

LuxEsto

F A L L 2 0 0 7

Prospero in Chicago:

The Tangerine Arts Group, a "magic island" of community service





LUX ESTO!

Kalamazoo College educates its graduates to “be light” in every sense of those two words. Members of the Class of 2007 are the latest to join the worldwide community that is Kalamazoo College. For more on their graduation, see page 8.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

LuxEsto 1

Dear Alumni, Parents of Students, and Friends of Kalamazoo College:

For many decades, Kalamazoo College was recognized as a place where the undergraduate experience was both unique and distinctive. Dating back to James and Lucinda Stone and perhaps most clearly articulated in President Hoben's concept of a *Fellowship in Learning*, the Kalamazoo College educational vision has been both dynamic and experimental. President Hoben wrote, "We do not want a college here that is as good as any one of a hundred similar schools, we intend to have a small college that is better than any of them." The *Kalamazoo Plan*, instituted during the Hicks administration, was a bold embodiment of this idea and represented an educational experiment ahead of its time. Provost Larry Barrett acknowledging the risk involved, described the "K" Plan as "betting the store." Our great legacy is that each of these educational experiments worked wonderfully, making Kalamazoo College an evident, rather than a hidden, educational treasure.

Today the educational landscape has changed. Many liberal arts colleges have adopted components of the *Fellowship in Learning* and the *Kalamazoo Plan* because the practices pioneered by Kalamazoo College are so effective in developing graduates with "the scholar's spirit dedicated to human welfare." These years of imitation have made it increasingly difficult to distinguish "K" from other small liberal arts colleges.

Kalamazoo College now faces an incredible opportunity and challenge: reinventing the "small college that is better than any of them." We will do this by building on our strengths as we develop new opportunities to educate, even more effectively, our students for the demands of providing enlightened leadership to a richly diverse and increasingly complex world. Our goal is to provide an integrated student experience recognized as distinctive.

For the past year faculty, staff, students, trustees, and alumni have been crafting a plan to shape our future. We have recommitted ourselves to Kalamazoo College's mission and have articulated a long-term vision, through which we will endow our students now and in the future with an experience that is recognized nationally and internationally as distinctive. As part of this vision we will create an inclusive, student-focused environment; increase the College's prestige and visibility; and secure the human, financial, and physical resources needed to sustain our future. Equally important, we will strengthen our ties to alumni and friends, and deepen opportunities for student leadership development and for experiential and classroom-based learning.

The international component of the *Kalamazoo Plan* will become stronger and more compelling as we bring the world to our campus by increasing our international enrollment and integrating examination of global and intercultural issues more powerfully throughout the curriculum.

The student body will be increased by approximately 150 students and the College will become more inclusive and student focused. The renovation of the Hicks Center will ensure that our campus has a heart and hearth, and through student development programming we will promote a balance between academics and co-curricular life. As enrollment grows to 1,500 students during the next six years, our goal is to develop a student body that reflects national and international diversity. We will support this effort by building an endowment that will allow us to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups and limited economic backgrounds.

Many of you will become part of Kalamazoo College's "communities of practice," a very new experiment in a flattening world. These communities of practice or "guilds" represent groups of alumni, students, and faculty informally bound together by shared expertise and passion for an enterprise that directly affects their work and the world. Kalamazoo College will be the first institution of higher learning to integrate such communities of practice into its curriculum. Our first guilds will focus on business; environmental sustainability; peace, law, and justice; and health. Guilds provide an opportunity to build *active* communities that will engage alumni in the distinctive international, intercultural, and multidimensional learning that will characterize Kalamazoo College.

The stories in this *LuxEsto* invite us to consider, again, what graduates and friends of Kalamazoo College share: love for a particular undergraduate experience that represented a brave new experiment. I look forward to sharing more information with you regarding our plans to ensure that a Kalamazoo College education remains a bold experiment recognized as distinctive.

Sincerely,

Eileen B. Wilson-Oyularan, President ◦

Fin

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Features



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Robin (Alexander) Sakamoto '85 could be a poster person for interculturalism. It all started with Kalamazoo College, and the connections with the College continue.



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28 Beyond Boundaries
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Jeff Hsi '83 was the first of four sibling Heyl Scholars. The *Kalamazoo Plan* pushed him beyond his comfort zone, which came in handy for a major career change.

Plus, Sports Information Director Steve Wideen learns why **Mike Benson '07** worked so hard this summer to remain at Kalamazoo College after his commencement (it's all about football); **five remarkable professors** earn tenure; **Commencement** for the Class of 2007; lots of **Class Notes**; emeriti alumni **reunions**, a **letter from the President**; and more.



BIG CHANGES A' COMIN'

Beginning in 2008 Kalamazoo College will initiate a new annual publication schedule that includes three issues of *LuxEsto* (Spring, Summer, and Fall) and three issues of a new electronic newsletter called *BeLight* (January, May, and September). The inaugural year of this new publication schedule will begin with the March issue of *LuxEsto* and include a January letter from President Wilson-Oyeleran with details about this change.

All alumni for whom the College has a current e-mail address (who are part of the College's K AlumNet database) will receive *BeLight*. The newsletter will be available to anyone who wishes to receive it. To add your e-mail address to the mailing address for *BeLight*, simply call Sandy Dugal at 269.337.7300 or send your name, class year (if applicable), and e-mail address to aluminfo@kzoo.edu.

Fall 2007

Volume 69, No. 1

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Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of Kalamazoo College or the editors. *LuxEsto* (ISSN 1526-7997) is published quarterly by Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006 USA.

Printed in the United States of America. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to *LuxEsto*, Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006.

© October 2007

A fellowship in learning; at home in the world

Dear Editor,

I recently read the Spring *LuxEsto*. One reason I love *LuxEsto* is because I scan for familiar names and read up on what they are into now. In this issue, I was very interested in the story about Susie Anderson. Susie was a junior my freshman year at Kalamazoo College, and I will never forget her. The first time I met her, I had just said my final goodbyes to my boyfriend (now my husband of seven years) and my parents. I was walking toward the picnic on the Quad and she was walking toward me. She was a total stranger to a young woman who was six hours from home. I can't recall exactly what she said to me when she saw me crying, but whatever it was, it made me feel welcome and lifted my spirits.

Later, I found out that she lived down the hall from me in Hoben, and she taught me a lot in the quarter I lived there. I remember admiring her ability to balance soccer, friends, and school and still be so pleasant (and patient, I'm sure) to a budding freshman with lots of questions. I don't imagine that she remembers me now, but I will NEVER forget her. She is one of many who touched my life during my time at Kalamazoo College.

I moved back to my hometown after graduating and married my hometown sweetheart. Since 2001, I have taught history in a middle school, coached various sports, and brought into the world a wonderful daughter (and there is a little one on the way—December!). It has been an amazing journey and I am thankful to all those who helped me become the person I am today, many of whom were my friends/peers at Kalamazoo College.

Kyla (Wonderleigh) Shope '99

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Brad Ford '01 sent the following letter to Associate Director of the Center for Career Development Brooke Nobis '02, who shared it with LuxEsto. Brad describes the Kalamazoo College connection he helped develop with the Cincinnati-based David J. Joseph Company (DJJ), a scrap metal recycling company (the country's largest) with brokerage offices in 11 U.S. cities, manufacturing/recycling facilities in more than 35 locations, and sales last year of more than \$5 billion.

I began my career in 2001 with DJJ in its Pittsburgh district trading office, then moved to the Philadelphia trading office in 2003, and returned to Pittsburgh as district manager in 2006. Luke Weatherhead '02 began

his career with DJJ in the summer of 2002 as a trader in its St. Louis district office. In 2004 he moved to the Houston office where he works as a ferrous metal trader.

DJJ has enjoyed strong recruiting relationships with large schools in the Midwest. In 2005 I was put in charge of our college recruiting efforts; my attention immediately turned toward Kalamazoo College. Given the nature of the work—much travel and a premium on the ability to adapt to new situations—Kalamazoo graduates seemed a great fit. Professor [Tim] Moffit '80 [associate professor of economics and business] and I began a dialogue about the best way to attract Kalamazoo students to DJJ and decided upon a presentation in his senior business seminar classes followed by a day of interviews. In the last two years, DJJ has hired some seven new graduates as traders, and three have come from Kalamazoo College. That's an amazing percentage considering we interview more than 1,000 students a year at schools all over the country. Professor Moffit has been instrumental in this success.

In 2006 we had two Kalamazoo College graduates begin their careers with DJJ. Young-Jin Chang '06 began in the Ferro-Alloy group. She has helped grow this division of our business, and she travels extensively (China, Korea, Europe) to build relationships with major producers throughout the world. She lives in Pittsburgh and works in the Ferro-Alloy division headquarters, when she's not on a plane.

Jeff Greene '06 completed the company's ferrous brokerage training program, which took him office to office, coast to coast, before settling into his role as a trader in the company's Omaha office.

This year Lindsay Craig '07 joined our ferrous brokerage group. She spent the summer traveling the U.S., learning the business and systems and getting to know her co-workers before her assignment to a district office.

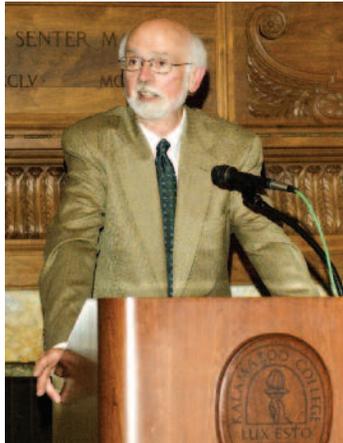
This fall Luke Weatherhead has taken over the company's college recruiting efforts. He and I look forward to another successful trip to Kalamazoo College.

Brad Ford '01 ○

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Kalamazoo College educates its students to “be light.” The Kalamazoo Plan, the College’s most recent iteration of its experiment to achieve that mission, places students and faculty throughout the world. A great accomplishment! But much of the educational experience occurs on campus, and the section “Luminaries” briefly describes some of the people and events that make Kalamazoo College “light.”

as a ‘fellowship in learning.’ For over thirty years,” Dr. Wickstrom continued, “Bob Stauffer has urged us to study this fellowship more deeply and live it more fully. Never prescriptive, he has always welcomed dialogue and refinement of his ideas.” Dr. Stauffer delivered a lecture titled “The Effervescence of Intellectual Talk,” a paean to the thrill of talking about ideas. But it is far more than simply a thrill. Intellectual talk stimulates a “state of effervescence,” a “condition of psychic activity” requisite for creating “an eagerness to learn throughout one’s life,” an eagerness Dr. Stauffer considers the most important end of education. He distinguished between two levels of intellectual talk,



A SPECIAL TEACHER

On May 21 the College celebrated the teaching of **Dr. Robert Stauffer**, professor of sociology at Kalamazoo College for the last 34 years and the winner of the 2006-2007 Florence J. Lucasse Fellowship Award for Excellence in Teaching. Professor of History John Wickstrom introduced Dr. Stauffer, noting the latter’s recent exploration for the “enduring idea that captures the College’s core identity,” and, perhaps, the tentative discovery of that idea in “the constant reemergence of President Hoben’s description of Kalamazoo College in the 1920s

the second (and more powerful) of which “involves conflicting perspectives and a kind of dialectical search for resolution, with a resultant sense of, at minimum, greater clarity in one’s own mind and, at best, a collectively achieved deeper and more complex understanding.” He went on to evaluate the results of Kalamazoo College’s efforts to cultivate an environment conducive to intellectual talk, particularly the second level, and to identify tendencies against which the College should guard in its current and future efforts. It was an interesting, well ... intellectual talk, well received by the large audience. The complete text of his lecture may be published as a “Feast” essay in an upcoming issue of *LuxEsto*.

KALAMAZOO IN GERMANY

The root meaning of sabbatical is rest, so it may be appropriate to rename Professor David Barclay’s experience (January through June, 2007) as the George H.W. Bush/Axel Springer Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. After all, he did a great deal of work there. The chief editor of *Die Welt*, one of Germany’s largest nationally circulated dailies, asked David to write the paper’s commemorative article on the 40th anniversary of the events of 2 June 1967. On that day a number of West Berlin university students demonstrated against a visit of the Shah of Iran to the city. A student named Benno Ohnesorg was shot and killed by the police, and the result was an eruption of violence and radicalization that led directly to the 1968 student movement and subsequent dramatic developments as well. It is thus rightly regarded as a watershed in postwar German history. David’s article, titled “Der junge Mann im roten Hemd. Zum 2. Juni 1967 aus der Sicht eines Aussenstehenden” (“The Young Man in the Red Shirt: An Outsider’s Perspective on 2 June 1967”) appeared on June 2. He also presented five scholarly papers, three guest lectures, and co-directed the graduate-student/postdoc seminar of the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies at the Free University of Berlin. Newspaper articles on David appeared in *Die Welt* (17 February 2007) and *Der Tagesspiegel* (4 April 2007). He was interviewed on two nationally broadcast radio programs: Deutschlandradio Kultur and WDR. Out of breath yet? Not David. He also serves as executive director of the German Studies Association, and his residence at the American Academy did not excuse him from managing the affairs of the 1800-member organization. He has been organizing its annual conference, directing the work of its program committee, and editing and publishing its newsletter.

