

WINTER 2019

# STOLAF

M A G A Z I N E

THE HEALTH CARE ISSUE



ON THE COVER

The warmth of Stav Hall beckons to Oles on a chilly winter evening. PHOTO BY DAVID GONNERMAN '90

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FROM THE DESK OF  
PRESIDENT DAVID R. ANDERSON '74



Greetings, Oles:

This issue of the magazine focuses both on the many ways the college supports students who are called to a career in health care and on the global impact those Oles then have on the challenge of meeting the health care needs of underserved communities.

Let's just stipulate that St. Olaf does a pretty good job of preparing you for a career in health care. A couple of data points: From 2011 to 2016, 75 percent of Oles who applied to medical school with a grade point of 3.6 or higher were accepted, compared to the national average for applicants over the same period, with the same grade point, of 47 percent. Over the last two years, every single graduate of our nursing program — 48 in total — has passed the Minnesota State Board of Nursing RN Licensure exam, compared to the pass rate for all Minnesota RN licensure exam takers of 90.16 percent. I could go on, but you see my point.

But what's important about the stories told in this issue is what Oles do once they've completed their training. They change lives by developing and then, crucially, sustaining mission trips to underserved communities in Peru. They create and, again crucially, develop a sustainable model for a medical center in central Tanzania where residents experience the country's highest incidence of mother/baby mortality and suffer from a lack of basic medical services. They utilize new technologies to alleviate the suffering of patients who struggle with chronic and debilitating pain. And they are compassionate caregivers as nurses, dentists, doctors, physical therapists, and other health care professionals in clinics and hospitals, throughout this country and around the world.

This does not happen by accident. I often remark that one of the most important things to consider in selecting a college is the size and efficacy of its alumni network. This issue of the magazine contains an honor roll of Ole alums in all of the health professions who provide research opportunities, internships, experiential learning trips, and mentoring to current students. Blessings on them! The time, energy, and thoughtfulness of these Ole alums in preparing current Oles to serve constitutes a priceless gift with a profound impact.

Enjoy this issue.

*David R. Anderson*



UMI YAH! YAH!

# NATURE'S



As another Minnesota harvest season came to an end, Oles enjoyed the last of a bountiful supply (more than two tons!) of campus-grown produce. Student farmers with St. Olaf Garden Research and Organic Works (STOGROW) harvested 4,388 pounds of watermelon, squash, cilantro, peppers, basil, cabbage, cantaloupe, tomatoes, turnips, brussels sprouts, beans, kohlrabi, and cucumbers. All of that was sold to Bon Appétit, the college's food service provider, and served in Stav Hall.

Founded in 2005, STOGROW is an acre of student-run farmland situated in St. Olaf's Natural Lands. In collaboration with Curator of Natural Lands and Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies Kathleen Shea, student farmers Rebecca DeBoer '19 and Athena Stifter '19 spent hours in the field learning through trial and error the best farming practices, testing out different techniques and equipment, and conversing with local farmers to complete a STOGROW guide for future student volunteers. Their work was part of the college's Collaborative Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (CURI) program, which provides opportunities for St. Olaf students from all academic disciplines to gain an in-depth understanding of a particular subject by working closely with a St. Olaf faculty member in a research framework. 🌱

— Renata Erickson '19





# Being the Change

By Suzy Frisch

**V**ICTORIA CELANO'S LIFE reflects her dual passions: social justice and a desire to serve others. "I don't only want to see people's lives improve," Celano says "I want to be an active part of challenging the status quo and elevating the social sector's ability to impact individual's lives."

From co-chairing Chicago Foundation for Women (CFW): Young Women's Giving Council to starting a boxing program that mentors at-risk youth, Celano is a tireless advocate in her Chicago community. "I love being part of a foundation where I can be involved in the grant-making process and support local organizations that focus on freedom from violence, economic equity, and access to health care," says Celano, "I'm an advocate of CFW's belief that when you invest in women and girls, you invest in a society that works for everyone."

Her interest in the nonprofit sector can be traced her undergraduate years on the Hill, where she majored in English with concentrations in biomedical studies, and women and gender studies while also launching the St. Olaf Equestrian Club and the St. Olaf Boxing Club. An internship at the Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (ZCenter) and her work with youth at the YMCA in Northfield inspired her to engage in similar work on a larger scale.

Upon graduation, Celano pursued her vocation at ZCenter. "Often, people ask if it was depressing to go to work at a sexual abuse resource center, but it was quite the opposite. You witness a lot of pain and trauma, but you also are witness to the incredible resiliency and strength of survivors of sexual assault — it was an honor to go to work every day," she says. Not only did her work at ZCenter make a difference in the lives of the individuals she met, but she also worked diligently to streamline operations, which led to tripling the number of clients ZCenter served in emergency rooms and through a crisis help line.

Celano recently transitioned to a role at ALSAC, the fundraising and awareness organization for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and in 2017, began pursuing her M.B.A. at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business. At ALSAC/St. Jude, Victoria coordinates the St. Jude Four Stars of Chicago Restaurant Extravaganza, a Chicago fundraising gala to support the kids at St. Jude, and oversees the St. Jude Leadership Society, a leadership experience for high school students who have a passion for giving back. Energized by the mission of St. Jude, Celano is excited to work for, and learn from, a national institution leading the way in how the world understands, treats, and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

"My overall goal is to innovate around how we — from government to the social sector to businesses and individuals — positively impact the people most in need in our communities," says Celano, who hopes to use her M.B.A. to integrate more business acumen into her social justice approaches.

Celano's can-do spirit and her drive to make a difference continue to fuel her as she pursues the next chapter of her career — all part of an effort to contribute her talents to create a more just world. 🍀



# HOLISTIC HEALTH

Oles are well prepared for successful careers in the health professions, having developed as critical thinkers with moral sensitivity and a commitment to unselfish service to others during their days on the Hill. | By Marla Hill Holt '88

**S**T. OLAF HAS A STRONG TRACK RECORD of preparing students for careers in medicine and the health sciences, most notably as physicians, nurses, and physical therapists. Students benefit from a rigorous and broad liberal arts education, one-on-one advising, faculty-student research collaborations, and internships and clinical experiences at top health care organizations like Mayo Clinic, as well as networking opportunities with engaged alumni who willingly share their knowledge and expertise.

St. Olaf's claim as one of the best baccalaureate colleges for preparation to work in the health professions is backed up by data. From 2011 to 2016, 75 percent of St. Olaf students who applied to medical school with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.60 were accepted, compared to the overall national average acceptance rate of 47 percent among students with comparable grade point averages during the same time period.

"Liberal-arts-trained health care workers tend to be better problem solvers," says Kevin Crisp, biology professor and chair of St. Olaf's Health Professions Committee. "They pay attention to the social, economic, and cultural context of patient care. Through their exposure to the humanities and social sciences and arts, they're broadly trained in communication, cultural competencies, and intercultural awareness to be effective in their work."

For the past two years, every senior nursing major at St. Olaf — 48 students in total — has passed the Minnesota State Board of Nursing RN licensure exam. As students of the liberal arts, these nurses-in-training have developed critical and ethical reasoning skills, applied interdisciplinary knowledge to their understanding of patient care, and become proficient collaborators and leaders. As well-rounded generalists with clinical experience in pediatrics, geriatrics, public health, and other medical specialties, St. Olaf nursing graduates are in high demand with employers.

2018 Mayo Innovation Scholars (L-R): Rayan Saldeldin Bashir Mohamed '20, Bjorn Anderson '20, Disa Sullivan '20, Suvd Davaadorj '20, Dao Thi Anh Nguyen '20, Yilin Song '20, Jessie Le '20, and Wael Awada '19





2017 Rockswold Health Scholars (top, L-R): Rebecca Martin '19, Peter Cunniff '19, Beth Westphal '19, Eleanor Goodnow '19, and Ann Jensen '19



2017 Mayo Innovation Scholars (bottom, L-R): Madeline O'Connor '19, Beth Westphal '19, Soren Schwendeman '20, and Christopher Casey '18

“Our clinical partners are eager to employ our graduates,” says Susan Huehn, associate professor of practice in nursing and chair of the Department of Nursing. “This past summer, we had 11 juniors complete nursing internships, and four of them had jobs before they even started their senior year this past fall. All of the nursing graduates in the Class of 2018 had jobs before graduation.”

### BEST PRACTICES

Students interested in the health professions earn majors across the liberal arts, including science and non-science disciplines. Those who are considering medical school can pursue pre-med (or pre-health) studies in tandem with their major. At St. Olaf, being pre-health is an intention, not a major, and that intention guides students’ curriculum choices, as not all of them will go on to become doctors. Among those who do head to medical school, the Association of American Medical Colleges notes that, nationally, only 51 percent of medical school enrollees in 2012 majored in biological sciences. The remaining matriculants majored in the humanities, mathematics or statistics, the physical sciences, the social sciences, or specialized health sciences.

St. Olaf’s philosophy is to help students think past the title of “doctor” to examine how they can best use their skills to improve the lives of others, Crisp says.

“We want students to explore career options that suit them and that fit their specific set of skills,” he says. “We offer

a rigorous science education, research opportunities, and support for students to discover all sorts of possibilities to make a difference within the health sciences. We help them put their unique talents, perspectives, and experiences to best effect and to go on to get jobs in the field of their choice, whether that’s as a physician, dentist, nurse, physical therapist, or any number of other options.”

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, between 2016 and 2026, health care-related occupations are projected to add more jobs to the economy than any of the other occupational groups. Both Huehn and Crisp note in particular that the booming nursing industry (15 percent of jobs added to the health care market will be in nursing) will benefit from St. Olaf’s excellent nursing program, whose students will be well-positioned to fill many of those vacancies.

While nursing students earn a bachelor of arts degree in nursing, they also partake of St. Olaf’s liberal arts curriculum by completing the general graduation requirements, such as courses in a foreign language, oral and written communication, and abstract and quantitative reasoning.

“It’s imperative that students have the combination of a liberal arts education with professional preparation because the health care system is so complex,”

Huehn says. “A broad education prepares students to become discerning practitioners.”

Admission to St. Olaf’s nursing program is competitive, with only 24 students admitted each year. The program includes clinical experiences that prepare nursing students to work in all specialty areas, including psychiatry, obstetrics, and general medical surgery, as well as in elementary, middle and high schools, among others. St. Olaf’s clinical preparation for students in public health, in particular, sets the college apart from other baccalaureate nursing programs.

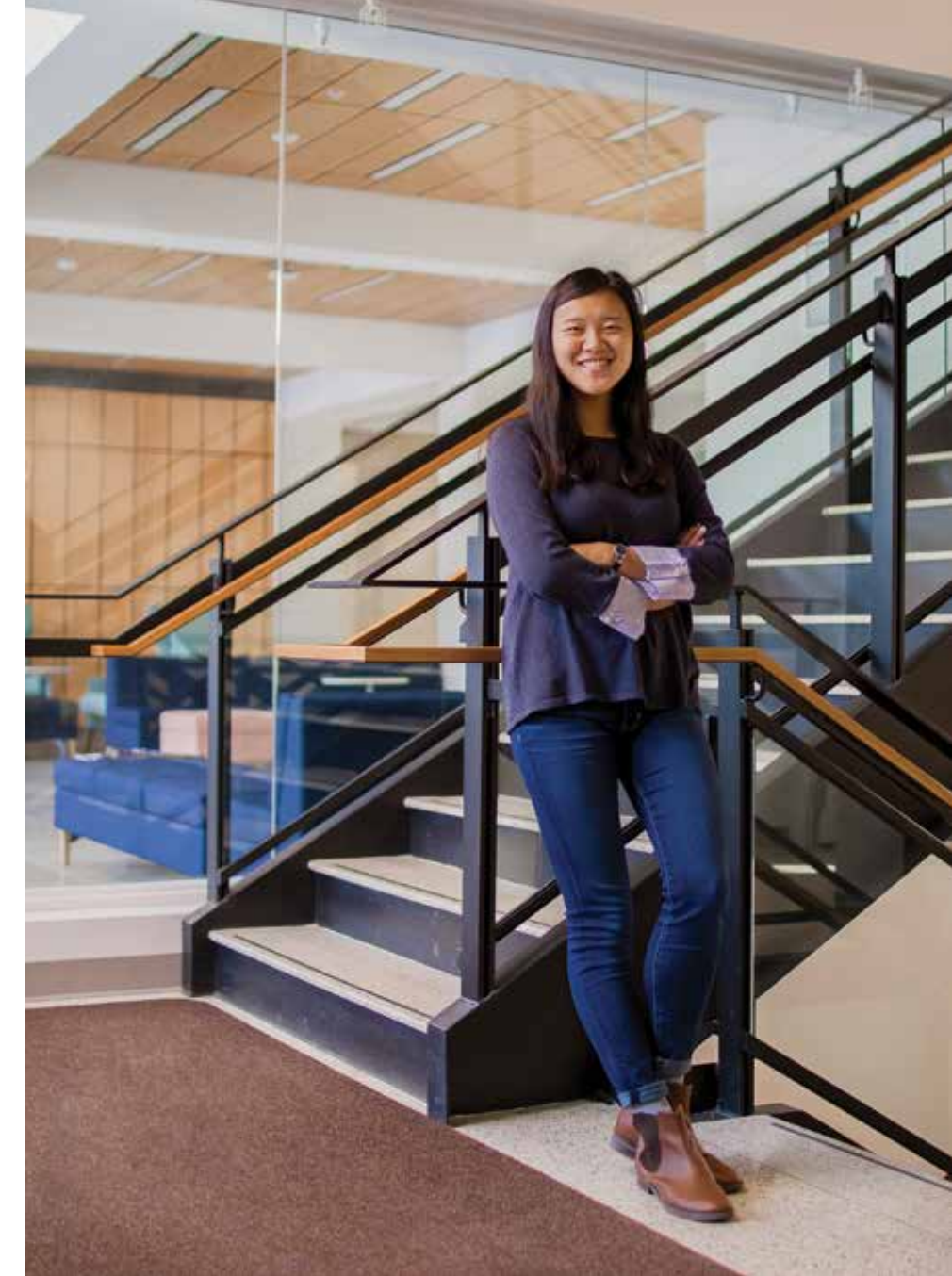
“While most programs prepare generalists, most don’t offer public health certification as we do,” Huehn says. St. Olaf’s location also provides nursing students with the best clinical experiences in a combination of urban and rural, public and private settings through partnerships with a variety of clinical agencies, ranging from Rice County Public Health and Northfield Hospital to Twin Cities hospitals like Abbott Northwestern, Hennepin County Medical Center, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The nursing program soon will benefit from enhanced facilities as well. Having been temporarily housed in the basement of Ytterboe Residence Hall for the past three years, the department will move in February 2019 into newly renovated space in Regents Hall of Natural and Mathematical Sciences. The new space, which includes two labs for simulation training with high-fidelity patient simulators, improves the department’s technical capacity to educate future nurses. In simulation labs, students work with educator-controlled adult and neonatal patient simulators that mimic neurological and physiological processes like respiration, blood flow, muscle activity, eye movement, and skin response. The training leads students through a variety of unfolding scenarios related to patient care, which helps them learn to tend to a patient’s emotional needs while also treating their physical needs.

“Simulations are a great way for students to practice their skills in a safe environment,” Huehn says. “Students learn to interact with other members of a health care team as well, such as a physician or a chaplain.”

The move also better supports the nursing program’s collaboration with faculty and students in other science programs, Huehn says. “Proximity to other departments, both in the natural and social sciences, will allow us to provide cross-disciplinary training. Students in other health science programs will also benefit from using the simulation labs.”

