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ON THIS PAGE For an untold number of years, a crawl space beneath the auditorium at the Leonard N. Stern School of Business held a secret: a sizable stash of pig figurines. For this issue’s #TBNYU, Eric Chase Anderson channels his inner grad student to present a report on this collection of swine-themed tchotchkes (page 40). Cover photo: Jin Woo Chung, courtesy of UntappedCities.com.
It was five years ago, as part of the NYC Applied Sciences initiative, that NYU’s Center for Urban Science and Progress was established. In honor of this milestone, we each named a favorite metropolis (after the Big Apple, of course).

**SECOND CITIES**

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Executive Editor
Seattle

**RENA BRAND**
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Vice President
Alumni Association
Florence

**JEN BOSCIA SMITH**
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Communications
Washington, DC

**RENÉE ALFUSO**
(CAS ’06)
Managing Editor
Florence

**NATHANIEL KILCER**
Creative Director
Tokyo
Since this school’s founding, undoubtedly countless students have admired the majestic Ulmus minor ‘Atinia’ (English elm) in the northwest corner of Washington Square Park without knowing its remarkable secret. Dating to 1679, it’s the oldest tree in Manhattan, making it a more than sesquicentennial senior to New York University itself. Like any deeply rooted institution, it’s withstood some unfavorable (and unfair) press: Nicknamed Hangman’s Elm, the tree has been exonerated by historians. And despite standing 110 feet tall, as one of the fastest-growing deciduous species, this leafy Goliath likely stopped burgeoning by the second decade of the 1700s; to put it in perspective, Founding Father Alexander Hamilton (left) wouldn’t be born for another quarter century. Despite—or perhaps because of—this durability, change, not stasis, is its mandate. On our cover, this noteworthy wood is captured in spring, its foliage signaling a new season, a promise of what’s next. We find it an ideal visual for another Hamilton’s inspired goals for this school (page 19). If this Englishman’s tenure as president of NYU is even fractionally as successful as the famous English elm gracing our campus, then he’ll be able to claim credit for bettering this far-reaching academy for generations to come.

EDITORS’ NOTE

On the topic of loving trees: Our publication is printed on paper approved by the Forest Stewardship Council, with a minimum of 10 percent postconsumer fiber. Learn about NYU’s Green Action Plan at nyu.edu/sustainability.

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Trees make friends, nourish their young, alert neighbors to danger, and even experience loneliness. And those are only a few of the endearing traits that will make you want to go out and hug the first beech, birch, or balsam fir you see. During the event “The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate—Discoveries from a Secret World,” based on his internationally best-selling book of the same name, German forest ranger-turned-author Peter Wohlleben fielded questions from University of California, Davis entomology professor Richard Karban before a standing room-only crowd at NYU’s Deutsches Haus. Among the amazing revelations: Our leafy friends have something of a social network, with an ability to “talk” via an intricate root system, what Wohlleben has dubbed the “wood wide web.” For Haus director Juliane Camfield, the takeaway was profound. “Everything is connected,” Camfield says. “The well-being of the trees depends on this interconnectedness, which is also a beautiful metaphor for how we as humans should see ourselves.”

—DULCY ISRAEL

In the Forest, circa late 18th or early 19th century, by British artist James Ward.
TROUBLED WATER

For three days last fall, it’s a safe bet that if you were at NYU Abu Dhabi, you couldn’t help but encounter a mind-blowing scene: Next to the main plaza’s 36 royal palms stood an unsettling nod to global warming—an enormous aquarium with an actor inside performing one of seven mundane activities. Each vignette in artist Lars Jan’s Holoscenes lasted 45 to 60 minutes; from four to nine o’clock at night, a rotating cast gardened, cleaned, and even slept as water continuously filled and drained from the tank. The piece toured the globe, with visits to cities including London, where the arresting image on this page was shot. Bill Bragin, executive artistic director of NYU Abu Dhabi’s Arts Center, says he placed the exhibit at the very heart of the campus, which anybody going anywhere has to cross, “so you actually had to contend with the piece—because that’s the reality of climate change.” —D. I.
METHOD MALAISE

Some of the wickedest theater in New York City is happening in one of the most unexpected of places. Several times a week at the New York Simulation Center for the Health Sciences (NYSIM) located within Bellevue Hospital, thespians pretending they’re patients get routine checkups, discuss embarrassing symptoms, respond to devastating diagnoses, and engage in other scenarios with current and future healthcare providers. “We have more than 250 actors in our database, ranging from 16 to 88 years old and speaking 10 different languages,” says Sondra Zabar (MED ’91) of the Standardized Patient Program, which she directs along with NYU’s division of general internal medicine and NYSIM, a partnership between the Langone Medical Center and the City University of New York. The performers provide feedback and let educators observe the students’ history taking, eye contact, clinical reasoning, note writing, and physical exams via one-way mirrors and video. “We have programs for nursing, emergency room responders, pharmaceutical companies [doing] clinical trials, and for faculty, to reinforce their communication and leadership skills. [The scenes] are only limited by our creativity,” says Zabar. —D. I.

LETTERING IN POLITENESS

You typically use a dictionary when you’re unfamiliar with a word. Other times, you simply want to understand its deeper meanings or nuances. We’d like to think the latter explains why “courtesy” was the term most looked up by NYU students in 2014. Dictionary.com tracked searches in zip codes associated with or near colleges and produced a list that included “blithe” (Stanford University) and “egregious” (University of California, Los Angeles) as well as the head scratchers “cauliflower” (Boise State University) and “sociopath” (University of South Carolina). —D. I.
MINI SIZE, MAXI SIGNIFICANCE

New York City has more than 1,700 parks, and while some are enormous (think Manhattan’s Central Park at 843 acres or the Bronx’s Pelham Bay Park at 2,772!), most are teensy. Yet even minor specks of open space can serve a major role, particularly for children in lower-income families. Diana Silver (WAG ’07), during her time at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development (she’s now an associate professor at the College of Global Public Health), spearheaded a study on small parks and playgrounds (1.5 acres or less). The upshot? Even the tiniest tract of recreational land can change its users’ lives. Inspired by this research, we’ve rounded up the 14 petite parks and pocket playgrounds a stone’s throw away (within a .33-mile radius) from the Washington Square Arch. Take a walk and check these gems off your to-see list. —JESSE GREENSPAN (GSAS ’06)
FATHER DEMO SQUARE
(0.25 acres; Sixth Avenue, Bleecker Street, and Carmine Street): Named for the Italian-born priest and civic activist Father Antonio Demo. An illuminated three-tiered fountain was added to the square in 2007.

LITTLE RED SQUARE
(0.22 acres; Sixth Avenue and Bleecker Street): In no way related to communism, this brick-and-pavement micropark is so named because it abuts the progressive pre-K-through-8th-grade Little Red School House.

MERCER PLAYGROUND
(0.45 acres; Mercer Street between Bleecker Street and West 3rd Street): Named for Hugh Mercer, a doctor and Revolutionary War hero, it’s the only area park that permits roller skating, skateboarding, and scootering.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE
(0.22 acres; Sixth Avenue, Bleecker Street, and Downing Street): This sitting area and playground commemorates the former British prime minister, whose American mother grew up in New York City. Not coincidentally, it is bordered on one side by Downing Street.

TIME LANDSCAPE
(0.18 acres; LaGuardia Place between West Houston Street and Bleecker Street): Landscape artist Alan Sonfist developed this homage to precolonial Manhattan after extensively researching the borough’s native flora, as well as its geology and history. The grove of beech trees at its center came from his favorite childhood park in the Bronx.

WILLIAM F. PASSANNANTE BALLFIELD
(0.61 acres; West Houston Street between Sixth Avenue and MacDougal Street): In 1998, this play zone was renamed in honor of Passannante (STERN ‘40), who represented Greenwich Village in the New York State Assembly from 1955 to 1990.

ADRIENNE’S GARDEN
(0.10 acres; LaGuardia Place between Bleecker Street and West 3rd Street): Featuring a new dragon-shaped play structure for toddlers, this park stands next to the statue of New York City’s 99th mayor, Fiorello La Guardia.
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Desperate concerns about climate change call for desperate measures. The bold ideas put forth by Matthew Liao, professor of philosophy at Arts and Science and clinical associate professor of bioethics at the College of Global Public Health, include genetically engineering people to be shorter so they’ll leave a smaller carbon footprint and administering oxytocin (the bonding hormone secreted during sex and breastfeeding) to induce empathy and a willingness to sacrifice for the greater good. We asked Liao to elaborate on one of his most controversial proposals: the meat patch. “Plenty of people who would be willing to reduce their consumption just can’t get themselves to do it,” Liao says. “Maybe we could induce a mild intolerance to the highest methane-producing animals. [Amblyomma americanum, a.k.a. the lone star tick] injects alpha-gal into your bloodstream when it bites and makes you allergic to red meat.” Liao envisions people wearing something akin to a nicotine patch, which would change the taste of red meat, making it either unpalatable or at least very neutral and less appetizing. “It’s a win-win,” he says. —DULCY ISRAEL
Anyone who paid attention in science class knows Neanderthals had projecting faces. What remained a mystery—until the team led by Rodrigo Lacruz, assistant professor in the Department of Basic Science and Craniofacial Biology at the College of Dentistry, jumped in—were the mechanisms behind these facial developments. “There are two main cell types: cells that deposit bone and cells that resorb or take the bone away,” says Lacruz. “The interplay of these two activities determines to a large extent the shape of a species’ facial anatomy.” While bone deposition in the *Homo neanderthalensis*’s maxilla (the bone below and around the nose where the teeth are encased) was constant, *Homo sapiens*’ faces become largely resorptive around age 6 or younger. The earlier species’ large nasal cavities may have been an adaptation to their cold, dry conditions, allowing them to warm and moisten the air. “The face has to be in accord with what the nasal cavity’s doing and one way was by increasing in size,” says Lacruz. “The only way you can move your face forward is by having cells depositing bone.” Here’s to solving a 50,000-year-old enigma! —D. I.
John Gershman looks forward to the day when munching on a cricket is something you’re more likely to see on the Food Network than on Fear Factor. “Over three billion people in the world already regularly eat insects,” says Gershman, clinical professor of public service at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. He believes the greatest impact derived from entomophagy (eating insects) will be turning them into fodder for livestock and fish. “A large amount of agricultural land is used to grow feed,” Gershman notes, and finding a climatologically lower-impact way of producing it will free up fertile terrain to nourish the Earth’s hungry. Mitchell Joachim, associate professor of practice at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study, agrees. Compared to raising livestock, harvesting bugs “takes 400 times less water and on average gives off about 200 times less carbon emissions—especially methane gases,” Joachim says. To that end, his firm, Terreform ONE, designed an ideal habitat for raising protein-packed crickets. “There are sex pods and birthing chambers, and different thicknesses of tubing and meshes to keep the adults from eating their kids. It’s basically cricket heaven.” —D. I.
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Could dolphins have played a part in medieval conquests? That’s one of the questions Zvi Ben-Dor Benite answered in his talk “What Was So Great About Genghis Khan?” delivered at the Silver Center’s Jurow Hall. While some historians theorize that Khan’s troops used the fat of the genial aquatic mammal to power their burning weaponry, Benite, a Faculty of Arts and Science history professor and chair of Middle Eastern and Islamic studies, says: “We think they actually created firebombs that contained boiled, liquefied human fat, which was far more available in the 13th century.” By adding this fuel, Khan’s nomadic armies, skilled at adopting and adapting the technology of their defeated enemies, took the calamitous power of the missiles, hand grenades, and other explosive devices the Chinese used against them to a new level of annihilation. “You cannot put out the fire with water,” Benite says. “It can burn for hours, like napalm. It was very grisly.” —DULCY ISRAEL
In the midst of a fellowship at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW), her work centered on the decline of urbanism in eastern England from the late Roman to late Anglo Saxon periods, but she developed something of a pet project. “My research used animal bones as a way of understanding the dying of ancient societies,” Crabtree says. The work she did while at ISAW added to existing evidence that smaller pups (presumably lap dogs) in the Roman period seemed to disappear along with cities in the early and middle Saxon periods. After that, there was little variety among the rural canines, which were long-nosed and about the size of a modern German shepherd. They guarded farms and livestock and were “probably not treated terribly well,” Crabtree says, likely accounting for their shortened lives. “When you see the rebirth of towns after about 700 CE, you start getting more [dog] diversity.” —D.I.

