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Class Notes

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CLASS NOTES

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1940s
- James J. Finn (BUS ’49) was named Man of the Year by his alma mater, Mount Carmel High School in Chicago. He is a member of the school’s lay council and formerly served on the board of directors. Now 92, Finn has worked for the Chicago Travelers Indemnity Co. insurance agency Homer Gwinn & Co. since 1955.

1950s
- Arthur Weil (LAS MA ’52) is the author of 22 poetry books. From 1943 to 1946, he served in the U.S. Army after escaping Nazi Germany on the 1938 Kindertransport. He later taught history and German in California public schools, and in 1975, he established Art Realty in Oakland, Calif.

1960s
- William D. Smithburg (BUS ’60) has joined the ChromaDex Inc. board of directors as an independent director. He retired from his position as CEO at Quaker Oats Co. in 1997 after more than 30 years.

1970s
- Rev. Michael T. Ivers (LAS ’70) is president of Yuma Catholic High School in Yuma, Ariz. Ivers’ responsibilities include overseeing the school’s community relations, the spiritual formation of the Yuma Catholic community and the school’s development efforts. He previously worked with the Yuma Community Food Bank.

1980s
- William S. Cook (MBA ’80) is a member of the board of directors of Kentucky Retirement Systems. In 2015, he retired from Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. LP.

William G. Dempsey (BUS ’80), a longtime pharmaceutical industry executive, has been appointed to Ashland’s board of directors. Dempsey previously served in various executive positions with Abbott, including executive vice president of global pharmaceuticals, senior vice president of pharmaceutical operations and senior vice president of international operations. He currently serves as a director of Landauer and Hill-Rom.

Edward J. Fellin (BUS ’80) is funding the Edward J. Fellin, CPA Endowed Scholarship to help a Blue Demon student-athlete who is majoring in accounting. He is the senior director at the RSM US LLP finance and accounting firm in Chicago.

William A. McDade (CSH ’80) was elected as chair of the Illinois State Medical Society Board of Trustees. He is a board-certified anesthesiologist and researcher in sickle cell disease, the deputy provost for research and minority issues and professor in the Department of Anesthesia & Critical Care at the University of Chicago, and has an active clinical practice in obstetrical and general anesthesia.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL abbreviation key
- BUS Driehaus College of Business
- CDM College of Computing and Digital Media
- CMN College of Communication
- CSH College of Science and Health
- EDU College of Education
- Goodman School of Drama
- JD College of Law
- LAS College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
- MUS School of Music
- SNL School for New Learning
- THE The Theatre School

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CLASS NOTES

Gow, Bruce Rauner. She is the corporate vice president and global chief compliance officer at McDonald’s, where she has worked for more than 30 years.

- Thomas J. Quigley (BUS ’80) manages @Quigleys_Corner, which he uses to live-tweet about Southern California horse races. He is employed by Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Santa Anita Park and Los Alamitos Race Course. He also serves as the VIP player concierge at Santa Anita Park.

- Bruce J. Bytof (BUS ’81) retired from his position as vice president of investor relations at Brunswick Corp., in Lake Forest, Ill., where he worked for eight years.

- Donald E. Jackson (LAS MS ’81) delivered the commencement address for his alma mater, McCook Community College, in McCook, Neb. Jackson will retire from his position as president of Hastings College in Nebraska after the 2016-17 academic year.

- Sergio E. Acosta (LAS ’82) received the 2016 Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois AguilA Award. He is a partner at the Chicago office of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP.

- Jon R. Bottorff (MBA ’82) serves as chief financial officer of Sol Boards, a motorized surfboard/snowboard hybrid. Bottorff retired from HSBC in 2013, where he most recently served as chief financial officer of global banking and markets for the Americas. He is also on the board of Vibrant TV Network and is chairman of the advisory committee for Srinidhi Capital, a private equity company.

- Janet A. Eckhoff-Levey (CSH ’82) was promoted to associate professor at Concordia University Wisconsin. She teaches in the traditional undergraduate, RN to BSN completion, and graduate nursing programs.

- Bradley R. Erickson (GSD ’82) was honored with the 2016 Alene Valkanas State Arts Advocacy Award from Americans for the Arts. He is executive director of Theatre Bay Area, one of the nation's largest regional performing arts service organizations.

- Jonathan W. Gottlieb (LAS ’82) is a partner at Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP in their Washington, D.C., office, where he works in the energy, environmental and commodities practice group. Previously, he served as a partner at Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett LLP.

- Andrew A. Pappas (BUS ’82, MBA ’85) is senior vice president of database marketing and analytics at DataMentors. Pappas was previously executive vice president at The Services Group.

- Thomas S. Weber (BUS ’82) was appointed senior vice president of internal audit for Telephone and Data Systems Inc. (TDS). He most recently served as vice president of financial and real estate services for U.S. Cellular, a TDS subsidiary.

- Arthur Acevedo (BUS ’83, JD ’88, MST ’88) is the director of diversity and inclusion for faculty at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago, where he is a tenured associate professor in the areas of federal income tax, contracts, corporations and constitutional law.

- Maria G. Arias (LAS ’83) was appointed to the board of trustees at the Free Library of Philadelphia by Mayor Jim Kenney. She is vice president of diversity and inclusion at Comcast.

- Clark D. Elliott (MUS ’83, MM ’85, CSM MS ’90) spoke at Optometry’s Meeting 2016, the American Optometric Association’s annual conference. He credited neuro-optometric brain techniques with his full recovery from a traumatic brain injury. He is currently an associate professor at DePaul specializing in artificial intelligence.

- Eric T. Gastevich (MBA ’83) was named chief operating officer of Mercy Health System’s Cincinnati region. He previously served as vice president of operations for Community Health Systems Inc. in Franklin, Tenn.

- Scott A. Esson (MBA ’85) is chief financial officer of Energy Bank Inc., a manufacturer specializing in high-performance LED lighting and controls based in Manotowoc, Wis.