In addition to simulation work, all nursing students and most pre-health students participate in cadaver dissection as part of St. Olaf’s comprehensive anatomy and physiology program. “Working with cadavers is another experience that can be quite impactful for our pre-health students, as it’s an experience that is rare at the



After becoming an RN, nursing major Erica Rempert '20 (above) would like to become a traveling nurse, a position that would enable her to accept assignments in different locations across the country at hospitals in a variety of units for a minimum of 13 weeks. “I really value the small class sizes and the close relationships my fellow nursing students and I are able to have with our faculty, who genuinely care for and about me, not only as a student nurse but more importantly as a person.” The nursing program also encourages its students to pursue other interests, notes Rempert, who participates in the St. Olaf Orchestra, the St. Olaf Chapel Choir, and the Swing Club, and works in the college’s Wellness Center as a peer educator.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY MATTHEW CLARK



undergraduate level,” Crisp says. “The cadaver dissection students conduct a memorial service of gratitude in honor and thanks to the individuals who donated themselves as cadavers to our program. This is a powerful, moving event each year, and it is an important part of our students’ anatomy education as they reflect on the dignity and selflessness of our donors.”

#### BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

While nursing students gain clinical experience beyond the Hill, pre-health students also have numerous experiential opportunities that offer firsthand exposure to health care. Administered by the Piper Center for Vocation and Career, cohort internship programs pair students with mentors (some of whom are alumni) who oversee the students in laboratory research and job shadowing in all areas of patient care.

These programs include the Rockswold Health Scholars Program at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis — where students are mentored by neurosurgeon and program creator Gaylan Rockswold, M.D., '62; Sarah Rockswold, M.D., '90; and Jon Snyder, M.D., '94 — and Health Scholars at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, where mentors include David W. Larson, M.D., '93; Erik K. St. Louis, M.D., '87; Scott H. Okuno, M.D., '85; Scott E. Kaese '83; and Stephen Q. Sponsel '82.

In addition, small teams of students participate in the Norway Innovation Scholars and the Mayo Innovation

### Institute for Freedom & Community Explores the Complexities of Health Care

In spring 2018, the Institute for Freedom & Community at St. Olaf offered a series of events related to health care, which remains one of our country’s most urgent, complex, and controversial public policy issues. The diverse slate of experts included Joanne Lynn, M.D., who addressed elder care in America — an increasingly urgent social problem as the boomer generation ages — and Gilbert Meilaender, who provided guidance in thinking through the complicated ethics of palliative sedation.

Two other events focused on the question of what kind of health care system the U.S. should adopt: David Craig and Joan Tronto (above) debated the merits of incremental or radical reform while considering solutions ranging from single-payer insurance to community health centers, while Amitabh Chandra and Tyler Cowen highlighted the critical role that market incentives and innovation play in the quality and quantity of health care Americans can access.

These thought-provoking conversations are available online at [institute.stolaf.edu/public-programs/2017-2018](http://institute.stolaf.edu/public-programs/2017-2018).



Scholars Programs, founded by alumnus and retired Medtronic executive John Meslow '60, and overseen by faculty advisor Kevin Crisp. The teams of students conduct biotech research projects or evaluate potential business opportunities for discoveries and inventions created by physicians and researchers.

Students also have the opportunity to intern and/or conduct research at Fairview Health Services; Allina Health; TRIA Orthopedic (see page 17); the Pediatric Blood & Marrow Transplantation Center at UMN under the supervision of John Wagner, Ph.D., P'11; the Center for Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation in Northfield, Minnesota; Consultative Health and Medicine in Minneapolis (an internship for two students every summer, provided by Chris Johnson, M.D., '76); and the Children’s Mercy Center for Bioethics in Kansas City, Missouri.

These programs are intentionally developed in partnership with hospitals and clinics to offer unique experiences that are available only to Oles, says Katie Hughes, the Piper Center’s associate director for pre-health career development and coaching, who provides personalized advising while overseeing experiential pre-health programs, including structured job shadowing, for students interested in the health professions. “We work really hard to create formal opportunities for students to do more vocational discernment to make sure a career in the health professions is right for them,” Hughes says.

In keeping with the St. Olaf value of civic engagement, pre-health students are encouraged to pursue community service opportunities. For example, nursing students teach about oral hygiene at local Head Start programs and recently participated in discussions with community members to understand further how health care workers’ attitudes toward patients in poverty affect the health care those patients receive. “It’s an effort to help students become more compassionate caregivers,” Huehn says.

With careful planning, pre-health students can also study abroad — another hallmark of a St. Olaf education. Many choose St. Olaf’s service learning-focused Peruvian Medical Experience, during which students assist alumni health professionals who are serving the dental and medical needs of Andean communities in and around Cusco, Peru.

“We’re blessed with a loyal alumni base that really seeks to give back to the college by creating these career exploration experiences for our students,” Hughes says.

All told, St. Olaf supports and empowers pre-health students to be autonomous decision makers with respect to their careers, guiding them along the way with everything from individualized advising and academic planning to experiential development and networking opportunities. “We want them to ask, ‘How can I use my education to be the best doctor I can be? The best nurse?’” Crisp says. “We’re here to support their development according to their potential and their desires.” 🍷

MARLA HILL HOLT '88 is a regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*.

Photos provided by the Piper Center for Vocation and Career.

FOR 14 YEARS, THE ST. OLAF PERUVIAN MEDICAL EXPERIENCE HAS PARTNERED STUDENTS WITH ALUMNI MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS TO PROVIDE LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.

# Changing LIVES

BY GREG BREINING





ONE OF THE  
QUESTIONS WE  
ALWAYS HAVE TO  
ASK OURSELVES IS,  
'ARE WE MAKING  
A DIFFERENCE?'  
- TED JOHNSON

In 2004, Ted Johnson, St. Olaf professor of biology and director of biomedical studies, and pediatrician Doug Tate '70 met over coffee to discuss Tate's idea of taking St. Olaf students on an annual medical study-service trip to the Peruvian highlands. Tate had just returned from a similar trip to Peru with Children's Surgical International, a Minneapolis-based nonprofit organization that offers free cleft-repair surgeries to children in underdeveloped countries. Tate excitedly showed Johnson photos of the men, women, and children he met.

A couple of months later, the two men were together in Cusco, Peru, pitching their service project to Elizabeth Vilca, a pediatrician at a regional hospital. Their plan was to bring medical professionals and St. Olaf students to impoverished communities in need of basic medical care for several weeks each year.

Vilca was skeptical.

"She said, 'Are you going to be like all the other Americans?'" Johnson recalls now. "They come down here, they set up a clinic for three days and then they leave, and we never see them again. And they do more damage than good."

"She called it 'tailgate medicine,'" Johnson says. "I said no, if we come down, we'll come every year." The exchange impressed Johnson, and he never forgot his promise.

That promise gave birth to the Peruvian Medical Experience, a study-service Interim that began in 2005. In January 2006, Johnson, Tate, and Northfield dentist Jerry Appeldoorn '67 went to Cusco with a dozen St. Olaf students. There they visited health clinics, conducted general health and dental screenings, and spent time with the local Peruvians. Appeldoorn, who initiated the program's first dental experience, participated in the Interim for many years. Said Johnson at the program's inception, "One of the questions we always have to ask ourselves is, 'Are we making a difference?'" Since those first visits, more than 200 St. Olaf students with interests in various aspects of health care have made the three-week trip to the Peruvian cities of Cusco and Arequipa and the isolated Quechua Andean community of Willoq every year.

More remarkable, perhaps, has been the growing and lasting involvement of St. Olaf alumni, parents, and faculty in the Peruvian Medical Experience. These doctors, dentists, and other health care providers have helped to maintain the continuity and integrity of the program by accompanying St. Olaf students on the program, sometimes for several years in a row and often at their own expense. Some of them have even seen the Peruvian children they have cared for grow to adulthood.

Tate, who retired from the Twin Cities-based Metropolitan Pediatric Specialists four years ago, is among those who have traveled with the program every year since it began. "I say to people, once you go on a medical mission, it's very hard to stop. Every year it's different, and that's exciting. And every year it's very humbling," Tate says. He's the "only gray hair" still regularly making the trip and continues to serve as co-faculty and lead physician for the Peru Interim, adding, "I just hate to miss out on the experience."

### THREE WEEKS OF SERVICE

Now in its 14th year, the Peruvian Medical Experience takes place over three weeks each January with 18 St. Olaf seniors, juniors, and sophomores who are planning careers in health care and a group of medical professionals from the United States.

The service project begins with a week in Cusco, once the capital of the Inca empire and today a city of nearly 350,000 in the Andes in southern Peru. There, students shadow and assist doctors and dentists in several children's shelters.



St. Olaf students participating in the 2018 Peruvian Medical Experience spent their final week in Alto Cayma, Arequipa. Service projects included home building, digging a channel to divert rain run-off and prevent flooding, riding along on the volunteer fire department ambulance, and helping in the kitchen. Additional tasks in Cusco, Willoq, and other communities included health screenings and dental education.





IN PERU, STUDENTS  
LEARN TO BETTER  
UNDERSTAND THE  
ISSUES OF POVERTY,  
DIFFERENT CULTURES,  
AND HOW THOSE  
THINGS INTERACT  
WITH MEDICAL  
ACCESS AND CARE.

During their second week, the group travels inland to Ollantaytambo and Willoq in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, delivering medical and dental care to these isolated communities. Malnutrition, parasites, and injuries are the major medical problems they help treat. Doctors prescribe antibiotics and anti-parasite medications while referring more serious problems to local doctors in larger cities.

“We’ve kind of become their primary care physicians,” says Johnson. “One of our concerns has been never to leave a medical problem unfinished that would present a problem.”

Meanwhile, dentists treat cavities, which are endemic to the area, and extract problem teeth. John Mittelsteadt ’81, who practices in Eagan, Minnesota, and is the program’s lead dentist, has made 11 trips to Peru. “It’s just an unlimited amount of care that is required. That need is not being met in any way, shape, or form,” he says. “We’ve really become pretty sophisticated in the care we are giving.”

St. Olaf students spend their third week in the Alto Cayma slum area of Arequipa, a city of 870,000 in southern Peru, about 50 miles from the Pacific coast. In this community, they visit homes, work in an orphanage, help in a kitchen, and deliver meals — all while staying with program leaders in a volunteer house run by the local priest, Father Alex Busuttill.

“Our hope is that the students can really get a sense of what’s going on in places like Alto Cayma,” says pediatrician Robert Gehringer ’71, medical director of a Peru and U.S.-based NGO called Health Bridges International. Gehringer joined the program about eight years ago and oversees the third week in Alto Cayma. “It’s more a week for them to learn, to try to assimilate, to better understand the issues of poverty, a different culture, and how those things interact with medical access and care and quality-of-life issues that revolve around health.”

Jay Demas, associate professor of biology and physics, echoes that idea. He, along with Associate Professor of Biology Sara Fruehling, oversees the Peruvian Medical Experience. Demas says that the primary objectives of the program are threefold: to give students an opportunity to think deeply about their vocation; to allow them to develop relationships with American and Peruvian health care providers who model patient, focused, and committed medical care; and to bring an awareness of how culture influences health care and ideas about well-being.

John Mittelsteadt ’81 (below) is one of the many health professionals who — along with fellow alumni and St. Olaf students and faculty — regularly travels to Peru to help tend to the medical and dental needs of Andean mountain villagers.

Ben Quiram ’20, a biology major who took the trip in early 2018 as a sophomore, has benefited from the program’s dual focus on medical service and socioeconomic issues. “It really made me think about what it means to be a physician, what my true role is as a servant-leader, providing care to people who need it most.” For Quiram, that has involved working to develop a simple and portable system to maintain electronic health records for communities served by the Peruvian Medical Experience.

#### THE DRAW OF SERVICE

Key to the success of the Peruvian Medical Experience has been the legion of doctors, dentists, and other health professionals whose shared passion is serving communities in need and providing hands-on learning opportunities for St. Olaf students. Lead dentist Mittelsteadt, who was recruited to the Peruvian program by his former professor Ted Johnson, initially welcomed the chance to reconnect with the college he loves. But what’s kept him involved has been the opportunity to direct and mentor St. Olaf students. “They are such smart and motivated people, and they’re just fun to be around,” he says.

Two of Mittelsteadt’s sons have made the trip with him. Mike Mittelsteadt ’12 says working with doctors and dentists in Quechua communities helped clarify his career goals. “I actually started out as a pre-med student at the beginning of that trip,” he says. “It helped guide my career decisions, and I switched to dentistry.”

Now a dentist and a third-year graduate endodontics resident at the University of North Carolina, he returned to Peru with his dad in 2018 and plans to return this January. “It’s exciting coming back as an actual dentist and being



### A Lasting Legacy

To make a more meaningful footprint, Doug Tate ’70 and other program organizers recently established the nonprofit Andean Community Partners. Its objective is to improve the health and well-being of Andean mountain communities by focusing on health, education, and infrastructure, such as providing improvements to water and air quality, schools, and transportation.

To achieve this goal, the nonprofit is partnering with native Peruvian medical and dental coordinators, who have been hired to work with the Quechua Andean community at Willoq, as well as surrounding mountain communities. These health care providers visit the villages regularly, stay in touch with local leaders, and introduce basic health and dental care.

“The secret is in prevention, and that takes education,” says Tate. “The local Willoq school is going to be the key factor here so that we will get a pulse of what they need medically throughout the whole year. What we’re trying to do is to form partnerships [in Peru] with nongovernment organizations and the local medical stations and the local doctors and dentists so that we can coordinate the care of that whole community and hopefully improve it.”

Learn more at [AndeanCommunityPartners.org](http://AndeanCommunityPartners.org).







able to see what it's like firsthand doing that work," he says. "It's nice to know you're able to help out a little for these smaller communities."

Like John Mittelsteadt, Lisa Schut Callies '82 was recruited by Johnson with the enticement of working with St. Olaf students. An internist at Allina Health, she first made the trip seven years ago and has returned several times since. One of her most powerful memories is watching the eyes of students light up as they directly observe health care providers working with patients of all ages in the Andean communities. "This is very rewarding for the students, which makes them more excited about pursuing the profession that they are interested in, whether that be dentistry or medicine."

Another volunteer, pediatrician Diane Harrington, is not a St. Olaf alumna but a partner at Metropolitan Pediatric Specialists, where Tate convinced her to join the program. She has returned to Peru several times since her first trip in 2008, caring for children and befriending teenaged girls caught up in sex trafficking. This important work and lasting friendships with local villagers have encouraged Harrington to continue to make the trips. Several Peruvians she's gotten to know in Willoq have even asked her to be a *madrina*, or godmother. "I feel very connected to the people of the Willoq community," she says, noting that as a godmother, she was invited to walk down the aisle at a local wedding and be seated as an honored guest.

Doug Tate says he feels the same attraction to the Willoq community. "From a pediatric standpoint, it's nice to see our patients grow up and develop." He's also formed close relationships with the guides and translators the program has worked with over the years. "They're just like family," he says.

Tate has a special place in his heart for some of the children he's encountered. He's helped support five Peruvian kids, who more or less lived on the street, through school. On one of his early trips, he met John Rafael Rondan Auccapuma, who practically begged to be his guide. Tate was leaving the next day, but Rondan asked for his email. They stayed in touch, and when Tate returned to Peru, Rondan was waiting. Rondan, now in his late 20s, is still working with the program and recently was hired as a medical coordinator in the Willoq community and surrounding area.

"I learned a lot with the annual visits of the students and volunteers of St. Olaf College, and one of them is compassion toward the most needy," Rondan says by email.

Despite the eager participation of as many as 20 volunteer medical professionals over the years, Tate says there's always a need for more health care professionals to accompany students and serve in Peru. It's a life-changing opportunity — both for students and themselves.

Ted Johnson, now a professor emeritus of biology, knows just how life-altering the service program can be.

"I tell students — and this has proven to be a fact — they think they're going to go down there and make a difference in the Peruvian community," he says. "And really, what happens is that they change. They're the ones who acquire unbelievable benefits from it. The Peruvian people are central to the program, but the St. Olaf students are the ones who live a life of service and learn that they have a responsibility for the rest of the world." 🍷

GREG BREINING is a freelance writer who contributes regularly to *St. Olaf Magazine*.

Photos provided by John Mittelsteadt, Robert Gehringer, and Peruvian Medical Experience student participants.

The 2018 Peruvian Medical Experience participants (top) are welcomed by members of the Quechua community in Willoq.

Tou Sue Thao '14 (middle) provides lessons on dental health.

Holly Belgum '12 (bottom) makes friends with young patients during wellness checkups at a Cusco orphanage.

