Come Together

Community at Scripps
The Merriam-Webster Dictionary offers three definitions of the word “community”: 1) a unified body of individuals; 2) society at large; and 3) joint ownership or participation. Over the past several months, I’ve learned that each of these definitions confirms that Scripps College is synonymous with the notion of community and that our strong community is a key ingredient of our distinguished heritage.

The Scripps College community is unified. Scripps College alumnae instantly enjoy the privileges of membership in a sisterhood that shares the values of academic excellence, empowerment, and equity. These values cross generational and geographic boundaries to unite Scripps alumnae through a range of social, intellectual, and professional activities, from book clubs to excursions to parenting groups, that extend the Scripps experience decades beyond the undergraduate years and miles beyond the campus.

Scripps’ community is shaped, in part, by its commitment to influence positive change on and off campus. The College’s history of activism and engagement is evident in community members’ visible and vocal participation in social movements as well as in behind-the-scenes volunteerism, advocacy, and civic service. Members of the Scripps community aspire to not only fight for social justice, but also to model it here on Scripps’ campus in the classrooms, residence halls, and public spaces where we live, learn, and socialize.

Our community is also characterized by joint ownership and participation. Student voices provide information and perspectives for College-wide decisions ranging from admission policies to construction planning to recruitment and hiring. This sense of shared ownership and responsibility continues as alumnae actively participate in the life of the College by serving as trustees, volunteers, and supporters.

The definition of community that I have found most apparent and meaningful at Scripps is mutually supportive. Scripps community members are sensitive, empathetic, and thoughtful about the feelings, needs, and experiences of others and this is never more evident than in difficult and stressful times when knowing you’re not alone can make all the difference.

As you explore this issue of Scripps, I encourage you to contemplate the many facets of the Scripps community that reinforce our strong, resilient, and enduring legacy and forecast a bright future.

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SCRIPPS CELEBRATES OPENING OF NEW HALL WITH OFFICIAL DEDICATION

On October 7, 2016, Scripps celebrated the dedication of its 10th residence hall, NEW Hall. The festivities included self-guided tours of the Mediterranean-style building, which is designed to LEED Gold standards and houses 110 students.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

The Elizabeth Hubert Malott Public Affairs Program marked its 10th anniversary on November 17, 2016, hosting a conversation between conservative political commentator Norman Ornstein and Scripps Associate Professor of Economics Sean Flynn. Ornstein, a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, brought his extensive knowledge of the electoral process, congressional politics, and campaign finance reform to campus. The timing of the program—just one week after the election of Donald Trump as president—presented a unique opportunity to reflect on the political landscape.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AWARDS GRANT TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women recently announced that the Claremont Colleges will receive a grant totaling $749,998 to help students who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The DOJ award will strengthen existing resources and fund new programming and support services delivered by the EmPOWER Center, established in 2015 as a resource for violence prevention, education, and support. The funding will benefit students from all seven of the Claremont Colleges.

MELLON GRANT SUPPORTS CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Claremont University Consortium received a $1.5 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to establish a new Center for Teaching and Learning to help faculty members enhance their teaching through programming, consultation services, and support programs. The center will be the first major collaborative initiative on teaching and learning across the Claremont Colleges and will work with the Academic Deans Committee to share knowledge and offer programs and services, including workshops, seminars, and institutes. Scripps will serve as lead college for this effort, with Amy Marcus-Newhall, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty at Scripps, serving as lead dean.
On November 15, 2016, restaurateur, chef, and writer Eddie Huang visited Scripps to talk about food, race and assimilation, and his experiences growing up as a Taiwanese American. Rebecca Lehrer, co-host of the American Public Media podcast The Mash-Up Americans, joined him; their conversation was recorded live and later aired as an episode of the podcast.
“Every time you cook, you are standing on the shoulders of giants. The way you serve food, the way you eat—that’s culture. If we sanitize that, we lose.”

—Eddie Huang
CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Hitting the Ground Running

In early November 2016, following a competitive search, Adrienne Walsh Gibson ’02 was named executive director for Alumnae and Parent Engagement and The Scripps Fund. As such, she is the College’s chief Alumnae Relations staff member. She assumed her new role on December 1.
Gibson graduated from Scripps with a degree in arts management and has worked in the College’s Office of Institutional Advancement since 2005 in a variety of positions, first as assistant director of Annual Giving and later as associate director of Reunion Giving, associate director of Alumnae Relations, and associate director of Gift Planning. She is eager to draw on her comprehensive experience as she leads the Alumnae and Parent Engagement and The Scripps Fund teams. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to put my skill set to work for an institution I’m so passionate about,” she says.

Gibson steps into her role at a time when alumni gift participation is on the decline at colleges nationwide. Over the past decade, Scripps has seen a decrease in the number of alumnas who give. To address this decline, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Michael Archibald appointed Gibson and Merrilee Stewart Howard ’70 to co-chair an ad hoc committee on alumnas engagement and participation. Beginning in March 2016, Gibson and Howard led a team of 22 alumnae volunteers in identifying reasons for the waning participation of alumnas in the life of the College. This past fall, the committee identified three areas of opportunity to increase alumnae engagement—findings that are central to Gibson’s vision.

**CONNECTION EQUALS PARTICIPATION**

Alumnae are more likely to give when they feel connected to the College. Gibson hopes to promote the value of volunteerism and foster connection by increasing opportunities for lifelong learning and engagement with Scripps through effective regional programming and digital outreach.

**TARGETING AND SEGMENTATION**

Just as Scripps students are not all the same, neither are Scripps alumnas. Gibson plans to implement more varied and individualized approaches to engage and communicate with the diverse alumnae audience.

**TELL OUR STORIES**

There is value in building a collective Scripps narrative that draws on unique alumnae stories; Gibson wants to highlight more of these experiences.

Gibson is enthusiastic about the opportunities that the committee findings present. “It is an exciting time to work at Scripps, and I want to help build the strong connections that will undoubtedly amplify the remarkable talent, loyalty, and generosity of this fabulous community,” she says.

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*SCRIPPS COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS AND GENEROUS SUPPORTERS. AS OF DECEMBER 2016, TOTAL CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING PROGRESS HAS REACHED $134m*
This past fall, Scripps received two major gifts from trustees to create endowed professorships. Trustee Laura Vausbinder Hockett ’85 of Wellesley, Massachusetts, and her husband, Robert Hockett, established the Laura Vausbinder Hockett Endowed Professorship with a gift of $1.5 million. Distinguished faculty from all academic disciplines will be eligible for the Hockett Professorship, which will be inaugurated during the 2019–20 academic year, following completion of funding. A gift of $1.5 million from Trustee Suzanne Muchnic ’62 will create the Suzanne ’62 and Paul D. Muchnic Endowed Professorship. The Muchnic gift, which will endow a professorship in the Department of Art beginning in the 2017 academic year, was made in honor of Professor of Art History and Director of the Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery Mary MacNaughton ’70, in recognition of her extraordinary life of service and teaching.

“These generous gifts ensure Scripps’ ability to attract, recruit, and retain accomplished faculty and to sustain our commitment to academic excellence and distinguished scholarship,” says President Lara Tiedens. “The College is extremely fortunate to have such strong trustee leadership and support for this critical campaign priority.”

The Hockett and Muchnic gifts bring the total number of endowed professorships created as part of the More Scripps: The Campaign for Scripps College academic initiative to four. (The campaign seeks to establish 10 new endowed chairs.) The Hockett and Muchnic chairs are the first to qualify for $500,000 in matching funds from the Weinberg Foundation Challenge, established by Trustee Betsy Weinberg Smith ’74 to encourage new professorships. The Weinberg Challenge will match each of the remaining six qualifying professorships sought for the campaign.
The Board Welcomes
Jennifer Clark McDonnell P’18

The Scripps College Board of Trustees recently welcomed Jennifer Clark McDonnell P’18 as a new member. McDonnell resides with her husband, Jeff McDonnell, in St. Louis, Missouri. The couple has two daughters: Madeline, a junior at Scripps, and Emily, a first-year at Princeton University.

McDonnell earned her BS in engineering from Princeton University in 1985 and her MS in industrial and systems engineering from the University of Michigan in 1989. For the past 20 years, she has been involved in the leadership of a number of educational organizations in the St. Louis area, most recently as a trustee for the John Burroughs School, where she sat on several committees. From 2000 until 2010, McDonnell served the Community School as a parent volunteer and member of the school culture committee and was a facilitator for the Bridges Across Racial Polarization program sponsored by FOCUS St. Louis. McDonnell has been a member of the Junior League of St. Louis for the past 27 years, a troop leader for the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri for the past 14 years, and a Sunday school teacher at Salem in Ladue United Methodist Church for the past 15 years.
Carlin Wing’s office in Baxter Hall is neat and spare, with a computer, a single bookshelf, and a desk. Wing, assistant professor of media studies, is one of 11 new tenure-track faculty who joined the College last fall, and she is the first full-time tenure-track professor in Scripps’ media studies program. From her seemingly staid digs in Baxter, she has been pursuing her highly interactive, inventive work on games—specifically, ball-wall games and the concept of “bounce.”

