

The Magazine for Fredonia Alumni and Friends

Statement

SPRING 2017



A slam dunk career

Gail Hunter, '81,
leads community engagement
for the Golden State Warriors

Taking the plunge

Mason 'dives in' to build awareness
of Great Lakes microplastics research

Brotherly love

Honoring an alumna who
dedicated her life to teaching

Determination and 'patients'

Unique partnership leads
scholar to medical school

Readership Survey, page 13

 **FREDONIA**
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Statement

THE MAGAZINE FOR FREDONIA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

3 #FREDlanthropy Day a success
New tradition engages alumni and friends on social media



11

14



4 COVER STORY
A slam dunk career



18



19



20



15

Admissions Events

Open House Dates

Monday, Feb. 20 Presidents Day
Saturday, April 8 Accepted Student Reception

Saturday Visit Dates

Saturday, Feb. 11
Saturday, March 4
Saturday, March 25
Saturday, April 22

Students and families can also visit any day during the academic year. Just contact Admissions to arrange an appointment.

To learn more, visit: fredonia.edu/visit or call 1-800-252-1212.

Alumni and Campus Events Calendar

Please check alumni.fredonia.edu for details.

- 8** **Rockefeller recap**
Studio complex officially opened at Homecoming
- 10** **CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT**
A new look
Major upgrade in center of campus planned for summer
- 11** **STELLAR STUDENTS**
Determination and 'patients'
Unique partnership leads scholar to medical school
- 12** **A Fredonia visit a click away**
Virtual tour of campus now available on website, mobile platforms
STEM educator honored at White House
- 13** **Readership Survey**
- 14** **COLLEGE BEATS | LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES**
Taking the plunge
Mason 'dives in' to build awareness of Great Lakes microplastics research
- 15** **COLLEGE BEATS | VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**
Back together 'Once' again
Theatre alums working on national tour of hit Broadway musical

- 16** **Celebrating the healing power of music**
Students, alumni and staff honor the founding director of the Music Therapy program
- 17** **Spring Preview: Events and Performances**
- 18** **COLLEGE BEATS | COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**
Brotherly love
Honoring an alumna who dedicated her life to teaching
- 19** **COLLEGE BEATS | LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES**
A find fit for a king
Museum Studies internship leads to discovery
- 20** **ATHLETICS**
Coming up aces
Tennis team success no overnight phenomenon
- 22** **Homecoming 2016**
- 24** **Fall Wrap-up**
- 26** **Professional Accolades**
- 28** **Class Notes**
- 33** **Career Corner**
Advance your career

For event registration and payment, go to <http://alumni.fredonia.edu/Events.aspx> or contact the Alumni Affairs office at (716) 673-3553.

FEBRUARY

Alumni Board Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 9, 4 p.m.
Alumni House, 286 Central Ave.

MARCH

Arizona Alumni and Friends Reunion
Sunday, March 5, 12:30 p.m.
Scottsdale Grill and Tap
15745 N. Hayden Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(very near the exit from the "101")
Order from the menu, separate checks.
Reservations required.
For more information, contact karen.west@fredonia.edu

New Smyrna Beach, Fla., Alumni Reunion
Dolphin Discover Pontoon Boat Ride on the Indian River Lagoon

Saturday, March 18, 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.
Boarding begins at 11 a.m., boat departs at 11:30 a.m.
Meet at Marine Discovery Center
520 Barracuda Blvd.
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
\$25/person includes light refreshments
Learn about North America's most diverse estuary system where salt and fresh water mingle to provide a home for more than 4,000 species of plants and animals, including 35 listed as threatened or endangered.

Spring Break for Students and Faculty
March 13-17

APRIL

Albert A. Dunn Day of Poetry and Prose
Monday, April 3, noon to 4 p.m.
Costello Community Room
Rockefeller Arts Center studio complex

Atlanta, Ga., Alumni Reunion

Saturday, April 15, 5 p.m.
Ray's at Killer Creek
1700 Mansell Road
Alpharetta, GA 30009
Cash bar, complimentary light appetizers
Hosted by alumni Mike, '78, and Melanie Castelle, '79
Please register using the link listed above.

MAY

Alumni Board Meeting
Thursday, May 11, 4 p.m.
Alumni House, 286 Central Ave.

Commencement
Saturday, May 13
Campus (by invitation only)

JUNE

Fredonia College Foundation Distinguished Service Awards Event
Saturday, June 3, 5:30 p.m.
Williams Center

JULY

Alumni Golf Tournament
Friday, July 14
Shorewood Country Club
4958 E. Shorewood Drive,
Dunkirk, NY 14048
Open to all alumni and friends

AUGUST

Alumni Board Meeting
Thursday, Aug. 10, 4 p.m.
Alumni House, 286 Central Ave.

First Day of Classes
Monday, Aug. 21

OCTOBER

Homecoming
Friday-Sunday, Oct. 20-22
Hillman Opera 60th Anniversary Gala
Friday, Oct. 20
See article on page 28.

Family Weekend
Friday-Sunday, Oct. 27-29

Scholars Breakfast
Saturday, Oct. 28
Steele Hall (by invitation only)



Dear Alumni and Friends,

The start of a new year is always exciting, and 2017 is no exception. It's also a time to reflect upon the highlights of the past year, some of which will generate more momentum for the campus for years to come.

If you missed Homecoming weekend, you missed an incredible three days of old friends reconnecting, high-achieving alumni honored for success in their fields, and phenomenal performances in the arts. Those performances were seen in the newly renovated Rockefeller Arts Center and new studio complex. The formal ribbon-cutting and named spaces dedications were other highlights of Homecoming 2016. You can see a photo gallery of the studio complex ceremonies inside this edition.

Fredonia used social media to connect with alumni like never before in October, when we held our first #FREDlanthropy Day. It was a one-day campaign to raise funds for scholarship programs to support students. Using Facebook Live, we showed students across campus and challenged alumni and friends to donate, and you did! Thanks to you, \$55,000 was raised for scholarships.

The cover feature of this issue of *The Statement* is a fine example of a Fredonia graduate who found her destiny. Gail Hunter, '81, was a tremendous student who worked on theatre productions and played three sports. Her ability to organize and stay focused put her on a career trajectory that has landed her with one of the strongest franchises in professional basketball.

We hope you enjoy this story and all of this issue of *The Statement*. Please let us know what you think and suggest ideas for future issues. Also, please participate in the survey inside this edition, as we are always looking for your ideas to connect with your alma mater.

Virginia S. Horvath

Dr. Virginia S. Horvath
President, Fredonia

Greg K. Gibbs

Dr. Greg Gibbs
President, Fredonia Alumni Association

Statement

THE MAGAZINE FOR FREDONIA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

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#FREDlanthropy Day a success

New tradition engages alumni and friends on social media

Fredonia held its first annual #FREDlanthropy Day event on Oct. 4, the anniversary of the opening of the original academy in 1826. Utilizing direct mail, e-blasts, and social media posts, the one-day event encouraged Fredonia's alumni and friends to donate to scholarship funds. The spirit and energy on campus was broadcast "live" with updates on Facebook and other social media platforms. Together \$55,975.34 was raised from 217 donors. Your generosity will offer opportunities for future Fredonians and transform lives. Thank you to everyone who helped make our first #FREDlanthropy Day such a success! Make sure you "like" the Fredonia Facebook page and mark your calendars for Oct. 4 so you can join in on the fun during #FREDlanthropy Day 2017.

\$55,975.34

217

DONORS

109

PARTICIPANTS IN FACEBOOK THUNDERCLAP



31

ALUMNI SUBMITTED #FREDLANTHROPY PHOTOS PRE-EVENT



11

LIVE FACEBOOK FEEDS

10,840

TWITTER IMPRESSIONS

420,230

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

30,963

INSTAGRAM IMPRESSIONS



A slam dunk career

Gail Hunter, '81, leads community engagement for the Golden State Warriors

“Work hard, really hard — practice is vital to success. Be a strong leader by how you present yourself as well as how you compete.”

That sage coaching advice propelled Gail Hunter to a stellar athletic career at the State University of New York at Fredonia more than three decades ago, and it no doubt figured into a career trajectory that has placed her into the executive ranks of one of the National Basketball Association's most prominent modern franchises.

Indeed, success as a three-sport performer for the Blue Devils that culminated with her induction into the Blue Devils' Hall of Fame in 1988 was merely a warm-up. Today, the Buffalo native and member of the Class of 1981 is Vice President of Public Affairs and Event Management for the Golden State Warriors, the 2015 NBA champions.

You won't see Ms. Hunter pacing courtside, though she'd probably relish every moment on the hardwood. But what she does off the court is an essential element of the team's overall success. Hunter leads the organization's community engagement activities in San Francisco as they relate to the planning and construction of the Chase Center, the privately financed sports and entertainment complex in San Francisco's Mission Bay area.

The Warriors will leave the Oracle Arena, their home across the pond in Oakland since 1971, when their state-of-the-art, 18,000-seat event venue opens for the 2019-20 season.

On game days, Hunter continues to oversee the operations of the Oracle, ensuring that every game is a memorable, fun experience for fans. As the Events Department manager, she assesses potential sites and develops plans and layouts for

upcoming fan and player events. A steady flow of meetings with numerous community partners to expand the reach of the team's community programs help round out her weekly planner.

“There's no such thing as a typical day,” Hunter says.

It's no coincidence that Hunter joined Golden State in 2012, when plans for the new Chase Center — a \$1 billion investment that will include

restaurants, cafes, offices, public plazas and a public waterfront park — were announced.

Hunter, then the NBA's Senior Vice President for Events and Attractions, was hand-picked by the ownership group that acquired the Warriors, then a struggling franchise. She was enticed by the opportunity extended by Golden State President and CEO Rick Welts to lead the organization's community engagement efforts in San Francisco.

Mr. Welts says Hunter has been a tremendous asset to the Warriors organization, particularly with the ongoing development of the Chase Center. “Gail's passion to help others through her work is second to none, and she has been the driving force behind many of the Warriors' signature events and community campaigns.

“She is a fantastic advocate for women in sports, and has had a demonstrated and lasting impact across the NBA,” Mr. Welts added.

In fact, NBA Commissioner David Stern lamented her departure from the league, and was quoted in *The Buffalo News* as saying: “We were lucky to have her as long as we did. She had some other really great offers, but finally, the opportunity to go to Golden State with Rick and with the new arena was too much for her to turn down.”

Excelling in multiple sports

As she and her two brothers, Jeff and Wayne, grew up, Hunter says her parents “strongly encouraged us to be ‘well-rounded’ and to pursue athletics.” All were engaged in sports at the high school level, and Jeff compiled a successful football career at Dartmouth College. Attending Buffalo Bills' games was a regular family event.

But Hunter did more than “pursue” athletics at Fredonia. She thrived in no fewer than three sports.

Longtime volleyball coach Elizabeth “Liz” Darling, who passed away a year ago, recruited Hunter, a standout volleyball player at the Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart Academy, to Fredonia. Gail continued that success with the Lady Devils, served as team captain for two seasons and was named to the New York Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NYSIAW) All-Star squad in 1979-80.

Though her dream to play basketball in high school for legendary Western New York coach Sister Maria Pares went unfilled, Hunter put that disappointment aside and — at Sister's suggestion — tried out for the Fredonia team. She made the team, ultimately played all four years and was a team captain for two years.

When basketball season ended, Hunter changed gears and suited up for the fledgling women's track and field program. The long jump was her specialty, and her leap of 15'11.75" set a new school record. But Hunter was far from a one-dimension athlete in track. She was also a sprinter, ran a leg in the 4-by-100 meter relay and, when a fill-in was needed, adeptly stepped into the 4-by-400 relay.

That versatility enabled Hunter to qualify for a staggering five events in the NYSIAW State Track Meet.

“She was a natural athlete, played volleyball and basketball — and was good at both of them — and was a good runner, a good track lady,” remembers Dr. Everett “Doc” Phillips, retired chairman of the Department of Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Dance, and a former assistant coach of women's track and field in the early 1980s.

“Work hard, really hard — practice is vital to success. Be a strong leader by how you present yourself as well as how you compete.”

Photos courtesy of the Golden State Warriors.

“Be genuine in your relationships; they matter!” — Gail Hunter

Longtime Athletic Director Greg Precht, who was beginning his coaching career in men’s basketball when Hunter was a student, admired her enthusiasm and dedication to athletics. “She was very focused and intense, but still knew how to enjoy herself and the experiences she had with her teammates,” Mr. Precht said. The seasons overlapped, so it seemed Hunter was always in the gym.

“Back in those days, we only had the one gym; we did not have Steele Hall yet, so we shared the gym — men’s basketball, women’s varsity basketball and men’s junior varsity teams. The three of us ran into each other a lot back then,” he said. “She really applied herself and tried to make herself and her teams as competitive as they could be.”

Bill Makuch, '81, who majored in Sociology and was a member of the men’s varsity basketball team, also remembers Hunter as a “very competitive, very intense” athlete. “We traveled together for away games, so I watched her play all the time,” said Mr. Makuch, who was captain of the men’s team.

Hunter’s career advancement has been is “no big surprise” to Makuch, who stays in regular contact with her. Soon after Hunter began working for Major League Baseball, she invited Makuch to Toronto in 1992 to take in a World Series game between the Blue Jays and Atlanta Braves.

In her final season at Fredonia, Hunter was named the Senior Athlete of the Year in 1981.

A career in sports unlikely

Though she immersed herself in athletics, what brought Hunter to Fredonia was its strong theatre program. “I loved that it was ‘away’ from home, affordable, a good school and had a great theatre program.” She majored in Theatre Arts, specializing in stage management and lighting design, and worked on “Cabaret,” “Our Town,” “La Bohème” and “No, No Nanette.”

Hunter credits “organization” as the key that enabled her to participate in three varsity sports, work on theatre productions and still find time for academics.

“I was mindful of my schedule and tried to prioritize each assignment and the amount of time that was necessary to complete assignments and study for tests,” she said.

Hunter credits positive influences of faculty members Gary Eckhart, Dr. Alan Zaremba and Barton Lee. “Each of them stressed commitment to studies, preparation and trying to find one’s passion and pursuing it.”

Asked if Hunter was contemplating a career in sports as she graduated from Fredonia, she gives an emphatic “No!” She completed a fundraising internship with the Studio Arena Theater in Buffalo, N.Y., and then enrolled in the law school at the University of North Carolina, where she earned her J.D. in 1986. Hunter became a member of the Washington State Bar and worked for a Seattle, Wash., law firm.