# THE PAIN MANAGERS

IF YOU'RE ONE OF THE ESTIMATED 100 MILLION AMERICANS  
SUFFERING FROM CHRONIC PAIN, TRIA ORTHOPEDIC  
CENTER'S PETER STILES '05 AND BOSTON SCIENTIFIC'S  
BEN FETTERS '05 ARE IN YOUR CORNER.

BY ERIN PETERSON



The patient was a young man, an assistant at a school for troubled youth. One day, a situation at the school got out of hand. A student attacked him, crushing his left hand and breaking his fingers.

The man's fingers healed, but month after month, the pain remained. Eventually, he simply stopped using his hand. Peter Stiles, medical director of the pain program at TRIA Orthopedic Center, recalls not just the man's injury but its impact. "He just kept his hand in a glove and put it in his pocket," he says. "He couldn't lift his daughter."

When the man came in to see Stiles, he thought he'd exhausted every possibility: medication, physical therapy, behavior modifications. Stiles, who makes his living helping people with seemingly incurable pain, offered another option: a high-tech spinal cord stimulator.

The stimulator, developed by Boston Scientific and supported by a team that included Ben Fetters '05, would act something like noise canceling headphones for the pain. It wasn't a guaranteed fix. But the man, who continued to struggle with raging pain, understood that it might just be his best shot. He agreed to try the procedure to implant the device.

His turnaround could hardly have been more dramatic. "I saw him back one week after the implant. He was holding a can of Coke with his left hand," Stiles says, still astonished.

Not every patient that Stiles sees experiences such a striking improvement with this device. But for some, the technology is truly life-changing.

There's no question that the country is in dire need of good solutions for chronic pain. Studies suggest that one in three Americans suffer from chronic pain, defined as pain lasting three months or more. And some of the most common treatments, including opioids, are both addictive and potentially deadly.

The comprehensive pain management plans that Stiles offers, paired with the kind of advanced technology developed by several medical device companies, including Boston Scientific, may be a big part of future treatments at TRIA. For those experiencing extreme chronic pain, the work that Stiles and Fetters pursue might just be the one-two punch that can knock out pain's debilitating effects for good.

#### THE PATH TO PAIN MANAGEMENT

Long before Stiles and Fetters were collaborating to support patients with chronic pain, they were hallmates in Ytterboe. They knew each other casually, and each had separate ambitions. Stiles planned a career in medicine. Fetters, who focused on economics and financial management, planned to pursue a business career.

Stiles started out as an anesthesiologist, a fast-paced position in the operating room. "I was responding to crises and rescuing airways," he says. "It was front-line lifesaving."

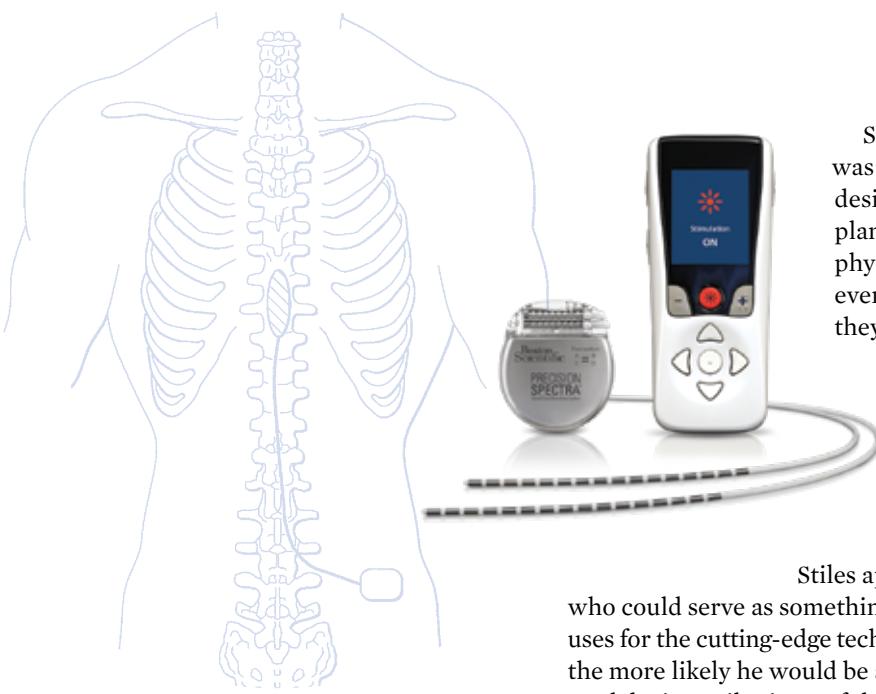
He made a real impact on patients' lives and enjoyed the work, but he felt as though something was missing professionally: a lack of durable relationships with his patients. "I missed the interpersonal piece. I missed coming up with a plan and seeing it through."

"THE GOAL OF PAIN MANAGEMENT SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE ABSENCE OF PAIN. IT SHOULD BE INCREASING FUNCTION WITH LESS PAIN, OR IN SPITE OF PAIN."

— PETER STILES







Stiles completed additional fellowship training and was recruited to TRIA, where built a program capable of designing individualized pain management plans. These plans typically include a combination of medication, physical therapy, behavioral support, interventions, and even mindfulness techniques and acupuncture. Sometimes, they also include technology.

As Stiles was getting his bearings at TRIA, he heard from his long-ago hallmate Fetters. After a stint in commercial real estate, Fetters had landed at Boston Scientific, where he was a manager focused on spinal cord stimulators.

In the complicated world of chronic pain management, Stiles appreciated his relationship with Fetters, a trusted voice who could serve as something of a translator, helping Stiles understand the best uses for the cutting-edge technology. The more that Stiles understood its capabilities, the more likely he would be able to match the right patient with the right spinal cord device. Stiles is careful to note that while he appreciates his relationship with Fetters, he is always a doctor to his patients first: with similar devices from several medical device companies, he makes his choices based on what's best for a patient, not his relationship with a classmate.

#### TINY BUT MIGHTY

There's no question the technology feels a bit like science fiction itself. For something that can have such a major impact on pain, a spinal cord stimulator is small (imagine an Oreo cookie with a couple of wires attached to it).

The device is surgically placed underneath the skin of a patient, with a pair of wires implanted just outside the spine, so that it can deliver electrical signals to specific spots on the spine. These electrical currents can help alter a person's excruciating feeling of pain to something that's more tolerable.

Think of the experience, says Stiles, like the moment you hit your head on the corner of a cabinet. Your first instinct is to rub your head. That simple motion doesn't actually make the pain go away, but it does overwhelm the pain signal your body is giving you with an alternate sensory signal. Stimulators work in a similar way.

Such devices, relatively new in the field, are among the most promising developments for those who have had unrelenting pain that is not relieved by other treatments. "It offers hope for a whole class of pain and patients that, as recently as five to ten years ago, were completely hopeless," says Stiles. And while spinal cord stimulators may not completely erase someone's pain, they can greatly improve a person's quality of life. "As funny as it seems, the goal of pain management should not necessarily be absence of pain," he says. "It should be increasing function with less pain, or maybe in spite of pain."

#### A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

The process of implanting and managing the spinal cord stimulator is a collaborative one. It begins with a doctor like Stiles, who implants the spinal cord stimulator in a person's body. Experts and scientists from Boston Scientific are closely involved. "We actually bring the devices to be implanted to the surgery," says Fetters. "Then we stay with the patient after the surgery to educate them how to use it." He adds that he or his team members come to follow-up appointments to program the device, and they're always available beyond the surgery: "All patients get our cell phone numbers."

At a patient's request, Boston Scientific scientists can use their own technology to fine-tune the anatomic location of the stimulation. They can make sure that the

stimulation affects the foot rather than the knee, for example, or the left foot rather than the right.

From there, patients themselves control the device with a remote control, using one of more than a dozen settings. They might choose one setting during a workout, another as they prepare for bed, and a third as they sit at their office desk. The battery, which has a 12-year-life, can be charged through the patient's skin.

As medicine advances, such collaborations among doctors, medical device experts, and scientists will become more common. For his part, Stiles says that working with an Ole he's known for nearly two decades makes a meaningful difference as they work with patients. "As a doctor, you have to have strong trust in the team you're working with," he says. "When Ben tells me something, it's coming from someone I know and trust."

Fetters, meanwhile, appreciates the chance to support the work of doctors and surgeons who want to help people with debilitating chronic pain. He believes that implantable devices such as the spinal cord stimulator are one way to provide real relief without the danger of opioid addiction. The FDA has approved spinal cord stimulators as a safe and effective, drug-free therapy for people suffering from debilitating chronic pain, Fetters notes, adding that for more than four decades, these stimulators have brought pain relief to hundreds of thousands of individuals.

For Stiles, the larger pain management work is about developing a plan that makes a real impact on people's lives. He's watched as wheelchair-bound patients regain the ability to walk and as patients debilitated by pain go from an hour or two of sleep per day to uninterrupted nights. "I like to work with patients to come up with a plan together that makes their lives better," he says. "When I can walk with them through that, it's very rewarding." 🍀

ERIN PETERSON is a freelance writer who runs Capstone Communications in Minneapolis. She is a regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*.

## So, you want to be a doctor?

**An internship supported by doctors Peter Stiles '05 and Marc Tompkins '99 lets students dive into the joys and challenges of medicine long before they apply to medical school.**



Tompkins and Stiles

Eliza Thompson '17 had known for years that she wanted to go into medicine. She'd even spent some time — an afternoon here, a day there — shadowing physicians. But when she landed one of the two coveted spots for the TRIA Orthopedic Center internship through St. Olaf's Piper Center for Career and Vocation, she knew she'd get an unparalleled view of the world she soon hoped to join.

She wasn't disappointed. Over the course of 160 hours in 2016, she observed physicians, nurses, physical therapists, and radiology technicians. "I got a sense of what each of these professions contributes to patient care," she says. "After this experience, I knew I wanted to go to medical school."



Colten Yahn '17 and Eliza Thompson '17

Thompson is now a second-year medical student at Washington University in St. Louis. That outcome — not just a spot in medical school but Thompson's clear-eyed knowledge about the road ahead — was exactly what Peter Stiles and Marc Tompkins hoped would come from the internship they developed in partnership with St. Olaf.

It all got started at the TRIA Orthopedic Center holiday party. Tompkins, an orthopedic surgeon, and Stiles, medical director of the pain program, were chatting about their St. Olaf experiences, including the internships they had done as undergraduates. Both men realized that those internships had been invaluable in their own paths to medicine. "[My internship] opened my eyes to different areas of medicine," says Tompkins. "It was the first time I had exposure to orthopedic surgery."

The pair teamed up with St. Olaf through the Piper Center for Vocation and Career to create similar opportunities for students by designing a structured internship at TRIA. Thompson and fellow classmate Colten Yahn '17 were the first two students to go through the internship program, which selects two students each semester. The seventh and eighth students, Abhinab Kc '21 and David Domnick '21, will wrap up their experience this January.

Stiles says that even the most committed and knowledgeable students gain new insight during the internship. For example, they might be surprised by the time gobbled up in tussles with insurance companies, or in learning the nuances of electronic medical records. "You can read about what doctors do. You can watch medical shows. But until you actually show up before the sun comes up and stay until the sun is down — until you learn what it's actually like to interact with patients, both the good parts and the challenging parts — you probably don't have the real flavor of what a career as a physician is like," he says.

Yahn, for his part, says that while he expected to be wowed by Tompkins's and Stiles's skill as surgeons and professionals (he was), one of the most useful parts of the internship was having weekly, meaningful discussions with the two about what a career in medicine really meant. "They were extremely open about some of the sacrifices they made for the sake of their profession," he says.

Yahn, now a first-year medical student at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, says the conversations made a real difference. "The internship at TRIA was my confirming moment. It was when I completely bought into the idea of going to medical school," he says. "The conversations [with Stiles and Tompkins] pushed me to explore my true motivations."

Most of all, say students, the experience gives them a model for who they can become as doctors. "Doctor Stiles was graceful, kind, and smart — words that I hope will describe me in my future career," says Thompson. "[The experience] helped me see that I could become the kind of physician I want to be."



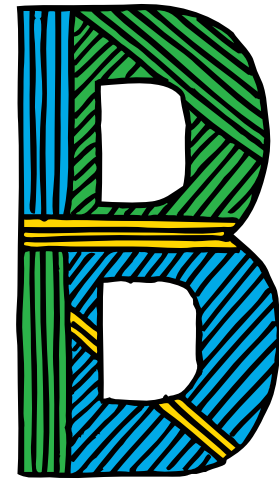
CONNECTIONS BETWEEN **DODOMA CHRISTIAN MEDICAL CENTER** AND ST. OLAF COLLEGE RUN DEEP, BEGINNING WITH ITS FOUNDERS, BOB AND BARBARA GRIFFIN P'81, P'83, AND SUSTAINED BY A GLOBALLY ENGAGED COMMUNITY OF ST. OLAF ALUMNI AND PARENTS WHO HAVE HELPED ACCOMPLISH THE VISION OF BRINGING HIGH-QUALITY, SUSTAINABLE, COMPASSIONATE HEALTH CARE TO THE PEOPLE OF CENTRAL TANZANIA.

# HEALTH LIFE

BY MARLA HILL HOLT '88







Bob and Barb Griffin had no idea that a meeting with a young woman from Tanzania in 1998 would change the trajectory of their lives. They were nearing the end of their careers — as a senior executive and president of the pacing division at Medtronic and a psychiatric nurse — when pastor Steve Lomen '81 asked them to meet the daughter of a family friend, Peter Mwamasika, who was then the presiding bishop of the Dodoma Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). The young woman was attending Harold Washington City College in Chicago, and Lomen thought she'd be a good candidate for admission to St. Olaf. He also hoped the Griffins might be willing to sponsor her.

"We'd traveled a bit and gotten it into our heads that sponsoring the education of a young woman from a developing country could have a ripple effect on her family, her village, and her country," Bob says. The Griffins were immediately wowed by Happiness Mwamasika '03, who told them at that first meeting that she aspired to be the first woman prime minister of Tanzania. "And she just might be," Bob says. "We could tell she was special."

The feeling was mutual, Happiness says: "Our bond was so strong and immediate."

The Griffins and Lomen co-hosted Happiness that summer as she interned at Medtronic, while also encouraging her to apply to St. Olaf. She followed their advice and soon found herself stepping foot on the Hill as a first-year student.

"I will never forget the first day, being dropped off in front of Mohn. There I was, all the way from Africa, with these white suburban kids. I remember how much I cried when Barb gave me a hug and said goodbye," Happiness says. "The Griffins are my parents just as much as my biological parents are," she adds, explaining that the couple's sponsorship lifted a huge financial burden from her older brother, who'd been working as a taxi driver in Chicago to pay for her education.

During her first week at St. Olaf, Happiness met Gaspar Msangi '01, who was helping students move in to Mohn Hall. Instinctively greeting Msangi with "habari" ("hello"), he quickly responded in Swahili, and the two soon discovered they shared both a homeland and mutual friends in Tanzania. (Today, Msangi, who worked at Medtronic after graduation and attended Mayo Medical School on a scholarship, is a urologist practicing in the Atlanta area, and will be volunteering at Dodoma Christian Medical Center in 2019.)

Happiness went on to graduate with a degree in economics. Her family flew to Minnesota to attend her graduation, visiting the Griffins in Minneapolis. Given the Griffins' medical backgrounds, the conversation turned to hospitals and health care in developing countries, particularly in central Tanzania, home to the nation's capital, Dodoma.

Nearly 75 percent of Tanzania's 60 million people live in rural areas; 80 percent have no electricity, and 68 percent live in poverty. Its Dodoma residents suffer from Tanzania's highest incidence of mother/infant mortality and face a severe lack of quality health



Happiness Mwamasika '03, pictured at the home of Bob and Barb Griffin in 2003.

care facilities to meet even basic needs. Malnutrition and diseases like malaria and HIV/AIDS are prevalent.

"Bishop Mwamasika, Happy's father, asked us to come to Dodoma to see the state of health care there, telling us, 'you will cry,'" Bob says. The Griffins accepted the invitation and arranged for 10 other interested individuals to join them. In July 2001, Happiness traveled ahead to prepare for the group to visit the Dodoma Diocese as guests of the ELCT. The group brought along school supplies and about 1,800 pounds of over-the-counter medications for local dispensaries that the ELCT managed in the region's villages.

