The Power of Posse
Above: President Crawford stops by St. Leo's Food Connection in Tacoma, where Katrina Hoefflinger ‘21 (left) and Zoe Welch ‘21 sort food items for donation during orientation week’s Community Plunge.

DEPARTMENTS

2 the quad
Goings on around campus. Plus: the football team's trip to China.

6 explorations
Field School Remix
Changing the way we study abroad.

8 q & a
Andy Rex: Information Is Physical
How a physics professor sees the world.

10 connections
Good Alchemy
Reaching Tacoma's youth through skateboarding.

12 sketchbook
Elise Richman's “Spill Series”

FEATURES

14 Follow the Leader
Student orientation leaders reflect on first weeks and gritty bonding.

18 All Together Now
Jess K Smith '05 brings the ARTBARN theater residency to campus.

24 We Are Many
Posse scholars are changing the face of leadership.

CLASSMATES

32 Hugh McMillan '50 on 50 years of mentorship; Asia Wright '04 of the Five Minutes campaign; Naomi LaViolette '98 on preserving a composer's work before Alzheimer's destroys it; the 2017 Alumni Award Winners. Plus: Class Notes, In Memoriam, and Scrapbook.

Contacting arches
Circulation
To change the address to which your copy of arches is mailed or to remove your name from the mailing list, please call 253.879.3299 or write arches@pugetsound.edu.

Editorial Office
Voice: 253.879.2762; Email: arches@pugetsound.edu; Post: Arches, Office of Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St., Tacoma WA 98416-1041.

arches online
pugetsound.edu/arches

arches (USPS 003-932) is published quarterly by the University of Puget Sound, Office of Communications, 1500 N. Warner St., Tacoma WA 98416-1041. Periodicals postage paid at Tacoma, Wash., and at additional mailing offices.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Postmaster: Send address corrections to arches, Office of Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St., Tacoma WA 98416-1041.

©2017 University of Puget Sound. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced without written permission. The opinions expressed in arches are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official policy of the university.

For the sight-impaired, a PDF copy of arches that is readable by JAWS software is available by writing arches@pugetsound.edu.

arches is printed with soy-seal approved inks on paper that contains at least 10 percent post-consumer waste. The paper is certified by the Rainforest Alliance to Forest Stewardship Council™ standards, and it is manufactured 20 miles from where arches is printed and mailed.

"Like" University of Puget Sound on Facebook and get more stories and news all year round. Note: We have merged the arches Facebook page with the main university page, and there's so much to explore there!
What we did this summer

Astronomical phenomenon
On Aug. 21, the first coast-to-coast total solar eclipse in 99 years stretched from Oregon to South Carolina. While Tacoma was not in the path of totality, students, faculty, and staff gathered outside to watch the moon partially obscure the sun. The sky darkened, the temperature dropped, and an eerie hush fell over campus as people stood gazing upward in awe.

End of an era
Robin Hamilton, associate director of athletics, retired in Sept. after 32 years. During her tenure, she was also the sports media relations director and head softball coach. She led the softball team to 455 wins, which still stands as a Puget Sound record. Robin was a six-time District and three-time Regional Coach of the Year and coached a dozen All-American student athletes. “I will forever be grateful for being a part of the Puget Sound community,” she said.

Academic excellence
Led by coach Mark Massey, the Logger volleyball team received the 2016–17 American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award for maintaining at least a 3.3 cumulative team grade-point average during the season.
Welcome, class of 2021
Amanda Diaz ’18, ASUPS president, addressed incoming students with a moving and powerful convocation speech on Aug. 18. “You have to go through life with more than just passion for change; you need action,” she told them. “Not just awareness, but a movement. Not just hashtags and Facebook posts, but institutional change. That means you cannot afford to sleepwalk through life. You cannot be ignorant about history because the more we avoid it, the harder it is to change the future.”

President Crawford also welcomed new students to the Puget Sound community, and reminded them: “You will become the leaders our world needs.”

Robots in space
The Puget Sounders, a team of 18 local seventh- and eighth-grade students from our Summer Academic Challenge program, won the Zero Robotics Washington State Competition and advanced to the international finals. On Aug. 11, the kids converged at the Museum of Flight in Tukwila, Wash., to watch a NASA astronaut at the International Space Station referee a microgravity game in which their robot competed to grab the most floating objects. The Puget Sounders lost the finals, but the experience in coding and its real-world application will help prepare the students for careers in the sciences, math, computer technology, and engineering.
Excellence in teaching
Roger Allen, professor of physical therapy, received the 2017 President’s Excellence in Teaching Award. At the annual Fall Faculty Dinner, he was recognized as a “master of the teaching craft” who “exemplifies what teaching means” at Puget Sound. Professor Allen teaches courses on anatomy, neuroscience, functional neuroanatomy, and psychological aspects of the physical therapy practice.

National Dog Day
One of our favorite Instagram accounts, @dogsofpugetsound, showed this happy pup basking in the love on Aug. 26.

LogJam!
In accordance with Puget Sound tradition, the annual LogJam! festival celebrated the completion of the first week of classes on Sept. 1 at Todd Field. The Puget Sound community joined with neighbors and guests for an evening of student music performances, food, and a campus activities fair, where student clubs and groups got a chance to attract new members and show off their work. The event culminated with a movie on the lawn at dusk.
Bonding in Beijing

There are at least nine Chinese words for “family.” And none of them are “football.” Yet the Logger football team, under Head Coach Jeff Thomas, is perhaps more a family than anything else, right down to eating meals together—whether on campus during training camp or kicking around Beijing.

In May, 25 members of the team embarked on a nine-day cultural and educational tour of China, led by Coach Thomas, offensive coordinators Taylor Chapatte and Rob Clements ’05, M.A.T. ’07, and athletic trainer Craig Bennett. The trip was organized by Global Football, which has led football-based trips to 28 countries for American high school and university students since 1996.

“I was immediately on board and knew this would be an experience of a lifetime,” says quarterback Tanner Diebold ’18. “This trip was the perfect hybrid between a short study-abroad experience and an athletic adventure. Each day was a new journey, and we all set out each morning with an open mind, and embraced the culture.”

The team members visited Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, the Great Wall and Bird’s Nest Stadium. Bolstered by crash courses in Mandarin and Chinese history, they watched a kung fu show, took a lesson in tai chi, and experienced a traditional Chinese tea ceremony. They rode a bullet train to Shanghai, visited the Yuyuan Garden, and spent an evening on a yacht cruising the Huangpu River. They bargained with local vendors, tasted regional delicacies, and rode rickshaws through densely populated streets.

And they did it all together. “The football team is so close because of the endless hours we spend together,” says quarterback Nik Bernhardt ’19. “Logger fans get to experience four or five games a year, but we work almost 10 months of the year with each other.”

Senior free safety Max Washam ’18 agrees. “When we first arrive for camp in August, we have team activities every night that help build a foundation for our team to connect with one another. We eat every meal together, and spend so much time together that we develop a strong team camaraderie.”

That team spirit is essential on the field, which is where this group is most excited to be—even half a world away from Baker Stadium. Apart from the cultural tour, the Loggers were in China to play. They led two youth football clinics and then challenged the reigning American Football League of China champions, the Shanghai Titans. The Loggers won 84–6, racking up more than 300 rushing yards, eight sacks, and nine interceptions.

Coach Thomas says the team prides itself on representing Puget Sound “always and in all ways.” He says, “I have always liked that phrase, and it has stuck with me. We represent the school well in a variety of ways, whether in the classroom, in the community, or on the field (in all ways). Further, we will do it to a deep, authentic level (always).” It’s a mentality he expects his players to embrace. And they do.

“I think a large reason why we’re so tight-knit is that we’ve all bought into something much bigger than each of our individual desires or aspirations,” Tanner says. “We feel as though we understand one another and where we are coming from when we slip the pads on.”

—Sarah Stall
By the time the plane touched down in Jakarta, Indonesia, Lizz Marks ’18 had lost all conception of time. Perhaps, she thought, that was for the best.

Lizz and several other students from the University of Puget Sound had left Seattle at 2 a.m., and arrived two days later. “There was just this moment of elation, of everything materializing and becoming real that we were actually there, but also feeling very unreal,” she says.

The travelers were students in Professor Gareth Barkin’s Southeast Asia field school course. They tumbled out of the airport into a cab, and careened through the huge, sprawling capital of Indonesia. “I had never been in a nation where the traffic is like that,” Lizz says. “There are three lanes on the freeway, but at least four lanes of cars plus motorbikes zipping around through everything.”

The effect of the time change and the continuous motion was like having each student close their eyes and spinning them around three times. When they opened their eyes, they were standing at the threshold of their rooms, greeting the Indonesian roommates who would live beside them for three weeks. They had been anticipating this moment all semester, and yet had no idea what to expect. “It was very surreal at first, realizing that we were there, and everything was just beginning,” Lizz says.

As a cultural anthropologist, Gareth approaches study abroad with the goal of fostering a “more global, less ethnocentric” worldview in his students. In the past 10 years, he’s planned and led seven trips to Indonesia, most recently with help from the Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment (LIASE), and he’s given a lot of thought to short-term, faculty-led study-abroad models. With semester-long programs, prerequisites can lay a foundation for language and cultural context, but with short-term programs, language presents a challenge. Without the ability to engage with locals, how can students build the cross-cultural relationships that shatter preconceptions?

Over the years, Gareth has tried to solve this conundrum through three different models of immersive cultural experience. He writes about this in his article “In the Absence of Language: Modeling a Transformative Short-Term Abroad Experience.” One of his first trips, in 2009, was created on what he calls the “cultural tourism” model, with activities designed to familiarize the group with Indonesian history and culture. His students coined the term “temple blur” to describe that experience. Another trip Gareth led was what he calls the “mobile classroom” model: an intensive, for-credit course that took place entirely in Indonesia. But without wider context, the cultural setting essentially became a backdrop for the course.

Then Gareth hit upon a new idea. The “extended semester” model incorporates study abroad as a course component rather than an isolated experience. During the spring semester, students study Indonesian history, environment, and cultural norms. They acquire basic language skills and conduct library research as a framework for an ethnographic research project. Then, in the summer, they travel to Jakarta and Central Java for a three-week period of intensive experiential learning, cultural collaboration, and individual research work.

Initially Gareth hired local university students to act as peer advisors, translators, and guides. This turned out to be the most essential element of the extended semester model, as it broke down language barriers and gave students vital assistance with their ethnographic projects. Still, Gareth wanted to go deeper.

For this year’s trip, he partnered with YSEALI (Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative) to find intellectually minded Indonesians to join the course as full participants. He got more than 3,000 applications and narrowed those down to 10, to match his 10 students. Most of the YSEALI participants were recent university grads, and some were preparing for master’s programs abroad.

“It was amazing,” Gareth says. “The connections were a lot stronger and better and quicker than I’d ever seen before.”
The syllabus covered topics such as Islam, gender, nationalism, and environmental policy. “The collaboration worked on every level,” Gareth says. “We got many different perspectives and really engaged conversations.” And, he notes, it wasn’t just the classroom discussions that added depth—the Puget Sound students and Indonesian participants were living, eating, and traveling together. They were developing real friendships.

The group began their days with coursework, and in the afternoon, small groups ventured out with an ethnographic field exercise, such as interviewing women about religious fashion, or observing social and economic class divisions in the use of green space. The group learned about the use of sustainable, natural fabric dyes through a batik workshop, and they spent three days in a rural village, placed in homestays.

The immersive experience made a big impression on Lizz, who noted that cross-cultural bonding often happened around food. The Indonesian friends would help the group order, and everyone would share. “I learned to eat a whole fish off the bone with my hands,” she says. True to local custom, she even ate the eyes.

Austin Colburn ’18 approached the trip with a different perspective. Though he’d never been to the Philippines, where his maternal grandparents were born, there was something oddly familiar about Indonesia. “I’ve always wondered where I fit in, between being Asian and being white,” he says. “It was weird to be in a place where everyone looked like members of my family.”

Even so, Austin recognized his own biases. He had expected the Muslim participants to be more conservative, and was surprised when women who wore the hijab described it as a personal choice, a mode of expression. “They took a very liberal stance on what it’s like to practice religion, and what it means to express yourself over there,” he says. “The perspectives that the younger participants brought forward definitely showed that Indonesian views on gender identity and gender roles are very fluid and flexible and changing, at least in Jakarta and Jogja.”

Austin’s research project focused on ethnic othering, and his new friends were highly valuable resources. “They knew the local feelings and trends a lot better than I would have been able to on my own,” he says.

Indonesia is one of the more ethnically diverse countries in the world, and the YSEALI participants reflected that. One of the participants was from Aceh, North Sumatra, a special province that practices Sharia law. Others, from Lombok, were dance graduates focused on culture and the arts. Gareth says the personal perspectives they shared broke a lot of stereotypes, including his own. “I wound up learning much more than I normally do in this program,” he says.

For Lizz, the most surprising thing about the experience was how close everyone got. They found they could relate to each other across and within cultural differences, and they had fun together. She’s keeping in touch with her Indonesian friends, and feels that the YSEALI partnership was what made the whole experience so meaningful. “I think ‘humbling’ would be the most pertinent way to describe it,” she says. “Going in not really having any expectations, and being totally blown away.”