Wing traces her interest in bouncing balls to childhood tennis lessons and, later, squash lessons. The opportunity to play on Harvard University’s championship squash team was one of the deciding factors in her choice to attend as an undergraduate. She majored in art and anthropology, with a concentration in photography, and after graduation she pursued a professional career in squash. Her athletic ambitions were short-lived, however,
and she returned to Harvard as a teaching assistant in the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies. There, Wing discovered not only that she enjoyed teaching but that the classroom was a generative place for her own art practice. She went on to earn an MFA in photography and media at the California Institute of the Arts and her PhD in media, culture, and communication at New York University.

As an artist and scholar, Wing is interested in the material and performative aspects of sport and games, and her work focuses broadly on cultural techniques, especially in contexts of play, game, and sport. She draws on global histories and everyday gestures to ask questions about the relationship between knowledge and communication, materiality and mediation, chance and play. Wing is also interested in injury and rehabilitation—the ways in which a game’s elements physically break down during play, from the ball to the racket to the player herself. For one project, Wing examined buffers that are built into game play to modify and mediate interaction, such as the use of rubber in sports equipment and gear. Ultimately, she feels that her move to Scripps was very serendipitous. As she finished her PhD program in New York, she longed to return to Los Angeles, where she has roots in the art community. The opportunity to teach media studies at the College has allowed her to continue her work as a researcher, artist, and educator alongside peers who are similarly invested in interdisciplinary approaches.

“I became obsessed with rubber,” she says. “Once you start looking for it, you find it everywhere. It’s protective. I think, as a material, it operates as a fundamental mediator. It’s always in between to make it safe for things to be in contact with each other.”

Since 2008, Wing has been developing the iterative multimedia project Hitting Walls as a way of exploring the history and nature of handball and other ball-wall sports. Presented in Los Angeles and New York, Hitting Walls includes public, participatory activities such as handball clinics, ball-making workshops, and handball matches as well as exhibitions of Wing’s own photographs, experimental videos, sound sculptures, installations, performances, and texts. The project is meant to “trace new arcs through the long, globalized histories of these games, advocating embodied, material ways of describing the world through bounce, rebound, and ricochet.”

In addition to art, history, and theory, Wing’s exploration of bounce also touches on computer science. Since the late 1940s, computer programs have been written to study and re-create how balls bounce, often as a way of testing graphical user interfaces. Modern games, such as Pong and Pokémon Go, often incorporate bouncing balls into play. This line of inquiry—how bounce is simulated in computing spaces—will be part of Wing’s upcoming book.

“It kind of ended up there by accident,” she admits. “It started as a question about why so many video games are ball games. Why Pong? Why so many iterations of Pong? What is it about this fundamental [act of] throwing a thing around and having rackets that hit it or bats that hit it? We have this long history of ball play, and what does it tell us about our culture?”

She sees these sorts of explorations as essential to her discipline. “To me, media studies is interested in thinking about the in-between—the boundaries and connections between ways of knowing and ways of understanding the world,” Wing says.

“To me, media studies is interested in thinking about the in-between...”

Ultimately, she feels that her move to Scripps was very serendipitous. As she finished her PhD program in New York, she longed to return to Los Angeles, where she has roots in the art community. The opportunity to teach media studies at the College has allowed her to continue her work as a researcher, artist, and educator alongside peers who are similarly invested in interdisciplinary approaches.

“My main strength is as a generalist and translator, so I really value being around people who are specialized and know something very deeply,” she says. “I can do this kind of connective and translation work, but I also love being here because there are a lot of other people committed to interdisciplinary practice, and that’s a whole other pleasure in itself.”

And so, while her first year at Scripps is coming to a close, the game has just begun.
In 1950, Los Angeles Times columnist Lee Shippey and acclaimed street photographer Max Yavno published The Los Angeles Book, a portrait of the city in words and images, with chapters on history, industry, architecture, culture, and, of course, traffic. The chapter on education opens with a picture of a scene no doubt familiar to all Scripps alumnæ: two young women sit at separate tables in the wood-paneled reading room of Denison Library, poring over their studies. Separated by a tall bookcase, they are not visible to each other, but, similarly focused on their work, they share a quiet, scholarly affinity.
In the pages that follow, two more images of Scripps student life appear. In one, dashing painter Millard Sheets presides over easel painting on Bowling Green. In the other, a foregrounded pair of legs, in second position, frames dancers who seem to be contorting themselves in accordance with some bit of modern choreography. Although the text that accompanies these photographs includes passages on UCLA, USC, and Occidental College, there is no mention of Scripps. Nevertheless, Yavno chose images of Scripps to represent the region’s burgeoning educational and cultural milieu.

Why Yavno took these photos of Scripps is not definitively known. The three featured in The Los Angeles Book are part of a group of 36, shot between 1945 and 1950, comprising the College’s Max Yavno Photograph Collection. According to former Denison Library director Judy Harvey Sahak ’64, Yavno’s close friendship with Millard Sheets, who taught at Scripps, likely played a role. “My understanding is that Millard Sheets arranged for Max Yavno to come to Scripps in 1945,” says Sahak. “He did take many photographs around campus, probably for the annual calendar.” When the photos were printed, they were filed as stock images according to theme—athletics, academics, student life. It was not until the 1990s, nearly a decade after the artist’s death, that archivists pulled them together to form the collection.
Yavno’s photos of Scripps are typical of his work. His style of street photography was perhaps less spontaneous than that of his peers—he preferred to shoot from a tripod rather than from the hip—but his eye for composition was unerring. “He has, without intention, the early American photographers’ attitude toward their work,” wrote critic Ben Maddow. “They were craftsmen in the tradition of fine carpenters or good hunters; precise detail and deep intuition each fed the other.” And Yavno’s attention to pattern, shape, and repetition—in the ceiling of the Clark Humanities Building or the architecture of Denison Library—belies an interest in abstraction he shared with many artists of his generation.

Yet Yavno was not formally trained as a photographer. Born in New York City in 1911, he studied literature and economics at Columbia University and worked for the New York Stock Exchange. During the Great Depression, he found work through the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as a sort of location scout, assigned to photograph urban settings that might inspire stage backdrops for WPA theater productions. Recording street scenes and cityscapes all over New York, he became a connoisseur of the drama they contained and grew interested in the power of photography to effect social change. He joined the Film and Photo League, a group of documentary photographers devoted to improving social conditions through art. In 1942, he was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps and stationed in Southern California, where he taught army photographers how to shoot and print pictures. He remained in California for the rest of his life, living in Los Angeles and San Francisco. By the late 1940s, when he was making the Scripps photos, Yavno was a well-known artist, with work featured in major museum exhibitions alongside that of Berenice Abbott, Ansel Adams, Man Ray, and Edward Weston. The year The Los Angeles Book was published, the Museum of Modern Art in New York accessioned 20 of his prints into their permanent collection.

“Take a good look at Los Angeles now. It won’t stay the same for long, and there’s nothing quite like it anywhere,” reads the flap copy for The Los Angeles Book. Indeed, looking at Yavno’s photos of the College, the same might be said of Scripps. Today’s student body is larger, more diverse, and just as inclined to work in a science lab as in an art studio. But many more qualities have endured: the culture of the residence halls, the commitment to scholarship, and the beauty of the campus. And there is still nothing quite like it anywhere.
Building Community

A New IDEA Initiative
Through ConverActions

By Marie Condron

Photos by Sarah Soquel Morhaim
For Shanisha Coram ’17, the essence of the new ConverActions series at Scripps is best summed up by the story of the crooked room, as described by Melissa Harris-Perry at her September 8 talk on the Scripps Presents stage and in her book *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America*.

In the provocative social science study, subjects were placed in a crooked room on crooked chairs and asked to align themselves vertically. Some people could be at a strong tilt and insist they were straight, due to their alignment with the visual information around them, while others showed an ability to align themselves vertically regardless of their surroundings. Harris-Perry compared the findings to how black women, confronted with persistent cultural stereotypes about their humanity, face pressures to warp and bend themselves to align with perceptions.