- David J. Fikse (MBA ’85) was named chief operating officer of Mercy Health System’s Cincinnati region. He previously served as vice president of operations for Community Health Systems Inc. in Franklin, Tenn.

- Mark G. Pelletier (CSH ’85, CSH MS ’88) is chief operating officer for accreditation and certification operations of The Joint Commission in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. He was previously executive director of the Hospital Accreditation Program.

MARRIAGES & ENGAGEMENTS

- Benjamin J. Lenard (CDM ’02) married Kathleen Carbon on Oct. 8 at Saint Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville, Ill.

- Patricia Bustamante (CSPH ’05) married Norman (Nick) Schneigert in Chicago in September 2016. Bustamante is a family support specialist at Children’s Home + Aid, where she assists high-risk families in the Early Head Start and Head Start programs.

- Ryan S. Taylor (JD ’05) married Margaret (Bastick) Taylor (CDM ’15) on May 7 at the Lincoln Park Conservatory in Chicago. Taylor is an associate with Tressler LLP in Chicago, and Bastick is director of marketing at The Horizons Group in Chicago.

- Erin R. Grobarek (LAS ’06, LAS MA ’08) married Robert Olin Wage Jr. on July 16 at the Lincoln Park Conservatory and Gardens in Chicago. She is a writer and editor of children’s books for Phoenix International Publications Inc. in Chicago.

- Wesley G. Thompson (LAS ’06) married Katherine Lynne Pielemeyer on April 23 at Riverside on the Potomac in Leesburg, Va. He is a speechwriter in the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.

- Amy Wagenblast (LAS ’07) married Matt Halley in a ceremony at City Cottage on Clouteau in St. Louis on Oct. 22. She is a realtor with KellerWilliams Realty Inc. in St. Charles, Mo.

- Ashley T. Corbitt (JD ’09) married Christopher Sweeney on April 25 at University Club of Chicago, where the couple met in 2013.


- Jessica E. Dewalt (JD ’11) married Chirag H. Patel (JD ’11) on May 29 at the Bridgeport Art Center in Chicago. The couple met as students in the College of Law while studying abroad in Buenos Aires.

- Rosalia Martinez (CDM ’12, CSM MS ’14) married Liborio Loera Jr. (CDM ’15) at the Providence of God Church in Chicago. She is a cargo operations technology staff representative for United Airlines.

- Andrea J. Lemieux (CMN MA ’14) married Zackry Christian Fletcher on Sept. 17 in a ceremony at Zion Lutheran Church in Brainerd, Minn. She is a client service representative at Lemieux Wealth Strategies in Baxter, Minn.

- James W. Snyder (BUS ’83, CSM MS ’86) will lead the mortgage securities team of First Trust Mortgage Income Fund, where he has worked since 2013.

- Roger B. Webber (JD ’83) is a circuit judge in Champaign County, Ill. He was previously an associate judge in the 6th Circuit of Moultrie County, Ill., and was in private practice in Urbana, Ill., until he was appointed as an associate judge in June 2014.

- Susan C. Weidel (JD ’83) and her dog Little Red were featured in the award-winning documentary “The Champions,” which follows five of the pit bulls rescued from NFL quarterback Michael Vick’s dogfighting ring. Weidel and Little Red were filmed at their home in Wyoming.

- John A. Sejdinaj (MBA ’84) is vice president and chief financial officer at Indiana University, where he oversees budgetary and financial issues across seven campuses. Previously, he was vice president for finance at the University of Notre Dame.

- Isiaah Crawford (CSH MA ’85, CSH PhD ’87) is president of the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash. He previously served as provost at Seattle University.

- Scott A. Esson (MBA ’85) is chief financial officer of Energy Bank Inc., a manufacturer specializing in high-performance LED lighting and controls based in Manitowoc, Wis.
Lillian E. Cilano (BUS ’86) is executive director of financial reporting at Trustmark Cos. in Lake Forest, Ill. She previously served as senior manager of financial reporting for the company.

Natalye O. Paquin (JD ’86) is chief transformation officer for the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. For the last five years, she served as president and CEO of Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Diane M. Pearse (MBA ’86) is CEO and president of Hickory Farms. She previously served as chief operating officer and executive vice president of finance for Garrett Popcorn Shops, senior vice president of operations and merchandising for Redbox Automated Retail LLC and chief financial officer for Crate & Barrel.

George Vukotich (MBA ’86) was appointed to the Northeastern Illinois University board of trustees by Gov. Bruce Rauner. He is senior vice president of programming at 1871, which provides educational programming at 1871, is senior vice president of finance for Garrett Popcorn Shops, senior vice president of operations and merchandising for Redbox Automated Retail LLC and chief financial officer for Crate & Barrel.

Keith C. Herron (MBA ’91) was promoted to senior vice president of marketing and sales efforts and has been a member of the board of directors of the American Society for Radiation Oncology. He is a professor of radiation oncology at the University of California San Diego in La Jolla, Calif.

Roger J. Yule Jr. (MST ’91) is a tax manager at Wipfli LLP in Tinley Park, Ill., where he specializes in taxation of individuals working outside their country of origin.

James F. Botana (JD ’92) is the leader of the Jackson Lewis PC Chicago office. He has been with the firm for 16 years and has worked on a variety of labor-related cases.

Natalye O. Paquin (JD ’86) is executive director of financial reporting at Trustmark Cos. in Lake Forest, Ill. She previously served as senior manager of financial reporting for the company.

William Edward Vesely (MBA ’88) is executive vice president and chief marketing officer of Vision Solutions Inc., a provider of IT software solutions. He previously served as chief marketing officer of SilkRoad, a software solutions provider.

Cheryl L. Chavarrie (BUS ’89) was named to the Leyden High School District 212 Alumni Wall of Fame, which recognizes alumni of the Franklin Park, Ill., school who serve as role models for current students. Chavarrie is senior counsel for United Airlines Inc.