“it was amazing. The connections were stronger and better and quicker than I’d ever seen before.”

Pictured, left to right: Participants pose for a selfie with Professor Gareth Barkin at Borobudur, a ninth-century Mahayana Buddhist temple in Magelang, Central Java; the group listens to Iskandar Waworuntu’s teachings on the relationship of Islam to sustainability at the Bumi Langit permaculture farm and institute; Maxx Cohn ’20 with a lychee fruit; participants show off the batiks they made using natural dyes and sustainable techniques under the instruction of Dedi Purwadi (far left), founder of BatikJolawe.
For many of us, physics has a tantalizing, but a kind of scary math-intensive caché about it. For Andy Rex—a fixture in the physics department for more than 35 years—it’s just baseball.

Thermodynamics, heady stuff about heat and energy, is his specialty. In particular, he likes to spar with a tricky little anomaly known as Maxwell’s Demon. He embarked on that research project only after he’d mathematically exhausted parsing the speed, spin, and curve of a baseball—the focal point of the game that is his other great love.

Andy grew up in Middle America’s Peoria, Ill., where his interest in physics grew out of his fascination with the space program. The first physics course he took in high school was during the final year that man walked on the moon. Like millions of kids, Andy was watching on TV, but he was thinking about orbital mechanics. He received his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Virginia in 1982 and has been teaching at the University of Puget Sound since then.

Andy says that “teaching physics is hard,” and because this is a two-sided game, his empathy for the learner is unwavering. I spoke with him at his office in Thompson Hall over the summer.
Q: As a physicist, do you think you see life, or experience life, a little bit differently than people like me?
A: I can’t really say, because I don’t know how you see it. But one incident: I’m playing golf a couple of weeks ago, and a three-quarter moon was up in the sky, but it was daytime, and the guy I play with was a little puzzled as to why that might be. So I had to explain to him the moon moves around the earth once a month, et cetera, et cetera, and we see these different phases. He had never thought about that before. Things like that, I guess, how would see the stars, the moon, I might think a little more that way, while other people say, “Oh, there’s the moon.”

Q: Why should ordinary people care about physics?
A: I think they naturally do care about it, because it’s the world around them. I think it’s built in. Look at kids—they’re curious about everything. In a lot of people that wears off, but maybe in the scientist, it doesn’t. Maybe there’s some Darwinist thing going on here, because people who were thoughtful and curious about what was going on around them were more successful than the ones who weren’t. If people think a little bit about the world around them, they’ll appreciate the world more. Natural processes are fascinating.

Q: It’s a caricature, but, maybe because of Einstein, the physicist is often seen as the ultimate absentminded professor. Any truth in that?
A: There is this stereotype of the professor as somebody who kind of has blinders on. I could say I’ve seen that in some science people. But now it’s the students. You walk around campus, and every student is like this [looking down]. They run into trees and run into each other. Run into me. I have to walk around them, when they’re doing that. It’s a big change from when we were growing up.

Q: You write about the physics of information, which caught my eye because information is not even physical. What’s this all about?
A: Information is physical. That’s the important thing. Why do you think it’s not physical?

Q: Because I might think, “Oh, the sky is blue today.” To me that’s a concept. But that observation doesn’t live anywhere.
A: It does. Once you observe it, you have a retina and an optic nerve, and then it registers in your brain that the sky is blue. Your brain is a physical entity. If information is in my computer here, it is stored in a memory, as a string of ones and zeros. Right? What makes that information is the fact that the one and the zero are physically different states. They’re physically distinguishable from one another. If you take your string of ones and zeros and make them all zero, you’ve changed the physical state. So information is really physical.

Q: You are also fascinated with Maxwell’s Demon. Who is this little devil?
A: It’s very, very intriguing to me. We have these laws of thermodynamics. The first law, essentially the conservation of energy, is pretty straightforward. The second is less so because it represents the tendency for things to run down, become more disordered and less useful in time. But there’s a little crack in the wall. Maxwell was the one who realized this: that maybe if you could control individual molecules well enough, you could make a system run the other way—become more ordered. And break the second law of thermodynamics. That’s what Maxwell’s Demon is. Now, I don’t think, we don’t think, it can work. But the reasons are very complex and subtle, and this is why, something like 140 years after Maxwell thought about it, we’re still thinking about it.

Q: So this second law, stating that things tend to entropy over time and become less organized, does this suggest the universe is fated to end up in one great big hot puddle?
A: Cold.

Q: Cold puddle?
A: Right. One part of the second law is that you can’t convert 100 percent of heat into work. Once the universe’s thermal energy has been completely dispersed, you can do nothing useful with it anymore. So the universe will just be this huge, cold puddle, or so it seems. You can look this up; it’s called heat death. But that’s in the far distant future. That won’t trouble any of us.

Q: Philosophically, though, isn’t that rather bleak?
A: My personality is to stay away from the bleak side. We know we’re not going to live forever. Jack Kerouac said, “Nothing is certain but the forlorn rags of growing old.” So there you go. Any way you look at it.

Q: Do you have any personal hopes of a physics breakthrough that could make a difference in our children’s lives?
A: Yes. One. Because of the importance nowadays of energy production and its relation to climate. Fusion energy is the one that always seems like it’s way off, and it may in fact always be way off. But if it ever does happen, it’s the perfect emission-free, relatively inexpensive, relatively easy way to produce mass quantities of energy. I don’t want the climate to go erratically out of control, but I want my children to have access to enough energy to do the things they want to do to have a good life.
Good Alchemy

Taylor Woodruff ’12 is reaching Tacoma’s youth through skateboarding.

by Sandra Sarr

Even a seasoned skateboarder and creative visionary like Taylor Woodruff ’12 couldn’t foresee just how far a board on four little wheels could take a person. A California native, he arrived on campus at a time when nearly half of Tacoma’s high school students failed to graduate within four years, and too many kids were dropping out. Taylor wanted to use skateboarding as a vehicle to reach Tacoma’s youth. In 2013, he cofounded Alchemy Skateboarding, a nonprofit dedicated to transforming young lives through skateboarding.

According to Taylor, skaters often struggle with a negative public image and a widespread assumption that they disrespect authority and vandalize property. The skaters he knows are intelligent, resourceful, and creative people. Kickflip, ollie, 50/50, 360, he would steer them toward learning and growth both on and off a skateboard.

Taylor knew that in order to make the most impact, he would need community partners. “Luckily we’re in Tacoma, where people are doing innovative things,” he says. In 2014, Alchemy reached out to Jon Ketler, co-director of Tacoma’s School of the Arts (SOTA), a public school that emphasizes hands-on learning, with a proposal to teach a class built around skateboarding. The class was approved.

For the past three years, Alchemy has offered classes through SOTA and SAMI, the public Science and Math Institute. About 50 students each semester take Taylor’s classes, which cover skateboarding, physics, graphic design, woodworking, writing, history, culture, public space use, and safety. “My students show up regularly and on time to class,” he says.

At SAMI, which is located within Tacoma’s 760-acre Point Defiance Park, Taylor leads his students on a skate traversing the picturesque Five Mile Drive, skirting the park’s old-growth forest and the Puget Sound waterfront. They also build custom longboards they can use for transportation. Guest speakers and field trips to businesses help round out their learning, culminating in a final presentation on a topic of their choice.

Alchemy has provided an edge to boost Tacoma’s graduation rate—up from 55 percent in 2010 to 85 percent in 2016, according to the Foundation for Tacoma Students—by engaging area youth through creative partnerships and programs. According to the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, Alchemy reaches more than 1,000 people annually.

Last May, Taylor’s students exhibited their designs in the Spaceworks gallery downtown. “We’re helping them channel their passion,” says Taylor, who built and skated modular furniture put on interactive display at the Children’s Museum of Tacoma for his self-designed studio art class at the University of Puget Sound. “We work collaboratively to build a future where skateboarders are recognized as positive contributors to Tacoma.”

As program director, Taylor makes sure that Alchemy takes skating beyond schools and into the community through a wide range of programs and pop-up skate parks. “Skating is an inclusive culture. Everyone has
the capacity for growth if someone steps in and tips the balance in their favor,” he says.

Taylor is piloting a pair of eight-week programs called METALS (Mentoring, Educating, Transforming, and Leading through Skating), in partnership with the Pierce County Juvenile Court, which he hopes will help transform the lives of young parolees. Four more eight-week programs are planned for this year. Alchemy also takes skateboarding to homeless kids living at the Tacoma Rescue Mission, and has set up a pop-up skate park at the shelter.

Sometimes Taylor sees kids who lack basic necessities such as food, housing, and shoes. When he senses their need, he starts by asking if they want to go skate. “It’s a way to get something out. It cultivates letting go so you can focus on moving forward, which happens to be the case with life. We support each other here,” says Taylor, who gives donated food or shoes to young people in need.

Taylor grew up in suburban Los Angeles, where his father told him to do what he loved and to find good people to do it with. Back then, that meant learning new skate tricks from his best friend. “He was way better at skating, art, and music than I was,” says Taylor of his friend, who had attended a school where he didn’t fit, had slipped into drugs, and had been sent away. Taylor never saw him again. “He wasn’t a bad kid. We always said we wanted to create a place where people could belong.”

It occurs to him now that he’s making good on their shared dream. Alchemy shares space with Grit City Grindhouse, a skateboarding retailer Taylor cofounded in 2013. Visit the mustard-colored 3,000-square-foot corner building on South Seventh Street downtown and you’ll find young people hanging out on a couch watching skating videos, building boards, or practicing tricks.

Taylor and Alchemy cofounder Robert Boyle originally secured the space by pitching a business model for Grit City Grindhouse to Spaceworks Tacoma, a program designed to fill empty storefronts and vacant spaces with art and creative enterprise. He got approved to use the space rent-free for the first six months. It’s where Alchemy operates the city’s only indoor community skate park, offering skate lessons, camps, and group skates. Taylor built about 60 percent of its interchangeable ramps, also used at Go Skate Tacoma, a free event at Tollefson Plaza that attracted nearly 2,000 people last year.

“I was lucky enough to help with Go Skate,” says Claire Canfield ’18, who interned with Alchemy as part of Puget Sound’s Summer Immersion Internship Program.

At Alchemy, Claire fulfilled her desire to connect to the broader Tacoma community. She organized donations for Go Skate and helped create a Resource Board for youth looking for assistance with housing, food, homework, and other support.

“Taylor encouraged me to say yes to new things,” says Claire, whose experience as a roller derby skater made her a good fit. Then again, anybody who walks through the door of Alchemy/Grindhouse is a good fit. It’s a community of belonging that knows the importance of getting up when you fall down, in skating and in life.
Elise Richman: Spill Series

Professor of Art, Painting, and Chair of the Department of Art and Art History

Elise Richman’s innovative, process-driven paintings explore elements of the material world and states of flux. Her current work is informed by multidisciplinary research into water as an elemental substance, physical phenomenon, and resource, and as a subject in landscape paintings throughout history. She was a recipient of the 2014 Greater Tacoma Community Foundation art award and 2014 and 2017 Thomas A. Davis Teaching Excellence Award, and was a finalist for a 2015 Neddy Artist Award in painting. She is currently showing works at “Liberal,” an exhibition featuring the Northwest 5 Consortium painting professors, Oct. 2–Nov. 4, at Kittredge Gallery.

Pictured this page:
Spill III Dry pigment, gum arabic, ink, and acrylic on canvas, 48 x 30 in., 2013

Pictured facing page, clockwise from top left:
Spill I Dry pigment, gum arabic, ink, and acrylic on canvas, 48 x 30 in., 2013
Spill II Dry pigment, gum arabic, ink, and acrylic on canvas, 48 x 30 in., 2013
Spill III Dry pigment, gum arabic, ink, and acrylic on canvas, 48 x 30 in., 2013
Spill V Dry pigment, gum arabic, ink, and acrylic on canvas, 60 x 36 in., 2014

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELISE RICHMAN
Follow the Leader

REFLECTIONS ON ORIENTATION
Orientation at Puget Sound is the ultimate bonding experience. Immersive adventures like backpacking the Olympic Peninsula and canoeing the Hood Canal (Passages) and exploring music, art, and community service in Tacoma (Perspectives) have brought about life-changing moments for generations of Loggers. At the heart of it all are student orientation leaders who guide new students through this major transition into college life, and have some wisdom to share.

My own Passages experience was an overnight backpacking trip led by two fiercely cool and determined women. One was a total free spirit, and the other was on top of everything logistical and mechanical. Despite their opposite personalities, they worked extremely well together, and my Passages experience was the powerful and transformative one that all leaders hope to facilitate.

The big takeaway from leading Passages is that very different people can find ways to work together and collaborate. Groups of 12 strangers go off into the woods at first having very little to talk about, and come back laughing and sharing stories. I hope to take this lesson into the real world as I navigate new work and social environments.

