

# FINCH NEWS



APRIL 2017

## FINCH SCHOLARS: UPDATE EARLY 2017



Angee Gonzalez Bonilla

The mood inside Café Un Deux Trois in midtown Manhattan on a blustery and snowy January afternoon sparkled, as if with holiday glitter. I was meeting five of our remarkable 2016/2017 Finch Scholars for brunch. Within moments after taking my seat among this dynamic group of women, I forgot all about the weather, since our newest Finch Scholars are smart, energetic, funny, engaging, and passionate about their career goals. We toasted the finale of a wonderful holiday season and took time to celebrate and contemplate the promise of a new year.

Our education major, 30-year-old **Angee Gonzalez Bonilla**, was born and raised in Colombia. She adores travel, and has already lived in Colombia, Costa Rica, Mongolia, and the United States. Angee graduated in spring 2016 with an AA degree in Education from Essex County College, in Newark, New Jersey, where she and her husband currently live. This past fall, she began attending Montclair State

University, where she is majoring in Family and Child Studies with P-3 Teaching Certification. Her goal is to be an Early Childhood teacher working in different programs where she can make a difference in young people's lives.

Angee loves reading (mainly fiction and self-help books). She marvels at the fact that human beings can be so similar and yet so different at the same time, and how we are shaped by our physical and sociocultural environment.

Angee recently received her substitute teaching license, working as a substitute teacher on the days she does not attend classes. She is excited about this opportunity because it offers her "a hands-on experience" to help her grow her own professional network after graduation.

**Jiahui Zheng** is an expert mathematician at Baruch College. She finds that everything is so very different from her former community col-



Jiahui Zheng

lege, especially because the classes are now so much larger, with as many as 200 students in a classroom at one time! But such a large group has not discouraged her from "getting involved." Realizing that some of her classmates were having difficulties finishing homework and passing midterm exams, she decided to help them by forming a study group. She organized review sessions before exams, helping group members review lecture content and sample questions. After the second set of exams, most of the study group members had largely improved their grades; some of them even fell within the "A" range!

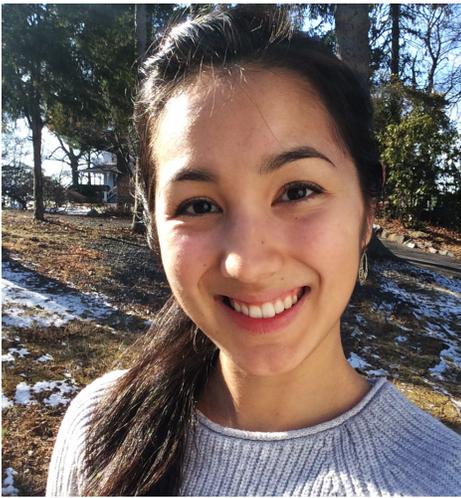
Jiahui also participated in the StreetWise Partner Venture Program. "I always look for opportunities to improve myself," she explained. "I learned to express myself in speed networking sessions and developed strategies to prepare for three-round interviews. I have increased my knowledge about the accounting industry by

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## SAVE THE DATE FOR 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL JESSICA COSGRAVE AWARDS

The 2017 Jessica Cosgrave Awards will take place on **Tuesday, May 16**, at the Cosmopolitan Club, 122 East 66th Street, New York City. Reception is at 6 PM, awards at 7 PM, and dinner at 8 PM. **Sidonia "Sid" Dalby**, Associate Director of Admission and Ada Comstock advisor at Smith College, will speak at the event. Be sure to mark your calendar for this major fundraiser of the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust. You should also plan on attending the fun-filled cultural and social events during the weekend preceding this event. Details can be found in the Cosgrave Awards invitations, which have been mailed. For more information, please contact **Virginia Wattiker Gildea** (212-605-5560; virginiasheerin@gmail.com) or **Ceil Gavin Ainsworth** (212-288-5653; ceilains@aol.com).

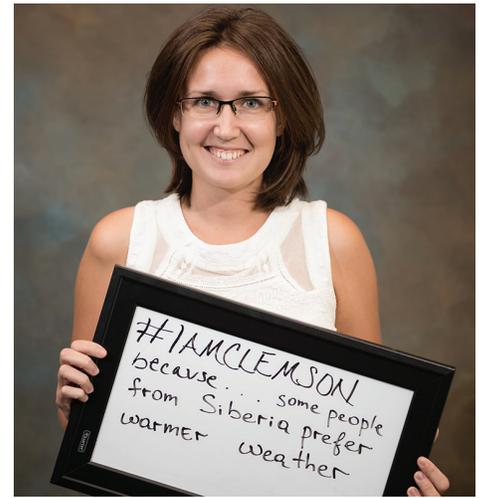
*It's not too early to nominate potential recipients for the 2018 Cosgrave Award. The instructions and nomination application can be downloaded at [www.FinchCollege.org](http://www.FinchCollege.org) by clicking on the Cosgrave Award on the left side of the home page.*



Naomi Shibuya

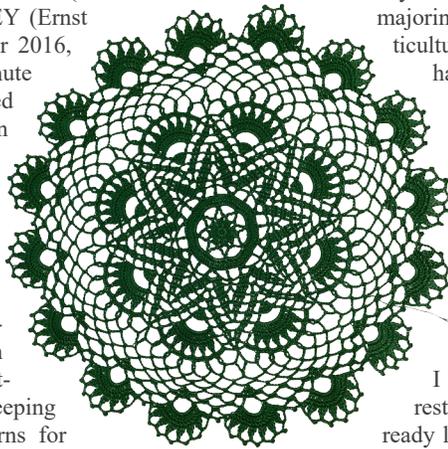


Naa Bruce



Ekaterina Jones

conducting informational interviews with professionals who work at PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) and EY (Ernst & Young). In December 2016, I had an important 5-minute presentation and needed to present by myself in front of over 30 professionals from Big 4 accounting firms, banks, and some famous IT companies. (That was a scary but highly beneficial experience.) Recently, I have been working for an accounting firm, doing bookkeeping and preparing tax returns for over a hundred small businesses. During these months, I have been learning to balance school work, my job, social events, and my dance performances. (Yes, I am a dancer, too.) It's not always an easy balancing act, but the challenge has its rewards."



Beautiful doily made by Carmen Guillen

During brunch, I learned that **Carmen Guillen**, currently at Pace University, was able to maintain a perfect GPA, become an e-board member, and that she will be serving as Secretary of the Accounting Society next year. Carmen has decided to pursue her Master's Degree in Public Accounting, for which she already submitted her application; she will be finding out about her acceptance status in June. She is also applying to all the leadership programs that the Big 4 accounting firms have in place. The purpose of these leadership programs is to give students an insight into the firms and eventually recruit those who are interested and qualify as interns.

"The leadership programs are a great way to learn about the firms and let the firms know about you. This introduction often leads to internships and, eventually, full-time employment," she explained. Don't be fooled, however. Carmen, like Jiahui (our dancer), also has her artistic side: she creates beautiful and intricate doilies.

**Naomi Shibuya**, our full-time Scholar at State University of New York at Cobleskill, is majoring in Plant Sciences and Horticulture. Naomi said she was very happy that her classes immediately offered a "very hands-on" experience. She is studying Horticulture, Crop Production, Botany, Soil Science, Basic Floral Design, and Environmental Design. "First day of class my hands were already dirty from potting and watering plants that I had to take care of for the rest of the semester. I have already learned how to drive a tractor, deal with differential leveling or even just designing a bouquet. I plan on taking full advantage of the resources offered here, as well as getting involved on campus," she said.

