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REGIS

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2 | FALL 2017



ALL FOR OTHERS

As host of the 2017 Opus Prize, Regis honors unsung heroes and the pursuit of the common good.

REGIS.EDU/MAGAZINE

14 FORWARD TOGETHER

Reflections on KKK clash of 1920s ring relevant in today's divided world.

18 WITH FLOURISH

New partnership empowers University to elevate the arts.

40 CHAMPION FOR CHANGE

Former basketball star finds new calling serving his fellow citizens.

REGIS UNIVERSITY

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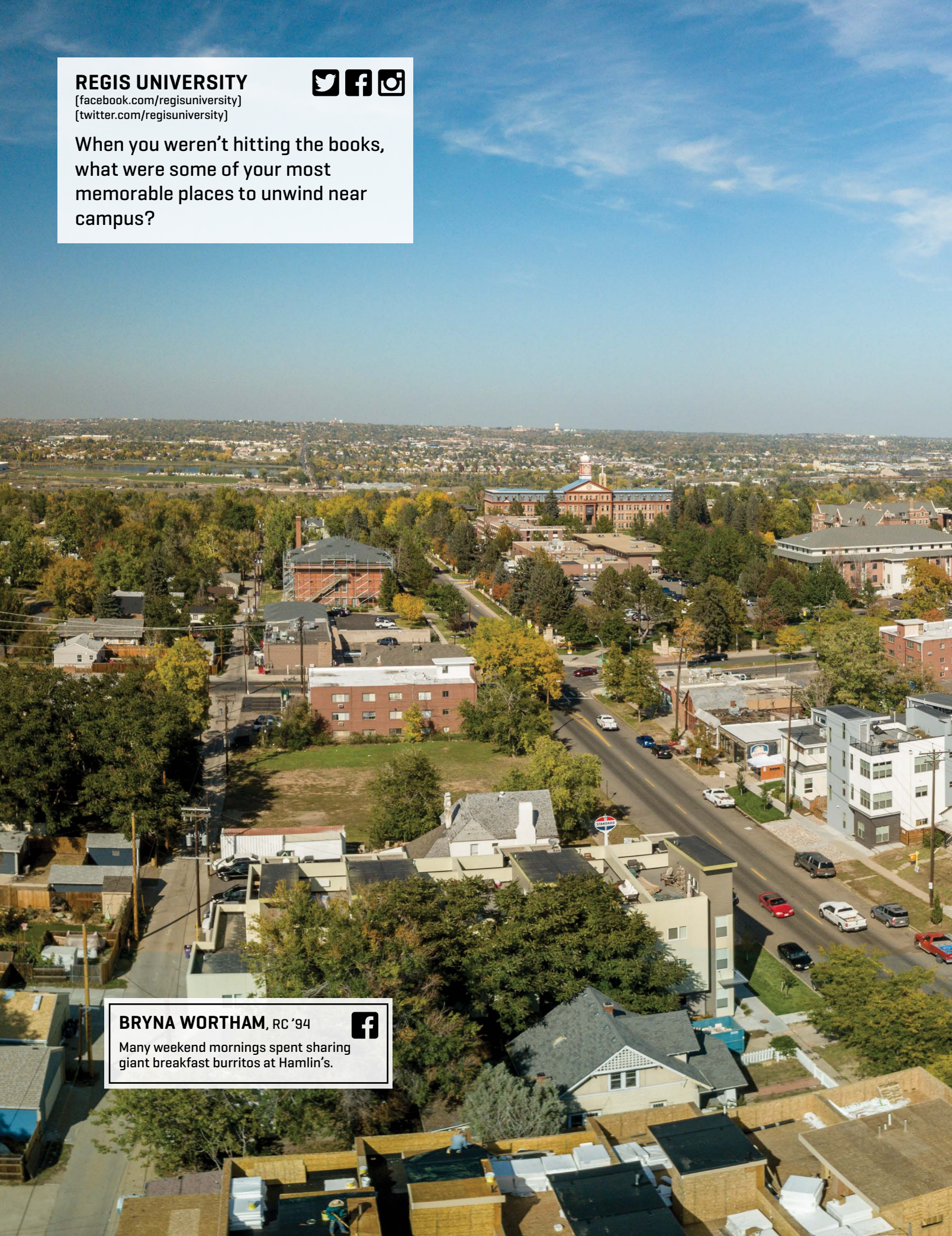


When you weren't hitting the books, what were some of your most memorable places to unwind near campus?

BRYNA WORTHAM, RC '94



Many weekend mornings spent sharing giant breakfast burritos at Hamlin's.





JAMES LYNCH

Irish Exchange Student, 1997-98



There were memorable nights spent in Music Bar, the Hilltop and in Bubbas [on Federal and 49th]. I used to go with some friends to the Panaderia El Alamo. They did some great smothered burritos and the best tortas! Of course the Village Inn on Federal was always a great space for a late night coffee and slice of pie when you were studying all night. I definitely have plenty of fun memories from my year at Regis.

JOSH GALLEGOS, RC '13



Hilltop Bar and late night/early mornings at McCoy's.

SUZI FIGUEROA, RC '78



The Hungry Tummy was many Regis students' hangout especially the morning after frat parties and other celebratory evenings. Breakfasts almost like home.

OUR BEST SHOT

An aerial shot looking north along Lowell Boulevard toward Main Hall shows the growth and changes going on in the neighborhood around Regis.

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REGIS

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2 | FALL 2017

PRESIDENT

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ACRONYMS LIST — **CC&IS:** College of Computer & Information Sciences; **CCLS:** College of Contemporary Liberal Studies; **CBE:** College of Business and Economics; **CPS:** College for Professional Studies; **LHC:** Loretto Heights College; **MFA:** Master of Fine Arts; **RC:** Regis College; **RHCHP:** Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions; **S.J.:** Society of Jesus [the Jesuits]; **RMAC:** Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference

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In the 1920s, the KKK was one of the most powerful forces in Denver. And Catholics were a main target. Learn how Regis and the Catholic community took on the hooded empire.

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Opus Prize winner Sister Marilyn Lacey gives life to women and girls in South Sudan and Haiti, and inspires Regis students to follow her lead.

IN EVERY ISSUE

THIS IS REGIS **5**

These are the stories of who we are and what we believe.

CLASS NOTES **30**

Who got a new job? Who published a book? Who had a baby? Catch up on your classmates' lives.

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President John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., greets students at the freshman convocation in the St. John Francis Regis Chapel. The event is an annual tradition to kick off the academic year.

LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

D
Dear Friends,

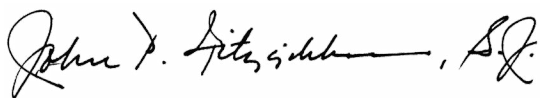
We all have experienced the societal and cultural differences dividing our nation this year, challenges from which our campuses were not immune. As summer progressed into fall, in conversation with colleagues and students, I reflected on the Jesuit principles that have been a witness to truth, goodness and justice through countless conflicts.

Although it would be easy to despair today, I cannot bring myself to do so because I continue to believe in the good in humanity. I see our students engaged in service learning and our faculty tirelessly advocating for students from all backgrounds. I'm also encouraged by the countless affiliates and alumni serving the poor and marginalized. We are surrounded by goodness at Regis that believes the University serves not only itself and its students, but is called to be a force for justice and peace in society. For us, to seek the "greater glory of God" is to bear responsibility for the most pressing issues of our time.

We saw this in Sister Marilyn Lacey, the winner of the \$1 million Opus Prize, a humanitarian award Regis recently hosted recognizing those who bring creative solutions to their work on the margins. Lacey and all the finalists represent the best in humanity. The light of goodness and hope that burns in us is stronger than the forces of darkness and fear that seek to divide us.

I am so proud to serve the Regis community. We are engaged, we are healthy and we are doing God's work. God created our world; we assist our God – through grace and hard labor – in making the world a more humane and just place.

Gratefully,



JOHN P. FITZGIBBONS, S.J.
PRESIDENT



FIGHTING FOR THE UNDERSERVED

Why Jesuit Matters, a reflection by Jodi Ann Gill, affiliate faculty



Nine years ago when I began teaching as an affiliate faculty member, I was not an immigration lawyer. I was a lawyer, yes, but I focused my specialization on criminal law and criminal justice administration. Following the restructuring of the university where I was working, as well as the death of my mother, I needed to reconnect with my faith and commitment to service, so I began a two-year term of service with AmeriCorps. As a member, I provided pro bono legal service to underserved individuals including LGBT youth, immigrants, refugees and victims of human trafficking, and have continued this work since.

My faith, specifically the Jesuit values I am blessed

to incorporate into my teaching at Regis, has helped shape my work with clients and their families. In the current climate regarding immigration, this is essential. *Cura personalis* or care for the whole person should be at the heart of what we do as a nation particularly as we deal with “foreigners.”

Regis values contemplatives in action, which is what we are called to do working with immigrants in these times. Mere philosophical debate is not enough — we must put those social justice ideals into action. Lives are at stake now. One does not need to be an immigration lawyer or a Catholic to assist. Consistent with the Regis core value of men and women for and with others, we need “a

spirit of giving and providing service to those in need and standing with the poor and marginalized” to pursue justice for all. Injustice for any threatens justice for us all. This is not a matter of politics. It is a matter of humanity.

