNUS JOHN '97 AND JOANNA LENTINI, FOLLOW THEIR PASSION FOR SCUBA DIVING AND CONSERVATION

BY TESS BROWN '07, MFA'11

John Lentini '97 has been diving since he was just a kid on vacations with his family. A born-and-raised New Yorker, he grew up in Douglaston, Queens, always on a swim team with dreams of an underwater-themed bedroom and a fascination with Jacques Cousteau.

But Lentini's passion really peaked after he and his spouse Joanna moved to Hong Kong for his role with Credit Suisse in 2009. He has now lived in six countries, traveled to almost 60 and they have dived together all over the planet.

They have swum through millions of golden jellyfish in Jellyfish Lake on Eil Malk island in the Pacific; dived into the darkness of Malakal Harbor's Chandelier Cave with stalactites that glittered in the light of their underwater lamps; touched the North American and Eurasian continents at once during a dive between the tectonic plates of Iceland's Silfra Fissure; met a "sort of domesticated" wolffish named Stephanie in the Geothermal chimneys of Northern Iceland; and experienced the pristine splendor of the untouched coral at the Raja Ampat Reef in Indonesia.

One of their most memorable dives of all time was in Palau in the western Pacific Ocean, when Lentini came upon "literally a ballet of manta rays by the



“THE VISION OF THIS EXPEDITION WAS TO SHOW THE ARCTIC THROUGH ART AND SCIENCE IN A WAY THAT HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE. TO INSPIRE PEOPLE TO — FOR ONE THING — BELIEVE IN CLIMATE CHANGE BUT ALSO TO WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.”

surface,” Lentini described, “The cascading light coming through from the sky, God-like, through the manta rays with these flickering fusiliers – thousands of these little yellow fish in the light – adult and baby manta rays were just dancing and reef sharks circled below us. I don’t think we’ve ever had such a time.”

This love of diving is for more than just the thrill or wanderlust – the Lentinis are committed environmentalists and animal lovers, trying to bring awareness to the perils of climate change and the delicate ecosystem of the world’s oceans.

ABOVE: Lentini '97 on a cold water training dive in Grüner See (Green Lake) in Styria, Austria.

LEFT: A polar bear on “pack ice” photographed during the expedition, around 81 degrees north.

Last year, the two were selected to join the Elysium Arctic Expedition (EAE), a three-week expedition to promote conservation efforts and educate people about the plight of the Arctic. Studies show that sea ice is rapidly melting, leaving polar bears without a way to travel and it is feared that two thirds of the world’s polar bears will vanish within the next 40 years. This Arctic sea ice melt will also trigger a rise in sea levels, intensification of ocean acidification and severe cyclones.

The forward-looking mission of EAE drew the Lentinis to the project. John, a banker professionally and now at HSBC, is also an underwater video hobbyist. Joanna is an emerging underwater wildlife photographer who studied with The New York Institute of Photography.

“The vision of this expedition was to show the Arctic through art and science. To inspire people to – for one thing – believe in climate

change but also to want to do something about it,” Lentini said.

The EAE’s ice-strengthened research ship, Polar Pioneer, left Norway in August 2015 with 60 team members; the Lentinis were a part of the film and photography units led by an elite team of explorers, scientists and artists.

The trip, with a route through Norway, Greenland and Iceland, was not a vacation by any means.

“It was a lot of work,” Lentini said. “You know, putting on the dry suit in that kind of climate, getting your camera gear ready, getting your batteries charged, getting your “O-rings” checked (O-rings are rubber, oxygen compatible loops that allow divers to insulate underwater equipment) – between eating, a little bit of sleeping, diving, exploring, nightly film team meetings – there really was no downtime.” Lentini explained, too, that suiting up in dry suits specially made for cold water could take upwards of an hour – about as long as the actual dive itself.

An official Explorers Club expedition, the boat carried a certified flag, which is a highly competitive classification for a mission focused on exploration of unknown territory. The Explorers Club is an international society founded in 1904 dedicated to the advancement of field research and the preservation of the spirit of exploration.

“We went 81 degrees north,” Lentini said about the vessel’s destination, which is deep into pretty rare “pack ice” territory in the Arctic Circle.

“You’re in the ice. The boat was pushing through cracked ice. You’re literally surrounded.”

“A lot of the dives that we did were dives that have never been dove before,” Lentini explained. “You don’t know what you are going to see or what to expect. It’s really going into the true unknown.”

On many dives, the dive coordinator stayed on the zodiac (a rigid inflatable boat) nearby to look out for polar bears. One polar bear in particular that the team had spotted “from a mile away” stuck out in memory.

“He just kind of came right at us,” Joanna Lentini said.

“He smelled his dinner,” John Lentini continued with a laugh. “Whether it was us or the food we were cooking, he smelled his dinner.” From the safety of the boat with their telephoto lenses, they photographed him for about 40-50 minutes and said the bear seemed really interested in them.

The work created during the Elysium venture will soon be exhibited in Sydney, Singapore and Reykjavik. Photography from the Elysium expedition was featured at the COP21 Climate Change summit in Paris late



ABOVE: Puffins on bird cliffs in Svalbard, a Norwegian archipelago.

LEFT: John Lentini '97, Sylvia Earle, PhD, and Joanna Lentini on the Elysium Arctic Expedition. Dr. Earle is an American marine biologist, explorer, author and lecturer.

last year as well. The related book and film are due for release in 2017.

Fairfield is a family tradition for John Lentini as his uncle Ed “Yogi” Harrison is a member of the class of '74; his sister Jennifer Holtz is a member of the class of '94, as is his brother-in-law. His cousin Megan Harrison graduated in 2011.

While an undergraduate at Fairfield, Lentini studied abroad at the Lorenzo de’Medici Institute in Florence, Italy, where he became “completely infected by the travel bug.” Lentini managed to visit 15 countries while in Europe and said if he could offer advice to any current students it would be not to worry about missing anything on campus while seeing the world.

“The richness and complexity of what I was able to see was just life-changing and formative,” Lentini said.

Lentini was a Dolan School of Business student but he said it was the “liberal arts focus” at Fairfield that still resonates with him and that “it would be safe to say that the progressive Jesuit tradition has certainly helped shape a bit of the adventurous explorer in me.”

Next, the Lentinis will both travel on invitation to the Maldives in South Asia to discuss conservation photography and activism.

“I work to live. I don’t live to work,” Lentini said about his career trajectory in the banking world and his passion for diving and the environment. “It’s important to balance your life that way.”

To learn more and see images from the expedition, visit Joanna Lentini’s website www.deepfocusimages.com.





