Over the past few months, I’ve had the pleasure of traveling with Scripps students, faculty, and alumnae to cities across the nation as part of the Unleashing Potential academic showcase.

Highlighting just a handful of the innovative research projects that have come out of Scripps’ collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to teaching, these events have featured presentations on topics as diverse as the psychology of asserting Fourth Amendment rights, the theme of motherhood in Sylvia Plath’s poetry, and the effects of environmental toxins on microorganisms.

Unleashing Potential serves as an inspiring reminder of the ways in which Scripps community members collaborate to make great things happen. Working together, our students, faculty, alumnae, staff, and families have realized ideas that have been transformative—and that have broadened the horizons of all those involved. At Scripps, “unleashing potential” has meant everything from bringing extraordinary projects to fruition, inspiring academic achievement, encouraging personal and professional growth, and even sparking movements and collective action.

This issue of the magazine tells a few stories of our community’s rich history of collaboration and ingenuity. For more than 20 years, the Intercollegiate Feminist Center has been galvanizing participation in projects that have improved the lives and prospects of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women. For 15 years, our faculty, students, staff, and donors involved with the Scripps College Academy have been helping girls from underserved high schools in the region achieve their dreams of graduating from college. This past fall, Assistant Professor of Chemistry Babak Sanii established a mentorship program that pairs senior STEM majors with alumnae advisors who are helping students plan for life after graduation. And, as a marathon runner who suffers from chronic illness, alumna Laurel Schwartz ’15 is pushing the boundaries of her own potential and inspiring others to do the same.

These stories showcase the dynamism of the Scripps community—our engagement with each other and with the world—as well as highlight important programs and initiatives that are impacting lives both on and off campus. I hope that they will inspire you to help unleash potential at Scripps by connecting, engaging, and collaborating with our community, and I hope to see you at an Unleashing Potential event this spring.

Lara Tiedens
President
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STRATEGIC PLANNING BEGINS
To ensure a healthy, vibrant future, Scripps has initiated a strategic planning process rooted in its mission, values, and legacy. The College has developed several opportunities for community engagement and feedback; your ideas, observations, and perspectives will help shape the future of Scripps. Please visit scrippscollege.edu/about/initiatives/strategic-plan for information and updates.

GAYLE GREENE PUBLISHES MEMOIR
Professor Emerita of English Gayle Greene visited Scripps on November 1 to discuss and sign copies of her new book, Missing Persons: A Memoir. Greene, who was a professor of literature and women’s studies at the College for 40 years, has published books on Shakespeare, women writers, feminist criticism, and insomnia. Missing Persons is about Greene’s experience dealing with the loss of loved ones “in a culture that gives no help.”

SCRIPPS TO HOST GIRLS WHO CODE
Scripps is one of six select colleges and universities in the U.S. that will participate in Campus, a new program for high school girls sponsored by Girls Who Code. For two weeks during the summer, participants will receive training on a range of topics, including website design and development and iPhone app creation. The goal of Campus is to help young women “get an edge for college” and connect with others who share their interests.

ATHENAS VOLLEYBALL TEAM WINS ITS FIRST NATIONAL TITLE
On November 18, the CMS Athenas defeated the Wittenberg Tigers in three straight sets to win their first-ever National Championship volleyball title at the NCAA Division III Tournament in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Mikena Werner ’18 had 15 digs in the national championship victory and is an All-American standout; a total of five Scripps women are on the national championship team. This is the first NCAA national title for CMS in any women’s sport in the department’s history.
SHERILYN TAMAGAWA ’14
APPOINTED MATH INSTRUCTOR
Sherilyn Tamagawa ’14 has joined Scripps as an instructor in the Mathematics Department. Tamagawa, who earned her master’s degree in mathematics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 2016, says she is delighted to return to her undergraduate alma mater, confessing that she would choose this job over “any job in the world.”
“Against all hope, we feel the desire and capability to do better things, to end destructive patterns.” —Junot Díaz

SEEN AND HEARD AT SCRIPPS

Pulitzer Prize–winning author Junot Díaz visited Scripps on September 19, 2017, for a conversation with writer Jade Chang on literature, politics, and the power of “radical hope.”
From the moment a prospective student and their family visit our website, we make a promise: Scripps will provide the best liberal arts education imaginable.

Hiring accomplished faculty, developing rigorous interdisciplinary coursework, providing a rich residential experience, and offering immersive research and internship opportunities—these are just some of the ways in which we fulfill that promise.

Unfortunately, many of our students are not able to take full advantage of the Scripps promise. Those who worry about paying for their education and graduating with a minimum of debt often find themselves having to prioritize work over school to make ends meet. And, concerns about affordability saddle students with fears—about themselves and their families—that distract them from their studies and interfere with their engagement in campus life.

We want all who attend Scripps to be able to take full advantage of the resources and opportunities the College offers. To help fulfill our promise to students, President Lara Tiedens has issued a challenge as we near the end of the More Scripps Campaign: raise $10 million in endowed scholarship support.

Gifts to this new scholarship initiative will help us:

- Provide complete grant support to our lowest-income students and families. Students with household incomes under $100,000 will receive full grant support instead of having to take on student loans.
Stabilize the loan amount for students and families. Currently, the ratio of grant to loan changes each year, with loans making up increasingly more of the package they receive. We’d like to fix that loan amount to $3,500 each year.

Enhance the quality of life for current and future students, ensuring that we deliver on our promise of an immersive, transformative social and academic experience.

This is a key moment in Scripps’ history. By taking on one of the greatest challenges in higher education today—affordability—we are poised to become a national leader in making liberal arts education accessible for students of all incomes. Help us deliver on our promise to students by making a gift at scrippscollege.edu/givenow.
WINTER 2018

Special Remembrances

The Scripps community remembers those who gave decades of service to the College.

Life trustee and dear friend of the College PHIL SWAN passed away on December 7, 2017. Phil’s tenure as a trustee began in 1970 and included membership on all standing committees of the Board. Over his many years of service, he made valuable contributions to Scripps’ financial health and stability as well as to the growth of the endowment. A generous friend and staunch supporter of women’s education, Phil once described his engagement with Scripps as “the best thing I’ve been involved with, the best thing I’ve done.”

Phil was born in 1929 in Pasadena, California, and grew up in San Marino. A graduate of Pomona College and Stanford University School of Business, he built a thriving career as an investment counselor, eventually founding his own firm in Pasadena, now Clifford Swan Investment Counselors. He was also a successful entrepreneur; during the 1970s, he cofounded Books on Tape, which made it possible to listen to books while driving. Phil was extremely active in his community, and over the years he lent his time and leadership skills to the South Pasadena Community Redevelopment Association, the Oneonta Club Scholarship Committee, Oneonta Congregational Church, the Huntington Library Board of Overseers, and the Braille Institute, among other organizations. He also had many hobbies and passions, including a keen interest in history which led him to collect autographed pictures of U.S. political and business leaders. Phil was a dedicated baseball and University of Southern California Trojans football fan, attending an impressive 73 Rose Bowl games. He had countless friends and thoroughly enjoyed getting together with people over a meal at a good restaurant. Phil will be remembered for his intense work ethic, boundless energy, dedication to family, generosity, sense of humor, and as a dispenser of advice and wisdom.

Phil is survived by his wife, Kay Schwarberg Swan; daughter, Karen Steen, and son-in-law, Eric Steen of Kansas City, Missouri; daughter, Sara Swan, of Los Angeles; and son, Philip A. Swan, of Pasadena. He leaves seven grandchildren: Emily, Audrey, and Madeline Steen; Bridget and Roy Wexman; and Craig and Arden MacLaren-Swan. He is preceded in death by his first wife, Sally Preston Swan ’52.
PAUL BISHOP, who served as the staff performance accompanist for the Scripps College Music Department and the Joint Music Program of Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, Pitzer, and Scripps Colleges, passed away this past June. In his 42 years at Scripps, Bishop played with and for over 3,000 students in lessons, recitals, concerts, and commencements. His repertoire spanned four centuries and many languages, including German, Russian, French, Italian, Spanish, Latin, and English.

A new scholarship, the Paul R. Bishop Memorial Award in Choral and Vocal Music, commemorates his legacy with the goal of celebrating the exemplary work of choral and vocal music students in the Joint Music Program. Current vocal and choral music students participating in Scripps’ voice lessons and the Joint Music Program choirs are eligible for the award.

If you would like to make a gift in honor of Bishop, visit the Scripps giving page at scrippscollege.edu/giving and select the Paul R. Bishop Memorial Award in Choral and Vocal Music designation.

Professor Emerita of Psychology MARGARET SILER FAUST passed away on August 17, 2017. Faust taught at Scripps for 33 years, from 1958 until 1991. She was critical to the creation of the College’s Psychology Department, shaping its emphasis on data-driven research. She also served as the dean of faculty for two years.

Faust was born in Tianjin, China, and came to the U.S. when she was two years old. Her first language was Chinese. She received her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Pomona College and her doctorate from Stanford University. At Stanford, she met and married William Langdon “Don” Faust. The couple were travel enthusiasts. They spent a semester in Suzhou, China, teaching at the Suzhou Railway Teachers College. They had three daughters, Katie, Ann, and Marion, and were married for 64 years, until Don’s death in 2014.

Upon her retirement, Scripps established the Margaret Siler Faust Psychology Senior Thesis Award, which is given annually to a senior whose thesis best exemplifies the use of careful, empirical research to address important psychological questions about human behavior and experience.
Dr. Ulysses J. Sofia, or U. J., as he prefers to be called, is a scientist and an adventurer. During the week, his work as an astrophysicist has him probing the secrets of the universe through the study of interstellar dust. And, on weekends, he and his wife, Heidi, regularly trek to far-flung places across the globe in search of new experiences. Yes, that’s right—global trips, in a single weekend.