Jodi Ann Gill (above left) joined Regis in 2008 as an adjunct professor of criminal justice. She also recently became involved with the Jesuit Worldwide Learning program providing higher education opportunities to students all over the world in refugee camps. In addition to her role with Regis, Gill practices law as an immigration attorney, serving and fighting for the rights of those who need it most.

BRAVO

a selection of recent faculty and staff accomplishments



School of Pharmacy
Dean Rod Carter received the Colorado Pharmacists Society Lifetime Achievement Award.



The American Harp Society recently honored Regis College affiliate faculty member

Barbara Lepke-Sims with the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award.



Mile High MFA faculty mentor **David Lazar** just published his third book

of essays, “I’ll Be Your Mirror: Essays and Aphorisms.”



David Hicks, English professor and co-director of the MFA

in Creative Writing, published his novel “White Plains” and blogged about his adventures on his cross-country book tour at david-hicks.com.

THIS CORNER OF CAMPUS

Crews successfully completed the second phase of Main Hall renovations



Heart of Jesus statue.

Renderings show what the trees could look like by 2050. The project also includes new storm drainage, while new sidewalks are planned.

As it matured, the previous landscaping threw off the visual balance of the building's exterior. This project will restore that, said Mike Redmond, associate vice president for Physical Plant. But

it's not only about visual appeal. The new landscape also will improve irrigation and lessen the structural base's exposure to water.

"With the interior renovations and now the landscaping improvements," Redmond said, "we are creating a more sustainable facility for our future."

Thanks to our generous community of donors, a multi-phased project is adding luster to Regis' most iconic building while preserving it for the future. Contractors recently completed updates to Main Hall's first floor, including renovating entrances, installing new windows on the west and south facing sides of the floor, and adding

electronic displays for visitors. New sitting areas, and fresh artwork and décor give the space a more gallery dynamic. The floor now matches the look and aesthetic of Main's second floor, which was renovated in 2016.

Upgrades to the Pink Palace

extend outside, too.

A landscaping project, funded from a deferred maintenance budget, is designed to give the building's south side an even grander presence.

New shrubs, flower beds and trees have been planted, with the latter eventually extending out to the Sacred

VISITORS OF VALUE

Sarah Lance, the 2016 Opus Prize winner, spoke in September with students and the College of Business and Economics about social entrepreneurship.



Hector Verdugo — associate executive director of the Los Angeles-based Homeboy Industries, which trains and supports former gang members — spoke in September to first-year undergraduates about his journey from jail to redemption.



The Institute on the Common Good recently hosted **Christian Picciolini** — author of "Romantic Violence: Memoirs of an American Skinhead" and co-founder of the nonprofit Life After Hate — to speak on his emotional drift from his loving family, his recruitment and rapid rise into leadership of the white power movement, and his descent and atonement.



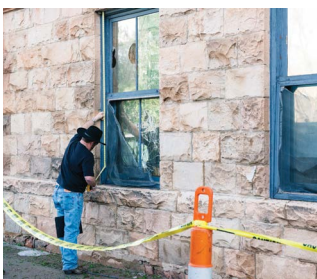
A ROUNDUP OF RECENT NEWS AND NUMBERS



Regis signed an agreement with Longrich BioScience — **THE LARGEST COSMETICS COMPANY IN CHINA** — to deliver an executive management program targeting the company's top 100 distributors.



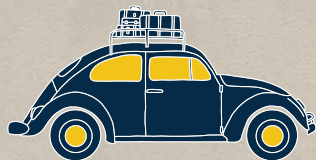
Construction aimed at modernizing the Student Center and making it more of a gathering place for students will begin **IN JANUARY.**



Regis' Northwest Denver Campus has made strong headway recovering from a catastrophic hail storm in May that caused **\$2.3 MILLION IN DAMAGE** to rooftops, windows and outdoor lighting fixtures.



FRESHMAN STATS



GOING THE DISTANCE

8,241 miles

greatest distance traveled by a new, traditional undergraduate student to attend Regis.



VOTED MOST POPULAR

Nursing, Pre-med/Pre-health, Business and Psychology/Science – the most popular identified majors at the time of enrollment

547

Class of 2021 students who started the Fall 2017 semester

56%

are Colorado residents



44%

are students of color

7,410

Total number of incoming student applications received

3.55 Average GPA

WELCOME HOME

Student scholar engages community around immigration



rising stars

Even Goitom's fierce curiosity served the 19-year-old freshman well when she and her family moved from an Ethiopian refugee camp to South Dakota in 2011. The family of six had fled its home in Eritrea near the Red Sea in the Horn of Africa five years earlier.

Transplanted to South Dakota, no one in the family spoke English, so Goitom taught herself by watching children's TV shows, including "Dora the Explorer." She was 13.

Now the recipient of a full-tuition Leadership CORE Scholarship, Goitom will juggle her biology studies with tutoring Denver-area refugee children. She'll

also work with refugee communities in Fort Morgan, a town 82 miles northeast of Denver that has a sizable Somali population.

The work is important to Goitom, who fluently speaks three languages — English, Eritrea's Tigrinya and Ethiopia's Amharic (she's working on Hindi and says she has passable Spanish skills).

"Helping other refugees is close to my heart," said Goitom. "These children and these people need my help."

As a member of Regis' Engaged Scholar Activist program, Goitom hopes this and her other volunteer work will promote peace and justice on campus and in Denver. She's already launched the Celebration

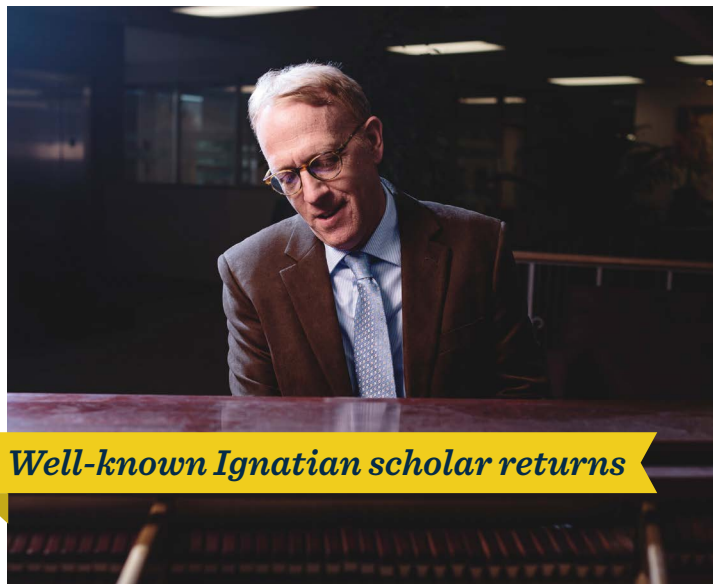
of Cultures, a club aimed at expressing Regis students' rich cultural diversity.

"People from different backgrounds will be able to share their cultures," Goitom said. "I'd like the Regis community to learn about the positive sides of immigrants — learn about our food, our ceremonial dress, and our cultural pride. I'd like to bring positive energy to the discussion of immigration."

Goitom is confident she made the right choice by coming to Regis.

"In the end, after my four years at Regis, I hope I am saying, 'Hey, I'm from Colorado and this is my community,'" she said. "I'm hoping this is my new home."

BACK WHERE IT STARTED



Well-known Ignatian scholar returns

Generations of students credit Regis with introducing them to the Jesuit mission. And Chris Pramuk counts himself among them.

Today, he is a nationally known Catholic theologian and most recently, Regis University chair of Ignatian Thought and Imagination and associate professor of theology. But two decades ago, he was like many young people trying to find his way.

It was then, while studying music at Boulder's Naropa University, that the Society of Jesus' vocation director suggested he meet with the Jesuits. Pramuk connected with Father Kevin Burke, S.J., [now Regis' vice president of mission] and became enthralled by the Jesuits' work. He moved to Denver and took a job on Regis' grounds crew to observe up close while he figured out his next step.

"As a young man, unsure where my life was headed, the Jesuits modeled an engaged faith — engaged with concrete reality, with human lives on the ground, with questions of justice, but also deeply in tune with the life of prayer and discernment," he said.

He went on to earn a master's and a doctorate in systematic theology and to grow as a scholar, teacher, author and musician, including 10 years at Cincinnati's Xavier University before returning to where it all began this fall.

Pramuk will guide Regis faculty and staff formation in the Ignatian tradition and explore the future of Jesuit education. He also will teach two to three courses a year.

"I'm ready to think about and imagine in new ways around these bigger questions," he said.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

2017



MORE PHOTOS, P. 38



CREATING A CULTURE



ranger athletics

Sitting behind her desk, Erin Connolly is out of her element.

Her hands fiddle with papers in front of her and she isn't content in her office chair. This isn't her comfort zone.

"I could never do an 8 to 5," she said.

That's a good thing for Regis Athletics. Prior to the start of the 2016-17 season, Connolly was named the first head strength and conditioning coach for the Rangers. Connolly works with all 12 teams and more than 230 student-athletes.