Costas Spirou (LAS MA ’89) is one of 33 emerging college and university leaders selected for the 2016-17 class of the American Council on Education Fellows. He is professor and chair of the Department of Government and Sociology at Georgia College and has held academic appointments at National Louis University, DePaul and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

1990s

Lily M. Gulik (CDM ’90) is founder and instructor for three Chicago chapters of Girls Who Code, which teaches middle-school-age girls basic computer science concepts. Gulik has worked in a variety of roles for Oracle, T-Sytems International GmbH, Dell and other technology companies.

Ernest M. Fiorante (BUS ’91) is chief financial officer of the Inland Real Estate Group of Companies Inc. in Oak Brook, Ill., where he oversees financial activities, budgeting, bank and lender relationships, accounting and financial strategic planning.

Greg Fishman (MUS ’91) was a featured speaker at the Bedaya Center for Entrepreneurship and Career Development in collaboration with the Sheikh Faisal Center for Entrepreneurship in the Middle East in the Driehaus College of Business. He is president and CEO of the Zicalo Group, a social and digital marketing agency in Chicago.

Anthony J. Szczepaniak (MST ’93) is CEO of Moore Stephens North America Inc., an accounting firm association based in Saddle Brook, N.J.

Michael D. Episcope (BUS ’94, MS ’98) is principal and co-founder of Origin Investments LLC. He co-chairs the company’s investment committee, oversees marketing and sales efforts and has purchased and executed more than $650 million of commercial real estate and debt collateralized by commercial real estate.

John L. Krieg (MBA ’94) is managing director and head of institutional client relationship management for the Americas at the Chicago office of UBS Asset Management.

David W. Matre (MBA ’94) joined Montage as chief financial officer. In this role, he is responsible for accounting, corporate finance, risk management, human resources, legal, treasury and investor relations. Matre previously served as chief financial officer at PartsTrader.

Gary Peric (JD ’94) is leader of the state and local tax practice at Baker Tilly International, an accounting and advisory firm in Chicago.

Robert Rice (LAS ’93) was promoted to senior vice president of debt programs at The Community Development Trust in New York, which provides long-term debt and equity capital for the creation and preservation of affordable housing. He previously served as vice president, debt.
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- David Sullivan II (BUS ’94) is treasurer of Thomas White International, where he also serves as the firm’s director of trading. Sullivan became a member of the organization after participating in the firm’s analyst summer intern program.
- Thomas L. Frale Jr. (MBA ’95) is director of business development for RLR Management Consulting Inc., where he is responsible for developing sales opportunities and enhancing new and existing client relationships. Frale is based in Chicago and focuses on Midwest community and regional banks.
- Tony W. Hunter (MBA ’95) was elected as chairman of the board of directors of the News Media Alliance. He is president of national revenue and strategic initiatives for Tribune Publishing.
- John T. Neil (MBA ’95) is vice president of strategic operations for Gibraltar Industries, a leading manufacturer and distributor of products for residential and industrial markets. Neil joins Gibraltar after a 26-year career with Illinois Tool Works Inc. and, more recently, SFS Intec.
- Christopher R. Kelly (LLM ’96) is founder and CEO of Emergency Physicians Partners in Franklin, Tenn., which opened Dec. 1, 2016. The company helps private emergency medicine practices with the business side to ensure they maintain clinical independence.
- Christopher J. Leazier (LAS MA ’96) served as an assistant coach with the Nigerian Olympic men’s basketball program during the 2016 Olympic Games. He is currently the men’s basketball coach at Vermont Technical College.
- Craig P. Mannarino (JD ’96) is a lawyer with Kralovec, Jambois and Schwartz in Chicago and helped win a $2.6 million million medical malpractice settlement for his client. He joined the firm in 1997 and focuses on cases involving medical malpractice, automobile negligence and other catastrophic injury and wrongful death.
- Kendra L. Thulin (MFA ’96) performed in Steep Theatre’s production of “Wastewater,” July 7-Aug. 13. She is a Jeff Award winner, a member of the Steep Company and an associate professor in fine and performing arts at Columbia College Chicago.
- Angela L. Underwood (SNL ’96) has published the motivational book “Vessel of Steel: Reaching Your Highest Potential.” She is the founder and CEO of FinGive, which provides financial education.
- Joseph P. Calhoun (MBa ’97) spoke at the Liberty and Economic Freedom Speaker Series at Susquehanna University in October. He is a lecturer in the Department of Economics and the assistant director of the Gus A. Stavros Center for the Advancement of Free Enterprise and Economic Education at Florida State University.
- Coreen M. Dicus-Johnson (JD ’97) is president and CEO of Network Health, a Wisconsin-based health insurance company owned and operated by Ascension and Froedert Health. She was previously president of Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare’s central market.
- Mark A. Knox (MBa ’97) is on the board of directors for Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity, where she will serve a three-year term on the finance committee and the fund development committee. He is resource management forecasting director at Southern Co. in Naperville, Ill.
- Brian J. Morris (LAS ’97) is managing director of the enterprise valuation services group at Hilco Valuation Services. He is based at the Northbrook, Ill., office and is responsible for the North American region.
- Kent D. Dean (JD ’98) was honored in September by the Family Defense Center with the 2016 Family Defender Award. This is the center’s highest est award and celebrates Dean’s commitment to improving the child welfare system through educating attorneys and parents and representing families involved in the system. Dean is a member of the steering committee for the Illinois Parent Attorney Network. He practices law in Oak Park, Ill.
- Scott T. Illingworth (THE ’98, MFA ’08) directed ‘The Farm’ Theater’s production of “Hope You Get to Eleven, or What Are We Going to Do About Sally?” as part of the 8th Annual Planet Connections Theatre Festivity at the Paradise Factory. Illingworth is a freelance director based in New York.
- Rudresh M. Mahanthappa (MM ’98) is the director of jazz for the Department of Music at Princeton University. He is an acclaimed saxophonist whose album “Bird Calls” was hailed as the best album of 2015 by Downbeat and NPR.
- Gloria M. Batesy (SNL ’99, SNL MA ’15) was named to the Chicago Defender list of Women of Excellence.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Lord, we commend to you the souls of your dearly departed in your mercy and love. Grant them eternal peace.