“After practicing for three years, I realized that the litigation practice was not my passion and began researching law careers in the world of sports. I networked with many lawyers working in sports fields and was introduced to a number of lawyers at the NCAA,” Hunter recalled. “When a position opened up that interested me, I applied and was offered the job.”

Hunter joined the NCAA as Assistant Director of Championships. Two years later, she switched to baseball — ironically a sport she didn’t play at the collegiate level. Hunter served seven years as Director of Promotional Events for Major League Baseball, where she developed and managed baseball’s premier All-Star event, All-Star Fan Fest. From there, she joined the Seattle Mariners as Director of Corporate Marketing. Hunter directed corporate sponsorship sales, corporate development and ballpark planning for the new Safeco Field.

A 13-year career with the NBA followed. As the league’s Senior Vice President for Events and Attractions for the last 10 of those years, it was Hunter’s charge to manage the NBA’s and WNBA’s domestic and international grassroots marketing programs that included the NBA All-Star, NBA All-Star Jam Session, NBA Jam Van, NBA Summer League and NBA Nation.

Her myriad of duties included: conceptualization of overall event themes, designs and elements, overseeing production, operations, sponsorship management, execution, public relations, marketing and advertising. Also in the mix was All-Star liaison with the host team, city and governmental entities and community organizations.

A championship ring, at last!

Even though Seattle was stocked with some of baseball’s best talent — future Hall of Famers Ken Griffey Jr. and Randy Johnson, along with rising star Alex Rodriguez — the Mariners did not reach the playoffs during Hunter’s brief tenure.

But Hunter had a front-row seat in the 2014–2015 season as Golden State, led by league MVP Steph Curry, won the team’s first NBA title since 1975 by defeating the LeBron James-led Cleveland Cavaliers, 4–2. That amazing journey, Hunter recalls, clearly transcended sports. “It was so very great to celebrate with our community; it really brought the community together in so many ways.”

As exciting as that playoff run was, it only set the stage for a visit to the White House by players and coaches and their spouses to meet President Barack Obama.

“We were treated like royalty,” Hunter beams. “We were given a tour of the east wing and then waited for the president’s arrival. When the door opened, it was as though we were watching a movie but ‘we were in it.’” The President circulated throughout the room, personally greeting everyone individually. A public awards ceremony and the presentation of a team jersey to President Obama followed.

“I was internally pinching myself, asking — ‘Is this really happening?’”

“President Obama praised our team for their continued work as role models and commended our organization for the work we do in the community,” Hunter remembered. “I was taken aback by his ability to ‘own the room’ and commanding presence.”

Professional, community accolades abound

Hunter has received numerous honors for her professional achievements and community service. She was chosen by *SportsBusiness Journal* as a member of its 2014 class of “Game Changers: Women in Sports Business,” which recognizes women in the industry who have played key roles in their respective fields. She’s also an active member of WISE (Women in Sports and Events), serves as a mentor in the WISE Within mentorship program and was named a 2012 WISE Women of the Year Award

recipient for serving as an influential voice for women in the sports and event industry.

More recently, Hunter was inducted into the Alameda County (Calif.) Women’s Hall of Fame for her work with the Warriors organization as well as her work in the local community that includes serving on the Board of Governors and Development Committee for Boys and Girls Clubs in San Francisco, the Board of the Embarcadero YMCA and the Board of Trustees for the First Tee of the East Bay.

“It’s important for me to not only give back to the community in which I live, but to also be a positive role model for young women in the Bay area,” she said.

Hunter’s family is carrying on the sports tradition. Her children, Olivia, 12, and Bryant, 8, are both sports enthusiasts and play youth basketball, among other sports. Her wife, Nadine, has a long career in sports, both with the Cleveland Indians, a Major League franchise, and the NBA, and is currently involved with the First Tee of the East Bay, a non-profit that promotes character development and life-enhancing values through the game of golf, to disadvantaged youth in Oakland.

“All are extremely supportive and involved in my career,” Hunter said.

Hunter never believed attending a state university tucked away in Western New York limited her career options. “I have always felt that the variety of experiences and my ability to manage them all helped me immensely as I pursued my career objectives,” she said. “In addition, the support system offered by Fredonia (professors, coaches and staff) always provided a unique group of supportive mentors.”

What kind of advice would Hunter give to women and minorities seeking careers in professional sports?

“It is vital to be committed in the business and to work hard, really hard, and be better than most everyone around you,” she said. “It’s equally as important to build a good network of male and female colleagues that you can call upon for advice; never be afraid to learn from others and to ask questions — lots of questions!”

“Be genuine in your relationships; they matter!”



1979 Fredonia Women’s Basketball Team



1981 Fredonia Volleyball Team



Ms. Hunter assisting with Helping Hands, a Golden State Warriors program.



Dedication of the Visual Arts and New Media Office with Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus Daniel and Janet, '73, Reiff (center).

Joining together for the ceremonial ribbon-cutting of the new studio complex at Fredonia's Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center were (from left): President Emeritus Dennis Hefner; Jacqueline Chiarot Phelps, regional director for U.S. Rep. Tom Reed; State Sen. Catharine Young; Frank Pagano, chair of the Fredonia College Council; President Virginia Horvath; and Deborah Berke of Deborah Berke Partners, architect of the \$40 million addition/renovation of the fine and performing arts center.



Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center studio complex officially opened as Homecoming begins

The ribbon-cutting for the new studio complex at the Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center (RAC), accompanied by African drums, brought excitement and an enthusiastic beginning to Homecoming. Tours of the new studio complex were given following the dedication, and ribbon-cuttings were held with benefactors for new named spaces in the addition and the renovated arts center.

Not pictured and to be dedicated at a later date are The Gordon and Carol Baird Technical Director's Office and the Marvel Theatre Vestibule/Foyer in Memory of Doris Pattie, sponsored by the Bairds; the Theatre and Dance Department Chair Office in Memory of Dr. John L. Cogdill, sponsored by Brian Usifer, '03; and the School of Music Faculty Office, sponsored by Donald, '69, and Barbara (Benjamin) Mallonnee, '68.



Dedication of the Albert E. and Lillian Uprichard Lobby, King Concert Hall, with Carolyn and Edward Uprichard, '64 (center).



Dedication of the Gail (Andrews) and Ted, '71, DeDee (far right) Administrative Offices.



Dedication of the Visual Arts and New Media Chair Office with (from left) College Council Members Stephen Keefe and Richard Alexander, and Chair Frank Pagano.



Dedication of the Dennis, '72, and Kathryn Costello South Plaza.



Dedication of the Theatre and Dance Department Office with Professor Emeritus of Education John and Vice President for Finance and Personnel Emeritus Joan L. Glenzer, and their daughter, Jana Goodrich (center).



Dedication of the Dennis, '72, (center) and Kathryn Costello Community Room with President Virginia Horvath and Dean Ralph Blasting.



Dedication of the James and Marcia Merrins (center) Dance Theatre, with President Emeritus Dennis L. Hefner (far left).



Dedication of the Harry John Brown and Paul W. Mockovak (second from left) Dance Studio Lobby.



Dedication of the Paul and Mary Joyce Schaefer Acting Studio with President Virginia (Schaefer) Horvath (far right) and family members.



Dedication of the Tom Castellana (third from right) Scene Shop Supervisor's Office, with Project Shepherd Stephen and Mary Rees (second and third from left).



Dedication of the Woodcliffe Connector with Drs. Irene and James Strychalski (center) and family.



Dedication of the Fredonia Beaver Club Community Rain Garden with club representatives.



A new look Major upgrade in center of campus planned for summer

Whether they stood on it, or under it, Fredonia students and alumni needed just one look at the spine bridge to reminisce moments big or small: whether it was a major event, a chance encounter, or memories of a long-lost classmate. The spine bridge had been a visual component of the modern Fredonia campus since it was built in 1969.

Over the years, while all those memories were being made, the concrete bridge slowly, and steadily, deteriorated. There was substantial denigration of the interior materials of the spine bridge, accelerated by harsh winters. The estimated overall budget to remove and reconstruct the bridge was \$4.2 million. The decision was made earlier this year to focus precious SUNY Construction Fund dollars towards improving and renovating academic buildings to keep Fredonia's most vital mission — educating students — strong.

"At a time of challenging finances, and when construction funds are at a premium, we need to be strategic in deciding where that money is spent," said President Virginia Horvath. "We have had no new capital project funds for several years, so we are using the limited critical maintenance funds to improve and modernize the most critical structures for learning and other student experiences."

Another consideration in removing the spine bridge was the design of the campus. The physical footprint of the campus has changed since the spine bridge was built. The spine was designed as the central pedestrian walkway through campus, but that is no longer the case. The main entrance to Reed Library was relocated from the elevated spine to the ground level in 1991, and library access from the spine bridge was eliminated for security reasons. With the completion of the tunnel access between Maytum Hall, Reed Library, and McEwen Hall, and the spine bridge's closure in winter months, it was no longer being used as originally intended.

The university announced last spring a two-step process to remove the bridge and repair the area underneath it. The first phase started right after Commencement 2016, when Union Concrete and Construction of West Seneca, N.Y., demolished the walkway, using an environmentally-friendly process.

Phase two of the process will happen this summer, when a grade-level pedestrian walkway will be developed in place of the temporary asphalt surface. A diverse committee that includes current students, alumni, faculty, and administrators is reviewing

designs for the walkway, the entrance to McEwen, and the former connection to the second floor of the Williams Center. The goal is to create a pedestrian walkway that honors the aesthetic intentions of original architect, I.M. Pei and Associates.

While there have been calls for a covered walkway, finances simply won't allow for it, and the SUNY Construction Fund has been clear that such projects would not be approved. "When looking at the possibility of creating a simple canopy for the new pedestrian walkway vs. reconstructing the spine, we found that only a tensile fabric structure would be more viable than any other canopy type," said Kessler. "However, this type of structure required a sufficient number of anchorage and supports to handle the imposing loads and along with the cost of additional engineering, steel fabrication and installation difficulties made this option an uneconomical solution." Facilities Planning estimated the overall project budget to build such a structure would be \$3.5 million, which approaches the amount of money that would have been required to completely rebuild the original spine bridge. In addition to the excessive cost, a tensile fabric structure would not incorporate any of the I.M. Pei concepts to recreate the spine's aesthetic intent, which is a goal for this project.

"The number of nostalgic posts on social media revealed that some alums and current students were disappointed to see the spine bridge removed," said President Horvath. "However, maintaining safety is an important priority, even as we move forward with sustaining the architectural feel of the evolving campus. With the spine bridge cleared, there is now a clear view to architectural features of McEwen that were obstructed before. There is an openness near the entrance to the Williams Center that makes pedestrian traffic easier to see for drivers, including trucks bringing supplies to the loading dock. The view into the quad between Mason Hall and Reed Library is inviting. The designs for the surface that will be built this summer will show where the columns were and have seating areas and landscaping that reflect the sense of welcome here. I've been grateful to the project and design teams and look forward to seeing the next phase completed."

Determination and 'patients'

Unique partnership leads scholar to medical school

Four years ago, Zachary Eklum was a high school senior in Jamestown, who wanted to work in the health care field. Today, he's on course to become the first student from Fredonia to attend SUNY Upstate Medical University through its Early Assurance Program.

Mr. Eklum was accepted into the Upstate Medical Early Assurance Program — created to address a shortage of physicians in rural communities in New York State — while still attending Jamestown High School. Academically gifted high school students accepted into the program will be enrolled in the Rural Medical Scholars Program as medical students after matriculating from an institution that has an articulation agreement in place with Upstate.

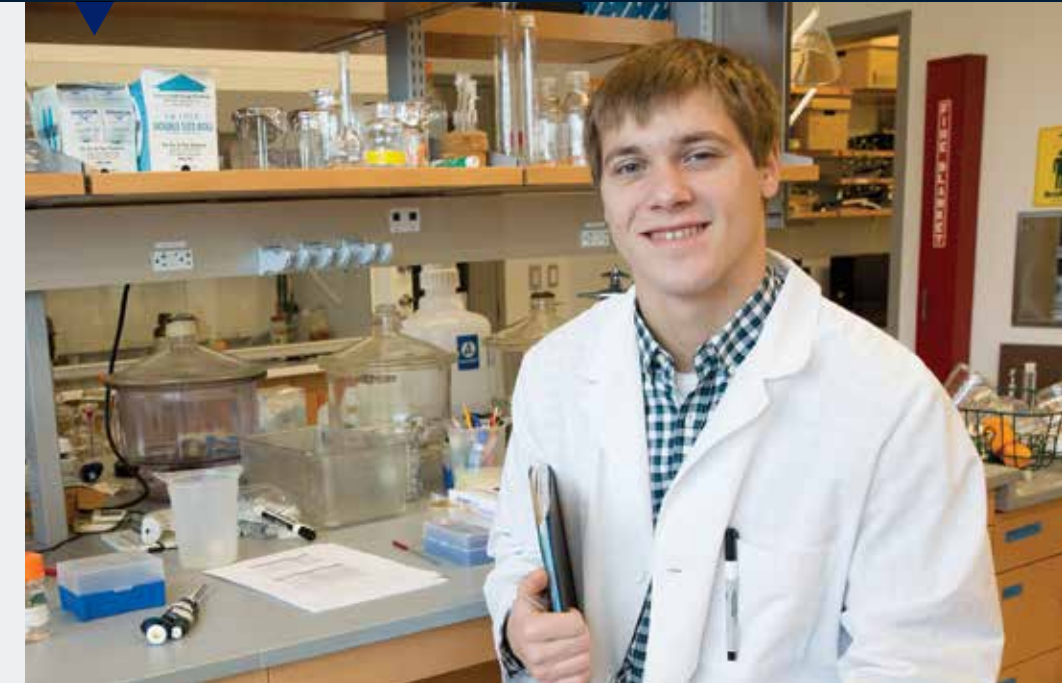
Fredonia is one of only nine colleges and universities that have this special admission option with Upstate for high school seniors.

Once accepted into the program, students must fulfill graduation requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher in general and science-specific courses, complete medical school prerequisite courses, perform volunteer service and physician shadowing, and attain a recommended score of 509 or higher on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

No doubt, Eklum's impressive academic credentials at the high school level and his desire to practice medicine in his native Chautauqua County dovetail nicely with the program's objectives. He was valedictorian of Jamestown's Class of 2013, graduating with a New York State Advanced Regents Diploma with honors and receiving numerous academic, athletic and leadership awards.