One need only spend 10 minutes with the new dean of the W.M. Keck Science Department to catch his enthusiasm about both the terrestrial and cosmic voyages that await students and faculty of Claremont McKenna, Pitzer, and Scripps Colleges—and understand why he is just the right person to lead them.

“As soon as I set foot on the campus, I knew this was the right fit. It’s a really difficult position: reporting up to three colleges, supporting four different disciplines, but it feels right,” says U. J. “I love it! We have a lot to do!”

As the dean, U. J. is chartered with mentoring faculty, supporting students, teaching occasional classes, and working alongside leadership at the three undergraduate colleges to expand the science complex. At Keck, more than 3,000 students explore a range of scientific disciplines and conduct research under the guidance of more than 47 full-time faculty who, like U. J., have found their place and are following their passions in a liberal arts environment.

U. J. began his own college career at a large research university before transferring to Wesleyan University, a liberal arts college, during his junior year. “It was like the angels singing—I thought, this is where I belong, this feels right. I learned all of my physics,
U. J. earned his PhD in astronomy with a concentration in physics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He began his academic career in 1998 as a professor at Whitman College, eventually moving on to American University, where he served as the associate dean for research. At both schools, he taught an introductory class for non-scientists on relativity and quantum mechanics that was a perennial favorite. He plans to bring it to Keck next year and relishes the opportunity.

“No matter how many times I teach the class, the students are nearly evenly divided between those who love the fact that our universe isn’t intuitive, that it doesn’t make sense in our everyday lives, and those who are intensely uncomfortable with this, who just don’t want a universe that doesn’t make sense to them,” he explains.

According to U. J., his office is always open, and there is plenty to see. There are blueprints of the new labs and offices planned for the W.M. Keck Science Center that he is glad to show. And there’s his fascination with colored glass—rows of intricately hand-blown orbs along his office credenza are displayed alongside Marvin the Martian collectibles that appreciative students have given him over the years.

Oh, and those global blitzes? The same irrepressible spirit of exploration that set his sights on the stars recently took him to the annual Harbin Ice and Snow Festival in northeast China to explore the inspiring manmade ice sculptures made possible by the region’s arctic climate. And that’s just one weekend.

FIVE FACTS ABOUT U. J. SOFIA

1. His degree is in astronomy, but he is also a heliophysicist. Ask him about the sun, and he can talk about magnetic predictions: “We are going into a ‘down’ 30-year solar cycle.”

2. He is a Formula One racing fan, and some of his global travel blitzes involve attending this highest class of single-seat auto race sporting events.

3. He studied Swahili for a year in college. “Why? Because I could! It’s an experience unique to a liberal arts college, and really something you can’t do anywhere else.”

4. Although he loves art, music, and theater, he is self-admittedly “one of the worst singers in the world.”

5. His top advice to students interested in careers in science is to get involved around research as early as possible. “Get involved in a lab. Get involved in study groups. Collaborate early and often.”

all of my astronomy in those two years.”
FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Love Song of T. S. Eliot and Emily Hale

By Joseph Maddrey

Opposite: T. S. Eliot and Emily Hale, 1936
Below: A formal event in the Toll Hall living room, c. 1930s
T. S. Eliot Hated California.

In a series of private letters written in early 1933, he called it “a horrible place,” “a nightmare,” and one of America’s “two great mistakes” (the other being New York). Eliot’s correspondents were, not surprisingly, British—and the missives may be partly indicative of the poet’s longing for England, after nearly a year abroad, rather than of full-hearted contempt for California. At the very least, there was one thing about California that he was sincerely devoted to.

From late September 1932 until late June 1933, the poet served as a visiting professor at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a guest lecturer at several other East Coast schools. In the middle of that year, he traveled west—making stops in St. Louis (his birthplace), Minneapolis, and Claremont, California. Eliot had been planning his trip to the West Coast for months. In early 1932, he wrote that he saw this as his “only opportunity” to “explore America.” As the trip drew closer, he hinted that he had a more specific reason for going to California.

We now know that Eliot made the journey primarily to see his friend, Emily Hale, the new drama teacher at Scripps. Eliot and Hale first met in 1912, when he was a graduate student at Harvard University and she was teaching drama at local colleges. In spring 1914, Eliot professed his love to her. According to the poet’s own account, Hale made it clear that she did not share his feelings. A year later, in London, Eliot married Vivienne Haigh-Wood and resolved to settle permanently in the United Kingdom. His correspondence with Hale ceased until the late 1920s, by which time the poet’s marriage was a disaster.

In late December 1932, the famously staid poet boarded a train from Boston to Southern California. Officially, he was a renowned scholar accepting an invitation to give a paid lecture at a liberal arts college. Unofficially, perhaps, he was a spirited romantic chasing a long-lost love. Eliot arrived on the platform of the newly built, Spanish-style depot in Claremont at 6:20 a.m. on December 27. Hale was there waiting for him, alongside fellow Scripps faculty member Paul Havens, who had previously met the poet at Oxford University and who (more importantly) owned a car that could deliver him to his lodgings.

While in Claremont, Eliot made multiple visits to the Scripps campus, where he inscribed copies of his newly published play, Sweeney Agonistes, attended several classes, including one on 17th-century literature taught by Havens, and gave an informal talk in the Toll Hall Browsing Room. Hale was, at the time, the head of Toll, which perhaps explains the choice of location. On January 5, in Balch Hall, Eliot gave a lecture on the English nonsense poets Lewis Carroll and Edward Lear. The fourth volume of The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot collates several accounts of the lecture. According to one report, “Mr. Eliot came to the conclusion that the greatest poetic art is that which sacrifices the least of the other poetic elements in the approximation toward the condition of music.” A separate account indicates that the poet spoke about a type of musical poetry in which words fail, but meanings still exist. These notes suggest that his masterpiece, Four Quartets, may have been germinating in the poet’s mind during his time in Claremont.

On January 10, Eliot made arrangements to spend his last day in Southern California with Hale alone. Marie McSpadden ’34, a Scripps drama major from nearby Glendale, drove the couple to Balboa Island, where her mother had a summer cottage, so that Eliot and Hale could have some “uninterrupted time” together. McSpadden told Eliot biographer Lyndall Gordon that she took the couple out into Newport Bay on a motor boat, then dropped them off at nearby Corona Del Mar beach. We have no other account of the day, and McSpadden offers the only authentic postscript: When Eliot returned to England, he sent her a copy of his 1930 poem “Marina,” a beautiful and haunting rumination on death and rebirth.

Eventually, Hale donated her letters from Eliot to Princeton University, with the stipulation that they must not be read until January 1, 2020. In just two years, we may learn more about what happened between the Scripps professor and the poet during the winter of 1933.
Empower
Players

Scripps College Academy is making higher education possible for a new generation of women.

By Brenda Bolinger
Bea Maldonado ’15 first stepped onto the Scripps College campus—on any college campus for that matter—in ninth grade.

From South Central Los Angeles, she came as a Scripps College Academy (SCA) Scholar, selected from a pool of ambitious applicants who hungered for a college education but had some challenges to surmount to get there. Arriving to participate in SCA’s rigorous Summer Residential Program, Maldonado, in essence, remained at Scripps until she graduated from the College in 2015. Now a third-year PhD student at the University of Illinois, she is still part of an expanding, close-knit network of women whose bravery, passion, intellect, and potential were given space and encouragement to grow in the Scripps College Academy.
EMPOWER PLAYERS

“Scripps College Academy gave me confidence in my ambition; confidence that I was allowed to dream. Before, I thought my dreams were too big—when you're from a certain background, you're told that certain things are plausible and certain things aren't. SCA showed me that anything I dream, anything I believe, I can achieve it,” she says. “SCA gave voice to the voice I’ve always had but felt was too loud growing up; it was the first time I knew what women’s empowerment felt like.”

Established in 2002 and recently celebrating 15 years of significant growth and impact, SCA provides college-readiness assistance to high-achieving young women who may lack the resources to prepare for success at top colleges and universities.

Through highly intentional on-campus programming and community outreach, including the Summer Residential Program, year-round academic enrichment and college-prep workshops, college-focused presentations in regional middle schools and high schools, and a new program that supports SCA Scholars through their entire college experience, SCA’s intent is to stretch aspiring young women in meaningful ways and equip them with tools for achieving their dreams. SCA’s impact is one of transformation and inspiration, but not only for the participants. Also touched are the lives of the Scripps faculty, staff, and students who invest their time and talent into making it all happen.

“Many of the faculty have said that this was maybe the most important thing we’ve done,” says Scripps Associate Professor of Psychology Judith LeMaster, who has been involved with SCA since its inaugural year. During the summer program, one of LeMaster’s unique and well-loved contributions is a session on happiness, on what it means to have a good life: “It’s intended to be something that’s immediately useful to the Scholars in a concrete way; simple things they can do.”

John Peavoy, associate professor emeritus of English, has taught in the summer program for 14 of its 15 sessions and, although retired, he has no intentions of stopping. His love for teaching and the knowledge that he’s making a difference draws him back every year. “And I want to say that I wouldn’t have done this year after year if it wasn’t fun. It’s really fun. Part of that is being on a team with faculty and students working together to keep it going, all heading in the same direction.”