**Alumni**
- Valeria A. Spychals (BUS ’37) 
- Victor J. Cassotto (JD ’38) 
- Rose J. Ack (CER ’40) 
- Helen J. Reed (EDU ’40) 
- Edward C. Anderson, C.S.V. (LAS ’44) 
- Edwin J. Schilling (CSH ’44) 
- Frank T. Barber (JD ’48) 
- Mary Lorraine Morni (BUS ’49) 
- Mary J. Arcus (LAS ’49) 
- Raymond P. Denegi (LAS MA ’49) 
- Dian Diomezotes (LAS MA ’49) 
- Richard J. Hemme (LAS ’50) 
- Dennis R. Philpot (CSH ’50) 
- William E. Dunn Jr. (BUS ’51) 
- Mary B. Vogel (LAS ’52) 
- Theodore W. Anderson (JD ’53) 
- Lawrent T. Lopina (MBA ’53) 
- Leo V. Ryan, C.S.V. (MBA ’53, DHL ’15) 
- Chester P. Szmyczek (BUS ’53) 
- Gerald J. Mannix Jr. (LAS ’54, LLB ’59) 
- Donald M. Rose (CSH ’54, JD ’59) 
- Ronald J. Balesh (CSH ’55) 
- Louis B. Garippo (MBA ’56) 
- Patricia M. Barros (EDU ’56) 
- James M. Buscharn (BUS ’56) 
- John P. Costello (BUS ’56) 
- Oscar O. D’Angelo (JD ’56) 
- Mary Declan Foss, O.P. (MBA ’56) 
- James W. Foley (BUS ’56) 
- Michael R. Rivo (BUS ’56) 
- Jack M. Gargiulo (BUS ’57) 
- Audrey Hull (LAS MA ’57) 
- John C. Brey (MED ’58) 
- Albert Bury Jr. (BUS ’58) 
- Rosemary Conlon, O.P. (LAS ’58) 
- Joyce M. Olson (CER ’58) 
- Nancy M. Nuccio (CER ’59) 
- Maureen A. Rosenbach (MBA ’60) 
- Josephine M. D’Angelo (LAS MA ’60) 
- Peter D. Abrams (LAS MA ’60) 
- John P. Costello (BUS ’62) 
- David J. Baloun (LAS MA ’62) 
- Margaret D. Carter (EDU MA ’62) 
- Frank J. Mlynarczyck (BUS ’62) 
- Alverna M. Paulus (JD ’62) 
- Judith S. Bohning (LAS ’63) 
- Donald J. Brumlik (JD ’63) 
- Stephen Chizzo (CSH ’63) 
- Mary E. Tomicak (LAS ’63) 
- John P. Fox Sr. (BUS ’64, MBA ’67) 
- Tessie M. Keene (LAS ’64) 
- William E. Schaefer Sr. (EDU ’64) 
- Albert C. Upstrom (MBA ’64) 
- Michael J. Young (LAS MA ’65) 
- Lawrence F. Kelly (BUS ’66) 
- Maryann Roeke (LAS ’67) 
- George W. See (BUS ’67) 
- Robert P. Kearney (MBA ’68) 
- James F. Novak (BUS ’68, MBA ’73) 
- Wanda White (LAS MA ’68) 
- Kathleen L. Baar (CSH ’70) 
- Georgia L. Barnes (CSH MS ’70) 
- Paul G. Eriksen (CSH MA ’70) 
- Joseph M. Franklin (CSH MA ’70) 
- Anne L. Mullaney (MED ’70) 
- Judith Marie Bergan (GSD ’71) 
- Robert G. Miller (LAS ’71) 
- Joseph J. Stoffel (MBA ’71) 
- Richard A. Elliott (BUS ’72) 
- Steven A. Koga (CSH ’72) 
- Glen R. Cannon (MBA ’73) 
- Robert A. Dudek (MBA ’73) 
- Gail E. Hercule (CSH ’73) 
- Emma J. McClellan (MED ’73) 
- William M. Bak (BUS ’74) 
- Patricia T. Flynn (JD ’76) 
- Richard J. Hurcha (LAS MS ’76) 
- Ouida O. Silas (CSH ’76) 
- Juanita M. Velazquez (EDU ’77) 
- Barbara J. Johnson (CSH MS ’78) 
- Maryann Pfenning (BUS ’78) 
- Claire A. Lareau (LAS MS ’80) 
- Madelyn L. Means (LAS ’80) 
- Stephen W. Sutton (JD ’81) 
- Mark H. Sokolsky (JD ’83) 
- Rod T. Bennett (MUS ’84) 
- George E. Tapling (MBA ’86) 
- David M. Wrobel (MBA ’86) 
- Kathleen A. Mullarkey (MBA ’87) 
- Timothy T. Sidlow (EDU ’89) 
- Colleen T. Shaughnessy (JD ’91) 
- Sara A. Roth Schotstenen (JD ’92) 
- Pamela A. French (MBA ’93) 
- Wendy C. Martin (MBA ’93) 
- Cheryl A. Kennedy (SNL ’94, SNL MA ’94) 
- Melinda E. Stratton (LAS MA ’95) 
- Richard J. Gochez (MBA ’96) 
- Vanessa J. Molkahn (LAS MA ’96) 
- Candace M. Walsh (BUS ’96) 
- Mbgirayi Lashani (LAS ’01) 
- Stacey N. Burton-Alcocer (LAS ’07) 
- Cindy S. McCammack (LAS MS ’07) 
- Keshia Marcell (CSH ’11) 
- Benjamin G. Hovess (BUS ’13)