Eklum chose to attend Fredonia due to its smaller campus environment and low student-faculty ratio, in addition to being "close to home." Faculty members are highly accessible for academic assistance and are highly active in research, Eklum noted, and that can open doors for students to conduct research at Fredonia.

"While in high school, I heard about the opportunity to do research at Fredonia as an undergraduate, which made an impact on my decision to attend Fredonia," Eklum said. At the same time, he learned about the Fredonia/Upstate Medical University articulation agreement, signed in 2012, that would lead to what Eklum considers



an "unbelievable opportunity" to enter Upstate Medical University's Class of 2021 after completing his Fredonia studies.

Eklum has thrived academically at Fredonia. He entered his senior year with a 3.96 GPA and has been the recipient of four scholarship awards through the Fredonia College Foundation (Honors, Walter Gotowka, Adele Maytum Hunter and Fiat-Lux (Let there be light). He's enrolled in the Honors Program and is a member of Golden Key International Honour Society, Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society and the Biology Club. Eklum has also served as treasurer of the Health Professions Club and Fredonia Tennis Club.

Biology professor Scott Medler met Eklum, then in high school and prior to his acceptance into the Upstate program, on a campus visit. "He has always impressed me as someone with a solid intellect and a strong work ethic," said Dr. Medler. Eklum has performed research in Medler's lab and finished in the highest position — more than 5 percent above the next student — among more than 30 students in Medler's Mammalian Physiology course.

"In my experience, Zack thoroughly understands complex ideas and processes very easily. He is a natural learner and problem solver," Medler added.

Biology professor and Health Professions Committee advisor Ted Lee says 2016-2017 is shaping up to be a banner year for Fredonia pre-health students. "I have four students who have already been accepted (three medical

and one optometry) and five additional students (two medical, one optometry and one dental) who have interviews lined up at health professional schools. There are also three-to-four who I think are good candidates to get interviews," Dr. Lee added.

"We will have our best year for students and alumni going onto medical, dental, optometry, veterinary and pharmacy schools next fall," Lee said.

The opportunity to work directly with patients convinced Eklum to set a goal to become a physician instead of pursuing careers in dentistry or pharmacy. "Physicians are typically the most direct line of health care for the patient and also attend to a multitude of tasks each day. These aspects of the occupation are highly appealing to me," he explained.

Eklum, who is majoring in Biology and has minors in Chemistry and Psychology, hasn't chosen a specialization, though he's currently gravitating toward family medicine, internal medicine, cardiology and radiology. It is typical for medical school students to select a specialty in their third year, when opportunities are greater to interact with physicians and patients in teaching hospitals.

What Eklum has already decided is to return to Chautauqua County to practice medicine. He is a son of Todd and Dawn Eklum, both pharmacists in the region and graduates of the State University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy.



A Fredonia visit a click away

Virtual tour of campus now available on website, mobile platforms

Fredonia has partnered with the virtual reality company YouVisit to bring an interactive virtual tour of the campus to all platforms.

The tour gives the user the experience of being at Fredonia through their digital device or VR (virtual reality) headset. It currently features 20 location “stops,” including main buildings and/or signature locations on campus. Each stop has an audio tour describing key pieces of information that every prospective student should know about the area. Information in the audio tour was submitted by the Fredonia Admissions team, based in part

from questions asked during physical tours of campus by prospective students and parents.

There is additional content at each location stop, including thirty 360-degree panoramic images of visually appealing spots on campus. The locations can be viewed in 360 on all digital platforms, and on virtual reality headsets, giving users the feeling of literally standing at any of the locations. There are also other photos and videos included on the tour, giving users a feeling of what it is like to attend Fredonia.

The tour is a critical recruiting tool, particularly for students who apply or

consider applying, but who may not have the means to physically come to Fredonia. That is especially true for international students, which is why the audio tour is available in Spanish, Mandarin and Korean.

Several links to the tour are on Fredonia webpages, including the home page and the Admissions page. The tour is designed to work on laptop, tablet and mobile devices. Additionally, the tour is available on the Fredonia Facebook page.

STEM educator honored at White House

Justin Osterstrom, '04, (childhood educ.) was honored as one of 213 teachers as a recipient of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. A winner in the kindergarten through sixth grade cohort, Mr. Osterstrom received his award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 8.

The award is given to outstanding K-12 science and mathematics teachers from across the country. The winners were selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators following an initial selection process at the state level.

An educator for 13 years, Osterstrom has been teaching sixth grade science at Martin Gifted and Talented Magnet School in Raleigh, N.C., for five years.

Previously, he taught fourth, fifth, and kindergarten through fifth grade STEM at A.B. Combs Leadership Magnet Elementary School. In 2005, Osterstrom was awarded Wake County Public School System's Beginning Teacher of the Year Award. In 2009, he was awarded a Kenan Fellowship through North Carolina State University. The fellowship was based on increasing problem-solving skills with kindergarten through fifth grade students using engineering. In 2011, he was named North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center's (SMT) K-8 Outstanding Educator. He is also a National Board Certified Middle Childhood Generalist.

Winners of the Presidential honor receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to be used at their



Justin Osterstrom

discretion, and are invited to Washington, for the awards ceremony, as well as educational and celebratory events, and visits with members of the Administration.

Greetings Alumni and Friends,

We are so glad you continue to be engaged with Fredonia activities by reading *The Statement*. We are constantly evaluating the best ways to keep in touch with our alumni and friends and want to make sure we are giving you the experiences you desire. Would you please take a moment and answer this brief survey about *The Statement* and Homecoming at Fredonia? We will take all responses under consideration as we move forward.

Once completed, please tear out this page and return it in the envelope supplied inside the centerfold. If you would rather, you can log on to www.fredonia.edu/statementsurvey and answer the questions online.

1). What is your favorite section of *The Statement*?

(check all that apply)

- Current activities on campus
- Profiles of current students
- Profiles of alumni
- Class Notes
- Faculty accolades
- Alumni reunion photos
- Athletics information
- Upcoming events

2). How would you prefer to receive information about Fredonia?

(check all that apply)

- Mail
- Email
- Social media
- Website (www.fredonia.edu)
- Text message

3). If you checked social media above, which platform do you prefer?

(check all that apply)

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Instagram
- Snapchat
- Other _____

4). How would you like to receive *The Statement*?

- Printed publication in the mail
- Read online

5). Would you read *The Statement* if it was only available online?

- Yes
- No

7). If you could plan Homecoming weekend, what time of year would you schedule it?

- Mid-Summer (July, August)
- Early Fall (September)
- Late Fall (October, November)

8). What kind of events would you like to see on Homecoming weekend?

(check all that apply)

- Class Year reunions
- Department/major receptions
- Family events
- Student performances
- Department/faculty lectures
- Arts exhibits
- Alumni golf tournament
- Athletic events
- Other (Please describe) _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Year Graduated (if applicable): _____

Phone: _____

Thank you for keeping your FREDconnection strong!



Taking the plunge

Mason 'dives in' to build awareness of Great Lakes microplastics research

From the whirlwind pace she'd been keeping following her groundbreaking research and international recognition, it was a moment of peace and serenity that led Dr. Sherri "Sam" Mason to her biggest personal challenge yet.

"I was camping on Lake Erie, and I woke up one morning before everybody else, and the lake was calm, it was like glass," Dr. Mason recalled. "I was just really enjoying that moment and thinking about my work."

It was her work — the countless boat trips on all five Great Lakes, the sample collections, the analysis, the results — that garnered Mason national honors. Her study of the high levels of microplastics in the Great Lakes resulted in changes to how consumer products are made through the

national Microbead Free Water Act, and ultimately led to Mason being named a recipient of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Champion award. Her work was publicized around the world, and the notoriety put this 10-year veteran of the Fredonia natural sciences faculty in high demand.

During the downtime, Mason was thinking "what's next?" What else could she do, this Texas native who in her youth never met a swimming hole she didn't like? "I was like a fish," Mason said. "We'd have a pool and I was always in the water. When I moved up north being in the water didn't seem as attractive anymore. But it was just this past summer I started getting back into swimming."

Those were the collective thoughts swirling in her head as she stood at sunrise by herself overlooking the serene Lake Erie during a camping trip one summer morning in 2016.

That's when Mason decided the best way to raise awareness about the condition of the Great Lakes was to dive in — literally.

"You know how everyone has a bucket list? One of mine was, I should swim across one of the Great Lakes," Mason recalled. "And in that moment, it seemed like a really good idea."

The best way to make sure she wouldn't back out was simple; tell people. "So I went on to Facebook, and I knew once I hit send I couldn't back out. After that, I would see friends on the street and they'd say 'how's the swimming going?'"

Mason is working with the Lake Erie Open Water Swim Association for this sanctioned marathon event. Her free time now consists of swimming laps in the campus natatorium, along with weekly training sessions with her coach in Erie, Pa., and working out at Crossfit Dunkirk. Her distance during training continually increases, and for good reason. The distance from Long Point, Canada, to Freeport Beach in North East, Pa., is 24.3 miles. It's estimated she will have to swim for 15 straight hours to accomplish her goal. Seventy-one people have attempted it, but only 17 have completed the swim.

During the long training programs, Mason thinks about the publicity her swim could garner for her research. "I can use this as a tool to raise awareness," she said. "The Great Lakes are amazing. So I want us to appreciate them, but also understand the issues that they have and fix them."

The logistics and equipment for such an event are significant, including motor boats that will accompany Mason on this trip, so she has set up a GoFundMe page. If you would like to support her effort, go to <http://www.gofundme.com/TeamDrSam>.



Back together 'Once' again

Theatre alums serving on national tour of hit Broadway musical

Between them, Colin Braeger, Jacob Brinkman, Bobby DiCandia and Justin Petito worked — often alongside one another — on dozens of shows staged in Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center venues before earning B.F.A. degrees in Technical Production and Design.

"We were all great friends in Fredonia and always dreamt of working together again once we graduated," Mr. Brinkman recalled.

That seemingly distant dream arrived a lot sooner than anyone expected.

Messrs. Braeger, DiCandia and Petito — all 2015 graduates — and Brinkman, who received his degree a year earlier, are together again and traveling across the United States for the national tour of "Once," winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, in 2012.

"It's a really great feeling working with them and producing great theatre that we are all proud of, nationally," Brinkman said.

"Once" is an enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician who's about to give up on his dream when a beautiful young woman takes a sudden interest in his haunting love songs. When the current leg of the 25-week tour ends in April, more than 170 performances will have been given in 88 cities, including Buffalo, N.Y.). That's an average of eight shows per week!

Petito, DiCandia and Brinkman belong to the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) Associated Crafts and Technicians (ACT); Braeger is a member of IATSE 266 (Jamestown).

Of course, being part of a touring show is filled with ups and downs, and touring for "Once" and other fast-moving productions is far from glamorous. Work hours are long and demanding. Load-ins — when equipment, sets and other assets are carted into the theatre and assembled by the touring company's tech personnel and local workers in each city — start at 8 a.m. Load-outs can wrap up as late as 2 a.m.

"We get a few hours of sleep and do it all over again the next day," Braeger said. "It calls for a lot of time management and efficiency. If we can shave seconds or a minute off how long a task requires, we will. Organization is also very important. Almost every item on tour has a label describing what its specific job is, and a specific place



Displaying their Fredonia pride in front of the marquee of Shear's Performing Arts Center in downtown Buffalo, N.Y., are Theatre alums (from left): Bobby DiCandia, Jacob Brinkman, Justin Petito and Colin Braeger.

for it to be stored. But even the toughest of days lead to an incredible amount of pride in what we do.

"I love my job," Braeger said.

"On good days, load-ins are a well-orchestrated ballet," Brinkman added.

"Justin, Bobby, Colin and I all know each other's strengths and weaknesses so when we get to challenging theatres we can all adapt and problem solve together just like we would working on a production or class project at Fredonia," Brinkman said.

The "Fredonia Four," as they're known on the tour, agree that networking is essential to obtain work in professional theatre, and each has hooked up with a wide variety of productions since graduation.

DiCandia, assistant carpenter for "Once," was a staff carpenter at the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, a summer stock theatre, in 2014 and 2015, and served on the

national tour for "Beauty and the Beast" before joining "Once."

Petito, head electrician for "Once," also worked for "Beauty and the Beast" and the Bay Street Theatre in Sag Harbor, N.Y. On opening night for "Hair," his big senior design at Fredonia, Petito was offered a position for "Beauty and the Beast," which reunited him with DiCandia.

Braeger was hired as assistant audio for "Once" during his senior year. Just four days separated finals week and the beginning of equipment preparations for the first leg of the tour. He also spent a summer with the Chautauqua Opera Company.

After graduation, Brinkman, assistant electrician for "Once," designed the lights for five productions at the Kalamazoo (Mich.) Civic Theatre. He also spent several summers at the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival.

All four alums cite Department of Theatre and Dance Associate Professor David Stellhorn, Rockefeller Operations Manager and Technical Director Eric Hadley and Professor Todd Proffitt as exemplary mentors.

Celebrating the healing power of music

Students, alumni and staff honor the founding director of the Music Therapy program



Constance Willeford talked about the Music Therapy program as the event's keynote speaker.

It was an anniversary — it was a tribute — it was a sing-along. Such was the 40th anniversary celebration of the Fredonia School of Music's program in Music Therapy held during Homecoming. And the center of the joy was Constance Willeford, the program's founding director.

The Cranston Marché was filled with current students, alumni music therapists and former colleagues lining up to give tributes to Mrs. Willeford. In homage to her beloved home state of Tennessee, Willeford, known to her students as "CW," was serenaded with the song, "Rocky Top," in true therapist style, complete with guitars.

Fredonia is the only school in the State University of New York system offering a bachelor's — Bachelor of Science — degree in Music Therapy, and one of only two SUNY schools offering a master's degree program, which is required for licensure as a New York State Licensed Creative Arts Therapist. Fall 2016 enrollment included 60 undergraduates, double the enrollment from 2000, with eight Master of Music students. The current head of the Music Therapy area in the School of Music is Dr. Joni Milgram-Luterman, with faculty including Fredonia alumna Kimberly (Steger) Mancino, '80, lecturer and clinical supervisor in the School of Music, and other adjunct faculty.



Students serenade "CW" with "Rocky Top" in tribute to her home state.