Fairfield Foodies

Cooks, brewers, chocolatiers – alumni thrive as entrepreneurs in the artisanal food revolution

BY TESS BROWN '07, MFA '11

There's a food revolution going on. From increasing awareness about best practices in organic agriculture to a love and demand for niche flavors, alumni food businesses are popping up left and right.

Today the University has an Entrepreneur-in-Residence program, the Fairfield StartUp competition and other programs to encourage students to pursue their dreams. But even before those programs were in place, alumni embraced the spirit of adventure and got into foodie businesses, all with an insistence on integrity. Here are a few that seized our attention:

The Big Cheese

Caseus Fromagerie and Bistro and The Cheese Truck, New Haven, Conn.
Thomas Sobocinski '14

Everyone loves grilled cheese. Or, at least most people do, and the folks in the eight-deep line at The Cheese Truck in downtown New Haven, Conn., didn't seem to mind waiting in the rain.

Fairfield Magazine visited alumnus Thomas Sobocinski '14 at both Caseus Fromagerie and Bistro, his family's small cafe in New Haven,

and The Cheese Truck (that is an extension of the bistro), and got a taste of why "every sandwich has a story."

"We're open on the streets of New Haven and do tons of events. Grilled cheese is really a kind of universal food," said Sobocinski, who joined his brother Jason's Caseus Fromagerie and Bistro effort by taking on the food truck arm of the business while he was still an undergraduate in 2009.

It was while working for his brother that Sobocinski was led to Fairfield University.

"I actually started school up at Boston University. The summer after my sophomore year, I started helping my brother at the bistro. I ended up falling in love with the job and didn't want to go back to school at the end of the summer," he said. "Both my parents are Fairfield alumni and it seemed like a great option to attend a really good school and still be close enough to home to work with my brother."

So Sobocinski took a semester off and then started classes at Fairfield.

The Cheese Truck was recently featured on the Food Network TV show, *Man vs. Food* for their Cheese Truck Challenge eating competition.

Sobocinski scoffed at the television credit and said it's their quality product that gets them recognition.

Their classic grilled cheese is served on local sourdough bread with a blend of provolone, Swiss, comté, Gruyere, Gouda, sharp cheddar

Clockwise, from upper left: *Grilled cheese at Caseus Fromagerie and Bistro in New Haven, Conn.*; *Pure chocolate bar from Sol Cacao – Harlem Craft Chocolate, a bean-to-bar company*; *A cake baked with The Connecticut Coconut Company's coconut sugar*; *Whale's Tale Pale Ale is Nantucket's Cisco Brewer's flagship beer.*



Clockwise, from upper left: Tom Sobocinski '14 serves up a classic grilled cheese sandwich; The Caseus Grilled Cheese Truck on the move in downtown New Haven, Conn.; A wide variety of specialty cheeses on display at the Caseus Fromagerie and Bistro brick-and-mortar location.



and more. Cornichon pickles and whole grain mustard come on the side but you can also add toppings to your order like guacamole, Berkshire pulled pork, applewood-smoked bacon and hot cherry peppers.

His advice to recent graduates or anyone hoping to break into the food industry: "Get experience and just get into it."

For more information about the cafe or food truck, visit CaseusNewHaven.com or TheCheeseTruck.com.

A Sweet Legacy

The Connecticut Coconut Company, Shelton, Conn. and the Philippines
Maria Luisa Felix '91

Maria Luisa Felix '91, usually called Marissa by her friends, remembers that while growing up in the Philippines they never wasted any part of the coconut. People would eat the meat, drink the water, use the oil for cooking and then use the husk of the coconut to polish their floors. Coconut trees are everywhere in the Philippines – they are like the maple tree

is to New England, Felix explained.

Searching for a way to marry her passion for graphic design, business and organic food with a sense of home, Felix developed The Connecticut Coconut Company (CCC) in 2005. With CCC she offers, with a nod to her cultural heritage, a healthier alternative to cane sugar and other natural sugars. Felix started her organic coconut business that's headquartered in Shelton, Conn., with virgin coconut oils but now stocks coconut flour, desiccated coconut, creamed coconut and most recently added coconut sugar to the lineup.

"You know why it's healthy, because it's low-glycemic, number one – no blood sugar spikes – and it's also certified organic, and you can use it for anything you use sugar with," Felix said.

Coconut sugar, also called coconut sap sugar, is a sugar derived from the sap of coconut tree flowers. It has been used as a traditional sweetener for centuries in regions where coconut trees flourish, such as Southeast Asia.

Felix and her business development partner Jose Castillo, with their farms in the Philippines, are producing around 30 tons of coconut sugar per month and sell the sugar to companies in Canada, Japan, Mexico, Egypt, South America and in the U.S.

"The sap from the blossoms is harvested four times a day, so the men climb the trees as many times. Then, the farmers' wives are actually the ones who we employ to cook down the sap," Felix said about the process and the community of certified organic farmers that they work with in a mountainous, southern region.

"We understand that without them there is no us," Castillo said. "We help them to sell their product and pay far above average for their work."

Felix added, "We also offer the farmers classes so they can meet organic certification standards, learn about new environmentally friendly methods for farm care and other things we might take for granted here."

The framework, social-consciousness and values of her business grew out of a foundation that was laid while at Fairfield, Felix said.

"I really enjoyed my time at Fairfield because the classes were excellent," Felix said. "Everything that I learned, I have been able to apply to my career choices."

To find Connecticut Coconut Company's products, visit ctcoconut.com.



Right: Maria Luisa Felix '91 and a package of her coconut sugar; The CT Coconut Co.'s coconut sugar is minimally processed and doesn't have a coconut aftertaste.

A Whale of a Tale

Cisco Brewers, Nantucket, Mass.

Jay Harman '96

Jay Harman '96 is CEO of a thriving brewery – Cisco Brewers of Nantucket – that he joined just days after his graduation.

Now, two other businesses are also prospering alongside Cisco; the award-winning Triple Eight Distillery and Nantucket Vineyard. At Cisco Brewers, a 15-barrel brew house and popular taproom that serves about 1,000 people a day, the vibe is warm, welcoming and there's always music and dogs.

Harman's passion for Cisco Brewers began as a Fairfield senior thesis microbrewery project with advisor Arjun Chaudhuri, PhD, in the Dolan School of Business.

"I remember Dr. Chaudhuri was all about sampling and emphasizing that you've got to be accessible to market and to make sure your samples are good," Harman said, recalling his thesis project and the gathering he and his housemates threw down at the beach to sample their products. Some of his brews turned out well and others were duds. But, Harman wasn't discouraged and, inspired by the project, kept experimenting.