Ruff Stuff

Faculty of Arts and Science associate professor of anthropology Pamela Crabtree was in the midst of a fellowship at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW). Her work centered on the decline of urbanism in eastern England from the late Roman to late Anglo Saxon periods, but she developed something of a pet project. “My research used animal bones as a way of understanding the dying of ancient societies,” Crabtree says. The work she did while at ISAW added to existing evidence that smaller pups (presumably lap dogs) in the Roman period seemed to disappear along with cities in the early and middle Saxon periods. After that, there was little variety among the rural canines, which were long-nosed and about the size of a modern German shepherd. They guarded farms and livestock and were “probably not treated terribly well,” Crabtree says, likely accounting for their shortened lives. “When you see the rebirth of towns after about 700 CE, you start getting more [dog] diversity.” —D.I.

INVESTIGATION: FAS / ISAW

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Best Of... Movies Set In Brooklyn

Inspired by NYU’s new innovation hub for engineering, applied and urban sciences, and digital technology and media arts (at 370 Jay Street), we asked movie lovers to name their favorite Kings County film.

▲ “Spike Lee’s Brooklyn is a cultural space critical to so many of his films, especially relevant in DO THE RIGHT THING (1989).” —Sheril Antonio (TSOA ‘81, ’99), associate arts professor, Tisch School of the Arts

▲ “BROOKLYN” (2015), set in the 1950s, explores the challenges and adjustment process of immigrants, specifically the acute homesickness even when the immigration was caused by necessity: i.e., poverty, war, or political refugee situations.” —Vera Michaels (SSSW ‘71, ‘03), adjunct professor, Silver School of Social Work

▲ “MOONSTRUCK” (1987), shot in Brooklyn Heights, provides a memory of living in the outer boroughs, before the influx of Manhattanites. It was a time when everyone knew everyone in the neighborhood.” —Lance Irving (SPS ’06, ’12), associate director of administrative operations and facilities management, Rory Meyers College of Nursing

▲ “SPEEDY” (1928) is a charming and action-packed silent film comedy with a title character who, distracted by his obsession with baseball, loses jobs as quickly as he secures them, and lands in hot water both at Coney Island and on the Brooklyn Bridge.” —Constance Luessenhop Bruce, director of external and academic events, NYU Shanghai
Can You Dig It? Yes, You Can!

Do we have Indiana Jones to thank? When *Raiders of the Lost Ark* hit theaters in 1981, universities saw a marked rise in the number of students pursuing archaeology. While some stayed the course of the adventuresome academic, others whose careers took a different trajectory may still wonder what it would be like to exhume the mysteries of long-gone cultures. That’s where dream maker Joan Breton Connelly comes in; the Faculty of Arts and Science professor of classics and art history is also the director of NYU’s Yeronisos Island Expedition, a dig on a rock anchored in the Mediterranean off the coast of Cyprus—and it’s a rock Connelly believes may have been the site of a temple to Apollo built by Cleopatra. For a donation of $10,000 (some of which is tax deductible), you can spend a week in the Exec-U-Dig program, uncovering Hellenistic artifacts with Connelly’s team and swimming along the Cypriot shore while off duty. Alums include Bill Murray, who did his Indy impersonation in 2006. The successful fundraising initiative, which helps pay for the excavations, continues to attract travelers eager for unique (and photogenic!) experiences—the Instagram gold that is social media’s holy grail. —ELENI N. GAGE

The Art Code

According to Deena Engel (CIMS ’99), clinical professor of computer science at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, art should never become irretrievable. So Engel teamed up with Joanna Phillips, a conservator of time-based media at the Guggenheim Museum—a pioneer collector of software-based art. Working with Phillips, the professor and her students analyze and do risk assessment on various pieces, and then write reports and propose remediation that keeps the works viewable without violating the aesthetic experience the artists intended. “We might suggest modifying the code in a way that simulates the original speed, but we always ask, ‘Is that okay?’ ” Engel says. After all, a museum’s mission is to conserve the art of our time in perpetuity. “It’s a very important cultural mandate.” —D.I.
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You would assume that a professor of chemistry and former provost at Yale and vice chancellor at Oxford would have no shortage of ideas. And during his swearing-in ceremony in September, incoming New York University President Andrew Hamilton didn’t disappoint. We racked our brains to figure out the best way of conveying the big man on campus’s plans. In the end, we decided to let our 16th president speak for himself by printing his inaugural address, word for word.

*Illustrations by Helly Guerre*
Ladies and gentlemen, I am honored—and humbled—by your presence and by the generous words of the speakers who have preceded me this morning.

I would like to begin with a few thank-yous.

You all know it was at Yale where I was first tutored in the dark arts of university administration. I want to say a special thank-you not just to Susan Hockfield, but also to former Yale president Rick Levin. They both served as my mentors in that critical stage in my career.

It is also wonderful to see the current president of Yale, Peter Salovey, and several of my former colleagues in the provost’s office with us today.

I took those American skills to Oxford, where I found they translated well, particularly for this wolf in sheep’s clothing, who sounded British but who behaved like an American. I am delighted that several of my colleagues from Oxford could join us today.

Thank you to Board Chair Bill Berkley and to the entire board of trustees for your confidence and support. I know how much time and energy over many years that you have devoted to helping NYU advance and succeed, and I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to carry on that task.

Especial thanks and love to my wife, Jennie, and our children, Alastair, Claire, and Malcolm, and their wonderful partners, Heather, Eric, and
Katherine. I think many of you know that all three of these young couples are marrying during this exhilarating (and exhausting) 2016.

I want to offer deep appreciation as well to the man whose extraordinary stewardship of this great university is a constant source of inspiration—NYU’s 15th president, John Sexton. And to Martin Lipton, who was the board chair throughout John’s presidency and whose connections to NYU span some six decades.

I appreciate as well the presence of our honored guests who join us today—colleagues from universities and colleges around the world, representatives of learned societies, civic leaders of this great metropolis,
and our senior senator from New York.

Finally, I am deeply grateful for the wonderful students, faculty, staff, and alumni who make up the NYU community. Over the past nine months, you have given Jennie and me the warmest, most New York welcome we could have hoped for. We are so proud to be part of the NYU family.

In preparing for today’s ceremony, I read a little bit about the inaugurations of NYU’s past presidents or chancellors.

I also learned that there was a tussle during the inauguration of Chancellor Chase in 1934 over whether to repair the lighting mechanism of the university torch. It had been deliberately broken years earlier to prevent the torchbearer from drinking the alcohol out of it during ceremonies.

All of which makes me relieved that our biggest concern around this year’s inauguration ceremony is the construction around Washington Square Park.

At least, I assume that is our biggest concern! And here I direct a watchful gaze to today’s torchbearer, who at least so far has not offered me a swig—although by the end of this speech I will need one.

Many of you have heard me say that one of the reasons I came to NYU was the university’s remarkable

_CATCH-22_ AUTHOR JOSEPH HELLER (WSC ’48) ATTENDED NYU ON THE GI BILL.
trajectory over the past several decades, transforming itself from a largely regional school to one of the world’s foremost research universities.

Surely some of the university’s success is owed to its genesis. NYU was born from an audacious idea: Its founders set out to create a new kind of university. At a time when a college education was rare and available only to a privileged few, NYU intentionally sought to open its doors to ambitious young people from all classes and from wider backgrounds. It would be a school of opportunity, befitting the bustling city of opportunity it called home.

In an era when most law schools did not admit women, NYU’s did. In an era when Jim Crow laws prevented aspiring teachers from being educated in their home states down South, NYU created a special program for them to earn degrees. In an era when young people returned from the Second World War, NYU educated more of them on the GI Bill than any other university. Since January, I have seen many examples to convince me that that ambition and belief in opportunity still prevails. It is seen today in the 22 percent (or 5,400) of NYU’s undergraduates who are Pell Grant recipients. NYU is transforming through education the lives of more young people from this most disadvantaged group than Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Columbia combined!

I would now like to offer my own theory on what connects NYU’s past with its present, what distinguishes it among the world’s other great universities, and what drives it forward.

I have had the privilege of being a faculty member at several of the most venerable universities on two continents—universities of renown and distinction. What distinguishes us at NYU from these universities is not an adherence to academic excellence or to academic freedom or to the importance of ensuring the academic rationale at the heart of every decision. Those are qualities we resolutely share.

No, what truly distinguishes NYU is our focus on the future and our
NEW YORK STATE
THE IMPROVED CANAL SYSTEM
willingness to take risks to shape that future. Other universities have larger endowments or longer histories. But no university matches NYU for its boldness of spirit and ambition.

NYU has been remarkably successful in harnessing that boldness in pursuit of academic excellence. It has used its competitive advantage of allowing—even encouraging—experiment to propel us forward in sometimes unexpected and dramatic ways.

For NYU, these traits are matched by an unerring sense of timing. NYU was founded in 1831, just as the Erie Canal was making New York the most important city in America. It was consolidated in Manhattan just as New York’s fortunes changed for the better. It established degree-granting campuses in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai just as those cities took their places on the world stage. And now we are connecting ourselves to Brooklyn just as that borough claims its place at the heart of New York’s creative and tech boom.