"I'm creating a culture," Connolly said. "It's not

about counting hours. It's about what we're able to accomplish as a program."

Connolly previously worked for the National Strength and Conditioning Association, and spent time as a strength coach at the United States Olympic Training Center.

Growing up in Texas, she set her sights on earning a swimming scholarship. Eventually she did, and it was in college at

Florida Atlantic University where she found the love and benefits of strength and conditioning.

"That's where I learned about it and how to optimize it," she said.

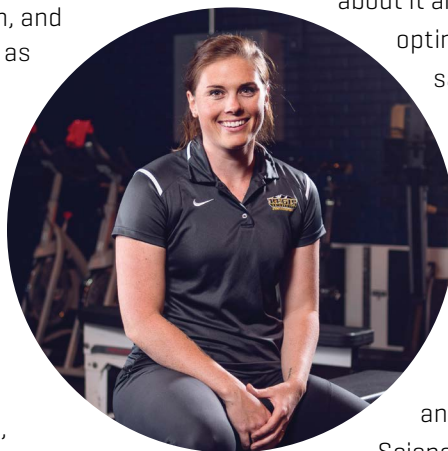
As part of her duties, she also teaches for the

Health and Exercise Science program in the School of Physical Therapy. It can make for some long days.

Connolly usually starts work with teams at 6 a.m. She then preps workouts, teaches in the afternoon and is back in the weight room with more teams at night.

It's worth it, though. Connolly said her first year was about establishing a culture around the Rangers program. Now that she's worked with teams through a full season and offseason, she said she's excited to see the results of all the hard work they have put in.

"It takes a while to create something," she said. "But the athletes and coaches have bought in. I feel really good about what we've done."





CHEERS TO THAT

The inaugural Iggy Beer Fest was a massive success. More than 450 alumni, faculty, staff and friends joined Regis in tasting some of the best beer Denver has to offer and some of the best bourbon Father Fitzgibbons, S.J., was willing to share.

DISCERNMENT THROUGH RESEARCH

REGIS RESEARCH



When Ashley Fricks-Gleason thinks about her teaching career, a defining moment shines through.

"I had the classic undergraduate freak-out," she said. "Going into my senior year I thought 'What am I going to do with a neuroscience degree?'"

But in that moment, Fricks-Gleason defined her teaching style. Now, as an assistant professor of neuroscience,

her classes are defined by asking her students that exact question.

"I dig into them a little bit," she said. "I want to know about them and find out what they really want to do."

That attention to detail in others' lives is not only a key element in her classroom, it's the foundation for Fricks-Gleason's latest research. With the help of several undergraduate students,

Fricks-Gleason is looking at how exercise can help reverse some of the effects of methamphetamine use. The research began years ago when Fricks-Gleason was working in a lab studying Parkinson's disease. After the study's funding got cut, she shifted her focus to addiction.

"I completely fell in love with the subject," she said.

And she noticed something. Previous work showed that

the neurons that die off in Parkinson's patients are the same ones that die off in meth addicts. With the knowledge that exercise helps Parkinson's patients, she thought, "could it do the same for meth addicts?"

Fricks-Gleason and student researchers give rats a series of doses of methamphetamine and then give them access to a wheel for exercise. They look at the effects on neurons before and after, and so far the results have shown the rats' brains benefit from exercise.

Alongside her talented students, Fricks-Gleason has presented the results at several conferences and is in the process of publishing a paper. But the best part is providing undergraduates with research experience.

"Part of my responsibility is to let them come in and get their feet wet with research," Fricks-Gleason said. "I want them to decide if this is what they want to do. If it's not for you, that's alright. To me that's good discernment."

SECURING THE FUTURE



Striving to address a predicted shortfall of 1.8 million cyber defenders around the globe by 2022, federal officials are turning to Regis — well-known for its expertise in the field and its strength partnering with governmental entities including the military, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the FBI.

DHS has awarded a team led by Dan Likarish, associate professor and director of the Center on Information Assurance Studies, an \$804,000 grant that will enhance efforts to graduate workforce-ready cybersecurity professionals by:

- Reducing the technical and social barriers of middle and high school students entering the field through participation in cyber competitions
- Establishing a bachelor's degree program in cybersecurity
- Establishing a partnership with the Colorado School of Mines to develop

innovative course work to teach leadership and team formation — elements critical to responding more quickly and effectively to cyber threats

"This grant allows us to address a global need," Likarish said. "We're empowering underserved students with the skills and integrity to confront the next frontier of modern warfare."



Ignite

THE POSSIBILITIES

Your gift to Regis University helps students set the world on fire.

Zachary Taillie, a third-year doctor of physical therapy student, is able to pursue his dream of becoming a sports physical therapist because of scholarships funded by generous Regis donors. "Other schools may train good physical therapists. Regis teaches me to be a good physical therapist and a better person."

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REGIS
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THE H O O D -ED EMPIRE

Members of the Ku Klux Klan burn a cross near South Table Mountain near Denver in the 1920s. The Klan was a driving force in Denver during the decade, targeting Catholics across the region.

Remembering the CATHOLIC CLASH with the Ku Klux Klan in the **1920s**

BY LUKE GRAHAM

Word had filtered to the Jesuit priests at Regis University. Just blocks away the Ku Klux Klan was preparing to march to campus, plant a cross and burn it.

It was the 1920s in Colorado, so the Jesuits had good reason to be alarmed. The KKK, who targeted Catholics, consistently burned crosses and gathered on nearby South Table Mountain. In part, Regis changed its name from College of the Sacred Heart to not provoke the KKK's ire.

But enough was enough. The Jesuits called on students to protect their school with anything they could find. They lined up every five feet around campus, many wielding baseball bats.

When word reached the KKK, the group abandoned its plan.

This story has been passed down over generations from Jesuit priests to Regis students, faculty and staff. Regis' stand is immortalized with a plaque in the southwest corner of campus, just one symbol of the University's and Catholics' fight against the Klan's 1920s reign in Denver.

A GROWING MOVEMENT

Between 1900 and 1920, more than 14.5 million immigrants entered the United States, most of whom were Irish or Italian Catholics. White Protestants, meanwhile, clung to their religious and political power.

The KKK arrived quietly in Denver in 1921, announcing themselves in a letter to various newspapers on June 17. Their targets were mainly the Catholic and Jewish communities. Their power came not just from violence, but from gaining economic and political control.

The Klan believed it was the embodiment of Christian righteousness. Members were encouraged to accept Jesus as their savior and affiliate with a non-Catholic Christian church. They believed they were the true Americans; they wanted American businesses, American managers and American workers. They denounced Catholic schools and Catholic teachers, preferring public schools that were true to their idea of American identity.

And at its height, one in 10 people in Denver was a KKK member. Colorado had the second

most Klan members in the nation — second to Indiana. At its pinnacle in 1924, the Klan had three to six million members nationwide.

In 1923, Klan-backed candidate Ben Stapleton was elected mayor. Stapleton denied a Klan affiliation, but soon started enlisting Klan members in multiple positions in his administration. By 1924, the KKK had gained control of the Republican Party and swept the majorities in the state general assembly and won other offices ranging from governor and attorney general to state auditor.

The Denver Post wrote the results of the 1924 election “proves beyond any doubt that the Ku Klux Klan is the largest, most cohesive, and most efficiently organized political force in the state of Colorado today.”

REACTION AT REGIS

Initially Regis students didn’t regard the Klan’s presence as an immediate danger. They even made jokes about the KKK in the student newspaper, the Brown and Gold.

That all changed on the night of April 1, 1924. Students had eaten and returned to their rooms when a cross near the south end of Carroll Hall was ignited. Students flooded outside, doused the flames and patrolled campus for hours without finding any of the instigators.

“Debates are hot as to whether the cross was a genuine Ku Klux demonstration or an April Fools’ Day prank, although the act was hardly appropriate in the face of recent friction with the Klan,” the Brown and Gold reported.

With the KKK’s power growing statewide, Catholics started to band together. On Sept. 20, 1925, 10,000 Catholics, dubbed Colorado’s first pilgrimage, met at Regis. Led by the Knights of Columbus and Knights of St. John, they marched in solidarity to the Shrine of St. Anne to hold an outdoor Mass.

Working with Jewish leaders and government officials, their goal was clear: Disband the KKK.

“THE
DANGER OF
COMPLACENCY
IS REPEATED
IN EVERY
GENERATION.”



At one point in 1924, the KKK was believed to have between three and six million members nationwide.



A MOMENT IN REGIS UNIVERSITY HISTORY

This portion of the old perimeter wall has been preserved in remembrance of a student stand against the Ku Klux Klan. In the mid-1920's, according to Jesuits here at the time, word filtered to the priests that the KKK was planning a march on Regis with the intent to burn a cross on the lawn. The Jesuits put out a call to students - both boarders and day students - to protect the campus and bring baseball bats. The call was heeded and Regis students were posted every five feet armed with bats. The KKK, which was organizing a few blocks from campus, received word of the student buildup and disbanded without marching on the campus. Later, the Jesuits found that some of the students were armed with more than baseball bats. Some had brought along pistols.

Positioned in the southwest corner of campus, this sign was preserved to honor a student stand against the KKK in the 1920s.