To date, Naomi is a member of the Hall Council and just started a part-time job as a night host in her building. She is currently exploring different academic offerings, such as study abroad programs and research opportunities.

**Naa Bruce**, our dedicated nursing student, is currently navigating a strenuous science course load at New Jersey City University. Her father's untimely death (in Ghana) sparked her decision to choose a career in healthcare. "I started the fall semester with a lot of excitement and energy, ready to start working toward my bachelor's degree. Then I was assigned research paper after research paper, after research paper. I was used to having most of my assessments as examinations with many fewer papers, and it threw me off a bit. My supportive professors made all the difference and helped direct me toward a successful conclusion this first semester," she explained.

Like her fellow scholars, our health scientist also has an artistic flair as a gifted fashion designer. In the accompanying photo, she is wearing one of her designs created from African fabric.

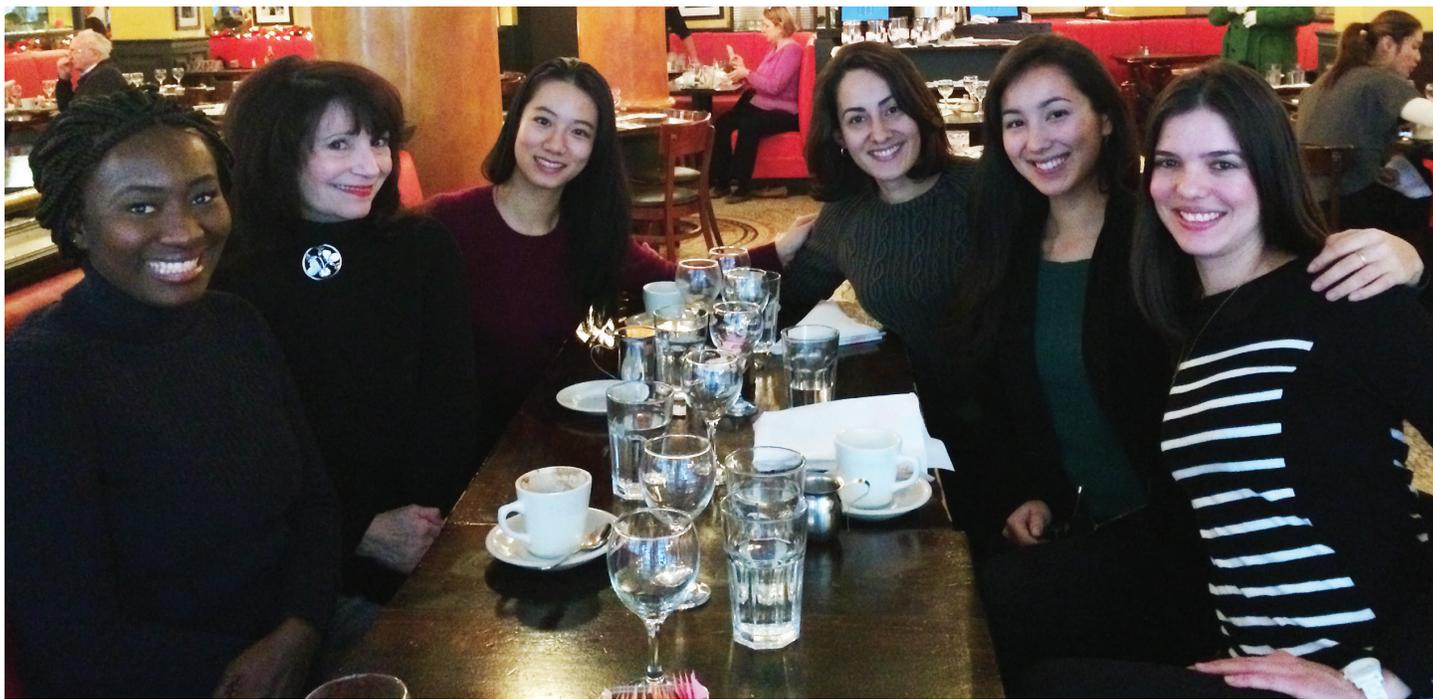
Since our January luncheon date wasn't convenient for everyone to attend, several scholars took the time to send me an update.

Sounding very happy, **Ekaterina Jones** wrote from Clemson University in South Carolina: "It is definitely a different climate after growing up in Siberia and then spending several years in upstate New York, but I love it! It gives me an opportunity to be outside more. Before school started, I tried to visit various parks and waterfalls nearby on weekends. Unfortunately, I do not have any time to do it now. I am taking 17 credit hours. I am a Math major with emphasis in Actuarial Science so I am planning to work as an actuary when I graduate. I am active in the Actuarial Club on campus, hoping to learn more about my future profession and meet new, like-minded people. Also, I go to Math Club sessions to learn even more techniques to solve problems. I attend events organized by my Big Sister in the WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) Office to discover more opportunities at school. I hope to make many friends, since I am new to the area. I do not have any current job that is associated with my studies, but we have some career fairs coming up, so I will try my best to use that to my advantage. Thank you so much to all the Finch women for their interest in my progress and education."

Back in New York City, **Amey Shue** is on a pre-health track at New York University, majoring in Nutrition and Dietetics, and minoring in Global Public Health. In her free time she enjoys cooking, creating herbal tinctures, teas, and cordials. She also loves to make her own perfume blends. In addition, Amey is currently a practicing licensed massage therapist, which she feels is a natural extension of the nutrition and public health field.

"I am into all things wellness!" she writes. "I have an aptitude for helping others. I prefer methods that are preventative and complementary to medicine, but I appreciate conventional methods as well. Over the past two years I have developed a love for the sciences. I am particularly

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Finch Scholars at Café Un Deux Trois. (Left to right) Naa Bruce, Eileen Bluestone Sherman, Jiahui Zheng, Angee Gonzalez, Naomi Shibuya, and Carmen Guillen

interested in organic chemistry and microbiology. I am the first person in my family to earn a college degree. I am a non-traditional student. Funny thing! Other students in my classes have thought that I was the professor when I walked in the door. It is nice that the classes have a mix of undergrad and grad students, so I don't feel too out of place. I do plan on studying abroad to fulfill my language and public health requirements, likely in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I plan on volunteering and participating in 'Club Eat.' I will learn more about internship opportunities as the year progresses. My end goal is to become a Registered Dietician (RD). After that, who knows? I may apply for a dual degree at St. George's University earning my MPH/MD (master's in public health and doctor of medicine) degrees. I like to set goals and see if I can accomplish them. So far, it's working!"

While she had to send last-minute regrets, our Columbia University Senior, **Cristina Mihailescu**, also sent me a quick New Year's update. "It is good on my end," she wrote. "I am about to start my final semester as an undergraduate!" Cristina is exploring job/internship opportunities for after her May graduation, taking this next year to prepare for her GE/GMAT exams while submitting applications to graduate schools. Meanwhile, she is raising two wonderful young daughters.

Finally, here's one more quick message, not from a scholar, but from a proud Finch Mentor, 2016 Cosgrave Award recipient **Peggy Flaxman Millheiser**. Peggy was delighted to be invited to Finch Scholar **Justine N'Gozan's** commencement service at the University of Texas at Arlington last December. You could feel Peggy "beaming with pride" as she wrote, "Justine received her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. Not only did she receive her degree, but

was Magna Cum Laude and earned numerous honors. Her family and friends were all at the Commencement to celebrate Justine's accomplishments. Justine is an inspirational woman. She is very focused in meeting her goals to learn as much as possible in her chosen field. Justine was able to balance school, work, and time with her family and friends. Fortunately for me, Justine will continue to live in Arlington, Texas, which means I will get to see Justine when she has free time. Finch selected an outstanding student, who has a love of learning and a gift for working with numbers. The scholarship Justine received gave her the ability to continue her education. Justine has expressed her gratitude for having been chosen to receive the Finch Scholarship."