“I think it’s a perfect symbol of how we come from different perspectives, how even if we’re all in the same room, we can each have a different way of viewing the world around us,” says Coram. “So how do you communicate with others who may be seeing the room as upright when it’s crooked? Just because someone else’s perspective is different, we should not invalidate it, but try to understand it, and turn that understanding into action.”

Launched this fall as a joint project of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (IDEA) initiative aimed at advancing a culture of inclusion on campus, and Scripps Presents, the College’s public events program, the ConverActions series consisted of four noontime, moderated roundtable discussions oriented around selected event speakers, designed to provide a space for students, staff, and faculty to talk about some of the challenging topics addressed—such as race, class, and cultural appropriation—in a smaller group setting focused on identifying actions and next steps to advance a cause. Open to the entire Scripps community, these events offered a forum to address issues raised by prominent thought leaders, hear perspectives from a panel of faculty, students, and staff, and participate in a conversation about the implications and opportunities for change—on and off campus. The series was also a natural extension of the new Core Curriculum in Interdisciplinary Humanities theme of “community” and served as a way to bring that concept to life.
“ConverActions comes out of the IDEA initiative, which began when we saw a need to build greater capacity on campus to genuinely listen to each other, deeply enough that we could be changed by what we were hearing,” says Denise Nelson Nash ’76, vice president and secretary of the Board of Trustees and convener of the initiative. “With the student activism that took place last year here at Scripps and across the country, and knowing that the presidential election was on the horizon, we looked for ways to have conversations about the campus climate and the national climate on race, community, and change.”

“For me, I think what was really heartwarming, especially in light of the recent presidential election, is there are a lot of people who care about the well-being of others even when they don’t personally understand or relate to their experience,” says Yuka Ogino, assistant director of Scripps Communities of Resources and Empowerment (SCORE), a campus department that supports student groups advancing social justice.

Ogino joined Coram as a moderator of the ConverAction following the Harris-Perry event, where a group of 15 students, staff, and faculty discussed how they feel about racism in their lives and what they do to combat it.

“Turn that understanding into action.”

— Shanisha Coram ’17
“We were able to reflect with one another, and deeper connections were made because the issues were so personal.”

—Yuka Ogino, Assistant Director of SCORE
“I think it’s very rare that students, staff, and faculty have an informal space to talk about their personal experiences without the staff or faculty hat on. It is a unique space. We were able to reflect with one another, and deeper connections were made because the issues were so personal.”

“It was the week after the presidential election, and so many of us on campus were in sort of a tailspin,” said Corrina Lesser, director of public events at Scripps, on the prescient moment of the final ConverAction, featuring Norman Ornstein of American Enterprise Institute. “People in this community are very open to dissent; it’s less about being perturbed at somebody who has a different viewpoint and more about figuring out ways to engage with that person. Since Norm is a conservative academic who has worked in Washington for more than 30 years, the program was a unique opportunity to fulfill our goals to deepen engagement with the ideas generated by our speakers and further explore those issues as a community.”

Lesser recounts how at the post-election ConverAction, the faculty moderator, Visiting Professor of Art Jonas Becker, pushed everyone in the room, if they were willing, to share something they had done since the election. “One of the students volunteered that she had been talking and reading with Syrian refugees in a community near Claremont. It was exciting to hear students reflecting on what actions they had been taking.”

On September 22, the hip-hop journalist and historian Jeff Chang, author of We Gon’ Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation, spoke about a new creative space for activism.
“I was really inspired by Jeff Chang’s talk, about how hip-hop movements are really transformative acts of resistance to the overwhelming political environment we see today, with police brutality and hate crimes coming up all over the country. It’s a positive act of resistance—a creative form of activism,” says Phoebe Shen ’17, a student facilitator for the Jeff Chang ConverAction. “It was really special for me as an Asian American student to see an Asian American activist taking such a position on these issues. It was a lot more relatable and meaningful that way.”

“What I remember most is our discussion about the many ways that we as undergraduate students can participate in the movement toward social and racial justice,” Shen adds. “For example, Claremont is on Tongva land, and we have strong community partnerships with leaders of local indigenous communities. We have many opportunities to build positive relationships with the members of these communities through mentorship programs like IndigeNATION, which does outreach through college prep and college application workshops.”

“No te vayas—we’re not going anywhere,” said Maria Hinojosa, anchor and executive producer of NPR’s Latino USA, in her talk, which centered around how to create spaces for dialogue with those who have different perspectives. For Jackie Legazcue, a staff moderator for the ConverAction that followed, Hinojosa teed up a theme that’s even more significant after the presidential election: Since this is our America, and we’re in it together, how do we show up as a diverse community, have productive dialogues, and learn to coexist?

“What resonated with me, especially at this time, is: How do we find ways to create a space for peace instead of promoting hatred?” said Legazcue. “We also talked about taking action in solidarity when we see injustice or discrimination and different ways we can be active community members.”

At the Change Fair on campus in February, representatives from a variety of social justice, political action, and community action organizations will be available to help students identify ways to get involved—from volunteering to sharing information with their networks, making contributions, or just informing themselves and looking for new ways to integrate social-change efforts into campus activities.

Lesser also hints that the lineup of the spring Scripps Presents series will provide more opportunity for these kinds of sessions to occur in response to race, gender, and transgender issues.

“We are an academic community, so ideas are paramount, as well as knowing the context and history of how issues and ideas have evolved over time,” says Lesser. “We are providing a space for people to get out of the textbook and into the world. It’s exciting to think that there was a sense that there was this need at Scripps, and then we started exploring what that looks like, and we now have a foundation that can help us as we encounter this larger national conversation that’s really challenging to people.”
"It's a positive act of resistance..."

— Phoebe Shen '17
Forever Scripps

Our alumnae share a sense of community, whether their lives intersected on campus or not.

By Amy DerBedrosian

Illustrations by David Robinson
A day at Disneyland. A commitment to diversity. A “camp” on campus. Friendships formed in a shared suite. Parenthood. A common class year. Many different things bring Scripps alumnae together. But there is also a common thread: These women feel an affinity for each other that transcends generations and geography.

“There’s something about Scripps that gets into your soul. There’s a sense of connection and trust,” says Emily Rankin ’97, who spent seven years as the director of Alumnae Relations for Scripps. Alumnae Leadership Council President Kendra Armer ’93 reinforces this idea, noting, “I can have a conversation with a Scripps graduate of any era and find something to talk about.”
For some alumnae, the conversation takes place over a good book. Long after graduation, Scripps women remain ardent readers. In Tucson, a mix of fiction and nonfiction brings alumnae together each month for a meal and discussion. The gatherings that Loralyn Ledwell-Cropper ’84 has attended in Connecticut also involve dinner, though there’s no set theme to the reading, while the Pasadena group emphasizes alumnae authors and titles with local ties, according to book club member and Scripps Alumna Trustee Barbara Bruner ’76.

“There’s a connection that’s immediate because of our common humanities background. We have great respect for the intellectual experience,” says Katherine Cerino ’70, who launched the Tucson book club soon after moving to the city in 2005.
Friendships form even among alumnae who don’t meet face to face. Former preschool teacher Catherine Myman-Kaplan ’00 has found warmth, support, and a place to share her expertise in a virtual community for Scripps alumnae who are mothers. Incipit Vita Mamas, which started in 2012, now has more than 400 active members, from those newly pregnant to women with children soon off to college. “I’ve made really good friends. In this community of moms, people are real. They talk about the times they’ve struggled and let you know it’s okay if you’re not perfect,” says Myman-Kaplan. “It’s been nice to have Scripps move with me through marriage and parenthood.”

Other connections begin online but also engage alumnae in person. Diana Ho ’71 has been her class scribe since graduation, but six years ago the organizational consultant created an online portal for her classmates’ exclusive use. Accessed via an email link, it provides a place for correspondence, storytelling, and announcements. “By the time we get to reunion, we’re all caught up. We can take the conversations to a different level when we’re together,” says Ho, who estimates that 70 to 80 of her classmates use the portal.

Scrippsies at Disneyland, a group of alumnae connected by interest rather than class year, also got its start online, on Facebook. Emily Rankin coordinates the day at the theme park, which has drawn graduates from the mid-1970s to the 2000s and from as far as Colorado and Seattle. “It’s about tapping into your inner kid with people who won’t judge you about it. Part of it is sisterhood. We like Disneyland, but we also like being together,” says Rankin, noting that the Scrippsies at Disneyland Facebook group now has 73 members.

But excursions with other Scrippsies are far from new—alumnae have gone places together for years. Lawyer, poet, and Scripps College Board of Trustees member Lynne Thompson ’72 has traveled with four former classmates for the past decade, most recently to Ireland. With each woman residing in a different location—one in London for much of the time—coordination is challenging but vital.
“This group has given me a critical support system and a sense of joy,” says Thompson, who lived with the others throughout her time at Scripps. “All that we learned about one another and shared with one another helped us build a foundational friendship that’s lasted more than 40 years.”

