Celebrating a Common Purpose

Separated by distance but united by love for Teachers College, community members celebrated at over 35 Global TC Day locations.
Celebrating a Common Purpose
(continued from page 53)

It’s called Global TC Day, but it lasts for weeks. For the 2017 edition, the TC family gathered to share meals in Seattle, San Francisco, Toronto, Miami, Manila and São Paulo. Yingshi Yang (Ed.D. ’09) led a behind-the-scenes tour at the National Art Museum of China in Beijing, and Sarah Bolson Barnett (M.A. ’09) hosted TC alumni at the New York Botanical Garden, where she is Associate Vice President for Foundation Relations.

In Japan, alumni gained special access to the Yokota Air Base, taking part in a series of education research presentations. In Jerusalem, alumni discussed Israeli education and ways to leverage a TC degree. Alumni in Atlanta beat the heat at an ice cream festival. And in the Berkshires, alumni and friends joined President Susan Fuhrman (Ph.D. ’77) at Jacob’s Pillow to enjoy the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

Once again, technology shrank time and distance. From TC’s Cowin Center, Christopher Emdin, Associate Professor of Science Education, gave a presentation on urban education via Livestream. And Fuhrman answered questions during a TC first-ever “Ask Me Anything” session on Facebook Live, moderated by Rosella Garcia, Senior Director of Alumni Relations. Questions touched on the preservation and advancement of public education and TC’s role in educational research.

Launched in 2013 (the College’s 125th anniversary), the biennial event marks TC’s worldwide impact. “Global TC Day is always a great success thanks to our alumni volunteers,” said Garcia. “No matter the distance between us, we’re all part of the same community, furthering TC’s mission to build a better world.” — JOE LEVINE

AROUND THE WORLD ON GLOBAL TC DAY

Check out more Global TC Day pictures and doings at www.tc.edu/globaltcday
Shining Ever Brighter

Time hasn’t diminished TC’s Golden Alumni

It was 1955. Dwight D. Eisenhower was president. Rebel Without a Cause was a first-run feature and “Mystery Train” topped the charts. Tennessee graduate schools weren’t admitting black teaching students — but a colleague told Velma Jones “that you could petition the state to pay for graduate school elsewhere,” recalled Jones (M.A. ’57) in May at TC’s third annual Golden Anniversary brunch for alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more. “She’d gone to TC that way, and she said I could, too.” Jones, who became the first black classroom teacher to serve as President of the Tennessee Education Association, later earning special recognition from President Barack Obama, joined more than 30 Golden Alumni who brunched in Everett Lounge and then — wearing gold-colored robes — marched at the first of TC’s three 2017 master’s degree Convocation ceremonies. For more photos and video visit tc.edu/alumni/golden.
Arts & Humanities

**ART & ART EDUCATION**

The work of Harry Leigh (M.A. ’59) was part of *Undercurrents: The River as Metaphor/Hudson Valley Artists 2017*, an exhibit at the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at the State University of New York at New Paltz.

**ENGLISH EDUCATION**

Brice Particelli (Ph.D. ’14, M.Phil. ’14, M.Ed. ’11) was named a 2017 Artist Fellow in Nonfiction Literature by the New York State Council on the Arts/New York Foundation for the Arts.

**MUSIC & MUSIC EDUCATION**

Anastasia Pike (Ed.D.CT. ’11) is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Christopher Newport University Harp Festival, which debuted in March. Pike has also given several recent performances, workshops and presentations. Her harp/voice duo, the Elan Ensemble, released its first album, *Jane Austen’s Songbook*.


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**[ ALUMNI FOCUS ]**

Honoring Cultural Knowledge

Channeling Shirley Chisholm and a father who cared

Yasmin Morales-Alexander (Ed.D. ’16) used to accompany her father, Victor, to his job as a janitor at Lehman College in the Bronx. While he mopped floors and collected garbage, she looked at atlases and encyclopedias in the library. “If I let him get his work done he’d take me to White Castle,” says Morales-Alexander, now Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education at Lehman.

In May, Morales-Alexander received Teachers College’s inaugural Shirley Chisholm Dissertation Award, named for the late alumna who was the first African-American woman to serve in Congress and the first black candidate to seek a major party’s presidential nomination. The award recognizes recent doctoral graduates whose work has promoted racial and gender equality through a deeper understanding of people of color.