Honestly, that expression of gratitude for the Finch Scholarship is a recurring theme among all our Finch Scholars. In fact, the very last words from my five talented January brunch guests

echoed Justine's sentiments. Everyone reminded me to share their gratitude with every Finch alum.

Both the scholarship and our continued interest in their college experience is genuinely valued by all of our remarkable Finch Scholars. My Co-chair, Laura Larsen, and I thank every Finch Mentor for sharing her time and expertise. Additional mentors this year include **Marjorie Schulman**, **JoAnn Cricchio Kubat**, and **Andrea Levine Mishler**. I am certain that Mrs. Cosgrave would be very proud of Finch women and our successful endeavor to continue the Finch College legacy. Yes, for a single moment, let's soak in the applause. There are still many more extraordinary Finch Scholars waiting in the wings!

*To learn how you can become a Finch Mentor, please contact Co-chairs Eileen Sherman (kcne@juno.com) or Laura Larsen (lslarsen@msn.com).*

*Article: Eileen Bluestone Sherman*



Cristina Mihailescu and her daughters



Peggy Flaxman Millheiser (left) and Justine N'Gozen (right)

# MORE UPDATES ON FINCH SCHOLARS

*Five Finch Scholars are about to receive their degree!*



Vanessa Cardona



Amanda English



Chu May Paing



Leah Shin



Sanja Radenovic

“How proud our alumni are of the five outstanding young women who will receive a bachelor’s degree and graduate from fine four-year colleges. This is exactly why the support of our alumnae is so valuable,” said **Lois Moran Ziegler**, who heads the Scholarship Committee.

## Finch Scholar Accomplishments

The introduction of the Freya Moskowitz Stern Scholarship provides an additional \$2500 award to the student as she enters her fourth year, assuring she receives a bachelor’s degree. Recent awardees are:

**Vanessa Cardona** will graduate with a BS degree in chemistry from George Washington University, Washington DC. She received the Freya Moskowitz Stern Scholarship and transferred from Raritan Valley Community College in New Jersey. A member of the Alpha Chi Sigma professional chemistry fraternity and Sigma Alpha Lambda national leadership and honors society, she has been accepted into a dual BS/MS program in forensic sciences.

**Amanda English**, Dr. Katherine Hampares Scholarship recipient, is the very first scholar

to take all four years on line at both Herkimer County Community College and Utica College, in New York. She majored in cyber security with a concentration in cyber crime and fraud investigation and graduates with honors. Amanda is a single mother, who has raised her two children and cared for sick family.

**Chu May Paing**, recipient of the Finch College Foundation Scholarship, graduates with honors from Queens College after transferring from LaGuardia Community College. She has majored in linguistics and plans to teach English to speakers of other languages at the college level. Her choice of a doctoral program is not yet determined, but she has received acceptance from the University of Hawaii, Manoa, for their doctoral program in linguistics with full funding for four years. Chu is waiting to hear from the University of Texas at Austin’s doctoral program in anthropology and the University of California, Santa Barbara’s doctoral program in linguistics. Then she will make her decision.

**Leah Shin**, recipient of the Freya Moskowitz Stern Scholarship, went from Queensborough Community College to Queens College and has successfully completed a chemistry major with honors to receive a BS degree. In September, Leah will enter Case Western Reserve University’s (Cleveland, Ohio) physician assistant program.

**Sanja Radenovic** arrived in the US not speaking English or knowing anyone. Realizing that education is the solution to all, Sanja entered the Borough of Manhattan Community College and received the Finch College Foundation Scholarship, which enabled her to transfer to Baruch College. At Baruch’s Zicklin School of Business, Sanja is successfully pursuing her BBA in accountancy. Now 32 years old, this fall she will transfer to Baruch for an integrated BBA/MS program.

*Article: Lois Moran Ziegler*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO JESSICA RYAN AND CHU MAY PAING

**Jessica Ryan**, Ada Comstock Scholar at Smith College, successfully completed her studies there. Last summer, Jessica received a fellowship with Smith’s Kahn Institute for next year to work on individual research projects around the theme of “Shaping Perception.” In mid-July 2016, Jessica helped the American Academy in Rome (Italy) re-classify and re-shelf their rare book collection, an endeavor she started while at Smith remotely last May in the rare book room. The American Academy in Rome is a leading American overseas center for independent studies and advanced research in the fine arts and humanities.’

Jessica is now enrolled in Simmons College and is seeking a Masters degree in Library Sciences. Her Finch Foundation grant certainly benefitted her!

Finch Scholar **Chu May Paing** shared equally exciting news. She wrote:



Jessica Ryan

*“I would like to update you all that I have been accepted to the University of Hawaii at Manoa’s PhD in Linguistics program, the CUNY Graduate Center’s PhD in Anthropology program, and the University of Florida’s PhD in Linguistics program. After I make my decision, I will let you know which PhD program I will be joining in the fall. The Finch scholarship has greatly contributed to my studies, and I hope I will make you all very proud. Again, I can’t express how grateful I am to be a Finch Scholar.”*

# FINCH WOMEN ENJOYED FALL/WINTER 2016-17 EVENTS

*Finch alumnae and friends participated in a variety of interesting events in the New York area between fall 2016 and early winter 2017.*



A view of Caramoor, in Katonah, New York

## European Fine Art Foundation Inaugural New York Fair

Finch alumnae and FCAAFT Co-chairperson, Ceil Gavin Ainsworth, arranged for the Finch group to visit the venerable Park Avenue Armory on October 23, 2016, for a docent-led VIP tour of the TEFAF (The European Fine Art Foundation) Inaugural New York Fair. Formerly organized by Houghton International Fairs, this outstanding event showcased art from antiquity to the early 20th century, all rigorously vetted. Established in 1988, and based in Maastricht, The Netherlands, TEFAF is noted for works of excellent quality and connoisseurship, considered by many to be the foremost event of its kind for art, antiquities, furniture, and design.

The show, which flowed through the huge 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall and the well-appointed chambers and halls on the first and second floors, featured collections from 94 dealers from 13 countries. Among the show's many masterpieces, nine rarities formerly in private collections were featured, including a newly discovered van Gogh painting (at the Dutch gallery Kunstgalerij Albricht), a pair of rare 19th century gilded dolphin tables made by Marsh and Tatham and formerly in the



Enjoying the holiday tea at Caramoor. (Left to right) Joy Corree, Carole Barnes Ross, Nina DiGiovanna LaBruna, Nancy Leeds, Frances Fish Tompkins. Photo by Hideaki Nakamura



Aphrodite at the Phoenix Ancient Art Booth at TEFAF

collection of the Duke of Sutherland (at Ronald Phillips Ltd), and a marble Venus-de-Milo-like Aphrodite from the 1st century BC (at Phoenix Ancient Art, its booth set up to look like the interior of the Pantheon).

A second installment of the exciting TEFAF show at the Armory is scheduled for May 3-9, 2017—a worthwhile extension of a Finch trip to NYC in time for the May 16 Cosgrave Awards!

## Rubin Museum of Art

FCAAFT Co-chairperson, Liz Glick Colin, organized a trip to the Rubin Museum of Art on November 4, 2016. The Rubin is an arts and cultural hub in New York's Chelsea neighborhood that inspires visitors to make powerful connections between contemporary life and the art, cultures, and ideas of the Himalayas and neighboring regions, including India.