CRACKS IN THE KLAN

The KKK was continuing its push to eliminate state agencies and replace civil services with KKK members. Stapleton defeated a recall by appealing to the Klan's support. But when the general assembly balked at passing any of the KKK's agenda, and crime increased in Denver, Stapleton distanced himself from the Klan. In April 1925, he ordered the Good Friday raids. The Klan had positioned itself as an opponent of prostitution, liquor and gambling. But Stapleton's raid took down 40 bootlegging sites, 25 bordellos, three gambling parlors and uncovered dozens of Klan members who were involved in the illegal businesses.

With the Klan in disarray and feeling betrayed, the group cut ties with Stapleton as well as several other high-ranking officials. The "Klan governor" was ousted in 1926 and the group's power waned.

HATE TODAY

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) there are 917 hate groups across the nation today. The SPLC lists 130 active Ku Klux Klan groups, with one group listed in Colorado as of last year.

The SPLC lists 16 other hate groups in Colorado ranging from groups that are racist/white supremacist or designated as such because of their views toward gay people, immigrants, Muslims and white people.

Chris Pramuk, University chair of Ignatian Thought and Imagination, said the rise of the KKK in Denver during the 1920s is a reminder that certain groups continue to spew hatred toward marginalized and vulnerable communities.

"The danger of complacency is repeated in every generation," he said. "So, when you see or hear something that doesn't feel right in your belly, St. Ignatius urges us to pay attention to this. When it comes to political discernment, we tend to turn people into abstractions and numbers. But we tend to no longer demonize someone when we know their name and story. We are called as people of faith to see the person first, as God sees them, to seek to understand their story."

But like the Colorado Catholics in the 1920s, we must band together if we are to make any progress, as Regis President Father John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., wrote in an August op-ed in The Denver Post.

He urged us to listen to others' stories and respond with courage, kindness and hope.

"These forces of hate will fail again — if good people stand resolute and not fall victim to their deceit," Fitzgibbons wrote. "This country is bigger than its differences. This world is larger than the forces that divide. ... We believe we can and will succeed in this difficult but sacred work because others have gone before us with challenges as big as ours, like Dr. King, who tell us that our only choice — our only choice — is to live together as sisters and brothers or perish together as fools."



PARTNERSHIP ***and POTENTIAL***

By Jennifer Forker



Whether taking in a theater performance or checking out an art exhibit, Janet Houser found herself invigorated. Such experiences buoyed her creativity and sparked new ideas, while the storytelling gave her a new perspective to see and understand the world around her.

Connecting with the arts had long proven a powerful experience for Houser, Regis' chief academic officer, otherwise known as provost. And her thoughts turned to what it could do for our students and what it could mean for Regis University as a whole to have such exposure.

"In my view, when a university elevates the arts, that is when it is seen as flourishing," Houser said.

But how to pursue seriously without the facilities or the resources needed to start from scratch? The solution was simple: Don't start from scratch. Find a partner.

Then last fall, while at an event at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, she posed the idea to Executive Director Philip C. Sneed: Could Regis and the Arvada Center work together to improve the delivery of arts and humanities for Northwest Denver?

"His response was quick and positive," Houser recalled.

Houser admits that in the beginning she envisioned a collaboration that would provide only a few dance classes for Regis undergraduate students. Instead, the partnership immediately became so much more.

Art and **the Magis**

Alumna Uses Artistic Talents to Serve



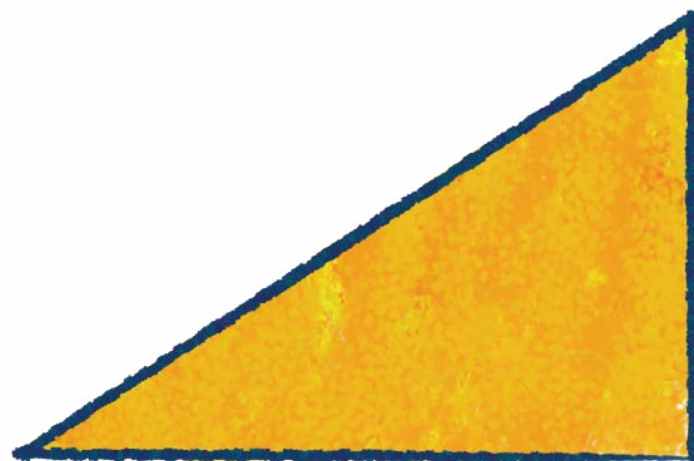
For **Katerina Vuletich, RC '15**, artistic exploration has always been a fixture in her life. Under the mentorship of artists and Regis faculty members Tony Ortega and Barbara Coleman, Vuletich pushed the limits of artistic expression and found her calling.

Using her passion for art and serving others, Vuletich works as a case manager and art group facilitator at Urban Peak, a shelter for homeless youth in Denver.

"The classes were more than economics," Vuletich said. "They showed me social justice from a new perspective."



In her spare time, Vuletich shows her work in local exhibitions. She won the "Best Use of Color" award at the 2017 Denver Chalk Art Festival, and recently won the Denver Art Gym's Create Award, giving her a six-month residency at the creative space.



For now, the freshly minted partnership looks something like this: Regis will offer its students classes in dance (ballet and tap), ceramics and theater — classes it is unable to offer now — at the Arvada Center. In return, Regis will provide academic scholars and programming to beef up the regional art center's humanities program.

"These are all wonderful opportunities for us," Houser said. "I see huge potential, and every time I grab another person to bring to the table there is growing enthusiasm."





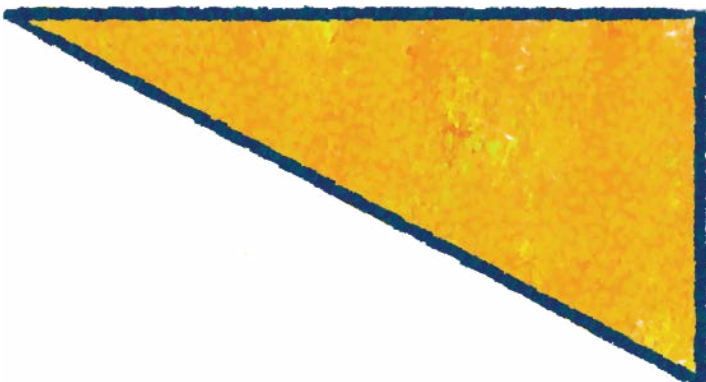
THE PERFECT FIT

Only five miles from Regis' Northwest Denver Campus, the Arvada Center is a titan of Colorado performing and visual arts. The center's annual theater lineup includes regional and world premieres as well as longtime favorites. Its educational program is among the most comprehensive in the state, with music, dance and art classes for children and adults.

"It's a very good relationship," Sneed said. "We're excited about it."

As soon as the agreement was signed in late September, one-credit classes in tap, ballet and ceramics were listed in the Regis Spring 2018 course catalog. The classes are open to all Regis students. The hope is to add acting soon.

"This new partnership brings stellar facilities and courses to our student community," said Salvador D. Aceves, Regis senior vice president and chief financial officer.



CURA APOSTOLICA

The partnership is illustrative of Regis' momentum in recent years that has established the College of Business and Economics, the College of Computer & Information Sciences and other major initiatives to bolster the University's reputation and differentiate it from competitors. It's also on pace with efforts nationwide to infuse arts back into the classroom after a strong focus on sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics, known as STEM.

Given the Jesuits' rich history of commitment to the arts and our roots as a liberal arts institution, as well as an emphasis on *cura personalis* — developing the whole person — it's a natural next step, Houser said. We strive to develop well-rounded students so they are better prepared to serve the world, and so too must the University invest in its own growth along these lines.

"It's *cura apostolica* — care of the institution," she said.

Tomorrow's leaders need critical thinking skills, a passion for lifelong learning, an ethical foundation and creativity. The arts offer students another pathway to cultural exposure, an outlet for expression and a different perspective.

"Having these experiences expands the way we think," Houser said. "They help make us human."



ON TAP

The arrangement is so mutually beneficial that new collaborations already are in the works. The agreement had barely been signed when the Arvada Center asked Regis to provide two scholars to help establish a book festival. Martin McGovern and David Hicks, who co-founded and co-direct the Regis Mile High Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in creative writing, will share this additional role.

Both Houser and Sneed talk about co-hosting a national piano competition.

"Other major cities have such a thing, but we don't in Denver," Sneed said. "That's something we could do together."

One of the most significant

prospects for Regis is the possibility of the University's MFA students seeing their work realized in the Arvada Center's Black Box Theatre.

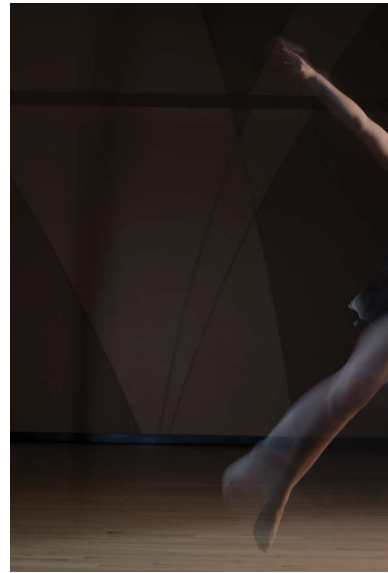
"This partnership provides an unbelievable opportunity for Regis," Aceves said. "It would take us significant time and capital to recreate this on campus."