In introducing "CW," Ms. Mancino noted, "It all started when Connie came." Willeford served as the only full-time music therapist when the program at Fredonia was established, and "CW" recalled being initiated to winter in Western New York during the Blizzard of '77. Talking about the blossoming of the program, Willeford noted with pride that she never had to initiate the withdrawal of a student. She also shared memories of her family growing up in the area, and of her late husband, Mike.

Ms. Mancino read remarks from alumna Donna Polen, '79, who came to Fredonia in 1975 from Oyster Bay, Long Island, and "awaited the arrival" of Willeford to join the program. Following 36 years of clinical practice, and training 16 Fredonia students in Music Therapy internships, Ms. Polen wrote, "I am so proud to call you my teacher." Another alum listed the "top three" impressions of her time in the Music Therapy program at Fredonia: an expectation of excellence, knowing that she was selected to be trained as a Music Therapist; trust placed in her to work with patients with advanced disease; and the camaraderie shared with classmates.

Among the many attendees at the celebration was Jean DePeters, the first part-time faculty member in the program, who served as a clinical evaluator for many years, observing would-be

music therapists in clinical settings. Among the many graduates of the program is alumna Music Therapy major and violinist Jodi (Morrow) Morrisette, '97, who performed with Isaac Stern and the College Symphony when Mr. Stern came to Fredonia to receive his honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the State University of New York in February 1997.

Willeford earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Georgetown College in Kentucky, with a major in Organ Performance and a minor in Educational Psychology, and taught public school music for eight years prior to completing a Master of Music degree in Music Therapy from Florida State University. She also completed a second graduate degree in Counseling Psychology at St. Bonaventure University with a specialty in grief counseling. In addition, Willeford served as Executive Assistant to former Fredonia President Donald A. MacPhee, and on the executive board of the National Association for Music Therapy as coordinator of its training/development council.

Fredonia Music Therapy students are the beneficiaries of the Constance E. Willeford Award for Music Therapy and the Harry Milgram-David Luterman Scholarship, established through the Fredonia College Foundation.

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT THE TICKET OFFICE AT (716) 673-3501 (1-866-441-4928), www.fredonia.edu/tickets, OR IN PERSON. FOR A FULL LIST OF CAMPUS EVENTS, VISIT DEPARTMENT WEBSITES AT www.fredonia.edu.

ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER/THEATRE AND DANCE EVENTS

"MUTTS GONE NUTS"

Saturday, Feb. 4, 2 and 7 p.m.
Marvel Theatre
Tickets: \$12

This "comedy canine cabaret" features rescue dogs that steal the show and then, your heart. Kaleidoscope Family Series sponsored by *The Observer*.

WESTERN NEW YORK CHAMBER ORCHESTRA "LITTLE WOMEN"

Saturday, Feb. 4, 4 p.m.
King Concert Hall
General Admission
Tickets: \$20 (students free with ID)
The much beloved story of the March family re-told in music by American composer Mark Adamo.

"THE ILLUSION"

Feb. 24 and 25, and March 2, 3 and 4, 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 26, 2 p.m.
Bartlett Theatre
Tickets: \$20 (other student/child: \$15; SUNY student: \$12)

The story is of a father who seeks out a sorceress to help him find out what has become of his missing son. A Walter Gloor Mainstage Series event.

"THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE"

March 31, April 1, 6, 7 and 8, 7:30 p.m.; April 2, 2 p.m.
Marvel Theatre, Reserved Seating
Tickets: \$30 (other student/child: \$22; SUNY students: \$14)

An updated version of one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular comic operas.

FREDONIA DANCE ENSEMBLE

April 28 and 29, 7:30 p.m.; April 30, 2 p.m.
Marvel Theatre
Tickets: \$20 (other student/child: \$15; SUNY student: \$12)
Including a work created by modern dance icon Paul Taylor and taught to the Fredonia students during a residency. Also featured is faculty choreography. A Walter Gloor Mainstage Series event.

COMMENCEMENT EVE POPS WITH THE NEW YORK VOICES

Friday, May 12, 7:30 p.m.
King Concert Hall
Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$25 and \$20
The internationally acclaimed vocal ensemble joins the Fredonia Voices and the Fredonia Jazz Ensemble. A DFT Communications Pops Series event.

ART EXHIBITS

CATHY AND JESSE MARION ART GALLERY, MICHAEL C. ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.

SHARBANI DAS GUPTA: OUT OF STEP

Jan. 27 to Feb. 26
Opening reception: Jan. 27, 7 p.m.

FREDONIA SHOWCASE

March 3 to April 9
Opening reception: March 3, 7 p.m.

SENIOR SHOW I

April 14 to 21
Opening reception: April 14, 7 p.m.

SENIOR SHOW II

April 28 to May 5
Opening reception: April 28, 7 p.m.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

*indicates live streaming of event (subject to change) through the link found at www.fredonia.edu/music.

RECITALS

All are free, open to the public, and at 8 p.m. in Juliet J. Rosch Recital Hall.

MONDAY, FEB. 6

Faculty Recital: Liz Widzinski, clarinet, and James Welch, piano*

MONDAY, FEB. 13

Faculty Composers*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1*

Faculty Recital: resAUnance

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Faculty Recital: String Faculty Chamber Music with special guests Dr. Ching-Yi Lin, violin, and Andy Braddock, viola*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Faculty Recital: ADVerb Trio*

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

Faculty Recital: "Don Quixote" by Kurt Rohde (world premiere)*

TUESDAY, MAY 2

Faculty Recital: Retro presents Mayhem*

ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

Free, open to the public, and all at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Conductors/directors include John Bacon, Drs. Paula Holcomb and Vernon Huff, Laura Koepke, Dr. Katherine Levy, Carl Mazzio, Tiffany Nicely, James Piorkowski, and Drs. Susan Royal, David Rudge, Andrew Seigel, Raymond Stewart, Kay Stonefelt and Wildy Zumwalt.

KING CONCERT HALL

THURSDAY, FEB. 23, AND TUESDAY, APRIL 11

Fredonia Wind Symphony (Mazzio)*

SATURDAY, FEB. 25, AND APRIL 22

Fredonia Wind Ensemble (Holcomb)*

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, AND APRIL 13

Fredonia Concert Band (Stewart)*

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Fredonia All College Band (Mazzio)*

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 4 P.M.

Fredonia University Chorus (Huff)*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 7:30 P.M.

New Horizons Band (Levy)

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

Fredonia College Symphony (Rudge)*

ROSCH RECITAL HALL

THURSDAY, FEB. 16

Fredonia Trombone Choir (Mazzio)*

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22, AND SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Fredonia Student Composers*

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Fredonia Bassoon Ensemble (Koepke)*

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Fredonia Brass Chamber Ensembles

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

Fredonia Clarinet Ensemble (Seigel)

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Fredonia Woodwind Chamber Ensembles

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 4 P.M.

Fredonia Chamber Choir, College Choir and Women's Choir (Gray, Huff)*

MONDAY, APRIL 3

Fredonia Percussion Ensemble (Stonefelt)*

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

Fredonia World Mallet Ensemble (Nicely)*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Fredonia Curricular Jazz Ensemble (Bacon)*

MONDAY, APRIL 10

Fredonia Flutasia (Royal)*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

Fredonia String Chamber Ensembles I

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

Fredonia Guitar Ensemble and Quartets (Piorkowski)*

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

Fredonia String Chamber Ensembles II

MONDAY, APRIL 24

Fredonia Latin Jazz Ensemble (Bacon)*

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

Fredonia Saxophone Ensemble and Quartets (Zumwalt)*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

Fredonia Improv. Collective (Rudge)

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Fredonia Chamber Made Guitar (Piorkowski)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

Fredonia Chamber Orchestra (Rudge)*

SPECIAL EVENTS

FREDONIA BASSFEST

Saturday, Feb. 11 (all day)

Mason Hall

Details and registration online

at www.fredonia.edu/music/community/bassfest

ANNUAL INTERCOLLEGIATE CHORAL FESTIVAL*

Saturday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m.

King Concert Hall

Tickets: \$5 (students free with ID)

The University of Toronto's Macmillan Singers with guest conductor Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt joins the Fredonia Chamber Choir, Fredonia College Choir and Fredonia Women's Choir.

THE CLAUDETTE SOREL PIANO COMPETITION: FINALIST ROUND

Sunday, Feb. 26, noon

Rosch Recital Hall

Free and open to the public

Celebrates the creativity and excellence of young pianists, and is conducted in memory of SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus Sorel. Made possible with the support of the Sorel Organization.

Details online at www.fredonia.edu/music.

BRAHMS' "EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM" WITH THE BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC CHORUS AND FREDONIA COLLEGE SYMPHONY

David Rudge, conductor

Saturday, March 4, 8 p.m.

King Concert Hall

Tickets: \$15 (\$8 for students with ID)

CONCERTO COMPETITION

Sunday, April 30, 1 p.m.

King Concert Hall

Free

Brotherly love

Honoring an alumna who dedicated her life to teaching



Helen, '52, and Dr. Harold Johnson



Celebrating the event were (back row, left to right) Jackie Rasulo, program coordinator and Hamburg first grade teacher; Colleen Kaney, assistant superintendent of the Hamburg Central School District; Fredonia President Virginia Horvath; Michael Cornell, superintendent of the Hamburg Central School District; Ann Marie Loughlin, director of Field Experiences at Fredonia; and Carolyn Mooney, retired program coordinator and Hamburg teacher; and (seated, left to right) Dean of the College of Education Christine Givner and Dr. Harold Johnson.

Helen Johnson spent four years in first grade. The first two she struggled; the last two she shined. That's what Helen's twin brother would tell you. So would she, for that matter.

Dr. Harold and Helen Johnson were raised in a simple home in Hamburg, N.Y. Although they were twins, Harold graduated high school a year before Helen. "She repeated first grade, because she didn't learn to read," Dr. Johnson explained. "Our mother felt it was essential, because there were a lot of twins in her family, for us to be separated."

After graduating high school, Helen received a scholarship to attend Fredonia, which she graduated from in 1952. After graduation, she became an elementary school teacher.

Her first two years, she taught first grade.

She went on to teach third grade for several years, before settling into fourth grade. In 1972, while Helen was teaching fourth grade in her hometown of Hamburg, the Fredonia-Hamburg Internship Program was established to help Fredonia students prepare for a career in education. Helen was an active participant in the program until she retired in 1987.

Inspired by her twin brother, Harold, who had established a scholarship at his alma mater, St. Lawrence University, she created the Helen L. Johnson Legacy Scholarship in 2012 to fund \$500 scholarships for Fredonia students enrolled in the Fredonia-Hamburg Internship Program.

"This is what it's all about," Helen later said. "People caring and helping other people. This gives someone like me an opportunity to be part of something bigger — to be part of these students' lives, to celebrate their success. It is an honor to help grow the College of Education program as it brings me full circle to my own life as a student. This isn't my last chapter because with the scholarship I hand off my torch with new chapters being written by each recipient."

"Each student who received the scholarship became an ambassador for the public education that Helen was committed to," Dr. Johnson said.

Helen was able to meet four of the scholarship recipients, before her health took a turn. She passed away in April 2015.

After Helen's passing, Dr. Johnson worked with the Fredonia College Foundation to endow his sister's scholarship fund. Through that endowment, and proceeds from Helen's estate, the \$500 scholarships have become \$1,000 scholarships.

"It's the true perfect circle, bringing together a talented Hamburg student who attended Fredonia, became a teacher, went back to work in that district and became a cooperating teacher, working with Fredonia students when the Fredonia-Hamburg program started," said Heather McKeever, associate director of Development with the Fredonia College Foundation.

By forming a new endowment fund through the Fredonia College Foundation, Dr. Johnson will ensure the long-term viability of the Fredonia-Hamburg program that has successfully prepared more than 1,000 students to become elementary teachers since 1972. His endowment, which is deliberately focused on enriching the program itself, will also increase the value of scholarships awarded every year.

More than 75 members of the program's growing family — administrators and faculty from Fredonia's College of Education and the Hamburg district, Fredonia graduates who completed the program, this year's teacher candidates and those who will follow in 2016-2017 — gathered in October to commemorate the teacher training program's new name, the "Helen L. Johnson Fredonia-Hamburg Internship Program" and recognize Dr. Johnson's generous gift.

"We're very grateful for this because it's a legacy that certifies, makes evident and establishes firmly her commitment to public education and to the training that goes through here, and especially to the clinic-like environment that the program here in Hamburg is famous for," Dr. Johnson said. "Helen was a strong believer and supporter of public education. She was destined to be an elementary teacher."

And now, she will help teachers in Hamburg for years to come in every grade. So maybe Helen Johnson isn't done with first grade after all.

A find fit for a king

Museum Studies internship leads to discovery

The sharp eye of History major Benjamin Schrantz led to the discovery, during a 2016 summer internship at the Oneida County Historical Society in Utica, N.Y., of a cuneiform inscription on stone dedicated to Assyrian King Shalmaneser V, who ruled the Assyrian Empire 726-722 BCE.

Mr. Schrantz, from Whitesboro, N.Y., curated the museum exhibit, "The Oneida County Historical Society: Bringing the World Back Home for 140 Years," to fulfill a Museum Studies minor internship at Fredonia. The inscription is included in the exhibit that features some of the historical society's oldest and most unique artifacts.

While preparing the exhibit, Schrantz found the object within the museum's archives and concluded that it was mislabeled as Egyptian hieroglyphics. Based on what he learned from Department of History Associate Professor John Arnold's Western Civilization I class, Schrantz recognized the writing as a cuneiform script used to write numerous ancient Near Eastern languages.

At the suggestion of Dr. Arnold, Schrantz reported his find to Dr. David Owen, a professor of Near Eastern Languages at Cornell University. Dr. Owen confirmed it as a cuneiform inscription written in the Akkadian dialect spoken by ancient Assyrians.

The text has been translated as the following: "Shalmaneser, great king; strong king, king of all the world, king of Ashur (?); great king, strong king (?), (son of Ashurnasirpal (?); son of Tukulti-Ninurta, king of all the world, king of Ashur; construction of the ziggurat; of Kalhu (Calah)." Question marks signify a translation of the probable original word.

Chapters 17 and 18 of the biblical book II Kings identify Shalmaneser as the conqueror of Israel who deported and dispersed the 10 Lost Tribes of Israel.