The evening began with a gathering in the lounge, where the group enjoyed regional music, wine, and tapas. Then, the Finch alumnae and friends had a docent-led tour of the museum's Himalayan and Tibetan art exhibits, which included artwork in every medium that conveyed the spiritual and philosophical forces that have influenced the region's inhabitants



At the holiday tea were Margaret Stein Nakamura (left) and Virginia Handal Miller (right). Photo by Susan Rubenstein Reed



The Tibetan Buddhist Shrine Room at the Rubin Museum

and visitors for centuries.

## The Salon Art + Design

A docent-led tour of *The Salon Art + Design*, also arranged by Ceil and held at the Park Avenue Armory on November 12, 2016, has become a perennial favorite of Finch alumnae and friends. The acclaimed Sanford Smith show featured outstanding artwork, furniture, jewelry and objets d'art ranging from classical and ancient art to contemporary art and design, the main focus of the show. Fifty-five galleries from all over the world, presenting new and exciting work each year, are represented. According to the Salon's executive director, Jill Broker: "Each year [The Salon] expands its exploration into cultures of the distant and more recent past... and presents the art and objects that have already become or are on their way to becoming timeless."

After touring the vast show filled with works of great innovation, imagination, and beauty, the Finch group convened in the Collector's Lounge (the historic Colonel's Room). Complimentary champagne was provided, courtesy of Ruinart Champagne, one of the Salon's several highly esteemed sponsors.

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Others at the holiday tea (left to right): Marjorie Schulman, Stan & Leslie Rigler Kaminsky, Susie Salomon, Wendy Glickstein; not shown, Evelyn Hilton & Lynda Maer

## Tour of Caramoor and Holiday Tea/Musicale

On December 9, 2016, FCAAFT Treasurer Marjorie Schulman arranged for a very special tour and holiday tea/musicale at the Caramoor Estate in Katonah, New York. It was a wonderful time to visit the beautiful estate, because the main Rosen house was decked out in holiday splendor—from the gracious entrance hall to the many corridors and exquisitely furnished rooms. The welcoming and knowledgeable docents shared stories of the family that once lived there and their astounding art collection.

Caramoor, which conjures up *Tales of the Arabian Nights*, was the country estate and home of lawyer and banker Walter Rosen, his wife Lucie, and their two children, Walter, Jr and Anne. The Rosens, who had fallen in love with the Italianate cedar garden, purchased the property from Walter's friend and former law partner Charles Hoyt in 1928. The estate was, in fact, named for Charles' late mother, Caroline Moore Hoyt. The house that exists today is not the original; in derelict condition, that structure was razed soon after the purchase. However, the Great Depression forced the Rosens to alter and scale back their plan to erect a grand American *palazzo* in place of the original house. Converted from the already completed farm complex, with a central courtyard, the handsome Mediterranean-style villa was the result. By the time of its completion in 1939, entire rooms of 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century European architectural elements, Renaissance art and furniture, tapestries, chinoiserie, and an extensive Asian art collection, many pieces from their travels and/or NYC apartment, were moved into or adjusted to fit the villa. A new wing with three period rooms and objets d'art from the Rosens' townhouse was added in the 1970s by daughter Anne Rosen Stern.

Each room is a delight to behold, with treasures that rival those in the Metropolitan Museum of Art (some of which are still in its collections today). Tiepolo doors! The glorious vaulted ceiling



The Finch group admired the 20th century chandeliers at Berndt Goeckler Inc

ing of the Burgundian library! The dining room, with its adjoining breakfast room, its smaller scale version, is clothed in 18th-century Chinese wallpaper, purchased from an antique dealer in Venice. The red lacquer caned-seat chairs are replicas of the original 24 early 17th-century English side and armchairs, purchased from the Spanish Duke of the Infantado estate around 1935, part of the Duke's collection of 72. Some are now housed in the Metropolitan and Victoria and Albert Museums. (The two remaining original armchairs from the Rosens' purchase are on display in a separate, small, temperature-controlled room, alongside other treasures, which include a Chin Dynasty carved jade and teak screen.) After scaling back the dining room's size (still grand enough to accommodate a magnificent lacquer table and chairs, an English papier mache mantelpiece from 1760, the stunning Caldwell & Company chandelier designed for the room, its birdcage shape echoing the walls' delicate chinoiserie motifs), two rolls of the rare wall-covering remained. Walter traded these for an Emperor's chair, now in the "Spanish alcove."

Both Walter and Lucie were devoted and accomplished musicians (he played the piano, and she, the theremin, an early electronic musical instrument controlled without contact by the performer). In addition to their passion for beautiful artwork and architecture, they brought music to their country home by creating a music room, which would



The Finch group at the New York Ceramics & Glass Fair. (Left to right) Margaret Stein Nakamura, Barbara O'Hare, Susie Stern Salomon, Marjorie Schulman, and Rita J. Thompson

become the heart and soul of Caramoor. From 1939 on, they sought to share this joy—hosting parties, concerts, informal house tours, and storied masked gala balls for friends and visitors from the community and beyond. Boxes of correspondence now archived at the Rosen house include letters and invitations from music and art history's most lauded personalities including Leopold Stokowski and John Cage. But after the tragic death of their son, an Air Force pilot killed over Germany in 1944, the Rosens bequeathed their home to the public in his memory as a center for music and art. The inaugural public concert, performed by the Koutzen String Quartet, was hosted by the Rosens at the home in June 1946.

Today, nearly 25,000 people visit the Rosen House annually, including some 6,000 school-age children, who learn about art and music through Caramoor's Arts-in-Education program. During the summer, concerts are held in the Spanish courtyard. Tours and afternoon teas are offered throughout the year, continuing the tradition of presenting music in the magnificent music room.

The Finch group gathered in that very room, resplendent in holiday decoration, to enjoy (and sometimes join in) the wonderful holiday musicale, sung by soprano Kayla Berghoff and baritone Michael Axtell, and accompanied by pianist Brent Funderburk. The afternoon tea included delightful tea sandwiches, pastries, and an assortment of excellent teas, all served on exquisite antique chinaware. Through stained glass windows, the setting sun basked the elegant music room in golden light. It was a perfect way to celebrate the holiday season!

## Bohemian National Hall/New York Ceramics & Glass Fair

A trip to the Bohemian National Hall/New York Ceramics & Glass Fair on January 19, 2017, was arranged for Finch by FCAAFT Co-chairperson Liz Glick Colin. The Bohemian National Hall, at 320 East 73rd Street, was built as a social hall for the Czech and Slovak community in the late 1890s. A New York City landmark, the building itself is a grand five-story, seventy-foot wide palazzo, designed in Neo-Renaissance style by architect William C. Frohne. Adjacent to the Czech Consulate General, it is an important

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## TRIP TO ELLIS ISLAND | OCTOBER 19, 2016

Wesley Cullen Davidson wrote: On a beautiful day, five Finch alumnae (and one husband, Sandy Davidson whose birthday coincided with the trip) took the ferry from Battery Park to Ellis Island. We were treated to a wonderful docent tour in the Grand Hall upstairs.

After the tour, we were free to view the wonderful photos of immigrants who had settled in the major cities. Also tucked away in a corner on the second floor were medical instruments, under case, that today would look primitive.