Once he was "on-island" with business partners Randy and Wendy Hudson – founders and original brew masters of Cisco Brewers – Harman jumped right in and focused on production and product development.

Over time, Cisco's sampling bar became a true testing ground and the input they received from customers who would queue for their craft brews led them to the products they brew today. Harman, whose real interest was in the creative marketing and sales, helped nurture scores of new products including their flagship beer that pays tribute to Nantucket's maritime history, Whale's Tale Pale Ale.

The spirit of innovation has driven the growth at Harman's business but, he said, the customers' desire and ability to "live the vibe and culture of the Nantucket lifestyle" through Cisco products remains the key to their success.

Meanwhile, the company's other product lines have earned three medals of distinction from American Distilling Institute's 2016



Craft American Spirits Competition and 17 awards in total from other competitions including the top prize in the Whiskies of the World Malt Category from the 2015 International Spirits Challenge in London.

While Cisco Brewers is growing, Harman and his colleagues don't want to forget their humble beginnings. In 2012, they officially created The Cisco Foundation that is dedicated to supporting the local community and acknowledges the many people who made their success possible through charitable contributions.

Looking to try their products? Check their website ciscobrewers.com for more information and to find a purveyor near you.

Clockwise, from top: *Cisco Brewers in Nantucket, Mass., serves about 1,000 visitors a day; Jay Harman '96 and his award-winning The Notch Whisky; and Cisco Brewers Woods Series barrel-aged and soured beer: Cranberry Woods, Lady of the Woods, Pechish Woods and Monomoy Kriek.*

Fairfield wants to celebrate foodies' businesses. Visit fairfield.edu/alumnifoodies to learn more and request to list your business in the directory.

“When it comes to the food sector, it’s all about traceability – where the product is grown, who is growing it. I want it done the right way, like it was done hundreds of years ago.”

DANIEL MALONEY '13

For the Love of Cacao

*Sol Cacao – Harlem Craft Chocolate
Daniel Maloney '13*

Daniel Maloney '13 will tell you that there is only one way to make real chocolate; with two pure ingredients – cacao beans and raw cane sugar.

As a way to pay tribute to their Caribbean upbringing and to make chocolate as it tasted during their childhood in Trinidad and Tobago, Maloney and his brothers created Sol Cacao – Harlem Craft Chocolate, a bean-to-bar company.

The business opened last year after seven years of research and development, and now

Sol Cacao is making hundreds of bars a week that are sold in 14 different stores.

The Maloney brothers were raised close to the land with a pet parrot, duck and iguana, mango trees and “just so many plants.” They loved the traditional drink cocoa tea, a spiced brew of high-quality chocolate ground into powder. Once their family moved to the U.S. in 1996, they discovered that the same blend was nowhere to be found.

“We love the idea of being fourth generation farmers,” Maloney said about starting the company with his brothers.

The chocolate bars Maloney and Sol Cacao are making are bean-to-bar or single origin, meaning the cacao beans they use are never blended or cut with a mixture of lower-quality beans.

Maloney explained that like a fine wine, the cacao from Trinidad and other farms from around the world where the Maloneys procure their beans, are affected by the climate, soil and their surroundings.

“We only use fine cacao beans harvested in the most ethical and humane manner,” Maloney said, talking, too, about their fair-trade mission to celebrate the 400-year-old tradition of growing cacao in the Caribbean Islands.

Maloney studied engineering at Fairfield and continues to work as an engineer in New York City but plans to eventually, with his brothers, operate their own cacao farm.

“Fairfield helped me to think bigger. The environment alone kind of showed me that we could do it. It taught me how to take risks,” he said.

On his future in the food industry: “When it comes to the food sector, it’s all about traceability – where the product is grown, who is growing it. I want it done the right way, like it was done hundreds of years ago.”

Find Sol Cacao’s products online starting this summer: solcacao.com. 



Clockwise, from upper left: Dan Maloney '13, center, and his brothers Nicholas (l) and Dominic (r) in Harlem; raw single estate Ecuadorian cacao beans at the Sol Cacao processing kitchen in NYC; Sol Cacao’s three main bars consist of beans from Ecuador, Madagascar and Peru.

Grants & Gifts

Academic Centers

The Adolph and Ruth Schnurmacher Foundation has awarded \$50,000 in continued funding for support of the Carl and Dorothy Bennett Center for Judaic Studies, led by Ellen Umansky, PhD. The foundation's support helps offer programs such as the Adolph & Ruth Schnurmacher Lecture and Workshop, the Jewish Faculty Forum, student class trips, Friday evening Shabbat services and dinners and class speakers.

The Federation for Jewish Philanthropy - Upper Fairfield County has offered notable, general support for the Carl and Dorothy Bennett Center for Judaic Studies.

College of Arts and Sciences

The America Councils International Education (ACIE), primary funder U.S. Embassy Kiev, has awarded Kathy Nantz, PhD, of the College of Arts and Sciences and David Schmidt, PhD, of the Dolan School of Business, \$45,000 to travel to the Ukraine with ACIE staff and provide presentations and materials on academic integrity at Ukrainian public universities. The Strengthening Academic Integrity in Ukrainian Higher Education Program (SAIUP) implemented by American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS (American Councils) promotes reform through a public diplomacy partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Kiev.

CT Space Grant Consortium Program (primary funder is NASA), has provided several grants to both Fairfield faculty and students, including a research grant of \$10,000 to Amanda Harper-Leatherman, PhD, of the Chemistry Department, and \$5,000 to College of Arts



Funding undergraduate, graduate and faculty projects in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, NASA's Connecticut Space Grant Consortium has awarded several members of the Fairfield University community funds to pursue projects and research in STEM fields.

and Sciences student Nina Kosciuszek '17. Dr. Harper-Leatherman will be the faculty mentor on their project entitled "Incorporating Aerogels into Electrochemical Glucose Biosensors."

School of Engineering

ASML Wilton, USA has provided \$8,000 in support for the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) chapter at Fairfield University, and its inaugural project bringing clean water to Carmen Pampa, Bolivia. Through this program, ASML is helping future pioneers of the engineering field cultivate a worldview and skill set that will enhance their personal and professional lives – and inspire them to effect positive change in their communities.

Notable funding from **The Weller Foundation** has been given to assist with the acquisition of much-needed equipment for the University's mechanical engineering laboratory, which will enhance the hands-on,

experiential learning opportunities offered to engineering students at Fairfield.