Previously unknown to scholars, Schrantz's find has been reported for placement in a database maintained at the University of California, Los Angeles (<http://cdli.ucla.edu/>). It was also highlighted on the social media site ArtifactNY on its #throwbackthursday for Aug. 4, 2016. Artifact NY is headed by Don Wild, host of "Mysteries of the Museum," which airs on the Travel Channel.

In an article in the student newspaper, *The Leader*, Arnold points out that Schrantz's discovery "validates (the history department's) commitment to our mission statement, for our department impresses upon our students the need to develop critical thinking skills and use them to analyze evidence and communicate findings to the larger community."

Schrantz, who graduated in August 2016, is working full time at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Whitesboro as Parish Historian and administrative assistant. He plans to return to the historical society, now renamed the Oneida County History Center, as a volunteer, and has applied for graduate study in History and Library Science with an archival concentration.



Benjamin Schrantz

FALL RECAP
MEN

CROSS COUNTRY: Ethan Francis (Dunkirk, N.Y.) was seventh and Collin Mulcahy (Batavia, N.Y.) 13th at the SUNYAC championship meet. Francis, a sophomore, earned Second Team All-Conference designation. Mulcahy, a fifth-year senior, made Third Team for the second straight year... Both made the USTFCCA All-Region Team after the NCAA Atlantic Regional. Mulcahy was 24th and Francis 28th. The Blue Devils were 16th among 44 full teams...Francis put his name at No. 9 on the program's all-time 8K list with a time of 25:08.3 at the Regional...Mulcahy, already No. 2 on the list, was Fredonia's No. 1 runner at five of seven races. Francis and senior Bobby Cooper (Macedon, N.Y.) were No. 1 at one race each...Cooper was 19th and junior Merlin Joseph Jr. (Binghamton, N.Y.) 18th at the SUNYAC meet. The Blue Devils were third in the team standings.

SOCCER: The Blue Devils (11-7-2 all/6-3-1 conference) qualified for the SUNYAC Tournament on the final day of the regular season. Goals by junior Ryan Ross (Grand Island, N.Y.) and senior Bryan Sibble (Liverpool, N.Y.) and the goalkeeping of freshman Ty Bentham (Columbus, Ind.) secured a 2-1 win at Oneonta and earned the No. 3 seed and a first-round home game. A large, loud crowd then witnessed a 5-4 Fredonia shootout win over Plattsburgh (after the teams tied 0-0 in double-overtime) in Fredonia's first playoff game since 2010 and the first men's home playoff game in University Stadium history. Sam Greco (Lockport, N.Y.), one of nine seniors, scored the game-winner in the sixth round of PKs...Jimmy Ritchie, Ryan Keller, and Parker Healy – all seniors hailing from East Aurora, N.Y. – along with Sibble, made the all-conference team. Ritchie was chosen Second Team. Keller, Healy (who has a season of eligibility left), and Sibble made Third Team. The four selections are the most by Fredonia since 2010...Ritchie was later chosen Third Team All-East Region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. He is the first Fredonia men's player to receive the award since Ryan Smith in 2011...Brian Butts (Schenevus, N.Y.), a senior, and David Trabold (Fairport, N.Y.), a junior, made the SUNYAC All-Tournament team...Healy (Oct. 3) and Ritchie (Oct. 17) won SUNYAC Offensive Player of the Week awards...A converted field player, sophomore goalkeeper Jeremy Bari (Niagara Falls, N.Y.) won SUNYAC Defensive Player of the Week honors after leading the Blue Devils to the season-opening John Hopkins Tournament title. Bari eventually moved back to the field when Bentham assumed the starting role...Keller and Sibble were named to the Blue Devil/Clarion Classic all-tournament team...Keller's eight assists led the SUNYAC.

WOMEN

CROSS COUNTRY: Three sophomores led the way to Fredonia's 12th place finish at the NCAA Atlantic Regional. Brenna Donovan (Youngstown, N.Y.) was 29th overall, earning for herself the distinction of USTFCCA All-Region. She was followed by classmates Hannah Kurbs (Lockport, N.Y.) and Carly DeBono (Medford, N.Y.) as Fredonia's top three finishers. Another sophomore, Stephanie Wojnowski (Rochester, N.Y.), was the No. 5 Blue Devil finisher...their Regional 6K times placed Donovan (No. 2), Kurbs (No. 6), and DeBono (No. 7) on Fredonia's all-time Top 10 list...Also on the list are senior Bonnie Binggeli (Walworth, N.Y.) at No. 5 and Wojnowski at No. 10 from races last year...Donovan was 18th and Binggeli 19th at the SUNYAC meet, in which Fredonia was fourth...Binggeli was Fredonia's No. 1 finisher in four races and Donovan in three races.

SOCCER: Sophomore goalkeeper Kendall Owczarzak (Lancaster, N.Y.) posted back-to-back shutouts as Fredonia won its own Blue Devil/Clarion Hotel Classic. She was named Most Valuable Player of the Classic and SUNYAC Defensive Player of the Week...Three seniors – Maria Gordon (Stephentown, N.Y.), Kaleigh Creeden (Rock Tavern, N.Y.), and Sarah Lindovski (Baldwinsville, N.Y.) – made the Classic all-tournament team...Owczarzak made 146 saves during the season, the sixth highest total in program history. Her 276 saves over two seasons is also No. 6 on the team career list...Gordon led the Blue Devils (4-14-0 all/1-8-0 conference) with three goals, including the game-winner in overtime vs. St. John Fisher...Kaitlin Huyler (Jasper, N.Y.), a junior, was second with two goals.

VOLLEYBALL: Junior outside hitter Kristen Stanek (Hamburg, N.Y.) was selected Second Team All-SUNYAC after leading the Blue Devils with 346 kills, fourth in the conference. Senior outside hitter/middle blocker Saverina Chicka (Shelter Island, N.Y.) made SUNYAC Third Team despite missing several matches early in the season due to injury...Stanek and Chicka also made the Blue Devil Invitational all-tournament team while junior Courtney Poirier (West Seneca, N.Y.) was selected Cortland Red Dragon Classic all-tournament...A 5-3 conference record (19-13 overall) earned the Blue Devils a first-round home playoff game...Head Coach Geoff Braun ended the season with 399 career wins.

MISCELLANEOUS

The cross country season began Sept. 3 with the Blue Devil Invitational, run on the campus course for the first time in several seasons...The second Fredonia Soccer Cancer

Awareness Day raised over \$3,000 for Team Cure at Roswell Park Cancer Institute...Men's hockey celebrated Founders Weekend to recognize the 1985-86 club team and inaugural 1987-88 varsity team...Fredonia's fall teams built a seven-point lead in the third Battle By The Lake series with SUNY Buffalo State. The Blue Devils have won the previous two Lake Erie Cups...Fredonia is fourth after the fall season in SUNYAC's Patrick Damore Commissioner's Cup point standings.

WINTER PREVIEW

BASEBALL: Captains are seniors Ciro Frontale (Syracuse, N.Y.), Liam Kelly (Buffalo, N.Y.), Zach Lyman (Belmont, N.Y.), and Michael Prentice (West Seneca, N.Y.)...Trips in March to Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Central Florida precede a return to northern climes and 12 scheduled home games, including weekend series with SUNYAC foes Cortland (March 24-25), New Paltz (April 7-8), and Brockport (April 21-22)...The April 22 date has been chosen for the Third Annual Fredonia for St. Jude community fundraiser.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Junior forward Ian Helps (Bronx, N.Y.) entered the season with 776 points and 423 rebounds, totals that place him 18th and 14th, respectively, on Fredonia career lists...Helps and seniors Kasean Jackson (Ridgewood, N.Y.) and Kareem Brown (Buffalo, N.Y.) are 2016-17 tri-captains...The annual Alumni Game is Jan. 28 at 1 p.m. Contact person is Athletic Director Greg Prechtl at (716) 673-3101 or 3102...1998 graduate Tim Gebauer was inducted into the Fredonia Athletic Hall of Fame on Oct. 22...Also inducted was Jim Polvino, now in his 56th season as official scorekeeper. He is believed to be the longest-tenured scorekeeper or statistician in all of college athletics.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Senior guard Alexis Cheatham (Lockport, N.Y.) became the program's 10th player to score 1,000 career points during a home game vs. Nazareth on Nov. 29. She is already the program's top 3-point shooter and among its Top 20 assist leaders...Cheatham and fellow seniors Jamie Curry (Ramsonville, N.Y.) and Kathryn Halloran (Angola, N.Y.) are tri-captains...The Alumnae Game is Jan. 28 at 3 p.m. Contact Head Coach Linda Hill-MacDonald via email (macdonlh@fredonia.edu) to register. Last year's game drew 14 former players. "We want to grow it," Coach Hill-MacDonald said.

MEN'S HOCKEY: Senior forward Hunter Long (Lebanon, Tenn.) was chosen team captain. It is the third straight season he was either a captain or assistant captain...Junior defenseman Jamie Young (Russell, Ohio) is this season's assistant captain... Founders Weekend was Oct. 21 and 22 to recognize the 1985-86 club team and the inaugural 1987-88 varsity team...Luke Rivera (Pacific Palisades, N.Y.), a sophomore, organized the first Stroke Awareness Game, held Nov. 11 vs. Potsdam. Nearly \$10,000 was raised for Kaleida Health Care Foundation in Buffalo, N.Y....A reunion of the 2006-07 SUNYAC championship team was held the weekend of Dec. 9-10...The annual Pink The Rink game is Jan. 21 vs. Pace University.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE: Team captains are junior Audrey Yokopovich (Webster, N.Y.) and sophomore Jade Williams (Tully, N.Y.)...A trip to Ohio kicks off the season with games at Denison and Mount Union on Feb. 25-26...There are five home games on the schedule, beginning March 3 vs. Nazareth...The schedule also includes three games in Florida during Spring Break...One home date will be designated as the Autism Awareness Game. Details are still in the works.

SOFTBALL: Team captains are seniors Erin Mushtare (Oneonta, N.Y.) and Maddy Stavish (Olean, N.Y.)...The scheduled March 3 game with Keuka in Virginia Beach, Va., is the earliest opening day in recent years...A week of games in Clermont, Fla., during the middle of March precedes a return north and 12 scheduled doubleheaders, seven in Fredonia...The program's all-time winningest pitcher, Casey (Mazurek) Hennessey, was inducted into the Fredonia Athletic Hall of Fame.

SWIMMING AND DIVING: The earliest starting of the winter teams, the Blue Devils had their first meet Oct. 7. The team's divers have garnered most of the early success. Returning All-Americans and fellow seniors Meghan Bartlett (Johnstown, N.Y.) and Arron Carlson (LeRoy, N.Y.) were 13-1 and 14-0, respectively, in the first semester. Bartlett (four times) and Carlson (once) were also named SUNYAC Diver of the Week awards in their genders...Taylor Chwolisinski (West Seneca, N.Y.), a junior, was CollegeSwimming.com SUNYAC Women's Swimmer of the Week and sophomore Jake Favret (Watertown, N.Y.) was CollegeSwimming.com SUNYAC Men's Swimmer of the Week following the season-opening meet vs. Niagara. Favret repeated the following week...Two diving alums, Class of 2008's Scott Horsington and Class of 2009's Kelly (Sponholz) Neth were inducted into the Fredonia Athletic Hall of Fame. Neth was a 2009 national champ.

TRACK AND FIELD: Team captains are senior Bobby Cooper (Macedon, N.Y.) and junior Rocky Caparro (Staten Island, N.Y.) for the men; and senior Kara Hall (Fredonia, N.Y.), senior Alyssa Stroud (Allegheny, N.Y.), and junior Brittany Feldman (Jamestown, N.Y.) for the women...Five meets precede the SUNYAC Indoor championships Feb. 24-25 at Brockport...Cortland is the site of the SUNYAC Outdoor met May 5-6...Fredonia's first female national champ of any kind, Julia (Hopson) Williamson, was among the Fredonia Athletic Hall of Fame induction class on Oct. 22. Williamson, also a former Blue Devil assistant coach, won the women's 20-pound weight throw at the 2009 NCAA Indoor championship meet.

Coming up aces

Tennis team success no overnight phenomenon

by Jerry Reilly, Sports Information Director

The women's tennis team had its most successful season on record during the fall semester. Yet the level of success was at least one year in the making.

The 2016 Blue Devils finished with a 10-3 record, an improvement of four wins from 2015 and two more wins than the previous-best season of eight wins in 2013. Team records dating back to 1999 are used.

"It was a wonderful season," Head Coach Greg Catalano said in an interview with Stefan Gestwicki of *The Chautauqua Star* weekly newspaper. "The girls played really hard all year."

Along with the team achievement came some individual honors, the highest of which was the Second Team All-SUNYAC singles award given to senior Chloe Cohen (West Hempstead, N.Y.). It is the first all-conference award by a Fredonia woman as far back as current records go.

Cohen was 7-4 in singles matches and 8-2 in doubles, where she teamed with another senior, Halee Dickinson (Brockport, N.Y.). Cohen also finished with 20 career wins, tying Stephanie Thompson (20-21; 2011-14) on the career list dating back to 1999. Cohen finished her career with a 20-13 mark.

"The qualities of leadership, dedication and competitive spirit were her hallmark," said Coach Catalano, a retired high school teacher. "Her kindness, empathy, and concern for teammates was inspiring to witness. She will be greatly missed."

Cohen's career record — accumulated over three seasons — could be in jeopardy as early as next year.

Playing mostly at No. 1, Olivia Miller (Springwater, N.Y.), a sophomore, has a 15-9 singles record in her first two seasons. Then there's freshman Anna Chiacchia (Hamburg, N.Y.), who set a single-season school record for wins with a 10-1 mark in the fall. The previous school record of nine singles wins was shared by three women: Elise Daigler (9-1; 2005), Brittany Pagano (9-3; 2004) and Molly Zanetti (9-4; 2013). Sophomore Adriana Speech (Baldwinsville, N.Y.) also won nine singles matches, along with Dickenson.

Zanetti — who along with Thompson share the career school record of 22 doubles wins — was part of the 2013 team which held the school record for



2016 Women's Tennis Team with Head Coach Greg Catalano

team wins until this year. The following year, Catalano succeeded Joe Calarco — who served as head coach for the previous 14 years — and set out to put his own imprint on the team.

He inherited several women from Calarco's last team, including two eventual four-year players in Dickinson and Phoebe Langdon (Syracuse, N.Y.). He also started looking for players among women already on campus. Cohen, for instance, had played volleyball in high school. Despite never having played tennis competitively before, she decided to give the sport a try.