UP NEXT

Ever wonder about the immediate plans of Kalamazoo College graduating seniors? Since 2002, the Center for Career Development has asked them using its Outcome Information Survey instrument. The participation rate in the survey over the years has varied from 81 percent to 90 percent. This year 268 of 298 (90 percent) answered the question: "What are your immediate plans after graduation or those planned for the fall?" Three categories—Graduate/Professional School, Full-time Employment, and Interesting Other—combine students who have secured an opportunity and those who are actively seeking an opportunity. The category "No Plans" includes students who have not yet begun to consider what they will do next. "Interesting Other" includes transitional programs such as AmeriCorps, VISTA, Peace Corps, and internships. Some seniors identify in more than one category, which explains percentage totals that sometimes exceed 100. Results of the last four years (2007, 2006, 2005, and 2004) follow, by category: Graduate/Professional School—34 percent, 27 percent, 25 percent, and 26 percent; Full-time Employment—54 percent, 34 percent, 36 percent, 19 percent; Interesting Other—15 percent, 23 percent, 18 percent, 22 percent; No Plans—7 percent, 16 percent, 24 percent, 25 percent.

HAIL THE HEYLS

With the support of Heyl Scholarships, 11 students from Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix high schools are embarked on their undergraduate journeys in science and math or nursing at Kalamazoo College or Western Michigan University this fall. The scholarship covers tuition, book costs, and room charges. Heyl graduates who continue math or science studies at Yale University may be considered for a full



scholarship there. The scholarship comes from a gift made by Dr. Frederick W. Heyl and his wife, Elsie L. Heyl. Dr. Heyl was the Upjohn Company's first director of research and development. The latest scholarship winners are (l-r): front row—Sara Metzler, Breann Jolliffe, Heenashree Patel, Brittany Drummer, Krisann Langbehn, back row—Jessica Camp, Georgina Sket, Qi Zhang, Eric Meisheri, Sessie Burns, and Jordan Balduf. Metzler, Sket, Joliffe, Zhang, Meisheri, Burns, and Balduf will attend Kalamazoo College. Camp, Patel, Drummer, and Langbehn will attend Western Michigan University.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE ...

Involved, that is. Conventional wisdom has long held that extracurricular involvements enhance rather than hinder academic performance. The Kalamazoo College Theatre Arts Department has the numbers to prove it. For four years the department has tracked GPAs of students involved in its productions—actors, stage managers, student designers, production crews, wardrobe running crews. In Spring 2007 (Senior Performance Series and *The Madwoman of Chaillot*) the average GPA of students involved with theatre arts exceeded the average GPA of their classes. The average GPA of all students involved in theatre arts exceeded that of all students (3.5 to 3.4). That was the spring (50 students). Even more impressive is this: for the entire 2006-2007 Festival Playhouse season, students involved in theatre arts (184 students) did better academically (3.4 average GPA) than Kalamazoo College students overall (3.3 GPA). By class, they did better or as well (freshman—3.3 to 3.2, 66 students; sophomores—3.3 to 3.2, 76 students; juniors—3.6 to 3.3, 13 students; and seniors—3.5 to 3.5, 29 students). Thirty-three students of the 184 who participated in theatre arts in 2006-2007 earned a 4.0 GPA. "Some think that participating in theatre at Kalamazoo College puts a student at risk academically," says Professor of Theatre Arts Ed Menta. "We've found the opposite to be the case, from freshmen to seniors. Spread the word!"

NEW MEN'S TENNIS COACH "COMES HOME"

Alumnus Mark Riley (Class of 1982) is Kalamazoo College's new head men's tennis coach and director of the USTA Boys' 18 & 16 National Championships (held annually at Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan University). Riley returned to Kalamazoo College from the University of Pennsylvania where he served as head men's tennis coach for the past seven seasons. He led the Quakers to Ivy League

MARK RILEY



championships in 2006 and 2007 and Eastern College Athletic Conference championships in 2005 and 2006. Riley was a Division III All-American at Kalamazoo College and earned Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association most valuable player honors in 1982. “I never thought when I was playing on the Hornet tennis team that I would one day be the coach and carry on the legacy of Allen Stowe and George Acker and, most recently, Timon Corwin,” said Riley. “The storied traditions of Kalamazoo College, both in tennis and academics, and the USTA Boys’ National Championships have been the highlights of many outstanding careers and a source of pride for the community of Kalamazoo. I am honored to take this role and help carry forward those traditions.”

SMITH NAMED A.D.

In June, Kristen Smith was named Kalamazoo College’s director of athletics. Since 2004 she had served as director of women’s athletics, associate athletics trainer, and assistant professor of physical education. In her new position she concentrates exclusively on directing the men’s and women’s athletic programs. Kristen came to Kalamazoo College in 1991-92 as a graduate assistant athletic trainer. She was assistant softball coach in 1992 and 1993 and became the College’s first full-time athletic trainer in 1994. She became the head softball coach in 1997 and led the Hornets to consecutive third-place

finishes in the MIAA. She stepped down from the softball coaching position in 1998 to devote more time to athletic training services. In 2003 she became assistant director of women’s athletics and took over as director of women’s athletics in 2004. She has taught numerous courses including “Nutrition” and “Care and Treatment of Injuries.”

NEW REGISTRAR

Stephanie Henning is Kalamazoo College’s new registrar. She comes from Grinnell College, where she worked for 18 years in the registrar’s office. She is active in the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and regularly presents and contributes to national and regional conferences. At Grinnell she oversaw a major Enterprise Resource Planning System change within the registrar area and implemented online web-based student and faculty advising tools and an automated degree audit program. She brings broad expertise in enrollment assessment, planning, and reporting instruments.

NATIONAL AWARD WINNER

Holly Anderson ’09 was one of five students in the United States to receive the 2007 Howard R. Swearer Student Humanitarian Award. The award is bestowed by Campus Compact, a national coalition of more than 1,000 college and university presidents (representing 6 million students) who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. The award recognizes the five students’ commitment to community service. Holly is a LaPlante Scholar in the College’s Mary Jane Underwood Stryker Center for Service-Learning. LaPlante Scholarships support outstanding students who design, implement, and sustain innovative community projects that involve Kalamazoo College students and a community partner working in collaboration. Holly coordinates the “Farms to Kalamazoo College” program, which promotes local sustainable agriculture and the use of locally grown food in the College’s food services operation. Holly is majoring in human development and social relations and earning a concentration in women’s studies.

HORNET HOSA STRIKES SILVER AND GOLD

Hornet HOSA, Kalamazoo College’s chapter of Health Occupations Students of America, returned from the 30th annual HOSA National Leadership Conference (Orlando, Fla.) with a gold and silver medal. The team won its second national championship in HOSA Bowl, a quiz event that is the highlight of the conference. Hornet HOSA quiz bowl team members included Jimmy Kelly ’08, Caesy Buell ’09, Rachael Wilsman ’10, and Brittany

Snider '08. A fifth member of the Kalamazoo chapter, Jaideep Karamchandani '09, finished second in the nutrition knowledge event and took home the silver medal. This year's Hornet HOSA was the first in which all members hailed from Kalamazoo College. In fact, all are from the Kalamazoo area. Hornet HOSA is quite young, three years old (and two national championships!). Despite the youth, says Jimmy Kelly, "Hornet HOSA has established its potential as a valuable resource to the Kalamazoo College health science community for years to come, and we couldn't be more excited for the future."

Now You Know

Guoqi Xu, History, is just off a sabbatical at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, "a perfect place for writing and research," he wrote. "The university provided me with a place to stay on top of a mountain surrounded by sea." Guoqi made the most of that splendid work site. He recently delivered the manuscript of his book, *China Game: the Role of Sports in the Chinese Search for National Identity and Internationalization 1895-2008*, to Harvard University Press, which was so taken with the work that it plans to publish it by the end of this year and prior to the summer Olympics in Beijing. People's Press in China will translate and publish the book in that country. Guoqi used his sabbatical to complete another book, *Chinese Laborers in France During the Great War*. The Chinese version will be published this year, a French translation next year, and an English version may be forthcoming soon after.

Six members of the Kalamazoo College faculty were promoted in June from the rank of associate professor to the rank of full professor. They are: **Alyce Brady**, Computer Science; **Roselee Bundy**, Japanese; **Gary Gregg**, Psychology; **Lanford Potts**, Theatre Arts; **Tom Rice**, Art; and **Janet Solberg**, French Studies.

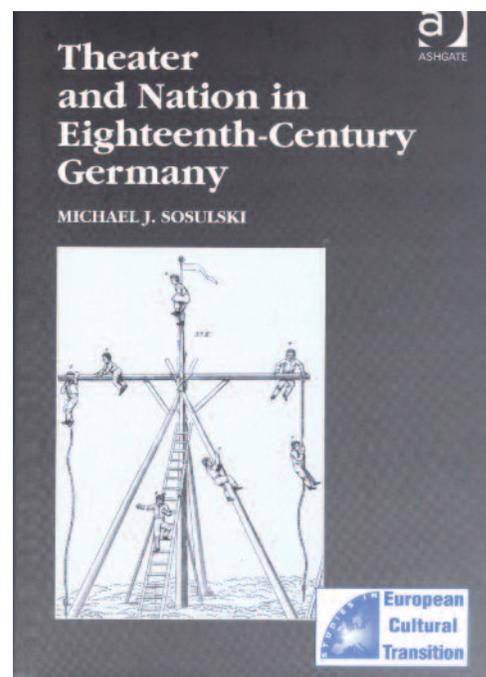
In May 2007, **Michael Sosulski**, German Studies, published a book titled *Theater and Nation in Eighteenth-Century Germany* (Ashgate Publishing). The book explores the lack of a strong German national consciousness in the late 18th century, the emergence of the German Nationaltheater, and the theater as an ideal space in which to imagine the German nation.

Gary Gregg, Psychology, has published two books in two years. Both deal with the Middle East and cultural psychology. The books are: *Culture and Identity in a Muslim Society* (2005) and, with co-author David Matsumoto, *The Middle East: A Cultural Psychology* (2007).

Margaret Wiedenhoeft and **Joe Brockington**, Center for International Programs, presented a paper titled "Identifying Catalysts in the Development of International and Intercultural Understanding" at the 2007 North Carolina State University Undergraduate Assessment Symposium: *Systematic, Systemic & Sustainable Assessment: A Process of Inquiry*. The symposium occurred in April in Cary, North Carolina. Joe also had an article, "In-Country Consortia: Rethinking Collaboration in Education Abroad," published in the Spring 2007 issue of the Institute of International Education's *IIE Networker: The International Education Magazine*.

Gail Griffin's piece "Manitou Passage" is included in the anthology *Fresh Water: Women Writing on the Great Lakes*, which was named a Michigan Notable Book of the Year for 2007. The book is a collection of nonfiction works by women writers that focus on the Midwest and the Great Lakes. It is edited by award-winning environmentalist Alison Swan. Gail is the Anne V. and Donald R. Parfet Distinguished Professor of English. ○

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COMMENCEMENT 2007



GOWNING UP (L-R): MIKE LIEFELD, DORIAN TALIAFERRO JONES, AND CHRIS WERME

THE FACULTY PROCESSIONAL. LEADING THE WAY ARE FACULTY MARSHALS MICHELE INTERMONT AND JOHN WICKSTROM, AND FOLLOWING THEM ARE PRESIDENT EILEEN B. WILSON-OYELARAN AND CHAIR OF THE BOARD DONALD R. PARFET.

STUDENT SPEAKER LINDSEY ELIZABETH SMITH

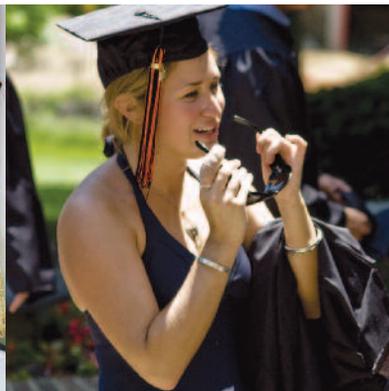
During a sunny late spring Sunday afternoon, 296 graduates of the Class of 2007 crossed the campus Quadrangle to receive their diplomas. Commencement 2007 featured student remarks by Lindsey Elizabeth Smith '07 and faculty remarks by Dr. Siu-Lan Tan, associate professor of psychology. The College bestowed the Pauline Byrd Johnson Award for Excellence in Secondary Education on Jerry Swoboda, Portage Northern High School, and awarded honorary degrees to activist and scholar Dr. Grace Lee Boggs and author Ann Patchett. For six decades Boggs has played a major role in U.S. social movements—labor, civil rights, Black Power, Asian-American and women’s rights, and environmental justice. During spring quarter Boggs, who at age 92 remains active in various local and community organizations and writes a weekly column for *Michigan Citizen*, delivered two lectures at Kalamazoo College: “Toward a Paradigm Shift in Education” and “Another World is Necessary.” Patchett’s book, *Bel Canto*, was read by members of the Class of 2007 four years previous, during the summer before they matriculated to Kalamazoo College. In the fall of 2003 Patchett visited campus to participate in the discussion groups that took place during orientation week. So, it was a homecoming of sorts for Patchett, who served as the Commencement speaker. She gave a delightful address about post-commencement encounters with the question: “Now, what will you do?,” sharing her discovery of what it means to learn how to stare, and how important that skill is to the writer that she has become. President Eileen B. Wilson-Oyelaran delivered the Charge to the Class of 2007, mortarboards flew, and the College’s very latest alumni recessed through two lines that included faculty and emeriti alumni from the Classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, and 1957.