Theirs isn’t the only longstanding friendship among Scripps women. While Thompson and her friends started annual trips only after establishing their careers and families, a group from the Class of 1977 has gathered each year without fail since graduation. The seven women who collectively call themselves “The Gulls”—a variation of “girls” that dates to their student days—point to their shared Scripps experience and humor as the reasons.

“I think Scripps provided the context—the learning environment to grow our friendship,” says Nancy Torrey ’77, who went on to be an artist, international consultant, and expert on health issues for youth in the U.S. criminal justice system. Amy Wind ’77, a former trial attorney who now heads mediation programs for the federal courts in Washington, D.C., adds, “We grew up together and had all kinds of adventures together.”
They and the other Gulls from ’77—Mary Beth White, Dana Frye Serleth, Kari Karlsgodt, Ann Laurenson, and Mary Jean Neault—were determined that the friendship would endure. Neault, who leads the marketing and community outreach efforts for a large nonprofit life-care senior community in Pomona, California, says, “It’s taken a lot of effort, but it’s just a life-giving relationship, each one individually and even more with the whole.”

They’ve celebrated marriages and birthdays, guided each other through divorces and career transitions, and reunited in California, Mexico, and Montana. Karlsgodt, a retired high school teacher, says, “We talk about politics and the College and all the things we’ve bottled up since the last time. It’s mostly cerebral, intellectual conversation—intertwined with ice cream for lunch.”

But most of all, says White, who worked in marketing and customer service in the health field, “It’s been a continuous flow of fabulous friendship, and that has meant so much to me.” Fabulous friendships also come to mind for Ann Westaway ’69 when she talks about Camp Scripps, which Rankin describes as the “quintessential alumnae experience.” Westaway has attended all but two of the
alumnae retreats since they were first held on the Scripps campus in 1994 and is a longtime member of its organizing committee, known as the Creative Caucus. For four days each year, she and Scripps women of all ages come together for workshops and other activities designed for and by alumnae.

“The workshops aren’t just about intellectual pursuits—the topic can be anything. We have had workshops on paper making, tater tots, burlesque, and yoga, and each year we have a costume party. It’s amazing what skills and interests 100 women from different generations have,” says Westaway, who is the unofficial camp historian.

But her favorite part of Camp Scripps is the time she spends with other alumnae. Westaway says, “Scripps women are so smart and funny. I had no idea the connection was so strong until we started Camp Scripps. I look forward to seeing everybody, and I’ve made friends at camp that I also see during the year.”

For LeeAnn Allen Hammett ’12, joining Camp Scripps was initially a means to relieve homesickness. She first attended a year after graduating, while working in Memphis as a geometry teacher. She says, “I felt welcomed and valued as a young alumna. Seeing all the passion of Scripps women in an informal, fun way inspires me to be more creative.”

Now Allen Hammett, too, is a member of the Creative Caucus. Still among the few recent graduates going to Camp Scripps, she plans to lead a workshop on salsa dancing this summer. She says, “It’s inspiring to see the women who come back to camp, to have these friends. Being around all these strong women helps me tap into the strength in myself.”

While Camp Scripps is reaching out to newer alumnae like Allen Hammett, Fabiola Ceballos-Durham ’02 is engaged with an even younger group of Scripps women: current students. As chair of the Alumnae/Student Diversity Committee, she works with a wide variety of campus clubs and organizations—those whose members include Asian, Latina, LGBTQ, and other underrepresented groups, such as students with disabilities—to provide mentoring, networking, activities, and support.

Ceballos-Durham’s involvement began when, as a Scripps senior, she had concerns about diversity and inclusion on campus. Her experience on the then-new committee, and the friendships she developed with the alumnae she met, led her to remain active after graduation. “We want to create a community that’s positive and supportive so students feel they have someone they can go to. There’s definitely interest in both directions to foster a relationship and form a network,” Ceballos-Durham says.

She is like many alumnae in using the word “community” in conversations about Scripps. Time after time, the concept of community is also evident in the actions of Scripps women. It is apparent as Diana Ho talks about rallying her Northern California classmates via the online portal to welcome a Scripps alumna new to Sonoma. And it is reinforced in the memories LeeAnn Allen Hammett has of having to miss Camp Scripps last summer because of marriage and a move. Calling it one of her most cherished moments from camp, Allen Hammett says, “Even though I didn’t attend, campers made and signed a card to congratulate me on my wedding and mailed it to my new apartment. I felt so loved and honored that they were thinking of me during camp. Talk about community!”
Many Voices, a Common Goal

Bringing Student Perspectives to the Board of Trustees

By Lori L. Ferguson
In 1926, Ellen Browning Scripps founded Scripps College with the aim of educating women for lives of commitment and engagement, a practice the newspaper publisher and philanthropist fully embodied. Today, that commitment to fostering engagement is nowhere more evident than in Scripps’ tradition of allowing its students to serve as voting members on many of the College’s Board of Trustees committees.
To attain these coveted positions, students submit an application to Scripps Associated Students (SAS), indicating their committee of choice and interest in serving. Three student committee members (two voting members and one alternate) are selected at the end of each year to sit on the following Board committees: Buildings and Grounds, Educational Policy, Finance, Student Affairs, and Institutional Advancement. Those chosen attend quarterly Board committee meetings and serve as a voice for fellow students.

Offering students the opportunity to work with the Board of Trustees in any capacity places Scripps in select company, as student Board of Trustees involvement is not particularly widespread in higher education. In 2010, Trusteeship, the magazine of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, reported that public institutions are much more likely than private institutions to extend the privilege of Board membership to students. And while the Scripps Board does not include student trustees, its placement of students on fully half of its standing committees—a practice that has been commonplace for at least a quarter of a century—nevertheless sets the College apart. And conversations with administrators, students, and trustees make it resoundingly clear: no one would have it any other way.

A sense of involvement is intrinsic to the Scripps experience, students explain, with engagement encouraged throughout their four years on campus. “I don’t know if it’s completely accurate, but I’ve heard that there’s one club for every four Scripps students,” says Anna Cechony ’17, founder and assistant to Scripps’ Core Curriculum in Interdisciplinary Humanities mentor program and a student committee member on the Educational Policy Committee. “What I can confirm is that everyone I know is involved in at least one thing, and everyone’s a leader in some way.

I work as a nanny for one of my professors, I’m a resident advisor, and I teach swimming, and I don’t think my story is unique. You come to Scripps, and you get involved. Everyone’s focused on helping students—and by extension the school—and succeed.”

“I came to Scripps because I believed that I would have influence and be able to make a difference at the highest levels of the administration,” explains Jackie Givelber ’17, who serves as a student committee member for the Board of Trustees Student Affairs Committee. Givelber has been actively involved in the campus community since her sophomore year, when she was selected to join administrators and faculty on the hiring committee for the assistant dean of academic resources. “That experience gave me faith in the importance of student voices within the Scripps community.” Givelber also served as a Board of Trustees student committee member that year, spent a semester abroad, and is now serving another term as a student committee member. “In my mind, it’s a privilege to be able to serve in this way; I feel empowered to contribute to the community because I have access to the trustees and can help students’ voices be heard,” she says. Scripps was her early-decision college choice, Givelber reveals, and it hasn’t disappointed her. “I’m very grateful to have had the experiences I’ve had, and I’m committed to maintaining my investment in the College after graduating—I want other students to have the same opportunities.” Administrators and trustees are equally grateful for the students’ time and insights. “Having the student perspective on Board committees is invaluable,” says Vice President and Secretary of the Board Denise Nelson Nash ’76. “Student committee members serve as a conduit for student experiences and also help other students understand the Board process and the pace of decision making.” Student committee members must get up to speed on Board processes and priorities very
“Having the student perspective on Board committees is invaluable.”

— Denise Nelson Nash ’76, Vice President and Secretary of the Board
quickly, Nelson Nash continues. Before attending their first Board meeting, they are given an hour-and-a-half to two-hour orientation that amplifies their knowledge of the Board and validates the importance of their presence at the table. “We give students a crash course on Board governance and their role as student committee members in one sitting, and I’m constantly impressed by how quickly they catch on and how seriously they take their duties,” says Nelson Nash.

Trustee Suzanne Ely Muchnic ’62 agrees that having students involved at the Board level is both valuable and productive. “Student committee members play a vital role as liaisons between the student body and the Board and help students feel that their voices have been heard,” she notes. “Students have immediate concerns and want immediate satisfaction, and unfortunately that doesn’t always happen, but if they feel like they’re part of the process, they feel more involved in the enterprise.”