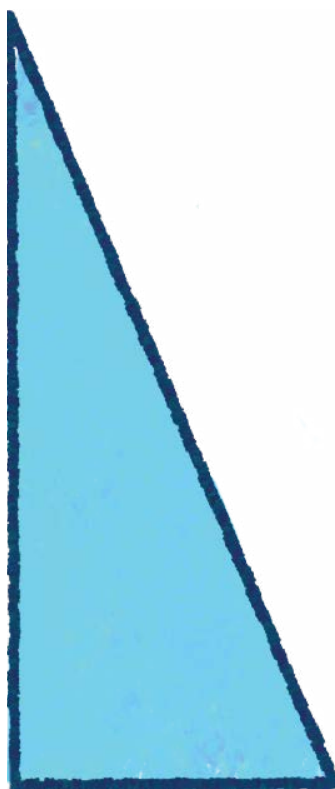
Just as importantly, Regis will be able to provide esteemed scholars for public talks and to curate collections steeped in the humanities — history, philosophy, social sciences and more. In a world of give-and-take business arrangements, this one shines.

"We are the Arvada Center for the Arts and the Humanities,

and the 'humanities' part we've not given much attention to over the center's 41-year history," Sneed said.

"I think we can offer artistic resources to Regis — both people and space — but I think Regis can offer expertise and resources in the humanities to us," he continued. "We have lots of artists both on staff and among our part-timers and contracted people, but we don't have a lot of scholars in our circle. We don't have people who understand pedagogy and can help us craft a real humanities program for the public, one that's accessible to people and not at the 'egghead' level that requires a Ph.D. to understand. Regis can help us with that component."





SHAPING THE EXPERIENCE

Enthusiasm for the partnership has spread. Expanding elective options will enable Regis to better serve the wide range of interests of current and prospective students, which is fitting in the Jesuit tradition of meeting students where they are.

Sarah Engel, director of admissions for traditional undergraduate admissions, appreciates that students will have more access to the arts.

"It will allow our students to experience more diversity within the humanities and it helps traditional undergraduate students find their authentic voice," Engel said.

Sneed expects the partnership also will help

the Arvada Center reach its toughest demographic: teenagers and young adults.

"Our educational expertise tends to be with K through 6 and with adult learning," he said. "We're trying to step up our game with middle school, high school and college. This pushes us."

Many Regis undergraduate students are on board.

"If I could take ceramics for my art credit, I would — 100 percent," said freshman Liam Zahner, a political science and communications major.

Freshmen Mary Wetterer and Kendall Chan are eyeing the dance offerings.

"I can't dance, but I'd love to learn," said Chan. "I think

it'd give us a break from the regular classes."

Houser, who has spent her career in nursing and improving the medical field's data analytics, sees this partnership lasting for many years to come. She hopes the enhanced fine arts curriculum will provide students with lifelong arts appreciation, because she knows how the arts have supported her through the years.

"This is what brings a community to understand it is flourishing," Houser said. "When you're spending the evening listening to music, looking at art or going to the theater, then you are flourishing. So, for me, that's the biggest piece of this."



A SONG FOR THE UNSUNG

BY ARTHUR KNAPP

God's call to serve refugees came to Sister Marilyn Lacey in a dream. In it, Chai, a 6-year-old refugee from Laos, found Lacey and ran to her with his four brothers and sisters. Lacey asked Chai why they were all there, and the child replied, "we are here to teach

you a new way of loving."

Twenty-eight years later, Lacey tells this story before a captivated crowd of students, faculty, staff and friends at Regis University. The large room falls silent as she finishes, each person pausing to listen to his/her own heart's call to serve.

In October, Sister Marilyn Lacey came to Regis as one of four finalists and left as the ultimate winner of the 2017 Opus Prize, a \$1 million honor recognizing unsung heroes for their efforts to solve some of the world's most pressing problems. She accepted the award on behalf of her nonprofit, Mercy Beyond

Borders. After working with refugees around the world, Lacey founded her nonprofit in 2008 to address the worst crisis she had witnessed: the plight of the uneducated and unloved women and girls of South Sudan and Haiti. Mercy Beyond Borders currently supports over 1,400 students in their programs ranging



SISTER MARILYN LACEY
MERCY BEYOND BORDERS
SOUTH SUDAN AND HAITI

celebrations during Opus Prize week at Regis, Lacey and the other finalists (see Page 29) engaged with students in the classroom, sharing their stories of strife, faith and love.

In the St. John Francis Regis Chapel, Lacey told a class of Regis College first-year students to not let the stories of suffering dismay them.

"On my first trip to South Sudan, I saw 10,000 living people who looked like skeletons. I know those 10,000 people later starved to death. But these horrors are only depressing if you just turn off the television, disconnect and walk away. If you get up and do something about it, you'll find a connectedness, a kinship that leads to a binding joy."

The students lined up after the event to thank her, to ask questions and to promise they would not disconnect and walk away.

Regis University President John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., brought the Opus Prize to Regis University because he said it would "inspire Regis students and our entire community to pursue lives of service."

He was right. Geoffrey Bateman, a faculty delegate sent to evaluate one of the finalists' nonprofits, was renewed in his passion to serve.

"We all — students and faculty — learned a great deal," said Bateman, who is

from elementary school classes to adult micro-enterprise training.

The women and girls in South Sudan have never been educated and are considered of less worth than cattle. Decades of civil war have left the country in a desperate state, with violence and

famine claiming lives and causing further neglect to the treatment of women and girls. In Haiti, debilitating poverty persists in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake, severely limiting options for women to become educated and independent. Mercy Beyond Borders offers an education and hope for a life of meaning.

With the \$1 million award, Lacey will endow more scholarships for her students, expand the reach of her programs and grow her staff to help even more women and girls in South Sudan and Haiti.

As part of the many learning opportunities and

WHAT IS THE OPUS PRIZE?

The Opus Prize is an annual, faith-based award given to three nonprofits and their representatives for, in short, changing the world.

The Opus Prize Foundation partners with a different Catholic institution each year to lead the process of soliciting and vetting nominations, and selecting the finalists. The foundation funds one \$1 million award and two \$100,000 awards. All are aimed at helping further efforts to develop unique solutions to the world's most pressing problems.

Past laureates have tackled such critical issues as human trafficking, criminal recidivism, education in war-torn countries, health care in developing nations and giving former child soldiers a chance at peace.

opusprize.org



associate professor and chair of peace and justice studies. "Our trip served to inspire me to come back to Denver and re-energize some of the work we do locally."

As a student member of the Regis site visit team, Marley Weaver-Gabel, RC '18, visited one of the communities Mercy Beyond Borders works in and found inspiration.

"Sister Marilyn brought the community in to serve itself, to have a voice," she said. "I learned how many ways a nonprofit can serve a community and how I can get involved."

Faculty members are already planning ways for students to stay involved through immersion trips with Mercy Beyond Borders and the other finalist organizations, Nazareth Home for God's Children in Ghana and Roots Community Health Center in Oakland, California.

But Lacey's message was not only for young students with their whole lives ahead of them. She spoke to community members, faculty, staff and alumni about how they can shift the world toward a lasting peace in their daily lives.

"It's not about the work you do, it's how you do it," she said during a community engagement session. "It's not about educating girls in South Sudan or offering literacy to women in Haiti, it's about helping people awaken to the idea that they are human beings. It's about listening and being with people."

After four days of sowing the seeds of lifelong service in every corner of Regis



**“IT’S NOT
ABOUT THE
WORK YOU DO,
IT’S HOW YOU
DO IT.”**

University, it was time for Lacey to climb the stage and accept her award. When her name was announced as the \$1 million Opus Prize winner, her fellow Sisters of Mercy in attendance cried out in joy. A crowd of hundreds gave her a lengthy standing ovation as she humbly implored them to sit.

After the applause subsided, Lacey told the audience another dream she had a few nights earlier. In the dream, she was in Denver preparing for the Opus Prize award ceremony, and an older woman asked for her help getting back to her hotel room. Lacey helped her without a second thought. But, on the way, the woman collapsed in the hallway of the hotel. Lacey called 911 and stayed with the woman until an ambulance came. Only after the woman was safe did she realize she had completely forgotten about the award and ran down to the event, only to find she had missed it.

When she awakened, she knew she had made the right choice in waiting there with the woman. She reflected before the crowd about what this dream meant in the context of the Opus Prize.

“It means service to the people who cross your path.”



THE OTHER FINALISTS



Sister Stan Terese Mumuni,

Nazareth Home for God's Children, Ghana

Mumuni rescues, raises and educates the “spirit children” of Ghana. These are children born with physical, mental or emotional disabilities who would otherwise be cast out or murdered for being bad omens in certain communities. The Nazareth Home for God's Children accepts all children as gifts from God and gives them a chance at life.



Drs. Jason Reinking and Noha Aboelata,

Roots Community Health Center, Oakland, California



Reinking runs the Street Outreach Medical Program [STOMP], a branch of Roots that delivers health care and dignity to people experiencing homelessness. Following a mission of meeting people where they are, Reinking and Aboelata go to the margins and bridge the gap between this underserved population and a complex health care system.