Shahrokh Etemad, PhD, professor and chair of Mechanical Engineering, will become the inaugural Bannow-Larson Professor of Manufacturing. The establishment of this professorship is sponsored by **The Bannow-Larson Foundation** for the next five years and recognizes Dr. Etemad's leadership and commitment to the students in improving the Mechanical Engineering program at Fairfield University. Dr. Etemad will lead the development of the Bannow-Larson Advanced Manufacturing Laboratory over the next several years.

Grants were awarded, in the amount of \$5,000 each, from **CT Space Grant Consortium Program (primary funder is NASA)** to Ryan Munden, PhD, assistant dean for Experiential Learning, for STEM Educational Programming and to undergraduate student scholarships awarded to Samuel Nguyen '19 and John O'Neill '18.

Grants & Gifts

School of Nursing

The Veterans Administration-West Haven has given a grant of \$5,000 to project director Jaclyn Conelius, PhD, assistant professor of nursing, for its Medical Centers of Excellence support program.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing has given \$2,500 in continued support of the Jonas Scholarship for academically promising nursing students.

The Arts

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation has awarded \$7,500 in support of arts education and outreach initiatives that will reach more than 5,000 youth who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience the performing arts, offering them free tickets to Quick Center performances, camps and arts education programming.

The Herman Goldman Foundation has given a grant of \$2,500 to support the Quick Center's School Matinee Series, which is designed to introduce students to live theatre experiences that enhance their learning, ignite their creativity and offer them a new view of the world. Arts education materials are also presented to schoolteachers, which help them integrate Quick Center arts programming into their curricula.


The Samuel H. Kress Foundation has provided a grant of \$10,000 to support the Bellarmine Museum of Art's upcoming exhibition, which will commemorate the University's 75th anniversary.

The Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions

The National Writing Project (via the U.S. Department of Education) has provided \$15,000 to Bryan R. Crandall, PhD, and his summer program at Fairfield that invites teachers from urban districts to partake in a summer intensive on literacy and professional development on narrative writing. The 2016 Invitational Summer Institute runs from July 5 to August 4, 2016. It is in partnership with Bridgeport Public Schools, University Athletics, the Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions and the College of Arts and Sciences at Fairfield University.

The Bridgeport Board of Education (via State of Conn.) has given \$7,000 in support for Fairfield's partnership with Cesar Batalla Elementary School for a professional development program.

Support and Scholarships

The Edward John Noble Foundation has awarded \$2,500 to support the area of greatest need at Fairfield University. Notable support for the University has also come from **The Whitman Foundation**, which funds scholarships specifically for students from Bridgeport, Conn. 



DR. JENNIFER ADAIR RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NEH GRANT

Jennifer Adair, PhD, assistant professor of history, was recently awarded a prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend Grant. The funds will go toward research for her book, which will offer a critical reinterpretation of Latin America's so-called "lost decade." The book is tentatively titled *In Search of the Lost Decade: The Everyday Politics of Human*

Rights in Post-Dictatorship Argentina.

Dr. Lynn Babington, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, said, "Being awarded an NEH grant is a very high honor as the process is highly competitive – where every year, only 6 to 10 percent of applicants are successful. These grants support excellence in research and teaching in the humanities. We are very proud of Dr. Adair."

The funds from the grant will send Dr. Adair to Buenos Aires and its surrounding areas in Argentina this summer for archival research focused on food riots that took place in that area in 1989.

The book will be the first in-depth history of Argentina's transition to democracy following years of brutal military rule and fiscal crisis and will draw on unpublished sources and oral histories.

PARENTS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



The Parents Leadership Council is a network of inspired and committed parents who support and enhance the quality of a Fairfield University education and experience by raising funds from the extensive parent community. Members of the Council are invited to work closely with the University to actively engage other parents and to serve as the voice of the parent community with University administration.

Parents Leadership Council membership honors parents who make annual donations of \$5,000 or more. Additional membership benefits include:

- Invitations to events hosted by University President Jeffrey P. von Arx, S.J.
- Regular updates from the Parents' Program Office
- Opportunities to participate in parent webinars and focus groups on topics relevant to their student's experience

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE TODAY

To learn more about the Parents Leadership Council and the Parents' Fund, or to make your gift today, please contact:

Bonnie Crews, Director of Parents' Programs
(203) 254-4000, ext. 3276 | bcrews@fairfield.edu

To make a gift online, please visit fairfield.edu/give

Donor PROFILE

THE CONROY FAMILY

The Conroy Family Legacy

The Conroy family's dedication to Fairfield runs deep. It started with John Conroy '69, who lived in Gonzaga on campus, played club football and graduated Fairfield during its last year as an all-male school to become a CPA. Then, all six of the Conroy children attended Fairfield and two married Fairfield alumni: Sean Conroy '94 and Nora (Daley) Conroy '95; Kristina (Conroy) Sweeney '96 and John Sweeney '94; Kevin Conroy '98; Jill Conroy '99; Brian Conroy '01; and Patrick Conroy '05.

The family's love for Fairfield was nurtured from the beginning; when the Conroy children were young, their parents, John and Mary, would take them to visit campus for picnics with friends by the Bellarmine pond. John Conroy '69 would tell tales

of his college days and share the Jesuit ideals that shaped him into a man for others. Then, when it was time for Sean Conroy '94 – the eldest and a lacrosse player – to choose a school, there was really only one choice.

Each child came to choose Fairfield on their own accord for different reasons, John said, "It really became a family institution. The greatest of friends and the greatest of times."

The Sweetest Memories

"Kristy" (Conroy) Sweeney '96 explained that some of their favorite times as a family have been just hanging out with their siblings and fellow Stags on the beach. The connection to Fairfield has been enriching for all of them.

"Being able to share your college experience with siblings



"The Jesuit ideal of being men and women for others is something that we try to live up to the best that we can. We feel very fortunate for all the opportunities that were given to us throughout our lives and it's important for us to give back in any way that we can."

was amazing. Their friends became your friends and vice versa. Your network grew very quickly," Kristy said.

As students, they were very involved with Athletics and Study Abroad and had lively individual experiences as well.

Now they stay connected to campus by hosting admitted students open house receptions, attending Stagmates and other events and visiting Fairfield as often as they are able.

"Fairfield students and Fairfield families stand out for their warmth," John said. "I can't define it, but there is just something about Fairfield."

On Giving Back

"The Jesuit ideal of being men and women for others is something that we try to live up to the best that we can," Kristy said. "We feel very fortunate for all the opportunities that were given to us throughout our lives and it's important for us to give back in any way that we can. Our last gifts to Fairfield were to the new Rafferty Stadium and to the Multicultural Scholarship Fund through the Fairfield Awards Dinner. It's important to us to give opportunities to young people and to enrich their overall experience while at Fairfield. They are the future."