Indeed, some students admit to feeling frustration that, in some instances, their requests seem to be honored slowly or not at all. “As a student committee member, I sometimes became frustrated with the pace of change,” concedes Minjoo Kim ’16. Yet all said that their appreciation for the nuances of leadership grew through their Board work, and they applauded the fact that their four-year campus lifecycle helps to maintain a sense of urgency and responsiveness across the institution. “We’re only here for a short time, and we want to see changes happen,” says Anna Cechony. “That finite timetable gives life and meaning to the issues being discussed and the decisions being made at the Board level.” Kim agrees, adding, “As alumna looking back, I realize how truly important our perspective was. Students know what’s going on at the institution on a granular level—they’re living and breathing the college experience every day—so having us involved in the conversation is crucial to the life of the College.”

Dean of the Faculty Amy Marcus-Newhall sees Board committee service as a learning opportunity for students, who grow to appreciate the complexities and nuances of running an institution of higher education. “The insights that students get into the governing process are

“Students know what’s going on at the institution on a granular level—they’re living and breathing the college experience every day.”  
— Minjoo Kim ’17
important; through their participation, they come to understand the advantages and limitations of the process and realize that many factors affect decision making regarding the life of the institution. They, in turn, play a critical role in helping the student body at large understand better the constraints faculty and administrators sometimes face.”

Vice President Nelson Nash agrees that student committee members gain respect for the complexities trustees face in their role as decision-makers for the College. “They get an insiders’ view of how policy is determined for the College. They bring their own perspective to bear on the process, but they also gain a deeper understanding of the perspectives and priorities of Scripps’ experienced leadership,” she says.

The construction of NEW Hall, Scripps’ 10th residence hall, offers a perfect case in point. As plans for the building began to take shape, a series of brainstorming meetings was held with students to find out what they wanted to see in their new residence hall. “We discovered that the students were very interested in securing LEED certification for the building,” says Trustee Jean Bixby Smith ’59. The SAS Environmental Chair was given an opportunity to present to the Buildings and Grounds Committee on her findings from her peers after numerous student forums on campus. “The Board agreed that sustainability was important, and we told students we would build to that standard,” Smith continues. “But students made it clear that the actual certification was very important to them.” So the Board reconsidered and ultimately opted to pursue LEED Gold status for the structure. “We’re waiting to hear on the ruling now,” says Smith, “But we anticipate that the certification will come through.”

Students also encouraged the Board to incorporate information on the building’s green initiatives into the residence hall’s public spaces, says Smith, so the finished structure will include a plaque about the certification as well as a series of television screens with lucid technologies that will have real, live-time data on water, power, and gas use in the building. Educational boards that provide more specific information on all sustainable initiatives captured around and within the building have also been placed in the main corridor. “Having students involved at the Board level opens up lines of communication that wouldn’t be there otherwise and also creates a sense of transparency in governance that I think is very important,” Smith concludes.

Trustee Bob Sacks P’14 says he certainly found this to be the case when serving with a student on the Presidential Search Committee. “It was important to have a student on our committee, even if we didn’t always agree,” Sacks notes. “Some things that the trustee committee members viewed as essential traits for the president didn’t register with the student committee member, and by the same token, she picked up on things that others wouldn’t have. Students bring a different perspective to the table, and that’s the whole point.”

“I’m certain that my access to high-level administrators and decision makers made a difference,” says Minjoo Kim. Vice President Nelson Nash couldn’t agree more. “We really appreciate the perspective that the students provide,” says Nelson Nash. “They’re our clients, if you will, and the reason that Board members serve. Student committee members provide a window into student needs and offer us a better understanding of how the Board can work collaboratively with them to meet those needs. Student committee members offer a skill set, perspective, and enthusiasm—coupled with knowledge of the Scripps community as it is today—that’s invaluable.”
What communities were you a part of at Scripps? Have you maintained those connections since graduating, or have they changed? My deepest connections were formed during my first year in Dorsey Hall, and those friendships continue today. I added to those connections through the classes I took and the residence halls I lived in, and I have continued to build on them as I have gotten to know alumnae from other class years. Perhaps if you worked at the Motley, played on a sports team, were involved with a CLORG, or spent long hours in a studio or lab, those were avenues that led you to your Scripps communities.

When I meet fellow Scripps grads, the conversation follows a predictable path: What was your major? What halls did you live in? Did you study abroad? Suddenly, we have a connection that crosses generations, every time. And although the Core humanities program has changed over the years, that, too, becomes a point of conversation as we compare our experiences.

What would you like the Scripps community to be for you now? I hope you will think both about what you need and about what you can give back to the College. Are you seeking a mentor or seeking to mentor someone? Would you like to find others with experience in your industry or field? Can you offer expertise to someone new to your area? To make connecting with the Scripps community easier, the College recently launched the Scripps Community Network, an online portal for alumnae, students, and families to connect with each other, explore Scripps volunteer opportunities, register for events, donate to Scripps, and more.

I hope you will log on, update your profile, get connected, and then stay connected! For assistance with login credentials, please contact the Office of Alumnae Engagement at (909) 621-8054 or alumnae@scrippscollege.edu. Visit the Scripps Community Network at alumnae.scrippscollege.edu, and I’ll see you there.

Best wishes,

KENDRA ARMER ’93
MARRIAGES

2005

Jessica Rodgers (San Diego) I got married on May 29, 2016, to Jordan Peter. We had a ceremony in Amsterdam and a legal marriage in Italy while on honeymoon.

2008

Marissa Butler Eng (Claremont, California) I married my best friend, Timothy Eng, on July 31, 2016, on the beautiful Scripps campus, surrounded by family and friends, including many fellow Scrippsies. The ceremony was held in Sycamore Court, followed by a reception in Margaret Fowler Garden.

2009

Fatima Elkabti (Berkeley, California) At Scripps, a lot of people mistook Asmaa Elkabti and me for twins. My mom contends that perhaps we were meant to be twins. Last year, within months of each other, Asmaa and I married Salman and Mohammad, respectively. Then, this October, we both became first-time parents—I to baby Zakaria, and she to little Maryam. Which is to say, we are all overjoyed and sleepless. Amy Lieberman (New York) Keith and I got married on April 17, 2016, at a theater in Bellport, Long Island. There was an opening number and everything—check it out on YouTube! We had a wonderful celebration with family and friends, including Katie Frazier, Al Binder, Rachel Smiley, and Sarah Iker Hansberry. After a fabulous European honeymoon adventure in September, we are settling back into life in New York. Sarah Moos Thompson (Oakland, California) I married my high school sweetheart, Christopher Thompson, on our 14-year anniversary, June 25, 2016, alongside my best friends from Scripps and bridesmaids Nancy Rojas-Hill, Donna Canada-Smith, Kate Horton, and Jasleen Khanuja. In 2016, I also received my license as a professional landscape architect.

2012

LeeAnn Allen Hammett (Memphis) I married Toby Hammett (PO ’12) on July 9, 2016, at the Grotto in Portland, Oregon. It was a beautiful party full of Claremont alumni!
BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

1996

Aylin Kuyumcu Utke (Stamford, Connecticut) We are proud to announce the adoption of Logan Grant Utke. He was worth the wait and is an amazing addition to our little family!

2005

Pany Jraige (El Cerrito, California) and David Britt (PO ‘05) welcomed their second child, Theodore Basil Britt, on August 25, 2016. Grace Magruder (Potter Valley, California) and her husband, Kyle Farmer, welcomed their second child, Walter Magruder Farmer, on October 10, 2016. Their first child, June Magruder Farmer, was born October 8, 2014. The couple is raising grass-fed beef and lamb on their family ranch in Mendocino County, California. Chelsea Poynton (Sonoma, California) and her husband, Blair Hartley Poynton, welcomed their first child, a son, Hartley Winston Poynton, on January 19, 2016. Olivia Anne Vos (Kenmore, Washington) and Patrick Walker Douglas welcomed their first child, Luthien Lois Douglas, into the world on September 12, 2016. She weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces and measured 20 inches long. Her tired parents are pleased to report she has a strong set of lungs and is thriving at home, just outside of Seattle.
2009

Jacque Heston (Woodland Hills, California) and Max Hodge (CMC '08) were thrilled to welcome their baby boy, Rupert Magnus Heston-Hodge, in May! Ilona Zbirun Nockles (New York) welcomed her second child, Katherine Nockles, in June. With only two more years left in New York, she intends to return to California for her general practice residency in dentistry in 2018.