**Friends**
- Gilda R. Barston
- Mary Ellen Brumbach
- Robert M. Coughlan
- Leroy Dolack
- Jim Erkine
- Quaneya Farrior
- Stuart H. Glick
- Carol E. Hopkins
- Jack L. Karp
- Byrd M. Kelly
- Gary K. Kubler
- Charlotte Liss
- Raymond P. Nino Sr.
- Maureen Scott, R.S.M.
- Genevieve Shelton
- Bryan E. Tingstad
- Robert H. Weisberg
- Yuen-Fat Wai

**Editor’s Note:** Due to space limitations, this memorial list includes only those alumni and friends who were our offices have confirmed have passed away since the previous issue was printed.
When Mark Boergers (THE MFA '10) wrote "The Things We Keep" as a master’s student at The Theatre School, he never thought it would eventually be produced by the Chicago theatre company he would co-found with fellow alumni Bridget Haight (THE MFA '10) and Megan Kohl (THE MFA '09). "The script would sit for about a year, but I always came back," says Boergers, who is artistic director of The Arc Theatre and the theatre program at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee. “Every time I did, I was happy with it.”

The story, which explores themes of familial relationships and aging during the last days of a collage artist’s life, was inspired by Boergers’ own paternal aunt. When the show opened on Feb. 4, Haight and Kohl took charge behind the scenes so he could take it in with his family.

“Tard a few nerves,” he says. “But at intermission, my cousin said, ‘I am totally engulfed in this play. I can’t wait to see what happens.’ That gave me permission to breathe.”

When the play closed on Feb. 28, Boergers began working with Theatre RED near Milwaukee, which tackles everything from Shakespeare to horror. “Working on such a variety of genres forces me to be present and to develop shows without imposition. As a total Type A, my theater process would previously work at managing the company's African-American Network.

Christopher P. Saunders (CDM '01) is head of the information technology department at Gordon Electric Supply Inc. in Kenkakee, III. His responsibilities include management of all the computer systems and maintenance of the website.

Jani N. Timmons (MBA '01) is the vice president of product management at Avionet, a leader in technology solutions for the staffing and recruiting industry. She leads all product initiatives and oversees the product management team in Eagan, Minn. Timmons previously worked at TravelClick and Orbitz LLC.

Christopher P. Saunders (CDM '01) is head of the information technology department at Gordon Electric Supply Inc. in Kenkakee, Ill.

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When the play closed on Feb. 28, Boergers began working with Theatre RED near Milwaukee, which tackles everything from Shakespeare to horror. “Working on such a variety of genres forces me to be present and to develop shows without imposition. As a total Type A, my theater process challenges me constantly: perhaps that’s why I am drawn to it.”

WINTER 2016
DEPAUL MAGAZINE
who were named as Young Hispanic Corporate Achievers by the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR). The annual program recognizes young Hispanics at Fortune 500 and HACR corporate member companies. Figueroa is a senior software developer at General Motors in Chandler, Ariz.

- Christa N. MacFarlane (BUS ’02, MED ’04) was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame at McAuley High School, where she played volleyball and basketball.

- Amy M. Starr (LAS ’02) was named to the Chicago Style's list of 15 most stylish singles in Chicago for 2016. In her profile, she names being inducted into the DePaul Hall of Fame with the 1998 softball team as one of her greatest achievements. Starr is the general manager and bar director for NAHA and bar director for Brindille, both in Chicago.

- Craig S. Zomchek (BUS ’02, MBA ’05) is president of Colley Elevator and is president-elect of the National Association of Elevator Contractors, the largest vertical transportation association in North America.

- John A. Brock (MBA ’03) was promoted to executive vice president and chief information officer at Associa, which provides homeowner association services.

- Sanja R. Stinson (SNL ’03) was named to the Chicago Defender list of Women of Excellence 2016. She is the founding CEO and executive director of Matthew House Chicago, a daytime emergency and supportive service center for homeless men, women and children. Among her advocacy work, Stinson has served as an organizer and supporter with All Chicago and Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. She is the founding pastor of Victory & Grace Christian Church in Chicago.

- Tony Zolla (CDM MS ’03) is chief product officer at Cars.com, based in their Chicago office. Previously, he was senior vice president of customer experience at Redbox Automated Retail LLC.

- Albert C. Angelo (LAS ’04) is a partner at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP’s Chicago office. He focuses his practice on tort defense litigation, including cases involving transportation, products liability, toxic tort, chemical exposure, fire litigation, construction defect and general liability matters. He was previously an associate at the firm.

- Bob Parise (MBA ’04) is practice lead of public funds and Taft-Hartley for Northern Trust Corp. Asset Management. In this role, he establishes business strategy and leads the delivery of investment solutions. He joins the company from JPMorgan Asset Management, where he was a managing director.

- Kelly J. Smith (JD ’04) was promoted to partner at SmithAmundsen LLC in the firm’s Indianapolis office. She is a patent attorney who assists clients with patent opinions, patent prosecution and litigation, and other intellectual property issues.

- Molly A. Carey (JD ’05) was promoted to partner at Fragomen Worldwide at their Boston office. She assists corporate clients with U.S. employment-based immigration.

- William Davis (THE ’05) directed the play “Men on Boats,” which had a four-week limited engagement in June at Playwrights Horizons’ Peter Jay Sharp Theater in New York City. Davis is artistic director for American Theater Company in Chicago.

- Vadym V. Didenko (MBA ’05) is vice president and chief financial officer for Florida Hospital West Florida Region. He assists and oversees revenue cycles for the region’s hospitals, supports business line growth initiatives and drives more efficient resource use. He was previously chief financial officer at Florida Hospital Tampa.