So we are heirs to an institution that is always forward-looking and has achieved much. The matter before us today is, how do we lock in and improve all we have built while sustaining that amazing institutional trajectory? The search for the solution must begin with hard questioning and self-knowledge. We do not need to have all the answers today—and indeed I do not—but this is a moment to raise the issues, signal priorities, and initiate the path forward.

So here I pose my first question that we must confront directly and candidly:

What are the academic areas that have lagged NYU’s overall trajectory, and what must we do to move them forward?

Maintaining and advancing academic quality must remain our primary focus. It will be mine. For none of what we accomplish together over the
coming years—or what I lay out today as critical issues—will matter if we do not lock laser-like onto our core mission: delivering the highest-quality education to our students, undergraduate and graduate; supporting our faculty in their pursuit of their scholarship and teaching; and providing the infrastructure to advance research at the highest level.

For observers of NYU—and there are many in higher education—NYU’s excellence and stature in the humanities and in the social sciences are well established. Likewise, its professional programs are widely respected—law, business, social work, public service, public health, and education. Research and teaching at NYU’s School of Medicine have made remarkable progress in recent years, translating into improved healthcare for our patients. As indeed is the case for our Colleges of Nursing and of Dentistry. And NYU’s programs across the whole range of the arts and culture are rightly renowned, a source of pride and prominence.

However, though NYU has built academic strength in many areas, the sciences have not matched NYU’s progress in these other fields. To be sure, there are areas of excellence in the sciences at NYU, with scholars or departments recognized as being at the top of their fields. And to be sure, it is easy to understand why NYU’s reputation in the sciences is not the equal of its stature in the other disciplines, since science—bench science in particular—is both costly and space intensive, two areas that are especially challenging for NYU in its urban setting.

So one priority for NYU’s future must be to strengthen the sciences. And not only the sciences but also their academic sibling, engineering. A robust, productive, successful program in science and engineering—not, I repeat, not at the expense of the other disciplines—is one of the hallmarks of a great university.

And the reality is, NYU is already making an enormous investment in science and technology. Between the new laboratories for physics on Broadway, the expansion of neuroscience, the renovation of 370 Jay Street

“LASER” IS AN ACRONYM FOR LIGHT AMPLIFICATION BY STIMULATED EMISSION OF RADIATION.
in Brooklyn, renovations at the Tandon School of Engineering, the new space for data science and computer science in the Forbes Building, a new research building at NYU Langone, and the laboratories we hope to build in Silver after we open the dozens of new classrooms in the building at 181 Mercer Street, we plan to invest well over half a billion dollars in science, engineering, and technology over the next few years.

One can look at NYU’s recent history and see it has been marked by eras. The era in which it left the Heights campus in the Bronx and...
consolidated itself in Washington Square, the era in which it went from being a regional university to a national research university by growing its faculty and building student housing to be able to recruit nationally, and the era in which it became a global university. Each of these eras was characterized by looking to the future for what NYU needed next. The investment we are making in science should serve as a springboard for the next era: the era in which NYU becomes a prominent force in the science and technology fields as well.

So my next question is:

_In what ways can we leverage our existing areas of strength to continue innovating in all we do?_

There will be many answers to this question, but one certainly springs immediately to mind: _Brooklyn_.

Every once in a while in higher education, the stars of planning, opportunity, location, and resources align. So it is with NYU and Brooklyn. NYU has restored engineering as an academic discipline just as New York City in general—and Brooklyn in particular—is roaring forward as a world technology capital. We have a school of engineering that is now propelled by a generous gift from the Tandons. We have a Center for Urban Science and Progress supported by the city’s gift of a long-dormant 500,000-square-foot building, which we shall revive to be a major intersection of technology, engineering, emerging media, and the arts. We have a wide-ranging entrepreneurship program and multiple incubators that are poised to turn good ideas into great enterprises. And we have the NYU Langone Medical Center, which—even as it climbs into the very top ranks in research and clinical care nationally—is expanding its reach to Brooklyn, where it is emerging as a major provider of healthcare.
NYU’s special advantage here is its ability to fuse creative talent with technological prowess, combining computer scientists and animators and engineers and gamers and healthcare professionals and experts in urban informatics, digital media, and recorded music—all in the same place, working together.

That same spirit of innovation—of fusing creativity and technology—is infused in our thinking about the future of teaching and learning at NYU. Many have seen digital technology as the answer to driving down the costs of higher education. We see technology as a way of enhancing the education NYU provides, not replacing it. Whether it is the online programs at Steinhardt that allow up-and-coming teachers to spend more time in their classrooms preparing to teach, or online continuing legal education courses offered by the law school, or the online master’s degree programs that our School of Professional Studies has established, or the online master’s in cybersecurity at Tandon, almost every school at NYU is trying something innovative and different that also reflects our high academic standards and is to the benefit of the students.

A discussion of digital learning reminds us nonetheless that human interactions are at the heart of all we do. And that brings me to the third question we should pose to ourselves:

NYU FRESHMEN HAIL FROM 83 COUNTRIES; FACULTY MEMBERS AND SCHOLARS COME FROM 82.
In this environment of intense intellectual and artistic activity, how can we build a culture that respects and embraces diversity and inclusion as an indispensable element of academic excellence?

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are not only important values to be cherished for their own sake; they are also vital to advancing knowledge, sparking innovation, and creating sustainable communities. They should be indispensable elements of an NYU education on all of our campuses. A diverse population encounters and appreciates all perspectives of an issue with a wealth of different approaches to confront it. The result is a higher quality of debate, a more excellent and advanced academic enterprise.

But if we are to live up to NYU’s aspirations as a school of opportunity, we need to do more. Our own past is not without blemish, and while we have made some recent strides in improving diversity among our student body, if we are going to be honest with ourselves, we have fallen short.

The result? Too many of our community members—students, faculty, and staff—have ended up doubting whether they are genuinely welcome and valued in our classrooms, residence halls, and departmental offices, both here in New York and abroad.

Each member of this community is valued by NYU and is welcome at NYU, and we must make the changes necessary to ensure that this is understood by all.

This has led us to examine our programs and policies critically, and to begin taking some key steps to promote inclusion and equity, particularly for those who have historically been marginalized. We have created the position of chief diversity officer, who will coordinate diversity efforts across the university and report directly to me; we have expanded the staffing, budget, and space of our Center for Multicultural Education.
and Programming; we are strengthening our approaches to hiring and promoting faculty from historically underrepresented communities; we have created a Bias Response Line to allow all to report incidents of discrimination; and we are conducting a climate survey to better understand our culture and practices.

We are moving forward. Yet, even as I recite this list of steps, I think also on a striking passage from Ta-Nehisi Coates’s book entitled *Between the World and Me*, which many of our schools assigned as summer reading to our incoming freshmen.

“We meant well. We tried our best. ‘Good intention’ is a hall pass through history, a sleeping pill that ensures the Dream.”

This quote is a spur to me—as I hope it would be to us all—that our actions as an institution alone are insufficient and must be matched by something both less tangible and more profound: a change in culture, outlook, understanding, and respect. Each of us must encourage an openness to the perspectives of others and a personal commitment to create a better, more inclusive, more equitable NYU community.

One route to that openness is offered by the extensive international network that NYU has built. This raises our next question:

*How can we ensure that the global network remains relevant in a changing world and achieves more than simply the sum of its parts?*

NYU is rightly known as a prominent *global presence*. Two successful degree-granting campuses in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai with outstanding resident faculty and talented students who have earned the world’s most
prestigious honors; 11 other sites on five continents at which NYU undergraduates can study abroad and graduate students and faculty can pursue research; the largest number of students studying abroad and the largest group of international students attending any US university. Any one of these accomplishments alone would have been reason for pride; that all of this has been achieved is remarkable.

And it is not simply that this record differentiates NYU—it makes us inimitable. Unlike other universities, we are not bound to a single location but rather benefit from and contribute to the richness of the world. There has never been a time when bold action on global education is more urgently needed than now. In the face of destructive public discourse on immigration, suspicion of entire religions and ethnic groups, and a range of problems—from climate change to ideological extremism—that defies borders, it is essential that we choose not to retreat but to engage.

Nevertheless, let’s begin with the recognition that, as befits a “first mover,” we have not gotten everything right at every turn. So the task at hand is to examine what has worked and what has not. We must make a priority of refining the global network, of ensuring it aligns throughout with our academic standards and principles. In the near term, that means our focus should be less on further expansion and more on reaching the full potential of the exceptional global enterprise NYU has already built, guided always by the goals of enhancing our students’ education and serving our faculty’s scholarly interests. We must continue improving the connections until the links feel like second nature. We must carry on the work we have already begun with the Graduate Research Initiative: expanding the role of the global sites so that in addition to their traditional mission of undergraduate education they become centers of real research excellence involving faculty and graduate students. And we must ensure that these wonderful academic and global opportunities are available to all NYU students, no matter what their financial background.
This last point brings me to my next question, one of the starkest and toughest I will pose:

**How do we simultaneously make NYU more affordable for more students without compromising the quality of the education our students receive or research excellence?**

The plain fact is that tuition at NYU places an unacceptable *financial strain* on too many students. NYU is not unique in that regard by any means, but we have been among the most conspicuous. There are historical reasons for this: Most notably, NYU is a tuition-dependent university with
KEEP CALM AND REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE
a per-student endowment that is among the smallest of any major private research university.

But despite our constraints, we cannot be content with the status quo. In my first few months as president, I announced a number of new steps to address the issue of affordability, including freezing room and board and moderating tuition levels to arrive at the lowest increase in undergraduate cost of attendance in 20 years. Early next month the Affordability Steering Committee and Working Group I appointed last semester will lay out a preliminary set of actions that seek to make NYU more affordable for more students. But as the many ideas that have emerged from the extensive process of engagement demonstrate, no one silver bullet will solve affordability at NYU. And on this issue in particular, I urge faculty, administrators, and students to be receptive to new ideas and to continue to think creatively about how to “bend the curve” of affordability.

We will also continue to build on the ongoing Momentum Campaign to raise funds targeted for student scholarships. The more money we can raise for our endowment and for financial aid, the more capacity we have to help students who want to be at NYU.

Most of the questions I have posed today have been not only about the future, but also about how we will express our values as an institution. No issue combines those two ideas and presses more urgently for a response than climate change. So my final question is:

How do we shape our university’s operations to be exemplary citizens of the city and the world while doing our part as faithful stewards of our environment?