THE FAIRFIELD LEGACY ASSOCIATION

Did you know that 15 percent of Fairfield University graduates are members of a legacy family? Fairfield University's legacy families consist of students and alumni whose family members — including parents, grandparents or siblings — attended or currently attend Fairfield. The University truly values our legacy families' continued contributions and hosts a number of special programs to help legacy families stay in touch with Fairfield and one another.

For more information about the Legacy program, visit fairfield.edu/FLA

Alumni NOTES

1950

'59 | **David Barrett** has published a book concerning money and currency: *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Money*.

1970

'70 | **Bill Britt** attorney at Brody Wilkinson PC in Fairfield, Conn., was honored in the Nov. issue of *New England Super Lawyers*.

'72 | **Duane McDonald** has retired after 33 years of teaching grades five through 12 with the Toronto Catholic School Board. McDonald is the son of Gerard B. McDonald, PhD, who was for many years a member of Fairfield's Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.*

'74 | **Gerald Anastasio** is director of human resources for the Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund in Harrisburg, Penn. Anastasio was vice president for Human Resources at HealthAmerica and Lincoln General Insurance Company prior to taking this position in 2008.*

Susan (Bamonte) Dunn was honored at the MetroHartford Alliance's Rising Star Breakfast featuring Mayor Luke Bronin. She received the Alliance's Rising Star Award for 25 years of exceptional leadership in her community.

Robert A. Smith Jr. T.H.D. is the author of a recently published book, *Flying with Broken Wings*, a journey from failure to fulfillment.

SHARE YOUR NEWS



KATHERINE (ARMSTRONG) '02 AND RYAN CLUNE '03 welcomed son Daniel Louis on Nov. 16, 2015.

Share your news! Simply log on to the **FREE Alumni Online Community** and post your class note. Not a member? Registration is easy — www.fairfield.edu/alumnicommunity. Sign up and log on today.

'76 | **Robert Cypher** has been named the part-time city judge of Rye, N.Y., having been nominated by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. He is currently counsel to the firm Darger, Errante, Yavitz and Blau in New York, N.Y. *

John J. Henschel has recently been promoted to the position of vice president and general counsel for the Americas and Australia at Atlas Copco North America LLC in Parsippany, N.J. *

James P. Vail '76, MA'82 was chosen as this year's recipient of the St. Francis Staff Service Award for his contributions to Aquinas High School in La Crosse, Wis., where he served for seven years prior to Paramus Catholic High School. Vail was also invited to serve on the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) Advisory Council.

1980

'85 | **Helene (Murtha) Dooley** was the Grand Marshal of the St. Patrick's Day parade in Eastchester, N.Y.

'86 | **Benjamin W. Citrin Jr.** has been named the senior vice president and chief financial officer at Sikorsky Credit Union.

1990

'91 | **LeeAnn Ghazil Gaunt** has served as chief of the SEC Enforcement Division's Municipal Securities and Public Pensions Unit since 2013, supervising 30 people in eight offices around the country.

'92 | **Dawn (Roode) Campanile** has launched a new business serving the greater NYC region and northern N.J.: Modern Heirloom Books is a custom design studio that helps people curate their photos and memorabilia and create high-end milestone books.*

Christine (Doody) Doherty was this year's honoree at the St. Patrick's Day parade in Eastchester, N.Y.

William Jerro has been named president of the Direct Division and Teachers Auto Insurance Company of N.J.

Kelly (Fitzgerald) Lackner was recently promoted to be the head of Global Talent Management for XL Catlin, a global re-insurance company headquartered in Dublin. Lackner is based in Stamford and lives in Fairfield with her husband **Steve Lackner '93** and two daughters, Abby and Emma. *

Brian Stephanak has been promoted by American Airlines to captain. He flies to Europe, South America and the Caribbean.

'98 | **Angelica Fontanez** is now the director of Human Services for the town of Redding, Conn.'s social services dept.

'99 | **Tracy Larmer** is the inaugural director of the Office of Academic Analytics at the Yale School of Medicine.

2000

'01 | **Alexander Pabst** was honored for his pro bono work with low-income Nassau residents by the Nassau Suffolk Law Services' Volunteer Lawyer's Project in New York.

Alumni NOTES

Kerry E. Ricci was the chairwoman of the Union County, N.J., St. Patrick's Day Parade 2016.

Jeremy Rice was named president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Southwest New England.

'02 | **Christian Matarese** has been elected partner at global specialist law firm Dechert LLP.

Ed Walsh is the veteran and community relations manager for Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts where he is helping to bring the arts to U.S. troops stationed abroad.

'06 | **Jocelyn Collen** is now working for the Sisters of St. Joseph Prison Ministry as their first resource and development director.*

'09 | **Samantha Sharma** has been elevated to the position of associate in the Commercial Lending Practice Group at Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP.

2010

'14 | **Tebben Lopez** is working for Awamaki, an NGO in Peru.

Marriages

Maureen Griffin '78 and Curtis Damone – July 12, 2015.

Amy Lynn (Bordonaro) '07 and **John Collins '07** – May 2, 2015.

Sarah (Nelson) '07 and **Ryan Neubauer '07** – June 27, 2015.

Teresa O'Toole '07 and Andrew Kenyon – July 11, 2015.

Danielle Pampillonio '08 and Stephen Zangrillo III – Oct. 28, 2011.



SARAH (NELSON) '07 AND **RYAN NEUBAUER '07** were married **June 27, 2015**. The Stagmates met at Fairfield during their freshman orientation.

Share your news! Simply log on to the **FREE Alumni Online Community** and post your class note. Not a member? Registration is easy – www.fairfield.edu/alumnicommunity. Sign up and log on today.

Elizabeth (Grimm) '09 and **Ronald Zielinski '09** – May 22, 2015.

Erin (McGoldrick) '09 and **Ryan Merlone '09** – Oct. 17, 2015.

Lauren (Vandenberg) '09 and **Christopher Manley '06** – Jan. 17, 2013.*

Kerri Horgan '10 and **Michael Windels '10** – Oct. 10, 2015.*

Alaina Roland and **Christopher P. Kelly '11** – Nov. 7, 2015.

Kelley Brady '12, MBA '15 and Matt Novakovich – Sept. 19, 2015.*

Michelle (Cote) '12 and **John Canavan '12** – Sept. 5, 2015.*

Kristen (Rydborg) '12 and **Alfonso Costagliola '11** – Feb. 20, 2016.

Births

Liliana (Donadio) '92 and James Daigle, daughter – Mariselle, Oct. 10, 2015.