1947

Marloa Rau Belyea (Easton, Pennsylvania) My four years at Scripps were a beautiful way to grow to intellectual maturity! Norma Blair Gilmore (Hamilton, Montana) I have collected a list of 20 former students from the Class of 1947. Just think—this April will be our 70th reunion! How many of you will attend? Start thinking about it! At reunion, the new president will be installed. I remember when President Hard was installed as our new president.

1952

Kathleen Niven Lechner (Laguna Niguel, California) Writing my memoir has been an adventure, and I am nearly finished. My time at Scripps, of course, is a very important part. I have had some medical challenges this year, and in mid-August I was hit by a car as I walked in a market parking lot. Fortunately, no bones were broken, but I am receiving therapy for my injuries. I am hopeful that my art website will be online by the time this is printed. Camp Scripps and the Pageant of the Masters were highlights this past summer.

1960

Caroline McDougal Helmuth (New York) Five Browning Hall alumnae—Louise Roripaugh Beesley, Linda Kilham Goebel, Sandra Haselton Whitehouse, Robin Nichols Cross, and I—spent four wonderful September days in Nevada City, California. We visited an old gold mine, narrowly missed attending a shootout (!), shopped, and dined. A great time was had by all.

1969

Judith Davies (Santa Monica, California) This year was very tough. I lost my youngest sister, Diane Davies ’78, to pancreatic cancer. We lost her too soon—it was a shock, with no warning. I need to work in my garden, do more artwork, and generally be thankful for what I have experienced and the time I have. Larry and I traveled to Italy in October, retracing memories of where I lived and worked in Rome and Pietrasanta for several years. I hadn’t been back for 18 years, so it was a rejuvenating and reflective, lovely three weeks.

1970

Mari Eckstein Gower (Redmond, Washington) These past couple of years have shown me that careers can still blossom after age 60! My artist books have been included in three local museum exhibitions and five university exhibitions (one in Bristol, England) and been bought by numerous university library special collections. I’m quite grateful (and a bit surprised) to experience such success at this phase of life, but I’m going for it!
Lin Nelson Benedek (Los Angeles)
I have some exciting news: my friend Pam Davenport, an Arizona-based poet and fellow graduate of Pacific University’s MFA program, and I are about to launch WriteNow.Ink, a literary website. We’ll be offering online poetry and memoir workshops and other resources for writers. If you are interested, please look us up or email me at lnbenedek@gmail.com.

Margaret Collins (Santa Cruz, California)
This past year was a pretty good year for me. As the treasurer and fundraiser-in-chief for the Insight Santa Cruz meditation community, I led the charge to raise money for our move to a new, larger facility, where we can offer more programs to people seeking a calmer mind and less dissatisfaction in their life. We just completed a small capital campaign to pay for the remodeling of the new facility, raising $65,000. I was able to do this because I finally stepped down as president of the board for Tandy Beal & Co., a modern furniture company here in Santa Cruz.

Roensch Fake (Torrance, California)

I enjoyed a wonderful time at Camp Scripps, which is always a restorative few days of rest and relaxation and laughter and good sisterhood! Barbara Roensch Fake (Torrance, California) After months of research and physical preparation, my husband and I set out in May to walk part of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, a route across Spain that pilgrims have taken since the Middle Ages. I felt a call to experience this pilgrimage for myself after watching the movie The Way. We carried all that we needed for the three-week trip (way too little time!) in our 18-pound backpacks, and we soon found that those packs represented the excess baggage, and our fears, that we all carry with us through life. I set out as a woman on a mission, determined to make my goal. Humbled by the limitations of my body, I had to yield control of each day’s walk and was rewarded with a more mindful and peaceful experience. From all over the world, the people we met were open to whatever the day brought, and conversations often had a depth and honesty I rarely see in the States. We reached the beautiful city of Santiago, walking 130 miles, which was quite a feat for us but nothing compared to the 450 miles of the full Camino Francés. What a beautiful as well as intense way to experience a country. I hated to see it end, but one pilgrim reminded me that the end of one journey is just the beginning of the next. Buen camino! Molly Hoffstetter Huffman (San Francisco)

I enjoyed a wonderful adventure with Vicki Plavchak. We joined 50 others for a cruise from Rome to Naples, Sicily, and Malta in September. The theme was “ancient empires,” and we relived first-year humanities. My good friend and our classmate, Janet Redding Richardson, had back surgery recently. The surgery was successful, and she is recovering. My second grandson came on his brother’s birthday, June 23. I thought this seemed unusual, but classmate Patsy Tankersley had two sons born on the same day. What are the odds? Vicki Wilhelm Plavchak (San Francisco, California)

Surprisingly, I have some good news! It’s been a good year. I had an opportunity to meet my idol, Pomona grad Kris Kristofferson. I cruised Sicily and Malta with my very dear Scripps friend Molly Huffman and rocked out for three days at Desert Trip with another good Scripps friend, Carol Otis, along with her husband, Roger, and my darling daughter Aimee. Thank God Carol is a doctor, because six hours of singing and dancing every night takes a toll on people our age. Adding icing to the cake, Kathy Madison ’70 came to visit on her way back to Tucson. Kathy was my first-year sponsor and has become my mentor over the years. I am grateful for my loyal friends, my good health, and achieving a semblance of happiness. My best to all.

Caroline Schomp (Denver) Sam Donnelly visited me in Denver in late June and insisted on taking me shopping for a suitable dress to wear to my son’s wedding. It took all day, but she succeeded in her objective, and we bought a pretty, deep-blue chiffon number that I wore very happily when my oldest son got married on
September 3 in Los Angeles. And, even better, I got it on sale! Chuatip Umavijani (Bangkok, Thailand) After the 45th reunion of our class, I traveled around the U.S. and visited all my good friends. I traveled to Arizona for a class on bioethics at the American University of Sovereign Nations and to see the Grand Canyon, to North Adams near Boston, and then to Pittsburgh and Oregon. I visited Carol Otis and had a great time. Carol is now a doctor, and we share an interest in health and meditation; I also learned something new about the food cart business that her husband is running. Then I drove down from San Francisco to Los Angeles via Highway 1 and met Mary Breckenridge ’69 along the way. At the moment, I am visiting my daughter, Pissara, in Paris. Recently our beloved King Bhumibol passed away. We Thais will be in a state of mourning for a year, as he was a great king who introduced self-sufficient economy to all of us. Please come to visit Thailand!

1987

Cynthia Cruz (Santa Cruz, California) I’m an associate professor of education and youth studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. I would love to see my posse at the 30th reunion. Peggy Farlow and Mary Torcivia, you’d better show up!

1990

Mollie Karger Rattner (Chicago) Living four blocks west of Wrigley Field in Chicago was extra exciting for my family and me last year. Yay, Cubs!

1993

Sheila Case Singer (Shaker Heights, Ohio) I’m currently living in suburban Cleveland. I left my profession as a cantor and am doing rewarding volunteer work with the elderly and children as well as social justice work. I have a 13-year-old son.

2005

Kate Lawrence (Vancouver, Canada) I recently joined the British Columbia Bar as a barrister and solicitor. I am working at the firm Dunnaway, Jackson, Ouellette, and Associates as an associate lawyer.

2009

Kara Schnabel (San Diego) In May 2016, I received an MBA in nonprofit management from Boston University, moved across the country, and started a new position in health sciences advancement at the University of California, San Diego. I’m enjoying being back in California!

2013

Lily Foss (Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania) I am now beginning my second year as a law student at Temple University Beasley School of Law in Philadelphia, on my way to a career in employment discrimination law. Roshni Kakaiya (San Diego) We, the Class of 2013, rocked the campus. As the commencement speaker for that year, I am honored to have served Scripps! Thank you!
As parents, we have found ourselves part of the communities to which our students, led by their own passions and interests, have affiliated themselves. When our students were younger, community arose through the local schools our students attended, their artistic and musical endeavors, and their chosen sports. Because our students’ pursuits were close to home, these groups overlapped, sharing common families among them, thereby deepening their bonds. With our students now away at college, commonality of location is no longer, and the Scripps community is therefore disparate. As a result, for most of us, it is brand new, unexplored territory!

The geographical breadth of a college community presents both challenges and advantages. We are challenged to find opportunities to assemble and forge the connections that strengthen a community and give it longevity. We are advantaged because, if we make the effort, we are rewarded with new, lifelong friends, fascinating and diverse people whom we otherwise would never have met. A blessing! Our students are also advantaged. A community made cloudy by geographic dispersal has a silver lining: connections and job opportunities throughout the world, benefiting not only each fortunate student but Scripps as a whole.