Many funds have gone into the updating



Finch ladies at Ellis Island in front of statue of the first immigrant to arrive there. (Left to right) Liz Colin, Wendy Glickstein, Mickey Pollack (Finch friend), Evelyn Hilton, and Wesley Davidson

of Ellis Island facilities. It was quite impressive! A painless history lesson in a gorgeous setting on a pluperfect fall day.

multi-functional center for that community and the general public. Offering language classes, films, lectures, and art exhibitions, it houses a library and a room dedicated to renowned 19th-century composer, Antonin Dvorak.

The visit began with a lecture—one of a series related to the New York Ceramics & Glass Fair exhibition—entitled “Inside the Head of a Collector.” The speaker, Dr. Shirley M. Mueller, a former medical doctor, is now an art collector. She explained the science of behavioral economics: how well-studied thought processes affect our purchasing decisions. Specific psychological motivators—pride, creating a sense of history, the thrill of the chase—are involved in such a purchase. Dr. Mueller also explained how buying decisions may be influenced by “anchoring” (the lure of a bargain), “sunk cost” (time and money already invested), and faulty memory, and illustrated woeful tales of impressive art and objects d’art for which she—as well as museums—had overpaid, rashly acquired, and/or under-insured. She showed diagrams of the brain’s excited neurological (often reptilian, rather than limbic/emotional and neocortical/analytical) responses to the trigger of an anticipated purchase. Dr. Mueller added one final cautionary note that, according to some experts, “50% of art in circulation is either misappropriated or fake!”

With all that in mind, the Finch group continued on to the glorious and vast ceramics and



**“A Piece of Pennsylvania” beadwork sculpture by Leslie B. Grigsby. Many of her nature works employ beadwork over traditional taxidermy bases**

work sculpture by Leslie B. Grigsby; Justin Rothshank’s political plates; Vetro Vero hand-blown designs by Michael Schunke and Josie Gluck; and iridescent pottery by Hideaki Miyamura.

All of these visits and tours, arranged by FCAAFT volunteers for Finch alumnae, friends, and family, continue to bring the Finch community together and help fulfill our mission to raise scholarship funds. The fall and winter events raised a significant amount of scholarship funds. Plans for other exciting and informative events are under way.

*Article by Margaret Stein Nakamura, with contributions by Liz Glick Colin, Wesley Cullen Davidson, and Susan Mau Soong*

*Photos by Margaret Stein Nakamura, Hideaki Nakamura, Susan Reed Rubenstein, and Liz Glick Colin*

glass fair, where there were many examples of Bohemian glass. But the vast array of this stunning—and, especially in the case of contemporary, often witty—work was from the United States as well as other countries. It was inspiring to see the new exciting sculptural art displayed alongside some lovely traditional pieces. Most of the artists and galleries have shown work at the Armory Salon and other venues. The contemporary work ranged from the political to the purely aesthetic.

Among the favorites were “A Piece of Pennsylvania,” a bead-



**Edward F. Caldwell & Co. beautiful wrought iron and leaded glass screen seen at Caramoor (probably from the Rosen townhouse on 54th Street)**

## FINCH ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS’ FALL HAWAIIAN ADVENTURE

Last fall, four Finch alumnae, accompanied by several of their friends and relatives, enjoyed nearly a week in beautiful Honolulu and were hosted by local resident and Finch alum and 2015 Cosgrave Award recipient Susan Mau Soong (Finch Class of 1971) and her husband, John. They had a very full itinerary! Among the many sights they enjoyed were the Manoa Heritage Center, Bishop Museum, I’olani Palace, Queen Emma Summer Palace, Lewis Family Garden, Honolulu Museum of Art, Doris Duke’s Shangri La, and Pearl Harbor/Arizona Memorial.

Susan wrote: “John and I hope that everyone enjoyed the sights and the aloha spirit of the islands. The song, *Aloha Oe*, written by Queen Liliuokalani, goes ‘Farewell to thee...One fond embrace...Until we meet again,’ and sums up the experience.



**At the home of Susan and John Soong in Honolulu. (Clockwise from bottom left) Arden Down, Susan Soong, Magda Katz, Mary Boehm, Barbara Piermont, Marilyn Field, Ann Holmes DiLuglio, Donna Holmes.**



**Finch alums enjoying the Lewis Family Garden in Honolulu. (Left to right) Mary Lou Lewis, Ann Holmes DiLuglio, Barbara Piermont, Susan Mau Soong, Arden Down, Mary Boehm, Marilyn Field, and Donna Holmes; Magda Stark Katz at top.**

# CLASS NOTES

## 40s

**Thelma Wigoder Ruby Frye** (Finch Class of 1943), from Leeds, England, writes that life begins at 91! (Don't you just love it?) Her first job was entertaining wounded servicemen in hospitals throughout England until June 1945. Today, she is still entertaining, this time at sold-out performances at King's Head Theatre and The Pheasantry. This songstress and actress will appear in a sitcom and has written a play. Now seen on YouTube, Thelma was recently given a prestigious award for her work in England. Thelma credits her scholarship at Finch (she and her mother lived in New York for four years during World War II) with launching her career.

## 50s

**Betty King** (Finch Class of 1953) is a neighbor of **Cheryl Young Deknatel** in Miami Beach, Florida. Betty's cookbook, "*Seasons to Taste: Menus and Memories*," is based on her cooking

and entertaining for more than fifty years. She is now working on an oral history of the 1978 Mayoral Election in the District of Columbia.

## 60s

**Susan Klein Lane** (Finch Class of 1962) is busy writing and teaching GED students at Oasis, a Haven for Women and Children in Paterson, New Jersey. A court-appointed mediator for Bergen County, Susan and her husband recently celebrated fifty-five years of marriage.

**Rosalie Van Cleef** attended Finch from 1961-1962. In November 2016, she was invested as a Dame of Malta. The Order of Malta is a 900 year-old organization caring for the sick and poor, both locally and globally. She is a luxury Concierge Specialist at Sparkling Events Ltd., Rosecliff, and lives in Manhattan.

**Ruth Abrams Gonzalez** (Finch Class of 1967), a proud grandmother of four, and her hus-

band live in a new community in Jupiter, Florida. She sells real estate with Leibowitz Realty Group, mostly in Jupiter and nearby Palm Beach Gardens. Ruth frequently sees her Finch roommate, **Marti Morrison**, who has a condo in Delray Beach.

Finch alum **Susan Davis** (Finch Class of 1969) is the founder of Desert X, a specific art exhibit in the southern California desert. More than fifteen international artists are creating site-specific installations that will be in outdoor locations from Palm Springs to Coachella. This inaugural exhibit runs from February 25 to April 30. Susan credits gallery owner and Finch alumna **Nohra Haime's** (Finch Class of 1973) biennial in Cartagena, Colombia, as inspiration for her Desert X, Desert Exhibition of Art. Susan is the Editorial Director of Sunnylands, the former Annenberg Estate, in Rancho Mirage, California.

**Cheryl Kornberg Lefkovits** (Finch class of 1967), a proud grandmother of four, and her hus-

*Continued on next page* ▶

# NINA DIGIOVANNA LABRUNA: A COOKING NONNA

**Nina DiGiovanna LaBruna** (Finch Class of 1960) sent the following story about her recent Italian cooking adventures and their Finch connection:

"On a beautiful day in August 2009, I had invited some of my fellow Finch alumni for lunch at my summer home in Elberon on the Jersey shore. We were about 25 people in all. My husband Vinny co-hosted, and some of the ladies brought their husbands.