Theresa Durso '88 and Jean-Yves Magnan, son – Theodore Anthony, June 9, 2015.*

JoAnn (Dean) '99 and Vincent Anderson, son – Nathaniel Fleetwood, Dec. 2015.*

Patricia and **Matthew DeFranco '01**, son – Benjamin Michael, July 2015.*

Katherine (Armstrong) '02 and **Ryan Clune '03**, son – Daniel Louis, Nov. 16, 2015.

Jessica Dubuss '05 and Amanda Tripmacher, son – Xander Hutch, Dec. 30, 2015.*

Emily McAdam '05, MA'06 and Seth Newton, daughter – Eloise Kerala, Dec. 29, 2015.*

Christine (Dinardi) '05 and **Steven Stafstrom '05**, daughter – Julia Marie, March 27, 2016.

Catherine Purpura and **Thomas Smith '05**, son – Declan Thomas, July 7, 2015.*

Kathleen and **Brian Lange '06**, daughter – Norah Clare, July 27, 2015.*

Amanda (LeClair) '07 and **Steve Teti '07**, daughter – Natalie Elizabeth, March 18, 2016.

Danielle Pampillonio '08 and Stephen Zangrillo III, daughter – Lilliana, Oct. 1, 2015.

Lauren (Vandenberg) '09 and **Christopher Manley '06**, daughter – Olivia Rose, Dec. 11, 2014.

KALA RAMA '05

The Life of a Reporter

BY MEREDITH GUINNESS

KALA RAMA '05 WAS ON the pre-med track at Fairfield University and completing a hospital internship, when she made a discovery:

She really enjoyed interacting with patients each day.

The broken bones? Not so much.

"I connected with the people, not the science behind it," the former Trumbull resident said recently. "[Internships] really show you what life will be like in the future. I had to think about if this was what I wanted in life."

So she did a 180 degree turn: While still a full-time Fairfield student, she moved into her sister's New York City apartment and took on two high-profile internships — one with MTV News and the other with E! Entertainment.

"I would frost cupcakes at night to pay the rent," she said, laughing about a part-time gig at Magnolia Bakery that she paired with a stint at Equinox gym to cover her expenses. "I got a free gym membership, so — pretty cool!"

She had a gargantuan amount on her plate, but it did the trick. Rama realized she had a passion for educating people that has turned into an exciting career in television news, currently as morning anchor for PIX11 News in New York City.

She started with PIX11 in January, having moved from WABC, where she reported from the New York station on weekday mornings. Prior to joining WABC, Rama worked as an anchor and reporter in Orlando at WKMG, where she was nominated for several Emmy Awards. She has also worked in Charlotte, N.C. at WSOC and in Springfield, Mass. at WWLP, where she received an Associated Press award for breaking news.

"Kala comes to PIX11 with extensive experience as a hard-hitting journalist, both on the

anchor desk and out in the field," PIX11 News Director Amy Waldman said in announcing her hiring. "Her local roots and commitment to reporting on the topics that affect New Yorkers resonate with our viewers."

RAMA STARTED HER CAREER SOON AFTER graduating from Fairfield, when New Haven's WTNH recognized her tireless energy and determination and named the 22-year-old as assignment editor.

"A lot of people go to Rome and Tuscany for a vacation after graduation," she said. "This is what I did."

What makes her so passionate about news?

"You get such a rush," said the communication and politics major. "You are the person people look to to know what's going on. You're the person who tries to get the answers."

"There's a lot of value in that. You're helpful."

Rama has covered a number of memorable stories, from a massive explosion at the Blue Rhino propane plant in Orlando in 2013 to Florida's notorious hurricanes.

"Your eyelashes were stuck to your forehead," she said of the gale-force winds she endured while broadcasting.

One of her toughest stories to report was the Sandy Hook School shooting in Newtown in 2012. She was sent up to cover the story from Orlando because she was from the area, which made it doubly hard.

"I just love kids and, being from the area, it was very tough to do," she said. "I don't think you're ever prepared for something like that."

Rama's career and personal life crossed a few years ago when she met her husband of two years, Anthony DiLorenzo, while at the Springfield station. The two are lucky to be able to work together again at PIX11, where he is a general assignment reporter. The pair live on New York's Upper West Side.

The life of a journalist means a certain amount of sacrifice, Rama said. Reporters



"You get such a rush. You are the person people look to to know what's going on. You're the person who tries to get the answers. There's a lot of value in that. You're helpful."

and anchors routinely work holidays and weekends and balancing life and work can be a challenge.

"My dream job would be to have a career and maintain it and to be a mom, too," she said. "This job takes a lot of time and you have to love what you do because the news is always on." **F**

Alumni NOTES

“Fairfield students and Fairfield families stand out for their warmth. I can’t define it, but there is just something about Fairfield.” – JOHN CONROY '69

In Memoriam

Mary Lou Reilly (wife of Jim Reilly '54 and mother of Tim Reilly '77), – Sept. 17, 2015.

James F. Murphy III '51 – April 22, 2015.

Bernie Beglane '52 – Aug. 19, 2015.

Daniel J. Dinan '52 – Dec. 22, 2015.

Francis E. Woods '52, MA'62, CT'65 (GSEAP) – Aug. 6, 2015.

Eugene J. O'Meara '54 – Sept. 9, 2015.

Anthony S. Fichera '55 – Sept. 5, 2015.

James A. Langanke '55 – Feb. 23, 2016.

Rev. Peter A. DeMarco '56 – July 20, 2015.

John J. Prendergast '56 – Feb. 6, 2016.

Richard Kopchyak BEI'57 – Jan. 14, 2016.

George J. Nicastro '59 – Dec. 13, 2015.

John J. Patchen '59 – Dec. 18, 2015.

Donald F. Buckley '60 – Sept. 1, 2015.

George F. McKeever '60 – Aug. 24, 2015.

Arthur J. O'Leary '60 – July 23, 2015.

Frederick A. Sargolini II '60 – Mar. 1, 2016.

John D. Weaver, Sr. BEI'60 – Feb. 11, 2016.

Vincent A. Cianci Jr. '62 – Jan. 28, 2016.

Charles S. Dube '62 – July 28, 2015.

John A. Popsun, Jr. '62 – Feb. 14, 2016.

Felix Wilson '64 – Dec. 21, 2015.