"We visited hospitals and clinics and, candidly, what we saw was disturbing," Barb says. "But it's important to note that the Tanzanians we met were doing the best they could with very limited resources in very old facilities. It's not that there was lack of caring." She still recalls the white-haired grandmother she saw cradling a newborn in a hospital ward after the woman's daughter died during the delivery. "That shouldn't happen in a hospital," Barb says.

Bishop Mwamasika and the Griffins soon realized that a seed was being planted.

"While we were in Dodoma, the team was asked about supporting the diocese's health care initiatives," says Happiness, noting that such initiatives have always been supported by faith-based organizations such as the Roman Catholic and Lutheran Churches. "We had many discussions about how best to support and improve holistic health care in Dodoma."

A mere two years later, the Griffins and Bishop Mwamasika co-founded Dodoma Christian Medical Center (DCMC) as an independent trust. Its partners — a U.S.-based nonprofit organization and a Dodoma-based for-profit social enterprise

When Dodoma Christian Medical Center was founded by Bob and Barb Griffin (below) in 2003, the 240-acre site was grazing land for goats and cattle. In 2018, more than 100,000 medical and dental patients received treatment at DCMC, benefiting from its range of inpatient and outpatient services, including obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, dentistry, internal medicine, general surgery, physiotherapy, and ophthalmology.







business — help provide financial stability, enabling DCMC to stand as a model for sustainable health care in Africa.

The vision and commitment to provide ongoing quality medical services to the Dodoma region — impacting the health of hundreds of thousands of people — has drawn many Oles to support and work with the project, which is unique among global health care initiatives, says William Stauffer, M.D., '88. A professor of medicine and pediatrics in the Division of Infectious Diseases and International Medicine at the University of Minnesota, Stauffer is a past board member for the nonprofit that supports DCMC. He also is the lead medical advisor to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, where he works on issues of travel medicine and refugee and immigrant health.

“The traditional model of international medical work is a clinic started by doctors and nurses who are empathetic to extreme poverty. The idea of sustainability comes second,” he says. “So often, health do-gooders build a system internationally, but then that system is in chronic crisis because it doesn't know where the next dollar is coming from. The do-gooders pull away, the project dies, and it hurts people.” Stauffer was impressed with DCMC's economically feasible and sound business plan “to subsidize the medical center with both a nonprofit organization and a for-profit industry, which is an idea I hadn't seen very often in international health care development,” he says.

#### BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE MODEL OF HEALTH CARE

**D**odoma Christian Medical Center is a thriving Tanzanian-led regional hospital and health care facility that treated more than 100,000 medical and dental patients in 2018. Recognized by Tanzania's Ministry of Health as the highest quality medical facility in the region, DCMC provides a range of inpatient and outpatient services, including obstetrics and gynecology (ob-gyn), pediatrics, dentistry, internal medicine, general surgery, physiotherapy, and ophthalmology. In addition, DCMC's community health outreach programs provide critical preventive care and education to targeted rural districts in the large surrounding Dodoma region.

“The journey to build DCMC has not been easy, but it's been a journey of faith from its initial stage to its current stage,” Happiness says. “It's through faith this project has been a success.”

It began in 2003, when the Griffins established a Minneapolis-based nonprofit, Dodoma Tanzania Health Development (DTHD), with the purpose of raising funds to help support the development of DCMC and its medical staff. Along with acquiring donations primarily from individuals, the organization formed partnerships

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A young woman (left) weighs her baby at DCMC's reproductive and child health clinic, which provides much-needed prenatal and early childhood care to expectant mothers and their families. The surgical center is also equipped to deal with childbirth and/or medical emergencies.







“There’s so much about DCMC that represents everything St. Olaf stands for. It’s about global citizenry and doing good in the world. It’s based on the values of treating people well and doing our best for humanity.”

— ANNE LEAFSTEDT HUSSIAN '87, P'20

with entities such as Global Health Ministries to provide much-needed medical equipment. At the same time, the medical center was registered as an independent trust in Tanzania, and a board of trustees, the majority of whom are Tanzanian, was established to manage the center. Today, those trustees include some of Tanzania’s leading business and health care professionals, including individuals from the World Health Organization.

“Our approach from the very beginning was that DCMC would be led by Tanzanians, because we didn’t want a colonialist model,” Bob says. “We wanted to be in the business of lifting up the capabilities of the country. The nonprofit [DTHD] supports the trust in Tanzania, which has first oversight for the center. Our role is not to steer their work but to support it, so all of the assets that are invested in DCMC from people outside of Tanzania belong to Tanzania.”

In the early planning stages, the focus was on the challenge of providing quality care in a clean and safe environment in a way that could be sustained year after year. To achieve that lofty goal, DCMC’s trustees realized that the medical center would need to be built incrementally, supported by reliable, long-term funding and strong leadership from both Tanzania and the United States.

Other key pieces of the planning process included acquiring 240 acres of land (leased from Dodoma’s Capital Development Authority) and hiring the project’s first director, John Toso, a physician with experience running a hospital in Madagascar. To get the medical center up and running, Toso dealt with everything from clearing the land and navigating governmental regulations to overseeing infrastructure development and early construction.

The first health service offered by DCMC was dentistry, beginning with oral hygiene outreach programs in area schools and culminating in the opening of a dental clinic in 2007. Early on, the medical center also managed the region’s rural Lutheran dispensaries to provide basic medicines and preventive care; this was the beginning of its extensive community health outreach program. DCMC opened its reproductive and child health outpatient clinic in 2008 to provide prenatal and early childhood care; when the need to be equipped for childbirth and medical emergencies became apparent, the clinic added a surgical suite and neonatal area. Today, DCMC houses 50 beds, as well as CT scan and endoscopy facilities, an ICU, a nurses’ station, and numerous consultant and exam rooms. A planned expansion includes at minimum 100 additional beds, an ER, and additional surgery suites.

As DCMC grew, the Griffins and many close advisors realized that additional revenue would be needed to contribute to its future sustainability. They developed a separate for-profit company, the Dodoma Innovation and Production Company (DIPC), to help close the gap between fee-for-service and insurance payments at the medical center (although no patient is turned away because of the inability to pay) and donations (93 cents of every dollar) raised by the Minneapolis-based nonprofit. The company operates a modern, fully automated water-bottling plant near the DCMC complex, producing and selling bottled water and flavored beverages under the brand name Asante. Although the plant is still in the early stages of production, the investors in the company have committed to providing at least 50 percent of its annual profits to support the medical center.

“There are almost no sustainable hospitals in the developing world, and the fact that we have a triad of organizations — a medical center, a for-profit business venture, and a nonprofit organization — providing revenue is what makes us so different,” says DTHD’s executive director, Anne Leafstedt Hussian '87, P'20. “That model of sustainability makes the project attractive to donors, to universities, and to the people and partners that support it.”

The University of Minnesota is one such supporter. Since 2016, its medical school has partnered with DCMC as a site for a short-term international elective for third-year ob-gyn residents. The residents — five have traveled to Dodoma so far — assist in the ob-gyn outpatient clinic and surgical suite and visit rural villages to observe health care delivery in a limited-resource environment, says Phillip Rauk, M.D., '83, who implemented and oversees the elective. The university also established a physical therapy residency elective at DCMC in January 2018, and its School of Public Health has conducted community health research at Dodoma for the past few years.

“The opportunity to work abroad in a developing country gives our residents experience in managing and diagnosing disease with much more limited modalities and services,” says Rauk, associate residency program director and professor in the university’s Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women’s Health. “It allows them to use their knowledge and skill without relying so heavily on technologies available to them in the United States, as well as treat patients with diseases that they rarely see here, such as malaria.”



The U.S. nonprofit, along with the Griffins (center), has worked with local Tanzanians to meet the challenge of sustainability for the Dodoma Christian Medical Center since its initial planning stages in 2003.

In 2007, the Dodoma Innovation and Production Company was established as a for-profit enterprise to help support DCMC through the sales of bottled water and flavored beverages produced at a nearby facility. Together, the business and the medical center have created many jobs in the area.





With the expectation that revenue from the beverage business will help sustain the medical center's quality care and contribute to the long-term growth of its facilities and services, Hussian envisions using funding from the nonprofit as seed money for additional research and educational efforts at the medical center. "Ideally, we'd be able to support bilateral medical exchanges that not only send doctors to Tanzania but bring DCMC physicians here for training," she says.

The DCMC trustees, too, dream of the day when exchanges that facilitate medical training are more common. "A regular program of sending doctors for a targeted period of time to work alongside and provide training to the Tanzanians would be ideal," says Bob, who notes that companies such as Medtronic have indicated a desire to not only provide top-notch medical equipment to DCMC but to train its physicians in its use.

"Space is the only limiting factor to DCMC's future," Barb says. "People catch the passion for being able to do something, to be helpful, and it's amazing to watch and see what happens."

#### A HIGHER LEVEL OF CARE

Providing high-quality, compassionate care is integral to Dodoma Christian Medical Center's culture. Barb tells the story of a young woman diagnosed with Guillain-Barre syndrome who was referred to another facility for treatment. Out of concern for her, the medical director, Jamhuri Kitange, M.D., kept her at the hospital until her father arrived, despite the need for open beds. "He told me that he needed to explain to her father that she had a disease, not that she was involved in witchcraft," Barb says. "The consequences of being known for witchcraft would have been terrible for the woman and her family."

DCMC's doctors and nurses often work long hours, providing care into the evening so that patients — many of whom have traveled long distances — are seen on the same day that they arrive at the clinic.

That commitment to caring for others may be another reason so many Oles are compelled to be involved with the project, Hussian says.

"There's so much about DCMC that represents everything St. Olaf stands for. It's about global citizenry and doing good in the world. It's based on the values of treating people well and doing our best for humanity," she says. "It's incredible to be on site and see the quality of what's been developed, the happiness of the staff, and the level of care the patients are receiving. It's a pleasure and a privilege for me — and other Oles as well — to play a small part in it."

Other Oles with ties to the project include Doug Griffin, M.D., '81, the Griffins' son and chief medical officer at Sanford Health in Fargo, North Dakota, who assisted with DCMC's largest cervical cancer screening initiative; Cheryl Grasmoe P'06, an attorney and former foundation

executive who serves as a DCMC trustee; Jack Hussian '86, P'20, managing director at Wedbush Securities, who has advised the bottling business; Charles Yancey, M.D., P'14, an ophthalmologist who is assisting in building the capacity for eye care at DCMC; Elizabeth Hendrickson '06, who helps manage fundraising efforts at the U.S. nonprofit; and Ann Brownlow Rabie '56, P'86, GP'21, retired RN and past DTHD board member, among many others.

Happiness worked at the medical center for a year after graduating from St. Olaf, assisting with its initial organization. She has since earned a master's degree from the Heller School of Social Policy and Development at Brandeis University, focusing on the role of community natural resource management in Tanzania. Currently working as a consultant on tourism and conservation efforts, including youth empowerment projects, she lives in northern Tanzania with her husband, Jeremy Swanson '00, and their three young boys. Her niece, Anna Gloria Mwamasika, graduated from St. Olaf in 2016 and serves on the Youth Advisory Board for the U.S. nonprofit, DTHD.

"DCMC started as an idea shared among people from different social, economic, gender, and racial backgrounds," Happiness says. "Yet through our common core values of humanity, the result today is what we can achieve if there is unity, love, peace, and commitment to serve the underprivileged of the world."

It's a commitment the Griffins have shared since first traveling to Dodoma in 2001. "We're moved by the profound truth of the saying, 'The world is full of people with equal ability, but not equal opportunity,'" Bob says. "With a bit of investment from others, the Tanzanians at DCMC have sustained 15 years of bringing health and hope to Dodoma." 🙌

MARLA HILL HOLT '88 is a freelance writer and regular contributor to *St. Olaf Magazine*.

Photos provided by Dodoma Tanzania Health Development and Dodoma Christian Medical Center.

“DCMC started as an idea shared among people from different social, economic, gender, and racial backgrounds. Yet through our common core values of humanity, the result today is what we can achieve if there is unity, love, peace, and commitment to serve the underprivileged of the world.”

— HAPPINESS MWAMASIKA '03



Doug Griffin, M.D., '81 (top), who assisted with DCMC's largest cervical cancer screening initiative, confers with another physician about a patient, while his daughter, Grace Griffin, looks on. (Grace attended St. Olaf from 2013 to 2015.)

DCMC Executive Medical Officer Dr. Jamhuri Kitange (middle, right) with Twin Cities ophthalmologist Chuck Yancey P'14, who led the development of an eye clinic at DCMC that now houses the most modern laser and exam equipment in the region.

DTHD Executive Director Anne Leafstedt Hussian '87, P'20 (bottom) helping with community health outreach at a primary school in Dodoma.



# SPOTLIGHT

IN POLITICS AND BUSINESS, WOMEN INCREASINGLY ARE MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD AND COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO LEADERSHIP. IN THE ARTS, TOO, FEMALE LEADERS ARE REDEFINING TRADITIONAL BOUNDARIES. HERE, TWO ST. OLAF ALUMNAE AT THE TOP OF THEIR GAME IN MUSIC TALK ABOUT HOW WOMEN CAN PUSH EVEN FURTHER IN THE ARTS.

By Joel Hoekstra



## The OBOIST

**Y**ou could argue that Jelena Dirks '96 was destined to become a professional musician. Her father was a cellist. Her mother played viola and violin. And her mother's mother was a pianist, cellist, singer, organist, and choral director. All three spent a portion of their careers with the San Diego Symphony. "Ours was a family deeply steeped in music," Dirks says.

Given that background, it's perhaps not surprising that Dirks started on her first instrument (violin) at age three. But today, her primary instrument is a double reed: Dirks is the principal oboist with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. "When I was 10 years old, one of my parents' friends who was an oboist jokingly had me make an oboe embouchure and said I'd make a perfect oboist. After that, I begged my parents for an oboe," she recalls. "I'm not even really sure I knew exactly what it was at the time, but it didn't matter. I was so taken with her and with the fact that I might make a perfect oboist."

Dirks played both oboe and piano while in high school. Her search for a college where she could continue her musical education but also engage in other kinds of study eventually led her to St. Olaf. "I didn't want a large school; I wanted a small school. I visited St. Olaf, and it was like I had come home," says Dirks, a San Diego native. "The only question was what instrument was I going to play? I was accepted on either one, but they said, 'You have to choose.' I decided on a piano major."

Jelena Dirks, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra  
PHOTO: ALLISON GREEN

She studied with Music Professor DeWayne Wee, an experience that fully met her expectations. "It was wonderful," she says. "I played a lot with singers, and I wanted to be a vocal coach. I still love art songs. I was traveling down that path, and I thought, 'This is my fate. I love it.'"

But her senior year, fate threw her a curve ball. Eiji Oue, the conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra, came to St. Olaf to conduct the St. Olaf Orchestra in a performance of Brahms's Symphony No. 1, with Dirks playing principal oboe. "He was so encouraging. Something about playing that piece and how encouraging he was made me do a complete 180. I decided I wanted to become a professional oboist."

Post-graduation, Dirks pursued a master's degree at the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor and eventually landed a spot in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, where she worked with such musical greats as Daniel Barenboim, Pierre Boulez, and Wynton Marsalis, among others. The Civic Orchestra also acts as a feeder program for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and when a one-year post opened up, Dirks was invited to audition for it. "I got the job and spent five years playing with them. I was what was called a 'permanent substitute,'" she says with a laugh.

In the end, however, the permanent position was awarded to another oboist. Dirks wondered if she should pursue a different career path. She and her husband discussed moving to California so that he could pursue his interest in wine making. But the longer Dirks was away from an orchestra, the more she missed it. "They say sometimes you don't realize how much you love something until you don't have it anymore, and I'd say that was very true for me," she says. "I realized that that's what I wanted to do."