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres were served on the porch followed by a buffet lunch in the dining room. I enjoy cooking and prepared many different dishes from the past, most of them Italian. Everyone seemed to like it. After lunch, Magda Stark Katz (a fellow Finchie) caught me in the kitchen and said to me, 'I know you are the grandmother of five children, and didn't your mother's family originate in Tuscany?' 'Yes,' I answered. I knew that Magda was very active and successful in the entertainment industry. She proceeded to tell me that she had received an email from Vito Rago, who was producing an Internet TV show called 'Cooking with Nonna.' The premise of the show was to invite nonnas (grandmothers) from different regions in Italy to teach his beautiful twenty-something daughter Rossella how to prepare the cuisine of that particular area. Vito wanted Magda to find a nonna from Tuscany. And there I was.

Magda wanted me to come back to New York City so she could interview me on tape and send it on to Vito. I was reluctant to leave my husband alone at

the beach house, so she interviewed me right there in my kitchen. Days later, Magda called me and told me that Vito liked my presentation and wanted me on the show. I consulted with my husband and we thought it might be fun. I agreed to do a show. In October, Vinny drove me to Montville, New Jersey, where the show was filmed. It was all very professional with a camera crew, special kitchen set-up, and a woman who did my make-up.

The recipe I chose to do was Petto de Limone (chicken with lemon and wine). The show went well. I was very relaxed and thought it was fine. Weeks later, Vito called and asked me to do a second show. This time I chose Zuppa di Verza (a Tuscan soup with kale, cabbage, and sausage). I didn't do any shows after that. I felt that I was, shall we say, "a bit too mature" to start a second career, and I knew there were many more nonnas waiting to be heard.

The Cooking with Nonna show has been viewed by thousands of people during the past eight years and continues to be very popular. In October 2016, Vito called me and asked me if he could include my chicken with lemon recipe in a cookbook about the show that was going to be published. I agreed. After a few weeks, he called again and asked if he and Rossella could come to my New York apartment, interview me, and take some photos for the book, as well as prepare a meal together. They came and we had a delightful afternoon. The cookbook will be available at Barnes and Noble on March 15, 2017 and can also be purchased through Amazon. I have been invited



Nina DiGiovanna LaBruna

to a book launching party at iTrulli, a restaurant in New York City, on March 15 and have been asked if I would be available in the future for book signings.

I owe this entire culinary adventure to Magda Stark Katz and indirectly to my many wonderful Finch friends. I am also so grateful for all the love and support my beloved husband Vinny (now deceased) and children gave to me in this project. And last, but not least, 'grazie' to my mother and grandma Maria who through the years taught me how to prepare the dishes of Tuscany in northern Italy."

*For more information, go to [cookingwithnonna.com](http://cookingwithnonna.com).*

1969) lives in Manhattan where her husband, Albert Lekovits, MD, is a dermatologist with a line of Alaur Skin Solutions skin care products.

**Julia Berwick, LCSW** (Finch Class of 1969) is Director of Counseling Services at St. Francis Counseling Center, which is attached to St. Francis of Assisi Church. A licensed social worker, Julia is also a field instructor for social work students. She supervises therapists and interns. She is in touch with classmates **Susan Grace Galassi** and **Francie Symonds Riggs**.

**Susan Saklad Warren**, also a graduate in the Class of 1969, writes that she devotes much time and energy as a board member, officer, and tutor at the New York Center for Children, which treats, heals, and prevents child abuse.

## 70s

Although **Ann Holmes DiLuglio** (Finch Class of 1970) lives in Saunderstown, Rhode Island most of the year, she winters in Palm Beach, Florida, where she recently saw classmate **Virginia (Jenny) Merriman**. Ann was one of the Finch alumnae who was hosted by **Susan Mau Soong** and her husband John in Hawaii last October. Ann is currently planning a road trip to Texas and the US heartland.

**Franchelle Stewart Dorn** (Finch Class of 1972) performed in an adaptation of *Great Expectations* at Baltimore's Everyman Theatre last winter. Her daughter, Amani, was married in Austin, Texas this past fall.

**Felice Forer Axelrod** (Finch Class of 1971) joined the Finch Board this year. A consultant providing special project and management services to both Bloomberg Philanthropies and Bloomberg LP, Felice is the mother of three and grandmother of two children. She is on the Board of the Mt. Sinai Adolescent Health Center, and is President Emerita of the Council of Protocol Executives, a corporate etiquette/protocol expert certified by Washington School of Protocol.

**Margaret Ferree Brown** (Finch Class of 1970) spent a weekend in New York City in October 2016 with classmates 2015 Cosgrave honoree **Jamie Leaming Watson** (Finch Class of 1972) and **Evelyn Lorentzen** (Finch Class of 1972). Jamie lives in New York City, while Evelyn lives in Greenwich, CT, and Margaret in Denver, CO.

Since 1976, **Marie Cavanagh Munroe** (Finch Class of 1973) has been living on Long Island with husband Charles, a retired landscape architect. She holds a Masters in Foundations of Education degree and has worked at Hofstra University as its Cash Manager. She is in touch with her Finch roommate **Cydna Stuart**, who lives in California.

Get well wishes to **Marjorie Schulman** (Finch Class of 1970), Treasurer of the Finch Board of Trustees, who broke her ankle in early February.



Finch friends enjoying a weekend in NYC. (Left to right) Jamie Leaming Watson, Evelyn Lorentzen, and Margaret Ferree Brown.

We wish her a speedy recovery.

**Obron Farber**, who entered Finch in 1972, sent the following inspiring words written by her daughter Shola, who was recently nominated for a prestigious award:

“So proud to have been nominated for the 2017 Women’s Information Network Young Women of Achievement Award. I believe in the power of mentorship, and I have learned that my success as a leader is directly predicated on the success of those around me. We lift as we rise! To lead without limits means pushing yourself to take calculated risks and inspiring others to do the same. It means recognizing the leadership potential of each person on your team, and having the courage to delegate so they may flourish. It means ensuring that everyone has a seat at the table and the opportunity to participate. We all stand on the shoulders of giants, and our feminist forebears walked far out on limbs no one else would dare even touch. To lead without limits is to have courage to speak your truth, create your community, dream big, commit to excellence, and leave an army of leaders in your wake.”

## CONGRATULATIONS

Kudos to **Eileen Bluestone Sherman** (Finch Class of 1973) for her “Arts and Artists of Tomorrow” Broadway Songbook Presentation at Lincoln Center’s Bruno Walter Auditorium, on October 31, 2016. Arts and Artists of Tomorrow provides a forum for the development and production of new and worthwhile works. The Bluestone Sisters’ musicals (books and lyrics by Eileen and music by her sister Gail C. Bluestone) have entertained audiences throughout the country, most recently in Kansas City in February.

Congratulations to 2015 Cosgrave Award recipient **Nanette Lampl Avery** (who attended Finch from 1972 to 1974) on the recent publi-

cation of her second book, *A Curious Host*. The story centers on a scavenging yellow dog, an improbable protagonist, as he wanders in and out of the lives of residents living in a place identified only as “the plain town”; themes explored in the book include companionship, salvation, immortality, the tension between choice and chance, and the struggle to find meaning in an existence seemingly defined by fate and the natural cycles of life, death, and renewal, according to its amazon.com review. Nanette’s first book, *Orphan in America*, was published in 2014.

## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to the family of **Neil Underberg**, whose death was announced in *The New York Times* on January 16, 2017. A prominent real estate lawyer in New York, Neil was the father of Amy Applebaum (David) and James Underberg (Terry), and brother of Stephen and Judy Underberg. He was a devoted friend of Finch.