Fundamental to the efforts of SCA is the unwavering belief that any young woman who aspires to attend a four-year college can do so, regardless of background. Approximately 98 percent of SCA Scholars are the first in their families to attend college and aren’t sure where to start or what’s possible.

“I didn’t know anything about applying, or where to go, or even what questions to ask,” says Anna-Marie Wood ’13, an alumna of the academy and Scripps College and now an assistant director of admission at Scripps. “That happens with a lot of first-generation students; you don’t even know where to begin, and it’s expensive.”

“That’s where we come in,” says Roberto Escobar, SCA director. “We offer them all that knowledge—where you find money, what’s a good school for you based on fit. We dispel myths that certain types of students can only go to a community college, or if you’re undocumented you can’t go to school, or that a private college is out of reach. Not true. We teach them what’s real and what’s not.” And, SCA provides all services, events, programs, meals, transportation—everything—for free.

“So often,” says former SCA Assistant Director Edna Becerra, “we worked with young women who had already limited their aspirations to the confines of their cultural expectations, financial limitations, or geographic boundaries. It’s a special thing
Leaders engage the scholars in small-group discussions on race, equality, gender, power, privilege, and other complex subjects, and help them develop practical academic and life skills such as writing, critical analysis, research, and public speaking. While participants also enjoy field trips, socializing, art projects, and recreational activities, the summer program is intentionally rigorous. Its curriculum provides not only an academic push but also a vivid introduction to the intensity of college-level dialogue about concepts and issues that matter in their lives, in their communities, and in the world.

“We know that in this very intense two weeks that some of the students will start fearing they don’t really belong, and they’re not sure they can do it. But we let them know right away—and then again whenever they need to hear it—that they do belong. We know they belong, and we know they can do it,” Peavoy says.
EMPOWER PLAYERS

Scripps students who graduate from the academy and then remained involved—this time, as student staff members—provide especially powerful voices of encouragement because they have been there; they have walked in the new scholars’ shoes. Their similar backgrounds and shared experiences engender trust and invite openness. Now they are at a top-tier college, representing to the high schoolers the possibility and potentiality of their own futures.

“It’s not about paying someone back. It’s about passing it along, because that way it’s a ripple, it doesn’t just stay in a cluster or a bubble,” Maldonado says. “We’re there to tell the girls, ‘You’re capable of so much more than you can see right now.’”

Beyond playing a key role in the summer program, Scripps students contribute to SCA in many other ways: tutoring, mentoring seniors through the college application process, giving College Club workshops at middle schools, and transporting scholars to SCA’s year-round academic enrichment activities, such as SAT/ACT preparation classes, science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) research opportunities, financial aid workshops, and faculty-led book clubs.

While she was a Scripps student, SCA alumna ReAndra Johnson ’17 was involved in all aspects of the academy’s activities. A meaningful college experience for her was being able to facilitate small-group discussions with new SCA Scholars on the very subjects—race, class, and power—that were illuminating for her when she was a high school SCA participant. Johnson refers to that time in her life as “the beginning of my awakening.”

A recent Scripps graduate, Johnson intends to continue working in the college-access field in some manner, perhaps through policy work or educational counseling. If it wasn’t for SCA, she says, “I wouldn’t have found something I’m so passionate about or even recognized the need for.”

Johnson has definitive thoughts on how educational opportunities should be made available to particular demographic groups. “We have to be intentional about the approaches to education we take, especially making sure marginalized groups have access,” she continued. “It’s not enough to say, ‘Hey, anyone can get an education.’ We have to make sure we’re taking thoughtful, particular steps that focus on women, people of color, and people with disabilities.”

For Wood, the SCA Scholars program empowered her to do something no one expected—not even her. At Wood’s Downey, California, high school, it was assumed that if a student was heading to a four-year college, it would be a UC or a Cal State. Indeed, Wood was accepted at UCLA and UC Berkeley, “which would have been totally fine, but SCA gave me the confidence to go against the status quo of my high school.” Now, working in Scripps’ Office of Admission, she looks for applicants who go beyond what’s expected, who refuse to conform to a prefabricated idea about their life’s trajectory.
“It’s not about paying someone back. It’s about passing it along, because that way it’s a ripple, it doesn’t just stay in a cluster or a bubble.”

—Bea Maldonado ’18

“Scripps has always been about the empowerment and advancement of women, and I see SCA as a crucial extension of that,” she says.

Wood’s high regard for the academy includes appreciation for what the program meant to her family.

“They loved it. They could tell I was so happy to have so much guidance and support,” she says. “I mean, SCA helped my mom and dad fill out the FAFSA for free. Who else was going to do that?”

Maldonado expressed similar admiration for the academy’s dedication to families. “They not only want to support students, but they have the humility to extend support to families, which is amazing, because you cannot understand the student if you don’t also understand the family.”

And now, putting her “pass it along” philosophy into action, Maldonado is helping her younger brother apply to college.

“I’m using everything I learned in SCA. Because of that knowledge, I’m a better role model. He’s a first-gen as well, and I have a responsibility to support him.”

While some SCA alumnae like Maldonado, Johnson, and Wood went on to attend Scripps, many participants have gone to other top colleges and universities, including Pomona, Princeton, Dartmouth, USC, and Occidental. Regardless of where they go, SCA’s care and support follows them. Through the academy’s newest component, STRIVE, the scholars receive regular phone calls, care packages, encouragement, resources, and advice from SCA staff for the duration of their college years.
“We call them and ask about their social life, academic life, mental health. We do whatever we can based on what they tell us. Sometimes this is a pep talk; sometimes we do some research to get them materials or information they need,” says Escobar, sharing that 100 percent of SCA Scholars in the class of 2017 matriculated into four-year colleges and universities.

At institutions where there are multiple scholars, SCA groups them into teams and appoints a team leader who is responsible for planning get-togethers for support, friendship, and peer-to-peer motivation to keep going, especially when it’s hard.

“Now that the program has been around a while, it’s started to build networks of schools in addition to Scripps, so that a scholar can go to USC, for example, and find a friendly and safe mentor. The network is significant,” says Kelly Hewitt King ’08, SCA’s director from 2008 to 2013. Under King’s leadership, SCA received the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, considered the nation’s highest honor for after-school arts and humanities programs, particularly those that reach underserved children and youth. The award was presented at the White House by then–First Lady Michelle Obama.

“Scripps took SCA on as a core part of its mission, and this award helped validate that meaningful and long-term investment within the College,” King says.

The Scripps College community is one of connection, support, and encouragement to lead lives of leadership, service, integrity, and creativity. The academy echoes and underscores these guiding principles for its Scholars. They are given the opportunity to have a place within this community as early as age 15, setting them on a path toward being their best selves, leading their best lives, wherever they ultimately land.

Soon to graduate, Scripps senior Mercedes Adame ’18, a dedicated SCA student staff member, reflects upon her first moments as an SCA Scholar and offers this sage assurance to prospective Scholars:

“As a 10th grader, it’s okay not to know what you’re doing. It’s okay to feel scared and at the same time feel excited. Because of SCA, we’re [like an extended] family, and we’re going to help you figure out what you want to do. We’re there to nurture you and help you accomplish your dreams.” ☻
Science students past and present develop chemistry and community through mentoring.
in Science

By Amy DerBedroasian
Taia Wu ’15 and Julie Korsmeyer ’19 are siblings with a lot in common: Scripps College, a chemistry major, experience at NASA’s Ames Research Center, living in the San Francisco Bay Area, a half-Chinese ethnicity. Yet the two women share no familial relationship and have never met in person.

The explanation for their relationship lies in another of their connections, the Advanced Lab in Chemistry course required of chemistry and biochemistry majors in the W.M. Keck Science Department of Claremont McKenna, Pitzer, and Scripps Colleges. Wu and Korsmeyer have become “big and little siblings” to one another through a new mentoring program involving current students and past participants in the course.

The program began after Assistant Professor of Chemistry Babak Sanii polled the Advanced Lab Council of Elders Facebook group he’d set up for former students, seeking input on how to best support them as well as current class members. Given a list of possibilities, the alumni declared a mentoring program their overwhelming favorite.

“There’s a lot of alumni desire to engage. More alumni volunteered to become big siblings than I had students in the class,” says Sanii, noting that 23 graduates offered to mentor 21 students, nearly half of whom attend Scripps. “The program is up to the people involved. I introduced them to each other, provided ideas, and told them that if they met in person, there should be an exchange of pastries.”

Sanii paired former and current students with common interests, such as graduate school, a career in industry, or a specific area of science. He also considered individual preference, such as a mentoring relationship with a woman or with someone from the same college. After that, the siblings were on their own, communicating primarily via email.

The matchmaking supported the intent of the mentoring. Sanii explains, “It’s about career choices and career paths, and how to navigate them. It’s not about how to succeed in the class.”

Yet it’s fitting that the program would originate with Advanced Lab in Chemistry and Sanii. The professor says the course is “like a capstone course for chemists,” introducing students to collaborative science, presenting challenges such as decaffeinating green coffee beans, and incorporating discussions about careers, graduate school, and issues related to race, gender, and ethnicity in the field.

Previous spread, from left: Members of the Advanced Lab in Chemistry Mentorship Program Emma Choy (CMC ’19) with Mariah Mastrodimos ’18, and Julie Korsmeyer ’18 with Fayer Liu ’19
Opposite: Fayer Liu ’19 in the chemistry lab at the W. M. Keck Science Center
Sanii’s own career path made him realize the importance of helping science students understand their options. Unlike many professors, Sanii didn’t go directly into academia, instead working at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Pixar before pursuing a PhD in applied science and joining The Claremont Colleges faculty in 2013. He notes, “You have to be opportunity driven. Medical school often appeals to science students because it’s a track. But most careers are not a track, and you can still be successful.”