SWEET DREAMS



A Conversation with Michael Allen, RC '03

After graduating from Regis, Michael Allen found more meaning in his volunteer work helping homeless families find housing than in his day job installing fences around prisons.

By 2014, Allen had founded My Very Own Bed, a nonprofit dedicated to providing beds to children in need in Minnesota's Twin Cities.

WHAT IS MY VERY OWN BED?

We give beds to children of families that have recently secured stable housing. But this is more than a free bed program. We are promoting healthy environments for children to develop. A good night's sleep on a mattress can do wonders for a child.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO HELP?

While volunteering, I witnessed children trying to get a good night's sleep on bare floors in their homes.

"I SAW A NEED AND I COULD NOT STAND BY WITHOUT ADDRESSING IT."

I saw a need and I could not stand by without addressing it. My motivation is to help these kids. By the end of this year, we will have given out more than 300 beds.

HOW DID REGIS GUIDE YOU HERE?

Regis believed in me. My professors have changed the lives of these children with what they taught me. I have taken the commitment to excellence I learned at Regis and have made it one of My Very Own Bed's core values. Regis gave me a chance and now I'm paying it forward.

By Class

1960s

RICHARD ROKOSZ, RC '68, CPS '91,

became a certified member of the Northern Arizona chapter of SCORE, a national organization of volunteer executives who assist startups.

1970s

JAMES P. FLATLEY, DDS, RC '70,

was named president of the Dental Society of Greater Orlando, Florida.

The Central Washington Catholic Foundation awarded **SHARON ROSELL, LHC '70**, the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award for her 23 years of service to St. Andrew's church in Ellensburg, Washington.

DANIEL E. BERCE, RC '75,

has accepted the position of senior vice president, president and chief executive officer of GM Financial at General Motors Company.

"Heaven's Gate," the first book in the Archangel thriller series by **JAN DUNLAP, RC '77**, was nominated for a Christy Award in the suspense category.

1990s

Premier Farm Credit promoted **JEFF SCHUMACHER, CPS '92**, to chief financial officer after serving as vice president of credit for 13 years.

ROBERT "CURT" DACAR, RC '94, was appointed to chief commercial officer with oil and gas company Keane Group Inc. after serving as chief executive officer of Rockpile Energy Services.

Midland Christian School in San Antonio, Texas, named **BETSY HAIGH, ED.D., CPS '96**, its new principal.

CHRIS MACHECA, RC '97, CPS '07, became president of PassTime, a GPS solutions provider, where he also serves as chief operating officer.

NAI Hiffman, a real estate solutions and business strategy company, promoted **JOHN WHITEHEAD, RC '97**, from senior vice president to executive vice president.

Panola College in Carthage, Texas, appointed **BILLY "BUBBA" ADAMS, RC '99, CPS '00**, to the position of vice president of instruction.

2000s

The National Alliance on Mental Illness appointed **LACEY BERUMEN, PH.D., CPS '00**, to the post of first vice president.

Carolina One real estate in Charleston, South Carolina, signed agent **BILL BECKWITH, CPS '01**, to its Summerville Main Street office.

The Group Inc. real estate brokerage has chosen **PAMELA CASS, CPS '01**, to lead its Loveland, Colorado, office as managing broker and partner.

Mercy Medical Center Foundation, the fundraising arm of Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, named **JULIE CROCKETT, CPS '01**, its new president.

STEPHEN F. GAMBESCIA, CPS '03, published a book about parents who raise big families titled "Every Child, No Matter How Many, Is Special."

MARIO BERRY, CPS '04, was appointed vice president and chief information officer for media and information technology at Spelman College in Atlanta.

ERIC LAFONTAINE, CPS '04, was appointed regional publisher of Sound Publishing's Eastside news group, part of the largest community news organization in Washington state.

BRIAN O'NEIL, CPS '04, became wealth director of BNY Mellon Wealth Management in Denver, Colorado.

JENNIFER M. BALLENTINE, CPS '05, was named the new executive director of the Colorado State University Institute for Palliative Care.

SUE DUNN, CPS '05, was elected vice president/president-elect of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network/United Network for Organ Sharing board of directors.

Southern Michigan Bancorp, Inc. appointed **PATRICK H. FLANNERY, CPS '05**, to its board of directors. Flannery serves as vice president for finance and treasurer at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan.

H.M. Brown and Associates, auto sales and leasing business, hired **SANDY MORAN, CPS '05**, as an auto broker.

DAVID DONALDSON, CPS '06, was named chief executive officer of HCA Parham Doctors' Hospital in Richmond, Virginia.

ANNA PIASCIK, CPS '06, was named director of the Wound Care Center at Harrington in Southbridge, Massachusetts.

The University of Texas at El Paso named **ADELLE MONTEBLANCO, RC '07**, a postdoctoral fellow in the social work, sociology and anthropology departments.

The Metropolitan School District of Wayne, Indiana, named **GHIRMA ALAZAR, PH.D., CPS '08**, its new assistant director of special services.

UNLEASHING JOY

A Conversation with Steve, RC '81, and Maureen Wincor, RC '82



With their children grown and their careers winding down, Steve and Maureen Wincor decided it was time to get a dog. But what started as simple companionship became a mission to serve and comfort those in need with their two standard poodles, Maya and Aiden. Now they tour hospitals, schools, retirement homes and communities impacted by stress and trauma and let their dogs ease troubled hearts and minds.

HOW DID YOU BEGIN AS THERAPY DOG OWNERS?

Our first dog, Maya, was so well-behaved that our trainer recommended we put her through the therapy dog registration process. Eight years later, she has had more than 500 therapy visits and her half-brother, Aiden, has more than 200.

WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT DO YOUR DOGS PROVIDE?

Sometimes they're just a calming presence and sometimes a friend to play with. A young girl in a hospital library, who had been attacked by a dog, read a book to Maya and learned to love dogs again. An older woman in a nursing home who hadn't spoken to anyone in two months burst into song when Aiden visited her. Dogs just know what we need.



HOW HAVE MAYA AND AIDEN CHANGED YOUR LIVES?

Regis instilled in us a dedication to service. We have always actively volunteered in our community, but our dogs helped us find something new that we are passionate about and can share with others. Maya even inspired a book, "Maya, My Journey from Show Dog to Therapy Dog."



CREATING A LEGACY

When Margaret Cloonan, LHC '52, moved to Denver to attend Loretto Heights College, it was love at first sight – love for the city, love for learning and love for the Sisters of Loretto. While a student, she relished the opportunities to meet new people, explore her academic interests and develop her Catholic faith. After graduation, Margaret decided to make Denver her home, working in accounting for the courts as well as in banking, commercial real estate and food manufacturing industries. Throughout it all, she remained connected to Regis University. Because of this, she set aside a percentage of her estate for Regis scholarships. Margaret passed away in 2014, but her love for the University lives on through the Margaret L. Cloonan Endowed Scholarship, which is awarded to at least three students annually (one each in nursing, education and business).

pictured: right, Margaret Cloonan, LHC '52, left, her sister Michala Cloonan Miller, LHC '55

Explore your options for creating a legacy.

regis.edu/giftplanning

OR CONTACT

Office of Estate and Gift Planning at
303.964.5152 or giftplanning@regis.edu.

By Class

RYAN FRAZIER, CPS '08, joined the leadership of the American Hospital Association as senior vice president of member relations.

Travel service company Thor Inc. promoted **TRISHA HALL, CPS '08**, to the position of managing director.

Central Michigan University awarded **DAN VICK, M.D., CPS '08**, a doctorate of health administration.

MONTOYA WHITEMAN, CPS '08, joined the American Indian Science and Engineering Society as its new director of marketing and communications.

CHRISTINA CAMPOS, CPS '09, was elected to the American Hospital Association's board of trustees for a three-year term.

The U.S. branch of the New Patriotic Party of Ghana named **YAA AMPONSAH FRIMPONG, CPS '09**, as its first chairwoman.

The Dane County Humane Society of Madison, Wisconsin, named **AMY GOOD, CPS '09**, assistant director of development.

ALLIE STEG HASKETT, CPS '09, was promoted to vice president for development and alumni relations at the University of Northern Colorado.

2010s

Armed Forces Insurance awarded **BRITTANY BOCCHER, CPS '10**, Military Spouse of the Year 2017 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

DEPUTY SHERIFF DALE GARGAC, RC '10, was assigned to the transport division of the Strafford County Sheriff's Office in New Hampshire.

The Bank of Colorado selected **CHRIS JONES, CPS '10**, as president of its branch in Craig, Colorado.

JENNIFER MILLIKEN, CPS '11, '15, published her short story "Angels of Arize" in the Women's Best Short Stories collection.

JAVIER TAFOYA, CPS '13, '14, earned a certificate in retirement planning from the Wharton School of Business.

Alaska's KYUK public radio and television station hired **ALEINA TANABE, RC '13**, as its Wellness Programming Producer.

EMILY TRUJILLO, CPS '13, was named vice president of strategy and business development at the Medical Center of Aurora in Aurora, Colorado.