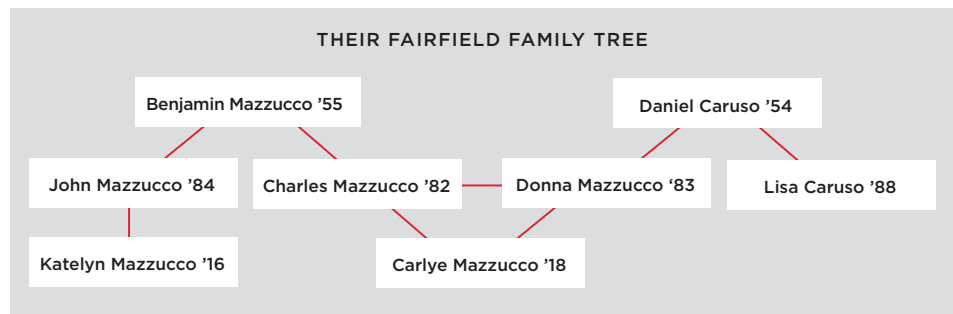
FAIRFIELD *Legacy* ASSOCIATION

The University is proud of our legacy tradition. Our legacy families consist of students and alumni whose family members — including parents, grandparents, and/or siblings — attended or currently attend Fairfield University.



John Mazzucco '84, Charles Mazzucco '82, Donna Mazzucco '83, Katelyn Mazzucco '16 and Carlye Mazzucco '18 joined us for our annual Fairfield Legacy Association reception during Alumni and Family Weekend.

Save the date for this year's reception, Saturday, October 22, 2016!



Tell us your Fairfield Legacy story and share your legacy photos at alumni@fairfield.edu. For more information about the Legacy program, visit fairfield.edu/FLA

PAUL RAMUNNI '70

Director of an Accordions Museum

BY JOHN TORSIELLO

PAUL RAMUNNI '70 HADN'T picked up an accordion for 42 years. Then, one evening the Fairfield graduate had an epiphany of sorts.

"In mid-2008, I woke up one morning and inexplicably had the urge to play again," said the 67-year-old, who had a CPA firm in Canaan, Conn., for 35 years before selling it. He now teaches accounting and financial literacy courses full-time for the University of Connecticut.

After a chance meeting that same day with a storied accordion collector, Ramunni began to see the instruments as windows into history, which inspired him to pursue his own collection.

Ramunni, a native of Long Island, eventually collected so many treasures he decided to open the Canaan-based New England Accordion Museum (NEAM), for which he serves as curator and director.

"I am constantly looking for rare and interesting accordions to add to the collection. The stories that come with each unit are so very important."

"I am constantly looking for rare and interesting accordions to add to the collection. The stories that come with each unit are so very important. They give insight into how people lived 50, 100, or 150 years ago. The museum is personally rewarding for me, but it's the stories even more so than the accordions. There's even a spiritual component to the collecting process."



Ramunni '70 playing one of his favorite accordions, a Giuseppe Verde professional model, in the main room of his New England Accordion Museum in Canaan, Conn.

Ramunni plays his accordions at senior centers, hospitals, nursing homes and other venues. He has a "mobile museum" that he brings with him when he plays, that consists of about six to eight accordions from the collection. He discusses the accordion, its history and then he plays for the audience.

His collection at NEAM has more than 400 accordions, some of which were involved in the major wars that have occurred in the last 200 years.

"A fellow named Stan donated an accordion to our museum. It belonged to his father, a Navy vet from World War II. He was a machine gunner on one of the landing crafts that brought soldiers to shore at Omaha Beach on D-Day. His dad had his accordion on that boat. He brought it along with him as they fought their way through to Germany. He did this because he knew how important it would be to give the troops some encouragement for the job they had to do. He then volunteered for a tour of duty in the Pacific and was at Okinawa and Iwo Jima. His job there was, once again, to give our troops fire cover as they stormed those beaches. All of this with that same accordion by his side. Amazingly, that accordion made it through unscathed. He himself collected three purple hearts for his wounds, but in every case always returned to the fight."

The museum also has a flutina – an early precursor to the button accordion – purchased from a person who believed it was at the battle of Bull Run during the Civil War. It came in a sturdy, compact oak carrying

box. Reportedly, soldiers at that time would take an instrument such as this with them into battle and would play it at night as they sat around the campfire as a reminder of home and better times.

Ramunni, now both a father and grandfather, said Fairfield University had more of an influence on his life and career than he realized at first. Fairfield gave him not only an educational foundation to build upon, but also the ability to pick and use the best Jesuit inspired "building materials."

He recalled "simpler times" during his years at Fairfield almost 50 years ago. "The year 1970 was the last year before the ladies came onto the campus. I was graduating just as things were starting to get interesting on campus, my luck. Really, the camaraderie amongst the all-male student body was one of my best memories."

While saying that there were professors and others at Fairfield that had a profound influence on him, Ramunni added jokingly, "I'm too old and can't remember their names. But I do remember what they taught me."

And those teachings are still energizing and inspiring the life of Paul Ramunni, accordion player and collector. 📍

Visits are by appointment only, and NEAM provides small group tours for those who would like to view the exhibit. Call 860-833-1374. Also visit www.newenglandaccordionmuseum.com.

REUNION WEEKEND

Classes of 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012 and Golden Stags (classes of 1951-1966)

Save the Date: June 9-11, 2017!

Visit fairfield.edu/reunion for more information.

50TH REUNION WEEKEND

Class of 1967 save the date for the reunion of a lifetime!

May 19-21, 2017

Visit fairfield.edu/50threunion for more information.

Timothy F. Cronin '66 – Dec. 30, 2015.

Wayne B. George '66 – Feb. 16, 2015.

Monsignor Stephen A. Schneider '66 – March 13, 2016.

William A. Walsh '70 – Sept. 8, 2015.

Kenneth D. Alexander '72 – Aug. 1, 2015.

Suzanne L. Barry '73 – July 23, 2015.

Debra (Thurston) Nolan '74 – Jan. 5, 2016.

Paul E. Wells Jr. '74 – Dec. 17, 2015.

Kathleen (Barry) Wilson '75 – Nov. 27, 2015.

Charles M. McCullough Jr. '76 – Sept. 11, 2015.

Anthony McGovern '76 – Dec. 17, 2015.

John W. Murray Jr. '80 – Feb. 4, 2016.

Janet M. Kiehn '81 – Mar. 6, 2016.

Karen A. Crepeau '82 – Jan. 26, 2016.

Joseph P. King '90 – Jan. 4, 2016.

Eugene Vellucci BEI'93 – Aug. 3, 2015.

Eileen (Blenn) Fernous '96 – Jan. 12, 2016.

Lisa (Durousseau) Bando '02 – Jan. 24, 2016.