As students in Sanii’s class imagine their next stages in science, they can now turn to mentors like Wu. A second-year biochemistry PhD student at the University of California, San Francisco, she had found mentors in her undergraduate professors Nancy Williams and Aaron Leconte. But as a recent graduate, Wu can offer Korsmeyer insights that faculty members can’t provide. “They’re not a 20-something woman in the first three years of her career,” Wu explains. “I have information about different resources and tools, and the challenges women very early in scientific careers run into. Mentorship programs can be critical because there’s the potential to be frank about being a woman in science.”

Like Wu, her little sibling is planning a career in research. Korsmeyer anticipates talking to Wu about graduate school applications, research advisors, and professional development. The Scripps junior says, “It’s nice to hear about another professional in the field and what I might encounter. The program helps me learn from her experience.”

Korsmeyer has been a mentor herself, to first-year students in the department’s Accelerated Integrated Science Sequence. She says, however, “That was very different because we were all in school and met in person. I haven’t seen any program that’s for alumni of a class, not alumni of a school.”

For another Scripps little sibling, the mentoring program is offering a window into an unexplored career opportunity. Ana Vitomirov ’19 hadn’t considered working in industry until she heard what Isabel Lippincott ’17 does as a quality control analyst at AntriaBio, a Colorado pharmaceutical company. Now she’s added it to her list of options, along with medical, dental, and graduate school.

This is Vitomirov’s first mentoring experience, and she particularly values
having another woman from Scripps as her big sibling. She explains, “It mattered to me because there’s such a community here in terms of empowering women. It’s helpful to have a mentor who has gone through the same experience. I’m hoping the mentorship program will also help me establish networking connections.”

Lippincott appreciates her own mentors, who include her biochemist mother as well as Sanii and Professor of Chemistry Mary Hatcher-Skeers. Now, she’s eager to assist someone herself. Lippincott says, “It’s important to be able to talk to someone who can tell you what you can do with your degree. It’s hard to know where you’re going after graduation because there are so many options in science you don’t even know are options. That can be very daunting. Mentors provide a resource and the pep talk when you need it.”

Another Scripps chemistry student, Emma Stacy ’19, has already determined she wants to go into environmental science after graduation. But she made this decision only recently, first considering medicine. For guidance about her new area of interest, Stacy is turning to her big sibling, Tricia Light ’17, a Fulbright Research Award recipient currently in Spain.

“Science requires a lot of life planning,” says Barrett, who is interested in a PhD in chemical biology and becoming a professor. “It’s good to be paired with someone in graduate school who can provide tips about that passage. She’s at a top-tier program, so I can talk to her about how she made connections there. This is a good opportunity to get real-world advice from someone who did it just a year or two ago.”

In some cases, the gap between siblings is even smaller. Mariah Mastrodimos ’18 became a big sibling to Claremont McKenna College junior Emma Choy before completing...
her Scripps education in December 2017. The two were already acquainted and, with both in Claremont, have been able to meet in person in addition to using email.

Belen Cruz ’14 also served as a mentor while an undergraduate, but in a program for Scripps transfer students rather than Advanced Lab in Chemistry participants. Now the Scripps chemistry graduate is a big sibling to Claremont McKenna College junior Timothy Gallagher.

Cruz spent three years in quality control analysis with Shire, a global biotechnology company focused on rare diseases, before deciding to obtain a math teaching credential. She’s able to address Gallagher’s questions about becoming a strong candidate for an industry position and the day-to-day experience.

“It’s my nature to want to help people, and it’s nice to see someone who is so driven and focused on what he wants to do,” says Cruz. “I was happy that I had direct experience in the field he wanted.”

Cruz intends to remain available to Gallagher through graduation—and afterward if he wishes. Interest in a long-term commitment is common among the siblings, who want to see the program continue and grow.

Vitomirov hopes the alumni come to Claremont for a face-to-face meeting with their little siblings. Lippincott would like the program to become a network of students and graduates across the Keck Science Department. And Stacy envisions serving as a mentor herself after graduation.

Sanii embraces all of their aspirations. He says, “It would be great to see people feel connected through the program years after they’re gone. I also like the idea of building a multigenerational community. As part of my class, I have students design an introductory chemistry lab. They learn about mentoring and realize how far they’ve come. Introductory students need connections with more advanced students.”

But students aren’t the only ones who benefit from the new mentorship program. Though they’ve been siblings for only a short time, Wu says of her relationship with Korsmeyer, “Julie makes me feel excited about the future of science. It’s a privilege to talk to the Advanced Lab students, and I’m grateful for the honor of being part of the program. The creation of something like this is what makes Scripps unique and important for women in science.”

“There’s a lot of alumni desire to engage. More alumni volunteered to become big siblings than I had students in the class.”

—Assistant Professor of Chemistry Babak Sanii

Previous spread: Assistant Professor of Chemistry Babak Sanii and Emma Stacy ’19
Opposite, from left: Members of the Advanced Lab in Chemistry Mentorship Program Emma Stacy ’19, Susanna Barrett ’19, and Ana Vitomirov ’19
“Mentorship programs can be critical because there’s the potential to be frank about being a woman in science.”

—Taia Wu ’15
Crossing Our Own

At Scripps, prison work changes lives on the inside and out.

By Marie Condron

Sue Castagnetto remembers how she somewhat accidentally began crossing over, working with women in prisons in the early 2000s. She was continuing a legacy of prison work among Scripps students and faculty that began more than four decades ago.

Castagnetto, director of The Claremont Colleges’ Intercollegiate Feminist Center for Teaching, Research, and Engagement (IFC), earned her PhD in philosophy from Stanford University and joined Scripps in 1999 to direct the center and teach courses in philosophy and gender and women’s studies. She was interested in issues of free will and responsibility. Specifically, she was concerned with the unjust and ineffective ways people are punished, such as when an addiction problem is addressed with a prison sentence. “I had taught courses on crime and punishment, but had not been involved in any community-based projects on criminal justice, nor had I thought much about women in prison,” she says. “Then, I was channel surfing one night, and I stumbled onto a documentary about the sexual abuse of women in prison, highlighting three horrendous cases. I put a tape in the VCR and started recording it. I watched the whole thing.”

The experience inspired Castagnetto to plan Women, Prisons, and Criminal Injustice, a conference hosted on the Scripps campus in 2000 that aimed to shed light on some of the issues women in prison face, including sexual assault, inadequate medical treatment, and separation from their children. Speakers included a judge, a sex-worker activist, criminal justice scholars and advocates, and formerly incarcerated women. Through the conference, Castagnetto got to know Crossroads, a transitional residence for women on parole in Claremont, as well as the Archdiocese of Los Angeles’ Women and Criminal Justice Network (WCJN), a network of women working in advocacy organizations on issues facing women in and formerly in prison.
Over the next few years, Castagnetto kept in touch with Crossroads’ executive director, Sister Terry Dodge. Then, a new warden arrived at the California Institution for Women (CIW), a state women’s prison in Chino. Warden Dawn Davison brought with her fresh perspectives on what a prison environment might provide, and she strongly supported rehabilitative programs and relationships with the community. In 2004, Sister Terry invited Castagnetto to participate in a WCJN-organized delegation of women in education, faith, and leadership held at CIW. Castagnetto joined WCJN, and the network began planning crossovers—opportunities for community members to have in-depth, facilitated conversations with incarcerated women at CIW, with the aim of challenging stereotypes and campaigning for prison reform.

A particularly catalytic crossover took place on a Saturday the following year. Sister Suzanne Jabro, director of the WCJN, had learned that young women in the prison were very interested in talking with their peers on the outside. “That was an amazing day, a key moment,” says Castagnetto. “It was electrifying. We had about 15 students, mostly from Scripps, and about 40 or 50 young women inside, and none of us knew what to expect. We sat and talked, had lunch and a tour, and then we talked some more. And the students came away totally fired up, wanting to keep the conversations going.”

Scripps alumna Whitney Tipton ’07 was one of the students in the room that day, and she was inspired to help establish the first college chapter of the WCJN, with the mission of regularly meeting with and providing resources and support to their peers on the inside. “I think we were all surprised by how much we all had in common,” Tipton recalls. “I met a woman who was from my hometown, a tiny suburb of Sacramento no one had ever heard of, and it turned out I’d gone to middle school with her brother. It was one of the first opportunities I had to understand the idea of ‘there but for the grace of God’ go any of us.”

After she graduated, Tipton spent a year visiting women’s prisons around the world through a Watson Fellowship, went to law school, and now works for the Habeas Corpus Resource Center in San Francisco, handling death penalty appeals. “The more I learned about our criminal justice system—the high rates of recidivism, how it causes people to cycle in and out dozens of times, and especially what it does to women—it really shocked me that it wasn’t something more people were talking about,” she says. “Once I started to see it, I couldn’t, in good conscience, look away.”

Tipton is one of a number of Scripps students and faculty who have participated in meetings and programs at CIW and Crossroads since the early 2000s. Projects have included, with Crossroads, musical and dramatic performances, a social enterprise project, and a cookbook, and, with CIW, regular creative writing workshops and an organic garden.

One of the women Tipton met in the prison was Romarilyn Ralston, who was especially moved by those first crossover meetings. “It was beautiful to see the light in people’s eyes,” says Ralston. “We talked about life, relationships and dating, children. There were deep conversations, not just about what classes are you taking at Scripps. We were building community from the inside out and outside in.”