The same was true of Miller, whose high school sports background included soccer and lacrosse. She joined the squad before 2015 and now plays tennis in the fall and lacrosse in the spring.

"I started as a walk-on in my sophomore year," Cohen said in *The Chautauqua Star* interview. "The tennis coach approached me about playing and I said 'sure.' I learned through the years and started getting good."

"It's a great story because she's such a hard-working person," Catalano said of Cohen. "She's one of the best team leaders I've ever had. She makes people

around her better and she refuses to lose."

After last season, Catalano set up times for the women to play at the Chautauqua Tennis Club on the county fairgrounds in Dunkirk. He also arranged to have temporary courts set up inside the Steele Hall Fieldhouse for spring practice sessions, then held a one-day home tournament in late April 2016.

"We started last winter," he told *The Chautauqua Star*. "I've been trying for a couple years to get an athletic trainer to help the team lift weights just for tennis. All winter long the girls lifted and worked on flexibility.

"We (then) had a two-game set in the spring to keep the girls interested. I want them to think about tennis all year long. This summer they played a lot. They worked out like crazy. When the season came, they were so much stronger. They had greater endurance. We didn't lose a third set match all season. They came into the season in great shape."

All the off-season work paid off immediately. The team opened the season with a 9-0 win over D'Youville. Following a loss to traditionally strong Penn State Behrend, the Blue Devils bounced back by beating

Brockport. It was Fredonia's first victory over that SUNYAC opponent in six years.

A win over Oswego came later in the season as part of a string of eight wins in nine matches (the lone loss to nationally ranked Geneseo). As a result, Fredonia earned SUNYAC West's No. 2 seed, the program's highest standing in years. Their season concluded with a victory over Oswego in the consolation round of the SUNYAC Tournament.

"I'm really proud of what the program is because of those involved in it," Langdon said. "Halee (Dickinson) and I talked at the beginning of this season about what we wanted out of it and among other things we were really determined to be a team that we could be proud of at the end of the season. We took everything very seriously."

"They're competitors," Catalano said of the team's commitment and success. "I had 12 girls while most teams only have six or eight. We had some high competition in practice. They refused to lose. They want to make something of Fredonia tennis. They wanted to make a statement that tennis is important."



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HOMEcoming 2016

1. Fredonia Alumni Association Outstanding Achievement Award recipients Dr. Christopher Mirabelli, '77, (far left) and Dr. Allan Dennis, '70, '72, (far right) with President Virginia Horvath.
2. Alumnus Christopher Filkins, '04, and his son, Ollie, enjoy Fredonia's inaugural Maker Faire in the Science Center and Williams Center.
3. Athletic Director Greg Prechtl, '69, (top row, far right) joined alumni Inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame including (seated, from left) Casey (Mazurek) Hennessey, '07 (softball); Kelly (Sponholz) Neth, '09 (diving); Julia (Hopson) Williamson, '09 (track and field); and (standing, from left) Timothy Gebauer, '98 (basketball); Scott Horsington, '08 (diving); and James Polvino, '67, honorary inductee (men's basketball scorer in his 56th year). Ms. Neth and Ms. Williamson were NCAA Division III national champions in their respective sports.
4. Guest artists Lynn Newman and Joshua Davis present "Toss" as part of their 2015-2016 Marion International Fellows of the Visual and Performing Arts presentation.
5. Classmates enjoying the Golden Alumni Breakfast, which kicked off Homecoming on Friday.
6. Fredonia alumnus and Department of Theatre and Dance Professor Paul Mockovak, '77, and alumna Marcia Finley, '90, are welcomed to the Homecoming Excellence Gala Dinner held in the Williams Center.
7. Homecoming King Kiman Baldon and Princess Patrice Douglas.
8. The Alumni Orchestra Concert held on Sunday was a rousing success, thanks to the organizational skills of Carl Lam, '14.
9. The Phillips-Ulrich Community Trail was dedicated with former coaches Dr. Everett "Doc" Phillips and Jim Ulrich, and former Blue Devil track and field athletes, several of whom also completed the Ruterbusch 5K Run earlier that morning.
10. Pep rally fun in the Steele Hall Fieldhouse on Friday, with the theme, "Fredonia Around the World."
11. Women's soccer was the featured team at Homecoming as the Blue Devils took on Oneonta on Saturday.
12. Enjoying the Homecoming picnic were '80s alumni (left to right) Daniel Briceno, Jack Schwartz, Maggie Lynn Wise, Janice (Heagney) Wesen and Georganne Oldham.
13. Homecoming picnic attendees from the Class of 1974 included (front row, left to right) Will Sprague, Andi Lannigan, Donna Paolantonio and Bridget Foster; and (back row, left to right) Bobbi Sprague, Stu Willner, Janice Cuddahee, Don Zelazny, Denise "Denny" Heckel and John Bergenstock.
14. Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts Ralph Blasting was Master of Ceremonies at the Homecoming Excellence Gala Dinner, and co-chaired the Opening Ceremony Committee with Development Associate Director June-Miller Spann, '94, '02.
15. Dr. Mirabelli was the keynote speaker for the Department of Biology's Homecoming festivities.



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Trailblazing performer Rita Moreno was the Maytum Convocation Lecturer and Williams Visiting Professor in September. Her presentation, "If You Quit, You Can't," followed the 2016-2017 Convocation theme, "Creativity and Perseverance." The audience was moved to laughter and tears, as Ms. Moreno spoke of her trials and tribulations in her rise to a legendary performer of stage and screen. She occasionally broke into song to the delight of the sold-out crowd. Fredonia President Virginia Horvath presented Ms. Moreno with a wooden bowl sculpted from a piece of a tree formerly on the campus property, and Dunkirk Mayor Wilfred Rosas presented Ms. Moreno with a key to the city.

Maytum Convocation Lecturer Rita Moreno wows crowd



Fredonia students were highly engaged with the 2016 presidential election. The university was part of a nation-wide effort known as the ALL IN Challenge. A campus committee was charged with bringing awareness to civic engagement and the importance of voting, and hosted numerous activities during the election season and sent various informational emails out to encourage students to participate in campus events and become aware of the issues relating to the upcoming elections. The largest events were watch parties for the debates between the presidential and vice presidential candidates. The committee also helped transport students to polling stations, and held a highly-attended watch party on the night of the general election in November. President Virginia Horvath joined students to witness the returns on Election Night.

ALL IN Challenge



Eva Saulitis honored in series of events

Craig Matkin, executive director of the North Gulf Oceanic Society, and Elizabeth Bradfield, naturalist-poet and co-director of the Creative Writing program at Brandeis University, gave interdisciplinary, collaborative presentations as part of a larger series of events commemorating the scientific and literary legacies of Eva Saulitis, a renowned nature writer, prominent orca biologist and Silver Creek native, who passed away from cancer earlier in the year. Ms. Saulitis had deep connections to the landscapes, ecology, plants and nature preserves of Western New York, and had created two illustrated guidebooks to the trails and ferns of the College Lodge property that continue to be important naturalist resources. The events were part of Fredonia's 2016-2017 Convocation Series.

Fredonia's Department of Theatre and Dance presented six sold-out performances of the musical "Godspell." The opening weekend coincided with Homecoming and the formal opening and ribbon-cutting celebration of the new Rockefeller Arts Center studio complex. More than 130 Fredonia students were involved in the production, including 10 Musical Theatre majors whose training in all areas of voice, acting, improvisation and dance were on full display. The student team was rounded out by musicians in the pit orchestra, three on the stage management team, one assistant director and approximately 48 additional students between the design team, running crew and board operators. There were also almost 70 students on the first-year crews that worked to build the set, hang and focus the lights, construct the costumes and handle other tasks.

'Godspell' presented to sold-out houses



Goldrick-Rab visits campus to discuss college affordability

Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab, author of "Paying the Price: College Costs, Financial Aid, and the Betrayal of the American Dream," gave a presentation based on the book to an engaged crowd at Rosch Recital Hall in November. Dr. Goldrick-Rab, a professor of higher education policy and sociology at Temple University, spent the past 15 years studying and writing about how and why some students realize their dreams of diplomas, while the other students end up struggling in pools of debt. Goldrick-Rab's talk was part of the "Conversations About the Future of College" discussion series sponsored by the Office of the Provost. Goldrick-Rab signed copies of her book following the talk.

Hillman Opera delights

The Hillman Opera presented a pair of classic works in October: Henry Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas," and Gian-Carlo Menotti's "The Medium." More than 120 students were involved in all elements onstage, offstage, and as orchestra members. The production continues the long and distinguished tradition of Fredonia's Hillman Opera. For nearly 60 years, the Hillman Opera has provided one of the few full opera opportunities for undergraduate singers in the country. In supporting opera at Fredonia and the region, the Hillman Memorial Music Association has played a long-standing and significant role in student professional development, offering high-caliber performance events to the campus and community, and sustaining the future of the opera medium.





Stonefelt receives PAS Lifetime Achievement award

School of Music faculty member and SUNY Distinguished Professor Karolyn Stonefelt was formally recognized in the international community as recipient of the 2016 Percussive Arts Society Lifetime Achievement in Education Award. Dr.

Stonefelt received the award, which recognizes the contributions of the most highly regarded leaders in percussion education, in November at the society's convention in Indianapolis, Ind. "This award is a fitting recognition of what we at Fredonia have long known about Professor Stonefelt's person and work," said School of Music Director Melvin Unger. Previous honors include the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and being named a SUNY Distinguished Professor in 2014. Stonefelt earned a doctoral degree in Music in Percussion Performance at Indiana University and has pursued additional studies in Ethnomusicology and Jazz History. She joined the School of Music faculty in 1993.

Rogers inducted into the N.Y.S. Mathematics Educators' Hall of Fame

SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Robert Rogers was inducted into the New York State Mathematics Educators' Hall of Fame in September. Dr. Rogers has written numerous articles on analysis, the history of mathematics, mathematics education and STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) education. He is a faculty advisor for the Fredonia Problem Solving Group, which regularly submits solutions for publication in journals; is editor of the *New York State Mathematics Teachers' Journal*, and co-authored the book, "How We Got from There to Here: A Story of Real Analysis," available through the SUNY Open Textbook Program. Prior to being named Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2015, Rogers received the Fredonia President's Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Mathematical Association of America (MAA)-Seaway Section's Distinguished Teaching Award and the MAA-Seaway Section Meritorious Service Award. Rogers joined the Department of Mathematical Sciences in 1987.



Feit delivers invited talk in Sweden

SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Neil Feit of the Department of Philosophy gave a talk in Uppsala, Sweden, at the conference and workshop "Harm: The Concept and Its Relevance." Dr. Feit joined three other invited speakers from American universities and five speakers from Swedish universities to discuss the nature and the moral importance of the

concept of harm. The event was hosted by Uppsala University and funded by the Swedish Foundation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. Feit recently published two articles on the concept of harm. The first, "Plural Harm," appears in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (2016), and the second, "Comparative Harm, Creation and Death," in *Utilitas* (2016). His conference talk was based on a third paper, "Harming by Failing to Benefit."



Faculty member participating in international microplastics citizen science study with focus on Chautauqua Lake

Department of Biology faculty member Dr. Courtney Wigdahl-Perry was recently contacted by international colleagues about conducting microplastics sampling

on Chautauqua Lake, one of only a handful of North American sites to be included in a larger European study of microplastics in inland lakes. A doctoral degree student from the Netherlands has been leading NETLAKE citizen science activities in Europe and is currently conducting a microplastics monitoring project assessing over 25 European lakes. Chautauqua Lake samples, one from the North basin and one from the South basin, were collected and sent to the Netherlands for analysis. Staff from the Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance and the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, in coordination with Dr. Wigdahl-Perry, collected the samples on Sept. 20. The NETLAKE study will be the first ever effort to assess levels of microplastics in Chautauqua Lake.

Clarkson-Hendrix gives presentation at Council on Social Work Education annual meeting

Michael Clarkson-Hendrix, assistant professor of Social Work, presented "Serving OIF/OEF/OND Veterans through Collaborative Practice: Implications for Education," with co-presenter John Carroll-Barbuto of the University at Albany, at the 62nd Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in Atlanta, Ga. The presentation focused on curriculum implications derived from a project investigating how interdisciplinary collaboration is being shaped by the emerging needs of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn veterans.



Ivey directs 'The Man Who Came to Dinner,' with Loughlin in title role



James Ivey, professor of Theatre, directed the American comedy, "The Man Who Came to Dinner," which featured longtime Department of Theatre and Dance professor and former chair Tom Loughlin,

in his final performance in Marvel Theatre, in the title role of famous radio personality Sheridan Whiteside. The cast included 28 students and cameo performances by Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts Ralph Blasting and Dr. Ivey. Set at Christmas time in the 1930s, Ivey noted the George Kaufman/Moss Hart collaboration boasts "some of the best comic writing of its day." The Fredonia production was part of the Walter Gloor Mainstage Series.



McNamara appointed to Enactus Faculty Advisory Committee

Susan McNamara, assistant professor of Business Administration, was one of six advisors chosen — from a pool of over 50 applicants — to serve on the Enactus Faculty Advisory Committee. The mission of the committee is to help Enactus USA

shape policy and serve as the primary communication channel between advisors, teams and colleges, as well as Enactus USA Headquarters. The advisory committee appointment is the latest honor received by Dr. McNamara, who serves as internship coordinator for the Department of Business Administration and advisor of Fredonia's Enactus chapter. She was also one of two recipients of the Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow of the Year in 2016.

Yi delivers report at Financial Management Association International's annual meeting

Taihyeup Yi, associate professor of Finance, present his paper, "Uncovered Equity Parity: Theory and Evidence from the G-7," at the Financial Management Association International's annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev. Dr. Yi's paper focuses on maximization of the expected utility of discounted intertemporal consumption. He also examined the case of United States investors acquiring equity in the G-7 countries — which are among the world's largest industrial nations — and provides results for the sample period between January 1971 to December 2013 as well as two sub-periods of pre-Euro, before the Euro became the official currency of 11 member states of the European Union in 1999, and post-Euro, when the Deutsche mark, French franc and Italian lira were no longer circulated, in 2002.