Joshua A. Holquist '06 – Feb. 28, 2016.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

Nancy DiNardo MA'78, who has served as Connecticut Democratic Party chair for the past decade, a lifelong educator, serving as the director of Psychological Services for the Bridgeport Public School System as well as a school psychologist and an elementary school teacher, has been named to the Connecticut Port Authority's Board of Directors by Governor Dannel Malloy.

Colin Halloran MFA'12 received the Lillian E. Smith Center Writer-in-Service award.

Marriages

Christine Kochevko MA'11 and Kevin J. Higgins – May 24, 2015.

Catherine (Lynch) MBA'13 and Sean Curtis – July 25, 2015.

In Memoriam

Elizabeth M. McMahon MA'52, CT'63 (GSEAP) – Jan. 10, 2016.

Gennaro Lembo MA'56 (GSEAP) – Dec. 4, 2015.

Mary L. Foerth MA'59 (GSEAP) – Dec. 28, 2015.

Robert W. Carbone MA'60, CT'65 (GSEAP) – July 13, 2015.

George C. McGovern MA'61, CT'69 (GSEAP) – Aug. 13, 2015.

James A. Panico MA'61 (GSEAP) – Feb. 28, 2016.

Philip Palma MA'61 (GSEAP) – Jan. 27, 2016.

Francis E. Woods '52, MA'62, CT'65 (GSEAP) – Aug. 6, 2015.

Robert F. Gaipa MA'63, CT'69 (GSEAP) – Feb. 20, 2016.

Madelyn (Solo) Ghilardi MA'67 (GSEAP) – Mar. 9, 2016.

Sister Elizabeth R. Gorman, SND, MA'67 (GSEAP) – Jan. 16, 2016.

John L. Guidone CT'68 (GSEAP) – Aug. 27, 2015.

Sister Mary Alma McManus, RDC, MA'68 (GSEAP) – Mar. 2, 2016.

Ruthjane (Hennessey) Robitaille MA'68 (GSEAP) – Aug. 18, 2015.

Janet T. (Murphy) Bradley MA'70 (GSEAP) – Aug. 21, 2015.

Guy K. McCann MA'70 (GSC&PC) – Feb. 29, 2016.

Mary (Burtaccio) Scozzafava CT'70 (GSEAP) – Aug. 18, 2015.

Sister Mary Damien Lee, CSJ, MA'71 (GSEAP) – Feb. 29, 2016.

Tom Concannon MA'72, CT'74 (GSEAP) – May 3, 2015.

Dennis J. Anderson Sr. CT'73 (GSEAP) – Feb. 11, 2016.

Sister Catherine Jemapete SSND, MA'74 (GSEAP) – Sept. 26, 2015.

Hugh F. Kilmer MA'74 (GSC&PC) – Dec. 17, 2015.

Charles L. Burwell MA'75 (GSEAP) – Feb. 26, 2016.

Richard Allen Fagan MA'75 (GSEAP) – Aug. 20, 2015.

Sister Rita Pelletier MA'75 (GSEAP) – Feb. 4, 2016.

Robert A. Weston III CT'75 (GSEAP) – Feb. 25, 2016.

Martha (Vest) Larkins MA'76 (GSEAP) – Mar. 16, 2016.

Deann Lebeau CT'76 (GSEAP) – Dec. 9, 2015.

Ethelwyn M. (Johnson) Endahl MA'78 (GSEAP) – Nov. 12, 2015.

J. Ellen (Gilson) Austin MA'79 (GSEAP) – Nov. 3, 2015.

Steven Dunbar MA'79 (GSEAP) – Mar. 13, 2016.

Quick Center *for the* Arts

the center for creativity and culture SUMMER 2016



Bandaloop

Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts

For the full schedule, prices and to order tickets, visit quickcenter.com or call the Box Office at (203) 254-4010 or toll-free 1-877-ARTS-396. Events take place at the Quick Center unless otherwise noted.

SUMMER CAMPS

JULY 11 - AUGUST 19
Missoula Children's Theatre
Celebrating its 27th season at the Quick Center, this renowned children's summer theatre program offers six weeklong sessions with a performance on the Friday evening at the end of each session. Children grades 1-12 are invited to register.

Summer Camp Intensives

Encourage your kids to expand their world and try something new with our summer camp crash courses in cool subjects led by amazing local artists! There are five exciting sessions to choose from:

JULY 11-14
The Art of Fashion

JULY 18-21
Creating a Narrative through Painting

JULY 25-28
Hip Hop

AUGUST 1-4
Graffiti

AUGUST 8-11
Musical Theatre

Learn more at Fairfield.edu/qccamps

SEPTEMBER 9
5:30 P.M. & 6:30 P.M.

BANDALOOP

Between Barone Campus Center and Bannow Science Center. Free and open to the public. Pioneers in vertical dance performance, **BANDALOOP** intertwines intricate choreography, dynamic physicality and the laws of physics by turning the dance floor on its side!

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 8 P.M.

Macbeth

Shakespeare's classic story of greed, tyranny and remorse is made new with South African performance company Third World Bunfight's radical take on Verdi's *Macbeth*.

Open VISIONS Forum

SEPTEMBER 22, 8 P.M.

Caution Before Voting! Lamprooning & Laughs with P.J. O'Rourke

The iconoclastic master of political parody P.J. O'Rourke opens the Open VISIONS season with his wickedly sharp satire directed at what promises to be a rollicking presidential campaign.

The Bellarmine Museum of Art

Free and open to the public. For information on programs and events, visit fairfield.edu/museum.

APRIL 15 - SEPTEMBER 16

Vaults of Heaven: Visions of Byzantium

The splendor of Byzantine sacred art, preserved in early

Christian churches in both Constantinople, the capital of the Byzantine Empire, and the Cappadocia region of Turkey, is the subject of this photography exhibition, which features eight large-scale works by innovative, acclaimed Turkish photographer Ahmet Ertug.

Thomas J. Walsh Art Gallery

Free and open to the public.

SEPTEMBER 7 - OCTOBER 21

Rick Shaefer: The Refugee Trilogy

This monumental three-piece work addresses the perilous journeys faced by refugees and is a reaction by artist Rick Shaefer on the ongoing immigration crisis unfolding across the globe. The three works in the trilogy are *Land Crossing*, dealing with the migration across foreign lands; *Water Crossing*, depicting the perilous journeys faced by refugees on the open seas; and *Border Crossing*, showing the conflicts and hostilities they face at borders.



Vaults of Heaven: Visions of Byzantium, Eleusa (Virgin of Tenderness), New Church of Tokali



SAVE THE DATE FOR ALUMNI & FAMILY WEEKEND

OCT. 21-23, 2016

Fairfield.edu/AFW

Don't miss this signature tradition at our great University.