For her TC dissertation, Morales-Alexander interviewed Mexican immigrant families whose children attended a New York City Head Start Program. Contrary to stereotype, these Latino parents were “wholly engaged in their children’s education, passing on knowledge rooted in Mexican culture.

“They weren’t doing anything different than other parents, but their cultural knowledge is not validated across a wide spectrum of American society,” she says.

Earlier this year, Morales-Alexander received Lehman’s Urban Transformative Education Award for promoting justice, equity and caring in urban schools. The college also honored her father as a lifelong employee and committed parent.

“My father was invested in my development and success as a person,” she says. “I’m living proof that Latino families are very much committed to their children’s well-being and education.”

—Robert Florida
Mark Tonelli (Ed.D. ’15, M.Ed. ’14) was selected as a Coleman Foundation Faculty Entrepreneurship Fellow for 2017-18. He also joined the artist roster of D’Addario Fretted Instruments and helped plan the 2016 National Conference of the Society for Arts Entrepreneurship Education.

PHILOSOPHY & THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
Ilene Leff (M.A. ’69) co-founded Western Connecticut Leadership, a program to educate proven leaders and accomplished professionals in community needs and to encourage them to become actively engaged as board members, substantive volunteers and change-makers.

Jack Nolan (Ph.D. ’78, M.A. ’72) published Vietnam Remix, a novel that recalls the bizarre world of civilian-cover Army intelligence in Saigon in 1967-68.

RELIGION & EDUCATION

TEACHING OF SOCIAL STUDIES
William Seraile (M.A. ’67) taught African-American history for 36 years at Lehman College in the Bronx (1971-2007). He has written five books on African-American history and received Outstanding and Distinguished Alumni awards from Central Washington University and the Carter G. Woodson Scholars Medallion for historical publications from the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.

TEACHING OF SPANISH

Biobehavioral Sciences

APPLIED PHYSIOLOGY
Fresh Pond Physical Therapy, owned by Liza Tan (M.A. ’01), was named one of the 100 fastest-growing companies in 2016 by the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City. The business was also included on the Fortune Inner City 100 list.

Curriculum & Teaching

CURRICULUM & TEACHING
Saloma B. Grose (Ed.D. ’77) received the Visionary Award from Norwalk ACTS for her “courage, tenacity and vision in support of all of Norwalk’s children.”

(continued on page 58)
Penny B. Howell (Ed.D. ’04, M.Ed. ’99) received the University of Louisville’s 2016 Distinguished Faculty Award.

William Rice (M.Ed. ’15) is now Assistant Executive Director of Schools & Curriculum at Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES).

Susan Goetz Zwirn (Ed.D. ’02), Graduate Director and Professor of Art Education in the School of Education, Hofstra University, spent a week in Shkoder, Kosovo working with the ArtsAction Group, an international community-based collective that facilitates arts initiatives with children in conflict-affected environments. Zwirn gave a related talk at the National Art Education Association’s annual conference.

EARLY CHILDHOOD/SPECIAL EDUCATION
Aaron Sauberan (M.A. ’97) was promoted to Principal of Loma Vista School in northern California.

Elementary/Childhood Education
Asha Sundararajan (M.A. ’03) founded Creative Technology Workshop, which provides a foundation to advanced STEAM learning experiences through robotics.

Keira Dillon (M.A. ’07) received a 2017 Big Apple Award, a competitive prize that rewards “exceptional success” in instruction in New York City schools.

Literacy Specialist
Michael Grimaldi (M.A. ’16) was recently appointed Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction at the Eastport-South Manor Central School District on Long Island, NY.

Nash Matute (M.A. ’13) received a 2017 Big Apple Award, a competitive prize that rewards “exceptional success” in instruction in New York City schools.

Education Policy & Social Analysis
Sociology & Education
Geoffrey Moss (Ph.D. ’92, M.Phil. ’92, M.A. ’85) authored Artistic Enclaves in the Post-Industrial City: A Case Study of Lawrenceville Pittsburgh (Springer).

Vanessa Morest (Ph.D. ’02, M.Phil. ’01, M.A. ’97) became Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Westchester Community College in New York.