Sticek, Beckwith receive Fredonia secretarial awards

Julie Sticek (second from left) and Diana Beckwith (far right) were recognized as recipients of Fredonia's secretarial awards at the Fall 2016 Secretarial/Clerical Conference held at the College Lodge. Ms. Sticek, secretary in the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA), received the Barbara Saletta Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes a secretarial or clerical employee with an outstanding service attitude. Ms. Beckwith, of the Office of Admissions, received the Poummit Secretarial Award, named in honor of Janet Marks, a former secretary to the Fredonia president.

Milligan receives sub-award from \$11 million Tonawanda Coke environmental study

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Professor Michael Milligan, '85, has received a sub-award of just over \$87,000 to support his work in a State University at Buffalo investigation that will assess the health and environmental impacts of Tonawanda Coke Corp. manufacturing operations on residents of Tonawanda and Grand Island, N.Y. Two separate, but complementary studies, comprise the \$11 million project. Dr. Milligan will be engaged in the second study, "UB Soil Sample Study: Determining the Environmental Impact of Coke Oven Emissions Originating from Tonawanda Coke Corp. on Surrounding Residential Community." Beginning in Spring 2017, Milligan will be part of a team that will collect approximately 300 soil samples in residential areas in and around the Tonawanda Coke facility on River Road to assess pollutant levels in the soil. Another Fredonian who will work on the study is Jackie James-Creedon, '85, head of the grassroots organization, Citizen Science Community Resources, who is serving as one of the project's co-Principal Investigators.



Vassoler presents as recipient of President's Award for Excellence

Dr. Ivani Vassoler, as the recipient of the 2016 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, presented the lecture, "Americans in Brazil, Brazilians in the U.S.: A Two-Century Long Relationship," in October in Rosch Recital Hall. Dr. Vassoler, an associate professor of Political Science in the Department of Politics and International Affairs, has been a faculty member since 2003. For nearly 10 years she also coordinated the International Studies program at the university. She is working on her third book focusing on popular participation in politics in Latin American cities.



Jarvis's WLA publication caps off year of Vonnegut events

Department of English Professor Christina Jarvis wrote an essay, "Displaced Trauma and the Legacies of the Vietnam War in Hocus Pocus," that was published in the 2016 issue of *War, Literature & the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities*. Dr. Jarvis's publication is the most recent of several Vonnegut-related

scholarly endeavors. Over the past year, she has presented her research at four campus events, including the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Brown Bag panel on Mr. Vonnegut's 1978 Fredonia Commencement address. In November 2015, Jarvis also spoke on the author's secular humanism at the Vonnegut and Religion panel during Indianapolis' Vonnegutfest, which also included bestselling writer and renowned Vonnegut scholar Dan Wakefield (pictured with Dr. Jarvis).





Nashville Alumni Gathering



Brooklyn Alumni Gathering



Albany Alumni Gathering



The Fredonia Chamber Singers Reunion was held in November, with a number of alumni returning to reminisce and sing, culminating in a concert with current students in Rosch Recital Hall.

1940s

Luella (Muir) Nazaruk, '43, (elem. ed.) recently moved to Brookdale Penecastle in Ocala, Fla., a senior living residence, and is enjoying every moment.

Joyce (Stahley) Emley, '45, (elem. ed.) retired after teaching at the Frewsburg (N.Y.) school for 25 years and has received an I.U.P. degree. She is 94 years old and has seven children, 19 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren.

1950s

Richard Stephan, '52, (music ed.) is no longer performing professionally but he continues to do composing/arranging.

1960s

John McGlarry, '60, (elem. ed.) has written a sequel to his first book, "The Arrival."

Dr. Eugene Alexander, '64, (elem. ed.) retired in 2015 and is traveling with his wife of 50 years, Sandy, and spends the winters in Arizona. He continues to have various articles published.

Barbara Oakes, '66, (elem. ed.) taught kindergarten and second grade, and was a reading recovery teacher for her last 12 years before retirement. She has studied acting, singing, dance and piano.

John Wade, '68, (music ed.) is still active as a private trumpet instructor. Many of his students have been selected to the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) All-State and Area All-State Bands as well as county honors groups. He is also active as a NYSSMA major organization judge and brass adjudicator.

Phil Zimmer, '69, (history) conducted workshops and was a guest speaker at Fredonia for the Writers@Work program. He also helped moderate a panel discussion among local World War II veterans at the Fredonia Technology Incubator.

1970s

Robert Maxwell, '71, (elem. ed.) was recently elected to the Dolgeville (N.Y.) Village Board as a Trustee. It's also his 14th year as

Vice President of the Dolgeville (N.Y.) School Board. He is Vice President of the Friends of Historic Mohawk Valley and President of Dolgeville-Manheim Historical Society.

Kathleen Piersons, '71, (elem. ed.) was presented with a Dallas K. Beal Legacy Society pin by President Virginia Horvath during the 2016 Vero Beach, Fla., reunion. Kathleen traveled to the reunion from her home in Phoenix, Ariz. The pin is given to donors who have made provisions for Fredonia in their estate planning. Kathleen, a world traveler, has established a scholarship for Chautauqua County students to broaden their horizons through study abroad programs.

Theresa (Calavitta) Sisson, '71, (math) retired in 2014 and is working part-time teaching high school math.

Dr. Patricia (Kelly) Ralabate, '72, (speech path.) recently had a book published, "Your UDL Lesson Planner: The Step-by-Step Guide for Teaching all Learners" by Brookes Publishing. Her

book introduces educators to an exciting instructional design framework based on neuroscience called Universal Design for Learning (UDL). The book can be found online at products.brookespublishing.com/Your-UDL-Lesson-Planner-P896.aspx.

Diane Andrasik, '73, (English) had some of her photography pieces on display at the Prendergast Library Art Gallery in Jamestown for an exhibit called "The Artful Landscape: Photography of Diane Andrasik."

Paul Cuttica, '73, (elem. ed.) is in his 44th year of teaching and loving it. He retired from teaching in a public school in 2007 and has been teaching in Catholic schools ever since.

Dr. Ruth (Meier) Fassinger, '73, '78, (elem. ed., English) is a Professor Emerita at the University of Maryland, College Park, having recently retired from her career as a psychologist, professor and academic administrator. She began her career teaching elementary school and high

school in Jamestown and Syracuse, N.Y., in the 1970s, and then received her Ph.D. in Psychology from Ohio State University in 1987. She served as a staff psychologist at the University of California at Santa Barbara and at Arizona State University before moving to the University of Maryland. She has received many awards throughout her career. She now lives in Sonoma, Calif., where she likes to garden, quilt and serve her local community.

Dr. Mary Reid Gaudio, '74, (music ed.) published a book, "The Phone Rang," a story of three sisters' struggle to confront and cope with the presence of cancer within the family unit. For more information, visit her website at dmaryreidgaudio.com.

Debbie Joy, '76, (special stds.) retired from IBM after 40 years in the IT industry. She is looking forward to spending time traveling with her husband and two dogs, Butkus and Casey.

Peter Morgante, '76, (elem. ed.) was appointed Executive Director of Chautauqua Striders, Inc.

John Nocero, '76, (music ed.) continues to enjoy retirement after 37 years as a music teacher and administrator with the Smithtown (N.Y.) schools. He currently serves as the Executive Vice President of the Council of Administrators and Supervisors of Long Island.

Robert Owen, '76, (history) retired in June 2016 after a 34-year career as a language teacher. He now spends time with his cat, Buddy, and enjoys gardening and traveling.

Perry Gordon, '79, (pol. sci.) retired from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources as a park officer. He is currently serving as Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority.

Steven Kast, '79, (elem. ed.) retired from SUNY Brockport in 2013 as the Senior Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions.

He thoroughly enjoys retirement and has been on several trips to Mexico and beyond.

Robert Rau, '79, (bus. admin.) has joined the Westfield Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors.

1980s

Sue (Stratiff) Siva, '80, (speech and hearing hand.) is self-employed as a speech language pathologist.

Michael Emser, '81, (bus. admin.) was listed for financial expertise in *Buffalo Business First*. He is a Certified Financial Planner with Wealth Future.

Sean Kirst, '81, (English) had a new book published through Syracuse University Press, "The Soul of Central New York" which is available at syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/fall-2016/soul-central-new-york.html. He is a contributing columnist for *The Buffalo News* and writing on contract for Syracuse University.

Julian Siva, '81, (bus. admin.) is the Finance and Accounting Director at Health Research Inc., Roswell Park Division.



Mitchell Banas, '82

Mitchell Banas, '82, (psych.) was named in the 2016 Upstate New York Super Lawyers list in the field of Business Litigation and was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2017. He works for Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC.

Hillman Opera 60th anniversary to be a highlight of Homecoming



The Hillman Memorial Music Association Board of Directors has announced a special celebration of the 60th annual Hillman Opera during Homecoming weekend, slated for Oct. 20 through 22.

On Friday evening, Oct. 20, an Alumni Gala dinner in the Williams Center will feature an operatic themed event and will be followed by a giant concert opera presentation in King Concert Hall, celebrating 60 years of Hillman Opera performers and scholarship recipients.

Alumni guest soloists will be highlighted in the concert, together with superb current Fredonia opera students. All will be sharing the stage with the Fredonia Opera Orchestra under the direction of Dr. David Rudge, Hillman Opera Producer and Director of

the Opera Program, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Julie Newell, '82, is the event coordinator and encourages all Hillman alumni — singers, orchestra members, crew members and scholarship recipients — to attend what will be a one-of-a-kind event!

Alumni are encouraged to make plans now to attend this exciting weekend to re-connect with friends and professors, and celebrate the special Hillman name in Fredonia's musical history.

Watch for reservation information in the August issue of *The Statement*, as well as mailings, emails and a Facebook site.

If you would like to assist in preparation for this event, please contact Ms. Newell at julie.newell@fredonia.edu.



Buffalo musicians gain Hall of Fame status

It seems that almost every year somebody with a Fredonia connection is inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame. This year there were two musicians.

One of the inductees, Jim Runfola, '88, '90, (left) has been a sax man for all seasons in Buffalo over the past 25 years, but is especially known for his JJ Swing outfit.

Then there's Alyn Syms, '04, — aka Al Szymanski — who is best known for his Alyn Syms Group, (ASG) which is believed to be the only locally based band to sell out Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo.

Both have had extensive music careers. Runfola, from Jamestown, toured with the Tommy Dorsey Band in the 1990s and has taught at Erie Community College for 22 years.

The list of greats he has played with includes

Greg Lake (of Emerson, Lake & Palmer), the Goo Goo Dolls, 10,000 Maniacs and Billy Sheehan. He toured internationally, performing with Animal Planet on military bases from Kuwait to Korea.

He conceived and co-wrote the musicals "Zooma Zooma," "Crossroads Blues" and "The Big Band Theory: When Swing Was King."

On top of that, JJ Swing has helped keep swing jazz alive and brought it into the modern era. If you check on YouTube, you'll even find a video of the group performing Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir."

Syms' years with the ASG actually pre-dated his time at Fredonia. That group was a huge regional draw for years, garnering radio airplay and selling out Shea's, but then Syms studied Music Composition at Fredonia.

He has since gone one to record several progressive rock CDs.

Michael McCune, '82, (coop. eng.) was elected to the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering for his work on developing the Geared Turbo Fan engine.

Jackie James-Creedon, '85, (chem.) will serve as a co-Principal Investigator of the Tonawanda Health Study, an environmental and health assessment that the State University at Buffalo will conduct at the Tonawanda Coke Corp. site in western New York. The head of grassroots organization Citizen Science Community Resources, Ms. James-Creedon will be affiliated in the second part of the 10-year study, which will determine the environmental impacts of coke oven emissions on soil levels in surrounding residential areas.

Partnership for Careers in Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Corrections and Security. She traveled to London for a presentation at the Royal Institution for a group she volunteers for, and also to Minnesota for the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) annual conference.

Chuck Howard, '86, (commun.) has joined WJZY in Charlotte, N.C., as a sports newscaster. He will cover all local and professional sports including the Carolina Panthers pre-game and post-game shows.

Wayne Sharpe, '86, (sound rec. tech.) is a film score producer living in Marina del Rey, Calif. He is the composer of the CBS Evening News with Scott Pelley theme song, writes the NBC sports network themes, wrote the themes for both the CBS Democrat and Republican

Corporate Executive category which recognizes female executives who have made their mark in a large corporate environment. Gretchen is Vice President of Community Relations with the Buffalo Bills.

Janine (Schmitt) Clark, '92, (bus. admin.) has joined Evans Bank as a Senior Credit Analyst and Officer in the Commercial Lending and Credit division.

Gregory Robinson, '94, (English) was honored as a member of the 25th annual *Buffalo Business First* "40 Under 40" class. He is Director of Park Administration for Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy.

Randall Odebralski, '97, (health serv. admin.) was named Chief Operating Officer of Good Days, a financial provider that helps seriously ill Americans who cannot afford their medication.

Lori DiCanio-Mancuso, '99, (soc. stds.-sec. ed.) attended the commissioner's Teach NY Forum at the State University at Buffalo. She is a teacher at West Seneca West Middle School and is the Co-Regional Coordinator for the National Board Council of NY — Far West Region.

Alexandra Lopez, '99, (speech path. and audiology) was honored as a member of the 25th annual *Buffalo Business First*'s "40 Under 40" class. She is a Bilingual Special Education Specialist for Erie 1 Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). She also received the Hispanic Coalition 40 under 40 statewide award.

2000s

Eric Szucs, '01, (comm.-audio/radio) is Director of Tourism and Marketing for Wyoming County (N.Y.).

won Best Doctoral Dissertation from the English department as well as the campus-wide Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award for 2016. She is currently in her fourth year of teaching at the SUNY Buffalo State.

Ian Donnelly, '06, (commun.-TV & digital film) was honored as a member of the 25th annual *Buffalo Business First*'s "40 Under 40" class. He is a Senior Business Development Manager at Bak USA.

Pat Stivers, '06, (vis. arts-illus.) was promoted to Records and Data Integrity Manager at Cassadaga Job Corps.

Jenny (Murray) Michalek, '07, (English) joined the staff at Fredonia's Division of University Advancement as a Development Associate.

post-doctoral position is working in Dr. Kim Scribner's Molecular Ecology lab in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University.

2010s

Sarah Ambrose, '10, (sport manag.) received the 2015-16 Ambassador of the Year from the Cerritos (Calif.) Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Jessica Goodell, '10, (psych.) delivered the keynote address during Jamestown Community College's 40th Cattaraugus County Campus Commencement ceremony.