RECOGNITION OF EMERITI ALUMNI



HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS: ACTIVIST AND SCHOLAR GRACE LEE BOGGS (LEFT PHOTO) AND AUTHOR ANN PATCHETT



MARISSA WEEKS READIES FOR THE SUNNY WEATHER



ERIN PAYNE SHARES A HUG WITH FRIENDS OF FOUR YEARS AND FOREVER.



THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Many members of the Class of 2007 share Kalamazoo College with relatives. Here they are together (l-r): **front row**—Karman Hamlin '07; Rita (Metzger) (Plantefaber) Culver '49, maternal grandmother of Karman; Catherine (Kroeschell) Thomson '77, mother of Jennifer Thomson; Jennifer Thomson '07; Kelsey J. Fowler '07; Jeffrey McCabe Fowler '81, Kelsey's father; Joel A. Booth '05, brother of Sarah Booth; David Booth '78, Sarah's father; Sarah Booth '07; Karen Wisner Booth '78, Sarah's mother; **second row**—Kimberly Carsok '07; Elaine J. (Dryer) Carsok '49, paternal grandmother of Kimberly; Daniel J. Thomson '78, father of Jennifer Thomson; Julie Thomson '11, Jennifer's sister; Rebecca Thomson '09, Jennifer's other sister; Sarah Ball '05, betrothed to Benjamin Bimber '04, the brother of Whitney B. Nielsen '07; Karen A. Nielsen '75, Whitney's mom; **third row**—Rebecca L. Frost '07; Dennis H. Benson '68, father of Daniel Benson; Daniel Benson '07; Elizabeth Belser Loegel '77, mother of Jane Loegel; Jane Loegel '07; Michael A. Loegel '77, Jane's dad; Karen Bell Alworth '78, mother of Colin Alworth; Colin Alworth '07; Royal D. Alworth, III '78, Colin's dad; Frederick Bimber '75, father of Whitney B. Nielsen '07; **fourth row**—Don Frost '65, father of Rebecca; Caroline E. Orosz '07; H. Kevin Haight '80, father of Ian Haight; Ian Haight '07; Richard H. Russell, maternal grandfather of Ian Haight; Kathryn R. Ovink '07; Jennifer Dill Ovink '73, Kathryn's mom; Sarah M. Ovink '00, Kathryn's sister; Benjamin Bimber '04, brother of Whitney B. Nielsen; Whitney B. Nielsen '07; **back row**—Joel J. Orosz '79, father of Caroline; and Roger Ovink (Kathryn's dad).



THE EMERITUS CLUBS HONORS THREE

During Commencement 2007, the Emeritus Club of Kalamazoo College, an alumni organization for members of classes that graduated fifty or more years ago, honored three of its members with Citation of Merit Awards: Hugh V. Anderson '43, Russell J. Becker '44, and Barbara Goodsell Clark '47. The award is given to Emeritus Club members who demonstrate their affection for and loyalty to Kalamazoo College.

Hugh Anderson was a chemistry major at Kalamazoo College. Early in his senior year he met the love of his life, Jacqueline (Jacie) Bowen '46. That year was momentous in other ways. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a pilot in the European theatre. He earned the rank of Captain in the USAF Reserve. When he returned home from the war he married Jacie, completed his degree at Kalamazoo College, and enrolled at the University of Illinois, where he earned his Ph.D. in organic chemistry. In 1950 he accepted a job with the Upjohn Company, and he and Jacie returned to Kalamazoo. Their daughter Sarah was born in 1956. He served the Upjohn Company for 36 years in various positions including research associate, manager of chemical process research and development, general manager of laboratory procedures, and executive director of corporate purchasing. During these years he also was noted for his civic involvement and volunteer work in the Kalamazoo community. He was involved in many organizations, as officer, member, or board member, including the Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society, the Buckout School District, the Oshtemo Township Zoning Board Management Association, the Kalamazoo County Democratic Committee, the Forum for Kalamazoo College, the National Issues Forum, the Douglass Community Center, the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, and Preserve the Dunes. He chaired the 1979 Greater Kalamazoo United Way Campaign. He also faithfully served his alma mater in many capacities, including class agent, president of the Alumni Association, and director of the 1975 annual fund drive. He was an alumni trustee (1960-63) and a trustee (1977-1986). In 1976 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Alumni Association, and 10 years later was named a Trustee Emeritus of the College. He has served on the Emeritus Club Board from 1999-2003, and he continues as a member of the 1833 Society of the Kalamazoo College Fund.

Russ Becker earned degrees in psychology and philosophy and thoroughly enjoyed his undergraduate experience. At Kalamazoo College he fell in love with



PRESIDENT EILEEN B. WILSON-OYELARAN (LEFT) AND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT DAVID EASTERBROOK '69 (RIGHT) FLANK THE 2007 EMERITUS CLUB CITATION OF MERIT WINNERS (L-R): HUGH V. ANDERSON '43, BARBARA GOODSSELL CLARK '47, AND RUSSELL J. BECKER '44.

his classmate Dorothy Keifith. They married a year after their graduation. That year Russ earned his B.D. at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School. He and Dorothy then moved to Chicago where Russ served as assistant minister at a local church and enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of Chicago Divinity School. Near the end of his studies, Russ was named University Baptist Pastor and served as the dean of students at the University's Downtown Center. In 1952 he, Dorothy, and their young son, Jonathan, moved to Kalamazoo so that Russ could take the job of dean of men and assistant professor of psychology at Kalamazoo College. The following year he took the position of assistant professor of psychology at the College of Wooster. In 1957 he left teaching to do pastoral work at the Glenview (Illinois) Community Church. Three years later he returned to teaching (Yale Divinity School) during which time he spent a sabbatical year at the Jung Institute (Zurich, Switzerland). In 1969 he became minister of Glencoe Union Church in Illinois and remained there until his retirement in 1986. Throughout his professional career Russ wrote many scholarly articles and two books: *Family Pastoral Care* and *When Marriage Ends*. He is a longtime supporter of the Kalamazoo College Fund. Two of his three sons have Kalamazoo College ties—Jon graduated in 1973, and Carl attended during the 1975-76 academic year. Russ' grandson, Mark, graduated from the College in 2005. Russ has continued to serve others during his retirement. He has taken on interim ministries, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, and helped raise funds for Pilgrim Place, a retirement community for religious professionals in Claremont, Calif. This year he joined

17 members of his son's church to build a classroom for AIDS orphans in Uganda, Africa.

Barbara Goodsell Clark's Kalamazoo College roots run deep. Her father, Charles True Goodsell, was a professor of history at the College from 1928 until his sudden and untimely death in 1941. He was co-author of the College's first history book, *Centennial History of Kalamazoo College*. Barbara grew up in one of the College's "Grove" houses. She matriculated in 1943, joining her sister Elizabeth "Jo" Goodsell '46. Their brother, Charles '54, followed in their footsteps.

Barbara majored in biology and earned minors in chemistry, physics, and German. She was active in the College's band. After graduation she was awarded a teaching assistantship at Purdue University, where she completed a master's degree in animal physiology. She also married John Clark. They had four children, twin girls Barbara Jo and Frances, and sons Charles and Steven '79. Barbara taught biology at Soumi College and chemistry, biology, and physics at two high schools in the Houghton (Mich.) area. The development and maintenance of her family's "camp," 225 acres of forested land, gave Barbara a special interest in forest management and environmental issues, and she soon discovered a passion for local politics and community involvement. She served on the Houghton County Board of Commissioners, the Hancock City Charter Commission, Hancock City Council, and Portage Lake Water and Sewer Authority. She was Mayor of Hancock for two years and she also ran for state representative. She served on the boards of the Michigan Forest Association, the American Forestry Association, and the Lakes States Forestry Alliance. She and John are founding members of the Keweenaw Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and helped develop the "Off-the-Beaten Pathfinders," a group interested in finding, enjoying, and preserving areas of scenic beauty or ecological significance. She has been a longtime supporter of the Kalamazoo College Fund and the Emeritus Club Scholarship. ○

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College Grants Tenure to Five

The board of trustees granted tenure this year to five outstanding teachers: Karen Berthel, Theatre Arts; Patrik Hultberg, Economics and Business; James E. Lewis, Jr., History; D. Blaine Moore, Biology; and Michael J. Sosulski, German Studies. All were promoted to the rank of associate professor.

KAREN BERTHEL

Karen Berthel earned a B.A. in psychology at Western Michigan University (1985). In 1987 she studied in Australia at the Australian Film School (Sydney) and the National Institute for Dramatic Art (Kensington). Two years later, in Grass Valley, Calif., she earned her teacher certification in Sivananda Vedanta Yoga (she teaches yoga as a physical education activities class at Kalamazoo College). She completed her M.F.A. in acting at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco.

She has taught at Western Michigan University. At Kalamazoo College she teaches a variety of courses, including "Fundamentals of Acting," "Theatre for Community and Dialogue," "Developing a Character," "Voice and Diction," and "Advanced Acting." She also has supervised independent studies in phonetic ear training, dramaturgy, and advanced directing, among others.

Her areas of theatre arts specialty include acting, stage combat (particularly hand-to-hand and the broadsword), performing gender, the Skinner method of voice and diction, Fitzmaurice and Linklater voice, and activating theatre.

Berthel is a founding company member and board member of The Queen's Company. The all-female theatre troupe was started in 1995 to provide women undergraduates in UCLA's theatre department the opportunity of performing challenging roles with stage combat. Its first play, a Los Angeles production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* (in which Berthel played the title role), was the basis of her master's thesis at the American Conservatory Theatre.

"Graduate school was my first real exposure to performing Shakespearean text," she said. "I love classical theatre because the roles are so juicy to work on. All good acting is heightened truth, and in classical text the emotional distancing that is appropriate today hadn't been introduced yet. Whatever people were feeling, they felt 'then and

there' and expressed it verbally in that beautiful language."

The Queen's Company, now based in New York, concentrates on classical plays and new works by women, always with a gender twist. Berthel continues her involvement as an actor. Most recently, she played the role of the Fool in a workshop of Shakespeare's *King Lear*.

She also serves as artistic consultant to the Electra Theatre Company (San Diego). The company began in 1989 with the goal of producing works of emerging female playwrights in San Francisco and today continues to support female playwrights with workshop productions of new and in-progress plays and musicals.

PATRIK HULTBERG

Patrik Hultberg grew up in Helsingborg, Sweden, and attended high school as an exchange student in the state of Wyoming. He earned his B.A. in International Business (summa cum laude) from Ohio Wesleyan University, and during those undergraduate years he studied abroad in Strasbourg, France. He earned a Ph.D. in International Economics from Rice University. He has taught previously at Rice University, the University of Wyoming, the Ministry of Economic Affairs (Hsinchu, Taiwan), and Sung Kyun Kwan University (Seoul, South Korea). "Ever since I graduated from a small liberal arts college I had

"I had wanted to teach at a place that allows professors to actually get to know their students."

wanted to teach at a place that allows professors to actually get to know their students," said Hultberg. "As a college student I truly enjoyed having access to my professors to discuss course content or other things that puzzled me. As someone who has traveled, worked, and lived in many countries, I especially hoped to join a college that had an international focus."

Hultberg's research focuses on economic growth and international trade and economic integration. He is widely published and a frequent presenter on these subjects. Recent publications include "Cross-Country Policy Harmonization with Rent-Seeking" (*Contributions to Economic Analysis and Policy*) and "Economic Integration, Environmental Policy and

Firm Relocation” (*Environment and Development Economics*).

At Kalamazoo College he teaches “Principles of Economics: Microeconomics,” “International Trade,” “International Business,” “Globalization,” “Multinational Finance,” and various “Senior Topics” courses. Many of these courses were developed by Hultberg as he has attempted to integrate business and economics in his courses.

“Economics is an extremely powerful tool for explaining human behavior around the world. I’ve done a lot of traveling and seen this first hand,” said Hultberg, who minored in psychology as an undergraduate. “All individuals, firms, and institutions respond to economic incentives, and all economic actions and policies carry both direct and indirect effects on people everywhere. All of these have to be understood.”

JAMES E. LEWIS, JR.

James Lewis earned a B.A. (government) from the College of William and Mary and a M.A. and Ph.D. in history from American University and the University of Virginia, respectively. He has taught at many places—including the University of Virginia, Hollins College, Louisiana State University, Widener University, and the University of Pennsylvania—but Kalamazoo College is special.

“I have never taught anywhere like ‘K,’” said Lewis. “The students, on the whole, are wonderful, curious, and hard-working, and they love to be challenged and rise to just about whatever challenge is set before them. And the size of Kalamazoo College allows for a closeness of connection with students that I haven’t previously experienced in any sustained way.”

Lewis is considered one of the premier scholars of the early U.S. and its diplomatic relations with the world. He has already written and published three books (*The Louisiana Purchase: Jefferson’s Noble Bargain?*, *John Quincy Adams: Policymaker for the Union*, and *The American Union and the Problem of Neighborhood: The United States and the Collapse of the Spanish Empire, 1783-*

1829). He is at work on a much-anticipated fourth book titled *Colonel Burr’s Mysterious Movements*. He has done work in many public history activities. Among the most notable of these activities were an on-camera appearance in the documentary “The Louisiana Purchase,” which aired on The History Channel, and his work as editorial assistant on the “Papers of James Madison.” He has also served as consultant, providing text and other material, on two websites of the Abraham Lincoln Historical Digitization Project. One was titled “Prairie Fire,” and the second, called “Lincoln/Net” focused on the Black Hawk War.