Health & Behavior Studies
Health Education
TC’s 2012 Early Career Award Honoree, Betty Perez-Rivera (Ed.D. ’03, M.S. ’01, M.A. ’77), and her daughter, Tiffany C. Rivera (M.A. ’10), founded the Institute of Education for the Care of Chronic Diseases with a mission to provide innovative health education.

Learning Disabilities
Amy Bostian (M.A. ’05) was appointed Principal of Blueberry Hill Elementary School in Longmeadow, MA.

TC 2016 Distinguished Alumni Awardee Randy Bennett (Ed.D. ’79, M.Ed. ’78, M.A. ’77) was appointed President of the National Council on Measurement in Education. He was also named a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association.
appointed President of the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME). He was also named a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association.

**NUTRITION EDUCATION**

Lorelei DiSogra (Ed.D. ’79, M. Ed. ’73, M.S. ’71), Vice President of Nutrition and Health at the United Fresh Produce Association (since retired), was honored at the company’s Reception Honoring Women in Produce.

Professor Emerita Joan Gussow (Ed.D. ’75) received the Helen Denning Ullrich Award for Lifetime Excellence in Nutrition Education at the 50th Annual Conference of the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior.

Barbara Storper’s (M.S. ’82) live theater show, FOODPLAY, which uses magic, music, juggling and audience participation to teach children how to make healthier food choices, has been performed for over 5,000,000 kids across the United States. Storper received TC’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006.

**NURSING EDUCATION**

Elizabeth Speakman (Ed.D. ’00, M.Ed. ’85) was named Associate Provost for Interprofessional Education at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

After 35 years in his profession, Dwight Hardy (M.A. ’77) retired from full-time special education teaching. He currently works as a substitute teacher for Fulton County Schools in Atlanta and as an afterschool counselor at Lake Windward Elementary with the Alpharetta YMCA.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN EDUCATION**

TC 2012 Distinguished Alumni Awardee Kevin Jennings (M.A. ’94) has been named the next Interdisciplinary Studies Awardee.

Best and Brightest.

“The endowed scholarship I will create at Teachers College will be made in honor of Dr. Ernest Osborne — a great professor and a great mentor.

“TC has always had the best and brightest of faculty, and I hope I can help future students to learn from these impressive minds.”

—Lila Swell, Ed.D.
Family & Community Education
Grace Dodge Society member since 2015

For more information on gift annuities, bequests or other planned gifts, please contact:

Louis Lo Ré
Director of Planned Giving
lore@tc.edu | 212-678-3037
tc.edu/PlannedGiving
Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez has expanded her father’s health clinic to serve low-income patients across New York City.

Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez’s sister, born with Down syndrome, inspired her to study speech pathology at Teachers College. Now President and CEO of Urban Health Plan (UHP), among the nation’s largest community health centers, Izquierdo-Hernandez (M.S. ’79) still helps people whom she understands like family. Her sense of community begins with her grandfather, a Puerto Rican émigré who was among New York City’s first bodega owners: “He’d stand on a corner, and if a lot of people walked by, he’d open a store there. People loved him, and he loved the neighborhood.” Izquierdo-Hernandez’s father, Dr. Richard Izquierdo, who has served the South Bronx for over 52 years, founded UHP as a single clinic in Hunts Point, one of America’s poorest neighborhoods: “When the fires raged in the 1970s, he stuck it out instead of moving out. Many merchants said, ‘If Doc is staying, we’ll stay, too.’” Today UHP is a federally funded community health center serving over 80,000 uninsured or under-insured patients in three boroughs, with services from dental care to neurology and a strong focus on primary care. Its 23 sites include an Adolescent Health and Wellness Center, three WIC sites and a workforce development center. UHP has been multiply honored, and Izquierdo-Hernandez has received the Heritage Award from Columbia University’s Latino Alumni Association: “We are trying to change the South Bronx’s infrastructure by building support systems for the people who chose to stay here.” — ROBERT FLORIDA
Washington, the tallest peak in New England, as part of a fundraising hike for the Museum of Science, Boston.

**TEACHER EDUCATION IN SCIENCE**

Sabrina D. Avila (M.Ed. ’17) is a Project Coordinator for CUNY Queens College’s Title V STEM grant. On July 2, 2017, she married Retired Army Staff Sergeant Eduardo R. Avila, Sr., a recipient of the Purple Heart award and a fellow educator. They now reside with their three teenage children in the New York metro area.