The issue of sustainability has been on NYU’s agenda for some years.
And the university has a laudable record. We have constructed a highly efficient state-of-the-art cogeneration plant; we have installed high-efficiency lighting and climate controls that enabled a substantial lowering of campus electrical consumption even as electronic devices proliferated; we have launched green grants to seed and then support sustainability ideas conceived by students and faculty. Together these enabled us to meet our public pledge to reduce our carbon emissions by 30 percent and to go on to confidently pledge to meet further reduction targets presented by New York City, New York State, and the federal government.

I am confident we can do more. Building on our assets—the progress we have already made, our dense urban setting, our faculty expertise in this field, and the immense enthusiasm and commitment among our students and staff—now is the time to do more, working harder on this pressing issue of our time and seeking to make NYU among the greenest urban campuses in the nation. That is my commitment.

I have posed my last question. Let me offer my last observation: NYU, because it is so future-looking, asks more of its students and faculty than many other universities. This is a theme running through this past week’s events of academic conversations, student activities, and exhibits that have tried to capture the NYU spirit that challenges all to make it here, make it big, make it bold. And you all know the song—if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere.

And you have made it here. You have challenged us to do better on affordability and diversity, and have started the difficult conversations needed to make progress on those issues. You have signed on to be members of the inaugural classes at NYU Abu Dhabi and NYU Shanghai, and have filled the first critical years of those schools with astounding successes. You have designed curricula that combine engineering and art and public policy in totally new ways. You have tended to the world’s needs through
service—and when an organization does not exist to address a need, you create one.

NYU is not a perfect university, but I believe it is a profoundly important one. And I pledge to do my utmost on its behalf—in honor of its past, in celebration of the present, and especially in anticipation of its splendid future.

I like NYU’s logo, the torch—symbolizing enlightenment through learning. But I also like NYU’s official seal. You probably know it—a group of runners [beneath] the torch. I like it because I know where they are running—they are running into the future. I am looking forward to running alongside them, and alongside all of you—we can pace each other and support each other and cover the distance together, all the while keeping our gaze firmly on the horizon.

This is a wonderful gathering today. I know you’re here out of love for NYU. And I know you’re here to wish me well. And I know you’re here because these are the only tickets to see Hamilton you’re ever going to get in this city.

Of course, as the senator said, there is one big difference: In this show, Hamilton does end up as president! Thank you.
Trove of Pigs Unearthed on NYU Campus
Mysterious figurines found at Leonard N. Stern School of Business.

The Stern Find
An Archaeological Report
by Eric Chase Anderson

Collection was discovered in crawl space under the Stern School of Business auditorium.
Carelessly stored in multiple boxes.
Constructed of varying materials, with varying function, of uniform subject, numbering 200-plus.
One witness, remembering an unnamed woman, possibly an alum, was told -- note passive voice -- that she "collected them all her life" and had left them to the university. (Unconfirmed.)
Put on amateurish "display" in a supply closet.
Ultimately repacked in a manner consistent with good practices and stored in 16 boxes.
(Further detail in illustrations.)

Eric—while factual, this analysis is pedantic and lacks nuance. How could we better interpret the find? Are we seeing evidence of a HOARDER; a COLLECTOR; or a set of GIFTS?
Tokens given, by many individuals, spanning years, to an ESTEEMED CAMPUS FIXTURE: a professor or administrator?
What can the singular choice of subject tell us? Sus
domestics possess many symbolic and cultural meanings, including unexpected virtues like: practicality; intelligence, adaptiveness; and even—given a sufficiently cool and shabby environment—cleanliness. In many cultures, it has been a subject for ritual sacrifice or deemed easy prey for demonic possession. In others, it was the perennial outcast. In modern times, it has played primary characters in popular stories, from villian to hero to love interest!
The practical design of the figurines suggests visibility: They were meant to be placed on flat surfaces, grouped together, probably for the delight or edification of many.
Two distinct possible conclusions are that the collection was either a BEQUEST whose donor's identity has been lost, or a memorial for THE BELOVED CAMPUS FIXTURE who gave value to an otherwise valueless collection by the meaning it had for those who preserved it: a treasured memento of an esteemed, now unknown man or woman who should not be forgotten.
The Egyptians did much the same.
Illustrations show promise! B+.
* To read the backstory of this discovery, see "On This Page" in the Table of Contents.
We are all born creative. As children, we draw, we paint, we make things. It's not until we get older that we begin to deny our creative side. We start to focus on “more important things.” We try to live up to what we think the world expects of us. We become “responsible adults.” But it’s precisely that creativity, that thing we deny in ourselves, that has the power to propel us forward. To change us. To make a difference. Because everything new originates with a creative thought. Without it, there are no new ideas. No epiphanies. Nothing gets invented. In order to move things forward, you need to create something, discover something, build something, be something.

Find out more about NYU’s exciting plans in Brooklyn at nyu.edu/brooklyn.
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No Holds Barred
Monica Stephenson (STEINHARDT '16)
Inspires the New Faces of Ballet
SHIRLEY LU (SPS ’18)

“I hadn’t been back in New York City since I moved away at age 6, but thoughts of coming back kept me going through high school and ultimately gave me the courage to apply to NYU. Now I am here in the city of my dreams pursuing a career in the hospitality industry. My career choice is my way of giving back, because I know there is no greater reward in life than helping others.”

Log on to nyu.edu/giving/momentum to learn how you can help students like Shirley achieve their dreams.
Tell Us!

There are nearly half a million NYU alumni around the globe doing amazing things! Know one of them? Are there other stories you want to see? Let us know!

nyualumni.com/tell-us

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STAY IN TOUCH

Miss us? We sure miss you! Let us know where to find you by updating your contact info at nyualumni.com. Or get in touch with us here:

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linkedin.com–NYU Alumni Association
instagram.com/nyualumni

The Rising: There are dozens of small projects at NYU that are making a big impact on campus and around the world.

A Diverse Universe: The NYU Multicultural Alumni Network now includes five new groups. Here’s how to connect.

A Colorful Collaboration: Researchers are studying the effect of art therapy on those suffering from Parkinson’s disease.

For Your Benefit: Not only does Jeff Laub (CAS ’06) have a great story (and shop)—he has a great deal for all NYU alumni.

Game Changers: What do traveling psychology students, the orthodontics clinic, and entrepreneurs have in common?

Final Exam: To coincide with the NYU Archives’ newest exhibit on the university’s storied history, we have the ultimate NYU quiz for you.
COME BACK TO CLASS AT NYU

Class will be back in session! Twice each year, the NYU Alumni Association invites our alumni back to the classroom to learn from some of NYU’s most renowned faculty at NYU Alumni College. Relive the academic experience of your NYU education by taking part in intellectual and engaging discussions.

SAVE THE DATE: October 20, 2017, as part of NYU Alumni Weekend
VISIT NYUALUMNI.COM/ALUMNI-COLLEGE TO LEARN MORE.

Get the know-how you need at BetterMoneyHabits.com

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Khan Academy Founder

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AT LIBERTY MUTUAL, WE ARE PROUD TO BE PARTNERING WITH THE NEW YORK UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Rise Up!

Introducing NYU’s New Crowdfunding Platform—Rising Violets

Crowdfunding, the practice of funding a cause or idea by raising relatively modest sums of money from a large number of people personally invested in its success, is the newest way to make an impact at NYU.

The university recently launched Rising Violets, a crowdfunding hub that harnesses the power and passion of its 500,000-member alumni network in support of the dreams and one-of-a-kind projects that are cornerstones of the NYU experience. Individuals from every corner of the NYU community are coming together in support of the projects that mean the most to them, and improving the world—and NYU—in the process. Here, a simple way to tell if you are ready to help our Violets rise.

Ready to make a difference and see the direct impact of your support?

Yes

Go to the Rising Violets site and take a look at this cycle’s current projects. Projects are posted for about 30 days and their goals range from $2,000–$10,000. You can make a difference with a contribution of any size.

No

Do you have an idea for a project at NYU that supports our overall mission and improves our campus community and beyond?

Yes

Go to the Rising Violets site and submit an application for a project to raise money for an innovative project, a service trip, an event, industry-changing research, or another NYU-specific venture.

No

Do you have a broad social or personal network?

Yes

Great! Reach out and ask for their help if your campaign is approved. Peer networks are vital to the success of crowdfunding initiatives.

No

No sweat. Visit the Rising Violets site so you can learn how you can support NYU causes and initiatives that are most meaningful to you.

Rise up at risingviolets.nyu.edu
These honorees are visionaries in their fields, leaders in their communities, and tremendous representatives of the university. We are extremely proud of all they have accomplished.

HEATHER CANNADY, PRESIDENT, NYU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
The New York University Alumni Association invites you to join

New York University President Andrew Hamilton,

NYUAA President Heather Cannady (CAS ’04),

and the 2017 NYUAA Alumni Award Honorees

for a luncheon and presentation

To learn more and register, nyualumni.com/awards

NYU Alumni Awards

April 21, 2017
12:00–2:00 PM

Gotham Hall
1356 Broadway, New York City
Monica Stephenson (STEINHARDT ’16)

Pointe-ing the Way

During the time former professional ballet dancer Monica Stephenson was pursuing her Master of Arts in dance education from the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, the venerable American Ballet Theatre launched Project Plié, its initiative to increase diversity in ballet companies across America.

It was an initiative tailor-made for Stephenson. As she continued her studies, she was tapped to be the project’s coordinator and helped to expand the program to include partnerships with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and 12 professional companies nationwide, all committed to offering training and support to ballet students from underrepresented areas and to increasing diversity among their dancers.

Stephenson’s current employer, the Washington Ballet (TWB), is one of those partners. There, she is full-time faculty at TWB@THEARC, the company’s southeast Washington, DC, school, where she teaches child and adult ballet students. And, through TWB’s outreach program, DanceDC, she leads public school residencies.

You represent the population that Project Plié seeks to reach—what was your early exposure?
The small North Carolina town where I grew up didn’t have a professional school. By the time I was 12, I had to travel to study. When I was 14, I spent a year at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, a few hours away. My senior year, at the Houston Ballet Academy, I was exposed to African American professional ballet dancer role models. I realized that, yes, this is going to happen.

Why is your work important?
I’ve always been passionate about increasing diversity in classical ballet. Teaching primarily African American students can really make an impact on increasing the number of professional ballet dancers of color.

What’s it like introducing ballet to kids who may never have seen the dance, let alone studied it?
It’s not easy. At the end of the seven-week residencies, they have an intro to basic ballet “vocabulary” and they have the opportunity to see the company perform. DanceDC served almost 900 children last year; some of them receive yearlong scholarships to study at the Washington Ballet.