- Andrew R. Smith (JD ’05, CDM MS ’05) is part-owner of Ten Ninety, an 11,000-square-foot brewery and tap room in Glenview, Ill., which opened on April 25. You can find Ten Ninety brews at retailers such as Heinens, Trader Joe’s, Mariano’s and Binny’s.

- Benjamin A. Churchill (MED ’06) is superintendent of the Carlsbad Unified School District in California. He previously served as chief academic officer for Community Unit School District 500 in Algonquin, Ill., where he led all aspects of teaching and learning in 26 schools for nearly 21,000 students in grades pre-K to 12.

- Casey C. Decker (CDM MS ’06) is chief information officer of FBI. Financial Group Inc. and its affiliated insurance companies, which go to market as Farm Bureau Financial Services. In this role, Decker is responsible for all aspects of the company’s IT efforts. Decker joined FBI in 2004 as a programmer analyst and progressed to business technology vice president.

- Ashley G. James (LAS ’06) is lead employment counsel at Facebook in San Francisco. She previously served as an associate at Kirkland & Ellis LLP in Washington, D.C.

- Cody J. Lassen (SNL ’06) is co-producer of the Broadway musical “Spring Awakening,” which was nominated for three

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**FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS,** the band Chicago has been rocking, touring and entertaining with their unique fusion of rock and jazz with a distinctive horns section. Their career achievements were recognized by the music community when they were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame on April 8. Take a look back at Chicago's path to acclaim and stardom, starting from their days at DePaul.

- 1965 Saxophonist Walter Parazaider (MUS ’69, DHL ’08), trumpet player Lee Loughnane and trombone player James Pankow meet at DePaul's School of Music. While playing nighttime gigs around Chicago, they are joined by guitarist Terry Kath, drummer Danny Seraphine and organist Robert Lamm.

- 1967 Under the name Big Thing, the group transitions from playing engagements to writing and playing original material. The sextet becomes a septet upon meeting vocalist and bassist Peter Cetera.

- 1968 The bandmates adopt a new name: Chicago Transit Authority.

- 1969 The group moves to New York to work on their eponymous first album, which is released in April and peaks on the Billboard Pop Album Charts at No. 17. The album remains on the chart for 148 weeks.

- 1970 Members shorten the band name to Chicago and release their second album, “Chicago II.” The album eventually goes
Whitehouse Post, a film editing agency executives. Alongside top-tier directors, Jeffery M. Bergholtz (LAS '07) joined Forest Road School in La Grange Park, Ill., as principal on July 1. He previously served as principal of James Giles School in Norridge, Ill.

Nicholas D. Chiu (CDM '07) is an editor at Cutters in Chicago, where he previously served as an assistant. His most recent commercial credits include national spots for American Airlines, Citibank, Disney, Nike Inc. and Spalding Sports Equipment. He has worked alongside top-tier directors and agency executives.

James M. Dierx (CDM '07) was promoted to editor at the Los Angeles office of Whitehouse Post, a film editing company. He previously served as assistant editor. Dier's reel includes work for Allstate, Toyota, GE and Google.

Ryan C. Evans (JD '07) is an associate at Swanson, Martin & Bell LLP in Chicago as of counsel. He focuses her practice on matters in the entertainment industry with an emphasis on television and motion pictures. McMillan previously served as an attorney for Harpo Productions Inc., where she provided legal counsel for a variety of TV shows, including "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

Carol M. McGary (LAS MS '07) was inducted into the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Alumni Association. This award recognizes alumni achievement and those with exceptional potential for future success. Robinson is a researcher in Madison, Wis., who studies race, giftedness and dyslexia.

Casey B. McMillan (JD '07) joined Swanson, Martin & Bell LLP in Chicago as of counsel. She focuses her practice on matters in the entertainment industry with an emphasis on television and motion pictures. McMillan previously served as an attorney for Harpo Productions Inc., where she provided legal counsel for a variety of TV shows, including "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

Robert Vargas (LAS '07) published his book "Wounded City: Violent Turf Wars in a Chicago Barrio," which explores gang violence in the Little Village neighborhood. He is an urban sociologist and assistant professor at the University of Notre Dame, where he researches the effects of politics and government policies on the physical and social conditions of low-income communities, focusing on gang violence and health care.

Mohammed A. Al Khalifa (MBA '08) was appointed as the minister of oil in Bahrain. He joined the Ministry of Finance in 1999, became director of government shareholdings in 2005 and was later appointed chief executive of the National Oil and Gas Authority.

Ashley M. Casey (LAS '08) is associate director of advocacy at Invest in the USA, a national trade association that brings foreign direct investment to the United States for economic development projects. She was previously a government affairs associate at the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Jessica M. Evans (EDU '08), a former Blue Demon softball player, hosted a three-day softball clinic for fifth- through eighth-grade girls at Guerin College Preparatory High School in River Grove, Ill. Morgan Maize (LAS '16), also a former softball Blue Demon, also coached at the clinic.

Richard L. Lax (JD '08) is a Las Vegas–based magician who has worked with many notable magicians, including David Copperfield and Justin Flom. With the latter, he created the TV show "Wizard Wars," which ran on the SyFy network for two seasons. In just one year, he has reached more than 1 billion video views on his Facebook page, where he posts sleight-of-hand and interactive videos.

Pamela G. McCarthy (MED '08) is principal of St. John's Preparatory School
Avanti Bakane (JD '09) is a partner at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP’s Chicago office. She represents publicly traded and smaller companies in complex class action lawsuits, antitrust matters and other commercial litigation, with a focus on consumer class action defense. She was previously an associate at the firm.

Brian D. Barasch (THE '09) was named to the fifth annual “Double Chai” list of young Jewish movers and shakers in Chicago. He is the communications manager at Marwen, an organization that provides free visual arts education for underserved youth across Chicago.

Jeremiah B. Charles (BUS MS '09) leads the mortgage securities team of First Trust Mortgage Income Fund, where he has worked since 2013.