So, when a position at the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra opened up, Dirks applied. "I've lost track of how many auditions I took before I finally won one," Dirks recalls. "I think there were 90 players that went for the job here in St. Louis. I sort of had this feeling like all the stars had to align, your reed had to be just right, and everything had to just be in order to get the chair." But she clinched it: at age 39, she became — like her parents and grandmother years before — an official member of an orchestra.

The St. Louis Symphony currently has more female principals, including Dirks, than any other major American orchestra. "I don't feel any different being a woman, which I think is an absolutely wonderful thing, and I feel very blessed with that," she says. "Some of the stories my mother and my grandmother told me are very interesting and shocking. My mom talks about how when she first got into the San Diego Symphony, all the women had to sit on the inside with their hair up so that they'd look like they were men. The women were hidden from view, which I just found absolutely shocking."

Dirks doesn't have much time for activities outside the orchestra, but she does enjoy gardening and restoring an old historic home with her husband. Such activities add balance to her life, she says, something she appreciates. "I went to St. Olaf because I wanted an education that was well-rounded," she says. "I wanted to take language classes and history classes and religion classes. Looking back on it, I really appreciate the fact that St. Olaf takes care of the whole person. It makes life richer."

"WHEN I WAS 10 YEARS OLD, ONE OF MY PARENTS' FRIENDS WHO WAS AN OBOIST JOKINGLY HAD ME MAKE AN OBOE EMOUCHURE AND SAID I'D MAKE A PERFECT OBOIST. AFTER THAT, I BEGGED MY PARENTS FOR AN OBOE. I'M NOT EVEN REALLY SURE I KNEW EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS AT THE TIME, BUT IT DIDN'T MATTER."

Powell Hall, a 1925 theater in midtown St. Louis, is the home of the St. Louis Symphony.







## The SOPRANO

**K**elly Kaduce '96 is on a break from rehearsing the opera *Thaïs* with the Minnesota Opera. She plays the title role in the work by Jules Massenet, about a beautiful Egyptian courtesan who is converted to Christianity by an obsessive priest. It's a familiar part for the soprano, who has played *Thaïs* before. But this time, she says, the rehearsal process is different: the #MeToo movement has heightened everyone's awareness of the story's sexual elements.

"If the scene involves kissing or something physical, everyone is asking, 'Are you okay with me touching you? Let me know if you're uncomfortable with anything,'" Kaduce observes. "Before, you just assumed that because someone was in the business, they were okay with whatever you did. Now, the males in the cast in particular are careful about crossing boundaries without permission. They'll ask me, 'Are you okay with that?' and I'll say, 'Thank you for asking. Yes, of course.'"

For Kaduce, who has spent her entire professional life in opera, it's a welcome development — and she hopes it has a broader impact. Women are paid fairly well in the opera world (sopranos who can handle leading roles are always in demand), but their influence is often limited. The conductors, artistic directors, and general managers who make big decisions are mostly male. "I want to see more women in the field of conducting," Kaduce says. "And I want to see more women running opera companies."

Kelly Kaduce performed the title role in Minnesota Opera's production of *Thaïs* at the Ordway Theater in May 2017. PHOTO © CORY WEAVER

Kaduce has built an enviable career in opera, playing leading roles every year in dozens of productions around the country. But opera as an art form was unfamiliar to Kaduce as a kid growing up in Winnebago, Minnesota. She played piano and French horn and sang solos at church (where her mother was the organist). Every year during the holidays, Kaduce recalls, her high school choir director would pull out a recording of Gian Carlo Menotti's opera *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, but Kelly and her peers were unimpressed. "We were like, 'Eh, we don't want to hear it,'" she recalls, rolling her eyes at the memory.

She enrolled at St. Olaf intending to become a biology major and go into physical therapy. "I loved to play sports, and I was curious about how the human body worked. But when I realized I could do music lessons for credit, I was like, 'I'm gonna do a double major,'" she says. Her voice instructor, Anna Mooy, however, encouraged her to consider a career in music. After graduation, she spent a brief period in Minneapolis before moving east and starting a master's degree in music at Boston University.

Her last year at BU, she signed up to compete in two prestigious competitions, including one sponsored by the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. "I had no idea what I was getting into, which is probably good, because I would have been terrified," Kaduce says. To her surprise, she earned first place in *both* competitions, gaining recognition and walking away with prize money that she used to support herself as she practiced, entered competitions, and traveled to various cities for auditions. "It's kind of insane that I actually won," she says.

Today, Kaduce lives in Houston with her husband, a voice teacher, and their young son. She is often on the road, however. Last year, in addition to appearing as *Thaïs* in Minnesota, she sang the title role in *Tosca* in Detroit and played Polly Peachum in *The Threepenny Opera* in Boston. She especially likes performing new work: "When you're doing a new opera, there's a sense of freedom as a performer because there's no pre-conceived notion about what the role should sound like or what some other singer in the past has done." 🦋

JOEL HOEKSTRA '92 is a writer based in Minneapolis.

"I HAD NO IDEA WHAT I WAS GETTING INTO, WHICH IS PROBABLY GOOD, BECAUSE I WOULD HAVE BEEN TERRIFIED."



Rusalka, Minnesota Opera, 2016  
© DAN NORMAN PHOTOGRAPHY



## Diving into the Shark Tank!

By Kierra Lopac '19

When Kate Tecku Field '10 pitched her business venture, The Kombucha Shop, on the November 18, 2018, episode of ABC's popular reality show *Shark Tank*, she wasn't sure if the "shark" investors would bite. But they did.

*Shark Tank* invites entrepreneurs to pitch their business ideas to a panel of well-known investors, who then decide whether to invest as business partners. "About 40,000 entrepreneurs apply every season," says Field, who was encouraged by a *Shark Tank* producer to submit an audition tape. In the end, she decided the time and effort involved in putting together the audition tape would be worth it if she could get on the show. "I've been eager to reach new markets, and I couldn't pass up the chance to get my company in front of millions of people," she says.

"They loved [the tape]! I was in," she says. "My biggest fear was making a fool of myself on national television, so I decided the only way I could do it is if I prepped like crazy. I was very nervous in the days leading up to [the show], but felt very confident when I finally walked out into the tank."

Field asked the sharks for \$350,000 in exchange for 10 percent equity in The Kombucha Shop, which sells kits to brew the fermented tea beverage kombucha at home. Each kit costs \$49 and includes the ingredients and equipment to brew the drink, which is made from green or black tea and is known for its health



MITCH HAASETH/ABC ©2018 AMERICAN BROADCASTING COMPANIES

benefits. In a recent profile, the *Wisconsin State Journal* noted that Field's product is the top-selling kombucha brewing kit in the world.

Field accepted a shared deal with shark investor Barbara Corcoran and guest shark Sara Blakely, the founder of Spanx.

"The viewer reaction to the episode was overwhelmingly positive," says Field. "Sales shot up, and we were just buried under orders for a month after the airing."

Students and alumni will have the opportunity to ask Field more about her experience with the sharks in April when she returns to campus to deliver the keynote address at the annual Ole Cup student entrepreneurial competition, hosted by the Piper Center for Vocation and Career, which provides students with the resources to help turn their business ideas into reality.

Field has also been an active participant in the Piper Center's Connections Program in Washington, D.C., and Madison, Wisconsin, where she lives with her husband, Cam Field '10. An environmental studies and political science major at St. Olaf, Field received the college's Kloeck-Jenson Scholarship for Peace and Justice, which supported her work at the Washington Environmental Council in Seattle. Just a few years after graduating from St. Olaf, Field founded The Kombucha Shop in a storage closet in Madison, Wisconsin, noted the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

What is her advice to young entrepreneurs? "Don't let the fear of failure stop you from striking out," she says. "No matter how it goes, you learn and grow an incredible amount. And, you may just surprise yourself with what you can accomplish."



## Game Changer

Move over, *Monopoly*! Today's board game industry is dominated by elaborate tabletop role-playing games with legions of devoted fans. The person at the center of this board game revolution? He's an Ole.

Chris Petersen '95 started Fantasy Flight Games fresh out of college. It's now the biggest creator and publisher of board games in North America and one of the leading board game companies in the world.

In December, the Twin Cities NBC affiliate KARE 11 featured Petersen and his massively successful company, which was launched with the first game he designed, *Twilight Imperium*. Games such as *Twilight Imperium* allow small groups of players to role play together as characters in fantasy worlds. "It is a fantasy escape," Petersen told KARE 11, "but it's a social one too."



As an economics major at St. Olaf, Petersen started creating board games in his dorm room. He used that talent and creativity to build Fantasy Flight Games, which has released countless games that have found success in multiple areas. His company even acquired the rights for a *Game of Thrones* board game before the wildly popular book series by the same name became an award-winning TV show.

"One thing I've learned over and over again is that a good thing cannot be kept down," Petersen says. "Sooner or later it will rise up."

— Johnny Goodson '20

## Making a Difference

By Renata Erickson '19 | PHOTOS BY MATTHEW CLARK

The St. Olaf Alumni Board welcomes two new members, both of whom are looking forward to making connections with the larger alumni community.



### Aldra Henry Allison '77

Altadena, California | Retired, Affordable Housing Program Manager

**Inspiration:** I was inspired to join the St. Olaf College Alumni Board following my participation on the committee for the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the Cultural Union for Black Expression (CUBE). The reunion brought back to the Hill alumni, faculty, and staff from across the country. It was very moving in the sense that we were able to share our experience on the Hill and how we were able to utilize that experience to become productive members of our respective communities. The reunion was also a reminder of how meaningful relationships established on campus can become lifelong friendships.

**Impact:** I hope the board will be able to increase their visibility and communication with current students, especially students of color who may feel socially isolated and need additional support. Many of the attendees of the CUBE reunion would like to help current students through mentoring programs, career internships, and other programs that would make the students' experience at St. Olaf rewarding.



### William H. Lindberg '70

Edina, Minnesota | President of the Ash Grove Group

**Inspiration:** I was part of a pilot program about vocational issues for alumni that was compelling. In addition, I was a member of the second Global Semester, and we had a remarkable gathering during the Global Semester 50th reunion on campus. Being able to reconnect with distant friends from that experience heightened my connection to St. Olaf College and served as a vivid reminder of the value of St. Olaf's mission in the 21st century. I want to do what I can at this point to help further that mission. As the college evolves in turbulent times, there are both challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. I'm pleased to share what I can based on my life experience and skills.

**Impact:** I hope to explore possibilities in deepening alumni engagement with St. Olaf in an ongoing way. Given expanded life expectancies, I believe strongly that lifelong learning and being part of a meaningful community are among the most central characteristics of vital aging. As many Oles enter their "Third Act," attending to the need for robust vocational opportunities becomes very important, especially when one's work persona recedes. Finding ways to connect kindred spirits with graduates and current activities on the Hill through technology and other means holds great promise.





## ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Each year, St. Olaf College recognizes alumni whose service and leadership exemplify the ideals and mission of the college. In honoring these graduates for their exceptional achievements and professional contributions, they become an integral part of college history and a testament to St. Olaf's tradition of excellence. The college was pleased to recognize the 2018 recipients — Wendy Helgemo '91, Craig Hella Johnson '84, and Jon Hallberg '88, P'18, P'22 — during Homecoming Weekend.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENT

## Wendy Helgemo '91

Wendy Helgemo has spent her entire career as an advocate for Native Americans, particularly in the areas of public health, education, housing, and economic security. She has more than 20 years of experience in indigenous law and policy and currently is the inaugural director of the AT&T Center for Indigenous Politics and Policy at George Washington University. At GWU, she heads up research, education, and awareness initiatives on issues of significance to indigenous communities.

Helgemo previously was senior advisor on Indian Affairs to former U.S. Senator Harry Reid. In that role, she helped secure passage of critical tribal provisions in the Violence Against Women Act of 2013, as well as legislation conveying more than 71,000 acres of much-needed land to six Indian tribes in Nevada. She also saw Congress approve the settlement of the largest class action lawsuit against the United States for individual Indian money accounts and confirm both the first Native American woman as a federal judge and the first Native American as an ambassador.

Helgemo is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation and says her work has been inspired by trailblazers in her own family: Her maternal grandfather was a World War II veteran, Purple Heart recipient, and boarding school survivor who helped write the Ho-Chunk Nation's constitution. Her mother was the first Native American woman ordained by the ELCA. Helgemo's cousin Rene Whiterabbit-Cutinella '85 attended St. Olaf and was a public health advocate in the Minneapolis Indian community before her death in 2000.

"The work I've done I haven't done on my own," Helgemo says. "I credit my heritage and the great examples I've had who supported and encouraged me."

As an English major at St. Olaf, Helgemo — one of only three Native Americans in her class — was active in multicultural student activities, working to highlight indigenous perspectives on campus, particularly through the Native American Heritage Celebration.

She also participated in ACM's (Associated Colleges of the Midwest) Urban Studies in Chicago program, where she focused on social justice and interning at Legal Aid.

"St. Olaf strengthened my commitment to giving back to my community," Helgemo says. "It fostered my understanding of the need for justice and equality for all people."

Helgemo went on to become an American Indian Graduate Center Fellow at the University of Colorado School of Law, earning a J.D. degree in 1995. She has been in-house counsel to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians in Minnesota and the Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin, as well as a staff attorney for the National Indian Gaming Commission in Washington, D.C. From 2006 to 2009, Helgemo was director of governmental affairs for the National American Indian Housing Council, where she was a leader in the reauthorization of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 2008. She also worked to ensure that tribal housing programs were included and funded in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

In 2000, while working for the Ho-Chunk Nation, Helgemo filed suit against the Board of Bar Examiners in Wisconsin, seeking reciprocity for lawyers who practice in federally recognized Indian tribes, citing that the existing rule was discriminatory. While the suit was unsuccessful in the Wisconsin Supreme Court, the rule was ultimately changed in 2016, allowing for such reciprocity.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT

## Craig Hella Johnson '84

Craig Hella Johnson is a renowned choral conductor, composer, and educator. He is the founder and artistic director of Conspirare, a world-class professional vocal ensemble based in Austin, Texas. The group has a reputation for expanding the boundaries of choral performance and has been nominated for eight Grammy Awards, including for its 2014 album, *The Sacred Spirit of Russia*, which won for Best Choral Performance. Johnson also is the music director of the Cincinnati Vocal Arts Ensemble and artist-in-residence at the Texas State University School of Music.



BOB DAEMMIRICH/POLARIS

Johnson is known for crafting musical journeys that create deep connections between performers and listeners. "I'm devoted to bringing out authentic and vibrant performances that reveal the essence of a work," he says. "It's really about supporting others in their own human awakening through music — remembering the indwelling freedom of their soul and heart."

The relationships he developed with professors at St. Olaf remain among his greatest memories of his time on campus. "I had brilliant and inspirational teachers, particularly A. Dwayne Wee, Don Hoiness, Ken Jennings, and Steve Amundsen," Johnson says. He earned a Bachelor of Music in piano performance, sang in the St. Olaf Choir, and performed Brahms's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the St. Olaf Orchestra. Johnson went on to study at the University of Illinois, the Juilliard School, and Yale University, earning a master of musical arts in 1990 and a doctorate in 1995.

Johnson is conductor emeritus of the Victoria Bach Festival and former artistic director of Chanticleer, and has guest conducted the Austin Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, and many other ensembles worldwide. He was director of choral activities at the University of Texas from 1990 to 2001 and remains an active educator, teaching nationally with professionals and students at conferences and universities. In 2013, he was designated the official Texas State Musician by the Texas Legislature, a recognition that gives him "unending pleasure as a classical musician in the land of Willie Nelson and Lyle Lovett," he says.

Johnson's other honors include induction into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame, Chorus America's 2009 Louis Botto Award for Innovative Action and Entrepreneurial Zeal and its 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award, as well as the 2011 Citation of Merit from professional music fraternity Mu Phi Epsilon. Under Johnson's direction, Conspirare received the coveted Netherlands' Edison Award. The ensemble also has been honored with the *Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik*.

The Craig Hella Johnson Schirmer Choral Series features specially selected composers, as well as some of Johnson's original compositions and arrangements. Johnson's *Considering Matthew Shepard*, a full-length work based on the life of a young gay man who was beaten to death in Wyoming in 1998, was nominated for a Grammy Award and is part of Conspirare's 2018 national tour.