The Scripps Association of Families (SAF) is about community and exists to ease the challenges and promote the advantages of dispersal. The core of SAF’s mission lies in the discovery of community through connection: connecting families with students, with Scripps, and with each other. The depth of connection to the Scripps community is up to each family to determine. Some families are recipients of information provided by SAF but are not otherwise actively engaging. Other families become more involved, attending Family Weekend, other on-campus programs, and Scripps events in their own locales. Still other families become community leaders, forming local Scripps chapters, hosting events, networking with students and each other, providing internship opportunities, and participating in Career Planning & Resources programs.

It has been said that, in a community, we are drawn together by what we share in common and then discover and grow as a result of our differences. We have certainly found this to be true for Scripps and have vastly enjoyed volunteering with SAF. To learn how to increase the depth of your own connection to the Scripps community or to donate to Scripps, please visit families.scrippscollege.edu.

Warm regards,

CHERYL AND DAVID SCHEIDEMANTLE P’17
SUZI MASCHMEYER WEINERT ’56
Garage Sale Riddle

Jennifer Shannon buys an old framed picture at an estate sale and discovers a mysterious map to a Civil War treasure inside. She soon encounters William Early, who boasts he’s a wealthy, powerful Civil War artifact collector who “always gets what he wants, whatever it takes.” Marshaling his vast resources, he’s determined to wrest the treasure away from Jennifer, by any means, including murder. Can Jennifer outwit him to save her family, herself, and the historic treasure?

Published by Blue Water Press, October 15, 2016

SHARON LA BONDE HANKS ’65
Through the Gate: Moments of Remembrance, Thought, Consideration

In this journalistic volume, Hanks reflects on some of the moments that have delighted, enriched, provoked, and, at times, irritated her over her lifetime. With a wonderfully light, comic touch and a gift for precise description, she communicates the extraordinary richness that lies within the most ordinary events.

Published by Windflower Press, July 15, 2016
Remembrances

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

1937

Marjorie Brown Dahle, of Carmel, California, on June 19, 2016. Marjorie was born in Bozeman, Montana. From early childhood, she displayed a spirit of adventure, exploring her neighborhood surroundings and longing to experience all the wonders of the world. As a young girl, she had a passion for horses and frequently took first prize in local races and competitions. Marjorie attended Scripps and Montana State University, majoring in the liberal arts. She lived in Los Angeles during a brief marriage and then moved to Carmel with her mother and daughter in 1954. She fell in love with the natural beauty of the Monterey Peninsula and resided there for the remainder of her life. Her joy came from supporting community organizations with volunteer work. Active in the Committee for International Students at Monterey Peninsula College, she welcomed students from around the world into her home, providing housing, love, and support and cultivating long-lasting friendships. One major highlight of Marjorie’s life was living in Lausanne, Switzerland, while her daughter attended high school there. Together, they traveled extensively through Europe and the Middle East. A gentle, selfless person of great integrity, Marjorie was an adoring mother whose love knew no bounds. She is survived by her daughter, nephew, and extended family.

1940

June Elizabeth Lamson, of Mercer Island, Washington, on September 3, 2016. June was born in Hartford, Connecticut, but spent most of her childhood in Southern California, where her parents were educators. June enjoyed a full life of athletic and intellectual
accomplishments, including early awards for horseback riding, swimming, diving, and gymnastics. June had a lifelong love of the humanities and was keenly interested in literature, poetry, philosophy, and journalism. She was the editor of the Scripps yearbook and actively involved in many College literary events and publications. After graduating from Scripps, June worked as a reporter for the Los Angeles Times and Claremont Courier. In 1941, she married her husband of 70 years, Robert Tashian Lamson, and the couple started their life together in Ontario, California, moving to Seattle shortly thereafter. June was a poet, teacher of literature, lifelong learner, and inspiration to many. She was also an active volunteer with many organizations, including the Junior League, the Seattle Children’s Home Society, Mercer Island PTA, Children’s Orthopedic Guild, and Women’s University Club. Her creative spark, wisdom, and sense of humor inspired those around her. June is survived by her five children, including her daughter, Wendy ’67, eight grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Harriet Meyer Quarré, of San Francisco, on September 9, 2016. A sixth-generation Californian and San Francisco native, Harriet had a passion for the city, an enthusiasm for philanthropy, and a love of life and friends. At Scripps, she studied with Millard Sheets, whose instruction deepened the interest in the arts she had acquired from her parents. In 1949, Harriet married Charles Mohun Quarré and moved to Bakersfield, California, to help him pursue his career in the cattle business. There, she raised four children and lived a life filled with volunteerism and adventure. She helped found
Joyce McVay Grande, of Bozeman, Montana, on January 4, 2016. Joyce was born in Lewistown, Montana. At Scripps, where she was preceded by her sister, Maryvyl McVay Allen ’45, she graduated with a degree in liberal arts, after which she worked for the College before returning to Montana. In the fall of 1953, the Lennep School Board hired her to teach at the one-room country school in Lenne. At the conclusion of a long Lennep winter, throughout which neighboring rancher Andreas “Andy” C. Grande fearlessly defended her from the many mice in the teacherage, she accepted his marriage proposal and became an instant aunt to many of her former pupils. The couple ranched together for the next 52 years, until Andy’s death in 2006. Joyce served as the president of the Montana CowBelles and chairman of the Montana Stockgrowers Association. She also served on the local library board and the Big Sky Regional committee for the Montana Community Foundation. Making new friends wherever she traveled, Joyce would often invite them to the ranch to learn more about agriculture, and she hosted visitors from across the world through the Montana Council for International Visitors. Passionate about the Museum of the Rockies, she visited remote areas around the world with her dinosaur digging friends, participating in fossil collecting in Mongolia, Hungary, Tanzania, Argentina, and the Galápagos. She is survived by her three children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Carol Fay Webb Atherly, of Benicia, California, on November 8, 2016. Carol was born in Boise, Idaho, and after graduating from Scripps she attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where she received her MS in library science. A member of Mensa, she worked as a teacher and librarian at Cascade Locks High School in Oregon for more than 20 years. Carol was also a gifted artist who illustrated educational children’s books. In later years, she took up watercolor painting and was accepted into the East Bay Watercolor Society. She sold many of her works, which hang in homes all over the world. She was also a talented seamstress; at one point, she became passionate about restoring an antique china-head doll she had inherited, and she created an entire authentic 1880s wardrobe for it. Carol moved to Benicia in 1998. She is survived by her three children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

1955

Horse people,” joining them on April 11, 2016. Joyce was born in Allen ’45, she graduated with a degree in liberal arts, after which she worked for the Scripps, where she attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon for more than 20 years. Carol was also a gifted artist who illustrated educational children’s books. In later years, she took up watercolor painting and was accepted into the East Bay Watercolor Society. She sold many of her works, which hang in homes all over the world. She was also a talented seamstress; at one point, she became passionate about restoring an antique china-head doll she had inherited, and she created an entire authentic 1880s wardrobe for it. Carol moved to Benicia in 1998. She is survived by her three children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

1951

Martha Fulton Besher, of Washington, D.C., on September 25, 2016. Martha was born in Oakland, California, and lived in Washington, D.C., or the surrounding area for the rest of her life. After attending Scripps, she taught school, tutored children extensively, and became an enthusiastic watercolor painter. She always loved the natural world and was knowledgeable about plants and wildlife. Martha wrote and edited educational material for children, and from 1987 until her retirement in 1996, she edited textbooks for the National Headquarters of the Red Cross. She is survived by her four children, two stepdaughters, nine grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

1957

Constance “Connie” Pearlstein, of Pacific Grove, California, on April 11, 2016. Connie was born in Portland, Oregon. Connie’s daughter Andrea shared that her years at Scripps were a formative time in her mother’s life and Professor Robert Palmer was her mother’s favorite teacher. After graduating from Scripps, Connie went on to teach in the Berkeley Unified

1949

Bakersfield’s Junior League and the Melrose School and led children on horseback excursions, river floating, and skiing trips to Yosemite. Returning to San Francisco in 1974, she took up her father’s passionate support of the San Francisco Opera, serving on the opera board for over three decades, chairing the spring opera program, founding the Medallion Society, and bringing an enthusiasm and charm that made her, according to the Nob Hill Gazette, “probably the only person able to convince Plácido Domingo to ride a horse in a parade.” She brought similar enthusiasm to her work with the World Affairs Council, International Host Committee, the Hoover Institution, and the Society of California Pioneers. A cowgirl at heart, Harriet loved horses and, even more, her “horse people,” joining them on globe-spanning rides as well as on ranches throughout California. She won her first equestrian medals as a child at the Menlo Circus Club, where she continued to ride throughout her life, and she won her last equestrian medals driving carriage horses last year, at age 88. Harriet’s style, intelligence, humor, and graciousness to people of all lifestyles were her hallmarks. She is survived by her four children, six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and extended family.