Matthew J. Dominick (CDM '09) was named to the Crain’s Chicago Business list of 20 in their 20s. He is director of photography at Banner Collective, a creative video production company in Chicago’s West Loop. He previously served as production manager for the Chicago Blackhawks and was a producer of the Emmy Award–winning “Blackhawks TV.”

Sarah M. Engel (CMN '09) is a reporter at KVOA-TV in Tucson, Ariz. She previously worked for radio stations WBEZ, WCPT and WILV in Chicago.

Michelle Huffman (CMN '09) is a writer and editor based in Chicago who specializes in real estate and personal finance. She is a contributor for GoBankingRates.

Anisa L. Jordan (JD '09) was appointed as a member of the traffic laws and courts section council of the Illinois State Bar Association, which provides professional services to Illinois lawyers and education services to the public. She is founder and owner of the Jordan Law Firm in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Phillip D. Knouse (C SH MS '09) graduated from medical school at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. He specializes in internal medicine at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill.

Elianna A. Rivkin (C SH MS '09, CSH MS '15) is co-creator of the Chicago River Clean Sweep, which marked its fourth year in May. The Clean Sweep is an annual kayaking and canoeing event during which participants beautify the river. Rivkin is an assistant guide at Kayak Chicago.

Brenton Ryan (MUS '09) was one of 12 finalists in the 2016 edition of Plácido Domingo’s Operalia competition. Ryan, a tenor, won the prestigious Birgit Nilsson Prize for the best singing of repertoire of Richard Strauss and Richard Wagner. He is part of the Los Angeles Opera’s Young Artist Program.

Chandler M. Slavin (LAS '09) draws on her experience as an environmentalist in her current position of sustainability and marketing manager for Dordan Manufacturing Co., a PET thermoformed packaging company in Woodstock, Ill., owned by her family. She joined the company in 2009.

Dario Bolanos (BUS '10) is growth and development director in the Chicago office of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co. In this role, he works to attract, select, develop and retain a team of financial representatives. He started as a financial representative with the company in 2011.

James P. Drew (CMN '10, CDM MS '13) is director of basketball operations for the University of Central Florida men’s basketball team. He previously served as head prep coach for Victory Rock Prep in Sarasota, Fla.

Kyle M. Dunleavy (CDM '10) has worked as a production assistant on several TV shows and films in Chicago, including “Shameless,” “Empire,” “Chicago Fire,” “Sense8,” “The Headhunter’s Calling” and “Office Christmas Party.” He is a video producer for the Ravinia Festival.

Dustin L. Gerdes (MBA '10) is manager of analytics for GoBankingRates. He specializes in real estate and personal finance. She is a contributor for GoBankingRates.

Robert J. Hearon (C SH MS '10) is a senior solutions consultant at Infor. In this role, he advises prospective and existing clients on the optimal use of the company’s data analysis platform.

Jerry F. LaBuy (MFA '10) is a full-time assistant professor in mass communication at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Ill., where he has worked since 2007. LaBuy also serves as the director of the Mosaic Film Project and is the festival chair and programmer for their annual Mosaic World Film Festival.

Brittani M. Smith (CDM '10) was the casting director for the film “The Dog Lover,” which premiered in July. She is a casting associate at Fiorentino Casting in Los Angeles.

Crystal Williams (SNL MA '10) was recognized as a distinguished professional in her field by Women of Distinction Magazine in 2016. She is the founder and CEO of Family Hugs Inc., which provides education and counseling services for parents.

Alexander C. Campbell (JD '11) is an associate attorney at Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs LLC, where he works in the business practice group. He focuses his practice on representing businesses and tax-exempt organizations in formation, governance and compliance issues. Campbell joins the firm from Mosher & Associates LLC in Chicago.

Keith D. Davis (MED '11) is principal at Heather Hill Elementary School in Flossmoor, Ill. He previously served as assistant principal at Confluence Academy–Old North in St. Louis, where he is working toward a doctorate in educational leadership at St. Louis University.

Suzanne C. Gillen (MUS '11, MM '13) is a freelance flutist and teacher in the Chicagoland area. She performed at Narloch Piano Studio in Chicago on July 20.

Colin M. Kelahan (LAS '11) is co-owner of Small Fry, a late-night burger and fry restaurant in Chicago’s Logan Square neighborhood. Kelahan opened the restaurant on June 18.

Sravanthi Putumbaka (BUS '11) is an analyst on the investment banking team at Brown Gibbons Lang & Co. in their Chicago office. She previously served as a senior analyst at Ziegler Capital Markets.

Eric M. Wallace (BUS '11) signed with the Carolina Panthers football team in Charlotte, N.C. He spent the last three years playing Australian Rules Football in the Australian Football League.

Lynsey E. Ciezki (EDU '12) is an assistant softball coach for the DePaul University women’s softball team. Ciezki played for the Blue Demons from 2009 to 2012. She was previously assistant softball coach at Harper College in Palatine, Ill.

Marquis F. Hill (MM '12) and his jazz ensemble, the Blakket, opened for Grammy Award–winning singer Gregory Porter at Chicago Symphony Center on June 30.
Chris M. Keppner (MBA ’12) was promoted to principal at Eriksson Engineering Associates Ltd. He joined the firm in 2013 as the Chicago operations manager. As principal, he strives to position the office for further growth and continues to expand the industrial and urban redevelopment market presence.