HANNAH GOULD ’18
I remember orientation being very overwhelming, but as soon as I started getting to know more people, I became a bit more comfortable with being away from home. As a Perspectives leader, I think I was able to create that space where incoming students could be vulnerable with each other. Both of my maroon and white groups bonded really well. Now I see them eating together and hanging out. It’s really great to see how much they’ve become part of our community within just a few weeks.

Ivín Yu ‘19

If college were a movie, orientation would be the opening scene where the protagonist has just moved to a new city and has no idea what they’re doing. As orientation leaders, we act as friendly guides through a confusing maze of newness and uncertainty.

As a freshman, I felt the pressure to explore everything. I wish someone had taken me away from the bustling crowd to tell me that stillness can be an excellent complement to motion. As a leader, I had the opportunity to do that for my group. My advice to them was, ‘Give yourself time to figure yourself out in this new space.’ I watched each member of my group sit up a bit taller and breathe a little deeper.

Elena Fulton ‘19
All Together Now

Jess K Smith ’05 brings the ARTBARN theater residency to campus.

by Stacey Cook
“Please come in,” the women said. “Welcome. You’re safe now. We’ve been waiting for you.” They guided the way with flashlights and handed out Dixie cups of cool spiced tea.

The women drew the audience into a dark, steamy gym, where an industrial fan roared in the corner. There was a circle of gray metal folding chairs, and inside that circle, a circular collection of smooth black stones. There was a nylon net hanging from ceiling to floor that held what looked like hundreds of rolled-up white papers. There were three army cots, and a long table, and the darkness in between.

Set in a dystopian future, in a world destroyed by war, the story that unfolded over the next two hours followed several women survivors living in a bunker and working to create an archive of women’s stories so that they would not be forgotten. The audience trailed the women through their isolated world, where each stone in the circle represented a story that each survivor could recite by heart. Recorded narratives played on speakers as the women went through their daily routines, which gave the scene a ghostly, ethereal effect. A beautifully choreographed “training scene” and a dance between Alice B. Toklas and Gertrude Stein were wholly mesmerizing. What looked like hundreds of rolled-up white papers in a net was exactly that—with hundreds of stories written inside.
When the last scene ended and the women said goodbye, the audience filed outside, squinting at the light. It was a blue June evening, and the air smelled of freshly cut grass. The audience munched on pieces of fry bread while the cast and crew grinned for group pictures with Jess K Smith, the director of the production and an assistant professor at the University of Puget Sound. All 11 cast and crew members were either former or current students of hers. The show they had just enacted—still an untitled work in progress—was part of a grand experiment for ARTBARN, a site-specific, immersive theater company that Jess founded in 2013.

ARTBARN is a company of five women, and their performances have typically been large-scale productions with professional actors. Their 2016 show, We Remain Prepared, was mounted at the decommissioned Georgetown Steam Plant in Seattle, and focused on three fictional workers left to tend the empty plant in case of a citywide emergency. It was part theater, part art installation, part walking tour through a historical site filled with turbines, boilers, and valves. A glowing review in The Seattle Times said the show “resonates with the collapse and shock all around us—in industry, finance, universities, the newspaper industry, and beyond.”

This year, with support from the Department of Theatre Arts, the company launched a 17-day residency on campus to workshop a new play with a team of interns. “This year it was about developing the piece rather than producing the piece,” Jess says. The core team flew out from New York, and the whole group lived in a fraternity house, where they covered framed pictures of men with posterboard to fully claim the space. “It was a little bit like camp, but only the good parts of camp,” says Hannah Ferguson ’17.

The story was inspired by the Women’s March, which Jess attended in Washington, D.C., in January. It got her thinking about how women come together in crisis. “It was pretty emotional, to see just how many people across the globe chose to stand together,” she says. But in the months after the march, as each day brought a new crisis, the threat of apathy, or outrage fatigue, felt especially dangerous. What would a post-outrage society look like? How would the same women who had marched in solidarity early on resist the urge to stop caring when things got steadily worse?

The ARTBARN workshop began with these questions. The team imagined the bunker as a sanctuary where a few women survivors would care for each other and work to commit lost women’s stories to memory.

Each woman would hold aloft a stone and recite the story of Amelia Earhart, Ching Shih, Virginia Woolf, Caterina Sforza, Julia Child. “Choosing to preserve stories, to hold on to these legacies of real women—that felt like a rebellious act to me,” Jess says.

Each would hold aloft a stone and recite the story of Amelia Earhart, Ching Shih, Virginia Woolf, Caterina Sforza, Julia Child. “Choosing to preserve stories, to hold on to these legacies of real women—that felt like a rebellious act to me,” Jess says.

Working on a production about women, led by a team of professional women, made a deep impression on Erin Ganley ’18, a theater major. “Having that structure of powerful women doing theater in the real world is very special and important to me as a young woman in the arts,” she says.

McKenna Johnson ’19, a softball player and psychology major, was just dipping her toe in the theater world with this internship. “I was a little intimidated,” she says. “But Jess was very encouraging and was constantly assuring me that I have value in that space. That was the coolest thing for me, to have that validation and support from her.”

Jess was in her element—teaching and directing simultaneously. “I was so proud of them,” she says of her current and former students. “Our department puts a lot of emphasis on being a total artist, which is about being just as comfortable doing research as you are in writing, performance, and design—that’s exactly what we’re asking of them through this residency process, and I was so impressed. Everybody contributed to the conception of every part.”

As both a faculty member and an alumna, Jess is teaching in the same department as some of her former mentors, now colleagues. Professor Geoff Proehl said that when Jess was his student, he immediately recognized her talent when she worked as his assistant director on a production of Russell Davis’s The Wild Goose Circus. “Jess had worked with the actors and developed a complex, beautiful movement sequence, but I didn’t think it was right for the show and pretty much scrapped it,” he says. “All that thoughtful, careful work went out the window. It was Jess’s ability to let that go, and then to continue to fully support the production in every way possible, that most underscored for me her deep skills not only as an individual artist, but also as a collaborator.”

Collaboration is the key to everything for Jess. Each new ARTBARN production begins with “big huge messy ideas” tossed around the room, and Jess steers any conversation, class, or practice room by being completely open to what others have to offer. “I always felt like my voice was heard and that my opinion mattered,” says Zoe Levine Sporer ’15. Other students have said that the most important thing Jess teaches them is not to be afraid to fail. Creative work is about taking risks—and doing it together.
If Jess has a genius for community-building, it might be traced to the many, many practice rooms of her youth. She grew up in Jericho, Vt., a town so small it didn’t have a stoplight. Her mother played piano for local theater productions, and Jess spent her early childhood tagging along to rehearsals until she started performing herself. In her first year at Puget Sound, she joined the Adelphian Concert Choir and landed the role of the Witch in her favorite musical, Into the Woods. She was as enamored by theater and music as ever, and she also found that she loved the liberal arts education model. “All of my professors were asking me to make connections across disciplines, and that was really exciting for me,” she says. She double-majoried in psychology and theater, and minored in music.

After graduating in 2005, Jess worked as an intern at Seattle Repertory Theatre, then moved to New York in 2008 to get her Master of Fine Arts degree at Columbia University. That’s when she met Melissa Brown, who would become the co-artistic director of ARTBARN. Melissa grew up outside Seattle and had actually worked at Seattle Rep at the same time as Jess, but they had never met. They kept hearing about each other through mutual friends, but it wasn’t until they were both living in New York, about 10 blocks from each other in the Inwood neighborhood, that they finally collided. They met for coffee at a little café in between their apartments.

“We basically started spending all of our time together from then on,” Melissa says. They cooked Thanksgiving dinner together a few days after meeting, and eventually Melissa moved into Jess’s apartment, where they began collaborating on theater work. “The vocabulary felt really immediate and understood between us about how to work on a piece,” Melissa says.

In 2012 Jess started dreaming up a company that she would call ARTBARN. She loved site-specific, immersive theater, but what she craved most was a community of artists to create it with. The heart of ARTBARN is its residency model—the members of the company develop each piece collaboratively while living and working under the same roof.

“I was just missing why we got into theater in the first place,” Jess says. “I think people do it because of a sense of community and building something that’s bigger than what they can build on their own. I wanted to collaborate more deeply than I had ever been asked to, and I wanted to create a structure to invite others to do the same.”

ARTBARN established its first residency at Byrdcliffe Art Colony in upstate New York in 2013. When the designer needed help hanging lights, everybody pitched in. When Jess needed an extra set of eyes on a scene, everybody dropped what they were doing to help. They shared meals and rehearsed every day. “Then we mounted a show, had one performance, and tore it all down,” Jess says.

In between creating ARTBARN and launching its first production, Jess was offered a job teaching theater at Puget Sound. She was thrilled by the idea of returning to her alma mater, but the timing was off—she had only just created her dream company in New York. It was a “torturous decision,” but she knew what she had to do. Two weeks after the Byrdcliffe residency ended, she packed up and moved back to the Pacific Northwest, hoping she could continue to lead the company from the opposite coast.

Four years later ARTBARN is thriving, and Jess has been able to use the company’s collaborative model as a teaching tool for her students. Melissa, who is head writer in addition to co-artistic director, flew in for the summer residency. “Having this particular team of interns was phenomenal,” she says. “And it was great to see Jess in teacher mode.”

The workshop production had been mounted at Warner Gym, which wasn’t an ideal space, acoustically speaking, and certainly wasn’t specific to the story of women holed up in a bunker. Now that the workshop process is over, Jess is focused on developing the piece further at Fort Worden Historical State Park, and estimates that the final production is still two years away. “I felt a different pressure this year than I have ever felt with ARTBARN, I think partially because we are a company of women, and we finally chose to do a piece about women,” she says. “I’d like to give ourselves the time to do it well.”

Fort Worden is located on the Kitsap Peninsula, overlooking the Puget Sound, 88 miles north of Tacoma. The grounds include a long, rocky beach with a lighthouse, dense woods dotted with concrete bunkers, and big military houses. Part of what appeals to Jess about the space is how “masculine” it feels. “Everything about it is such brutal architecture,” she says. “It feels like it wants contrast, to be reclaimed with a different kind of power.”

Ultimately, she hopes to curate an arts festival there, where ARTBARN would be just one part of the whole experience. “I would be really thrilled to create a platform for a lot of different artists to collaborate across disciplines in response to a similar site or a shared theme,” she says. Her eyes light up then, and for a moment she gazes out her office window, presumably envisioning the creative work ahead. 

autumn 2017 arches 23
Posse scholars are changing the face of leadership.

By Lourdes Figueroa
“We are not gods.  
But we are many.  
I would hope that we shall once again begin to build  
beloved community not looking for a leader but  
determined to respect and activate the leadership  
capacities within each one of us.”  

—June Jordan, from the essay “Some of Us Did Not Die”
Mauricio Mendez ’20 was 3 years old when he first experienced otherness, being pushed to the margins of a world that he had believed to be his own. Another child at daycare had spit in his face, and though he spoke no English, having recently moved to the United States from Mexico, Mauricio was determined to tell the teacher. “The lady didn’t understand,” he says. “The only other way to explain it was by demonstrating.”

He was expelled—from daycare, Mauricio emphasizes—until his mother arrived to translate. He watched as her words smoothed the teacher’s face and set everything right-side up again.

I met Mauricio on an August afternoon at his home in the heart of the Tenderloin. The heart of San Francisco. I live in the Tenderloin. It has been my home for the last 10 years, where I’ve worked with the Latino community as a family case manager, interpreter, translator, and advocate.

The Tenderloin is one of the toughest places in San Francisco. The moment you walk out the door, you see someone either strung out lying on the street or closing a drug deal. There is much pain in the Tenderloin. There is much life in the Tenderloin. There are families there, immigrant families working hard to pay the rent and put food on the table, working for something better for their children. Those families are my family. They are the ones washing the dishes in the back of your favorite restaurant. They are the ones cleaning the rising tech buildings in San Francisco.

Upon greeting me at the elevator, Mauricio stood tall and shook my hand warmly. In his eyes there was a maturity and a kindness way beyond his years. I wondered if I had ever seen him as a little boy running around this very building where I had worked many years ago. But now Mauricio is a sophomore at the University of Puget Sound and a Posse scholar, and I had come for a different reason—to write his story.

Growing up in the Tenderloin, Mauricio had many opportunities to get into trouble. His parents worked long hours, and they couldn’t watch over him. His mother, Angelica Rivera, appealed to his teachers to accept him for summer school, which he didn’t need, so he wouldn’t be left idle. Mauricio can appreciate that now, when he looks around the neighborhood. “I see the kids I grew up with on the streets doing stuff that she always wanted me to stay out of,” he says.

Angelica’s own education had stopped before high school. “All the dreams that I could not have, I want my children to have,” she told me in Spanish.

Mauricio knew that he was going to college. He applied to 20 schools and received many acceptance letters, but none met enough of his financial need. “I told my mom, I’m going to college definitely, but it
might not be as soon as you think,” he says. “Then I got lucky.” In December of his senior year, he was chosen to be among the first contingent of Posse scholars at the University of Puget Sound.