Incarcerated since 1989, Ralston had noticed some troubling trends in the wake of the three strikes policy and other criminal justice legislation in the 1990s—an increase in young women entering prison and a dramatic reduction in educational opportunities and resources available to them. It prompted her to create a tutoring
program, and then a peer mentoring group, as a way for young women to connect with and support each other inside. “We asked the warden to contact colleges in the area that might be interested in having conversations with the young adults in the prison,” says Ralston.

Ralston also helped launch an organic garden project at CIW, initiated by Scripps alum Hannah Segal ’09 with a Strauss Foundation grant. “We had read about garden projects at other institutions, wrote a proposal for the warden, who was supportive, and then were thrilled that there was also interest at Scripps. Students [in the WCJN campus chapter] came over every week, and we grew an organic garden for many years; we called it ‘cultivating dreams.’ We grew all kinds of vegetables—tomatoes, squash, cucumber, herbs, potatoes—and the harvest was added to the salad bar at the CIW kitchen, so we got to eat it. Working together on that project gave us a sense of meaning and purpose.”

Ralston became a Crossroads resident in 2011, after 23 years in the CIW. With the support and encouragement of faculty she’d met through the crossovers, she enrolled as a New Resources student at Pitzer College and obtained a BA with honors in gender and feminist studies, then went on to earn an MA at Washington University in St. Louis. She now works for a program at Cal State Fullerton providing resources to support formerly incarcerated students and help them graduate.

Kimberly Drake, associate professor of writing and chair of the Writing Program at Scripps, specializes in how people write about oppressive institutions. In 2008, she sought a way to teach inside CIW but encountered roadblocks, such as the prison administration at the time not allowing pencils and paper inside the prison. Then, an opportunity presented itself through a fortuitous encounter with Castagnetto. “Crossroads residents had begun working on a book about cooking in prison with immersion heaters they called ‘stingers,’” recalls Drake, and they needed help writing their stories. She was immediately intrigued. “Sue asked if I’d be willing to do a regular writing workshop with the women and some Scripps students for a couple of hours every other week, which I started doing in early 2009.” The resulting book of stories and recipes, Stinging for their Suppers: How Women in Prison Nourish Their Bodies and Souls, was published in 2013.

The women explained how to make a contraband stinger: cut off a cord from an appliance, splice it with two spoons and a clothespin between them, tape each section to keep the wires from touching each other, and put a handle on it so it’d hang over the edge of a bucket. The submerged spoons would then heat up and boil the water. The women got creative with food they’d buy at the prison canteen and cook in plastic containers. One crunched up Fritos, added a Slim Jim, and made tamales. Others experimented with ramen noodles and seasoning packets. And Drake remembers one woman who combined a certain kind of cookie they sold at the prison canteen with coffee creamer and lemon juice to create a lemon cream pie she says was “actually very good.”

Drake describes the experience as a “mutual discovery” for the Crossroads writers and Scripps students who were involved. “The students may have come to the workshop thinking, ‘I’ll help the Crossroads women with their writing,’ but it was much more that the women helped the students understand their lives,” says Drake. “We had fun, we laughed. We cried regularly. Writing together makes these kinds of bonds that for the women and students are really healing.”
“You can’t be fearful of somebody when you see them as a person,” says Sister Terry. “One of the wonderful aspects of working with college students is their readiness and willingness to get to know the women, to interact with them. They are seeing people instead of statistics or hyped-up media. When we can do that, we can see that people change. And if we believe in redemption, that happens in our midst.”

As part of her Political Economy of Food class, Mary W. Johnson Professorship in Teaching and Professor of Politics Nancy Neiman Auerbach established a Meatless Mondays program at Crossroads that used fresh produce from the Crossroads and Scripps gardens as well as local farms to make vegetarian meals for students and Crossroads women to cook and eat together. Dinner was followed by talks, readings, film screenings, and other activities that promoted discussion. Working with Crossroads, Professor Auerbach also established Fallen Fruit from Rising Women, a social enterprise project that harnesses locally grown produce to make preserves, granola, and other sustainable treats for sale. Students from The Claremont Colleges work alongside women from Crossroads in a commercial kitchen in Upland to make the food and run the business, now in its seventh year.

Sister Terry says that the garden project, writing workshops, and Fallen Fruit from Rising Women initiatives have profoundly changed the women inside. “For a moment, it takes you away from where you are; I think that’s the most common response of the women who were involved in these projects,” she says. “To be taken away from the oppression of prison and just be enthralled with what is growing, what you’re tending, and to see the fruits of that labor: it’s life-giving. To have somebody appreciate what you’ve written and give you accolades, maybe it’s the first time anyone has done that for you. It’s transformational.”

Scripps students and alumnae agree that their experiences visiting CIW and meeting women inside as well as those recently released have been life-changing. Those visits shifted how they think about the justice system and, in many cases, their future career paths.

Annie Lyn Freitas ’11, a theater and psychology major from Oakland, California, worked with incarcerated youth at a juvenile probation camp to write and produce their own version of Othello. She also participated in a writing workshop at CIW, organized by Castagnetto, in which students and incarcerated women read literature together and wrote responses based on their personal experiences.

“I remember the women there who were also from Oakland,” she says. “We had a lot of conversations about our hometown. I saw a lot of situations growing up in which people were doing things that were illegal. People who were poor, whose parents were addicted to drugs and not taking care of them, who committed crimes as teenagers that were often driven by survival.”

“I realized I was in a position to do something, to actually change something,” says Freitas. “Scripps really does give you this amazing feeling that it’s possible to change the world. Being surrounded by such incredible women and professors who really care about you, push you, motivate you, and pay attention to you is incredibly empowering.”

Freitas is now pursuing a PhD in Tulane University’s City, Culture, and Community program, where her research focuses on creating educational opportunities for women in prisons in Louisiana. She’s also the founder of the Louisiana Prison Education Coalition, which works to ensure access to education for those in prison,
and she co-wrote the first bill in the U.S. to “ban the box” in college admissions, which prohibits Louisiana colleges from asking about criminal history in admissions applications. Freitas returned to Scripps in 2015 to speak at a criminal justice symposium at Pomona College that Castagnetto helped organize. “That was a fantastic experience, to be able to return and talk about how my work has evolved, reconnect with people who have been so influential in building this passion with me,” she says. “I really do believe that I wouldn’t be doing what I’m doing now if I went to a different college.”

Current student Caitlyn Fick ’19 had a different frame of reference before Scripps. “Growing up in a small town in Oregon, all I really knew about prison was based on TV shows,” she admits. Inspired by reading Angela Davis’s book Are Prisons Obsolete? in her Core I class, and then visiting CIW with her Core II class, Why Punish?, she has continued taking courses related to criminal justice and law, even while studying abroad this semester in Dublin. “TV influences us to think of people in prison as ‘us vs. them,’” she says. “Now I understand that there are so many ways the system is broken. I was shocked to learn about plea deals, how court-appointed lawyers, swamped with cases, will actually encourage innocent people to take a deal, saying they’ll be able to do a shorter sentence and get the case over with. I met someone who was 29 and had taken a plea deal for a crime he did not commit 14 years ago, at 15. I had a hard time wrapping my head around how that’s justice.”

Psychology major and fine arts minor Sophia Lobo ’20, who grew up in Hong Kong, also took the Why Punish? course. The class included participation in Castagnetto’s writing workshop at CIW, and she volunteered to be part of a group of students helping to restart the garden project, which had been discontinued due to the drought and a change in leadership at the prison. Lobo is glad to be part of this new chapter. “I’m pen pals with one of the women from the workshop,” she says. “Her story was similar to a lot of others I’ve heard—characterized by abusive homes or relationships, of having to do awful things to survive. There’s an impulse to vilify criminals and an idea that they’re bad people at their core, and I don’t see it like that anymore, especially now that I understand more about how the system works, and how it needs to be changed.”

According to Ralston, “Once that understanding is in your head, you can’t get it out.” She remembers first reading Angela Davis in a workshop on the inside, and then meeting her in 2000, when Davis visited CIW. Ralston recently spoke at a conference where Davis was also a speaker, and had a chance to see her again.

“She said, ‘I remember you.’ And she hugged me,” says Ralston. “She is still remembering the marginalized, the disadvantaged, the incarcerated—and now I’m not just reading about it, I’m a part of this movement, too. I’m now a colleague of the people on the outside who embraced me. And I hope, 40 years from now, somebody may be reading something I wrote and remembering me.”
Professor of Politics Nancy Neiman Auerbach, Scripps students, and Crossroads residents and staff work in the garden at Crossroads, 2011.
Running Through

By Karen Bergh

Laurel Schwartz ’15 is articulate, ambitious, athletic, and dedicated to her growth as a visual storyteller.

Schwartz recently directed and produced Running Breathless, a short documentary film that chronicles her struggle with Crohn’s disease, as a way to inspire and help others who also suffer from the “silent” illness.

She debuted the documentary about her life at the Twin Cities Film Festival in Minnesota in October 2017. Running Breathless features her sojourn as a competitive runner living with the chronic illness.

“I have run three half marathons, two 10-mile races, and a handful of 10Ks all in the last year,” Schwartz, now 24, says.

These are feats admirable for any young person to have accomplished, much less one who has been chronically ill for the majority of her life.

Diagnosed with Crohn’s disease in the fourth grade, Schwartz’s childhood was marked by a staggering backdrop of digestive challenges and disabling pain for at least a decade before she was able to maintain a stable lifestyle and do the things that teenagers typically do.