Given his complete body of scholarly work, considered extraordinary in one so young, Lewis is a leader in reorienting the historical conception of early U.S. diplomatic history. He is often sought after as a reviewer, manuscript referee (for books and articles), and a panelist at meetings of professional historical societies. He is a member of the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, and the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic.

At Kalamazoo College he teaches many classes (a number of which he has created) including the U.S. history survey course, as well as the following: “Native American History,” “Revolutionary America,” “American Political Culture,” “The American West in the 19th Century,” “History of U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1898,” and “Post World War II America.”

“I love Kalamazoo College’s commitment to excellence in teaching and rigor in academics,” said Lewis. “Our students are well prepared for success.”

D. BLAINE MOORE

D. Blaine Moore earned a B.S. in biology (*magna cum laude*) from the University of North Florida and a Ph.D. in neuroscience at the University of Florida. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research and a visiting assistant professor of biology at Haverford College.

Moore’s research interest is the progression of diseases (such as Alzheimer’s disease) that slowly destroy or incapacitate human brain cells. He has published widely in this field and is a frequent invited speaker on this subject. He also has published in the field of science pedagogy.

In 2004 he was named the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Assistant Professor of Biology at Kalamazoo

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College. His lecture on that occasion, “Molecular Scissors and the Etiology of Alzheimer’s Disease,” described the association of Alzheimer’s disease with plaque and tangle lesions that affect brain cells. The plaques result from an altered ratio of the cleavage products of a protein called APP, for which two enzymes compete to be the “molecular scissors.”

Understanding how this competition is regulated is an important research goal that may ultimately lead to the identification of molecules that influence this competition (and the ratio of cleavage products). Potential medicines might then be designed to interact with those molecules in order to shift the ratio and prevent the formation of plaques.

Moore’s excellence as a teacher derives in large part from his involvement of undergraduate students in his research. His students are currently at work investigating the regulation of secretase enzyme cleavage of APP and mechanisms of ethanol neurotoxicity. He has supervised Senior Individualized Projects, career development internships, and training in specific scientific techniques (cell culture and transfection, for example) for Kalamazoo College students. He teaches “Cell and Molecular Biology” and “Neurobiology.”

“A liberal arts approach to higher education, and to science, is the best model of learning because of the breadth of knowledge and experiences and the close, one-on-one interactions with faculty in the classroom and in the laboratory,” said Moore.

MICHAEL J. SOSULSKI

Michael Sosulski did undergraduate study at Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen, earned a B.S. in German at Georgetown University, completed a DAAD Fellowship at Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, and earned a M.A. and Ph.D. in Germanic Studies from the University of Chicago. It may sound very specialized, but according to Sosulski, “a liberal arts education is what shaped the person and the academic that I am today.”

Prior to his arrival at Kalamazoo College, Sosulski taught at the University of Chicago,

“A liberal arts approach to higher education, and to science, is the best model of learning...”

Valparaiso University, and Pacific Lutheran University. His teaching interests include German drama of the 18th through 20th centuries, Weimar classicism, German expressionism, Weimar cinema, the films of Fritz Lang, and all levels of German language and culture.

His research focuses on national movements and their expression in German culture, history of German theatre, dramatist and critic Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, and poet and playwright Friedrich von Schiller.

His book, *Theater and Nationhood in Eighteenth-Century Germany*, came out this year, and he has published extensively in scholarly journals and presented his work throughout the United States and Europe. His presentations include “Creating an Integrated, Content-Oriented and Task-Based German Curriculum in a Two-Person Department” at

the annual meeting of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in 2005.

“I’m a believer in cultural studies, which means I think it’s just as important to teach and learn about the contexts and milieu in which languages and literatures emerge as it is to understand these cultural products themselves,” he said.

German, he adds, is both language and “gateway to a surprisingly diverse and exciting world of people, practices, and traditions, including Poles, Russians, Romanians, Jews, Afro-Germans, Turkish-Germans, and other growing

minority cultures.”

A true liberal arts devotee, Sosulski is a passionate jazz and blues man who plays some tenor saxophone. He also is interested in film and media studies. In addition to his responsibilities in the German Studies department, he also is the interim director of the College’s media studies concentration.

“I think it’s just as important to teach and learn about the contexts and milieu in which languages and literatures emerge as it is to understand these cultural products themselves.”

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A STAR IS BORN

Well, the play by Tony-nominated Lisa Kron, *Class of 1983*, will occur on the stage where Lisa began her acting career—the Nelda K. Balch Playhouse. The Midwest premier will feature guest artist and professional actress Sharon Williams in the role of Lisa's mother. Lisa's mentor at Kalamazoo College, theatre professor Ed Menta, will direct. All other roles will be played by Kalamazoo College students. Performances occur February 28, 29, March 1, at 8 p.m., and on March 2, at 2 p.m. Zinta Aistars traveled to New York City in spring 2006 to see the Broadway production of *Well*, which featured Judy Houdyshell (inset photo) in the role of Lisa's mother, and Lisa as Lisa. Zinta filed the following report:

childhood demons are pulling me back from the edge of the stage, and I cry out 'Help me!' and someone in the audience did. A member of the audience reached out to pull me back. At other times, audience members call out to Jane or me, getting involved in the dialogue."

Those are the moments when Lisa achieves success and transcends the boundaries between her experience and the experiences of everyone. Yet no audience is the same, and this is in great part why acting is Lisa's first great love, writing her second.

"The play is a living thing. I am endlessly fascinated with the varied responses from the audience, and that keeps it always new, always fresh. How did I get the laugh one night and not the next? You must constantly put yourself in a position of not knowing and being willing to learn." This, perhaps, is the greatest skill Lisa Kron learned at Kalamazoo College.

Someday Kathleen Turner may once again use this very dressing room, and by then maybe she'll gleefully think: "This was used by Lisa Kron!"

AND REBORN

Lisa Kron sits cross-legged in the chair across from the lighted mirror in her dressing room — the same one used by Kathleen Turner, she gleefully notes, her flouncy pup jumping up and down in front of her, begging for treats. Yes, Lisa's made it to the big time. Her play, *Well*, is showing at the Longacre Theatre on Broadway (the play closed shortly before Lisa was told she had been nominated for a Tony), and it doesn't get much better than that for a gal from Lansing who grew up feeling never quite part of the in-crowd. Which, in part, is what her new play is about — feeling well in an unwell world. These days, however, Lisa is feeling just fine.

"Kalamazoo College opened my eyes to the professional possibilities of theatre," Lisa says. "I came to an audition at Dalton Theatre, tagging along with a friend, thinking I would just watch. I ended up onstage and got the part. And I was hooked for life."

Today, Lisa gleans stories from her life and puts them on stage — to critical acclaim. She's not afraid to expose her underbelly of fears and inhibitions and most awkward, if not painful, moments, and her audiences relate. She returned to Kalamazoo in 1995 to perform *101 Humiliating Stories* and in 2001 with *2.5 Minute Ride*, an autobiographical sketch of her pilgrimage to Auschwitz with her father, a Holocaust survivor. The play won the Obie (Off-Broadway) Award among several other awards. She was a founding member of the Five Lesbian Brothers, a comic gay theatre collective, and her plays have gone on tour nationwide and internationally.

Lisa's goals in reaching her audience are simple enough: "I want people's thoughts to be a little altered when they leave the theatre. People have assumptions, and when they come to see *Well*, I want to challenge those assumptions. I ask the audience to have empathy for the experience of others so that they are no longer other. Their experience begins to overlap your own."

The living room on the stage is modeled after the living room in which Lisa grew up, and when her performance — along with co-star Jane Houdyshell, who plays Lisa's mother — reaches its mark, the audience forgets where they are. The theatre house evaporates and becomes everyone's house, everyone's living room.



Prospero in Chicago



Tangerine Arts Group (TAG), a Chicago-based nonprofit with enough Kalamazoo College in it to bleed orange, exists to help artists collaborate and to integrate arts (and artists) with the local community. That mission is not always easy, says the organization's director, Jessica Hoff '02, but it sure helps that collaboration is a value rooted in the liberal arts education at Kalamazoo College.

It must be, because the list of TAG volunteers includes a "Who's Who" of Kalamazoo College graduates, among whom, besides Jessica, are Felicity HunzekerHesed '00, Aaron Lipke '96, Elizabeth Lindau '97, Jon Mastantuono '97, Matt Priest '97, Katie Brown '97, Liz Lowery '98, Lizzie Kostielney '98, Devin Brain '00, John Cunningham '00, Cassis Johnson '01, Allen Krause '01, Scott Masson '01, and Ryan Rivera '01. All these folk are artists,

albeit in various mediums (theatre, painting, music). TAG provides the space where they can forge relationships, modify artistic ideas in response to the ideas of other artists who practice in a different medium, and integrate art and artists with the surrounding community.

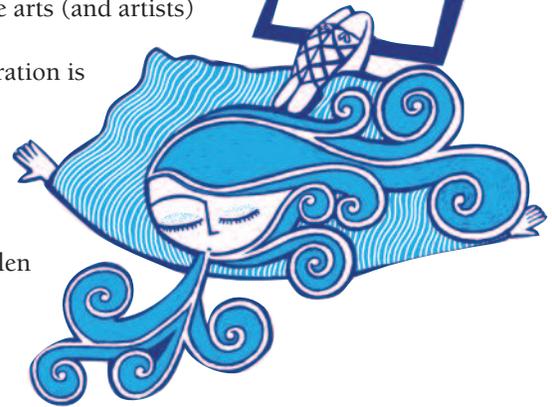
Did we mention it wasn't easy? Collaboration, explains Jessica, often is squeezed between opposing forces—on the one hand: maintaining the integrity of an individual's artistic vision; on the other: the selflessness and willingness to compromise required to produce a collaborative work of art. "Collaboration is one of the most difficult values to achieve,"

says Jessica. "It was difficult enough for us to find a name for our group. We couldn't agree on anything, but no one was opposed to 'Tangerine.'"

According to Jessica, a wellspring for TAG's success was the fact that Kalamazoo College attracted students with widely diverse ideas often traveling to widely diverse study abroad destinations and provided these students opportunities to work in teams.

The group is thankful for career development internships too, especially Jessica's sophomore-year career service with Northlight Theatre, where she honed the business "backbone" (the vertebrae to support the verve) that has helped TAG survive during her tenure as executive director. Oftentimes art groups emerge, full of passion, only to fade away in less than a year because they are...well, invertebrate in a business sense.

Did we mention it wasn't easy—managing a nearly full-time endeavor with 36 volunteers and six committees—especially when it's not your day job? For that, Jessica serves as vice president of acquisition and development for Urban Property Advisors, LLC, which develops affordable housing in Chicago, southern Illinois, and neighboring states. She doesn't find the two efforts—producing collaborative art and developing affordable housing—that dissimilar.



Collaboration is key to Tangerine Arts Group. The artistic allies include (l-r): Drew HunzekerHesed, Felicity HunzekerHesed '00, Jessica Hoff '02, and Christopher Berzac.



Jessica Hoff





Jessica Hoff with a young cast member of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

"There is so much to balance and many people to please," she explains. Funding, grants, and contributions must be secured, permits and zoning checked, proper spaces found. "In theater you need to manage outlandish personalities and insufficient budgets, and you must make decisions bound to displease someone or another." Whether the end is low-income town homes or a play, everyone involved *hopefully* remembers they are collaborating toward a *shared* goal.

What's it look like when it works? Perhaps like a recent production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, a performance most aptly described as a "circus-play." The idea grew from a collaboration between TAG and the Actor's Gymnasium, a theatrical nonprofit that trains actors in circus arts such as dance, music, puppetry, and acrobatics. Felicity HunzekerHesed, a drama teacher at Frances Xavier Warde School in Chicago, and her husband, Drew, director of special events for the Actor's Gymnasium, approached Jessica with the concept of producing Shakespeare's play in a circus arts setting. Combining circus and traditional theater was a good marriage for this fanciful play. For example, Ariel's captive obligation to Prospero's art is conveyed through aerial arts, with Ariel air-bound almost the entire production. The actress portraying Ariel soared on silks, cloud swings, and trapezes, tantalizingly dangling her feet to floor when she is tempted with freedom, as if to touch the ground would be glorious. When Prospero breaks his staff, abandoning his magic and releasing Ariel, the entire audience watched intently as she finally dropped to the floor.



"It was a remarkable moment," says Jessica. "Many described the goosebumps they experienced when Ariel touched down." The spell cast widely because the last two weeks of the production were sold out.

Jessica enjoyed that collaboration, which took place at the Noyes Cultural Center in Evanston, but TAG's calling is to areas in the city of Chicago where art events are less prevalent. One of its projects was a monthly variety show called "Squeezed!" at Chicago's Beat Kitchen. The show provided new artists an opportunity to break into the city's art scene.

Another TAG project, in collaboration with Uptown Family Services Group, is the Family Summer Arts Camp, which provides parents and children creative activities to do together.