The Posse Foundation seeks out exceptional students from diverse metropolitan areas and partners with some of the country’s top colleges and universities to award them full-tuition merit scholarships. The selection process is notoriously intense, with three interviews over a period of four months, and it’s highly competitive. This year, 17,000 students have been nominated for 750 available scholarships. But Posse is more than a college access program—it is a social justice movement.

Farah Elakhaoui, the director of the Bay Area office and a Posse alumna, told me that leadership comes in many different forms. Posse considers an alternative set of qualities to assess students’ potential and motivation to succeed, and tries to catch students who might otherwise be overlooked. “We want to change the face of leadership,” Farah says. “We want Posse scholars to sit at the table where important decisions are being made, because they represent all of us. They represent the voices that are currently missing.”

Each Posse is a group of 10 students who stick together throughout college. They begin training during their final semester of high school, meeting weekly for two-hour workshops on team-building, cross-cultural communication, academics, and leadership. Posse scholars arrive on college campuses ready to start building a more inclusive community and leading the way forward.

Mauricio hit the ground running. “When it came to socializing, fitting in—piece of cake,” he says. “It was amazing. People were really nice, and I wanted to do everything. I joined clubs. I joined sports. I was even involved in student government. I was overwhelmed by the opportunities, the resources—basically everything you could do.”

A friend convinced him to play rugby by saying it was just like football—he quickly found that not to be the case. An even greater shock came when he joined the club Advocates for Detained Voices, a group that visited the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma every other Saturday.

“I thought I could go and help,” Mauricio says. “I didn’t realize how bad it was going to get. It was very hard. I saw families crying. I feel like we’re in an age where media has made it super easy to have an apathetic nature. When it came to being up close and personal, instead of seeing it on TV, seeing [detainees] crying and talking about how they were stripped away from their families, seeing the conditions, hearing of a diabetic who wasn’t given insulin—it was all just overwhelming.”

Mauricio had intended to major in microbiology, but now he plans to become an
immigration lawyer. He wants to go where resources are scarce, where immediate help is needed.

Meanwhile, he’s already doing important work as co-president of Latinos Unidos. “The club is basically a safe space,” he says. “Latinos can come in, relax, debrief.” He spoke of the need to code-switch in a predominantly white environment, which can get tiring. Latinos Unidos provides a place where he can be himself, where others share his culture and perspective.

Even so, Mauricio saw an opportunity for the club to increase community engagement. “I wanted to make it more of a learning experience and social justice thing,” he says. “It was ironic that we had to say this, but we had to make the club more inclusive.”

He and his co-president organized an evening of learning about Latino culture. “What we wanted to do was say, ‘You guys don’t know much about Latinos. We know this because we see how you act around us. Come over, come.’ We had white friends who loved to eat Mexican food, or Latino food, but they don’t know the roots. They don’t know the stuff that’s going on. They just don’t know.”

Mauricio and his classmates carry a generation’s hope on their backs. The hope of deeper connection and understanding, of creating change through dialogue. Mauricio is still that little boy, earnestly seeking justice and understanding, but now he has the words he needs to reach out.

San Francisco skies shone blue as I made my way to the Posse Foundation’s Bay Area office to meet another Posse scholar, Simone Moore ’20. As soon as I stepped inside, I was greeted warmly by a group of high school students sitting together on couches. The space was wide open, bright, and full of color.

Posse has 10 regional chapters throughout the country, and the Bay Area chapter is the newest. When the office opened in 2015, Posse began searching for a new university partner to commit full-tuition funding and to help deliver a strong program for Bay Area scholars. Though Posse has been around since 1989, the new chapter, the scholars, and the school would be embarking on a new journey together. They were all in it for the first time.

Simone and I sat down to talk in a little office. As a confident and curious person, she has a way of putting people instantly at ease. “I have billions of questions, and I want to find things out,” she says. “If you talk to my friends, they’ll be like, ‘She’s a human encyclopedia.’ I just like to know things.”

She grew up moving all around San Francisco but lived mostly in Ingleside, a quiet and diverse working-class neighborhood. She recalled that she’d been researching colleges, looking for a school with a combination of
“We want Posse scholars to sit at the table where important decisions are being made. They represent the voices that are currently missing.”

great research and music programs, when her high school counselor suggested Puget Sound. As a bonus, she could try to get a full scholarship through Posse. Simone went for it, and she got it.

Simone strives for independence, a way of being that was instilled early by her parents. She arrived at Puget Sound knowing how to speak to people, deal with difficult situations, do her laundry, feed herself—things that other students her age struggle with. Still, she had her challenges. “I was expecting to fall into a pit of despair at some point, which did happen, but it was helpful because now I know what that feels like,” she says. “I worked really hard and prioritized studying and doing work, but I didn’t think my social life would be as dead as it was.”

This year, she plans to find a better balance. As a psychology major, with a minor in neuroscience and an emphasis in bioethics, she’s interested in pursuing research and doing advocacy work that contributes to public policy changes. “Ultimately I want to be a helpful and useful person,” she says.

In addition to being on the executive teams of the Black Student Union and the Adelphian Concert Choir, she’s leading a new club called Visible Spectrum that strives to empower and support students of color who are interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).

The biggest challenge for Simone has been adjusting to a new environment. As a woman of color in San Francisco, she was not accustomed to standing out, being stared at on the street, having people ask to touch her hair. The relative lack of diversity in North Tacoma and on campus was hard to get used to. “It’s a little bit of a culture shock, because I’m like, where are all the brown people? I can’t find them,” she says. “But I think the school’s really working toward trying to fix that, which I appreciate.”

One of Simone’s biggest strengths is her willingness to engage, and she’s finding a sense of belonging within the liberal arts education model. “If there’s one thing that I really love to do, it’s having someone who opposes my viewpoint and then arguing with them in a very respectful, intellectual way just to see if I can change my viewpoint or change theirs,” she says. “I’ve gone into those conversations with professors, and it’s been fantastic.”

In her first year, Simone experienced the power of being part of a Posse. The whole group met weekly with Ariela Tubert, their faculty mentor and an associate professor of philosophy, for workshops on team-building, career planning, health and wellness, current events, leadership, and cross-cultural communication. They also went bowling and hiking at Point Defiance park. In their second year, the Posse 1 scholars will begin to facilitate many of the workshops themselves. By their third year, the scholars will forge ahead on their own, together.

Simone feels the support. “They’re not just my Posse people—they’re actual friends that I’m getting close to,” she says. “It’s incredibly important to me to have people in my corner, so I think Posse will have an imprint on my life for a very long time.”

The last Posse scholar I spoke with was Priyanki Vora ’20. We met at a coffee shop in the Haight, where she grew up, and the sound of city construction rattled around us as we talked. Both of her parents had immigrated from India, but she and her twin sister were born and raised here.

Priyanki recalls that at the first Posse interview, she and a group of about 50 students were asked to walk around the room as if it were filled with Jell-O. “I couldn’t take them seriously,” she says, recalling that exercise. The next interview changed her mind, though, and she hung on through the final round.

One day in December, just before her high school’s winter break, Priyanki was taking an exam when her phone lit up. It was Posse calling. She stepped into the school hallway to answer.

“Do you still want to attend the University of Puget Sound?” Farah asked.

“Yes, of course,” Priyanki said. Then she heard screaming and cheering—it sounded as if all four staff members were in the room. Farah informed her that she got it. She was headed to the Pacific Northwest as a Posse scholar.

Priyanki was shocked. She had wanted this so badly, and she was also worried about leaving her parents and her sister, leaving her city for the unknown. When she told her parents the news, her mother started crying. “My dad was excited, but I could see that he was also worried, because out-of-state was never something that I thought about. It was intense when they found out. Over time, going through all the Posse meetings, they understood that it was good for me. Now, they’re more on board. The initial reaction was very scary.”

Priyanki has always wanted to be a doctor. Her grandfather had dreamed of opening a hospital in the small town where he was born, in western Gujarat, but before he could build it, he was swindled by his business partner. She envisions fulfilling her grandfather’s dream and helping the people there.

Priyanki sees the world, and herself as part of it. She understands the courage it takes to lead now more than ever. “I’d never
decisions are being made, because they represent all of us.

been away from my family for more than a month,” she says. “That disconnect was hard, especially with my sister. I’ve always been really close to my dad, and he has a lot of health issues. If anything happened, my mom doesn’t speak English, and it would be really hard for her to deal with anything. But the more things I got involved in, the more I understood that life doesn’t stop for my parents just because I’m not there. After that, it became a little bit easier.”

At Puget Sound, Priyanki is studying molecular and cellular biology and history. She is on the pre-med track, and wants to eventually specialize in orthopedic surgery. “It’s a field where there are very few women, especially women of color,” she explains. “There’s a lot of space for growth.”

She is also restarting the South Asian Student Union. She was surprised by how much it matters to her to find people who look like her on campus. “Even if there are only six of us that identify as South Asian, I think it’s important for us to get to know each other,” she says. “My family has a community of other South Asians in San Francisco, but it had never been so significant to me. I think I’ve come to realize how much that matters.”

As I talked with the Posse scholars, I was able to see myself in them. I was able to feel the long line of struggle, el esfuerzo. This word can be translated into two parts—strength and perseverance—and with it, all of our stories intertwine.

My parents were migrants who moved up and down from Guadalajara, Mexico, to California, working in the tomato fields. As a high-school student, I took part in the federal Migrant Education Program’s pre-college summer training. There, I met students who were also like me. It was wonderful and empowering. But after the summer ended, we lost touch. My first year of college was daunting, being surrounded by a world that didn’t resemble anything I had known. I didn’t know how to articulate this to my peers, and even less so to my family.

That’s what makes Posse so powerful. After the semester-long training in high school, the scholars stay together and help each other navigate a new environment, which helps with retention rates. They also have important support from the university, beyond their scholarships. As their mentor, Ariela meets with Posse scholars individually every other week, and as a group each week.

Ariela met her Posse in July before the start of their freshman year, when they all attended a three-day retreat at Camp Lode-star in California, along with Bay Area staff. She got to know them over lunchtime chats and laughing through the “no-talent talent show.” When they regrouped on campus, she guided them through challenges and watched them hit their stride. “I’ve done a lot on campus, but this feels to me like the most meaningful work,” she says. “These students are very special to me.”

Posse is a point of pride for the university, too. “Posse students bring skills and motivation to be leaders on and beyond campus, partnering with other students, faculty, and staff to strengthen teaching and learning even further at Puget Sound,” says Academic Vice President Kristine Bartanen.

After graduation, the Posse scholars will remain connected through their shared experiences, but more than that, they’re able to see their stories as part of a larger narrative, and themselves as part of a larger movement. They are part of a national network of leaders ready to sit at those important tables and create real and lasting change.

The late poet and activist June Jordan wrote that when she spoke of people and community she spoke of all of us, the white working class, the black working class, the white feminist, the black feminist, the elderly, the young, the hopeful, the visionary, the terrorized, the people who just want to go on with their days, everyone—we cannot exist separately and still call the United States a democracy. None of us gets far on our own; it takes a village.

Posse continues to grow. In the foundation’s 28 years, 8,000 scholars have earned $1 billion in leadership scholarships. Posse is currently partnering with 56 universities, and their scholars have a 90 percent graduation rate—well above the national average. The vision of Deborah Bial, Posse founder and MacArthur “genius grant” awardee, is coming to life. “Imagine the network that’s being built among young people who represent the diversity of this country,” she says. “That is the goal of this program.”

This fall, as Puget Sound’s first contingent of Posse scholars embarks on its second year, a new group of scholars, known as Posse 2, is beginning its first. Priyanki hopes that the new scholars will find support within the Posse family, as she has, but will also keep reaching out to others in the community. “At Puget Sound, we’ve built really good connections, and campus has become more welcoming,” she says. “I think that’s something that Posse will continue to do.”
classmates
Hugh McMillan retired from the CIA in 1978, and he bristles a bit when someone suggests that his lengthy list of community activities means he’s not doing retirement correctly.

“I do it with a passion,” Hugh says. “I’m still breathing; too many of my friends aren’t.”

Hugh and Janice McMillan ’52, his wife of 65 years, admit that their life on the quiet Key Peninsula is a little different from the CIA days that took them to Japan, India, Egypt, Greece, Turkey, and other countries.

“We have lived two totally different lives,” Hugh says. Their home in Lakebay, Wash., is filled with art and artifacts from their travels around the world and with awards and keepsakes from their work since retiring there.

U.S. Congressman Derek Kilmer recognized Hugh’s 90th birthday last year in a speech on the House floor, calling him the “unofficial mayor of the Key Peninsula.”

Hugh may well be the peninsula’s most famous resident.

“Going to Costco with him is a real experience,” Janice laughs. “Every 5 feet it’s, ‘Hi! Mr. McMillan, do you remember me? You took my picture when I was in the third grade!’”

While Hugh doesn’t recall many of the young folks he’s featured over some 20 years in his “Kids’ Corner” column in The Peninsula Gateway, they sure recall the time they were featured in the local news weekly.

“It’s a big deal to the kids,” Hugh says. “The thing is, an adult gave a damn.” That, in Hugh’s view, solves a lot of problems.