Stills from Running Breathless, a 2017 documentary short by Laurel Schwartz ’15
But her story is not about the pain: it’s a story about a woman who has found ways to live with her disability and find a future that puts her squarely in a position to share with authority and passion how to live vigorously in spite of it.

Now in graduate school at Columbia University pursuing her master’s in social work, Schwartz wants to use her degree to explore how people’s stories serve as their own motivations for navigating the world.

“I like the clinical side more than I thought I would,” she admits, referring to her three-days-a-week practicum on the Lower East Side of New York, providing resources and collaborating with multiple agencies through a neighborhood-based settlement house.

She also admits the importance of having a father who is a gastroenterologist and a mother who is a nurse in her learning to reconcile her relationship with her body, and to help others do the same. Schwartz keeps the disease under control through diet and medications and the running.

“When I started running, I finally felt in control of my body,” Schwartz says. “For the first time, I realized that my fitness goals were no longer about exercising for image or looking a certain way: I was actually ‘feeding myself’ to be able to run a half marathon!”

Her persistence and “no excuses” drive runs in the family. Both of her parents had been marathon runners. Plus, Schwartz says there was a household rule that you go to school every day “unless you’re contagious.”

“When I started running, I finally felt in control of my body.”
—Laurel Schwartz ’15
“Once I learned to navigate the disease, I would get up and go, even if I wasn’t sure if I could stay at school. I have to admit that became my coping mechanism. I’d show up. I was ‘present’ everywhere I could be. It kept me in check all through college.”

The self-portrait in Schwartz’s biopic shows a person who is both physically fit and chronically ill. “I want to show that such people exist in the world, and that they are smart, caring, driven, and successful people who happen to face a unique set of challenges.”

“While I am currently in the best shape of my life, my illness is still ever present, and it is important to show this dichotomy,” she explains.

Schwartz majored in American studies at Scripps, and her senior thesis centered on digital media and images of girls in advertising. Schwartz said she has been making films on her own since she was a teenager. She was motivated to make the documentary following her observations in college that illness is too often portrayed in the media as either acute or terminal. She hopes to keep making films and communicating throughout her career as she continues her advocacy.

The physical and emotional challenges of living with Crohn’s are many, and its chronic nature can be debilitating. However, her story doesn’t stop there.

“I’m looking forward to my advocacy in the field. I hope to portray successes and struggles, help make the invisible visible, and teach others how to be respectful and able to acknowledge what people with Crohn’s are going through, even if they don’t see it or understand it.”

For this silent disease, Laurel Schwartz ’15 is turning up the volume.
Alumnae News
Announcements and Updates for Alumnae and Families
From the Alumnae Association President

Kendra Armer ’93

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SUBMITTED A CLASS NOTE?
Wait—have you ever submitted one? Maybe you think you need to have an item that seems newsworthy enough, or maybe you’re not sure how to submit. Or maybe, like me, you always turn to that section of the magazine first to read what’s new with your classmates, and you wish they would send in more news!

Even in this social media age, I still want to hear all about what Scripps alums are up to, and it wouldn’t surprise me if you did, too. So please submit a class note, and tell us where you are, what you’re doing, and who you’ve seen lately, even if it doesn’t seem like big news. Do also share the big stuff—promotions, commitments, children, and graduations—but remember, you don’t have to wait for such occasions to get in touch!

You can submit class notes through your profile on the Scripps Community Network or send them to your class scribe, listed in the network. If your class does not yet have a scribe, think about signing up for the role or recommending someone who could take it on.

If you’ve heard exciting news about another Scripps grad, you can share that, too. You can also nominate candidates for the Distinguished Alumna and Outstanding Recent Alumna Awards, presented each year during Reunion Weekend. Maybe you know someone who should be profiled in the magazine, or who would make a great panelist at an event. Let us know!

If you need to set up your log-in credentials for the Scripps Community Network, contact Office of Alumnae Engagement at (909) 621-8054 or alumnae@scrippscollege.edu. They are also happy to receive your class notes by mail or email, so I hope you will share some news soon!

Best wishes,

KENDRA ARMER ’93
MARRIAGES

2009

Rochelle Bailis (Santa Monica, California) I married Chris Waller this summer at Glacier National Park. Traci Spatz Chick (Seattle) I married Brandon Chick in July in my hometown of Seattle. Classmates Anna Simle, Liz Wakeman, Kate Kosco Whittington, and Rachel Wolff were in attendance, as was Alice Bravo ’11, Guillermo Bravo (CMC ’10), and Duncan Brown (PO ’06).

Alicia Jovais (San Francisco) I married Andrew Muir in August in Healdsburg, California. Amanda Klaus (Boulder, Colorado) I married Jonathan Beall (HMC ’07) on April 1, 2017. We had alums from 3Cs in attendance, including many from Harvey Mudd, as well as Scripps classmates Laney Rupp, Emily Walker, and Heather Yang.
BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

2000

Catherine Myman Kaplan (Santa Monica, California) My husband, Matt, and I welcomed our daughter, Jane Myman Kaplan, on September 3, 2017. Her big sister, Lucy, is delighted!

2005


2007

Sarah Holden Xu (West Orange, New Jersey) My husband and I welcomed our first child, Elizabeth Sophia Xu, on August 31, 2017. We are calling her Eliza. We have purchased a home in West Orange.

2009

Sylvia Pellicore Richardson (Durham, North Carolina) I welcomed my first child, Joshua Edward Pellicore, on October 21, 2017.
1947

Margaret “Margo” Shaw Gallup  
(Estes Park, Colorado) I had a series of nosebleeds in late winter and spring and did not get much done. My platelets were out of control, so I have been seeing doctors and taking lots of pills. Our three children have been so helpful, bringing in food and taking us to doctor appointments. I enjoy reading about people in our class.

Norma Jean Blair Gilmore  
(Hamilton, Montana) I flew back to the Traverse City, Michigan, area in September and visited two childhood friends in assisted living centers, my cousins, and the neighborhood I lived in until I was 17. The dirt road that my father taught me to drive on is paved now!

1955

Shirley von Kleinsmid Novo  
(Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania) I got to watch my granddaughter, Mary Chawaga ‘17, graduate from Scripps this past May. I’m very proud of her.

1956

Suzi Maschmeyer Weinert  
(Ashburn, Virginia) A scary personal experience at a garage sale prompted my writing a first exciting novel, Garage Sale Stalker. Other writers had already grabbed most clever mystery story settings—quilting groups, antique shops, and theme parks—but not garage sales. The book captured Hallmark’s attention, resulting in eleven two-hour, made-for-
television movies in their Garage Sale Mystery series. A twelfth film, also viewable on the Hallmark Movies and Mysteries Channel, premiered in January 2018. Two more successful published books in the series are Garage Sale Diamonds and Garage Sale Riddle. I’m now finishing book four, Girl at the Garage Sale.

1960
Marcia Davidove Baugh (Palo Alto, California) Retirement is very busy; I have several volunteer “jobs.” I am still writing for my own pleasure. Camp Scripps is, as ever, fantastic—come join us!

1964
Karen Diehl Merris (Hayward, California) Russ and I met our family in Tennessee for the total eclipse; it was a real thrill.

1969
Shelley Smith Calabrese (Vashon, Washington) It’s hard to believe we are just a year from 50 years! Sharon Brown is still an inspiration to me.

1971
Janet Redding Richardson (San Martin, California) I had the wonderful experience of spending six weeks this past summer in New York City helping my daughter-in-law, Meghan Powers ’04, with my identical twin grandsons. Raising twins is very different from the start, since schedules are so important. Both boys were a bit “under cooked” and required a few extra days in the hospital before they came home, but are thriving now. Shortly after returning to California in August, I joined several other Scripps alumnae at the memorial service for Jean Harrison Freelove in San Diego. It was good to visit with Jean’s six brothers and sisters, an extraordinary group in their own right.

1974
Belinda Busteed Burum (Whittier, California) I’m thrilled to announce that after years of writing for high-tech companies, I have launched my first book, Finding Love After 40: Real Stories About Real Love in the Prime of Life (and a Little Beyond). As serendipity would have it, Stacey Aaronson ’00 edited and designed it (and did a thoroughly professional and creative job, of course). We were partway through the project when we discovered we’d both attended Scripps. To top it off, Valerie Johnson ’69 printed the bookmarks. For me, it all started as a reporter with the Collegian.