- Victoria J. Mora (BUS ’12) is assistant vice president of credit and syndications for GSG Financial LLC in New York, where she is responsible for credit underwriting of midticket transactions, providing analysis for banking partners and the chief financial officer, and monitoring and modifying credit scoring models. She previously worked for MB Financial Bank NA in Chicago as a commercial banking officer.
- Brian A. Polick (MBA ’12) is enterprise account executive at Turbohomic Inc. Before joining the company, he served as major account sales executive for Microsoft.
- Jennifer Roop (CMN MA ’12) was profiled on Top Female Executives, Professionals and Entrepreneurs, an online publisher that recognizes outstanding female executives in a variety of fields. Roop is the marketing and communications manager for the DePaul Department of Student Services.
- Amy N. Schwartz (LAS ’12) is design director for Cards Against Humanity and logistics company Blackbox, both based in Chicago. She is a graphic design lecturer at DePaul.
- Lisandra Tena (THE ’12) wrote and performs the one-woman play “Guera,” during which the audience chooses scenes from a menu for Tena to perform.
- Ge Wang (JD ’12) is founder and owner of ESQ Clothing, a Chicago-based men’s clothing company in the West Loop specializing in custom suits. In 2016, he outfitted six players for the NBA draft.
- Miguel A. Ayala (LAS ’13) was the communications director for the Hillary for America campaign in Nevada. He joined the campaign after 12 years in federal government service, most recently as the Small Business Administration press secretary. As an undergraduate at DePaul, Miguel was an intern for Clinton’s first Senate campaign.
- Nour M.Bahran (JD ’13) was named to the Crain’s Chicago Business list of 20 in their 20s. She is an attorney at Life Span, a Chicago nonprofit that provides legal and counseling services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and has helped to increase the organization’s Arab-American clientele from zero to 200 in two years.
- Fabio Franchi (MBA ’13) is business development manager for Argo Translation Inc., a full-service translation firm based in Glenview, Ill. He previously worked in sales and business development for Hickman Williams & Co. in Oak Brook, Ill.
- Maria D. Pulih (JD ’13) was featured on the Windy City Times list of 30 Under 30 in Chicago’s LGBT Youth Community. She is the legal director and communications director at TransLife Center Chicago House.
- Mark E. Piper (LAS MS ’13) was named director of Mercy Association for the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community, which reaches across two-thirds of the United States. It is based in Chicago.
- Richard C. Ray (CMN ’13) works as a breaking news reporter and is a news editor for the Chicago Tribune and for five weekly Pioneer Press publications.
- Joelle M. Shabat (JD ’12) is an associate with Swanson, Martin & Bell LLP, where she focuses her practice on medical negligence and health care liability. She was previously an associate with Greene and Letts.
- Kandace I. Thomas (CMN ’15, CMN MA ’15) joined News Channel 25 in Texas as a reporter and multimedia journalist. She previously interned at WLS-TV, WGN-TV, WBMM-TV and the Midwestern Bureau of NBC News.
- Taylor Tolchin (LAS ’13) was the Robert C. Wright writer in residence at Minnesota State University, Mankato. She is a second-year creative writing MFA candidate at the university.
- Erin J. Tubbs (MA ’13) is the city administrator for Aledo, Ill. She was previously an administrator in Villa Park, Ill.
- Brandon J. Weichert (LAS ’13) presented at the Institute of World Politics (IWP) in May 2016 as part of IWP’s Second Annual Student Symposium hosted by IWP student ambassadors. He lectured on the topic of space dominance with a focus on American grand strategy. Weichert is a former congressional staffer and an associate member of New College at University of Oxford.
- Myisha L. Bouwlane (SNL ’14) launched the app Save Our Students, which hopes will help prevent bullying. The free app, available on the Apple Store and Google Play, allows students to report bullying anonymously.
- Ernie C. Enriquez (BUS ’14) is an economist at the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis. He finished an internship with the White House at the National Economic Council, which advises the president on national and global economic policy.
- Joe D. Keery (THE ’14) plays Steve Harrington in the Netflix series “Stranger Things,” which premiered on July 15. Prior to this role, Keery appeared in episodes of “Chicago Fire” and “Empire,” and had a role in the film “Henry Gamble’s Birthday Party.”
- Kiandra A. Layne (THE ’14) was featured in the Chicago Tribune list of Hot New Faces of Chicago Theater 2016. She appeared in “Byhalia, Mississippi” at Steppenwolf Theatre.
- Michael Osiński (MFA ’14) is director of the Philadelphia premiere of “Moth,” which closed out Anaka Theatre’s 16th season. He is co-founder and former producing artistic director of Flashpoint Theatre Company in Philadelphia.
- Karrar Ahmed Taher (MBA ’14) is co-founder of Driven by You, a rental company in Hyderabad, India, that specializes in self-driving cars and motorized bikes. He also owns the coffee shop Driven Café.
- Melissa E. Akinlawon (CMN MA ’15) was named to the National Minority Quality Forum’s 2016 list of 40 Under 40 Leaders in Health. She is advocacy coordinator for the American Association of Diabetes Educators.
- Joseph A. Falk (JD ’15) is an associate attorney with Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahone, where she focuses her practice on toxic tort litigation.
- Kelvin Wong (MFA ’15) produced “Antigone” for the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre in Malaysia, where he was previously a director-in-residence.
- Zachary M. Ganjeany (BUS ’16) is an analyst on the investment banking team at the Chicago office of Brown Gibbons Lang & Co. He was previously an intern there.
- Denitra D. Griffin (EdD ’16) was named to the Chicago Defender list of Women of Excellence 2016. She is chief strategic officer for AGB Investigative Services Inc. She has previously served as an assistant principal, instructional coach, program manager and elementary school teacher in Chicago Public Schools.
- Sarah L. Gorden (CMN ’15) was a soccer player for the Chicago Red Stars in their 2016 season. She previously played for Eclipse Select Soccer Club.
- India S. Mayer (CMN ’15) joined The Andrews Agency LLC in Nashville, Tenn., as an associate account executive. She focuses on the restaurant, tourism, real estate and retail industries. She previously served as an account manager for Clouse Public Relations in Chicago.
- Rebecca D. Mitrea (BUS ’15) was selected by the BIG EAST Conference as the NCAA Woman of the Year Nominee. She is a tennis player who was honored with the 2015-16 BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award and the Arthur Ashe Leadership and Sportsmanship Award from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.