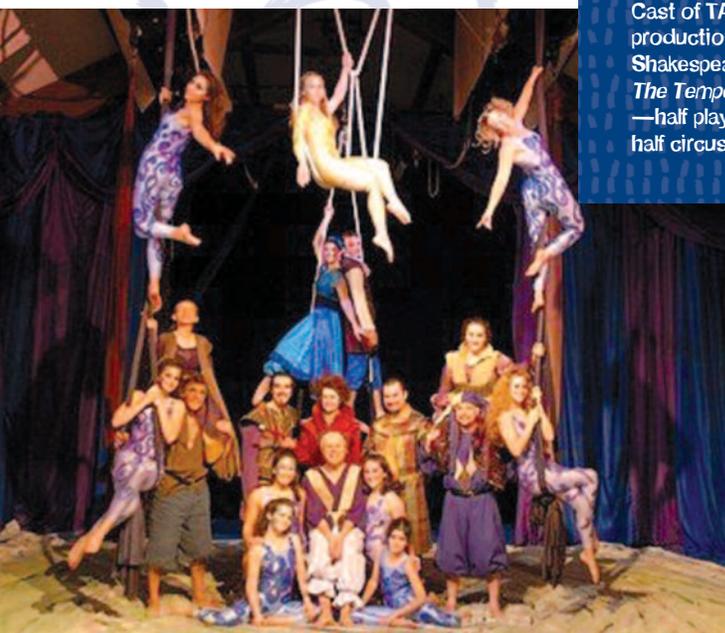
TAG is entering its seventh year—adulthood, maybe even middle age, by the standards of most volunteer arts groups. And it's a time of transition as the original members and volunteers age. More and more have less and less time to devote

to what they see as "something that is not your art, but rather someone else's vision," says Jessica. "It's natural."

Her own career (her "day" one) is quickly growing, leaving her less hours to give to managing TAG. "There is a need for TAG's mission in Chicago—artistic collaboration and community arts outreach—and I feel that it will be met. If not under the auspices of TAG, then as a result of small achievements by all the people with whom TAG has worked these past years."

Did we mention it wasn't easy?

Like the circus play's Ariel, TAG is hovering, waiting to see where next it shall set its feet, and whether that landing will be as a viable organization or, instead, as dispersed individuals profoundly touched by the experience of their willing temporary captivity to TAG's magic. Either way, the joy of serving others through art and collaboration will continue. ◦



Cast of TAG's production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*—half play, half circus.

SEEING THE LIGHT,



BEING THE LIGHT

Two weeks after donning cap and gown to pick up her Kalamazoo College diploma, Robin (Alexander) Sakamoto '85 was on a plane to Japan to begin a two-year teaching job.

Twenty-two years later, she still hasn't used her return ticket.

Now, with a husband who runs his own school, a new university job of her own, and three children in school, don't expect her back in the States anytime soon.

"It's all Kalamazoo College's fault," said Robin with a laugh from her home in northern Japan. "Once it sent me abroad, it was in my blood. And once Japan and I fell in love, there was no reason for me to leave."

In truth, Robin has returned to the States for visits, including a year in Minnesota working toward a Ph.D. degree in international education. Plus, she's traveled to places like the Ukraine and Uganda to work on educational development projects.

Otherwise, this self-described "American girl" is now a Japanese citizen content to remain in her adopted country.

"I tell my students that creating a successful life in a foreign culture takes dedication, hard work, and a desire to understand a viewpoint besides your own. Yet,

because of my life here, I feel I have a deeper understanding of American values and beliefs—things like curiosity and initiative—that serve me well.

"There's a saying that 'you can't see the light from the lighthouse.' Kalamazoo College people know that you have to leave the lighthouse if you want to see the light."

OUTSIDE PERSON

As a student growing up in Portage, Michigan, Robin said she was intrigued by foreign languages and the cultures they represented. Some of this might have been picked up from two aunts who often lived and worked abroad.

A trip to Bonn, Germany, during her Kalamazoo College study abroad opened her eyes to the world at large, sharpened her language skills, and fired her

Robin (right) at Chagu Chagu Umakko, the parade that opens the summer festival season each year in her hometown of Morioka, Japan. About 100 colorfully adorned horses march through the city accompanied by equally adorned riders and attendants. After festival organizers granted special permission, Robin became the first foreigner to ride in the long-standing parade.

interest in foreign travel.

That's why her first year in Japan on a job arranged through the College's Career Service office was such a cold hard dose of reality.

"I went from being what I thought was a worldly-wise college grad to a preschooler," she said. "In Germany, I spoke German and was surrounded by people who spoke English. Here, no one spoke English. I was completely illiterate. Not even the street signs helped."

Robin had landed in Morioka, a city in Japan's northern Iwate prefecture. Dating back to the 16th century, Morioka today has a population of nearly 300,000, but few foreigners, and almost no Americans visit.

"In Japanese, 'gaijin' means 'outside person,'" said Robin. "That was me. Everywhere I went, people would point and stare. The first year was tough."

With encouragement from her superintendent, Robin became more involved in the community.

"I took Japanese lessons with first- and second-graders. I picked grapes, planted rice in my bare feet, went to the sake factory, learned flower arranging, modeled kimonos."

Slowly, language and cultural barriers fell. In their place came respect and smiles.

"They began to call me 'teacher' and I went from being an oddity to someone people embraced. It was a special time."

SENSEI

Robin asked for and received a third year to teach. That led to a job at a local high school and in 1990 to a post at the Morioka English Academy, where she taught for 13 years. In 1994, she picked up a part-time job teaching English at nearby Iwate University.

"English is a mandatory subject from junior high onward in Japan," she said. "But it's taught the way many of us were taught Latin, with an emphasis on grammar translation. It's common for Japanese students to become proficient in reading English, without knowing how to speak it."

Morioka English Academy is a private school in which students (preschoolers to senior citizens) learn conversational English. Kiyoo Sakamoto, son of the school's founder, was a young teacher there when he and Robin first met. Now he is the school's president and her husband.

"Kiyoo was in Canada studying English when I arrived here. It turned out we had the same experience in opposite directions, so we had a lot that we could talk and laugh about together."

They also share an approach to teaching that

emphasizes a give-and-take dialogue between teacher and student that is largely foreign to the Japanese classroom in which teachers typically lecture while students quietly take notes.

"My students are shocked when they enter the classroom and find me sitting on the edge of my desk, calling them by their first names and asking them what's on their minds."

Robin encourages her students to ask questions, another alien concept to many of them. "They believe it is their responsibility to understand, and they won't ask the teacher if they don't."

For all the differences between the Japanese and American systems, Robin said her students are eager to learn. "Their study and work ethic is strong and they would not think of not going to school. Japan does so well with its education. A 99 percent literacy rate says a lot."

As someone who was raised in one school system and now teaches in another, Robin said she wants to "take the best of both systems and put them to work where they would really make a difference."

HOME AND AWAY

Robin and Kiyoo have two daughters, Junna (16) and Reina (14), and one son, Kei (12), "which is pronounced 'K,'" she delights in saying.

When Kei entered preschool, Robin began to wonder what was next for her professionally. Through an Antioch University distance-learning program, she earned a Master's Degree in intercultural relations. Soon after, she took the whole family to Minneapolis, Minnesota, for a year while she pursued a doctorate in the subject from The University of Minnesota.

Her family collectively had a terrific year in Minnesota, she said. But each child had a unique experience.

Son Kei absorbed English and American culture the fastest of the three children. He especially enjoyed Little League, coached by his father.

Younger daughter Reina also adapted well, especially after she discovered soccer—now "her first love," said Robin. Back in Japan, however, her school had no girls' soccer team. No matter, she became the first girl to join the boys' team and went on to be a starter.

Daughter Junna, who takes after her mother in looks, had a tougher time adjusting to American life.

"For the first time in her life, in terms of appearance, she fit in with the other kids. Until she spoke. Because even though Junna 'looked' American, she 'sounded' Japanese."

Upon her return to Japan, Junna wrote about her



year in America in the form of a speech she delivered as part of a national competition.

“She spoke about how people in Japan think of her as a foreigner because she doesn’t look Japanese,” said Robin. “While in the U.S. she was a foreigner because she couldn’t speak English fluently.

“She said the lesson she learned is that we are all citizens of the world.”

Junna’s speech earned her a second-place finish in all of Japan.

“I certainly relate to Junna’s experience,” said Robin. “Even though I have deep roots in the Morioka community, I’m still viewed as a foreigner in many circles. Most days, that’s not an issue; some days it’s no fun. So I get involved in school and community events as much as possible.

“But it’s still tough going to school everyday being the kid who doesn’t look the same as everyone else. That’s why I wanted them to have a year in the U.S. I don’t care how old you are, going abroad is a life-changing event.”

NEW DIRECTION, FAMILIAR ROUTE

Robin said she chose The University of Minnesota as the place to earn her Ph.D. degree because one of its professors “was considered to be a guru in the field” of intercultural relations.” But when she arrived, he was on sabbatical...in Japan.

She was assigned instead to Professor of Educational Policy and Administration David Chapman ’69.

“And it changed my life,” said Robin.

During the last two decades David has worked in 45 developing countries, assisting national governments and international organizations in the areas of educational policy and planning, program design, and evaluation. His work focuses on issues of education development for both K-12 and higher education.

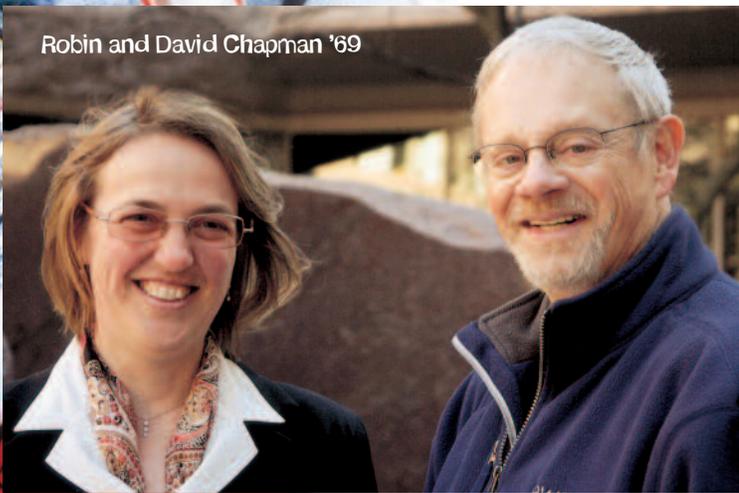
David has been awarded a Fulbright New Century Scholars grant for the 2007-08 academic year, one of 36 international scholars chosen for the honor.

He said his intense interest in developmental issues probably began during his Kalamazoo College study abroad program in Sierra Leone.

“So I was delighted to meet another Kalamazoo College grad and help guide her through her doctoral program,” he said. “Working with Robin on several international educational development projects has also been rewarding. She’s smart, eager, a good listener, and an experienced traveler...typical Kalamazoo College!”

With David’s help, Robin traveled to Ukraine for three weeks in 2004 as part of a team to develop

training programs for teachers in that former Soviet republic. A similar trip in 2006 took them both to Uganda. They’ve also attended international educational development conferences in Japan and the United States.



Robin and David Chapman '69

Robin Sakamoto in a photo from a card she sent to the people who helped her adjust to life in Japan during her first year there.

David has helped arrange for Robin to get work as a reporter at several conferences.

“We were in Uganda with a Japanese professor, a brilliant man, but he spoke poor English,” said David. “Robin made all the difference. Everyone was relaxed in her presence. A Japanese professor, Ugandan government officials, and an American woman, all engaged and getting good work done.”

Said Robin: “All of this is the kind of work I hope to do more of in the future. Perhaps through the World Bank or UNESCO. When I compare that 99 percent of Japanese students finish secondary school, but only 17 percent of Ugandan children go to secondary school, I see that so much needs to be done.”

Continuing the legacy of one Kalamazoo College graduate mentoring another, Robin has hosted four College students in Morioka through the years. Mark Crilley '88, Karen (Volk) Saito '91, Bridgette Sparkman '97, and Lynn Larsen '03 have worked at the Morioka English Academy, teaching conversational English to local residents.

“They are more than the average college graduates,” said Robin. “They have a lot of experience for people their age. They’ve seen a bit of the world and are eager to talk about it, eager to learn more.”

PROFESSOR MOM

In 2004, Robin began a part-time teaching job at Keio University in Tokyo. In April of this year, she became a rarity in the Japanese educational system: a fulltime professor at a leading university who is a female, non-ethnic Japanese with a Ph.D.

Robin is on the English faculty at Rikkyo University in Tokyo. Formerly known as St. Paul’s, Rikkyo is one of six Ivy League-style private institutions of higher learning in Japan.

On Mondays, *Professor Sakamoto* commutes by bullet train from Morioka to Tokyo. It takes two and a half hours. During the week, she stays in a tiny apartment, teaches, conducts some of her own research (into the moral development of Japanese youth), and seeks out international development opportunities.

“My students can’t believe my commute. But being able to work with them is worth it. They always attend class and always do their homework, in part because they know the effort I put in to being there.

“It’s very rewarding to read their final essays. I get to see them move from ‘I don’t know what you want me to say’ to ‘Let me tell you what my dreams are.’”

Robin is also slowly winning over her fellow professors, few of whom are used to having a female colleague, let alone one from America.

“They are a tougher crowd to reach, but I’m making

headway,” she said.

On Fridays, *Mrs. Sakamoto* takes the train back to Morioka where she relishes her roles as wife, mother, and active community member (she’s been appointed to numerous educational committees by the local governor and is active in her local PTA).

“It’s such a beautiful area,” she said of Iwate. “Not many tourists come this far north. If they do, they bypass us and go straight to Hokkaido. But when I hang laundry on the roof each day, I look directly at Mt. Iwate, a 2,000-meter tall extinct volcano, and I know I’m home.”

LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER

Robin attended a conference on educational development in Washington, D.C., this past spring and met with Masakazu Inaba, one of her former students from Keio University who was working as an intern for a Japanese news service and taking classes at American University. It was his first time living abroad.

Masakazu remarked that one of the things that surprised him about American life was that the news coverage included many stories about global happenings, including events in his home country. He said it gave him a new, broader perspective on both America and Japan.

“Hearing him say that shocked me back to my own study abroad term in Germany,” Robin said. “I remember feeling the same way. And in many ways, I still do. When you get away from your own country for the first time, you look back in a new light.

“Things like curiosity, personal initiative, and never being satisfied with the status quo are American values that I learned growing up in Michigan and were honed at Kalamazoo College.

“It sounds corny, but what I value about ‘K’ is the pursuit of excellence. Always looking for something more you can learn and experience. In four years at Kalamazoo College, you encounter a community of people that spans the globe geographically and intellectually. You don’t just want to visit other places; you want to experience new cultures.

“I know I still have these values all these years later. They show up in my teaching, my educational development work, my parenting, and they serve me well.

“I am Japanese in many ways and I embrace that. But I will always be American and always be a Kalamazoo College student. I can see the lighthouse clearly.”

Both Robin Sakamoto (robin@robinsakamoto.com) and David Chapman (chapm026@umn.edu) would enjoy hearing from former classmates and faculty members. ○

fin

Joachimstaler Straße

ALICE SIMON
GEB. REMAK
JG. 1887
DEPORTIERT 1943
AUSCHWITZ
ERMORDET IM KZ
NANNEWITZER-STRASSE

Alice Simon's marker – deported to
Auschwitz in 1943.

Joachimstaler
Strasse – the street
in Berlin where Carl
Simon spent his
first years.

Carl and Peggy Simon

BLESSINGS FROM BERLIN

The last time he saw his mother, Carl Simon '42 was 15 years old. Her last words to him were a blessing: may he cross the great expanse of the ocean in good health to begin his life as a student at the small liberal arts college with the funny name — Kalamazoo College. The year was 1939, Hitler's shadow darkened all of Europe, and the British host family with whom young Carl and his twin sister, Hedda, resided while attending boarding school urged their mother, Alice Simon, not to return to Berlin. It was too dangerous, they said. "Stay here, Frau Simon, stay!"

She wanted to stay. But she had promised her husband on his deathbed that she would never abandon his elderly mother. She intended to keep that promise, especially now that war loomed. Alice Simon returned to Berlin. Her family never saw or heard from her again.

But young Carl couldn't know that in 1939. He was excited about the prospect of going to America. Adventure beckoned. He was more than ready. Born in Berlin on June 30, 1921, a bright child, Carl recalls a happy childhood there.

"I was only 10 when I started high school, and I quickly made many friends," says Carl. Sitting in his Milwaukee home, preparing to celebrate his 86th birthday, he remembers: "All of that changed very quickly in 1933, when Hitler came to power. Both my parents were Jewish, but had converted to Christianity before their marriage. That fact, however, made no difference to the Nazis."

Carl Simon's father had been a highly successful lawyer,

and he took great pride in the practice he had built and the comfortable lifestyle he had brought to his family. In October 1935, he was ordered to discontinue his law practice. "Only German citizens could be lawyers, and nobody of Jewish origin was a German citizen," his son recalls. "My father had fought in World War I with distinction and considered himself as good a German as anybody else. This notice hurt him very much indeed." He died of a sudden heart attack in January 1939. "We were sure it was a delayed but nevertheless direct result of this incident."

It was then that young Carl realized he had no future in his native Germany. Education and its opportunities for a bright young mind were closed to him. When he heard about the Inter-Aid Committee in London for children in Germany, he wrote to them and told them about himself. Before long, a letter came in reply, and a place was found for him in a London school, tuition paid.

"So I said goodbye to my mother, sister, and friends, and I went to England, full of hope and ideals for the future," he says. "It was the first time I had traveled alone, and so I felt proud as the train hurried through Germany and Holland. At the same time, I was sad at leaving everything that was dear to me behind and starting life afresh in a strange country."

Although at times he felt homesick, he couldn't help but feel blessed. News trickled back to him from Germany, and the horrors of persecution against the Jews made him profoundly grateful he had escaped, even while he was deeply concerned for those left behind. His twin sister,

Hedda, soon joined him in England, leaving their mother alone in a hostile Germany.

Carl remembers hearing the odd name, “Kalamazoo,” for the first time when an exchange teacher from the town arrived at their high school in England. Her name was Adda Diltz. When she returned again to her overseas home, she kept up a correspondence with Carl, becoming something of a mentor to him. Seeing promise in the young man from Germany, Adda Diltz considered sponsoring him to come live with her in Kalamazoo.

Only one thing was missing for young Carl to be free to travel to America: his mother’s blessing. She made one last trip from Berlin to London, and she gave her son the awaited blessing. While Alice Simon returned to Germany, her son boarded a ship to the United States via Ellis Island.

“It meant leaving a country which I had learned to love, leaving many new friends I had made, and getting readjusted for the second time in a strange country. But I took the risk, and I have been glad of it ever since.”

When the ship arrived in New York, Carl Simon remembers gazing at the Statue of Liberty through barbed wire. The passengers on the ship had to wait over the weekend before they were processed and allowed to set foot on new land.

Adventure awaited, and the young man was eager and willing. He would travel on to Michigan, to the house where Adda Diltz lived, and he would do errands and keep up the house in exchange for room and board while attending Kalamazoo College.

He tested into sophomore-level classes and took chemistry classes, thinking he might want to be a chemist. Eventually he decided to major in psychology, and he earned minors in sociology and music.

On Sundays, Adda Diltz took him to church. He had always enjoying attending church services, and when a minister once asked him if he had ever thought about being a minister, a seed was planted. After finishing his degree, Carl went on to McCormick Theological Seminary, earning his degree in theology in 1945 and beginning his first pastorate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

“It was here that I first saw Peggy, singing in the church choir,” he says, eyes twinkling, “and fell madly in love. We have been married for over 60 years and she is my dearest friend.” Six happy decades, five children—Deborah, Joanne, Christine, John, Elizabeth—and 13 grandchildren mark the passage of the years. Only Alice Simon was still missing.

Carl Simon served at the Grace Presbyterian church in Milwaukee until 1952, then three years at a church in Rochester, New York, then five as director of the Westminster Foundation for the Synod of New England. When Peggy’s father became ill, the Simons returned to Milwaukee and have lived there since.

“But all those years, we heard nothing about my mother. The occasional rumor, perhaps, that she had been sent to Auschwitz. But we didn’t know. When our church choir traveled to Krakow, Poland, to sing in a church, Peggy and I took a taxi from there to Auschwitz. I knew the chance that I might find some record of my mother there was remote. When we arrived, the main gate was locked. We stood for a while, but then turned to leave. We had walked about 50 feet when we heard the door open behind us.”

Holding but the slimmest hope, Carl Simon asked if they might have any record of his mother in their archives, and indeed there, among mountains of papers, was a record labeled Alice Simon, “shipped out” in 1943.

“I could only assume my mother had died at Auschwitz.”

Yet the final note was not there. Years later, still yearning for a clear conclusion, and by now in the age of technology and “search engines,” Carl Simon couldn’t resist looking for more.

“In 2001 or so, I was just ‘noodling around’ on my computer, and I found the address for the church in Berlin where I was confirmed as a young boy. Might they have some record? On a whim, I sent an e-mail to the church.”

The better part of a year went by with no reply. Then, a letter arrived from a Dr. Hans Lang. It seemed his assistant had made the connection between the Simon name and a project Lang was working on, gathering information about 86 Jews who were shipped out from Auschwitz to another camp in Strasbourg, France. Alice Simon was one of those 86. The group had been forced to submit to medical experiments, then executed.

More than 60 years after he last saw his mother, Carl Simon had his answer. He had closure. On the dining room table in his

Milwaukee home sits a book written by Hans Lang in German about the group of 86 Jews and their cruel destiny. Carl Simon opens the book to the first chapter, titled, “Alice Simon aus Berlin,” and there is a photo of a handsome woman whose features resemble his own. Something of her is echoed, too, in the rows of framed family photos throughout the Simon household, on every bookshelf, on every table, along the top of the piano.

“Life is a running commentary on the grace of God,” says Carl, still holding the book in his hands, his eyes on the faces of his extended family. “What have I done that is so good to merit all the joy in my life in the church that my parents were denied? I’ve done nothing to deserve my marriage, my children, my work. All I have learned in my life is that we must never miss an opportunity to do a kindness. To tell our loved ones what they mean to us.”

“All I have learned in my life is that we must never miss an opportunity to do a kindness...”

Like a lot of guys who reach 50, Jim Galligan '76 decided that his life needed a kick in the pants.

Although he loved Boston, after 25 years he'd had his fill of its high cost of living, frenetic tempo, and legendary bad traffic. He wanted to live somewhere slower paced, more user friendly.

Jim had also grown weary of his work situation. Business was good and his partners were okay, that wasn't the problem. He simply wanted to strike out on his own in a new direction.

Then there was his relationship with his wife, Carilee, which had altered dramatically in recent years.

So Jim devised a plan that called for stuffing a van with fishing gear and golf clubs, topping it with a canoe, and heading west. When he got to the right place, he would settle down and open his own woodworking shop.

In truth, Jim's plan wasn't much of a stretch. He already owned the van, golf clubs, fishing gear, and canoe (which he built). He just hadn't used them much in recent years. Further, he already was a successful woodworker, specializing in custom cabinets, furniture and architectural millwork.

The part about moving west was a no-brainer, too. The small city where he grew up and went to college was west. It was the same place where his parents still lived, where he had often visited, and where he knew he could find many opportunities to golf, fish, canoe, and shape wood.

In July 2005, Jim sold his condo on a busy Cambridge street and bought a small Cape Cod (naturally) house on a quiet cul-de-sac in Kalamazoo.

And he brought his beloved Carilee with him. Because of her aphasia, a disorder that increasingly inhibits her ability to comprehend and use language, she was becoming increasingly isolated in Boston. Jim resolved to make her life as fulfilled and loving as possible. He knew Kalamazoo was a better place than Boston to accomplish that.

Jim also moved about 5,000 pounds of woodworking equipment from Boston, and promptly added a couple thousand more after he arrived. Today he is the sole proprietor of Arcadia Woodworking, located in the former Gibson Guitar factory, now known as the Kalamazoo Enterprise Center in Kalamazoo's Northside Neighborhood.

Working with homeowners, contractors and architects, he makes custom cabinets, (freestanding and built-in), furniture, and architectural millwork such as doors, mantels, molding, and more.

"Moving back to Kalamazoo was the best thing I could have done," Jim said. "Business is growing, Carilee is much happier, and we get to spend a lot of time with my parents and old friends. I'm using my golf clubs and fishing gear a lot more, too.

"I'm living proof that you can go home again."

MILLED LUMBER

Jim and his brother Joe Galligan, now a substance abuse counselor in Portland, Oregon, grew up in Kalamazoo's Westnedge Hill neighborhood in the same house where their parents still live. Their mother, Isabel Galligan, was the longtime secretary to the Provost at Kalamazoo College. Their father, Ed Galligan, now retired from his post as chairman of the Department of English at Western Michigan University, still writes literary criticism.

While pursuing a B.A. degree in art at Kalamazoo, Jim dabbled in 3-D media, but had no carpentry or woodworking experience. Yet, for his Senior Independent Project he chose to create abstract wood and steel sculptures.

Bernard Palchick, the recently retired Jo-Ann and Robert Stewart Professor of Art, was Jim's art professor and advisor. "Bernard showed me that you figure things out by doing them. Yes, there are books and people that can help you. But you learn how to make pots or watercolors or sculptures by making them. He taught me by example not to be afraid of a new technology or methods and not to be dismayed by failure."

Kalamazoo College was a good place "for a guy like me who was eager to learn and just needed a framework to do it in. I knew I wasn't headed toward a white-collar



career. Instead, I wanted to work with my hands, make things.

“I didn’t know that woodworking was the answer, but because of my ‘K’ experience, I was ready for it when it came.”

FINISHED WOOD

Growing up, Jim’s parents often took him and his brother to Boston and the northeast to visit relatives. He liked the area, so when a high school pal invited him to move there and share a house in 1979, Jim stuffed all his belongings into a duffle bag and bought a one-way train ticket.

“I had no idea what I was going to do there, but having traveled to Bonn for study abroad, I wasn’t worried about going to a new place and making my way.”

His first job in Boston was in a sandwich shop. But before long, he joined a night woodworking program through the Museum of Fine Art. The chair and other pieces he made gave him valuable experience. Shopping for wood gave him a grip on his future.

“When I went to shops to buy wood for my projects, I discovered a whole group of young guys like me who were active in the woodworking trade. There was a thriving market for them driven by all the renovation and restoration of old buildings going on in the city. I was hooked.”

His first paying woodworking job consisted of making parts for mass produced upholstered chairs. “Fifty right front legs, fifty left front legs... It was repetitive, boring and paid \$4.30 per hour. But they had good machinery and were nice people.”

From there, Jim landed a series of jobs in custom woodworking shops where he honed his skills and accumulated tools. In 1990, he joined two other woodworkers in a large shared space in a former warehouse in the Boston suburb of Medford.

“It took me a good ten years to master my craft,” he said. “The real key to success in this business is finding ways to get things done, solving geometric and spatial problems, knowing which machine, tool, or wood is best suited to a task.”