Fordham University named **HANNAH DARU, RC '14**, a teaching fellow and Ph.D. candidate in philosophy.

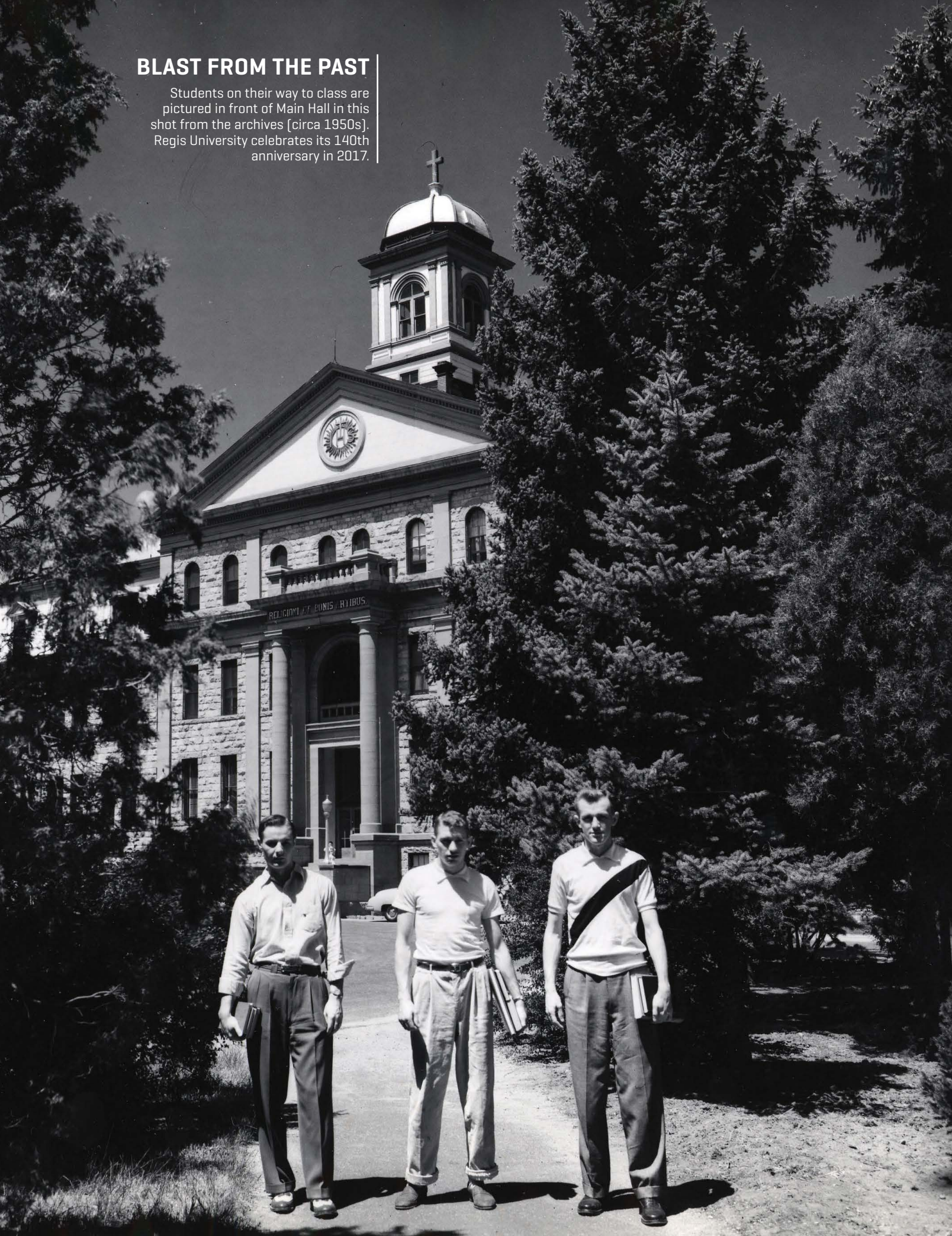


THE NEXT MISSION

Support is all around for members of Regis' active duty, reserve and veteran student population. Current students are pictured inside the Veterans Resource Center on Regis' Northwest Denver Campus.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Students on their way to class are pictured in front of Main Hall in this shot from the archives [circa 1950s]. Regis University celebrates its 140th anniversary in 2017.



By Class

JED GILDEN, CPS '14, accepted the position of finance supervisor at San Juan Basin Public Health.

SALT, a digital currency-backed lending platform, hired **DAN MOORE, CPS '14**.

JENNIFER BRIGGS, CBE '15, joined the Beyster Institute at the University of California San Diego's Rady School of Management as a business advisor.

The Thompson School District in Loveland, Colorado, appointed **MYRON WILSON, CPS '15**, to the position of transportation director.

DESIREE CARRILLO, CBE '16, has been named auxiliary services director of Otero Junior College.

Morgan Community College in Fort Morgan, Colorado, hired **REBECCA SEGURA, RC '17**, as its human resources coordinator.

Weddings and Engagements

CHRISTIAN DARU, RC '14, married **HANNAH (BREECE) DARU, RC '14**, in July at the St. John Francis Regis Chapel.

KYLE HUDENCIAL, RC '09, and Katherine Dunahoo were married in September at The Lobby in Denver.

PEARL (SHIELDS) DAILEY, RC '09, married Michael Dailey in October at the St. John Francis Regis Chapel.

HOPE PORTER, RC '17, married Nate Hillman at Brookside Gardens in Berthoud, Colorado.



Share Your Photos

Got married?
Had a baby?

We'd love to share your photos in Regis University Alumni Magazine. Just send a high-resolution image to alumni@regis.edu.



WRITING A HAPPY BEGINNING



Maryam Sullivan has always been creative, but says Regis helped her turn her passion into a career. Today she is an author, journalist, business owner, international educator, wife, mother of three and founder of the #MuslimGirlsRead initiative.

IS THERE A MEANING BEHIND YOUR PEN NAME, UMM JUWAYRIYAH?

Juwayriyah is my daughter's name, and Umm is Arabic for mother. The name is a kunya, a sort of nickname given to each parent when they have their first child. My daughter is my best editor and she's a published author, as well.

WHAT IS THE #MUSLIMGIRLSREAD INITIATIVE?

It is a program to increase literacy skills and access to Muslim fiction for youth in urban Muslim communities across the United States.

Through social media and public talks, we encourage a love of reading via online workshops, book clubs, writing contests and interviews with famous Muslim authors. Last year, our annual Ramadhan book drive provided books to schools in Boston, Baltimore, Houston and Los Angeles.

WHY IS THIS MOVEMENT IMPORTANT IN TODAY'S WORLD?

Young Muslim children, especially girls, are facing bullying and discrimination like never before. #MuslimGirlsRead helps kids fortify themselves with positive, relatable and faithful messages to combat negativity. We want Muslim youth to read and write themselves a happy beginning and ending every day so that they have the foundations to build success in their lives.

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:



A Conversation with Luisa Staerkel, '75

Luisa Staerkel, RC '75, has been a pioneer since she enrolled in one of the first co-ed classes at Regis College in 1971. After teaching for 10 years, she began a career in real estate, where she became one of the first women to own a Denver real estate brokerage firm. In 1994, she joined the Regis University Board of Trustees, where she served 18 years as an active board member before signing on as a life trustee.

AS A LIFE TRUSTEE, HOW DO YOU SERVE REGIS UNIVERSITY?

I work with faculty, staff and students to find out what the pressing issues are for them. I want to find the most effective way to use our resources to support the great work everyone is doing at Regis. That means a lot of things, but it starts with listening to all our stakeholders.

WHERE ARE WE DIRECTING OUR EFFORTS NOW?

We are focused on healthy growth in our programs and our student population. I am passionate about increasing the diversity in our classrooms so we are creating leaders who reflect the world we live in.

WHAT HAS KEPT YOU TIED TO REGIS FOR SO LONG?

There's something at Regis that I've never felt at another university. I can meet a student enrolled today and we are immediately and genuinely connected by the continuity of our mission here. We are growing and changing at Regis, but we stand on the same foundation as we did 140 years ago.