Hugh has been a volunteer photojournalist for the newspaper since 1980. “My pay is in the form of priceless column inches to tell about good people and events,” he says.

He began his community work shortly after one of his sons had tragically drowned. He was struggling with grief when the Key Peninsula Fire District asked him to become a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician. He agreed but figured they would part ways before long. Within the first few weeks he helped save another man’s life.

“The fire department saved my life,” Hugh says. “I looked into my heart and said, ‘Maybe I’d better hang around for a while.’” That was in May 1980. He’s still involved with the fire district, where he is a lifetime honorary Washington state fire commissioner and volunteer, and a past president of its firefighters association.

Hugh’s other causes include the Key Peninsula Lions Club (of which he is a charter member), Prison Pet Partnership, Communities In Schools, Citizens Against Crime, the Peninsula Schools Education Foundation, Peninsula Emergency Preparedness Coalition, the Hope Recovery Center, and the Gig Harbor Boys & Girls Club. He and Janice have tutored area kids in reading.

“I’m a rock star,” Hugh laughs. “I’m into everything! That’s what keeps me breathing. I don’t have time to die.”

Everything includes trains. There’s a restored, all-steel railroad caboose parked in front of the McMillan home, and it houses an amazing collection of railroad memorabilia. Hugh figures his love for trains dates back to when he was 8 years old. He received socks for Christmas, while his cousin got a cool electric train set.

“I hated him,” Hugh says with a smile. “I decided, some day, I’m going to have a train bigger than yours. Well, I’ve got the bigger train.”

The caboose was the first of its kind to be used by the Northern Pacific Railway, but the interior was gutted by an explosion of its diesel stove.

“It was just a great big, rusted, bent box,” when he got it, Hugh says, and he worked with craftsmen and volunteers for two years to restore it. “I’m proud of what we did to it.”

Hugh fesses up that, at age 91, he occasionally gets a bit tired out.

“I work my tail off, but I love what I do,” he says. “Every now and then I think, why the hell am I doing this? It’s exhausting!”

That thought is usually countered by a “Hi, Mr. McMillan” moment that energizes him once again.

“If you think I’ve got the guts to quit—no, never,” Hugh says. “I know I’m making a difference in a lot of kids’ lives.”

—Greg Scheiderer
Can bigotry be vanquished five minutes at a time? In an effort to prove it can, Seattle attorney Asia Wright co-launched the social media campaign Five Minutes on the Fourth of July this year to combat negative perceptions of American Muslims.

“We’re saying, “Take five minutes to begin to know Muslims as humans. Don’t assume. Be willing to ask questions,”’ Asia says.

She and 11 other Washington Leadership Institute (WLI) attorneys produced a series of five-minute videos that show American Muslims living their everyday lives as a means to change negative perceptions about them. As a WLI fellow, Asia was mentored by influential leaders in the legal community, including the Washington State Supreme Court justices who advised her on the project.

The Five Minutes campaign has reached thousands of viewers and opened dialogue. One video features former Marine Ted Hakey Jr., who fired four shots into the Baitul Aman Mosque in Meriden, Conn., as a drunken response to the terrorist attacks on Paris in November 2015. No one was injured, and Hakey later apologized to members of the mosque. “If I had knocked on the door of the mosque and went in there and spent five minutes, I would’ve realized immediately that there’s no extremists in there,” Hakey says in the video. “My views would’ve been entirely changed, and this would never have happened.”

Asia hopes that the Five Minutes campaign will reach people like Hakey before they react to terrorism by targeting Muslim communities. She saw the positive effect of social outreach at the Muslim Association of Puget Sound in Redmond, Wash., in November 2016. After a vandal destroyed the mosque’s sign, twice, Asia attended a fundraiser to replace it. “They were so welcoming. Lovely people, open. They invited me to their prayer services and welcomed questions. Their generosity blew me away,” she says.

As a woman of color and the first in her family to attend college, Asia knows firsthand what it’s like to be the target of discrimination. She earned a law degree as a pathway to political office, but switched course to join the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, which eventually led to a career in maritime law. Despite her success, she has often been mistaken for a court reporter.

The Five Minutes project provides her with the opportunity to combat stereotypes and stand up for justice. “You don’t have to believe in Islam, but at least have respect for those who do,” she says.

—Sandra Sarr
Saving His Music: 
**Naomi LaViolette ’98**

A fascinating project to preserve the music of a Wilsonville, Ore., composer with a fading memory has given an unexpected turn to the career of musician Naomi LaViolette ’98.

Steve Goodwin has composed and played piano music for most of his 67 years, but recently he started having trouble playing his scores. He was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer’s disease. Steve rarely wrote down the musical notes, and his family feared his compositions would be lost.

When Naomi heard his story, she thought she could help because of her knowledge of composition and musical structure, ability to learn music by ear, and perfect pitch. She started sitting down at the piano with Steve, who could still play his music in fits and starts.

“I could hear how he would interpret melodies or how he would shape things, and so I could emulate that,” Naomi says. “I could really hear his heart as a writer, and try to express in his pieces what his heart was trying to say.”

After countless sessions, Naomi was able to re-create a large portion of Steve’s music. She recorded 16 tracks for an album titled *The Nature of Love*.

“It’s preserving his heart, it’s preserving his love for his family members, and it’s preserving his memories at a time when he’s devastated at the loss of his memory because of this disease,” Naomi says. The music is available on savinghismusic.com as well as through other music sales services.

*The Oregonian* picked up the story, a version of which was reprinted in *The Week*, giving it national exposure. *CBS Sunday Morning* did a piece about the project, and there’s even been talk of a movie about it.

“It continues to spread,” Naomi says. “It’s been life-giving on all counts.”

Naomi is keeping busy with her own music. The attention has brought more composing opportunities, and her third album, *Written For You*, consisting of songs commissioned by others, is scheduled for release in October.

—Greg Scheiderer
2017 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

SERVICE TO PUGET SOUND

Presented to a volunteer who has demonstrated extraordinary service to Puget Sound. Whether their service includes involvement in the Alumni Council volunteer network or with other departments, these alumni have left an indelible mark on the university.

Lynn Ellen Johnson Raisl ’77, P’13

Lynn's Logger lineage is more than 40 members strong, including her husband, Ed Raisl ’78, P'13; daughter Emma ’13; and uncle, Professor Emeritus of Religion Bob Albertson ’44.

As a student Lynn was engaged as a member of Alpha Phi sorority and the tennis team. As an alumna she is an active volunteer and a key leader in reconnecting alumni with Puget Sound. She currently serves as president of the Class of 1977, and she chaired her 40th Reunion Planning Committee. Lynn is also the immediate past president of the University of Puget Sound Women's League and continues as a chair of the group’s annual flea market fundraiser. During her two-year term as president of the league, Lynn brought new energy to the group and increased membership. Under her leadership the Women’s League Endowed Scholarship Fund currently totals nearly a million dollars, and in 2016–17, the group awarded more than $34,000 in scholarships to 15 students.

Lynn also continues to play a significant role in the Alumni Council’s admission efforts. She and Ed have hosted Summer Welcome Gatherings for incoming students and families in their home for the past four years.

YOUNG LOGGER SERVICE

Recognizes a current student or recent graduate (within the past 10 years) whose contributions have resulted in programming that inspires young Loggers (alumni and/or current students) to engage more deeply in the rich alumni traditions and spirit of Puget Sound.

Laura Coe ’10

Laura has been an active leader of the Seattle Regional Club since her graduation. In 2013 she took on the role of coordinator for the Seattle Regional Club, leading the team of volunteers that plans events for Seattle-area alumni. Under her direction the Seattle club has been among the most active. Past events have attracted alumni from across class years and have been successful at engaging and growing new alumni volunteers. The club is also a partner with the Alumni Council Admission Committee, which supports student recruitment efforts in the Seattle area. In 2016 Laura was promoted to vice chair of regional clubs. She now manages six regional club coordinators, advising them on everything from event planning to volunteer retention.

As a student Laura was a member of the Business Leadership Program. She also served as a Passages leader, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, was a member of the varsity women's crew team, and graduated cum laude. Laura began her career at The Boeing Company in 2010 as a financial analyst. She is now a senior finance manager with Microsoft, and earned her M.B.A. with honors from Seattle University this past spring.
SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Recognizes alumni whose commitment, skill, and dedication have had a significant impact on their communities. Through voluntary service in artistic, recreational, educational, human service, or other worthy organizations, recipients of this award better the quality of life around them through service.

Leon Alden ’62

The foundation of Leon’s ministry and volunteer work is the lesson he learned from his father: If you see something that needs doing, you do it. After graduating in 1962, Leon pursued a Master of Divinity degree at Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, before returning to Washington to lead his first congregation, Finley Methodist Church, in Kennewick.

For the next 52 years, Leon served as a pastor across Washington. With a knack for identifying a community’s areas of need, he also worked to build affordable housing as a volunteer and board member for Habitat for Humanity; he offered single moms opportunities to pursue continuing education with child care; and he partnered with local schools, food banks, and service organizations. For 16 years Leon worked as a team mentor, runner, organizer, and recruiter for the Washington/Alaska chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, raising more than $70,000 for research. He helped establish the Clothing Closet at Fircrest United Methodist Church, which has made new and gently used clothing available to low-income families and those in need for more than 20 years.

Leon tried to retire once, in 2006, but after just a few months returned to ministry part time for two congregations in the North Okanogan Valley, where he also served for several years as a part-time volunteer chaplain for the county’s hospice program. When he retires (again), he plans to renew his involvement with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. He looks forward to having the time to train for his next marathon.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Recognizes alumni whose professional career and work exemplify the intellectual curiosity, active inquiry, and reasoned independence that a Puget Sound education aims to develop. Recipients have gained national or international recognition in their careers in a manner that reflects positively on the university.

J. Mariner Kemper ’95

Mariner has had a celebrated career in financial services. He became chairman and CEO of UMB Financial Corporation in 2004, at age 31, and in November 2015 took on the additional role of president. Prior to that he served as president of UMB Bank Colorado and as chairman of western region at UMB Financial Corporation. In 2008 he was named American Banker’s Community Banker of the Year, and in 2012 Forbes named him among the Top 10 of “America’s 20 Most Powerful CEOs 40 and Under.”

Mariner is an active volunteer leader and philanthropist. He is a trustee of the Kemper family foundations and currently serves on the boards of the American Royal World Series of Barbecue, National Jewish Health, the Denver Art Museum, and the Boy Scouts of America Denver Area Council.

As a Logger Mariner has been a strong supporter of the Denver Regional Club. He and his wife, Megan Kemper ’95, have attended numerous club events over the years, and they hosted a donor event in their home during the One [of a Kind] campaign. Mariner served as a class agent from 2007 to 2010 and is a current Puget Sound trustee.

Nicholas Cary ’07

In 2013 Nicholas co-founded Blockchain, the most widely recognized and utilized digital assets platform in the world. With more than 200,000 daily transactions using the digital currencies bitcoin and ether in 140 countries, Blockchain was recognized by the World Economic Forum as a 2016 Technology Pioneer.

In 2015 Nicholas was recognized as the European Digital Leader of the Year for his “inspiring and innovative contribution to initiate progress in the digital world.” He is a vocal advocate of financial technology and a trusted resource in the industry, contributing to publications including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Wired, and Forbes, and appearing on CNN, CNBC, CNET, NPR, and more.

Nicholas serves as co-founder and chairman of Youth Business USA, a nonprofit he created with classmate Bo Ghirardelli ’07 dedicated to empowering underserved young adult entrepreneurs through training, microfinance, and business mentoring. Their digital platform, Sky’s the Limit, is using artificial intelligence and machine learning to help solve the youth unemployment crisis. In 2014 Nicholas gifted 14.5 bitcoins ($10,000) to Puget Sound as part of the One [of a Kind] campaign, the first bitcoin donation ever made to a U.S. college.

The Alumni Council Executive Committee (ACEC) is responsible for the annual selection of the Distinguished Alumni Awards. Each year, members of the alumni body and the campus community are invited to submit nominations for consideration. Send your nomination to pugetsound.edu/alumniawardnomination.
alumni news and correspondence

55th reunion
June 8–10, 2018

1963 Dale Chihuly ’63, Hon.’86, renowned glass artist, partnered with Maker’s Mark Distillery Inc. to create Chihuly at Maker’s, a limited-run special exhibition of his work, featuring seven installations that complemented the distillery’s landscape and architecture.

An article in the Coachella Valley Independent profiled the career of Daniel Waddell, calling him “the best piano player nobody’s ever heard of.” Dan received a music scholarship to attend Puget Sound, where he met his wife, Robin Bloms Waddell ’68. Dan’s career includes working on cruise ships, and being a featured pianist, music director, accompanist, and organ designer. He lectured at The University of Arizona and has spent the last 25 years teaching at College of the Desert in Palm Desert, Calif.