1977
Christina Beck Algeo (Tucson, Arizona) I’m still working at a middle school. My daughter and her family decided to move from Tucson back to Seattle. I’m enjoying quilting, reading, and an awesome Scripps book club here in the desert. Greetings to all I missed at Reunion Weekend. Dottie Schlesser Ashley (Bend, Oregon) Life is pretty good for us here in Central Oregon, except for the searing summer heat and smoke from the wildfires. We’ve been performing frequently lately, and our band, Appaloosa, has released a third CD. It seems we’re all about songwriting and performing music in this retirement phase of life. This CD, though, is different for us. Everything was done by my husband and me: we wrote all the songs, performed all the vocals, and played all the instruments for this project, and it’s a very eclectic mix of country and folk music. So, it’s riding horses, learning music, and doing chores on our little ranch—that’s about it. Special thanks to Professor Gayle Greene, who taught me to write clearly many, many years ago. What a gift! Winslow Eliot (Alford, Massachusetts) My latest book is What Would You Do If There Was Nothing You Had to Do? Rachel Wrege Hebard (Portland, Oregon) I live in Portland, taught in a graduate education program, and have been a teacher for 26 years. I am still in love with a fabulous man, and I have two brilliant daughters and a brand-new grandson. Life is wonderful! Angel Smeeth Lafferty (Versailles, Kentucky) My wonderful six grandkids are growing and prospering beautifully; they range in age from five to 12 years old. Green Tree Animal Hospital, where I am a vet technician, was honored with AAHA accreditation in March 2017, a prestigious level of high
veterinary care. My fellow continues to be the glue that unites my life, and all is very good! Tera Martinez (Glenbrook, Nevada) I witnessed a sunrise over the Gobi Desert, a mix of pink pearl clouds and a golden glow that backlit herds of wild horses and woolly camels. I experienced fall colors in northern Mongolia, Siberia, and Lake Baikal, which were glorious. I was on the Trans-Siberian Railroad en route to St. Petersburg and L’Hermitage and on the hunt for Houdon’s sculpture Seated Voltaire, commissioned by Catherine II in the 1700s. It was a grand adventure. Joan Romick (Woolgoolga, Australia) After 35 years in Perth, Western Australia, with our children scattered all over the world, my husband, Shelly Harrison, and I decided to move across the country to the Gold Coast. I retired from high school teaching this past May and am loving no essays to mark on Sundays. We became grandparents in June, a highly recommended recreational activity! It’s great to be only a drive away from an adorable grandson, as opposed to a five-hour plane trip. We’re still in the throes of house hunting and resettling. Ellen Rosenthal (Woodbridge, Virginia) I’ve been retired from teaching art for Fairfax County Public Schools for two years now, and I am loving it. I’m starting to sell my block prints at some farmers markets, and in November and December, I participated in my first juried craft shows. (Yikes!) I never thought I would voice this, but now I wish I had taken an accounting class (or something) over at CMC when I had the chance—the business part of this scenario is daunting. My other focus is my husband, Bill, who will be having deep brain stimulation surgery for his Parkinson’s this fall. We’re very hopeful that this procedure will relieve the worst of his symptoms.

1988

Katie Ballou Calhoun (San Francisco) I will soon raise a glass to 15 years at Calhoun & Company Communications, a PR, marketing, and digital media agency for the wine and spirits
industry. While my kids are old enough to mix cocktails with, they have chosen their own careers. Natalie is the environmental manager of Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks, living at 7,000 feet and hoping to add a compost program that the bears will ignore. Walker is at sea level, a marine biologist, most recently studying oyster larvae growth with pH and acidification changes in our warming ocean waters. Alex and I welcome visitors to our empty nest in San Francisco!

2000

Sarah Belanger Lantz (Claremont, California) I began a new position at Vivian Webb School, part of the Webb schools, as dean of students. I started in July, and it has been a wonderful opportunity to lead young women. We welcomed our third daughter, Evelyn, on October 21, 2016. She joins big sisters Lucy and Annalise.

2009

Alexandra Binder (Los Angeles) After Scripps, I continued my academic studies at the Harvard School of Public Health. I loved my time in Boston; every few months I would meet up with my Scripps first-year roommates, I made new lifelong friends in graduate school, and I met my partner, Todd. It was sad to leave, but exciting to start a new adventure in Los Angeles. It has been wonderful to reconnect with Scripps friends here that I have not seen in a long time. Sara Festini (Tampa, Florida) I began a new job as a tenure-track assistant professor of psychology at the University of Tampa in fall 2017. I’m enjoying teaching my students about biopsychology, research methods, and statistics, and I look forward to continuing my research on memory, executive control, and cognitive aging. I was also delighted to discover that fellow Scrippsie Sarah Iker Hansberry also started a faculty job at the same university. We’re passing on a little of what we learned at Scripps to students in Florida! Sarah Iker Hansberry (Tampa, Florida) I earned my PhD in music history and theory from the University of Chicago in August 2017. I began work as an assistant professor of music at the University of Tampa in the fall, and was delighted and surprised to find Sara Festini beginning as a new faculty member in the Psychology Department. Scripps women unite! I’m excited to continue my research on applying digital humanities techniques to music history and theory, exploring how Igor Stravinsky’s music was received and understood in Europe between the World Wars. I still perform as a pianist and hope to rejoin the Tampa Bay social dance scene. ☀️
BELINDA BUSTEED BURUM ’74
Finding Love After 40: Real Stories About Real Love in the Prime of Life (and a Little Beyond)

Conducting numerous interviews, reading scores of books and blogs, and speaking to all manner of experts, Burum sets out to prove that true love is possible at any age and that we don’t have to settle for less than our heart’s desire.

Published by Lion Heart Press, October 16, 2017

COLLEEN BOYLE ’08
(Under the pseudonym Gwen C. Katz)
Among the Red Stars

This young adult novel tells the story of Valka, a Russian teen who joins an all-female aviation group during World War II. As the war intensifies and those around her fall, Valka must decide how much she is willing to risk to defend the skies she once called home. Inspired by the true story of the airwomen the Nazis called Night Witches, Katz weaves a tale of strength and sacrifice, learning to fight for yourself, and the perils of a world at war.

Published by HarperTeen, October 3, 2017
IN EARLY DECEMBER, THE GHADAR FAMILY P’17 GRACIOUSLY welcomed Scripps students, faculty, parents, alumnae, and friends to their lovely Washington, D.C., home for a lively Unleashing Potential academic showcase event. More than 2,500 miles from campus, those in attendance felt the powerful reach of the College; the faculty-student presentations were impressive and inspiring, and they reflected Scripps’ signature interdisciplinary approach to education. Scripps faculty are consistently raising standards in postsecondary education by inviting our students to participate in their cutting-edge research and scholarship as well as encouraging them to initiate their own innovative projects.

The College’s continued academic strength is due in part to the exemplary leadership of President Lara Tiedens, who is passionate about making Scripps accessible to all qualified students, regardless of financial need. President Tiedens recently announced a major initiative to build a scholarship endowment that will ensure that the neediest families are not saddled with so much debt. Like her, we believe that every admitted student deserves an opportunity to enjoy the full Scripps experience, and we plan to be part of her efforts. Whether with voice, action, or treasure, we hope you will, too!

The College will continue to host Unleashing Potential events across the country through spring 2018, and we encourage you to attend one in your area. In February, Scripps will host its annual Family Weekend, introducing a number of program experiences that we think you will very much enjoy. In keeping with the Office of Parent Engagement and Philanthropy’s initiative to build on budding College networks around the country and bring our families closer together, the weekend includes opportunities to connect families from geographic regions. We encourage your visit, and we look forward to spending a great time with those of you who can make it. Even more than this, we look forward to continuing, together, to unleash the extraordinary potential of Scripps students and families everywhere.

With warmest regards,

MICHELE-ANNE AND MAC RILEY P’18
Remembrances

The College has learned of the deaths of the following alumnae.

1947

Mollie Milliken Hayes, of Aliso Viejo, California, on August 19, 2017. “Mom’s years at Scripps were always among her happiest memories,” says her daughter, Suzan Valdez (PZ ’74). “We are grateful for all Scripps meant to Mom.”

1948

Joan Titus Swan, of Hastings, Nebraska, on July 14, 2017. Joan attended Scripps before graduating in 1948 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor’s degree in home economics and textiles. After college, she worked in Kansas City, Missouri, as a dress designer and model. Joan returned to Nebraska in 1950, where she met Norris Volk Swan; they married in 1952. She was an incredible hostess and life partner in many ways, and she raised her three children with love and wisdom. She was deeply involved in her Hastings community, and in 1979, Joan was honored as Woman of the Year for her contributions. Her passion for libraries, education, and reading, which she inherited from her mother, a licensed librarian, compelled her to create the Hastings Library Foundation and expand the children’s library at the Holdrege Public Library in her mother’s honor. Joan’s life of service influenced the lives of countless people, and her beauty, elegance, commitment, passion, and desire to help others were felt by every hand she touched. She is survived by her husband, three children, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

1949

Nancy Forgrave Cree, of Coronado, California, on October 26, 2017. Nancy was born on Valentine’s Day in St. Joseph, Missouri, where she was her high school valedictorian. During her time at Scripps, she thrived and again was named valedictorian of her graduating
class. Nancy married William H. Cree, Jr., in 1949 and moved to Long Beach, California, where she enjoyed being a homemaker and raising her two children while generously contributing her time to various charities and boards. Nancy was the president of the Scripps Alumnae Association for three years, a director of the Friends of The Claremont Colleges, and a co-chairman of the Scripps College Capital Funds Committee. Nancy loved Coronado and spent countless happy hours at the Coronado Library. She will be remembered by all for her keen intellect, insatiable curiosity, and her sparkling and gracious personality. She is survived by her two children and two grandchildren.

1950

Jane McCrea Hook, of Whittier, California, on March 4, 2016. Jane is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Hook Perrin ’76.

Mary Gardner Nelson, of Laguna Beach, California, on April 24, 2017. Mary chose to attend Scripps, though she was also accepted at Stanford, because her parents encouraged her to go to a women’s college. After graduating with a fine arts degree, she became a stewardess for United Airlines. Mary was subsequently offered a job by Pan Am, but chose instead to get married in 1952 to Pomona alum Jim Nelson, whom she had met at a Valentine’s Day dance during her first year at Scripps. Mary was an artist of many talents, working in pen and ink, paint, clay, enamels, and glass. She and Jim were involved in various arts organizations, including the Western Arts Council and the Orange County Fine Arts Association. After raising four children, she returned to her love of travel by becoming a travel agent; she journeyed all over the world, encouraging her children to do the same. Mary loved her alma
mater and was actively involved as a volunteer. Described by her daughter, Wendy Nelson ’87, as being “bigger than life,” she was adored by her family, friends, and all who knew her. Mary is survived by Wendy, her son, Jim, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren as well as the many children she “adopted.” She was predeceased by her daughter, Jeanne.