How does that feel?
These are children who would never have walked into Washington Ballet, may never have found their talent and potential to be professional ballet dancers. Some of the girls from DanceDC were accepted into children’s roles in The Nutcracker. They went from public school with no training to being selected for a Washington Ballet production. Their courage to audition in their first year of formal training warmed my heart.

What makes you happy?
Being in the studio with the children; bringing dance into their lives—and when they perform, into others’ lives.

—JANA EISENBERG
When NYU students walk across the stage at graduation, their involvement with the university’s diverse culture does not end. As they step into alumni life, there are countless opportunities to continue the affinities they developed on campus, while also taking advantage of new ways to connect.

The NYU Alumni Association’s (NYUAA) newly expanded Multicultural Alumni Network represents a renewed commitment to promoting that culture of diversity and inclusion—“an indispensable element of academic excellence,” as President Hamilton noted in his inaugural address (see feature on page 19).

The network, an expansion of the current Multicultural Alumni Group (MAG), invites alumni across numerous cultures and backgrounds to connect in different and exciting ways. “Similar to the multitude of identity-based student clubs at NYU in which students get involved, the groups under the new network will get more alumni engaged,” says Ronald Rapatalo (CAS ’97), a cofounder of MAG and a member of the NYUAA Board of Directors. “There will be more options, more leadership opportunities, more unique events.”

Recent graduate and NYUAA volunteer Jamila McLaughlin (SSSW ’11) looks forward to the new programs, which expand on prior offerings and include book signings, panel discussions, Broadway excursions, mentoring events, and the annual holiday mixer. “These new groups bring more alumni to the special-interest clubs and highlight the diverse identities throughout our community,” she says, noting that identity-based alumni groups can help bridge the student-to-graduate experience.

The Multicultural Alumni Network is partnering with the on-campus Center for Multicultural Education and Programs (CMEP), which offers personal and professional development opportunities for NYU students, with a focus on inclusion, awareness, and social justice. “NYU has such a talented alumni base,” says CMEP director Leah Lattimore (CAS ’04, STEINHARDT ’10). “I would love to see where our mission and goals can align with the work that many of these alumni are already doing.” Off the bat, Lattimore hopes to involve more alumni in the center’s FOCUS Mentorship Program for first-generation college students.

With a strong leadership base, a history of well-attended events, and an active presence on social media, MAG has transitioned its most successful qualities in order to establish the network. “My biggest hope,” Rapatalo says, “is for this to be a network where multicultural alumni and our allies can come together to enjoy friendship, career, and advocacy opportunities, back at NYU and beyond.”

—LORI RILEY
PROMOTING ART AS THERAPY

An exciting new gift explores the connection between art and the brain—and opens a new avenue for collaboration.

The Kellar Family Foundation, helmed by NYU Trustee Casey Box (GAL ’08, WAG ’11), is set to have a big impact on both research and treatment for Parkinson’s disease. The foundation’s new gift of $518,000 to NYU is funding a collaborative research study to examine the effects of art therapy on people with Parkinson’s disease. The study is being jointly conducted by the NYU Langone School of Medicine’s Marlene and Paolo Fresco Institute for Parkinson’s and Movement Disorders and the graduate art therapy program at NYU’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development.

Recognizing that a dearth of research exists examining the impact of art therapy on those suffering from Parkinson’s, the two-year study will explore how art therapy can affect the overall well-being of patients, particularly as it relates to visual exploration. “Art therapy is an ideal treatment modality for Parkinson’s patients because it engages and stimulates motor skills while providing a symbolic medium for profound self-expression,” says Ikuko Acosta (STEINHARDT ’81), director of NYU’s art therapy program. “Through creative art making, they are able to explore and master the emotional issues that arise in coping with their medical condition.”

Each participant will spend five months in weekly art-therapy sessions, after which researchers will examine the neurological impact the therapy program had on the participant’s brain. “This study is an excellent representation of our institute’s mission to think outside of the box to improve the lives of our patients and families,” says Amy Lemen (CAS ’91, SSSW ’07), program director at the Fresco Institute. “We are excited to collaborate with our colleagues at Steinhardt in this study that will not only help us to expand our model of team-based care, but will also help us to understand the function of the brain in new ways. We are very grateful to the Kellar Family Foundation for their support—it’s their partnership that makes this creative innovation possible.”

“The arts have always played a significant role in my family, and we are proud to help promote the therapeutic and scientific benefits of artistic exploration,” says Box. “We are excited to collaborate with the School of Medicine and Steinhardt on this innovative project that we hope will improve our ability to care for individuals living with Parkinson’s at all stages of the disease.”

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Reviving the sense of camaraderie that is traditionally found in neighborhood barbershops is what Jeff Laub (CAS ’06), together with partners Adam Kirsch and Josh Boyd, set out to do when he opened the Blind Barber in the East Village. The “hybrid speakeasy bar-cum-barbershop,” as it was coined by Vanity Fair, rejuvenates the meaning of community by offering an Uber-worthy nightlife scene within the same walls.

The Blind Barber’s customers come not only for haircuts and hot shaves, but also for the stylish lounge environment that encourages socialization and unwinding. “The cornerstone wasn’t just to give great haircuts, but to build a hangout, like Cheers,” Laub says.

The Blind Barber takes its name, and its vibe, from the speakeasies of the 1920s and ’30s, which had names like Blind Pig or Blind Tiger because the establishments would charge customers to view a novel attraction (for instance, a pig) and then provide patrons with a “complimentary” drink. “I thought it was the perfect fit for our concept,” says Laub, who offers a complimentary beverage with every Blind Barber service. “In my mind, you were turning a blind eye to what was going on behind the barber shop.”

Laub also equates the personality of the Blind Barber with that of New York City: “a mixture of communities coming together to form the most incredible city in the world.” The shop, he says, “welcomes everyone and thrives off of the various interests and personas of the people who sit in its chairs.” This vibe extends to its locations in Brooklyn, Los Angeles, and at Barneys New York Downtown.

What’s on tap for the future other than the latest seasonal craft beer? Finding “cool neighborhoods that inspire us” and bringing their evolving product line (see sidebar at right for how NYU alumni can snag a deal) into more retail stores.

—L. R.
KAMIL GRAJSKI
Silicon Valley business executive, inventor, and scientist Kamil Grajski (WSUC '82) honored his NYU adviser, Professor Ted Coons, with his recent gift of $140,000 to establish the Ted Coons Graduate Student Travel Award in the Department of Psychology at FAS. The gift will provide vital travel grants for PhD students to present their research and network at conferences and learned societies—critical opportunities for them to meet and interact with other scientists and scholars.

DAVID and JENNIFER KO
David Ko (STERN '93), with his wife, Jennifer, made a gift of $1 million to enable Stern students interested in entrepreneurship to take part in a new summer immersion program. The NYU Stern Venture Fellows program, open to MBA students and set to begin this summer, provides fellows with financial support, mentorship, workshops, and access to New York City and Silicon Valley tech companies. Mentorship will continue during the students’ second year and offers fellows the option of completing a faculty-supervised independent study to focus on their start-ups.

YON LAI and MIMI LAI
Patients of the College of Dentistry’s Orthodontic Clinic have a beautiful newly renovated space in which to receive their treatment and care. The college recently completed the renovation of the clinic, thanks to the generosity and tireless fundraising efforts of the former president of the Orthodontic Alumni Association, Yon Lai (DEN ‘89, ’91). Lai and his sister, Mimi Lai (DEN ’88), together have contributed $350,000 for the clinic renovation and to secure the future of the department’s students and patients.

MAURICE MARCIANO
Fashionably Bridging the Gap Between Design and Business

Creativity and entrepreneurship are two qualities synonymous with both NYU’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study and the fashion industry. Since 2012, Gallatin has hosted a Guess Distinguished Visiting Chair in Fashion Business and offered a Practicum in Fashion Business, both of which were created with a $2.75 million dollar gift from Guess? with the help of Gallatin parent and Guess? cofounder Maurice Marciano.

Last year, Marciano expanded the endowment of the Guess Distinguished Visiting Professorship in Fashion Business with a personal gift of $3 million to Gallatin, which will support the annual costs for teaching the Guess Fashion Business Practicum, including the advanced practicum in fashion business, to support faculty salaries and student opportunities in fashion. The purpose of the professorship and of the gift is to teach students to link the creative side and the business side of fashion.

“Gallatin is fortunate to have Maurice Marciano support this program and to help educate students about the world of fashion—whether it’s in merchandising, marketing, product design, or media—by opening their eyes to the career possibilities available to them,” says top retail executive Harold Brooks, the Guess Visiting Professor in Fashion and Fashion Business at Gallatin. “With this gift, Maurice demonstrates his desire to give back to an industry that has given him and his family so much, and it shows that he recognizes the opportunities and challenges that face students as well as the fashion industry itself.”

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NYU Alumni

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WARREN ADLER (ARTS ’47) is the author of Target Churchill (Stonehouse Press).

JUSTIN VIGDOR (LAW ’52) practices with Bond, Schoeneck & King and was selected for the Best Lawyers in America 2017 list.

RAYMOND STRAKOSCH (STERN ’56) is a Korean War veteran who visited the Korean War Veterans Memorial last year as part of the Hudson Valley Honor Flight program.

MILTON PACTER (LAW ’57, ’58) is an adjunct professor at the School of Professional Studies. He retired from his general attorney position at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and is completing his book Leadership and the Creation of the World Trade Center to 9/11: Insights into its Political and Legal History.

RICHARD HELLMAN (ARTS ’62) received his second distinguished reviewer award from the American Diabetes Association and the editorial board of Diabetes Care. He also received the Outstanding Clinical Endocrinologist Award at the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists Scientific and Clinical Congress.

MARTIN LEDWITZ (TANDON ’62) is the director of marketing for the California law firm Bezaire, Ledwitz & Borncamp. He is also the director of civil affairs of the California State Military Reserve and vice president of the California Air Force Association.


MARION DEUTSCHE COHEN (WSC ’64) wrote a new book of poems, Closer to Dying (WordTech Communications).

Marilyn Gottlieb (STEINHARDT ’64) is the author of her second novel, Dance Me Younger (The Crescendo Group).

JAIME MARTÍNEZ TOLENTINO (ARTS ’65, GSAS ’66) was nominated for the 2016 Nobel Prize in Literature. He is the author of 14 books, some in Spanish, some in French, and some in English. His books include literary and historical essays, reference works, collections of short stories, plays, a memoir, and the historical Spanish-language novel Taíno (Altera Editorial).

JANE KATZ (STEINHARDT ’66) received the 2016 Judge Martin Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame for exceptional leadership, insight, and dedication to children’s water safety and making every child a swimmer.

ALLAN JAY KLEINMAN (TANDON ’66) is retired from a 35-year electrical engineering and systems analysis consulting career. He teaches at the Lifelong Learning Institute at Brandeis University and at the University of California, San Diego.