1965 Dwight Mears was featured in an article in the Green Valley News marking the 30th anniversary of the end of the Titan II intercontinental ballistic missile program. After graduating from Puget Sound, Dwight entered the Air Force, where, as a new deputy crew commander at McConnell Air Force Base, he was assigned to the Titan II program. Over the next 20 years, Dwight moved up the military ranks, becoming a commander, then instructor commander on a line crew, before promotion to the Air Force’s Plans and Intelligence Division. He retired from military service shortly before the Titan II program ended.

George Obioroz was profiled by The Authority newspaper of Nigeria. The article chronicled his life from birth through his nearly 40-year diplomatic career for the Nigerian government. The piece reads: “For defining pathways and templates of engagement for Nigeria which will enhance her fruitful relationships in a competitive global village; for deploying realism and pragmatism as the new language of international diplomacy, Professor George Obioroz is The AUTHORITY Icon.”

1971 A new series of colorful and engaging books for preschoolers by Karen Robbins M.Ed.’71 was published by Schiffer Publishing. Think Circles!, Think Triangles!, and Think Squares! are lift-the-flap color and shape books designed to increase language and math skills and develop small motor skills in children. Ten more of Karen’s books have been selected by the publishing company for future publication.

45th reunion
June 8–10, 2018

1973 Lynn Humphrey Kaho’alaha took her seat as principal of Lahainaluna High School in Hawai’i in July, reports Lahaina News. She graduated from Lahainaluna in 1969 and earned her bachelor’s degree in education at Puget Sound, before completing her M.Ed. at Heritage College and Certificate of Administration at University of Hawai’i, Manoa. Lynn taught for two years in Tacoma, then returned to the islands, teaching and serving as an administrator at the elementary and high school levels for more than 25 years before returning to lead her alma mater.

1975 Barbara Baldwin joined the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District special education team. She brings to the post 40 years of experience as an occupational therapist working with autistic children and students diagnosed with cerebral palsy. After 35 years living in the Washington, D.C., area, Wendy Severin Goldfin ‘75 and Michael Goldfin ‘75 have moved back to Tacoma. Wendy retired from a teaching career with Fairfax County School District and now writes STEM curriculum and conducts workshops for museums and schools with her company, Get Caught Engineering. Michael retired from broadcast journalism after a long career reporting on the White House and Congress for television stations across the country. He returned to graduate school to earn his master’s degree in history and now writes history curriculum and is researching a book. Wendy and Michael are delighted to be back in the Pacific Northwest.

1976 Paul Ried was part of a team of independent financial advisors who met with members of Congress in June to discuss the goals of preserving Americans’ access to affordable, objective financial advice and protecting investors. President and CEO of Paul R. Ried Financial Group in Bellevue, Wash., Paul has been an independent advisor for 31 years.

1977 Fire Service Chief Patrick Piper served as the faculty speaker at the Bates Technical College 2017 commencement ceremony. A full-time faculty member at Bates for more than 15 years, Pat served as a fire captain at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor for 20 years before joining the faculty.

1980 John Glad and his wife, Molly, opened CPR Cell Phone Repair in Silverdale, Wash., joining the largest and fastest-growing retail mobile device repair franchise network in North America.

1981 Stuart Allison published his second book, The Routledge Handbook of Ecological and Environmental Restoration (604 pages, Routledge, hardcover and eBook). He served as the book’s co-editor, in addition to writing a chapter and co-writing the introduction. Stuart reports that he’s happy the project is complete, so he can “get back to the actual work of restoration in the field.”

1984 zuChem Inc., an innovative supplier of glycochemicals and specialized sugars for the food ingredients, fine chemicals, and related industries, appointed Daniel Cummings as chief operating officer and general counsel in July. In this role he is responsible for overseeing the company’s efforts surrounding the manufacturing and commercialization of its xylitol product, in addition to managing legal functions of the company and serving as an integral member of the zuChem executive team.

1985 George Fox University named Robert Hamilton recipient of the 2016–17 Faculty Achievement for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship award. A professor of physics in the university’s College of Engineering, Bob researches the properties of waves formed by the interaction of the solar wind—the blast of charged particles from the sun—and the sun’s magnetic field.

1987 Joy Del Calzo is the new residential health services director for Timber Ridge at Talus senior living center in Issaquah, Wash. There she assists residents with navigating available services that create a bridge between independent living and nursing care, based on their individual needs.

1990 The Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin College named Jill Greenwood Nord Family Curator of Education, overseeing the museum’s public programs and community outreach.

1994 Forrest Pierce was composer in...
residence at the Wyoming Festival, a chamber music festival in Grand Teton, in August. The festival is devoted to the creation of new concert music and hosts world-renowned musicians. A composer and poet, Forrest teaches at The University of Kansas and is deeply engaged in working with sounds and processes of nature to create music that helps expand listeners' understanding and appreciation of the natural world. David Watson published his first book, *Walkabout Undone* (320 pages, HenschenHAUS Publishing, paperback and Kindle editions), telling his experiences of academic shenanigans, racism, and xenophobia resulting from his decision to follow love to Australia. *Walkabout Undone* is available on Amazon.

In May Mirna Kent performed in Wayward Ladies’ Finishing School–A Circus Show, a showcase of students graduating from the New England Center for Circus Arts. Mirna discovered circus at Puget Sound, reports *The Commons* newspaper. At first she was a prop manipulator in the circus club, but soon found her true passion in trapeze.

Toria Messinger is pursuing her doctorate in cultural studies and social thought in education at Washington State University, where she is working as a graduate assistant as she completes her degree.

In May Noah Brod was a featured speaker at an InnovateHer 2017 competition in Santa Clara, Calif. The InnovateHer challenge aims to find innovative products and services that help impact and empower the lives of women and families through local competitions across the country. Currently an economic business development specialist with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Noah works to support and encourage small-business ownership and growth throughout Northern California.

2014

2016

2017

2013

Collins Memorial Library welcomed Adriana Flores as archivist and special collections librarian in July. In this role she’s responsible for a wide range of services, including working with donors, managing collections, assisting researchers, and working with faculty members to promote the use of primary sources in their courses. Adriana serves on the Students and New Archives Professionals Roundtable of the Society of American Archivists, and is a frequent contributor to the roundtable’s “Year in the Life” blog series following new archivists in their first professional positions.

Comparative Memorial Library, Stanford University’s undergraduate economics journal, published research by Justin Wagers. The paper, “Vocabulary as an Indicator of Creditworthiness: An Analysis of Public Loan Data,” takes a word-frequency approach to 36,055 loans from the peer-to-peer lending platform Lending Club, and evaluates text submitted by borrowers to improve the prediction of whether they will pay back their loans.

In May Miranda Kent performed in Wayward Ladies’ Finishing School–A Circus Show, a showcase of students graduating from the New England Center for Circus Arts. Miranda discovered circus at Puget Sound, reports *The Commons* newspaper. At first she was a prop manipulator in the circus club, but soon found her true passion in trapeze.

Jonathan Park is a contributor to *International Policy Digest*, where his bio reports that he’s a graduate student at The George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs studying transnational and cyber security. He currently works as a research assistant for The US-China Strong Foundation, and hopes to work as a security analyst for a think tank after graduation.

In May Brandi Denison’s first book, *Ute Land Religion in the American West, 1879–2009* (330 pages, University of Nebraska Press, hardcover), was published in July. The result of six years of archival and ethnographic research, the book is part of the New Visions in Native American and Indigenous Studies Series. Brandi shares that since graduating from Puget Sound, she obtained her master’s degree in religious studies from University of Colorado Boulder in 2003, and her doctorate in religious studies from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2011. Currently an assistant professor at University of North Florida, Brandi lives in Florida with her husband, Russ, and two children, Sophie and Charlie.

2014

2016

2017

2013

Collins Memorial Library welcomed Adriana Flores as archivist and special collections librarian in July. In this role she’s responsible for a wide range of services, including working with donors, managing collections, assisting researchers, and working with faculty members to promote the use of primary sources in their courses. Adriana serves on the Students and New Archives Professionals Roundtable of the Society of American Archivists, and is a frequent contributor to the roundtable’s “Year in the Life” blog series following new archivists in their first professional positions.

Comparative Memorial Library, Stanford University’s undergraduate economics journal, published research by Justin Wagers. The paper, “Vocabulary as an Indicator of Creditworthiness: An Analysis of Public Loan Data,” takes a word-frequency approach to 36,055 loans from the peer-to-peer lending platform Lending Club, and evaluates text submitted by borrowers to improve the prediction of whether they will pay back their loans.

In May Miranda Kent performed in Wayward Ladies’ Finishing School–A Circus Show, a showcase of students graduating from the New England Center for Circus Arts. Miranda discovered circus at Puget Sound, reports *The Commons* newspaper. At first she was a prop manipulator in the circus club, but soon found her true passion in trapeze.

Jonathan Park is a contributor to *International Policy Digest*, where his bio reports that he’s a graduate student at The George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs studying transnational and cyber security. He currently works as a research assistant for The US-China Strong Foundation, and hopes to work as a security analyst for a think tank after graduation.

In May Miranda Kent performed in Wayward Ladies’ Finishing School–A Circus Show, a showcase of students graduating from the New England Center for Circus Arts. Miranda discovered circus at Puget Sound, reports *The Commons* newspaper. At first she was a prop manipulator in the circus club, but soon found her true passion in trapeze.

Jonathan Park is a contributor to *International Policy Digest*, where his bio reports that he’s a graduate student at The George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs studying transnational and cyber security. He currently works as a research assistant for The US-China Strong Foundation, and hopes to work as a security analyst for a think tank after graduation.

In May Miranda Kent performed in Wayward Ladies’ Finishing School–A Circus Show, a showcase of students graduating from the New England Center for Circus Arts. Miranda discovered circus at Puget Sound, reports *The Commons* newspaper. At first she was a prop manipulator in the circus club, but soon found her true passion in trapeze.

Jonathan Park is a contributor to *International Policy Digest*, where his bio reports that he’s a graduate student at The George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs studying transnational and cyber security. He currently works as a research assistant for The US-China Strong Foundation, and hopes to work as a security analyst for a think tank after graduation.
in memoriam

Alumni

Willard “Will” Gee ‘42, M.B.A.’48, P’65 passed away peacefully June 12. Will attended Lincoln High School and served as an anti-aircraft artillery captain in World War II. After a brief career with Day’s Tailored Clothing, he worked in sales management for the Weyerhaeuser Company for 23 years. In addition to earning his bachelor’s degree and M.B.A. at Puget Sound, Will spent a year as acting dean of the School of Business and served on the faculty, alumni board, and board of trustees. He met the love of his life, Marian Wilkinson Gee ’43, when she worked as secretary for then President Franklin Thompson. The couple were married for 63 years. Will was a member of University Place Presbyterian Church and Oakbrook Golf & Country Club, and served on the Lakewood Incorporation committee. He enjoyed traveling with Marian, playing tennis, and bridge, and is survived by his three children, including David Gee ’65; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Harriet Cline Davis ’44 passed away May 31, at the age of 94. Born and raised in Tacoma, she graduated from Stadium High School. At Puget Sound she was a Phi Beta Kappa and served on the board of the university’s faculty, alumni board, and board of trustees. She met the love of his life, Marian Wilkinson Gee ’43, when she worked as secretary for then President Franklin Thompson. The couple were married for 63 years. Will was a member of University Place Presbyterian Church and Oakbrook Golf & Country Club, and served on the Lakewood Incorporation committee. He enjoyed traveling with Marian, playing tennis, and bridge, and is survived by his three children, including David Gee ’65; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Gary Lee Aleshire Sr. ’58 died July 6, a week shy of his 83rd birthday. Gary graduated from Lincoln High School, known for his talent on the trombone, and became the first music instructor at Curtis Junior and Senior high schools. He also formed the first marching band to represent Curtis High School in the Daffodil Parade. A prolific musician Gary wrote and produced both the Curtis fight song and school pride song, organized the school’s first jazz band, and directed its first stage musical, Bye-Bye Birdie. Throughout the years he traveled to perform at numerous jazz festivals, and formed or performed with groups including Destiny City Jazz Band, The Traffic Jammers, The Playboys, The Elks, and more. Gary concluded his professional career as head finance director for the Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society. He is survived by his four children, two stepchildren, and 13 grandchildren.

Alexander “Sandy” de Carteret ’58, P’85 died May 24. Born in Seattle and raised in Sumner, Wash., Alex excelled at football and graduated from Sumner High School in 1950, before attending Puget Sound, where he continued his football career and earned a bachelor’s degree in education. Alex joined the service and, while stationed in Germany, was recruited to play football for the Army, and even played for the semiprofessional Seattle Ramsblers team once his tour of duty was complete. During the 1960s he taught business education and coached swimming and football at R.A. Long High School in Longview, Wash. Under his guidance the football team gained a reputation for winning. In 1971 he joined the faculty at Hoquiam High School as a teacher and counselor, again finding success on the field, where he coached the Grizzlies to a second-place finish during the 1977 state football tournament. In addition Alex helped establish and volunteered to coach the girls’ track team. He retired from teaching and coaching in 1992, and in 2003, he was inducted into the Washington State Coaches Association Football Coaches Hall of Fame. Alex is survived by his wife, Joyce; sons Scott and Todd ’85; five grandchildren; and a sister.