Johnson continues to stay connected to St. Olaf as a guest conductor of St. Olaf ensembles, including as interim conductor of the St. Olaf Choir in 2007 and as conductor of the St. Olaf Orchestra in an appearance with Magnum Chorum at the American Choral Director's Association conference at Orchestra Hall in 2010. In 2016, Conspirare performed on campus as part of its national tour.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

## Jon Hallberg '88, P'18, P'22

Jon Hallberg, medical director of the University of Minnesota Physicians Mill City Clinic and associate professor of family medicine and community health, has led a remarkable life of service to the community in which he lives and works. He has collaborated with both medical colleagues and those in the arts to explore humanity's role in medicine and clinical care. He cares deeply about the physical and emotional well-being of his patients, as well as that of the students he teaches.

"As family physicians, we're incredibly privileged to be a part of people's lives," says Hallberg, who notes that family physicians take a liberal arts approach to medicine. "I also like to think of our work as being paid to listen to stories all day long. Medicine is obviously much more than that, but there's value in getting to know families over time."

His experience at St. Olaf shaped his career, Hallberg says, and

has helped him practice both the art and science of medicine.

"I've been able to combine medicine and the arts in ways that likely never would have happened had I not gone to St. Olaf," he says. "The college instilled in me a love of learning broadly and deeply across the sciences, the humanities, and the arts." He was a tenor-sax player in the St. Olaf Band for four years, an experience he says fostered a deep appreciation for the value of the arts. "Being in that ensemble planted seeds I didn't even know were being planted."

Hallberg is well known in the Twin Cities and beyond for his work illuminating the connection between the arts and medicine. He is the creator and host of Hippocrates Cafe, a live show that uses professional actors and musicians to explore health care topics through story and song. To date, the Cafe has performed more than 100 shows in eight states. He also is the faculty advisor for the University of Minnesota Medical School's Fisch Art of Medicine Student Awards, which enrich the traditional medical school curriculum by encouraging students to explore the arts through creative expression. He has been a tour physician with both the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Minnesota Orchestra and provides medical care for guest artists of those ensembles as well as the Guthrie Theater, Historic Hennepin Theatres, the Minnesota Opera, and the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts.



FERNANDO SEVILLA

Hallberg has been the regular medical commentator on Minnesota Public Radio's regional *All Things Considered* since 2003 and recently ended a 21-year tenure as medical director of the Minnesota Twins Employee Assistance Program. He is a recipient of the University of Minnesota Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Faculty Award, the Family Medicine Midwest Mid-Career Faculty Award, and has been recognized as a "Top Doctor" multiple times by *Mpls/St. Paul* and *Minnesota Monthly* magazines.

Hallberg's service to St. Olaf runs deep, including two stints as a visiting instructor during January Interim. He is a past Alumni Board member and Reunion planner and has served on St. Olaf's Biomedical Studies Concentration Advisory Council. He also moderates the Piper Center's Ole Health event, a preprofessional networking program for students and alumni.

"St. Olaf is one of a few very special places for me," says Hallberg, who is married to Diane Bruck Hallberg '89. "Having our kids, Andrew [Hallberg '18] and Greta [Hallberg '22], also attend St. Olaf is like a bonus eight years for us."

Do you know an Ole who would be an excellent candidate for an Alumni Award? Visit [go.stolaf.edu/alumniawards19](http://go.stolaf.edu/alumniawards19) to learn more and to submit a nomination for 2019.





## From St. Olaf Senior to WWII Marine Pilot

At a special Veterans Day chapel service in November, St. Olaf honored 100-year-old World War II Marine pilot Carlyle Lageson, a retired colonel who left St. Olaf in his senior year to contribute to the war effort, sacrificing his education for the future of America and the world.

Lageson still drives a car, owns a smartphone, and is the loving foundation of a lineage of St. Olaf alumni. Born and raised in Albert Lea, Minnesota, Lageson began his first year on the Hill as a member of the Class of 1939. "I have fond memories of St. Olaf and the people I met there," says Lageson, who is called "Collie" by friends and family. He studied economics and was a member of the hockey and track teams. Like many St. Olaf students, Lageson also participated in music programs.

### A LIFE-CHANGING DECISION

By the time Lageson became a senior, the war had been raging for four years — without a clear end in sight. With this in mind, the young man made a fateful decision: "I was determined to help our country defend itself, and I wanted to do it as a pilot," he says. He also had a low draft number and wanted to decide his own fate in the military.

After completing flight school, Lageson was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps as a pilot. He was stationed at Green Cove Springs, a naval auxiliary training base in Jacksonville, Florida.

"Jacksonville was an important stop for me," he says. "That's where I married Geraldine Christensen, my fiancée from back home in Minnesota. We were married at the naval air station chapel and were the first couple to be married there."

Lageson was assigned to the U.S.S. *Wharton*, where he was stationed at Espiritu Santo, an island in the South Pacific. Assigned to Squadron MSBD236, Lageson was an assistant training officer for pilots. "These people became very dear to me, and I made some of my best friends there," he says. "We made three six-week combat missions. After each six-week period, we could go back to our base for rest and relaxation."

After completing all three six-week iterations, Lageson had flown 43 combat missions. He was

stationed in Pensacola, Florida, as an instructor. Assigned to the multi-engine facility, he completed the required courses and then was assigned to lead Alpha Flight, consisting of 40 instructor pilots. He was later named chief flight instructor and given command of 90 instructor pilots.

Lageson spent his last few years of active duty in Pensacola. "That's where I was when the war ended in Europe and the Pacific," he says. Lageson was home in Minnesota for good by Christmas of 1945. "I was glad the war was over and I was with my family. I was happy to finally meet my one-year-old daughter," Lageson says.

### A LIFE AFTER SERVICE

Lageson retired from active duty as a captain in December 1945 but stayed in the reserve. He reported to Minneapolis for one weekend a month and spent two weeks in active duty once a year until he retired as a colonel in 1964.

After retiring from active duty, Lageson went into the potato packaging business with his father-in-law in North Dakota from 1945 to 1975.

In later years, Lageson took to the road. "My wife and I became snowbirds, traveling from Minnesota out West via motorhome," Lageson shares. "We enjoyed this lifestyle until my wife sadly passed away in October of 1983."

Lageson got remarried in October of 1984 to Jeanne Foxvog Olson, a 1950 graduate of St. Olaf. They are still happily married today.

Lageson says he doesn't regret his decision to leave St. Olaf. "I felt I had made a worthy contribution to the defense of our country at a time when it was desperately needed," Lageson says. "The better part of these years gave me confidence in my ability to meet obstacles and overcome them. It was a significant part of my life, and I will never forget it."


Although he left St. Olaf before he graduated, Lageson is still loyal to the Hill. He has four children, two stepchildren, and nine grandchildren; his daughter, Gail, graduated from St. Olaf College in 1965 and married Bob Barsness '66. Their three children also graduated from St. Olaf, continuing the lineage that Lageson started.

— Joshua Qualls '20

### Oles, submit your class news online!


[stolaf.edu/alumni/share-your-news](http://stolaf.edu/alumni/share-your-news)  
It's easier than ever to share your latest news, photos, and updated contact information! Questions? Email [alum-office@stolaf.edu](mailto:alum-office@stolaf.edu) or call 507-786-3028 or 888-865-6537.

### 1960s

**Gene Parta '62**,  retired director of Audience Research and Program Evaluation for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague and a co-author of *A 21st Century Vision for U.S. Global Media*, lectured at St. Olaf's Institute for Freedom & Community during its November series,

### Attention: Oles living outside the continental United States

In an effort to be better stewards of the college's resources, beginning with the Spring 2019 issue of *St. Olaf Magazine*, you will receive the magazine in its new online format. A link will be sent to you once the magazine is published, enabling you to view *St. Olaf Magazine* on your computer, iPad, and/or mobile device. However, if you would like to continue receiving a printed copy, email us at [magazine@stolaf.edu](mailto:magazine@stolaf.edu) and we will continue to provide you with the traditional version. *Please make sure the college has your current email!*


"Patriotism, Nationalism and the Idea of America." Gene also is the co-editor of *Cold War Broadcasting: Impact on the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe* and the author of *Discovering the Hidden Listener: An Empirical Assessment of Radio Liberty and Western Broadcasting to the USSR during the Cold War*. His presentation, "U.S. Global Media and American 'Soft Power': Cold War Successes, Current Challenges, An Uncertain Future," can be found on the institute's website ([institute.stolaf.edu/public-programs/2018-19/parta](http://institute.stolaf.edu/public-programs/2018-19/parta)). ■ **Bill Kuhlman '66** and his wife, Yvonne,  have relocated from their home of 50 years in Decorah, Iowa, to Tucson, writing, "[In October] we lived in the Derbyshire Dales [in Derbyshire, England,] in the 1599 home of friends while they were on holiday on Gozo, Malta. We had a few side trips to the moors of Yorkshire, Geneva, and France."

■ **James Larson '69**,  has stepped down as vice president for Academic Affairs (Provost) at SUNY Korea, writing that he is now "a leading professor, a designation used in Korea that is similar to a chaired professorship in the U.S. I continue to chair the Department of Technology and Society at SUNY Korea. It is a profound privilege for me to work with distinguished Korean and American colleagues to firmly establish SUNY Korea within the Incheon Global Campus, where George Mason University, the University of Utah, and Ghent University also operate." ■ **Karen Schmeling Storey '69** is on the move after retiring last August. She and her husband spent seven weeks in the Pacific Northwest "visiting friends and family in Seattle and British Columbia and a week at Holden Village in the North Cascades. Then on to Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, with a side trip to North Carolina to see children and grand-

children. Visiting good friends in Panama City, Panama, finished up the travel for [2018]."

### 1970s

**Kathryn Hosmer Doutt '71** served 32 years with the Pennsylvania State Police as "a member of the first class that included women, retiring as a major. My next nine years was as the assistant director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the State of New Hampshire. Certainly my psychology major helped me in my career paths!" Now retired, Kathryn is enjoying semi-rural New Hampshire, volunteering and serving as a trustee for her community library, as well as reading, gardening,

and those with special needs. I just happen to stand by another Ole who sang with Alice Larsen one year before me. We do reminisce and together we recently sang, "We come from St. Olaf." ■ **Helene (Helen) Stellmaker MacCallum '73** has "retired from the best job at St. Olaf. I was coordinator of advising and student activities in International and Off-Campus Studies for 29 years. It was my great privilege to work with so many wonderful students and faculty who studied in all areas of the world." ■ **Ember Reichgott Junge '74** is co-founder and co-president of Heart of Dance, a Minnesota nonprofit bringing the benefits of ballroom dance to 5th and 8th graders through the global Dancing Classrooms program of *Mad Hot Ballroom* documentary fame. Respect, elegance, and teamwork are the life lessons taught through dance steps. Heart of Dance is the fastest-growing Dancing Classrooms site in the world, touching over 4,100 students in 165 classrooms and 42 Minnesota schools since fall 2015. Contact Ember to bring Dancing Classrooms to a child or school you love! ■ **Susan Hendrickson Schurke '75**,  who founded Wintergreen Northern Wear of Ely (Minn.) in 1989, was selected by the White House to represent Minnesota at the Made in America Product Showcase in Washington, D.C. The company's outdoor apparel is inspired by Minnesota's Boundary Waters. Operating with a largely all-women staff, the company serves adventure enthusiasts all over the world, and has been the gear of choice for over 50 Arctic and Antarctic expeditions. Susan's daughter Bria Schurke '08 is the company's marketing director. ■ **Jill Tammen '75** writes, "In June, 10 women from freshman corridor Hoyme 4th South, one of the first coed dorms on the Hill, reunited to celebrate their 65th birthdays. Women flew and drove to Minneapolis

and traveling. "I also enjoy sharing conversations with my Ole acquaintances via Facebook." ■ **Margie Goergen-Rood '72** writes, "I am still working at the Library of Congress (28 years so far) making audio and Braille books for the blind. A life mission really, and one I find most rewarding. Paul Rood '71 and I are looking at 42 years of Ole happiness and are proud grandparents of Theo Rood, who will soon be a fun-loving two year old. Um! Yah! Yah! to all." ■ **Rolf Jacobson '72** has retired after a 36-year career in dentistry and is enjoying being a snowbird with his wife, Virginia, in San Tan Valley, Arizona: "We've made a lot of new friends and have the best of both worlds, Minnesota in the summer and Arizona in the winter. I actively pursue my photography hobby as chair of the photography club and as a computer club board of director, supplemented by various photo workshops and trips." ■ **Kathryn Johnson Nelson '72** is starting her fifth year as a member of the singing group LeagueAires. "We rehearse Sept.-Jan. and then perform at more than 30 venues, bringing the joy and healing power of music to older adults

## ALUMNI & FAMILY TRAVEL

Whether you're an alum, the parent of a current or former student, or a friend of the college, you are part of the St. Olaf community. That community stays strong when we learn, explore, and broaden our perspectives together. Please join us for Alumni & Family Travel in 2019 and 2020. Registration is now open for the programs listed below and more!

**Exploring Alaska's Coastal Wilderness** | Aug. 17-24, 2019  
Led by Ted Johnson, Professor Emeritus of Biology, and Michelle Johnson, Retired Medical Technologist

**Majestic Vistas: Around Italy's Boot** | Oct. 27-Nov. 4, 2019  
A cruise aboard Oceania's Marina

**Modern India: Culture and Context** | January 9-23, 2020  
Led by Dana Gross, Professor of Psychology, and John Bergford, Architect

**Borobudur and Bali** | Jan. 10-22, 2020 (optional extension Jan. 22-25)  
Led by Karil Kucera, Professor of Art History and Asian Studies, and Daniel Jones, Botanist and Ecologist

**Ultimate Tanzania Safari**  
Feb. 18-29, 2020 and  
Feb. 28-March 10, 2020

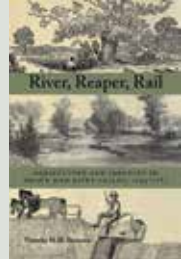
Many more programs are in the works. Check [stolaf.edu/travel](http://stolaf.edu/travel) for the latest information.



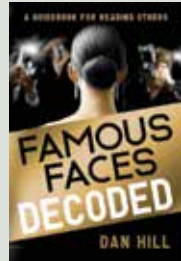


# On the Shelf

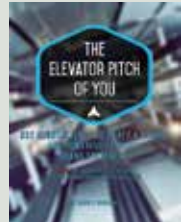
## BOOKS BY ST. OLAF COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FACULTY



**River, Reaper, Rail: Agriculture and Identity in Ohio's Mad River Valley 1795-1885** (University of Akron Press, 2017), by **Timothy Thoresen '66**



**Famous Faces Decoded** (Sensory Logic, September 2018), by **Dan Hill '82**



**Jesus Loves Me** (Hammond Care Media and Bible Society Australia, 2017), by **Dana Gruben '85**

**The Elevator Pitch of You: Using neuroscience to craft a unique and powerful personal brand statement** (Absolute-North Ltd., 2018), by **David Winegar '88**



**One man and a chainsaw: A journey of faith and prairie restoration** (self-published, 2018), by **Patrick Swanson '90**

**A Mark of Permanence (Up On Big Rock Poetry Series)** (Shipwreck Books Publishing Co., 2018), by **Justin Watkins '98**

**Catholicism Engaging Other Faiths and Catholicism Opening to the World and Other Confessions** (Palgrave Macmillan, January 2019), by **Jason Welle '01**

from all over the country to kick back for a joyous weekend in a mansion we rented for ourselves. We also visited St. Olaf, touring the campus courtesy of the Admissions Office, and dined at the Ole Store. The best part, however, was the time to reconnect and celebrate our journeys. Some of us had not seen each other in over 40 years! Those who attended were 1 **Suzie Ashmore Mosiman '75, Patty Bailey Miller '75, Linda Dalldorf Kieffer '75, Cynthia Fager '75, Kay Giles Gordon '75, Linda Naelapaa Kuisk '75, Kathleen Sower Royer '75, Jill Tammen '75, Inga Velde '75, and Jane Wilkens '75, plus Jennifer Wood '73** who was one of our JCs." ■ **Tara Koch McAdams '78** writes, "Just 44 short years after we were among the first women to live in Mohn Hall, the freshmen women of 1st Floor Mohn West met for a reunion in Minneapolis! 2 (L-R): **Leigh Deveny Mathison '78, Sue Black Narayan '76** (our ever-patient JC), **Maren Christopher Vergin '78, Kim Braulick Dickey '78, Tara Koch McAdams '78 and Linda Atwood '78.** We Facetimed with **Karen Balch Wagner '78** in her California garden, and missed **Karen Hamilton King '78 and Dar Janke Horwath '78,** who were unable to make it. We loved our corridor!"