**Organization & Leadership**

**ADULT EDUCATION GUIDED INTENSIVE STUDY**

Richanne C. Mankey (Ed.D. ’07) received an Ohio Northern University Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor that the Alumni Board bestows upon its graduates.

**Adult Learning & Leadership**

Tonia Casarin (M.A. ’16) won the 2017 Global Impact Challenge in Brazil promoted by Singularity University, which considered projects that proposed radical ideas to improve education. Casarin’s project focused on building a platform to assess, train, certify and coach teachers in social and emotional learning.

Sharon Ha (M.A. ’11) has been named Vice Principal of the Fayston Prep School in Seoul, South Korea.

**Educational Administration**

Robert E. Gustafson, Jr., (M.A. ’84) was named the 17th president of Erskine College and Theological Seminary.

Henry J. Pruitt, Jr., (Ed.D. ’75, M.Ed. ’73) retired from the William Paterson University Board of Trustees. The longest-serving board member in the University’s modern history, he was named Trustee Emeritus in recognition of his dedication.

Luns C. Richardson (M.A. ’58) (CONTINUED ON PAGE 62)

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**TAKE ONE OF TC’S ONLINE OFFERINGS TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER AS:**

**A school counselor**

Help demystify the college admissions process for high school students. TC’s online College Advising Certificate offers targeted curriculum, improved professional competence and the chance to increase access to higher education for underserved students. (12 credits)

**A nurse educator**

Qualified nurse educators who prepare new nurses and advanced practitioners are in high demand. If you’re a nurse with a doctoral degree, improve your teaching skills online at TC, the birthplace of nursing education. (15 credits)

**A diabetes educator**

An estimated one in 10 adults around the globe will be living with diabetes by 2030. Our online, post-master’s certificate in advanced diabetes topics helps current clinical professionals meet the needs of this growing population today. (16 credits)

▶ Learn more about TC’s for-credit advanced certificates at TC.edu/AC

**A digital wizard in K-8 classrooms**

Looking to build your technology expertise? This four-module online professional development course prepares K-8 teachers to cultivate their students’ digital literacies and sharpen their 21st century skills.

**A teacher who can integrate financial literacy into a range of subjects**

TC’s online Cowin Financial Literacy Program, underwritten by TC Trustee and alumna Joyce B. Cowin, provides educators with classroom-ready instructional resources and support to grasp and teach financial concepts (savings, investing, budgeting, financial planning, credit, risk, consumption, and diversification) to middle school, high school and community college students. **Offered at no cost. Limited availability.**

▶ Learn more about TC’s non-credit continuing professional studies courses at TC.edu/CPS
What’s Mom Still Got To Do With It?, a recent book by career counselor Ilana Tolpin Levitt (M.A. ’89, M.Ed. ’88), helps women reanimate their careers through understanding their mother-daughter relationships.

Higher Education

Lynn M. Gangone (Ed.D. ’99, M.Ed. ’99) has been appointed President and CEO of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan (Ed.D. ’05, M.A. ’91) was appointed Chief of Marketing and Outreach for Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES).

Deniece Dorch (M.Ed. ’13) was appointed Program Manager of the African-American Doctoral Scholars Initiative at University of Utah.

Conor McLaughlin (M.A. ’07) graduated with a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies from the University of San Diego School of Leadership and Education Sciences.

Nurse Executive

Joe Mazzo (M.A. ’04) is the new CEO of the John Randolph Medical Center in Hopewell, VA.

Private School Leadership

Jalene Spain Thomas (M.A. ’11) was appointed Lower School Director of St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School, a college preparatory Episcopal Church school in the Diocese of Virginia.

Student Personnel Administration

Since graduating, Natalie Fleischman (M.A. ’85) has worked for New York University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Vermont, Stanford University and, most recently, George Washington University.

Urban Education Leaders

Ben Ploeger (Ed.D. ’15, M.Ed. ’13) is now the Superintendent of Schools at Kaohsiung American School in Taiwan.

Ilana Tolpin Levitt (M.A. ’89, M.Ed. ’88) is a licensed clinical career counselor and human resources executive. Her recent book, What’s Mom Still Got To Do With It?, aims to breathe new life into women’s careers by helping them understand their mother-daughter relationships.