1952
Deirdre Treacy Babcock, of Santa Monica, California, on June 30, 2017.

1953
Olivia “Peter” Huntsman-Trout, of Montrose, California, on May 16, 2017. As Peter’s father Edward was the original landscape architect for Scripps, there was never much question as to where she would go to college. After graduation, Peter lived in Malibu, California; Chicago; San Francisco; and the Brentwood, Hollywood, Montrose, and Silver Lake neighborhoods of Los Angeles. She married and divorced three times and raised her son Max. She taught in Los Angeles Unified School District elementary schools for more than 30 years and was named L.A. County Teacher of the Year in 1988. Peter also volunteered over 1,800 hours as a docent for the Autry Museum of the American West. Peter’s lifelong passions were gardening, crossword puzzles, reading mystery novels, and working on quilting, painting, and stained-glass projects. She enjoyed going out to lunch with Max every Thursday, and on an outing with her granddaughters, Emily and Katie, every Sunday. In recent years, Peter traveled to the Grand Canyon, Italy, and South Africa with her family. She will be remembered for her strength, generosity, open-mindedness, and love of children and animals. She is survived by her son and granddaughters.

1963
Dana Tenny, of Toronto, on May 3, 2017. Dana retired in 1995 after a long career as librarian, bibliographer, and source of knowledge at the Toronto Public Library’s Osborne Collection of Children’s Books, continuing her support of the field of historical children’s literature long after retirement. She had great energy and enthusiasm for her favorite things in life—travel, art, music, food, wine, company, and cats. Her unique and determined personality will be missed by all who knew her.

1964
Susan “Sioux” DeGroot Petrow, of Harford, Pennsylvania, on July 22, 2017. After graduating from Scripps, Sioux completed graduate work in anthropology and folklore at the University of Pennsylvania and earned a master’s degree in library science at Drexel University. She established the Andorra Nature Center, and for many years, she was the environmental educator at the Andorra Natural Area of Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park. Sioux loved singing and...
belonged to the Mendelssohn Club Chorale of Philadelphia. After retirement to the village of Harford, she sang with the Madrigal Choir of Binghamton, New York, the Binghamton University Chorus, and the Ekumen Choir of Scranton. She is survived by many loving friends.

1965

Robin Adair, of Seattle, on October 4, 2017. Robin was born in wartime Los Angeles, brilliant, sharp-witted, and determined to rise to the top. Her mother and grandmother worked hard to polish her and succeeded in getting her to adopt a code of ladylike behavior—ultimately landing her at Scripps, a place she held dear to her dying day. In Claremont, Robin met her future husband, Jim, on the first day of college. They were married in 1966 and moved to Seattle to start a new life together. Robin was an able seamstress, noted for designing and sewing clothes and costumes. Her love for pageantry made her a great party planner, and she employed herself as a fundraiser and coordinator for many nonprofits, Planned Parenthood among them. She took the Junior League of Seattle volunteer training as a young society wife and used that skill to build fundraising events at many newly minted independent schools in the 1970s and 80s. She and her husband contributed efforts to Epiphany School, University Prep, Seattle Country Day School, and Overlake School, where they ensured dyslexia tutoring for their kids and countless others.

Robin traveled the world, visiting China, most of the Middle East and Mediterranean, and Europe. She wanted to make a mark on the world in a grand way, but she will be most remembered for the small ways in which she contributed through record keeping, photographs, scrapbooks, and transcripts of family stories. She is survived by her three children.

1973

Kerry Louise Kettenbach, of Tucson, Arizona, in November 2013. After graduating from Scripps and inspired by her father, a local surgeon, Kerry received her degree in nursing from Oregon Health Science University. She spent many happy years living in Portland, Oregon, enjoying the lush greenery and cool weather, but returned to Arizona to help raise her two nieces. Over the years, many Tucson families eagerly awaited her famous Christmas cookies. Her baking was legendary and will be remembered by anyone lucky enough to have tasted the delicacies she created. Kerry had a great passion for learning and was smart, informed, and wise, but her humility and grace meant only those closest to her knew of her fierce wit. She quietly tended to people in her life and was also immensely talented, using her skills to help those around her. Kerry will be remembered for her love and appreciation of life’s beauty, such as the color pink, the sound of classical music, and the smell of freshly cut roses.

She is survived by her two siblings and five nieces and nephews, including Mia Marquez ’08.

Barbara French Meiners, of Cincinnati, Ohio, on November 29, 2016. Barbara worked for 35 years as a clinical social worker for Butler Behavioral Health Services in Hamilton, Ohio. Admired and respected by her colleagues, she was dedicated to her clients and their wellbeing. She loved her work and was deeply saddened when she was no longer able to continue. She lived every day with a spirit of friendship, kindness, humility, and love. She met her illness with true courage. She is survived by her husband and two sons.
Mark Your Calendar

For more information, visit scrippscollege.edu/events.

Tuesday, February 20, 6pm, Garrison Theater

Yaa Gyasi in Conversation

Yaa Gyasi’s Homegoing tackles the specter of slavery across eight generations: from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. She visits Scripps to discuss her novel and contemporary literature with Hartley Burr Alexander Chair in the Humanities Myriam J.A. Chancy.

Thursday, February 22, 6pm, Garrison Theater

Ayelet Waldman in Conversation

As a professor at the UC Berkeley School of Law, Ayelet Waldman developed and taught a course on the legal implications of the “war on drugs.” Now a bestselling author, she brings her professional experience to bear in A Really Good Day: How Microdosing Made a Mega Difference in My Mood, My Marriage, and My Life, which chronicles her approach of taking miniscule doses of LSD to manage her mood disorder.

Wednesday, March 7, 6pm, Balch Auditorium

Ottessa Moshfegh and Colm Tóibín in Conversation with Rachel Kushner

Irish-born, New York-based Colm Tóibín, author of the bestselling novel Brooklyn, and Ottessa Moshfegh, who earned a PEN/Hemingway Award for her debut novel, Eileen, will read from their works and discuss the craft of fiction with Scripps’ Mary Routt Chair in Creative Writing, novelist Rachel Kushner.
Friday, April 27–Sunday, April 29

Reunion Weekend

Reconnect with your classmates, share Scripps memories, and create new ones over three days of fun-filled events and activities on campus. For the full 2018 Reunion Weekend schedule, visit alumnae.scrippscollege.edu/reunion.

Thursday, March 22, 6pm, Garrison Theater

Black Lives Matter: Opal Tometi in Conversation

This New York-based Nigerian American cofounder of #BlackLivesMatter is also at the helm of the national organization Black Alliance for Just Immigration and has been recognized among the 50 greatest leaders by Fortune. She visits Scripps to talk about her ongoing advocacy for racial justice and to reflect on what leadership means to her in the 21st century.

Saturday, March 24, 7:30pm, Garrison Theater

The Missing Pictures and Sounds of Memory

In a Cambodia still haunted by violence and genocide, acclaimed documentary filmmaker Rithy Panh and composers Chinary Ung and Bosba Panh represent the country’s renewed creative forces. The three visit Claremont for a weeklong residency that will culminate in a screening, conversation, and world-premiere performance of new music celebrating the role of the arts in healing a nation.
This past September, driven by a passion for arts partnerships, I began pursuing a master’s degree in art business at Sotheby’s Institute of Art in London. Through my studies, I am exploring global, cultural, and economic policies that align the resources of cultural institutions, municipal governments, and private benefactors to promote cultural infrastructure, soft-power diplomacy, and economic development. Museums such as the Guggenheim Bilbao, the Tate Modern, the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa, and the Louvre Abu Dhabi are the products of such policies in action. My interest in arts partnerships was shaped by my liberal arts education at Scripps and my exposure to sustainable, symbiotic partnerships present on its campus.

During my four years as an undergraduate, I was exposed to new analytical frameworks and a diversity of cultures and perspectives against the backdrop of a thriving inter-institutional partnership: The Claremont Colleges. I experienced firsthand the educational benefits and opportunities afforded by the consortium in expanded library resources, academic programming, and course offerings. Further, at Scripps specifically, I witnessed the lasting positive impact of community-based partnerships with organizations such as the Scripps College Academy and Crossroads in both student leadership and community resources. Inspired by the successful partnership models used by the College and its community, I began exploring and enacting a variety of partnership formats extending beyond the Scripps campus.

In my first job after graduating, I had the opportunity to create an internship program that partnered with top schools across the country, including Scripps, to source talent. I also established a scholarship and mentorship partnership with the local college preparatory organization Minds Matter, which eased the cohort’s transition to college.

It was when I began purchasing works of art for the firm’s senior partners and its office, building upon my summer college internships at Sotheby’s and Christie’s, that I became drawn to the possibilities of partnerships within the cultural sector, and decided to go to graduate school to this end.

While I use the academic skills I honed at Scripps every day at a master’s level, it is the very model of The Claremont Colleges and Scripps partnerships that surprisingly and continually drive and inspire me in my studies and greater career path.
At Scripps, faculty and student collaboration enhances learning and fuels achievement while strengthening our intellectual community. Join President Lara Tiedens as she talks with current students and professors about their inspiring academic partnerships.

Join us in a city near you!

**Chicago**  
Sunday, January 28

**San Francisco**  
Monday, March 12

**Pasadena**  
Sunday, March 11

**New York**  
Tuesday, April 24

Visit scrippscollege.edu/academicshowcase for details and to RSVP.