Melanie Janiga, '10, (sport manag.) is now working for NSR Australia and recruiting/preparing high school students in Australia and New Zealand to play collegiate sports in the United States.

Luke Markwardt, '12, (sport manag.) was hired as Assistant Equipment Manager for the San Antonio (Texas) Rampage Hockey team.

Elizabeth "Libbi" Martin, '13, (public account.) was hired by Johnson Mackowiak, LLP as Staff Accountant.

Danielle Oakes, '14; Lisa Muldowney, '15, (bus. admin.-market.), and **Haley Rubino, '15**, (commun.-pub. rel.) won the Rookie Team award at Inside Sales Team, a sales and marketing firm in Buffalo, N.Y.

Samantha Gaudio, '15, (early child.-biology) is finishing up her final year at Hofstra University for graduate school, pursuing a master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education and an Advanced Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis. She is a blogger for the Division of Early

In her studio, Price is producing a new body of work based on art history research and reference photos taken while on a scholarship-funded study program in Italy.

Faculty/Staff/Emeriti

Dr. Linda Brigance (communication) recently donated her dissertation research materials to the Iowa Women's History Archives at the University of Iowa. Her dissertation, "Rhetoric, Reasoning, and Relevance: Theorizing Public Controversy," (1999) used the 1992 Iowa Equal Rights amendment referendum controversy as a case study to examine audience standards of reasonableness and relevance and the role of those standards in collective decision making. The donated collection includes transcripts of interviews with



New York State Supreme Court Justice William K. Taylor, '97



Jenny (Murray) Michalek, '07



Dr. Nicholas Sard, '09



Ryann Bouchard, '11, with fiancée, Paul



Allan Halas, '12



Elizabeth "Libbi" Martin, '13



Lisa Muldowney, '15



Haley Rubino, '15

Patrick Ryan, '85, (account.) was honored as a member of the 25th annual *Buffalo Business First*'s "40 Under 40" class. He is the owner of Fat Bob's Smokehouse.

Lisa Brigantino, '86, (music theory) performed at Cool Little Music Shop in Fredonia in November 2016 and was joined by her husband, **Dr. Thomas Millioto, '88**, (music perf.) for a few songs. She attended the Fredonia Chamber Singers' reunion, participating in its alumni concert in Rosch Recital Hall. Tom was also a guest lecturer at Fredonia, talking about the style of legendary performer Jimi Hendrix.

Deneen Hernandez, '86, (pol. sci.) is a Forensic Examiner in the Cryptanalysis and Racketeering Records Unit in the Laboratory Division of the FBI and provided training to the National

national primaries and the theme for the Miss USA pageant. He has many awards and recognitions — especially for the movie, "Yu-Gi-Oh!"

Wendy (Corsi) Staub, '86, (English) was the keynote speaker for "Wine Between the Lines," a literary and wine event sponsored by Chautauqua Striders that was held at the Alumni House at Fredonia.

Kyle McAvoy, '88, (math) retired from the U.S. Coast Guard. He was the Office Chief for the Office of the Commercial Vessel Compliance at Coast Guard Headquarters.

1990s

Gretchen Geitter, '91, (commun.) was honored by *Buffalo Business First* as a part of the Women of Influence Awards under the

William Taylor, '97, (English) was elected to the New York State Supreme Court. He had been serving as the Monroe County Attorney and Town Justice.

Matthew May, '98, (theatre arts) co-founded a new company, Wild Rooster Events, a corporate event and event marketing company that specializes in customized team building events and facilitation. Information can be found at www.WildRoosterEvents.com.

Melanie (Inguagiato) Ulinger, '98, (school building leadership) was named Principal of Alternative Education at Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Board of Cooperative Education (BOCES) in Fredonia.

Christopher Blake, '99, (econ.) has been named an Administrative Vice President at M&T Bank.

Stephen Erick, '02, (elem. ed.-math) received the Henry Ford National Innovative Teacher Award 2016. He teaches STEM technology.

Jenny Tilaro, '02, (biology-sec. ed.) was appointed Assistant Principal at Randolph (N.Y.) Central School.

Jessica Mancuso-Hunger, '04, (child. ed.-English) attended the commissioner's Teach NY Forum at the State University at Buffalo. She is a teacher at West Seneca West Middle School and is the Candidate Support Fellow for the National Board Council of NY — Far West Region.

Dr. Carolyn Marcille, '04, (English-adol. ed.) earned a Ph.D. in English Literature and Critical Theory from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in May 2016. She

Tom Lowe, '09, (English) received the Environmental Champion Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He is the Director of ReNU at Niagara University.

John Mackowiak, '09, (comm.-audio/radio) was hired as Senior Public Relations Manager at Martin Davison Public Relations, the public relations affiliate of the Martin Group.

Paul Mihalko, '09, (school district leadership) was hired by Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) as Principal at the Hewes Educational Center in Ashville.

Dr. Nicholas Sard, '09, (biology) received his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Fisheries Science from Oregon State University. Nick's

Christian Torres, '10, (bus. admin.) was hired as a diving coach at Cornell University.

Ryann Bouchard, '11, (commun.-pub. rel.) received the 2016 Rising Star Award from the Rochester, (N.Y.) Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) at its annual PRISM Awards in June 2016. She is a Public Relations Manager at Rochester's Dixon Schwabl agency. She also serves on the Ronald McDonald House of Charities of Rochester Young Professionals Executive Leadership Board and is an active member of Young Women's College Prep's Communications Committee and the PRISM Awards Committee.

Allan Halas, '12, (interdis. stds.-music bus.) won the top honor of Sales Person of the Year at Inside Sales Team, a sales and marketing team in Buffalo, N.Y.

Childhood's Student SIG blog and is the media specialist for Hofstra's Special Education Graduate Association. She also attended the Young Child Conference and Expo in New York City.

Colin Mann, '15, (music ed., music perf.) finished his student teaching in Penfield, N.Y., and is living and working in Rochester, N.Y. He has been accepted to the Eastman School of Music as a graduate assistant in choral conducting in pursuit of a Master of Music degree. Last summer, Colin organized a 25-member choir that collaborated with the M.K. Gandhi Institute in promotion of nonviolence and peace for a concert held at Incarnate Word Lutheran Church in Rochester.

Cecelia Price, '15, (vis. arts and new media) is an Artist-in-Residence for North Shore Arts.

state and national leaders of both the pro and anti-ERA factions and primary documents such as organizational newsletters and brochures; news releases; print, television and radio advertising; and political ephemera. Shortly after the archives received the materials, Karen Mason, archive curator, reported that she "used them with our graduate students as a teaching tool to demonstrate how to process a collection. So they have been an educational resource for learning about matters archival as well as the ERA." Dr. Brigance retired from the Department of Communication in September 2015 and currently lives in Orchard Park, N.Y.

Births

A daughter, Riley, to **Kylene (Riley) Marche, '02**, (soc. studies-sec. ed.) and William Marche.

A daughter, Kaley, to **Susan (Porter), '03** (commun.) and **Robert Richardson, '03** (commun.).

Marriages

Jordan Lacz, '08, (vis. arts-graphic des.) to Robert Testa.

Lauren Larson, '12, '14, (biology) to **Justin Giles, '10** (bus. admin.-market.)



Photos from the wedding of Dan Howell, '03, and Scott Falkowski, '03, with touches that made it truly a Fredonia family affair. Instead of table numbers, the couple used photos of campus, and the addition of the flag made for a great "wedding class" photo.

Deaths*

Alumni

Dorothy (Case) Rocker, Class of 1934

Dorothy Morrison, Class of 1937

Patricia (Young) Kinney, Class of 1947

Margaret (Newberry) Luce, Class of 1949

Mary Louise (Willett) Dempsey, Class of 1950

June (Youngs) Fargo, Class of 1950

Jerome A. Noworyta, Class of 1950

Anne (Tiffert) Wohltjen, Class of 1951

Eugenia (Mastor) Peppas, Class of 1952

Mary Jane (Mazurek) Szklarz, Class of 1955

Dr. F. Thomas Sheeder Jr., Class of 1956

Laura (Litteer) Stewart, Class of 1958

Richard "Dick" E. Greeley, Class of 1959

Gail (Daniels) Hassett, Class of 1959

Vincent Chillemi, Class of 1961

Robert G. Zazzara, Class of 1961

Rheba (Brumberg) Carlson, Class of 1964

Marcia W. Cobb, Class of 1965

Charles Kubecka, Class of 1966

Patricia (Duncan) Lochner, Class of 1966

Anne "Penny" (Chadwick) Small, Class of 1966

Leland J. Carlson, Class of 1967

Myrna (Sixbey) Wolfe, Class of 1969

Howard G. Baumgartner, Class of 1970

Norman H. Ditchik, Class of 1970

Nancy (Bohrer) Candoff, Class of 1971

Carole (Keller) Ernest, Class of 1971

Eileen (Trombley) Sievert, Class of 1971

Rose Bohlman, Class of 1972

Edmund "Ed" Grapka, Class of 1972

Patricia (Halady) Emanuel, Class of 1975

Wendy (Fisher) Garfield, Class of 1975

Harold Lacey Jr., Class of 1975

Loretta (Trippi) Moretti, Class of 1978

James Harry Mourer, Class of 1980

Robbin D. Hill, Class of 1981

Michael J. Henry, Class of 1983

Jill (Reiner) Lowther, Class of 1985

David Jurkowski, Class of 1986

Joseph Diegelman, Class of 1989

Ursula Keough-Bruce, Class of 1989

Melissa "Missy" R. Barber, Class of 1990

John "Johnny" Gizowski, Class of 1993

Susan (Schrantz) Griffin, Class of 1995

Ryan Stadler, Class of 1997

Molly (Meissner) Root, Class of 1998

Faculty/Staff/Emeriti

Dr. Robert Hesse, '53, Press Relations, Alumni Affairs, Fundraising, Executive Assistant to the President

Kathleen "Kay" McDonough, Assistant/Associate Professor, Chair; Communication, 2000-2016

Dr. Joseph Muscarella, College Physician, Director of Health Services, 1982-1998; College Physician, 1998-2000

Dr. Margaret Sawkins-Hastie, Lecturer, Assistant/Associate Professor, Education, 1958-1988

Dr. George Sebouhian, Instructor, Assistant/Associate Professor, Professor, Instructor Emeritus; English, 1972-1998

Dr. Winifred O. Shepard, Assistant/Associate Professor, Professor; Psychology, 1969-1985

**Memorials may be directed to a scholarship established with the Fredonia College Foundation. See www.fredonia.edu/foundation.*



Homecoming — Class of 1981

CAREER CORNER

by **TRACY COLLINGWOOD, '94**
Director, Engagement and Career Development



Advance Your Career

Career success is not a straight line of progression. There are often many forces at play and these can impact your success. If you are at the point in your career when you are ready for the next step, a new challenge or promotion may be the answer. If you find yourself in this situation, the following strategies may help you reach your goal.

Communication is Key

Getting noticed requires that you write well, speak well, and present well. Communicate your value and brand yourself so that your boss will recognize that you are the best fit for a future opportunity. Make sure you have a conversation with your boss, and ask for feedback on how you can assist the organization and contribute at a greater level.

Build Proof of Your Skillset

When a boss is hiring, they are looking for proof that the person hired can do the job successfully and is the best option available. Demonstrate how your collective skillset is distinct, and that you have the passion, knowledge and experience to advance the organization. If you lack skills in a certain area, look for opportunities to work on these.

Create Added Value

Position yourself to be a contributor and team player. Successful people understand the importance of the "we" mentality and support institutional goals. They also offer constructive suggestions and data, facts or examples to make their point.

Who Gets Promoted and Why

People get promoted because their bosses think they will succeed in a new role or assignment. It may seem counter-intuitive, but consider if you are too indispensable in your current job. If your boss cannot do without you, then why would they move you to another job? Similarly, if it costs more to replace you than to hire someone else, you may find yourself missing out on new opportunities.

Make Sure Your Contributions Get Noticed

The importance of being plugged in and aware of your organization's goals are critical. If you are working on a project that becomes unimportant, you are no longer providing value whether you are a strong performer or not. If you want to get noticed, be a team player and part of a solution working on a project that is critical to advancing your organization's goals.

Demonstrate Integrity and Build Influence

Integrity and influence go hand-in-hand. Demonstrate your integrity in all of your work, no matter what the task involves. Do what you say you will, and more if possible. Do not engage in office gossip and be professional in any situation you encounter. Show that you can be trusted.

Remember the Career Development Office (CDO) is here as long as you need. Whether you are starting or negotiating career challenges and opportunities, the CDO can help you plan your next move. If you would like to make an appointment to discuss strategies to advance your career, contact the CDO at (716) 673-3327 or email careers@fredonia.edu. You can also visit the CDO's website at www.fredonia.edu/cdo to schedule an appointment.

Children/Grandchildren of Alumni \$1,000 scholarship awards for Fall 2017-Spring 2018

To qualify for a \$1,000 Children/Grandchildren of Alumni scholarship, students must be a child and/or grandchild of an alumnus/na.

Awards for the Fall 2016-Spring 2017 academic year have been distributed. Applications for Fall 2017 will be accepted beginning February 2017 and due no later than Monday, April 3. Decisions will be made in mid-April and scholarship winners announced shortly thereafter. For more information and an application, go to: <http://alumni.fredonia.edu/Home/Scholarships/ChildrenGrandchildrenofAlumniScholarships.aspx>

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Build the foundation for the next generation of scholars

Fredonia alumni can now claim a piece of their beloved campus forever. The first installation of the Scholarship Brick Walkway was completed outside of the Williams Center in August.

“The intention was to build some more heritage and pride in Fredonia,” said Patty Feraldi, director of Alumni Affairs. “The money raised from the purchase of these bricks will add to our endowment with the Fredonia College Foundation, and many more students will be able to benefit from a Fredonia education.”

Alumni Affairs notes that bricks continue to be available in two different sizes. The first round of approximately 142 bricks has been installed and nine additional bricks have been purchased. Bricks can be purchased any time; the next installation will take place in the summer of 2017.

Many graduates have had their name and class year inscribed on a brick. There are also examples of friends who collaborated on a single brick. Some have commemorated a special occasion such as a graduation or retirement, while others have memorialized or honored a member of the Fredonia community.

You can learn more about the brick installation and purchase your own brick by going to the website at www.fredonia.edu/brick or calling the Fredonia Alumni Affairs Office at (716) 673-3553.