WALTER RAQUET (STERN ’66), the cofounder of Knight Financial and a whistleblower who uncovered one of the biggest financial frauds in US history, has published a new book, Government Is Killing the Economy (Significance Press).

JOSEPH GUAGLIARDO (WSC ’67) was reelected to the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association board of trustees.

RICHARD LYNN (WSC ’67) is a member of the board of directors for both the Society for Vascular Surgery and the American College of Surgeons Foundation.

BHUPENDRA SHAH (TANDON ’67) is a coating and converting expert in nano-technology for materials (polymers, formulations, and 3-D printing applications).

HOWARD FRIEDMAN (WSC ’70, GSAS ’72, ’76) retired from Hewlett-Packard as the corporate toxic substances control act compliance manager after 20 years of service. He resides with his wife, Lori (Roseman) Friedman (ARTS ’74), in Philomath, OR.

BARBARA BRIGGS (WSC ’72) is the author of the novel Pilgrimage on the Path of Love (John Hunt Publishing).

COLLEEN CONWAY-WELCH (MEYERS ’73) —and—

JOYCE FITZPATRICK (MEYERS ’75) received the American Academy of Nursing’s highest honor, Living Legend.

CATHERINE ALICIA GEORGES (MEYERS ’73) is the president-elect of AARP Board of Directors. She will assume her role in 2018.

DONALD KOHLA (LAW ’73) is a partner at the Atlanta law firm Thompson & Knight and was included in the Best Lawyers in America 2017 list.

ANDREW DERMAN (ARTS ’74) is an attorney at the worldwide firm Thompson & Knight and was included in the 2016 Who’s Who Legal 100 list and the Best Lawyers in America 2017 list.

GLENN GERSTELL (ARTS ’74) is the new general counsel of the National Security Agency.

SERGE RANCIER (TANDON ’74) works as a risk assessment consultant in France after a long career in information technology. He enjoys visiting his twin daughters, who live in Brooklyn, NY.

BRUCE FERBER (TSOA ’75) is the author of Cascade Falls (Rare Bird), which recently won two fiction prizes at Foreword Reviews’ Indiefab Awards.

HOWARD SCHECHTER (LAW ’75) is the cochair of the law firm Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads’s Cooperative and Condominium Group.

THOMAS BRUNO (TANDON ’76) received the 2016 American Chemical Society Colorado Section Research Award, presented for impactful research in chemistry.
Gretchen Johnson (STERN ‘08)
The Ace of Pace

Not long ago, Gretchen Johnson could have hardly imagined her status as three-time reigning women’s speedgolf world champ. Growing up in Portland, Oregon, she excelled at action-packed sports like squash, soccer, and track.

“I figured golf would be there when I was older and couldn’t run or jump anymore,” she laughs.

On a whim, she picked up a club in 2007 while on summer break and scored a par on her first hole. Game on. Johnson joined the NYU women’s golf team in its first year on campus and as a scratch golfer has qualified for major events like the 2016 USGA Mid-Amateur.

In 2012, Johnson cracked the top 10 against a field of male pros in her first speedgolf event, where entrants race to record the fewest strokes in the fastest time. A veteran marathoner, Johnson says speedgolf is “equal parts skill and endurance.” She’ll haul five clubs over five or six miles in a typical round, balancing speed and stamina with the composure required for putts and other pressure-packed shots.

Last fall, Johnson, a marketing manager at Nike, shot a career-best even par in 57 minutes. Off to a running start in the speedgolf world, Johnson may just be warming up. Next, she says, “I want to shoot under par in under an hour.”

—TED BOSCIA

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LEAVE A LEGACY

Make a Difference for Students at NYU

MICHELINE & BILL STECKMAN

Micheline (WSC ’52, GSAS ’54) and Bill Steckman (WSC ’52, GSAS ’56, STERN ’67) met as undergraduates, married, and spent 64 years together, sharing an enduring passion for teaching and travel. Micheline passed away last year, and Bill confirmed their commitment to leave a major legacy to support students through fellowships in French literature and culture at the Graduate School of Arts and Science and through doctoral fellowships at NYU Stern.

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The Refuge Project

College buds Matthew Firpo (TSOA '12), left, and Maximilian Guen (LS '14), right, are the brains behind Magna Carta, the SoHo-based creative hothouse teeming with commercials, VR films, and other interactive new-media projects.

Next up for the pair, who landed on last year's Forbes 30 Under 30 list, is an episodic TV series humanizing the European refugee crisis, which was also the subject of their 2016 documentary short Refuge. That film has been shown around the world and it's generating a deep emotional response with audiences. “We've seen people go into the field and volunteer just weeks after attending one of our screenings,” Guen says.

Here, the numbers tell only part of their story.

—CRAIGH BARBOZA (TSOA '96)

6 Distinct pieces of the project

“We designed it from the ground up to be a multimedia chronicle that would allow people to connect with the story in an immersive way,” Guen says of the project, which includes the documentary, 30 complete interviews, a book of essays, a behind-the-scenes featurette, an events calendar, and a photo series—one of which won a Photo District News Award and appeared on the cover of Vice magazine. “It’s all about telling stories that matter,” Firpo says.

5,000,000 Syrian refugees have fled the country’s civil war, according to the UN

“We asked each refugee simple questions,” Guen says. “Where are you from? Why did you leave? What do you expect to find where you’re going?”

4 The number of times the translators cried during interviews

“Our on-location translators were often refugees themselves who experienced traumas of their own on their flight from Aleppo,” Firpo says.

65 Hours of footage shot in Greece over three weeks last January

“What we found in every camp and public square were people who had had their world stripped away from them,” Firpo says. “And despite that loss, these were warm, hopeful people, eager to share their stories, eager to share what little they had with strangers around a meager campfire. These were not a beaten people; they were ready to rise again, ready to start over.”

2012

The year Magna Carta was launched from a studio apartment in New York City. It now has offices in London and Los Angeles.

8 Size of the film crew, half of whom earned degrees from NYU

Matthew Firpo (TSOA '12) Director/Producer
Maximilian Guen (LS '14) Executive Producer
Jake Saner (TSOA '13) Cinematographer
Stephen Michael Simon (TSOA '10) Editor
1970s cont.

STEPHANIE CALMENSON (STEINHARDT ‘76) is the author of the books Look! Birds!, Look! Flowers!, and Look! Fish! (Little Bee Books).

MICHAEL WALSH (TANDON ‘77) was promoted to senior vice president at Dewberry’s Fairfax, VA, office. Walsh manages the resilience solutions group and has extensive knowledge of project and program management in water resources.

DANIEL FIORELLA (TOSA ‘80) is the author of, most recently, Halloweenies (CreateSpace).

JAMES COLOTTI (TANDON ‘81) was elected chair of the Circuits and Systems Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Long Island, NY, section.

MARIELA MELERO (WSUC ‘82) is a finalist for the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal for making immigration resources more accessible and user-friendly.

LESLEY COOLIDGE (STERN ‘83) is the national technical director of Riveron Consulting.

LISA WONG (MED ‘83) joined the New England Foundation for the Arts Board of Directors.

 SUSAN (CONOVER) MARINELLO (TOSA ‘84) is the producer of the musical Pryor Rendering about coming of age and coming out in 1960s rural Oklahoma. Stephen Nachamie (TOSA ‘94) is the show’s director.

BRUCE BAUMAN (GSAS ‘85) published his second novel, Broken Sleep (Other Press).

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TRACI MEDFORD-ROSW (LAW ‘85) is a partner in the New York City law firm Richardson & Rosow and the author of Inflection Point (Pegasus Books).

ACHILLES SAKIS (TANDON ‘85) works for Google[X] on their Project Wing. Sakis retired from the US Air Force after 20 years of service as a flight test engineer.

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MJ HAYES (STEINHARDT ‘86) is the author of a level two “Learn to Read,” titled Teddy No Stuff (St. Augustine’s Press).

SUE-ELISE PEEBLES (STEINHARDT ‘86), JACKIE YODASHKIN (CAS ‘04), REBECCA CENTENO (TOSA ‘05), WILFREDO HERNANDEZ (GAL ‘14), —and—

GABRIELLE ROYAL (GSAS ‘16) were all awarded citations from New York City Council member Jumaane Williams (District 45) in honor of their collective arts and culture work on behalf of New York City’s LGBTQ communities.

EMILY SPER (STEINHARDT ‘86) is the author of two children’s books, What On Earth Can We Do? and Follow the Yarn: A Book of Colors (Jump Press).

JACKIE KELMAN BISBEE (LS ‘87, STERN ‘89) produced Other People, which won the Audience Award at the 2016 Nantucket Film Festival and was nominated for a Grand Jury Prize at Sundance. Bisbee founded and owns the production company Park Pictures.

ROBERT JONES (TANDON ‘87) is the president and CEO of PreSafe Technologies.

ERIKA SANGER (STEINHARDT ‘87) is the executive director of the Museum Association of New York.

JOSEPH SCIARRA (GSAS ‘87) coedited Neapolitan Postcards: The Canzone Napoletana as Transnational Subject (Rowman & Littlefield).

JEPHTHA TAUSIG-EDWARDS (TOSA ‘87, GSAS ‘94) was named at-large member of the Governance Committee of the Association of Junior Leagues International, a women’s volunteer group encompassing more than 150,000 women in 291 leagues in four countries.

GARY GLASBERG (TOSA ‘88) is currently the executive producer and showrunner of NCIS and the creator and executive producer of NCIS: New Orleans.

1980s

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ANNETTE HASAPIDIS (WSUC ‘88) is counsel and cochair of the Appellate Practice Group of the New York law firm Bleakley Platt & Schmidt.

TRACY STOPLER (STEINHARDT ‘89) released her debut novel, The Ropes That Bind: Based on a True Story of Child Sexual Abuse (CreateSpace).

LYNN JACOBSON (TSAO ‘90) is the deputy managing editor of the Seattle Times, where she has worked in various positions for 23 years.

MARK SALEVITZ (MED ‘90) had an exhibition, Idiosyncratic Expressions, featured at Chelsea’s Agora Gallery.

ERIC SCHOENFELD (LAW ‘90) is the cochair of Tannenbaum Helpern Syracuse & Hirschlitt’s real estate, construction, and environmental law practice, representing national and regional developers, private equity funds, and property owners in connection with real estate investments.

YASUE KOBE (STEINHARDT ‘91) began the art project Cat’s Talk and has worked with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency since 2005 on its Moon project. Kobe is a founding member of the NYU Alumni Club in Japan and the head of its communications team.

ERIC MIRLIS (WSUC ‘91) is the author of the nonfiction sports book I Was There! (Sports Publishing).