Barbara Jack ‘60 died July 21, at the age of 79. She was born in Chehalis, Wash., and graduated from Stadium High School. While attending Puget Sound, Barbara met and married Norman B. Jack. The couple later moved to Kirkland, then Redmond, to raise a family. In 1969 Barbara began her professional career in direct sales, but realized her full potential as a trainer, mentor, and motivator. She built successful sales teams at Tupperware and DK Books, and served as president of both the Seattle chap-
Sheila Marie Quinn Pollack '60 passed away May 31. Born in Tacoma, she was the youngest of five sisters and attended school at St. Patrick’s, Bryant, and Aquinas Academy, where she was a cheerleader for Bellarmine. At Puget Sound Sheila was a member of the Chi Omega sorority and graduated with a degree in occupational therapy. While working as an intern and therapist with the VA hospital in Santa Monica, Calif., she met and married graduate student Robert Pollock, an occupational therapist with disabled patients. He worked as an occupational therapist at VA hospitals in North Carolina and Texas. Sheila was never happier than when he was on his boat or sitting beside the water, relaxing with family and friends. He had a deep love of animals and enjoyed sports of almost any kind, playing tennis until his passing. Survivors include his wife, Joni; four children and stepchildren; and several grandchildren.

Mary Ellen Hartle Tapp ‘61 died peacefully May 26, at the age of 77. Mary was born in Seattle and graduated from Queen Anne High School. She was a member of the Alpha Phi sorority at Puget Sound. In 1960 she married Clifford Edward Tapp and settled in North Seattle, where they raised a family. Mary enjoyed an active career culminating in 17 years as executive secretary to four consecutive bishops of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church. Upon her retirement in 2010, she was recognized with the Bishop’s Award for her service. Mary was active in her church and enjoyed boating, bird watching, playing bridge, and spending time with her family and friends. Survivors include Cliff; children Doug and Marcia; and two grandchildren.

Marianne Lynn Ide ‘62 passed away June 10. Born in Tacoma, Marianne graduated from Stadium High School and attended Puget Sound before completing her degree at Washington State University. In 1963 she married James Ide ‘66, and had two children. Later she returned to school to become an R.N., eventually finding her calling in home health and hospice care. Marianne traveled the country with her life partner, John Starwich, ultimately settling in Bremer ton, Wash. She is survived by her brother, John; children Christine and Dennis; and three grandchildren.

Jeffrey Brotman ‘64, Hon. ’16 died Aug. 4, at the age of 74. A Tacoma native Jeff began his college career at Puget Sound and completed his bachelor’s degree in political science at University of Washington, where he also earned his J.D. In 1982, with partner James Sinegal, Jeff established Costco Wholesale Corporation, ultimately expanding the company to hundreds of stores in eight countries over the next three decades. Also committed to philanthropy, Jeff was passionate about education and community engagement. He served on the University of Washington Board of Regents, and established scholarships through the College Success Foundation, Independent Colleges of Washington, Seattle University, and UVW. He and his wife, Susan, were major supporters of Seattle Art Museum, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and United Way of Pierce County, among numerous other organizations. In 2016 Puget Sound awarded Jeff an honorary Doctor of Business degree. He is survived by Susan; their two children and grandchildren; and a brother.

Sidney Albert Olson ’64 passed away June 18, at the age of 75. Born in Detroit Lakes, Minn., Sid moved to Washington state when he was less than a year old, and was raised on Steilacoom Lake in Lakewood, Wash., graduating from Clover Park High School. At Puget Sound he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and served in the Washington National Guard. While in graduate school, Sid married Elizabeth “Ann” Jones in 1965, and that same year began working in Seattle as an industrial engineer for Boeing, helping to start the 737 airplane program. In 1970 the couple moved to Olympia, and Sid took a position with the State Department of Social and Health Services, where he worked for more than 30 years as a planner, analyst, and manager. During this time he also worked with his dad and brothers in land development, construction, and apartment-complex management. Sid loved family gatherings and traveling throughout the U.S. and internationally. For more than 20 years, he and Ann were members and leaders of Sorelle Dinner Dance Club, where they enjoyed dancing into their early 70s. An active Elder in The United Churches of Olympia, Sid worked part time as the organization’s bookkeeper after retiring from his position with the state. For the last 14 years, he was the part-time recording clerk of The Presbytery, retiring (again) in May. Ann, their two children and four grandchildren, and many members of Sid’s extended family survive him.

Bruce Orness ’67 died May 27, at the age of 72. Born and raised in Tacoma, Bruce was drawn to sports at a young age and played quarterback at both Puyallup High School and Puget Sound. He served as a teacher and coach for 32 years; his career included roles as varsity basketball coach at Franklin Pierce High School and assistant coach to his son, Scott, at Bainbridge High School. In his retirement, Bruce and his wife, Kristine Jensen Orness ’67, three children and nine grandchildren; a sister; and the many students, teammates, neighbors, and friends who knew him.

James Julius Crosetto ’68 passed away June 3. He was 72. Jim was born in Tacoma and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1964, before attending Puget Sound, where he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. He served in the Navy from 1969 to 1975, and enjoyed a successful career in banking and as a real estate appraiser for the next 40 years. Jim is survived by his wife, Marilyn, and their children and grandchildren.

We want to hear from you.

Send us a Classmates entry!

First check our guidelines:
pugetsound.edu/arches

Then email us:
arches@pugetsound.edu

Or send us a letter:
Arches
University of Puget Sound
1500 N. Warner St. #1041
Tacoma, WA 98416-1041

Some things to keep in mind:

Class notes We publish Classmates information both in the print edition of Arches and on the Web in the online version. It is our policy not to publish pregnancy or engagement announcements, or candidacies for political office. However, we are happy to print news of births, marriages, and elections to office. Classmates submissions are edited for style, clarity, and length. We put a lot of effort into making sure entries are accurate, but sometimes we slip up. Please let us know if you see incorrect information published in Classmates.

Scrapbook High-resolution digital photos or prints preferred. Kindly identify alumni in the snapshot. Also, please, for baby pictures, include alumni parents in the photo.

To change your address:
Fill out the form at pugetsound.edu/infolink

To request removal from the mailing list:
Email University Relations Information Services at arches@pugetsound.edu or call 253.879.3299.

autumn 2017 arches 41
in memoriam

Mary Ellen Goos Armstrong '72 died May 26, at the age of 67. Mary Ellen was born in Spokane, Wash., and graduated from Cheney High School. She began her college career at Puget Sound, before completing her degree in education at Central Washington University and marrying Mark Armstrong in 1972. She worked briefly for the Social Security Administration before teaching second grade at Liberty Christian School in Richland, Wash., retiring after 20 years. Active at her church and a lover of games, Mary Ellen enjoyed playing the piano and flute, cooking, sewing, traveling, and spending time with her family. Survivors include her husband and children, her brother, and numerous cousins.

Linda Sundquist Jones '73 passed away May 30. She was 65. Linda graduated from Mount Tahoma High School in 1969, before attending Puget Sound. She worked for several years in the operating room at Tacoma General Hospital, and later at the Pierce County Auditor's Office. She is survived by her husband of 36 years, Ronald Jones; three children and several grandchildren; and other members of her extended family.

Lorraine Keniston '73 died May 20, at the age of 96. Born and raised on her family homestead in Napoleon, N.D., Lorraine graduated from Napoleon High School as class salutatorian in 1939. After graduating from Valley City State Teaching College, she began her teaching career in a one-room schoolhouse, where she taught first- through eighth-graders, often riding her horse to work. During World War II, Lorraine moved to Los Angeles and met a tall, blonde sailor, Dick Keniston, at a U.S.O. dance. Over the course of the war, they fell in love, and when the war ended, she met Dick in Tacoma, and the couple were married, making their home in Fircrest. Lorraine was a stay-at-home mom until she went back to school, finishing her “fifth year” and graduating from Puget Sound at the age of 52. She enjoyed a full career as an elementary teacher at several schools within Tacoma Public Schools. Survivors include her son and daughter, several grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Richard Bryce Bannon '74 died June 25, at the age of 71. Bryce was born and raised in Tacoma and graduated from Puget Sound with a bachelor's degree in art and design. During the Vietnam War, he served as a dentalman in the Navy, and later worked as a reserve police officer on Indian Island, Wash. An art enthusiast and entrepreneur, Bryce owned and operated The Silent Brush art school in Chimacum, Wash., and a New Smyrna Beach, Fla., business as a master chair caner. He enjoyed sketching pictures of his children, studying history, reading, and collecting war memorabilia. Bryce is survived by his wife, Patricia, and their nine children, 27 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Guy Gilbo '75 died June 12, after a long battle with cancer. Born in the Emerald City, Guy graduated from Seattle's Lincoln High School in 1965. Attending Puget Sound on a scholarship to play second base for the Loggers, he met Linda Giese at a dance at the Olympic Hotel, and the pair married in 1969. Guy enlisted in the Air Force and served honorably during the Vietnam War as an air cargo specialist and, later, as a staff sergeant. After completing his service, he returned to Tacoma to finish his degree in psychology. As a student he also was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He went on to work as an assistant director for the Seattle Rotary Youth Job Center and in international cargo for Continental Airlines. Guy and Linda shared a mutual love of art, music, and culture, traveling around the world through-out their lives, retiring to their dream beach bungalow on Whidbey Island in 2012. Guy is survived by Linda and their daughter, Lacey; a grandson; two siblings; and many close friends and family members.

Robert Becker '77 died July 17. He was 82. The youngest of four brothers, Bob was born in Chehalis, Wash., and graduated from Adna High School before attending Puget Sound. He spent a year in the Netherlands as an exchange student. In 1977 Bob married Cindy Schindler, with whom he had six children. He worked for many years in the logging industry and owned a sawmill. At the time of his death, he was working for the Thurston County Roads Department. Bob enjoyed spending time with his family, fishing, bowling, and gardening. Over the years he volunteered his time on several mission trips to help those in need. Bob leaves behind his wife, their children, six grandchildren, and a brother.

Frank Edward Perry '78 passed away Feb. 19, at the age of 87. Frank was born in Seattle, graduating from the city's Lincoln High School before serving in the Army. In 1951 he became a trooper with the Washington State Patrol, and he and his wife, Alice, moved from Seattle to Bainbridge Island, where they raised their five children. He was promoted to sergeant in Cowitz County in 1965, and relocated near Kelso, where the family hosted a foster child. Over the next decade, Frank continued to rise through the ranks, ultimately retiring as captain, overseeing King County and special projects, after 31 years of service. Frank and Alice retired to Arizona, where he enjoyed reading, playing card games, and volunteering with the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. He was preceded in death by his son, David. Survivors include Alice, four children, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Lauren "Muff" Eising Jacox '82 died June 9. She was 57. Born in Seattle Lauren graduated from The Bush School. At Puget Sound she studied international relations and French, and served as chapter president of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority. Seemingly fearless and intensely optimistic—despite a lifelong struggle with juvenile diabetes and its related complications—Lauren lived with high energy and great intention. She hiked through Switzerland and spent months biking across France. She married Mark Jacox in June 1989 and, five months later, was given a new lease on life as the recipient of a double organ transplant. In 1996 she accomplished something previously believed to be impossible: giving birth to her daughter, Madison. Lauren was a charter member of the Francis W. Nordstrom Guild, which supports Seattle Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center; she raised funds for and championed the Northwest Kidney Centers; and she lobbied for legislative health care change. Lauren leaves behind her husband and daughter; her parents, Peter and Sharilee, and sister, Robin; and an extended network of friends and family members.

Robert Becker '77 died July 17, at the age of 22. Born and raised in Nashville, Max attended Eakin Elementary School, West End Middle School, and Martin Luther King Jr. Academic Magnet High School before attending and graduating from University School of Nashville. At Puget Sound Max studied communications and occasionally DJed for KUPS. He had a passion for music ('90s hip-hop, especially), and hoped to build a career in music and radio. Shortly after graduation Max moved to Denver to pursue some of his favorite pastimes, including skiing, mountain climbing, and being outdoors. He is survived by his parents, Megan, mayor of Nashville, and Bruce, a professor at Vanderbilt University; his dogs, Hank, Murray, Sherman, and Boris; and numerous family members and friends.


In July retired Lt. Col. Sheldon Goldberg ‘67, P’83 (right) was awarded one of the highest honors of the Military Order of the World Wars, the Gold Patrick Henry Medal for Patriotic Service, for his various duties as a commander in the Department of the National Capital Area, director of the one-day “Law & Order” Youth Leadership Conference, and editor of his chapter’s award-winning newsletter. The award was presented by Lt. Col. John Hollywood, vice commander in chief of the order (left). This October Sheldon’s first book, derived from his dissertation on the rearming of Germany after World War II, will be published by Ohio University Press.