Custom cabinetry and architectural millwork (moldings, doors, mantels) became Jim’s bread and butter trade. But he said “the best stuff” he’s done through the years is one-of-a-kind furniture made for himself, as gifts to others, or on commission for a client.

“I’ll see a nice board and set it aside until I get the right project for it. Building furniture on spec to sell through a dealer doesn’t appeal to me, and it’s too expensive for the buyer. I prefer to create things that solve problems and enhance living spaces and that

people like.

“Other than personal relationships, few things in life are more fulfilling.”

SEEING AROUND CORNERS

During his stint at the Boston sandwich shop, Jim began making especially good sandwiches for an especially attentive young woman who worked in the same building. About a year after he left the sandwich business to begin his woodworking pursuits, he went back and found her.

“I chased after her, but she didn’t put up much of a fight. I got along with her cat, so I knew I was in.”

Jim and Carilee, also an artist, explored Boston’s music and art scene, took classes at the museum school and, in 1984, married. Through the years, he built cabinets, shelves, and furniture for their Cambridge condo, while she worked her way up to manager of the large FAO Schwartz toy store in Boston.

In the late 1990s, Carilee began having trouble expressing herself, understanding others, reading, and writing. It was a gradual onset, but by 2000 it was apparent something was wrong. Not until she lost her job, however, was she diagnosed with primary progressive aphasia.

Commonly seen in people who have suffered strokes, aphasia can also result from a head injury, brain tumor, infection or other causes often unknown. According to National Institutes of Health statistics, approximately 80,000 people in the United States acquire aphasia each year. About one million persons currently have aphasia.

Jim and Carilee don’t know how she came by the disorder. There is no evidence of a stroke or other causes. Otherwise very healthy, she has a hard time following conversations, especially in crowds or in situations with loud background noise and distractions. Words she wants to say are often illusive, words she hears incomprehensible. She can speak in sentences, but grammar and words are frequently jumbled and thoughts unclear.

It’s frustrating for her and puzzling for strangers who don’t know about her condition.

“It’s hard for her because she is such a smart, creative, social person,” said Jim. “She led a very active life, had a lot of responsibilities, and was very savvy with computers. That’s all still there, but she just can’t process it and communicate it.”

Treatment for aphasia largely consists of speech-language therapy in individual or group sessions. While Carilee received some therapy in Boston, she receives much more in Kalamazoo. Jim takes her regularly to the Michigan State University Kalamazoo Center for Medical

Studies clinic on Oakland Drive close to their house. She receives one-on-one evaluations and both group and individual therapy.

Carilee is also able to take long walks and ride Metro Transit buses throughout Kalamazoo, which she could no longer do in busy Boston. She has her favorite routes—along with favorite stores and store clerks—around the Winchell and Westnedge Hill neighborhoods and in the downtown area.

“Kalamazoo is a much better environment for Carilee than Boston,” he said. “She is much less isolated, and her quality of life has greatly improved.”

His, too, he admits.

“Good woodworkers have to be able to visualize things in space,” he said. “Drawing skills help, but you have to be able to see in your mind’s eye what will happen around that corner. Moving back to Kalamazoo was like this for me. Planning helped, but mostly I just saw that everything would come together once we got here.”

Jim would enjoy hearing from classmates and friends. Contact him at jamgal@charter.net.



TOOLTIME

Tim Taylor of TV’s “Home Improvement” would be jealous of Jim Galligan’s workshop in the Kalamazoo Enterprise Center, the former Gibson Guitar factory in Kalamazoo’s Northside neighborhood.

In his 1,500 square-foot shop, he has:

- a 36-inch band saw (“Bigger than I need, but it’s great for cutting curves.”)
- two 16-inch Tannewitz table saws, made in Grand Rapids (“Arguably the best saws made. They are powerful, solid and adjust well. Nothing wiggles.”)
- a 12-inch joiner (“The first piece of equipment you introduce rough wood to. It makes a flat face on one side of the board.”)
- a 14-inch planer (“This smooths out the wood after it comes out of the joiner.”)
- a shaper (“Like a powerful stationary router. Great for shaping edges, especially on doors and molding.”)
- a horizontal boring machine or slot mortiser. (“Like a router set on its side. The bit actually makes square holes. Very cool. Mainly used to make doors and furniture.”)
- an elaborate dust collection system to capture all the sawdust his machines generate.
- hand tools too numerous to count.

One thing you’ll find little of in Jim’s shop: computer technology. “I have a simple computer at home so I can be plugged into the 21st Century. But frankly, most of the machines I use have changed little in design and function since the early 1900s.”

(See related sidebar on page 27, after the Donor Honor Roll)

FRAME MAKERS

Lux Fest 27

During the summer of 2006, Hans Juntunen '07 lived with his grandparents on their farm near Hancock, on the Keweenaw Peninsula in the northernmost reach of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Jutting into Lake Superior, the Keweenaw is rich in copper, timber, colorful people, and spectacular scenery, which Hans captured in nearly 3,000 photos taken over the course of his summer.

By the time he returned to campus in the fall, he had culled the collection to a mere 25 images that would form the basis of his Senior Independent Project. But before he could display them in a show in the Lights Fine Arts Building, he needed to build frames for them.

Wood for the frames was not a problem. When Hans wasn't photographing the Keweenaw, he was logging his family's timberland there. He returned to Kalamazoo with prize birch, cherry and bird's-eye maple lumber that he had felled and milled himself.

What Hans needed was a woodshop in which to construct the frames. As luck would have it, he spotted a flyer for Arcadia Woodworking on a downtown Kalamazoo bulletin board.

"When Hans called, he said he needed space and equipment for a few days spread over a few weeks for a college project," said proprietor Jim Galligan '76. "When he mentioned SIP, I laughed, because I knew what he was up against. Thirty years ago, I had my own woodworking SIP project."

Jim helped Hans through the initial setups in his shop, "then he was on his own," he said. "I immediately felt comfortable with him and his abilities. He was orderly and precise, which you have to be around this equipment. He designed a frame that appears to float off the wall, and he engineered a very clever system of ratchet clamps and fabricated aluminum corners to keep the frames from sliding around while he put them together. I loved the photos, too."

Making the frames in Jim's shop was very rewarding, said Hans. "I was born on the Keweenaw and return there often. It's a very special place to me. The photos and frames capture memories from both my childhood and my memorable summer. Now I have the memory of working with Jim—a Kalamazoo College grad who went through the SIP process, too—to add to the experience." ○

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SIP collaborators Jim Galligan '76 and Hans Juntunen '07 made the frames for Hans' photography exhibit, which included the piece shown here:

THE TWO CAREERS OF JEFFREY HSI

Jeffrey D. Hsi '83, Ph.D., J.D., says his experiences at Kalamazoo College helped him make a major-league career change. He was a noted research chemist in the pharmaceutical industry for many years, then went to law school, and is now an intellectual property attorney and partner at

Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, a Boston-based law firm. Even though the major acts in this tale of change took place quite a few years after Jeff's undergraduate experience at Kalamazoo College, it is, nevertheless, a *Kalamazoo Plan* story.

Jeff and his family have multiple connections to Kalamazoo College. He was the first of four siblings (all Heyl Scholarship recipients) to graduate from the College. Eric Hsi '85, M.D., is section head of hematopathology at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, and R. Alex Hsi '87, M.D., is a radiation oncology physician at the Virginia Mason Clinic in Seattle, Wash. Linda Hsi '90, Ph.D., is assistant professor, clinical cancer prevention, at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston.

Jeff has been connected to the College since he was eight years old when his father, Richard, a Ph.D. research scientist at the Upjohn Company and long-time friend of the College, brought him to Stowe Stadium to play tennis. Jeff continues keeping his connections alive now by serving as an extern host (see sidebar, page 30) along with his wife, Kalamazoo native and Western Michigan University graduate Amy Wagenfeld, a Ph.D. psychology professor at Lasell College in Newton, Mass. Jeff and Amy were

married in Stetson Chapel (as were Linda Hsi and her husband, Rich Sharp). And a new connection is under way: Jeff and Amy's son, David, began attending Kalamazoo College in fall 2006.

Jeff earned an M.S. from Indiana University in 1985, a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1990, and a J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law in 1997.

Jeff hadn't planned on Kalamazoo College when he was about to graduate from Kalamazoo's Loy Norrix High School.

"At that point," he said, "'K' wasn't my first choice. I was all set to go to U of M, and I really wanted to 'get out of Dodge.' But then I was offered a Heyl Scholarship, and that sealed the deal – it is hard to turn down a Heyl." Heyl scholarships pay for Kalamazoo College tuition, fees, and housing and provide a textbook allowance.

A number of years later, he could look back on the fortuitousness of that decision.

"After I got to Michigan for my doctorate work, I clearly realized that going to Kalamazoo College had been absolutely the right decision for me," Jeff said. "I was teaching undergraduate chemistry at Michigan when I realized all the inherent values there are in a 'K' education. If I'd gone to Michigan as an undergraduate, I'd have gotten lost because it was so big. Choosing Kalamazoo College was one of the best decisions I could have made. The aspects that I valued most in my education there were the community, the study abroad [Erlangen, Germany], and the Senior Individualized Project. Those were definitely career defining situations."

From early on, Jeff was intent on a career as a scientist.

"When I was at 'K,' and for a number of years afterward, I was very focused on a career in medicinal chemistry," he said. "That was certainly my intention from day one as a freshman, and it was cemented with the SIP and an independent study I did at Upjohn." He was able to ride to the downtown Kalamazoo laboratories with his father, who was still working there at the time.

Jeff said that once he decided on a science career, the progression was well established.

"My intention was to go to graduate school



The connection between Kalamazoo College and the Hsi family covers two generations. Pictured are (l-r): front row—Richard Hsi, David Hsi '10, Nancy Hsi, back row—Jeff Hsi '83, Eric Hsi '85, Linda Hsi '90, and Alex Hsi '87.

after Kalamazoo College, so I did that. And then the next step, a postdoctoral fellowship, was even planned, and I did that. I was a research assistant professor at the University of South Carolina after I graduated from Michigan.”

What followed was something Jeff also had in mind when he was at Kalamazoo College: a job in a large pharmaceutical company. He took a position as a medicinal chemist, a senior scientist, with the R.W. Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute, then the pharmaceutical research and development arm for the Johnson & Johnson family of companies.

Jeff researched cardiovascular diseases, and he worked with patent attorneys to secure patents on J&J's potential cardiovascular drug candidates.

“That was my introduction to the world of patent law and intellectual property law,” he said. “Almost immediately I became intrigued by it. I found it very interesting, and suddenly this whole new world opened up for me. It wasn't that I didn't know about it, but it honestly wasn't on my radar screen as a career path. Going into law wasn't a door that was even ajar in my mind.”

Jeff increasingly spent time with the lawyers as part of his job as a scientist.

“I thought I'd really like to start doing law full time as my real job rather than just a small part of my existing job,” he said.

So he went to law school but left J&J because he couldn't get a position in its legal department while going to school. He got a job with a midtown Manhattan firm and worked there during the day while attending law school at night.

After he graduated in 1997, Jeff, Amy, and David moved to Chicago where Jeff took a job so they could be closer to their Kalamazoo-based families. But after about a year in the Windy City,



David Hsi '10, center, gets a foretaste of study abroad during a family trip to Australia with dad, Jeff '83, and mom, Amy Wegenfeld.

Jeff got the chance to join Kineitex Pharmaceuticals, a biotech startup in Boston, as general counsel.

“It was an extraordinary opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a company,” Jeff said. “It was a fabulous job and a great company.”

Kineitex was also successful, which led to its being sold 18 months later. Jeff then joined the intellectual property law firm Fish and Richardson in Boston. He stayed there three years and then the opportunity arose to join Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, where he is now chairman of the firm's intellectual property department.

Jeff's legal experience is wide ranging from preparing and prosecuting patent applications in numerous scientific areas to establishing licensing and R&D collaboration agreements. He is an invited speaker internationally on various intellectual property issues and has lectured at the Harvard Extension School and at MIT Sloan School of Management. Jeff is a co-inventor on two U.S. patents and co-author of numerous publications and presentations. He is also the immediate past president of the Asian American Lawyers Association of Massachusetts.

It can be difficult to make a career change, especially when one is successful in the current career. Did the Kalamazoo College experience help Jeff decide to leave the laboratory for the law?

“I think in a way it did,” Jeff said. “It is one of those things you look back on and say the whole 'K' experience helped me make that decision. For example, the foreign study and the emphasis on the liberal arts education prepares you for all kinds of other opportunities. While going down the scientific career path, I was probably harboring, or maybe even suppressing, this concept about becoming a lawyer. It's not something I really looked at and yet it's clear that the *Kalamazoo Plan* helped me see different perspectives and learn to successfully take on new challenges. By pushing you a little bit beyond your comfort zone and helping you feel comfortable there, the *Kalamazoo Plan* instills self-confidence.

“That's been the whole key for me,” Jeff said. “It's been about pushing myself out of my comfort zone but having the confidence to know it is the right thing to do and know that it is worth doing. Over the course of these two careers I've sure seen a diversity of situations, and I'm certainly the richer for it.” ○

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WHIRLWIND

Meeting Zach at Logan Airport set the tone for our two weeks together. I had told him he could identify me in the busy terminal because I would wear a University of Michigan T-shirt (I had earned my Ph.D. there). As I watched the passengers leave the gate area I spotted a young man wearing a Michigan State T-shirt who, of course, turned out to be Zach. While I debated in my mind whether to make him walk home, I also sensed that this was going to be a pretty fun two weeks.