HERSCHEL DECOUTO (TANDON ‘92) earned his second master’s degree, this one from the cybersecurity program at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte.

YVONNE VENTRESCA (Stern ‘93) published a new teen psychological thriller, Black Flowers, White Lies (Sky Pony Press).

MIMI CLARKE CORCORAN (WAG ‘95) is the new president of the National Center for Learning Disabilities.

SHERRIE FELL (TSAO ‘95) is writing the pilot for her first hour-long television drama. She is an editor for reality television powerhouse Leftfield Pictures.

LEO WILTON (STEINHARDT ‘95, ‘00) is the coauthor of Talking About Structural Inequalities in Everyday Life: New Politics of Race in Groups, Organizations, and Social Systems (Information Age Publishing).

LEILANI BROWN (WAG ‘96) is the author of From Campus to Cubicle: 25 Tips for Your First Professional Year (bam + mac books).

DAVID HANNA (STEINHARDT ‘96) is the author of Rendezvous with Death: The Americans Who Joined the Foreign Legion in 1914 to Fight for France and for Civilization (Regnery History).

LADEE HUBBARD (TSAO ‘96) received a 2016 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer’s Award, given annually to six female writers who demonstrate excellence and promise in the early stages of their careers.

JEN McGOWAN (TSAO ‘97) directed the new film Kelly & Cal, which premiered on Netflix.

DAVID NOTHMANN (Stern ‘97) is the vice president of marketing at Valent USA Corporation, where he leads the company’s marketing organization and directs the strategic planning process for products and services in North America.

WINSTON MA (LAW ‘98) is an adjunct professor at the McKinsey-Tsinghua Business School teaching a course entitled New Era of Leadership. His second book, China’s Mobile Economy (Wiley and Sons), was released in December.

MARISSA COMISSO (LS ‘99, STEINHARDT ‘01) was promoted to director of digital media and marketing at PK Network, a full-service advertising agency in New York City.

MARK YANG (CIMS ‘99) runs a leading specialty gas company in China and is the founding president of the South China NYU alumni group.

MARA EINSTEIN (STEINHARDT ‘00) is the author of Black Ops Advertising: Native Ads, Content Marketing, and the Covert World of the Digital Sell (OR Books).

BRIDGET BEDARD (TSAO ‘01) is a coexecutive producer of Transparent, which was nominated for a 2016 Emmy Award for best comedy. She was also nominated for an Emmy and won a Golden Globe in 2015.

LAURYN FRAAS (CAS ‘02) was promoted to counsel at the New York City–based law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom.

KATHLEEN SHAFER (GAL ‘02) was a featured photographer in Airport Landscape, a catalog published by Harvard University Press.

MARJ KLEINMAN (STEINHARDT ‘03) launched Marj Kleinman Photography, which focuses on events, kids, families, and documentary photography.

ELLEN FLAHERTY (MEYERS ‘04) is the president of the American Geriatrics Society, only the second nurse to hold that role.


ERIC DE REGNAUCOURT (CAS ‘05) welcomed his second daughter, Bridget Maria Nicole, in Kingston Upon Thames, England, last April.

HILLARY MILLER (TSAO ‘05) is the author of Drop Dead: Performance in Crisis, 1970s New York (Northwestern University Press).

JENNIFER PROVENZA (TSAO ‘05) is the author of Life Is But a Dream (Calabria Press).

COURTNEY ANIXTER (STEINHARDT ‘06) has been named to the fifth annual “Double Chai in the Chi: 36 Under 36,” a list of young Jewish movers and shakers in Chicago.

LEO BORCHARDT (LAW ‘06) was elected partner in the London office of Davis Polk’s corporate department. He advises large corporations and investment banks on a variety of cross-border mergers and acquisitions, capital markets, and other strategic corporate transactions.

KYLE GANN (LAW ‘06) joined Jenner & Block as a partner in the firm’s Chicago office. Gann is a member of the private equity and mergers and acquisitions practices.

TIFFANI KNOWLES (STEINHARDT ‘06) wrote a book with her father called ¡HOLA AMERICA!: Guts, Grit, Grind, and Further Traits in the Successful American Immigrant (Amazon Digital Services).
Notable New Books by Alumni

50 GREAT AMERICAN PLACES
Brent D. Glass (GSAS ’71)
With a foreword by David McCullough, this one-of-a-kind guide to 50 of the most important cultural and historic sites in the United States will fascinate, educate, and entertain. Brent Glass, director emeritus of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, takes readers on a journey through American history by sharing the inside stories of sites old and new. Each essay provides the historical context for places that represent fundamental American themes. For families who want to take a trip that is both educational and entertaining, this book is the perfect guide. (Simon and Schuster)

THE ASSISTANTS
Camille Perri (CAS ’01)
Camille Perri’s debut novel is a rallying cry for the leagues of overeducated and underpaid women who are asking themselves: How is it that after all these years, we are still assistants? The book features an eclectic clan of co-conspirators, a love interest far too handsome to be trusted, and a razor-sharp voice full of wry humor. (Penguin Random House)

DON’T LET MY BABY DO RODEO
Boris Fishman (GSAS ’10)
The author of the critically admired, award-winning A Replacement Life turns to a different kind of story—an evocative, nuanced portrait of marriage and family, a woman reckoning with what she’s given up to make both work, and the universal question of how we reconcile who we are and who the world wants us to be.

A finalist for the 2016 Brooklyn Eagles Literary Prize, Don’t Let My Baby Do Rodeo is a novel about the mystery of inheritance and what exactly it means to belong. (HarperCollins)

LOOK: POEMS
Solmaz Sharif (GSAS ’09)
Solmaz Sharif’s first book, Look, which was long-listed for the 2016 National Book Award in Poetry, centers on the ongoing costs of war and loss of human life. Using an array of poems, lists, shards, and sequences, Sharif assembles her family’s and her own fragmented narratives in the aftermath of warfare, the repercussions of which echo in the present day. (Graywolf Press)

SURRENDER
New York
Caleb Carr (WSUC ’77)
New York Times bestselling author Caleb Carr returns to his literary suspense roots with his contemporary new work of fiction. The small town of Surrender, New York, is the home of a brilliant but unconventional criminal psychologist, Trajan Jones, and Michael Li, a trace evidence expert, who are drawn into a case of gruesome deaths of “throwaway children.” (Penguin Random House)

THE FIX
Jonathan Tepperman (LAW ’98)
A provocative look at the world’s most difficult, seemingly intractable problems—and the surprising stories of the countries that solved them.

Jonathan Tepperman reveals 10 pervasive and seemingly impossible challenges—including immigration reform, economic stagnation, political gridlock, and Islamist extremism—and shows that, contrary to the general consensus, each has a solution. The Fix presents a data-driven case for optimism in a time of crushing pessimism. (Penguin Random House)

Looking for more NYU reads? Check out nyualumni.com/books for more alumni- and faculty-authored suggestions.
**Martin Hellman** (TANDON ’66)

**Pushing Cryptography in New—and Prize-Winning—Directions**

There was a time, in the 1970s and ’80s, when Martin Hellman fell afoul of the National Security Agency (NSA).

Hellman was a professor of electrical engineering at Stanford University working with students Whitfield Diffie and Ralph Merkle. Their work was in cryptography, which the NSA feared might compromise its intelligence operations. “Even though I had been very careful not to do anything in the classified sphere, by publishing my papers in international journals, they maintained that I was exporting implements of war,” Hellman says. “There were threats that I might go to jail. My wife was happy when it made big news. She said, ‘Now if something happens to you, there will be an investigation at least.’ I don’t know how serious the threats were.”

Hellman never did end up in jail, and the results of his relentless pursuit was Diffie–Hellman–Merkle public-key cryptography, which today, in revised form, is the predominant method of securing Internet communications. It safeguards electronic banking and online credit card purchases, as well as $5 trillion per day in foreign exchange transactions. Hellman’s breakthrough not only revolutionized cryptography, it also led to a 2015 A.M. Turing Award, widely considered the Nobel Prize of computer science.

“All of my colleagues told me that I was crazy or foolish to work on cryptography,” Hellman says. “The NSA had a decades head start and a multibillion-dollar-per-year budget. ‘How can you hope to discover something they don’t already know? And if you do something good, they’ll classify it.’ But in hindsight, it was very wise to do something so foolish.”

As he looks back on his journey, Hellman says he was “either arrogant or courageous,” but today, he’s deeply introspective. “I fortunately did the right thing. But if it had been the wrong thing, I could have fooled myself that same way.”

That realization led Hellman to consider how unconscious motivations—our dark or “shadow” side—can lead to conflicts. The idea crystallized when he and his wife, Dorothie, who were on the brink of divorce, began to dig deep and ultimately transformed their relationship. “Now, almost 37 years later, we’re madly in love again,” he says.

Believing that such exploration can resolve conflicts both personal and international, the Hellmans decided to share their experiences in their new book, *A New Map for Relationships: Creating True Love at Home and Peace on the Planet* (New Map Publishing). “The things we had to learn to recover true love are the same things that the nations of the world need to do to avoid nuclear holocaust and global warming,” says Hellman, a longtime nuclear nonproliferation advocate. “Those things really require the same shift in thinking.”

—KIMBERLY OLSON

**Jennifer Clement** (GAL ’82)

**With a Stroke of Her PEN**

Last year, acclaimed Mexican American writer Jennifer Clement became the first female president of the celebrated writers’ organization PEN International, a position previously held by such luminaries as Arthur Miller and H.G. Wells.

The organization’s charter calls for its members to help dispel hatred based on race, class, and national identity. At PEN’s Congress next year, Clement hopes to add gender, sexual orientation, and sexual identity to the list. “We will look at violence against women as a form of censorship,” she says. “We will do the whole fan, from child brides in Afghanistan to slut shaming in the West.”

Under Clement’s leadership, the PEN Congress also passed the International Copyright Manifesto, a document used for examining legislation practices around the globe and as an instrument of advocacy for respecting the rights of writers. “The ability, in the digital era, to make unauthorized reproductions on a mass scale and to distribute them potentially infinite times to infinite recipients at negligible cost poses serious threats for writers,” she says. “It undermines their ability to obtain payment for the use of their works. These enormous digital-era companies can pay a lot of money to lobby the European Union and the US Congress to weaken copyright law.”

And at a time when one in 13 people on the planet is displaced, PEN is also launching a campaign to support writers who are exiles and refugees. “We need to help these people to find places to publish and places to live,” Clement says.

—K. O.
**NICOLE ALICINO** (STEINHARDT '07), **STEPHANIE BLIEKA** (STEINHARDT '12), —and—

**GRACE LIEBERMAN** (CAS '13) won Teacher Excellence Awards from New York City’s Success Academy Charter Schools.

**JEROME BOURGOIS** (TSOA '07) is coming out with a new show, *Movers & Shakers Unlimited*, which highlights the inspirations, struggles, and successes of entrepreneurs, artists, and innovators.