Condolences to the family of **Jacqueline Fish Lembeck, MSW** (Finch Class of 1968), who died on March 12, 2017. Jacqueline practiced psychoanalytic psychotherapy in New York City and was a credentialed alcoholism and substance abuse counselor. She is survived by a son and a daughter and six grandchildren. Jacqueline is a sister of Finch graduate and former Alumnae Association president **Frances Fish Tompkins**.

Condolences also go to **Laura Stober Larsen** (Finch Class of 1974) on the death of her cousin, **Karen M. Keusser**, who graduated from Finch in the late 1960s. Karen studied art at Finch and, after graduation, was an artist, drama teacher, and Off-Broadway actress. Laura would welcome hearing from anyone who knew her cousin via email at: [lsarsen2@msn.com](mailto:lsarsen2@msn.com).

Compiled by Wesley Cullen Davidson (Finch Class of 1969)

# COSGRAVE 2017 AWARDEES AND GUEST SPEAKER NAMED

Six outstanding women—a former Finch faculty member and five alumnae—will be honored at the 23rd annual Jessica Cosgrave Lifetime Achievement Awards, on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at the Cosmopolitan Club, 122 East 66th Street, New York City. The event begins with a cocktail reception at 6 PM, presentation of awards at 7 PM, and dinner at 8 PM.

## Guest Speaker

Guest Speaker for the 2017 Cosgrave Awards ceremony is **Sidonia “Sid” Dalby**, Associate Director of Admission and Ada Comstock advisor at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. Over 2200 women have graduated from the program, and Sidonia has read many of their applications, having worked at the College since 1981. She considers her job to be the best on campus and she is very grateful to have been the only staff member twice awarded the Elizabeth B. Wyandt Gavel Award for outstanding service to students.

In addition to her work at Smith, Sidonia loves to write and co-authored *The Transfer Student’s Guide to Changing Colleges*, *The International Students Guide to Going to College in America*, and *Panicked Parents Guide to College Admission*.

She is very grateful for the support the FCAAFT has offered her students. “It’s so nice for the students to know somebody believes in them and is willing to invest in their futures.”

## Faculty Honoree

The 2017 Faculty Honoree is **Joann Catrino Rosenstrach**, who held multiple positions at Finch from 1965 to 1971, including Assistant Director of Admission and Educational Director of the Finch Intercontinental Study Plan, which took her to Spain and Italy. She was also the instructor of the school’s business and secretarial courses. At the age of 49, Joann embarked on a career in law, specializing in real estate. She credits her wonderful husband of nearly 50 years for stepping up to the plate when balancing work and family life became too difficult. Joann says her biggest accomplishment is raising her three children: two daughters and one son. She takes pride in the

fact that one of her daughters followed in her footsteps to become an admissions counselor. Joann is the grandmother of six. The whole family shares a passion for sports, tennis in particular. Joann is currently trying to learn how to play paddle tennis.

## Student Honorees

**Judy Kendall Levine** can say real estate is literally in her blood. Her expertise in real estate is shaped by a legacy of four generations of prominent developers and builders. As a real estate broker, she has specialized in high-end New York City properties. For many years, she headed her own commercial interior design firm. The Erie, Pennsylvania native is a die-hard New Yorker. Judy works with the Mayor’s Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting to assist Location Directors find the perfect New York locations. She is the proud mom of two sons in the entertainment business. Ross is a film and video producer, whose credits include a music video for Beyonce. Her son, Jonathan, recently directed *Goldie Hawn* and *Amy Schumer* in the comedy film, “*Snatched*.”

**Ginger Runes Kiernan Najar** graduated from Finch with a BA degree in psychology. In the late 1990s, Ginger came up with a simple idea: sell books about movies in movie theaters. She started her own company, Reel Books, selling scripts and books from a kiosk in movie theater lobbies across the country. Today, Ginger oversees The Philosophical Library, a publishing company founded by her father, Romanian-born philosopher and scholar Dagobert D. Runes. The Philosophical Library is the home of 22 Nobel Prize winners and has published works by some of history’s most iconic thinkers.

**Nancy Ellison Rollnick**, a second-generation alum, studied painting and art history at Finch from 1954 to 1959. Since then, she has gone on to become an award-winning photographer whose work has appeared in *Life*, *Vogue*, and *Vanity Fair*. Her subjects include legendary musicians, writers, and Hollywood stars like Mick Jagger, Tennessee Williams, and the birth of her very own daughter! Nancy calls it her first selfie!

Nancy has published 14 books and received a Tony nomination for producing the revival of *Inher-*

*it the Wind*. Nancy often teams up with her husband, William Rollnick, whom she describes as a “lovable wacko” from Cleveland. They created and produced “American Voices” on behalf of the White House for The Expo 2000 World’s Fair in Germany. They co-chaired the International Red Cross ball at Mar-a-Lago for three years in a row.

**Dorothy Peterseil Tananbaum**, who graduated with a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts degree, has devoted her life to art and philanthropy. From 1984 to 1998, she was one of two principals of the Vanderwoude Tananbaum Gallery, which specialized in 20th Century American drawings, paintings, and sculpture. The daughter of Holocaust survivors, Dorothy is dedicated to the support of Jewish culture. She worked for Pitsopany Press, a publisher of Jewish-themed children’s books, including an award-winning book called *the Littlest Pair* about a couple of termites looking for a place on Noah’s Ark. She is the co-chair of the Jewish Funders Network, chair of the board of the Jewish Education Project, and a former chair of the Commission on Jewish Identity and Renewal at the UJA Federation of New York. Dorothy says, “I have had the privilege to experience the rewards that philanthropy showers on those who search not for honor and status, but to fulfill one’s obligations with good deeds.”

**Toni Tucker** followed up her Associate of Arts degree from Finch in 1963 with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Marymount in 1980 and a year of study at the International Center of Photography from 1982 to 1983. Since then, her photographs have appeared in countless magazines and books, including a photography book with the appealing title, *Zen Dog*. Toni also has a background in journalism. She worked for New York’s Channel 5 news as a writer, news editor, and field producer. She held the demanding job of press officer for Gary Hart and Mario Cuomo.

Toni is a huge lover of dogs. Two of her dogs, a bichon and a toy poodle, were ranked the best in the country. Her current endeavor reflects her love of country life. She is the co-founder and publisher of *Berkshire Style*, an online magazine dedicated to providing everything anyone would want to know about the beautiful Berkshires.

Article: Rita J. Thompson

## FINCH COLLEGE/BIRCH WATHEN LENOX SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD AND ANNUAL TEA

The annual Finch College/Birch Wathen Lenox School Scholarship tea was held in New York City on November 21, 2016. The 2016 scholarship was awarded to Clara Kreutziger, an outstanding seventh grader.

Mr. Frank J. Carnabuci III, Headmaster of Birch Wathen Lenox School, which was also founded by Jessica Cosgrave, provided an overview of the history of the two schools and highlighted the many unique aspects of Finch College: It introduced the first study program abroad; developed a fine theater program taking full advantage of New York City cul-

ture; had its own art museum, which published many scholarly works; and, he said, “educated the regal, the rebellious, and the resplendent.”

In addition to being an excellent student, scholarship recipient Clara was chosen for her leadership skills and commitment to academic excellence. She is a member of both the House Committee and Student Council; participates in fencing, volleyball, basketball, and track and field; and is a member of the Green Thumb Club, which tends to all of the plants in the school. In addition to French and her other core courses, Clara studies Japanese.