Fifty years ago, on Aug. 19, 1967, four Puget Sound alumni were married in Laurelhurst United Presbyterian Church in Seattle, with a reception following in the main lounge of the Washington Athletic Club. Georgia Buell Adams ‘68 (Gamma Phi Beta) and Edward Adams ‘67 (Sigma Nu) share this wedding photo and the following: “At UPS we had some of our happiest times. The dances, games, cheerleading, The Trail, and Greek life. What fun we all had!” Pictured, from left: Matthew Michael ‘67, P’99, P’01 (Kappa Sigma), Suzanne Buell Michael ‘68, P’99, P’01 (Alpha Phi), Georgia, and Edward. Continuing the Logger legacy are Suzie and Matt’s two daughters, Holly Michael ‘99, M.Ed.’02 and Amanda Michael Peterson ‘01 (both Alpha Phis), and Amanda’s husband, Andrew Peterson ‘01 (Sigma Nu).

Still swapping stories 40 years after living together in on-campus housing, “Stucco House” roommates, honorary roommates, and their spouses gathered in West Seattle this summer. Front, from left: Michael Johansson ’77, P’02, P’14 and Christopher Woodruff ’77. Back, from left: Terese Bye Russell ’77, Kevin Russell ’77, Alan Barber ’77, P’17, Jeffrey Anderson ’78, Jill Kottchik Anderson ’77, J. Todd Fleming ’78, P’11; and Carol Fleming ’77, P’11.

In July several members of the green-and-gold Logger era gathered in Chelan for a reunion of Puget Sound athletes and roommates. Host Don Papasedero ’77 tells us: “These guys remain precious friends who mostly lived together at The Woodard House or at ‘Reds Hotel and Café’ off campus while playing football and baseball. We had a million laughs and toasted each other [as] excessively as we did in college.” Pictured front, from left: Steve Cain ’77, Don, Bernie Klippert ’77, Robin Hill ’76, Nicholas Papini ’75, and Ron Reeves ’76. Back, from left: Danny Besett ’78, Dan Kuehl ’82, Larry Janowicz ’76, P’10, Brent Heath ’77, and Gregg Bemis ’75.

Gamma Phi held a spring reunion June 3 at the home of Terri Murphy Gietzen ’81 in Edmonds. In attendance, seated from left: Krista Pearson ’80, Barbara Headden Tall ’79, P’06, Sarah (Sally) Schad Griffin ’82, Wende Walker Carroll ’79, Lauren (Muff) Eising Jacox ’82; Terri, Sandra Creek Baker ’79, and Susan McElroy Plunkett ’79. Standing from left; Jody Bredeson Callan ’79 and Carol Headden Reid ’80.

Send Scrapbook photos to arches@pugetsound.edu.
This has been a big year for alumnus Randall Fowler ’78, P’08. He and his wife, Keri P’08, trekked 60 miles through the Andes, arriving at Machu Picchu on Keri’s 60th birthday, and summited Mount Hood with his brother to celebrate his 60th birthday. By far the “most awesome” event of the year, Randall tells us, was when his daughter, Corinne Fowler ’08, gave birth to a set of beautiful and healthy twins, Tucker and Charlotte, on March 1.

Award-winning actor, filmmaker, and best-selling author Candace Campbell ’70 continues to blend art and science with her third solo show, Florence Nightingale Live: Integrity, Insight, Innovation. Her film Micropremature Babies: How Low Can You Go? is the result of a five-year research project with families of premature babies. Candy teaches in the University of San Francisco School of Nursing, where she uses improv to train nursing students.

Charles Noble ’90 and Stephanie Kramer were married June 3, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in the Sellwood neighborhood of Portland, Ore. The couple celebrated with nearly 200 friends and family members, and an impressive array of musicians at the ceremony, including musicians from the Oregon Symphony and a choir of 26 professional singers. Pictured are the bride and groom (center) and all the people who officiated or read at the ceremony, including Logger Robert Kingston ’87, third from right.

In June Becca Lewis ’00 received the Gordon C. Lee Outstanding Dissertation Award from the College of Education at University of Washington. She received her doctorate in curriculum and instruction (math education) in June 2016. Becca and Dan Roscoe ’01, a senior environmental scientist at BergerABAM in Federal Way, live in Bonney Lake, Wash., with their two children.

Earlier this year W. Houston Dougherty ’83, former associate dean for student services at Puget Sound and now vice president for student affairs at Hofstra University, hosted Hari Sreenivasan ’95 as part of Hofstra’s Seeking Purpose speaker series. While introducing Hari, Houston talked about their shared “Loggerhood” and the fact that Hari was an admission tour guide as a student when Houston was on staff. Pictured are Houston (left) and Hari, standing in front of a presentation slide showing their senior photos from Puget Sound.
With temperatures hovering around 1 degree, Lindsay May ’05 married Justin McQuiston in a snow-filled outdoor ceremony on Jan. 2, 2016, at Five Pine Lodge in Sisters, Ore. Guests from across the country attended, including many Loggers (and former basketball players). Pictured from left: Josh Walker ’05, ’09, Nick Da Valle ’05, Laura Hirsh ’08, bridesmaid Laura Koval ’06, the bride and groom; bridesmaid Heidi Collier ’06, Ashley Allen ’02, bridesmaid Jen McLuen ’04, D.P.T.’08, Laura Kukulan Baker ’05, Kilty Keaton ’06, M.A.T.’07, Claire Ely ’10, and Lindsay’s father, Steve May J.D.’77, P’05. On May 25 Lindsay and Justin welcomed their first child, Hudson Law McQuiston, pictured here at a week old. Hudson has already met many former Loggers, and (we hope) will graduate with the Class of 2039! Since Hudson’s birth, both Mom and Dad have started new careers. Lindsay, a former high school math teacher, is now the assistant principal at Prairie High School. Justin is currently in the accelerated B.S.N. program at Linfield College with hopes of becoming a family nurse practitioner. The McQuiston family resides in Vancouver, Wash.

Justin Genziano ’05 graduated May 21 with his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Vermont College of Medicine. He will complete his residency in anesthesiology at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center in New York City. In attendance to cheer Justin on were Kat Griffin Wong ’04 and her husband, Erik, who came in from San Francisco.

Danielle Côté-Schiff ’05 and Ryan Kolp ’05 were married on Aug. 22, 2008, in Oregon City, Ore. “After nine years of procrastination,” Ryan tells us, “I have finally submitted ‘the Logger wedding photo.’” Fellow alumni there to celebrate, from left: Ryan Collier ’93, Holly Price-Crowell Collier ’92, Megan Ahiers ’06, the bride and groom; Laura Kukulan Baker ’05, Jerin Falkner Howard ’05, Stephanie Stockwell ’05, Sarah Parish ’05, Mark Baldwin ’05, and Samuel Ziff ’05. Since the wedding Danielle and Ryan have expanded their Logger family to include Ariana, 5; Nathaniel, 3; and Laurel, 3 months.
Leesa Cotton ‘08, D.P.T.’11 married Aaron Nelson on May 20, in Canyon Lake, Texas. They were married by Chris Myhre, head coach for the Logger swim team. Bridesmaids included Johanna Root Heller ‘08, Kelley O’Dell ’09, Elizabeth MacAfee ’14, and Danielle Townsend D.P.T.’11. Also in attendance were Loggers Brian Kramer ‘07, M.Ed.’14; Kelsey Wallin D.P.T.’11; Jeremiah Root ’10; Chuck Root Jr. ’71, P’08, P’10; and Kathleen Wilson ’08.

Leesa Cotton ’08, D.P.T.’11 married Aaron Nelson on May 20, in Canyon Lake, Texas. They were married by Chris Myhre, head coach for the Logger swim team. Bridesmaids included Johanna Root Heller ‘08, Kelley O’Dell ’09, Elizabeth MacAfee ’14, and Danielle Townsend D.P.T.’11. Also in attendance were Loggers Brian Kramer ‘07, M.Ed.’14; Kelsey Wallin D.P.T.’11; Jeremiah Root ’10; Chuck Root Jr. ’71, P’08, P’10; and Kathleen Wilson ’08.

Clay Thompson ’09 was one of 120 Concur employees awarded a “Social Sabbatical” by the company this year. Selected from among 87,000 employees for the program, he was one of 12 stationed in Arusha, Tanzania, for the month of July, helping to build the organizational strategy and marketing for local NGO Vision for Youth. Clay says it was a dream come true to mix his passion for helping others with experiencing another culture—and going on weekend safaris—and chronicled his sabbatical at medium.com/clay-thompson. In his day job, Clay works in customer communications and marketing at Concur, an SAP company, in New York City.

Prescilla Celino ‘10 and Jed Hafner ’09 were married on July 3 in Portland, Ore. Family and friends from across the U.S. and around the globe attended—some traveling from as far as Niger! Though the photo of all the Loggers in attendance was misplaced following the reception, alumni included Casey Langford ’09, Jackie Roth ’10, and Andrew Neal ’07. Following the nuptials the newlyweds traveled for three weeks to Peru, Chile, and Argentina. In Portland Prescilla works for international NGO Mercy Corps, and Jed works for the Division of Management at Oregon Health & Science University.

Prescilla Celino ‘10 and Jed Hafner ’09 were married on July 3 in Portland, Ore. Family and friends from across the U.S. and around the globe attended—some traveling from as far as Niger! Though the photo of all the Loggers in attendance was misplaced following the reception, alumni included Casey Langford ’09, Jackie Roth ’10, and Andrew Neal ’07. Following the nuptials the newlyweds traveled for three weeks to Peru, Chile, and Argentina. In Portland Prescilla works for international NGO Mercy Corps, and Jed works for the Division of Management at Oregon Health & Science University.

Liz McGourty ’08 and Shane Bunker were married Oct. 22, 2016, at The Arctic Club in downtown Seattle. The bride shares that they had a blast celebrating with family and friends, including a number of Logger alumni. Pictured, from left: Seth Doherty ’08, Justin Platts ’08, Teri April-McGourty ’80, P’08, Kevin McGourty ’80, P’08; the bride; Cara Munson ’08, Donna Campbell Stock ’80. Arches contributor Greg Scheiderer; Jacqueline McGourty ’79; and Erin Cassidy Galeno ’86. Other Loggers in attendance included April Tomlinson Asfour ’07, M.A.T.’11, Keith Asfour ’03, M.A.T.’03, Whitney Crittenden Weibel ’07, Jeff Hanway ’09, Megan Ferris D.P.T.’14, and Kathleen McGourty Fortin ’83. Shane and Liz live in Kent, Wash., with their corgi, Brian, and both work in Seattle. Liz is a product analyst for Russell Investments, and Shane is a manager of quality assurance, support, and IT for DatStat Inc.
In July Alyson Sundal ’10 (left) graduated with her Master of Arts degree in stage and event management from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama / Coleg Brenhinol Cerdd a Drama Cymru in Cardiff, Wales. She traveled to Wales to celebrate and walk in the commencement ceremony with some of her cohort, pictured. At home in the Pacific Northwest, Alyson works at PNTA, a theatrical supplies and rental warehouse in West Seattle, as the logistics coordinator in the event services department, and as a freelance stage manager around Seattle.

On June 17, Nico Romeijn-Stout ’12 was ordained in the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church at the joint session of the Pacific Northwest and Oregon-Idaho conferences held in Jantzen Beach, Ore. He was ordained by Bishop Elaine Woodworth Stanovsky ’76, P’10. Loggers in attendance to celebrate the event were Nico’s parents, Rev. Jo Dene Romeijn-Stout ’79, P’12, and Rev. Willem Romeijn ’79, P’12, and friends Dave Johnson ’79, Dale Julander ’80, and Ronald Johnson ’80. Nico is pastor of discipleship and social justice at St. John United Methodist Church in Anchorage, Alaska.

While some of their classmates were getting married, having children, or going to grad school, these Logger alumni met up for a Grand Canyon rafting extravaganza in December 2016. Traveling from Denver, Alaska, Carbondale, and even Antarctica, these Loggers are pictured on the last day of their 25-day trip, from left: Thomas Fitzgerald ’13, Monica Edwards ’13, Tim Kelley ’13, Ben Armstrong ’13, and Gaelyn Moore ’13.

Erin Laurie ’12 and Braden Graham were married at the Tilden Park Brazilian Room in Berkeley, Calif., on June 11. Erin and her maid of honor, Kathryn Murdock ’12, met when they lived together on the first floor of Anderson/Langdon residence hall during their first year at Puget Sound. Loggers in attendance at the wedding included, from left: Kayla Arnold ’12, Kathryn, the bride and groom, and Lauren Franklin ’12.
For her summer research project, sculpture major Anj Cunningham spent time sketching in Kartchner Caverns State Park in Arizona. “The caverns were filled with visually complex and exciting stalagmites and stalactites that formed over thousands of years from single drops of water and mineral composites,” she says. Her drawings captured an abstract landscape inspired by the caves, and from those she created her own “fabricated world” with a series of wax sculptures. This one is on display at Collins Library.
As a summer-camp football coach, Miles taught kids how to translate the skills they learned on the football field—like hard work, dedication, and leadership—to life. As an international business major, he hopes to make a positive impact on a global scale. Thanks to Loggers like you, this Alumni Fund Scholarship recipient is on the path to changing the world.

Make a gift to the Alumni Fund Scholarship today and empower exceptional students like Miles to reach new heights.