**DYAN FLORES** (CAS '07), along with her comedy and songwriting partners, presented a cabaret of entirely new material, *I Sort of Enjoyed It*, last August at the Metropolitan Room in New York City.

**BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS** (TSOA '07) is a 2016 MacArthur Fellow and a playwright who explores issues around race and class.

**ARI GOLD** (TSOA '08) is the director of *Culture*, featured on *Film School Shorts*, a nationally broadcast show that airs on public media stations.

**SHANE ERIC-EUGENE HENSINGER** (SPS '08) was elected to the board of the Shanti Project, one of San Francisco’s oldest and largest nonprofits, which provides support and services to people suffering from terminal, life-threatening, or disabling illnesses or conditions.

**BRIAN NICK** (GSAS '08) joined TIAA Investments as chief investment strategist.

**RUTH SERGEL** (TSOA '08) is the author of *See You in the Streets: Art, Action, and Remembering the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire* (University of Iowa Press).

**DINA ZIELINSKI** (CAS '08) was awarded a 2016–17 Career Development Grant by the American Association of University Women.

**RAMI HAYKAL** (STERN '09) —and—

**JAKE ROSENTHAL** (STEINHARDT '09) opened Glasslands Gallery, a large music and arts venue in Bushwick, Brooklyn.

**JOSEPH PERNICE** (TSOA '09) wrote and directed *Chasing Yesterday*, his debut feature film. *Matthew Troy* (TSOA '10) shot the film.

**FELIX THOMPSON** (TSOA '09) debuted his feature film, *King Jack*. *Gabrielle Nadig* (TSOA '09) produced the film, *Brandon Roots* (TSOA '09) shot it, and *Paul Penczner* (TSOA '10) was the editor.

**DOUGLAS DAVIS** (SPS '10) recently published *Creative Strategy and the Business of Design* (HOW Books).

**LEAH MILES** (TSOA '10) is the playwright of *Touching Loss*. She is the recipient of the Linda LeRoy Janklow Teaching Award from ArtsConnection.


**NICK BASALYGA** (SSSW '12) biked solo across the country to raise awareness for an innovative new way to approach rehabilitation.

**JESSICA EISE** (GSAS '12) is the author of *The Communication Scarcity in Agriculture* (Routledge).

**DAVID TYSON LAM** (TSOA '12) directed the film *Viral Beauty*, starring NYU alumni *Perez Hilton* (TSOA '00) and *Casey Killoran* (TSOA '14).


**EVAN WILLIAMS** (GSAS '12) is a fine art appraiser and consultant based in Ithaca, NY, and a member of the Appraisers Association of America.

**LAMIA ALAMI** (TSOA '13) is the director of *Farewell Exile*, which was featured on *Film School Shorts*, a nationally broadcast show that airs on public media stations.

**ATSUKO HIRAYANAGI** (TSOA '13) is the director of *Oh Lucy!*, also featured on the show *Film School Shorts*.

**MICHAEL LITWAK** (TSOA '13) is the director of *The Life and Death of Tommy Chaos and Stacey Danger*, also featured on *Film School Shorts*.

**JESSICA DELA MERCED** (TSOA '14) is the director of *Hypebeasts*, also featured on *Film School Shorts*.

**BENJAMIN RUTKOWSKI** (TSOA '15) is the director of *Glory Days*, also featured on *Film School Shorts*.

**IMRAN KHAN** (TSOA '16) is the director of *Timmy II*, also featured on *Film School Shorts*.

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Ruth Gruber Rosner (WSC '30)
Irving Rothaus (ARTS '33)
Gladys Citek Peckham (STEINHARDT '37, '41)
Bernard Greene (WSC '40)
Samuel J. Brendler (ARTS '42, MED '46)
Rose Luttan Rubin (LAW '42)
Frances H. Goodman (STEINHARDT '43)
Arline Furstman Locker (STERN '44)
Beverly Quinby Schmidt (STEINHARDT '44)
Ruth E. Foster (WCS '46)
Daniel Rosenberg (ARTS '46)
Diene K. Stern (STEINHARDT '46)
Ines Mandl (TANDON '47, '49)
John Demarest Voorhis (WSC '48)
Albert J. Segadelli (STEINHARDT '49)
Alvin B. Toffler (WCS '49)
Salvatore F. Variello (STEINHARDT '49)
Irwin Smigel (DEN '50)
Morris Nierman (STEINHARDT '51)
Shirley Bosswick Singer (WCS '51)
Carl W. Trach (TANDON '51)
Leonard I. Linkow (DEN '52)
Jane Barbara Maharam (STEINHARDT '52)
Stephen Zakanycz (WCS '53)
Bruce M. Hector (STEINHARDT '55)
James T. Crown (GSAS '56, former FAS professor)
Frederick M. Moore (WCS '56)
Charles H. Schneider (STERN '56)
Walter W. Ruegger (STERN '57)
Forrest E. Mars Jr. (STERN '58)
Harold Baron (GSAS '60, STEINHARDT '70)
Gordon A. Martin Jr. (LAW '60)
Frankie Earlene Gadsden-Smith (MEYERS '61)
Robert J. Guthrie (STERN '61)
George Zeitlin (LAW '61)
Walter J. Hassett (STERN '62)
Anthony Gooch (LAW '63, '64)
Philip Myungsup Woo (GSAS '63)
Adolph Csobieniaik (STERN '66)
Steven M. Schluessel (LAW '70)
Diane Einhorn (LAW '72)
Margaret Shaw (LAW '72)
Earl A. Perry (STERN '75)
Stewart J. Pearce (STEINHARDT '77)
Kenneth P. Thompson (LAW '92)
Kathy Tolman Harwood (STEINHARDT '00)
Nonso C. Ugborne (TSOA '04)
Barney Canson (CAS '11)
Thomas Suffern T. Gimbel (GSAS '12)
Nicholas Walrath (LAW '13)

Jack Rudin (friend)
Gary Slapper (director, NYU London)
Claudia Espinosa (WAG ’13)

L.O.V.E. Will Find a Way

In 2011, while studying at NYU, Colombia native Claudia Espinosa learned about challenges facing young Latinas in America through her work at Life Is Precious, a suicide prevention program. According to a 2015 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report, 15.1 percent of Latina adolescents in the United States have tried to take their own lives one or more times.

To try to counter this and some of the other risk factors apparent in young Latinas (teen pregnancy, high dropout rates), Espinosa founded L.O.V.E. (Latinas on the Verge of Excellence), a nonprofit that “supports and empowers young Latinas to strive both in school and in life by providing positive role models.” In just four years, Espinosa has established programs in schools in all five boroughs of New York City, and she is now looking to establish a school to provide maximum impact for minority girls.

Below, Espinosa’s key guidelines for how she and her volunteers spread the L.O.V.E. to their high school mentees.

• The right support and guidance at the right time makes the difference.
• Be relatable. All of L.O.V.E.’s trained, volunteer mentors are college students, not much older than the mentees.
• Increase the mentees’ self-confidence; help them believe they can set and achieve goals.
• Evolve the curriculum. In response to the girls’ interest, an early focus on study skills and college applications has expanded to include paths like trade school and how to open a beauty salon.

— J. E.

Roger Ross Williams (WSUC ’87)

Creating Change from Within

“I want to be a champion of the outsider,” says documentary filmmaker Roger Ross Williams, whose wide-ranging projects are united by this ingrained impulse. His latest release, Life, Animated, tells the story of an autistic boy who draws strength from the sidekicks, rather than the heroes, of animated Disney films, while God Loves Uganda (2013) explores the roots of homophobia in Ugandan society. “I relate to that. I’m a black, gay man who grew up in the church and comes from a family of ministers who are not accepting of homosexuality. As a child I had to keep it a secret; I didn’t identify with my family and lived in my own little fantasy world,” he says.

For the short film Music by Prudence—about a disabled Zimbabwean singer—he became the first African American to win an Oscar for writing or producing a documentary, in 2010. “It says a lot about Hollywood. It’s a great honor, but at the same time it shouldn’t be this way,” he says.

Now, as a newly elected governor of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Documentary Branch, he is determined to create change from within. Through the academy’s education and outreach programs—and a variety of mentoring programs in Africa—he is helping others like him. As Williams explains, “It’s easy to say #OscarsSoWhite, but we need to build a community of filmmakers from the ground up.”

—ANNEKE RAUTENBACH (GSAS ’16)
How Well Do You Know Your NYU History?

With the opening of its latest exhibition, *A University in the City/ A University of the City*, in the Mamdouha S. Bobst Gallery on the first floor of Bobst Library, the University Archives is showcasing nearly 200 years of NYU history. Guest-curated by John Berman, the exhibition provides a window into what generations of life were like at the university. Brush up on your knowledge of NYU history before you go see for yourself. Or, if you have items or stories to contribute, let the archives know; email university-archives@nyu.edu.

1. The name of NYU’s alma mater is *New York, New York*.
   - True  
   - False

2. NYU’s undergraduate college moved to University Heights in the Bronx in 1914.
   - True  
   - False

3. The longest-serving president in NYU’s history was John Brademas.
   - True  
   - False

4. Noted 19th-century inventor Samuel F. B. Morse was once a member of NYU’s faculty.
   - True  
   - False

5. Chancellor Henry Mitchell MacCracken was instrumental in creating safety regulations for college football that eventually lead to the establishment of the NCAA.
   - True  
   - False

6. NYU established its first study-away site in Paris.
   - True  
   - False

7. Sixteen presidents have served NYU from 1831–2016.
   - True  
   - False

8. The *Washington Square News* has always been the name of NYU’s student newspaper.
   - True  
   - False

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NYU’s now-iconic logo was created in 1966 by renowned designer Tom Geismar. The prized Tiffany torch, which is passed from a senior faculty member to the youngest graduating student at university commencement, was a gift from Helen Miller Gould in 1911.

BobCat 1.0—BobCat, the university’s mascot since 1984, takes its name from the BOBst Library CAtalog, the first online public catalog in a New York City library.

BobCat 2.0 (and beyond)—After the university rejected suggestions including Vikings, Vanguards, and Victors, it adopted the BobCat from the cartoon character used in promotional materials for the Bobst catalog. His costume and logo have been updated numerous times over the years.

Desert Falcon—The Abu Dhabi campus voted on its mascot in 2012; the falcon is a national symbol of the UAE.

Qilin—The NYU family’s newest mascot makes his home at NYU Shanghai. The qilin is a mythical creature symbolizing serenity, luck, and prosperity.