Besides, maybe I'd have the last laugh. Just two hours before we met Zach, we had decided to test his adaptability. We'd been invited to Cape Cod for the weekend, and once we collected his luggage, we whisked him right along. Sort of: "Welcome to your new home, and, by the way, we're not going there." Zach had never been to the Cape, and the sudden trip turned out to be a great way to enjoy the rest of the weekend, rushed as it was. It even provided an apt image (think: whirlwind) for the rest of the externship.

A tragic accident had shut down Boston's highway connector tunnels, swelling the duration of my daily commute from 20 to 90 (or more) minutes. The atypical traffic morphed our externship's "porch time" into "bucket-seat, stuck-in-traffic, all-encompassing Mass Pike musings on 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.'"

We talked about (in no particular order): social justice, sports, religion, politics, law, dogs, business, mothers and sons, international relations, Kalamazoo, Okemos, Boston, Pyongyang, Beijing, food, computers, music, dreams and aspirations. And, of course, the topic that connected all of these: Kalamazoo College. One of our more interesting conversations concerned the meaning of "success." We agreed that different people can define success in many different ways, but we concluded (as eloquently stated by Zach in an e-mail message he sent to us after he left) that perhaps it is best defined as having "left a positive impact on another." When Zach asked why we participated in the Discovery Externship program, my answer was simple. We believe in mentoring. Hopefully our mentoring will be of benefit to those we mentor. And we also hope that they, in turn, will mentor others. Others had been gracious enough to take an interest in Amy's and my development, and we feel that we best honor those people by taking a similar interest in others. I told Zach that there was only one requirement of our externship, that he "pay it forward" and mentor others during his life.

For me "porch time" was the best part of the externship. It made me reflect on my life and career and, more

Jeff Hsi '83, his wife, Amy Wagenfeld, and their son, David '10, hosted Discovery Extern Zach Ebling '08 in their home in Belmont, Mass., and at Jeff's Boston law firm, Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, in the summer of 2006.

Jeff wrote the following story about that experience.

Externships bring the family (as in "Kalamazoo College family") together. Pictured at a Boston gathering are Zach Ebling '08, extern; Alexa Lindsay '08, extern; David Hsi '10, Jeff Hsi '83 and Amy Wagenfeld, hosts for Zach's externship; Brooke Nobis '02, director of the externship program; and Matt Cahill and Rose (Mrazek) Cahill '73, hosts for Alexa's externship.

particularly, on my Kalamazoo College experience in a way I had never done before. It also was a

wonderful way to connect my past at Kalamazoo College with the current experience of Zach and the future experience of our son David. I had always felt grateful for my Kalamazoo College experience, but hosting Zach allowed me to revisit the *Kalamazoo Plan* and consider its influence on my life more than two decades later, and I came to appreciate even more the opportunities that Kalamazoo College students have, by design rather than chance. I now see the *Kalamazoo Plan* as nothing short of brilliant.

Zach's presence, inquisitive nature, and confidence impressed us. We introduced him to several friends who, like us, were favorably impressed. Two of our friends (an internationally renowned professor at a well-

known Boston-area university and his wife, who is an internationally recognized doctoral candidate at another Boston-area university) had previously expressed concern about our son, David, selecting Kalamazoo College (with which they were unfamiliar) rather than well-known New England colleges and universities. But after meeting Zach they "saw the light" (dare I say, lux esto!) of the *Kalamazoo Plan* and its effect on students. They now see the light in regards to David's choice.

The Discovery Externship program also allowed us to meet Rose Cahill '73 (a Three Rivers, Mich., native) and her husband Matt. They were hosting their first extern, Alexa Lindsay '08, in Boston the same two weeks we were hosting Zach. We all got together for dinner during the "in-between" weekend. Before the meal the kids cruised Boston and the "old fogies" sat around our house enjoying wine and cheese. We met again later, this time with Brooke Nobis '02, who directs the externship program and was in Boston for a visit. She introduced us to three newly minted graduates from the Class of 2006 who had recently moved to Boston. They joined us for dinner, and we had a marvelous time sharing our Kalamazoo College experiences, again—an unanticipated bonus of the externship program.

In September, in Stetson Chapel, at David's fall convocation, Jevon Caldwell-Gross '04 remarked that the members of the Class of 2010 were becoming part of something much bigger than they could imagine. They were joining the "K" family, which included all who came before who shared the experience of Kalamazoo College. Our family understood those words in a new way thanks to the Discovery Externship Program ○

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EULOGY FOR ROBERT AMRHEIN - JUNE 11, 2007

Robert Amrhein '10 died on June 7, 2007, after a six-year battle with osteosarcoma. In high school (Portage Northern) he was a member of the school's debate and forensics team and its swim team. He received several awards for outstanding academic performance, leadership, and citizenship. In his freshman year at Kalamazoo College he joined the College's Model United Nations organization. He delivered a keynote address at the College's spring quarter Cancer Survivor Awareness event. He also was a volunteer for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life and at the First Presbyterian Health Clinic. His sister, Kelly Amrhein, is a member of the Class of 2007. One of his teachers, Diane Seuss, wrote a eulogy she delivered at his funeral. We have reprinted it at right.

The first time I met Robert was last fall, when he pulled me aside after the opening meeting of his First Year Seminar, called "Road Trip," for which I was the teacher. Robert had been early for our first class, as he would be early for every class that quarter, and the ones in the winter and spring creative writing classes, when his health permitted him to be there.

When he pulled me aside that first day, he said, very rationally—a rationality I would come to know as one part of Robert's Way of Being—"I need to tell you about my situation. I have terminal bone cancer," and then he told me the technical term—osteosarcoma—which also was Robert's style. "I'm not here to get a degree or plan for a career," he continued. "I'm here to learn. I want you to point me in the right direction." His statement did not come without tenderness. A few tears rolled down his cheeks, and mine. This was the beginning of a simple and beautiful relationship.

I'm not sure I lived up to my part of the bargain, not sure I pointed him anywhere he wouldn't have gone on his own. Robert had his own compass, didn't he? I'm not sure he had much more to learn; not from me, anyway. What we became instead was a We, a Holy Friendship which seemed to arrive fully-formed on that first day, a place where we could be our most tender selves. There was no time to become; that was clear to both of us. And so we tossed away the process and the pretense and cut to the chase. We were.

As a member of our Road Trip seminar, Robert was the hub, the centerpost, the bottom line. I was the professor, I gave the grades, but the teacher? That was Robert. He knew it, and all of the students in the class knew it. Anything they had to learn about the life journey, about education for its own sake, they would learn from him. Not all of them were ready for Robert's brand of wisdom; if they came to school to party and streak the quad, most likely they didn't expect to come up against cancer in their first-year seminar.

His presence, through tiredness and nausea and pain, took away all of their excuses for not having their papers done or not getting to class on time, or at all. One time, I asked Robert in the presence of his classmates what he needed from us. "Understanding," he said. I'm not sure everyone in the room arrived at "K" with the skills to give him that understanding, but our journey toward understanding—toward living up to Robert, his wisdom and his suffering—was the ultimate Road Trip.

One of my favorite images from that course was a photograph of Robert at the cemetery across from campus, where I'd sent the students on a sort of treasure hunt to find Lucinda Stone's grave. Stone was an early proponent of women's education and a founder of the college. The photo was of Robert, lying upon her grave, hands folded on his solar plexus, a beatific smile on his face. Death did not intimidate him; in fact, he smiled at it. One of his classmates describes Robert crutching through the cemetery mud after a big rain, searching for the marker, laughing like mad.

Robert was able to make it through the first couple of weeks of Intermediate Poetry in Spring Quarter. I'm not sure if he was all that interested in poetry. I sometimes wonder if he signed up for my classes in order to watch over me. Still, he soaked in the poetry of Walt Whitman, of Emily Dickinson, whose subjects were Robert's subjects—the body, the spirit, and the eternal. We agreed that he'd write all of his poems that quarter on the subject of his journey through illness and toward the light. He made a good start, but he wasn't able to finish the project, not on paper anyway. Robert didn't need poetry; he was a poem.

When I visited Robert a couple of days before he passed, he held my hand firmly, he held it with love. His last words to me, through his oxygen mask, were words of love. This is Robert's lesson, and his legacy. Love, and a great beaming smile, and education for its own sake, because life is school; it's what we're here for.

Thank you, Robert, for watching over me. Thank you for teaching the teacher. I'll end with a short poem—a prayer, really—which Robert wrote in my class this year:

Sand swirls,
wiped away in the salty water.
A warm moisture blanket around.
My shiny sun over that horizon,
never reached yet always seen.
It lights thy path to thee,
though ever changing,
as are we.

by E. S. T. O



SUPER SENIOR SEASON

Summer vacation is typically a time to relax, catch up with friends, travel or work a summer job. For Kalamazoo College student-athlete Mike Benson '07, this summer was all about wrapping up unfinished business – or, opportunities not yet experienced – on the gridiron and related to medicine.

Mike Benson supervised the College's weight and fitness room at Anderson Athletic Center this summer, allowing faculty, staff and students use of the facility during the sizzling, summer months.

On this humid July day, Mike had plenty on his mind.

"I'm studying for next week's MCAT (Medical College Admission Test)," Benson said as he looked over the weight room.

"After the MCATs, I'll begin doing research with Dr. [James] Langeland '86 [Associate Professor of Biology] on the origin of the Alzheimer's gene," Benson added. "A few weeks later, I am doing an externship with Dr. Paul Carr '82." As if that wasn't enough, Benson was to report to fall football practice on August 25.

This may sound a lot like the life of many Kalamazoo College student-athletes. The difference is Benson could have officially graduated this past June. Instead, the biology major with a 4.0 GPA wanted to experience everything Kalamazoo College had to offer. And that included one more season of football.

"I missed five games last season due to a hamstring injury," Benson said. "I've worked hard rehabbing, lifting weights and getting in shape. I look forward to coming back and getting a chance to play the full season and making a contribution to the team."

Benson has one season of football eligibility remaining because of his initial enrollment at Wake Forest University, and the wide receiver/running back wants to make the most of it so he enrolled for fall classes.

Coming out of high school (University

Liggett), Benson did not realize how much football meant to him. After applying to 14 colleges, Benson initially chose Wake Forest University seeking a top pre-med education. A year later Benson revisited Kalamazoo College, and after meeting with the football coaches, the health sciences chair, and attending some classes, he knew Kalamazoo is where he wanted to be.

"Kalamazoo College is awesome," Benson said. "It provides opportunities I just couldn't get anywhere else.

"I got a chance to study abroad, do an internship and externship, and play football," Benson added. "And the biology department is incredible!"

Benson studied abroad in Madrid, Spain. He interned and completed his Senior Individualized Project at the Kellogg Biological Station last summer.

"I received a Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant that helped fund my summer research project," Benson said. "Just another benefit of being at Kalamazoo College."

Benson is studying to become a physician, but is still deciding which area of medicine to pursue. His externship with Dr. Carr, a family practitioner, will be very beneficial.

"Through Kalamazoo College's Center for Career Development, I have the opportunity to live with Dr. Carr for a week," Benson said. "I've done some job shadowing before, but this externship will allow me to see from sunup to sundown what being a doctor is really all about."

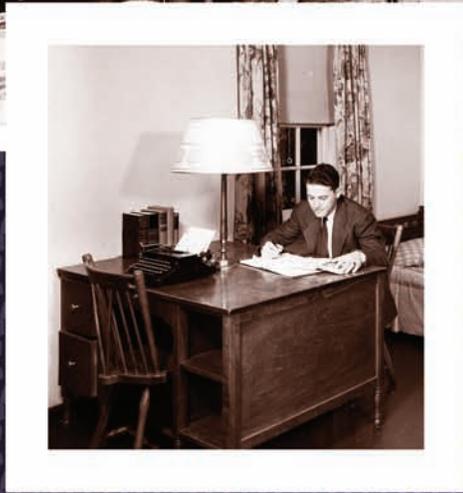
Benson is taking advantage of nearly everything Kalamazoo College offers, including one element in which nearly a quarter of students participate: varsity athletics.

"Being a part of Kalamazoo College athletics is great," added the two-time National Strength and Conditioning Association All-American. "It was one of the main reasons I transferred here." ○

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DECADES OF DORM LIFE



Marlene Crandall Francis' (Class of 1958) comprehensive history of the College (*A Fellowship in Learning: Kalamazoo College, 1833-2008*) will be published in time for Commencement 2008. Among many other topics, the story will include 175 years of residence hall life, some of which is seen in the decades of photos featured on this page. If you've got some good photos and stories of dormitory living, please send both to Reference Librarian Elizabeth (Sloane) Smith '73. Depending on how soon they are received, some may be used in the history book. Others may appear in *LuxEsto*. All will be valuable when the College writes its next history. Liz's address is Liz Smith, Upjohn Library Commons, Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006. Please indicate to Liz if you want your photos returned.



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Intercultural Light

Robin (Alexander) Sakamoto '85

at the wedding of one of her former junior high school students. Her student asked Robin to speak at her wedding reception. Robin's story—she's lived and worked in northern Japan for 22 years—is testament to the intercultural potential of the Kalamazoo College undergraduate experience. See story on page 18.○

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Lux Fisto



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