At the BWL Scholarship tea; Joseph, Jana, Ava, and Clara Kreutziger

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT: ELIZABETH GLICK COLIN

Born and raised in the Midwood section of Flatbush, Brooklyn, Elizabeth (Liz) Glick attended PS 99 (grades K through 8) and Midwood High, before spending her first 2 years as an undergrad at The American University in Washington, DC. For her junior year, she studied in Paris at the Cours de Civilisation Française de la Sorbonne and remained abroad at the University of Grenada in Malaga, Spain, for summer study. Back to New York in 1972, she graduated from Finch College at the end of 1973.

Liz attributes her many future opportunities to come—starting with her first job out of college—to the “Finch Connection.” When one speaks of “Afghan” something-or-other, a certain breed of dog or cozy covering might easily come to mind. Not so for Liz, whose first place of employment was the Afghan Mission to the United Nations in New York. The fact that she majored in French was certainly instrumental in getting the job, which required translating from French to English; but, she insists, “It was the stellar reputation and cachet of the Finch woman that cinched the deal! Working with the delegates provided a special cultural and work experience. I loved that there was actually a UN committee on ‘The Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,’ in which they played an active role!”

Liz met her future husband, Allan, on a train to Westchester. The very mention of Finch was the only “introduction” necessary to spark his interest and establish his ever-lasting devotion! She would soon become involved - and in love - with the family music publishing company, created in the late 1930s by her father-in law, renowned trumpeter Charles Colin. Many of the brass and jazz methods - both then and now - remain staples for musicians worldwide. Located in a small, quirky building on West 53rd Street, they also rented out music practice rooms used largely by Broadway and studio players to warm up or teach, so the joint was always jumpin’! As luck would have it, “Colin Music” was (anonymously) submitted for listing in the international “Guide to Routard” tourist booklet, as the place to go if seeking hard-to-find music. As a

result, when in New York, musicians from around the world always bee-lined it to their place where they often had the delight of bumping into music celebrities and long-lost friends, while, at the same time, actually finding hard-to-come-by music. In addition to the publishing business, Liz and family ran the New York Brass Conference for Scholarships, a nonprofit music organization that produced an annual 3-day brass music festival in Manhattan.

Fast forward to 2005: Liz was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer, which involved a lumpectomy, followed by several months of chemotherapy and radiation. However fabulous and supportive Allan was, as husband and Christian Scientist, her dear Finch pals—Obron Farber, Claudie Frohwirth Gvertz, and Laura Morris—were always there for her, every step of the way. Happily, she is cancer-free today.

Soon after, a new and wonderful chapter unfolded in her life, thanks to Ceil Gavin Ainsworth, who had formed a group of Francophiles with Robert Diefenderfer, Finch’s beloved French professor. Along with Cheryl Deknatel and the late Barbara Glickman, Ceil hosted wonderful weekly French conversation and literature meetings, led by “Deef,” in her home.

Liz says: “A few years ago, the family sold the building on 53rd Street and we moved the operation to our home in Tappan, New York. Depending more on our dealers now, plus liberated from the daily commute to mid-town, I started to indulge



Liz Glick Colin

in numerous sessions and training at the local gym. However, when Ceil appealed for further hands-on involvement with the Finch Association, I was inspired to put some of that new ‘muscle’ to work for the organization, run by a wonderfully dedicated and professional team of Finch women.”

Besides Allan, the other terrific men in Liz’s life are sons Zachary and Asher, who live in California, and her older brother, Kenneth, who is in Philadelphia. She is currently co-chair of the Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust, a post that keeps her happily engaged and creatively involved in all things Finch.

Article: Wendy Glickstein

Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth Glick Colin

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2017 DUES YET?

The Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust needs your support to carry on its mission of granting scholarships to worthy candidates. Annual dues are \$50; lifetime membership is \$300. You can also have your friends and associates join as Friends of Finch. Dues are \$50 a year or \$300 for a lifetime membership. Your dues and donations are tax deductible, since we are a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Just go to the Finch College website [www.FinchCollege.org](http://www.FinchCollege.org) and click on Membership on the left of the home page to download a form and join. You can mail the form along with your dues to:

**Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust** | 954 Lexington Avenue, #183, New York, NY 10021

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# SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEW FINCH SALON SERIES!

This year our Cosgrave Awards Weekend celebration kicks off on **Thursday, May 11, from 5:00 to 7:30 PM**, in the new “rooftop social hall” at the Birch Wathen Lenox School, 210 East 77th Street, New York City. After a lovely wine and cheese gathering, we shall officially inaugurate our new “Finch Salon Series.”

After **Sally Arthur** championed the idea several years ago, former Finch Scholar and current Foundation Board Member, **Danielle Jablonski**, made a similar suggestion, explaining that Finch Scholars would love to learn more about the achievements of Finch women.

Three times a year (Spring/Fall/Winter), the Birch Wathen Lenox School will graciously open its doors to the Finch and Birch Wathen Lenox communities as well as to the general public for an evening that will highlight two Finch women’s achievements in a particular career field. This May, the series will kick off with the “Broadway Scene,” featuring best friends and colleagues, **Magda Katz** and **Pat Addiss**.

Child actress Magda Stark Katz has worked as assistant to the head publicist of Avco Embassy Pictures. She majored in Theater Arts at Finch, studying with William Post. She went on to manage the show business career of her

two children for over 15 years. For the last nine years, Magda has been filming and editing video trailers of live performances as well as celebrity interviews. Magda met Pat Addiss at a Finch reunion in Kansas City, after which they decided to travel to Branson, Missouri to check out some shows. A great friendship blossomed. Pat began to mentor Magda and encouraged her to invest in a camera and start filming. Pat introduced Magda to a journalist who ran a website called *Broadway After Dark*. He was so impressed with her videos that he asked her to join his site. When he was unable to continue running the site, Pat introduced Magda to the editor of *Times Square Chronicle*. The editor asked Magda to join her site where she now has her own column called “Front and Center.” Magda also contributed to the creation of a star-studded 90th birthday party for Mickey Rooney at Feinstein’s at the Regency™ with fellow Finch alum, Ellen Easton. Magda’s video trailers have a large international following and are featured on [www.t2conline.com](http://www.t2conline.com) and [www.theaterpizzazz.com](http://www.theaterpizzazz.com). One of her videos was picked up by The New York Times website.

Native New Yorker, Pat Flicker Addiss, graduated from Finch College, earning honors for costume design and merchandise. After running a premium/promotion company, Pat Addiss Enterprises, she made a dramatic career switch to

Broadway Producer (Broadway: *Little Women*; *Chita Rivera: The Dancer’s Life*; *Bridge & Tunnel*; *Spring Awakening*; *The 39 Steps*; *Promises, Promises*; *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*; *A Christmas Story: The Musical*; *Eclipsed*; *Love Letters*; and *Gigi*. Off-Broadway: *Buyer & Cellar*; *Becoming Dr. Ruth*). She turned her business over to her daughter, Wendy, who today runs it from Virginia. Her next project is an interactive show: *Vox Lumiere’s Phantom of the Opera*.

Pat serves on the Boards of the New Jersey Repertory Company and the League of Professional Theatre Women (where she is Co-chair of Oral History at Lincoln Center.) She is a frequent guest speaker at theatrical events but prefers to be an inspirational speaker for women who are making career transitions.

Magda and Pat forged a great friendship from the Finch reunion in Kansas City. To this day, the two best friends “do nails in Queens and run YaYa dinners,” offering women of all ages and career backgrounds an opportunity to network in New York. These popular dinners have already been featured in *The Huffington Post*.

Without a doubt, this special May 11 Finch evening should prove fun, funny, instructive, and, above all, “entertaining.” Save the date!



Finch College Alumni Association Foundation Trust  
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