## 1980s

**Diana O'Neal '83,** associate professor of nursing at St. Olaf, presented an online Nurse Webinar titled "Music as a Therapeutic Modality in Parkinson's Disease (PD)." Hosted by the Parkinson's Foundation in December, the webinar informed participants about research related to music interventions for those with PD, music techniques, and ways in which music can be incorporated into the daily care plan of someone with PD. ■ **Paul Suek '83** 3 recently

was honored by CommScope, a leader in communications infrastructure. At its 2018 Innovators in Action Summit, Paul was one of more than 100 global employees recognized for their creative work and ideas, which bring innovation to the wired and wireless industries that CommScope serves. Paul's pioneering spirit, inventiveness, and passion to deliver innovative technical solutions continue to be at the heart of CommScope. ■ **Karen Barks '85** writes, "After 25 years teaching high school maths, science, and outdoor education as well as working as a teacher advisor and mentor, I have 'retired' to farm organic fruit and vegetables just outside Nelson, New Zealand. Loving the change of pace and lifestyle." ■ **Drew Isenberg '86** has been named the Hall Distinguished Professor of American History at the University of Kansas. His seventh book, *The Republican Reversal: Conservatives and the Environment from Nixon to Trump*, was published last fall by Harvard University Press. ■ **Jennifer Myster '87** has been named president of Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, Minn. Jennifer brings deep experience in hospital and clinic leadership, returning to HealthPartners after serving as president of Allina Health Buffalo for nearly 10 years. Before that, she served as a leader in specialty services at Park Nicollet, where she oversaw care for heart and vascular, cancer, mental health, and a number of other programs. In her new role, Jennifer will also lead the organization's Home Care, Hospice, and Community Senior Care programs. ■ **Danel Olson '87,** English novelist Patrick McGrath, and Welsh engraver Harry Brockway are nominees for the 2018 World Fantasy Award, in connection with a book they crafted, *Writing Madness* (Centipede Press, 2017). 4 [Pictured are Danel and Patrick McGrath at StokerCon 2018 in Providence, R.I.]



■ **Scott Schieber '89** writes, "We've emigrated to New Zealand. I am working as a GP in Gisborne, a surf town on the East Coast of the North Island. 1 We are currently living on the beach (photo is the view from our deck). Gisborne boasts 'first light,' meaning because of our location next to the date line, we are the first inhabited city on earth to see the sunrise each new day."

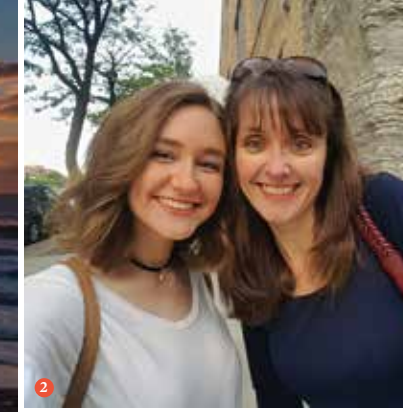
## 1990s

**Kristin Janke '90** is now an "Ole Mom!" 2 "My daughter, Alexa Sorensen, entered St. Olaf as a freshman this fall. It's been fun to be back on campus. Boy, Kildahl sure looks good!" ■ **Ron Lembke '90** survived his first year as chair of the Managerial Sciences Department in the College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno. The 35-member department is made up of faculty in finance, management, and marketing. ■ **Anna Madsen '91** 3 and her two children moved to Two Harbors, Minn., where she continues her work through OMG: Center for Theological Conversation and where she has begun the Spent Dandelion Theological Retreat Center on OMG's 20 acres of North Shore forest. Through each of these vocations, she serves as an ELCA pastor and theologian, writing, blogging, consulting, presenting, and hoping to offer up a bit of restoration for those who could use some quiet, some woods, and a view of Lake Superior through their trees. ■ **Jill Elza Ratanaphruks '91** has been selected as a 2018-19 fellow for the Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership Program. A one-year experience, the program is a partnership between Duke University School of Medicine, Duke University School of Nursing, and Johnson & Johnson. ■ **Kristina Merchant Dreis '97** was

named a 2018 Super Real Estate Agent, a title designated to only 3-5 percent of all real estate agents in Minnesota. ■ **Andrew Peters '98** continues as minister of music at Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, celebrating his 10th year at the church. 4 Andrew also is an ensemble organist with the St. Louis Symphony and assistant conductor of the Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis. His new organ CD, *American Variations: American Organ Music*, was recorded on the restored Schantz organ of Second Presbyterian and released by Regent Records of England. ■ **Stefanie Holbrook Meunier '99** writes, "In July, I returned to St. Olaf as a staff member! I'm thrilled to be the new event and ticket office coordinator in Events Management. It's amazing to be back on the Hill!" ■ **Daniel Schwandt '99** received a master of sacred music degree from the University of Notre Dame in May 2018. "I'm continuing on for my D.M.A. at Notre Dame in organ performance and will also be the music associate at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in South Bend, Ind."

## 2000s

**Dan Cavanagh '01** recently was appointed professor and chair of the Department of Music at the University of Texas at Arlington. A strong advocate for faculty, he also serves as the chair of the 2018-19 University of Texas System Faculty Advisory Council. ■ **Jason Welle '01** 5 recently was appointed the dean of studies at the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic



**Katherine Larson '00,** a former Rhodes Scholar and associate professor and chair of the Department of English at the University of Toronto, Scarborough, has been named to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. "I was always surrounded by wonderful books and wonderful music growing up," said Katherine, an expert in 16th- and 17th-century English literature, in an interview with the University of Toronto press. "My parents encouraged a love of reading and singing, and both of my grandmothers were musicians, so I was exposed to literature and music and the synergy between the two from an early age." Katherine would eventually transform those early passions into a career as an English professor, but music was never far behind, continuing to inspire large aspects of her work. Today, she joins an elite company of scholars. "It's a tremendous honour," said Katherine.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019

6 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT

# Black & Gold Gala

RENAISSANCE MINNEAPOLIS HOTEL · THE DEPOT  
225 SOUTH THIRD AVENUE · MINNEAPOLIS

[stolaf.edu/gala](http://stolaf.edu/gala)





reboot with Mike Myers on ABC. Last year, Tom's musical comedy headline shows earned him Entertainer of the Year recognition on Princess Cruises, beating out nearly 500 headline entertainers of all disciplines around the world. ■ **Julia Rood '07** has received her M.D. and Ph.D. from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

2010s

**Jay Xiong '10** has been elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives. A DFL candidate, he won 78 percent of the vote in his St. Paul district. ■ **Laura Cook '11** writes, "My marathon performance of 2:43 qualifies me for the 2020 Olympic Trials next winter. I achieved this time at the California International Marathon on Dec. 2, 2018." ■ **Joseph Kemper '11** was awarded the inaugural Robert Shaw Prize by the Yale School of Music, named in honor of the renowned American choral conductor and awarded to a choral conducting major in the School of Music chosen by the choral conducting faculty for distinguished achievement. ■ **Sarah Edgerton '12** has received her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine (RVUCOM) in Parker, Colo. Sarah served as the president of the Student

Government Association and received RVUCOM's Student Doctor of the Year Award. She will complete her residency program in obstetrics and gynecology in Grand Rapids, Mich. ■ **Shawn Cody Miller '12** was appointed assistant professor of music in the Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts at Indiana University South Bend, where he leads both the choral area and vocal music education program. ■ **Kayleen Seidl Hecksher '13** performed off-broadway in the U.S. Yiddish premiere of *Fiddler on the Roof*, directed by Joel Grey at the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene in New York City. Kayleen was a member of the ensemble and understudied for the roles of Tsaytl, Hodl, and Khave. ■ **Michael Thai '14** has relocated to Seattle to accept a prestigious fellowship with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He is using his expertise in river ecology to investigate unicellular aquatic organisms with the potential to exist outside the earth's atmosphere. ■ **Casey Bouldin '15** has joined the Peace Corps in Morocco. ■ **Noelle McCabe '15** has been promoted to the position of project manager for Marketing and Communications at Seattle Repertory Theatre. ■ This fall, **Tiller Martin '17** will start his postgraduate career as the high school orchestra and middle school general music teacher in the Sartell-St. Stephen Public School District in central Minnesota.



St. Olaf Alumna Leads Ann Bancroft Foundation

**Katie Lauer '13** is the new program director for the Ann Bancroft Foundation. In a recent interview with the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, Katie said her role "is all about encouraging young women to pursue their dreams." The mission of the Ann Bancroft Foundation, founded 21 years ago by polar explorer Bancroft, is to provide girls in grades K-12 across the state of Minnesota with the means to discover their passions and reach their highest goals. The foundation has awarded \$1.6 million in grants to over 4,000 girls in the past two decades. "Every grant shares a common goal of helping girls push themselves, recognize their own abilities, and build confidence," Katie told the *Star Tribune*. In her eyes, success can start at any age and can have a lifelong impact. "I hope that by giving girls grants, we will send them into the world feeling empowered," she said.



associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. ■ **Kerry Gervais Hjelmgren '05** writes, "Our second year of the Honoring Choices Advance Care Planning Program for Faribault and Owatonna [Minn.] is underway! This dual-community program is part of the Honoring Choices Greater Minnesota project. I am the program coordinator and work with an advisory council representing both communities and volunteers who are trained to help others complete their health care directive. We are working to normalize the conversation about end of life wishes one person and family at a time." ■ **Tom Franek '06** made his television debut in 2017 and was selected to premiere *The Gong Show*



"The connections I make with the students as a counselor is what makes Music Camp so special for me. I am able not only to share the love of music with these students, but I am able to see how much they learn and grow as musicians in just one short week."  
— Martha Barth '19

ST. OLAF CAMPS

THE HILL THAT TRANSFORMS YOUR SUMMER

- SWIM CAMPS | June 9-13 · June 16-20 · June 23-27
- VOLLEYBALL CAMPS | June 11-13 · July 22-24 · July 26-28
- DANCE WORKSHOP | June 16-20
- MUSIC ACADEMY | June 16-22
- THEATER CAMP | June 23-29
- DIVING CAMPS | July 14-18 · July 21-25
- OLECHESS CAMP | July 21-26

Learn more about Summer Youth Programs: [stolaf.edu/camps](http://stolaf.edu/camps)  
For registration information, email [summer@stolaf.edu](mailto:summer@stolaf.edu)  
or call 507-786-3031 or 800-726-6523



St. Olaf Day at Minnesota United Soccer Match!

More than 270 St. Olaf alumni, parents, families, and friends gathered at TCF Bank Stadium in October for St. Olaf College Day at the Minnesota United soccer match against the Colorado Rapids. Organized by the St. Olaf Alumni Board, each fan received an exclusive co-branded scarf with St. Olaf and Minnesota United logos on it, says board member Janine Braman P'17, P'20. After the game, a group photo was taken on the pitch. As the MNUFC team prepares to move to its permanent home at Allianz Field in St. Paul, Oles can look forward to another joint event in 2019!



(L-R) Mike Kratage-Dixon (associate director of Annual Giving), Asher Howell (Minnesota United), Tom Braman P'17, P'20, and Katie Braman '20

ST. OLAF ORCHESTRA

STEVEN AMUNDSON · CONDUCTOR  
WINTER 2019 TOUR  
JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 5

The St. Olaf Orchestra, under the direction of Steven Amundson, embarks on its winter tour, with performances in:

- Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Plymouth, Minnesota
- Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
- New York City
- Arlington, Virginia
- Charlottesville, Virginia
- Fairfax, Virginia

ST. OLAF ORCHESTRA HOME CONCERT  
Sunday, February 10

ST. OLAF CHOIR

ANTON ARMSTRONG '78 · CONDUCTOR  
WINTER 2019 TOUR  
JANUARY 19 – FEBRUARY 9

The St. Olaf Choir, under the direction of Anton Armstrong, embarks on its winter tour, with performances in:

- Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- Mason City, Iowa
- Sewanee, Tennessee
- Atlanta, Georgia
- Greenville, South Carolina
- Augusta, Georgia
- Jacksonville Beach, Florida
- Tallahassee, Florida
- Orlando, Florida
- St. Petersburg, Florida
- Naples, Florida
- Vero Beach, Florida
- Miami Beach, Florida

ST. OLAF CHOIR HOME CONCERT  
Sunday, February 17

For performance details and ticket information, visit [stolaf.edu/tickets](http://stolaf.edu/tickets)



## Remembering Bob Gelle

Longtime St. Olaf College men's basketball coach and athletic director Bob Gelle, who was the winningest men's basketball coach in school history at the time of his retirement, died August 3 at the age of 87.

Gelle began his 35-year career at St. Olaf in 1957. He served as head men's basketball coach from 1957 to 1981. His teams won four Midwest Conference championships and earned three berths in the NCAA College Division National Tournament. In 2007, the competition floor at St. Olaf was named Bob Gelle Court.

Gelle also served as an assistant coach in football and track and field, and retired as a professor in the Physical Education department. He was athletic director from 1972 until 1989, and under his leadership St. Olaf added 15 sports, including 12 women's programs. The culmination of his career was as lead fundraiser for the \$3.5 million "Athletes for Vision" campaign for the construction of Tom Porter Hall and the track and field facility. In 2001, Gelle was the first non-St. Olaf graduate inducted into the St. Olaf Athletics Hall of Fame.



Gelle was born on June 1, 1931, in Osakis, Minnesota. He married Jane Jacobson '54, whom he had known his entire childhood in Osakis, on June 15, 1952. After graduating from Osakis High School in 1949, Gelle attended the University of Minnesota on a football scholarship. Despite earning a starting position as a linebacker as a sophomore, Gelle gave up football and transitioned to a basketball scholarship. As a three-year starter in basketball, Gelle was captain and MVP of the 1953 Gopher basketball team. A four-sport athlete at the U, Gelle also played baseball and threw the shot and discus for the Gophers. Gelle was most proud to be the recipient of the Big Ten Conference Medal, an award reflecting his selection as the top senior scholar-athlete at the university in 1953. Drafted by the Minneapolis Lakers in 1953, Gelle instead fulfilled his Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) obligations at Fort Meade in Maryland. Upon returning to Minnesota in 1956, Gelle taught social studies and coached for one year at Edina High School before joining the St. Olaf faculty. He completed his master's degree in physical education at the University of Minnesota in 1959, and later completed coursework toward a Ph.D. in athletic administration at the University of Oregon.

Beyond his many accomplishments, Gelle's legacy is in the many lives he touched. A beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, coach, teacher, mentor and friend, he exemplified integrity. He lived a life of faith and service. An active member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Northfield, he served on numerous committees. His gregarious personality matched his physical presence. His quick wit entertained while imparting important life lessons.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jane Jacobson Gelle, children, Mark (Claudia) '76, Nancy '77, Fredric (Debra) '81, and Susan (Scott) Nelson '83; grandchildren, Andrea '07, Matthew (Jessica) Nelson, Maren (Paul) Henderson '10, Jessica (Jacob) Burns, Elizabeth, Nathan, Molly (Jared) Britton, Hannah '15, and Amy; and great grandchildren, Camden, Otto, and Penelope.