Joe Mazzo (M.A. ’04) is the new CEO of the John Randolph Medical Center in Hopewell, VA.

Andrew Paulsen (M.Ed. ’17) was a National Finalist for the Fishman Prize and was honored with a Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching grant to Taiwan.

Patrick Valdez (M.A. ’02) was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the University of New Mexico Taos Branch Campus.

Debbie Santalesa (M.A. ’00) is working for the CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere) global humanitarian emergency response team. She spent the last four years managing programs to support Syrians in Syria, Turkey and Iraq.

Ilana Tolpin Levitt (M.A. ’89, M.Ed. ’88) is a licensed clinical career counselor and human resources executive. Her recent book, What’s Mom Still Got To Do With It?, aims to breathe new life into women’s careers by helping them understand their mother-daughter relationships.

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[TEACHER-PHILANTHROPIST]

Samuel Peabody

New York City philanthropist Samuel Peabody (M.A. ’59) died in May at 92. He helped launch Prep for Prep, which prepares students of color to attend independent schools, and chaired Citizens Committee for Children, which helps New York legislators restore funds for social programs. He received TC’s 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award. Peabody left Wall Street to become a substitute teacher at a Manhattan private school. He enrolled at TC and became a lower school principal in Rye, New York. Peabody and his wife, Judy, who died in 2010, co-founded Reality House, a New York City drug rehabilitation center.

[NURSE WITH A MINISTRY]

Louise Fitzpatrick

Former Teachers College professor M. Louise Fitzpatrick (Ed.D. ’72, Ed.M. ’69, M.A. ’68), who transformed Villanova University’s College of Nursing into a national leader during her 40 years as Dean, died in September. On Fitzpatrick’s watch, Villanova developed Centers for Global and Public Health, Obesity Prevention and Education, and Nursing Research. Villanova nursing students work around the world. “Nursing, while a profession, is also a ministry,” said Fitzpatrick. Fitzpatrick’s many books include Prologue to Professionalism: A History of Nursing (R.J. Brady 1983). She received the National League for Nursing’s Award for Outstanding Leadership in Nursing Education.

[EDUCATOR WITH A GREEN THUMB]

Lee Sing Kong

Singapore’s visionary — and TC’s partner

Lee Sing Kong, former Director of Singapore’s National Institute of Education (NIE) and a long-time partner to Teachers College, died in May. He received Singapore’s prestigious Public Administration Medal (Gold) in 2011 and TC’s Distinguished Service Medal in 2013. With Lee at NIE’s helm, Singapore climbed to the top of global assessments in mathematics, science and reading. Much of that success has been attributed to Lee’s support and development of the nation’s teaching workforce. In 2012, under Lee, NIE created a joint master’s degree program with Teachers College in Leadership & Education Change. The program, which seeks to establish a new generation of educational leaders for Singapore, the Asia-Pacific region and the larger international community, focuses on both instructional and curriculum leadership. After stepping down from NIE, Lee was appointed Vice President for Education Strategies at Nanyang Technological University (NTU). He was also a noted horticulturalist whose research on aeroponics — the growing of plants in an air or mist environment without soil — helped enable “the greening of Singapore.”

[EMOTIONAL TRANSLATOR]

Joel R. Davitz

Teachers College Professor Emeritus Joel R. Davitz (Ph.D. ’51) passed away in September at 91. Davitz’s Ph.D. thesis, on techniques to defuse aggressive behavior in children, was widely cited in psychology and conflict resolution literatures. He published his explorations of the non-verbal communication of emotional states in The Communication of Emotional Meaning (1964) and summarized his widely-cited framework for language used to describe emotion in The Language of Emotion (1969). This work is cited and used in the areas of robotics and software agents. Davitz’s wife of 72 years, Lois Leiderman Davitz, who survives him, was a TC psychology and education research associate. The couple collaborated on 17 books on couple and family relationships, including Swing in Sync: Men and Women in Love, and Making It: 40 and Beyond — Surviving the Mid-Life Crisis.

Leonard Blackman

Mental health pioneer Leonard Blackman, who secured funding to build Thorndike Hall, died in November. A full story will appear in spring TC Today.