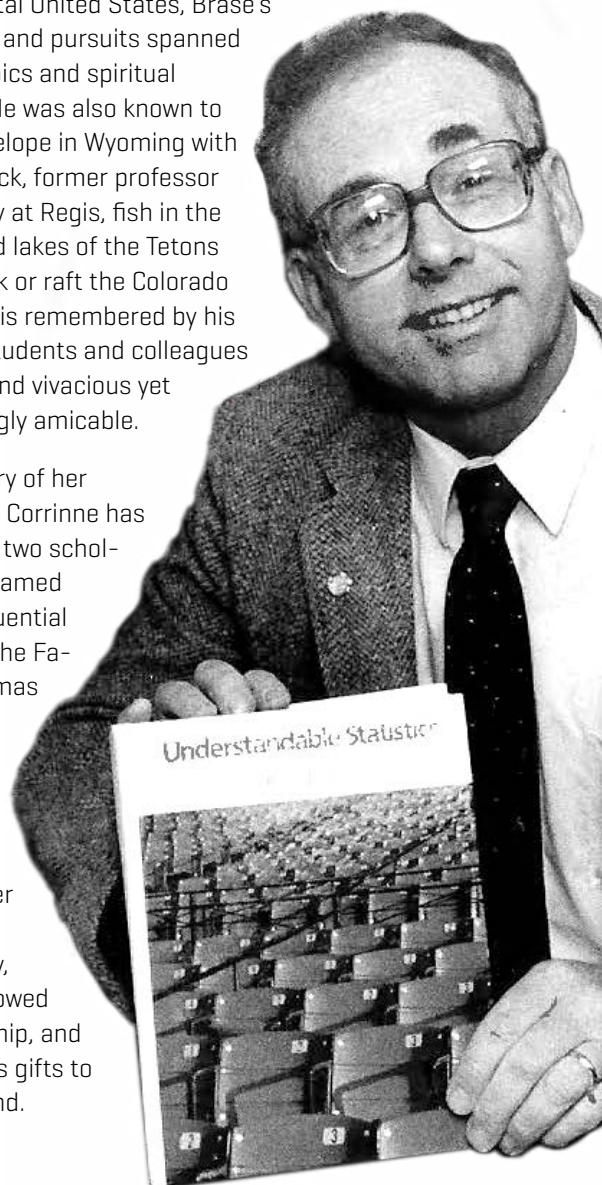
WE REMEMBER

Charles Brase

Charles Henry Brase, a long-serving and involved retired faculty member, passed away at the age of 74. An entirely generous, spirited and intelligent man, Brase grew up in Colorado and was among the first in his family to attend college. He received his Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Colorado Boulder.

His great gift for teaching showed over decades as a mathematics faculty member at Regis University and later allowed him and his wife Corrinne to co-author several well-known textbooks. Having traveled all over the world and continental United States, Brase's interests and pursuits spanned many topics and spiritual depths. He was also known to hunt antelope in Wyoming with Gary Ranck, former professor of biology at Regis, fish in the rivers and lakes of the Tetons and kayak or raft the Colorado River. He is remembered by his former students and colleagues as bold and vivacious yet exceedingly amicable.

In memory of her husband, Corrinne has endowed two scholarships named after influential Jesuits, the Father Thomas J. Steele, S.J., Endowed Scholarship and the Father Frederick T. Daly, S.J., Endowed Scholarship, and welcomes gifts to either fund.



in
Memoriam

KENNETH J. ANSELMO, RC '60

PHILIP J. BEAUVAIS, RC '62

FRANCIS L. BENSON, RC '50

CATHERINE PAT BLOOM, LHC '53

RUTH BOGRAD, LHC '76

PATRICIA MARCELLINE BROCK,
LHC '54

JOHN J. CELLA, RC '43

STEPHEN S. CHARLES, RC '73

HENRY V. COVILLO, RC '51

JOSEPH W. CULIG, RC '59

MARK E. CUNNINGHAM, RC '68

RONALD C. D'ASCENZ, RC '65

HAROLD L. DEAN, CPS '88

MICHAEL DONALD DIRE, RC '45

GENE AVERY DOLSON, CPS '84

MARY E. DOUGLAS, CPS '82

HENRIETTA ANNE DWYER, LHC '57

JOHN JOSEPH ERGER, RC '54

RICHARD ERNISSEE, CPS '80

LYNN K. ESCH, CPS '83

JAN ELLEN FERLAND, LHC '67

RICHARD T. FILKOSKI, RC '56

LUANE FREARK, CPS '08

THERESE OLIVAS FREY, LHC '56

PHILIP E. GARCIA, RC '66

HERSEY THOMAS GRANT, CPS '94

WILLIAM D. HAGERTY, RC '51

KAREN M. HASCHENBURGER,
CPS '99

DAVID JOHN HAZARD, RC '64

DAVID L. HOLLIMAN, CPS '90

ROBERT L. HOLT, RC '76

ELIZABETH CAROLE HORAN,
LHC '56

LEO RICHARD HARRIGAN, RC '56

TODD PAUL JOHNSON, CPS '00

CATHERINE JORGENSEN, LHC '60

SUSAN B. KANNE, RHCHP '10, '15

EDWARD J. KELLY, RC '57

TERRANCE E. KELLY, RC '62

PATRICIA A. KENNEDY, LHC '47

WILLIAM C. KIEFER, RC '59

NEIL J. KIMMEL, RC '65

TERRY LYNN LEE, RHCHP '11

JERALD WAYNE LOWRY, RC '63

RICHARD FRANCIS LUTZ, RC '57

JAMES E. MADDEN, RC '72

ROSEMARY A. MAY, LHC '53

JOAN C. MCELLIGOTT, LHC '56

MARY LOUISE MOORE, LHC '47

W. THOMAS MURNAN, RC '61

LEO DANIEL NICHOLS, CPS '94

MARY A. NICKEL, LHC '52

GEORGE K. NIELSEN, RC '51

CYRUS W. PARTINGTON, RC '47

GEORGE J. PEYTON, RC '83

VERONICA PLAZA VILLEGAS,
CBE '16

PATRICIA B. PORTER, LHC '39

RAY L. POWELL, CPS '14

MARYJANE RAABE, LHC '48

DENNIS JOSEPH RICHTER, RC '73

DAVID BROOK SLOTOROFF,
CPS '03

WALLACE JOSEPH SMILANIC,
RC '49

MARY ROSE SONNLEITNER,
LHC '43

FRANCES L. SPENCER, LHC '51

EDWARD V. SWEENEY, RC '55

TWILA FAY SWEENEY, LHC '55

EVIE F. TAFT, CPS '97

GLENNA MARIE TERRELL, LHC '66

JOANNE MARY TEZAK, RC '84

ANNEBET VAN MUNCHING, RC '14

ANN CAROLYN VIFQUAIN, LHC '55

LORI LYNN WAGNER, RC '98

ELEANOR FINNEGAN WARZOKA,
LHC '54

MARY ANN WHITE, LHC '51

JAMES ALEXANDER WIESNER,
RC '66

ELIZABETH WILLIAMS, LHC '63

SHARON LEA YONKE, LHC '63



REGIS
UNIVERSITY

1877-2017

Celebrating
140 YEARS

ALUMNI WEEKEND

2017





MAKING MEMORIES

Alumni Weekend 2017 was one for the books with more than 500 guests enjoying drinks and dinner on the Quad, a beer and cheese pairing, community service project, class parties and more. Save the date for Alumni Weekend 2018 on July 20-22. Find more info at regis.edu/AW2018.



#MYREGISSTORY



TO CHANGE THE WORLD

As a boy growing up in Senegal, Cheikh Dia, CBE '18, knew he had a special gift — his height. He wasn't the fastest or the most skilled with a basketball, but he towered over the other kids, eventually growing to 6 feet, 10 inches. With a lot of hard work, Dia, who goes by his middle name, Yaya, became the youngest person to join the Senegal national basketball team at age 15.

Basketball brought Dia to the United States on a scholarship to Georgetown University, where he played for four years and first encountered Jesuit priests. As a Muslim, Dia found their faith and values comforting.

"I saw myself and still see

myself in Jesuit teaching," Dia said. "We believe in many of the same things and serve the same God."

After graduating with a bachelor's in political science from Georgetown, Dia returned to Senegal where he helped his country win the 1997 International Basketball Federation's Africa Championship. This started a 25-year world tour playing basketball for more than 20 international teams.

But his love for basketball eventually faded, and he

sought a new career. After retiring from the game, Dia decided to settle in Denver and pursue a Master of Science in Nonprofit Management from Regis University.

"NOW I AM MORE OPEN-MINDED AND READY TO LISTEN TO OTHERS WITHOUT JUDGEMENT."

"I thought I knew everything before I started my degree at Regis," Dia said. "Now I am more open-minded and ready to listen to others without judgment. Regis has transformed my entire life."

Dia, a man who proposed to his now-wife less than an hour after meeting her and moved to Colorado just

because he liked the way it felt, has started looking far into the future as he plans his life after graduating.

"I am taking what I've learned here and using it to become an advocate for change in Senegal. We need better leadership and a new vision for our people," he said.

Dia plans to return to his home country and run for mayor in Sicap-Liberté, a city in western Senegal. And after some experience in governing, he hopes to run in and win a presidential election.

"Regis taught me a new purpose: to change the world," Dia said. "I may not get to the whole world, but I will change Senegal."



IN REFLECTION

A rainbow appeared over Carroll Hall as members of the Regis community gathered on the Boettcher Commons in prayer and solidarity for the more than 50 people killed and nearly 550 injured when a gunman opened fire on a crowd at an outdoor Las Vegas music festival in October.



REGIS UNIVERSITY 2017

EVENTS CALENDAR: FALL-WINTER 2017-18

NOV. 19
Memorial Mass

DEC. 10
Pictures with Santa

JAN. 18
Philosopher's Stone

APRIL 23
Regis Giving Day

DEC. 1
Season of Giving Begins

DEC. 15
Commencement

JAN. 28
Crest Club Church Tour

MAY 5-6
Commencement

DEC. 3
Winter Alumni Event at Zoo
Lights

DEC. 17
Memorial Mass

MARCH 24
Alumni for Others Easter
Basket Collection and Assembly