Laurie Gryting Haight '54, Minneapolis, Sept. 18, 2016  
 Helen Syverson Jacobson '54, Fargo, N.D., July 8, 2018  
 Neil Kittlesen '54, Mendota Heights, Minn., July 11, 2018  
 Marjorie "Marge" Madson Tesch '54, Howard Lake, Minn., July 28, 2018  
 \*Eric Fossum '55, Mondovi, Wis., Aug. 30, 2018  
 David Jensen '55, Monticello, Minn., July 30, 2018  
 Roger Krogstad '55, Watertown, Minn., Oct. 5, 2018  
 Richard Lee '55, Hubbard Lake, Mich., Aug. 9, 2018  
 \*Thomas Simonsen '55, Sun City Center, Fla., July 28, 2018  
 \*Jon Simundson '55, Spooner, Wis., July 12, 2018  
 Marlene Jensen Warner '57, Bloomington, Minn., July 14, 2018  
 Darlene Shoger Anderson '58, Big Lake, Minn., Oct. 30, 2018  
 Marilyn Hoff Freeze '58, Topeka, Kan., Sept. 14, 2018  
 \*Grant Gilbertson '58, Cannon Falls, Minn., July 7, 2018  
 Wayne Kostman '58, Solvang, Calif., June 23, 2018  
 Moretta "Sue" Urevig Richardson '58, Ozone, Fla., July 12, 2018  
 Roger Stoike '58, Bonita, Calif., Oct. 23, 2018  
 \*Gerald Conrad '59, Beaverton, Ore., Aug. 4, 2018  
 Philip Dybdahl '59, Madison, Wis., Nov. 5, 2016  
 \*John Gordon '59, Bellevue, Neb., May 19, 2017  
 Monrad Mandsager '59, Albert Lea, Minn., Aug. 4, 2018  
 Gertrude "Trudy" Froyum Solberg '59, Sun Lakes, Ariz., July 26, 2018  
 James Stoner '59, Northbrook, Ill., July 15, 2018  
 \*George Toombs '59, Burnsville, Minn., Sept. 1, 2018  
 Nancy Banach Hornseth '60, Rochester, Minn., Aug. 22, 2018  
 \*Charles Meyer '60, Rocky Ford, Colo., July 18, 2018  
 James Swanson '60, Onamia, Minn., July 23, 2018  
 Arland "Swede" Otte '61, St. Charles, Minn., Sept. 21, 2018  
 \*James Peterson '61, Tomah, Wis., Sept. 21, 2018  
 Gloria Girvan Sutton '61, Audubon, Iowa, July 13, 2018  
 Audrey Johnson Pedersen '62, Pea Ridge, Ark., Sept. 29, 2018  
 Margaret Baker Reuvers '62, Faribault, Minn., Aug. 29, 2018  
 Karen Heiden '63, Fruita, Colo., March 24, 2018  
 \*Peter "Andy" Lassen '63, Los Angeles, Aug. 8, 2018  
 Ann Mathieson Gaiser '64, Lake Wales, Fla., April 11, 2018  
 \*Fritz "Paul" Roschen '64, Le Sueur, Minn., Aug. 20, 2018  
 Kristin Borsgard Wee '64, Afton, Minn., Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dennis Forker '65, Des Moines, Iowa, July 21, 2018  
 Mark Olson '65, Potomac, Md., Sept. 12, 2018  
 Daniel "Dan" Sass '65, Ilwaco, Wash., Sept. 25, 2018  
 Linda Rafshol Higgins '66, Plymouth, Minn., Aug. 2, 2018  
 Judith McGuinness Torvik '66, Skien, Norway, Jan. 3, 2018  
 Gregg Isaacson '67, Minneapolis, Sept. 6, 2018  
 Kenneth Rolf '69, Minneapolis, July 10, 2018  
 Randolph Bentson '70, Boulder, Colo., July 26, 2018  
 Gregory Gruman '70, Eau Claire, Wis., July 9, 2018  
 Diane Witherspoon '70, Minneapolis, Dec. 14, 2016  
 Ronald Bullis '71, Mason City, Iowa, Oct. 22, 2018  
 Adrian Halverson '71, Bloomington, Minn., June 30, 2018  
 David Maxwell '71, Minnetonka, Minn., Sept. 2, 2018  
 Nancy Dirkwager Spika '71, Roseville, Minn., Aug. 17, 2018  
 Michael Schmidt '72, Osceola, Wis., Sept. 23, 2018  
 Terrence Becker '74, Duluth, Minn., March 21, 2018  
 Nancy Colemier Boehm '74, Glenview, Ill., Feb. 25, 2018  
 Laura Olson Elken '75, El Dorado Hills, Calif., Oct. 11, 2018  
 Jeffery Flynn '76, Minneapolis, June 9, 2018  
 Cornelius Powell '77, Sioux Falls, S.D., May 5, 2018  
 Robert Wilkinson '78, Washington, D.C., May 27, 2018  
 Brian O'Hara '92, Crofton, Md., Sept. 16, 2018  
 Rachel Meier Charchian '94, Chanhassen, Minn., July 24, 2018



Future Ole **Leona Feigh '39**



Future Ole **Zoey Hinck '39**



Future Ole **Violet Sponsel '39**

### Future Oles

Eric Beaton '91 and Grace Nugroho, a daughter, Annika Ben Houge '96 and Jutta Friedrichs, a daughter, Emilia Julu Hudson Joshua Bowman '99 and Hannah Bowman, a daughter, Zoë Alison Feigh '00, a daughter, Leona Rachael Simon-Miller '02 and Zach Miller '02, a daughter, Ingrid Megan Techam Swanson '03 and Kelly Swanson, a daughter, Freya Michael Bongard '04 and Kristen Bongard, a daughter, Eliza Susan Prange Gatto '04 and JP Gatto '04, a daughter, Camilla Andrea Drapcho Mitchell '04 and Joe Mitchell, a daughter, Macie Jamie Lepore Wright '04 and Matthew Wright '02, a son, Theodore Elizabeth Henke '05 and José Balagueró-Sánchez, a daughter, Diana Krista Springer Appel '05 and Daniel Appel, a daughter, Berit Jennifer Ho Mulheran '06 and Paul Mulheran, a daughter, Olivia Annie Lindquist Payseur '06 and Jason Payseur, a son, Francis Laura Melcher '08 and Will Amundson '08, a son, Nels Sarah Shore Anderson '08 and Bobby Anderson '08, a daughter, Stella Suzi Hintz Hinck '08 and Bryan Hinck '06, a daughter, Zoey Emma VanderWell Kraayenbrink '08 and Micah Kraayenbrink, a son, Charlie Caitlin Molsberry Suginaka '08 and Alex Suginaka '08, a daughter, Ravenna Tristen Anderson Hourtienne '09 and Landry Hourtienne, a son, Byron Jonathan Woolums '10 and Rebecca Woolums, a son, Alexander Heidi Seltz Christenson '11 and Mark Christenson, a son, Peter Kayla Schmidt Gray '12 and Beau Gray '11, a son, Bennett Katie Seltz Moher '12 and Alex Moher, a daughter, Ingrid Anna Lauren Anderson Allen '13 and Bradley Allen, a son, Cedric Olivia Koester Alveshere '13 and Matt Alveshere '13, a daughter, Harriet Juliette Gibes Sponsel '14 and James Sponsel '12, a daughter, Violet

### Weddings

Sheryl Fark Koyama '83 and James Koyama, April 14, 2018  
 Deb Haas '91 and Robert Brooks, Oct. 21, 2017  
 Ryan Swenson '05 and Alyssa Mason, Oct. 20, 2018  
 Max Wojtanowicz '06 and Allen Sommerfeld, Sept. 1, 2018  
 Laura Trude '06 and Joe Egan, Oct. 13, 2018  
 Tracy Nolan '07 and Eliza Stoddard Leatherberry, Oct. 12, 2018  
 Julia Rood '07 and Scott Poff, May 19, 2018  
 Amber Collett Terway '07 and Timothy Terway, Aug. 18, 2018  
 Samantha Mariotti Jorgensen '09 and Sean Jorgensen, Aug. 3, 2017  
 Matt Tiano '09 and Carly Tiano, Aug. 4, 2018  
 Mia Bahagry '11 and Adam Keefer, Sept. 8, 2018  
 Kayla Fuller Stinger '11 and Nathan Stinger, July 7, 2018  
 Heather Dansingburg Herrmann '12 and Mark Herrmann, July 5, 2018  
 Julia Becker Reed '12 and Elliott Reed, Sept. 22, 2018  
 Marie Bak Walker '14 and Ramsey Walker '14, June 9, 2018  
 Alyssa Hare Bentsen '15 and Geoffrey Bentsen '15, Aug. 3, 2018  
 Nick Stumo-Langer '15 and Katlyn Stumo-Langer, Aug. 4, 2018

### Deaths

Louise Viren Tostenrud '34, Cold Spring, Minn., Sept. 7, 2018  
 Bertha "Rebecca" Hompland Hughes-Hartogs '36, Grass Valley, Calif., May 3, 2018  
 Opal Bollenbach Wolf '39, Nerstrand, Minn., Sept. 13, 2018  
 Leona Henriksen Lenschow '43, Duvall, Wash., July 26, 2018  
 Rebecca Hanson Weeg '43, Shoreview, Minn., Sept. 6, 2018  
 Helen Drovdal Larson '44, Arden Hills, Minn., July 11, 2018  
 Lorraine Werdin Miller '44, Waseca, Minn., Sept. 2, 2018  
 Lois Berdahl Smith '44, Montevideo, Minn., Oct. 1, 2018  
 Shirley Bell Lindemann '45, Minneapolis, July 30, 2018  
 Marjorie Swenson Morrow '45, Greenacres, Fla., Aug. 3, 2018  
 Margaret Roe Vernon '45, Norman, Okla., June 14, 2018  
 \*Donald Persson '46, Waconia, Minn., July 6, 2018  
 \*Frederick Trummer '46, Rochester, Minn., May 13, 2018  
 Esther Mosby Bingea '48, St. Paul, Minn., July 28, 2018  
 Jeanette Bragstad McConnell '48, Sioux Falls, S.D., July 16, 2018  
 Faye Flohrs Miller '48, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., Sept. 18, 2018  
 \*Ruth Wulfsberg Berger '49, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sept. 11, 2018  
 Elizabeth Weng Johnson '49, York, Pa., June 27, 2018  
 Rachel Nederloe Kauserud '49, Damariscotta, Maine, Aug. 15, 2018  
 \*Robert "Doc" Lommen '49, Buffalo, Minn., Sept. 7, 2018  
 John "Ken" Sheldon '49, Watertown, S.D., Aug. 7, 2018  
 \*Arthur "Cleve" Towne '49, Minneapolis, Oct. 16, 2018  
 Janice Johnson Wiggins '49, Westbrook, Minn., July 11, 2018  
 Clarice Voxland Wolf '49, Stewartville, Minn., June 24, 2018  
 Rauland "Tuck" Aaker '50, Hobe Sound, Fla., Sept. 6, 2018  
 \*Ardell Banker '50, Meridian, Idaho, July 30, 2018  
 \*Gerald Johnson '50, Fargo, N.D., July 31, 2018  
 Marilyn Hildebrandt Meese '50, Faribault, Minn., Oct. 1, 2018  
 Lilly Lorentson Peterson '50, Duluth, Minn., July 1, 2018  
 Joan Wahl Reinertson '50, Waterford, Va., Aug. 26, 2018  
 John Reinertson '50, Waterford, Va., Sept. 26, 2018  
 \*Charles Undlin '50, Bozeman, Mont., July 6, 2018  
 \*Robert Veve '50, Minneapolis, Sept. 11, 2018  
 Marian Granrud Wolfson '50, Larchmont, N.Y., Sept. 24, 2018  
 Herbert Larson '51, Cathedral City, Calif., Sept. 23, 2017  
 Helen Marshall Temple '51, Cannon Falls, Minn., July 13, 2018  
 Darlene Smith Klemer '52, Faribault, Minn., Oct. 5, 2018  
 \*Gregory Papadourakis '52, Darien, Ill., June 6, 2018  
 Donna Boie Roselius '52, Port Orford, Ore., Sept. 2, 2018  
 Barbara Darrington Skramstad '52, Aurora, Colo., Oct. 10, 2018  
 Carol Peterson Folsom '53, Los Angeles, April 27, 2018  
 \*Donald Klein '53, South St. Paul, Minn., June 23, 2018  
 \*Howard Lerohl '53, Two Harbors, Minn., Sept. 18, 2018  
 \*John Staum '53, Minneapolis, Sept. 23, 2018  
 \*Martin "Arthur" Bustad '54, Bemidji, Minn., Sept. 24, 2018



# The Caffeinated English Coffee Club



BY JEFF SAUVE

A sun-faded, slightly moth-eaten felt banner recently found in the forgotten recesses of an English Department closet in Rølvaag Memorial Library presented a dusty mystery. Measuring 16 by 25 inches, the hand-stitched, dark blue lettering bears an uplifting motto in serviceable Latin: *Tollite casus, hortare timidos* (“Raise the fallen, cheer the faint”).

A quick search online revealed a brief mention of the banner in a March 5, 2001, *St. Olaf News* obituary for 102-year-old Marie Malmin Meyer. Meyer taught English for 45 years at St. Olaf College — the longest term of service for any English faculty member in the school’s history. Reflecting on Meyer’s exacting instruction, Professor Emeritus of English David Wee ’65 notes, “I didn’t know how to read text carefully when I came here. She pushed us to pay close attention to the language of plays and the poetry. She was a model of careful scholarship and attention to text, and to the importance of our literary heritage.”



Marie Malmin Meyer (right) and fellow English instructor Nora Solum initially crafted this banner as a visual reminder to encourage first-year students who labored at writing.

The origins of the mystery orange banner unfurled after reviewing an oral history interview of Meyer conducted in March 1991 by Professor of Religion Joseph M. Shaw ’49. In the interview, Meyer recalled that the English Department, consisting of a half dozen or so faculty members, instituted the English Coffee Club in 1929. Whenever the club met, the banner was hung out of an English Department window as an invitation to other faculty to gather on the top floor of Holland Hall, where the English faculty were then housed.

The club held these coffees on Friday afternoons, with George W. Spohn, English Department chair, presiding over the faculty morale-boosting gatherings. Non-English department faculty were known as “et ceteras,” Meyer recalled. One such

attendee was bachelor economics professor Allen L. Meyer. “He was always at the coffee parties afterwards, and he and I started dating.” They were married in 1933.

The *Messenger* poked gentle fun at the English Coffee Club’s apparently insatiable thirst with an April 1934 headline: “Consume Sixty-five Tons of Coffee.” The writer of the article calculated this prodigious amount by estimating that the club would have needed one ton of coffee beans over the previous five years to brew enough cups, and “properly cooked, this amount would yield approximately 1,097,865 cubic feet of coffee which would weigh around 65 tons. This amount would be adequate to convert the English office into a swimming pool eight feet deep.”

English Professor Arthur “Art” Paulson was decidedly out of sorts if not partaking of at least six refreshing cups of java during the end-of-the-week social, Meyer contended. He countered by claiming that Meyer was the department champion, drinking no less than eight cups. All teasing aside, Meyer recalled that the real purpose of their coffee klatch was to “establish a clearing house of the spirit — a place for the thorough discussion of important problems.”

In 1942, the newly built Rølvaag Memorial Library offered a new home to the English Department. In the lowest floor of the building was a convenient snack shop called the Lion’s Den, open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. With that development, the banner was presumably put away for good, a memento of times past. The Den, prized on campus for its 5-cent cup of coffee, featured a cozy, hazy, smoke-filled room, coffee-stained stools, a jukebox playing the latest hits, and dark corners for couples. The demise of the Den took place in 1960 when a new student center was erected.



that promotes sustainability. Bon Appétit, the St. Olaf food service provider, uses fair trade organic coffee. With the Art Department’s opening of the Ron Gallas Cup Library in the fall of 2015, students, faculty, and staff may borrow a handcrafted mug made by a professional artist.

If Marie Malmin Meyer were still here today, no doubt she would have lifted her artsy cuppa joe and exclaimed after a refill or two, “Raise the fallen, cheer the faint!” ☘

JEFF SAUVE is a freelance writer and local historian.

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*Change Service Requested*

... PARTING SHOT ...



**“TRAYING” ON THE HILL**

A favorite winter tradition since the early 1950s, generations of Oles have savored the thrill of flying down Old Main Hill on borrowed caf trays after a fresh snowfall.

PHOTOS BY EVAN PAK '19