1957

Constance “Connie” Pearlstein, of Pacific Grove, California, on April 11, 2016. Connie was born in Portland, Oregon. Connie’s daughter Andrea shared that her years at Scripps were a formative time in her mother’s life and Professor Robert Palmer was her mother’s favorite teacher. After graduating from Scripps, Connie went on to teach in the Berkeley Unified
School District for 22 years. In 1973, she moved her family to Pacific Grove. An accomplished needlepoint artist, Connie was the heart and soul of the Pacific Grove Art Center for many years, guiding visitors through the galleries on Saturdays and holding court on Sundays in her studio overlooking Lighthouse Avenue, where she would work on her exquisite needlepoint, often in collaboration with other artists. Visitors who knew little about art would come out of the center an hour or two later enthusiastic about the creative process, with Connie’s directive to visit this or that gallery as a kind of homework—sometimes with an implied “or else.” She also volunteered for 12 years at the Canterbury Woods retirement facility, teaching residents knitting and needlepoint. She was able to do all of this in spite of a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. In fact, she probably accomplished all she did in part because of the diagnosis—she discovered early that the best way to combat the disease was to keep to a schedule. She decided, “I know every day I need to get up, get ready, and set out to do something I want to do and feel is important.” She is survived by her five daughters and 13 grandchildren.

1958

Rodney Anne Anderson, of Miamisburg, Ohio, on October 24, 2016. Rodney Anne was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and raised in Phoenix. She earned dual degrees from Scripps in French and Spanish literature. Upon graduating, she lived with her family in numerous locations, with longer stays in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Jackson, Tennessee. In Grand Rapids, Rodney Anne led Bible study fellowship with regular attendance of over 400 women. In Jackson, she taught English as a Second Language classes for Japanese and European workers. She is survived by her two children, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

1963

Heidi Von Guenthuer Vaughn, of Lake Balboa, California, on August 3, 2016. Heidi’s husband of 53 years, Paul, writes, “I have never met anyone in all our travels with her endearing qualities and talent. Heidi taught art for 32 years in a private school. She also starred on Broadway, in 33 television programs, and in three films. But most of all, she loved her home, her husband, and her two children. How fortunate we were.” Heidi kept in touch with many of her Scripps classmates through the years, and those who wish to express their condolences may contact Paul by mail at 15902 Gault Street, Lake Balboa, California 91406, or via email at Paul.Vaughn@me.com.

1978

Diane Elizabeth Davies, of San Luis Obispo, California, on August 23, 2016. Diane grew up in Fresno, California, completing her undergraduate studies at Scripps and earning her law degree from Loyola University. Diane was a professional fiduciary and estate attorney on the Central Coast and was active in the community as a member at the Elks Lodge in San Luis Obispo, the Rotary Club of Atascadero, SLO Skiers, the Chamber of Commerce, the Professional Fiduciary Association of California, and the Native Daughters of the Golden West. She also served as secretary and legal counsel for the Old Santa Rosa Chapel and Cemetery Committee. Diane was passionate about animal rights and enjoyed a healthy debate regarding politics and constitutional law. A brilliant mind who could both teach and learn in the same discussion, Diane was a kind, considerate, and very independent person. She loved to travel, journeying to Europe and West Africa, and she recently completed a two-year bucket-list adventure across the East Coast. She is survived by her father, stepmother, and four siblings, including her sister, Judith ’69, as well as 13 nephews and nieces.

1994

Michelle Eileen Cox Greenwood, of Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, on December 9, 2015.
Mark Your Calendar

For more information, visit scrippscollage.edu/events.

Saturday, February 11, to Monday, February 13

Family Weekend

Each February, Scripps welcomes family and friends to campus for the weekend. Have fun visiting your student and experiencing life at

Thursday, February 16, 6pm

Lisa Lucas

National Book Foundation Executive Director Lisa Lucas will visit Scripps for a conversation about the importance of the written word.
Tuesday, February 21, 6pm

Ralph Nader

The lawyer, consumer advocate, and former Green Party presidential candidate will talk about his life in politics and public service.
Reunion Weekend

Reconnect with your classmates, share your favorite Scripps memories, and make new ones! This year, Reunion Weekend coincides with the inauguration of Lara Tiedens as Scripps’ ninth president, and alumnae are invited to join the celebration. Visit alumnae.scrippscollege.edu to learn more.

Saturday, March 25, 3pm

Chris Hayes

The host of All In with Chris Hayes on MSNBC will visit to talk about his new book, A Colony in a Nation, a historical, political, social, and economic analysis of how America was founded on justice but is still struggling today to embrace civil rights. Scripps Assistant Professor of Politics Vanessa Tyson will join him for a conversation.
Wednesday, March 29, 6pm

Eugenia Cheng

Cheng’s mission has been to make math accessible to the general public. She currently teaches math to art students at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and her book How to Bake Pi uses baking to explain higher math.

Saturday, April 29

Inauguration of President Lara Tiedens

The Scripps community will celebrate the inauguration of our ninth president with a public ceremony on Elm Tree Lawn, followed by a community dinner on Alumnae Field. Visit scrippscollege.edu/inauguration to learn more.
I had graduated from Beverly Hills High School. A movie director at one of my parents’ parties, Gregory Ratoff, a friend of the family, saw me perform a Russian dance, which I often did to entertain the guests. He offered to arrange a screen test at Fox Studios. I was thrilled. The test went well, and I was offered a seven-year contract, the standard for upcoming starlets. My parents said no, I was going to college—that is how I never became a famous movie star.

And so it was that my mother and I drove from our home in Beverly Hills to my new dorm room at Scripps College. We were sitting on the bed, crying, surrounded by suitcases and boxes. I was leaving home for good. A student walked in and told us that she had been assigned to be my big sister to help me adjust. We couldn’t stop crying. She left, and I never saw her again. We eventually pulled ourselves together, unpacked, and made my bed. It was time for my mother to leave.

I went down for dinner, a 17-year-old redhead with pigtails. In the dining hall, I met my new fellow students, some as bereft as I, others happy to start this new life. I felt much better. From Paris, I was one of only three international students at the time, and each of us was assigned to a different dorm; I was in Browning Hall.

We were not allowed to go home the first semester, to assure integration into college life. By the time I could go home on weekends, I had become a new, independent person. We had a curfew: 10 p.m. on weekdays and midnight on weekends. We had dating rooms, where we would meet with boys, but the door had to stay open. It was wartime, so we were often bused to USO dances. I remember dancing with a soldier who asked about where I came from. He told me he flew over Paris every day. I was surprised, but it turned out to be Paris, Texas—not France.

Scripps in the 1940s had a four-year humanities program requirement, which included history and geography, English and foreign languages, science and art, religion and philosophy. There is little that I come across today that doesn’t trigger a memory of something I learned at Scripps. One of my most life-changing classes was comparative religion with Dr. Merlin—it opened my eyes to other belief systems. I also took dance and art classes, and I still have the oil painting I did of one of the Scripps gardens.

When I turned 21, I was finally able to obtain my American citizenship. I had to pass an exam in American history and government in front of three judges. Since I had just taken such a course at Scripps, I was able to answer all the questions; for fun, the judges kept asking me harder and harder questions, which I kept answering correctly—one of the proudest moments of my life!

Scripps gave me an amazing education. I went on to get a master’s degree in social work at age 40 and my PhD in social psychology at 50. I have written 20 books. I taught the first course for women in management in the country at the University of New Hampshire—followed by San Diego State University, where I also taught in the MBA program. In these times of specialization, I am a strong advocate of knowing the basics of not only our culture but the histories and cultures of other countries. Scripps not only taught me subject matter, it imbued me with a love of learning, which I still pursue today.
Get Connected, Stay Connected.

The Scripps Community Network is

**LIVE!**

The Scripps Community Network is a unique place on the Scripps website where alumnae, students, and families can:

**NETWORK**
with Scripps alumnae, students, and families

**VOLUNTEER**
to support Scripps initiatives and projects

**REGISTER**
for College events and programs

**GIVE**
time, talent, and treasure back to the College you love

The network is tailored to your relationship with Scripps, with designated login areas for:

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alumnae.scrippscollege.edu

**STUDENTS**
careerservices.scrippscollege.edu

**FAMILIES**
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Check us out!
Be on the lookout for a message from the Office of Alumnae and Parent Engagement and The Scripps Fund containing registration and login information. Questions? Contact the office by emailing apesf@scrippscollege.edu or calling (909) 607-1542.